

# AssemblyLine

June 7, 2020

Volume XXXIX, Number 23

## Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

574-534-4190 / [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org)

Worship is online weekly. 10am Virtual Worship, 11am Fellowship.

Our meetinghouse will remain closed until further notice.

## WORSHIP

June 7 2% Offering	June 14
<p>Digital Summer Worship</p> <p>Look for an email from the Assembly listserv on Saturday with worship materials for your household or small group. All are also welcome to join us online Sunday at 10am where we will use these worship materials together.</p> <p>Worship Leader: <i>Sophia Yordy</i> Storyteller: <i>Ryan Sensenig</i></p> <p>Scripture: Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20</p>	<p>Digital Summer Worship</p> <p>Look for an email from the Assembly listserv on Saturday with worship materials for your household or small group. All are also welcome to join us online Sunday at 10am where we will use these worship materials together.</p> <p>Worship Leader: <i>Eric Kaufmann</i> Storyteller: <i>Brooke Rothshank</i></p> <p>Scripture: Genesis 18:1-15; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8</p>

## CALENDAR

To view a Complete Calendar of Events, please visit <https://assemblymennonite.org/about/calendar/>.

TODAY	June 7	10am Virtual House Church ONLINE ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> ) 11am "Coffee Time" ONLINE ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> )
Mon	June 8	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> )
Wed	June 10	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> )
Fri	June 12	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> )

Note: The password for Assembly Zoom meetings was sent out by email on April 4th and has not changed. (If you don't already have the password, email or message any of the pastors). Also, you can join any of these online gatherings by phone. Dial (312) 626-6799, and enter the Meeting ID 999-527-5153, and then press #. Press # again when prompted, to join the meeting. You will be able to hear and talk, but you won't see any of the video.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### assembly life and people

**Toby Mast-** (rising 7th Bethany) turned 12 on June 4! Toby enjoys listening to audio books, spending time outside riding his bike, walking and working on him aim with his bow and arrow. Toby really likes board games and in school he found social studies very interesting though math and science are his favorite subjects. He is eager to see friends again when the world is normal!

**Leo Herber** (rising 5th Chandler) turns 10 on June 8! Leo loves basketball, football, soccer, and tennis. He likes to play video games, and to collect sports cards. He has been reading a lot in quarantine and visiting his grandparents. He enjoys watching movies, playing volleyball and eating ice cream with his family. He hopes still to go to the beach this summer.

Today we begin our summer worship series "Small Things." Each Sunday's worship (in iMovie format) will focus on a different "small thing". We begin today with Seeds. Please [read the Introduction to the Summer Worship series here](#), which includes a wonderful Wendell Berry poem, along with more information. Remember that if you prefer a "live" format you can join the Zoom group each Sunday at 10 AM with one of our pastors.

**Join us Sundays at 10am each week for Zoom worship** as we watch the pre-recorded service and make space for live sharing followed by a pastoral prayer. For those of you wishing we would do Zoom worship every Sunday, we encourage you to show up and try it!

**Happy Birthday last week (5/31-6/6) to:** Jeanne Liechty, Michael Dickens, Scott Coulter, Ryan Rittenhouse, Nadia Shank, and Michael Miller. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

**Happy Birthday this week (6/7-6/13) to:** Greta Lapp Klassen, Trevor Daugherty, Brennan Beachy, Eric Kurtz, Marna Mateer, Jen Bontrager, and Tobias Magatti. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

**Taking action in response to the evils of institutional racism:** The movement to transform and dismantle the policies and systems that keep black and brown bodies oppressed in our society is ongoing. At the present moment many of us are especially aware of this movement, and we are searching for concrete ways we can partner in the Holy Spirit's movement of liberation. [Click here for a partial list of suggested actions, including educational resources.](#)

**Lora sent an email to all Assembly parents** which included information about Sunday School this summer and a list of resources for talking with youth and children about racism. [You can read that email here](#). If you would like to share the list of resources outside of Assembly, [Lora asks that you share this PDF](#), not the email link above.

**Goshen Christian Montessori School (GCMS).** At our [Sept 2019 congregational meeting](#), the congregation approved a plan to rent classroom space in the meetinghouse to GCMS. Leadership Group has approved GCMS' plans to move into the meetinghouse on Aug 3, though no students will attend until at least Sept 8. GCMS will occupy two or three classrooms with their attached bathrooms, and will have use of the playground and occasional use of the multipurpose space for indoor recess. They will not be in any other part of the building. Tricia Blosser, the director of GCMS, is thinking carefully about the impact of COVID-19 on the school's operations. She has said: "We have a long list from the state of strongly suggested procedures for child care providers and are considering how we can best accomplish all of them. We aim to hold ourselves to the highest standard with this virus because we do believe that people's lives are at stake. We're also considering that schools (including ours) might have to close again at some points throughout this year due to containment issues." GCMS plans to follow all of the health and safety recommendations of the Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning as if they were requirements "since we want to offer the safest possible care". Please send any questions about rental of the

meetinghouse to [Scott Coulter](#) ([scottc@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org)).

**Congregational Survey Results.** In March 2020, Leadership Group surveyed the congregation about participation in congregational meetings. LG heard that: • people appreciated being surveyed; • 2/3rds responded they are satisfied with Assembly's current decision-making process & with the decisions being made; • while some wish for broader participation at congregational meetings, several others who don't attend meetings expressed their willingness to abide by others' decisions; • some are reluctant to speak in large group settings, and a few are reluctant to express minority viewpoints; • many value discussing congregational issues in their small group; • many say Sunday evenings are a difficult time and suggest second hour as a more accessible time for them; • some proposed varying meeting times or soliciting input online; • for a sizable number participation in monthly congregational meetings is either not possible or not what they're interested in, while for some others changing this significantly would change an important part of Assembly's identity. [Click here to read more complete results of this survey including written comments](#). (You can also find this on the church website under "[Current Projects](#)"). The purpose of this survey was to help Leadership Group evaluate what changes, if any, should be made to congregational meetings. Stay tuned for more info as Leadership Group continues to process this issue.

**The 2 Percent Committee** met on 5/30 for a whopping 29 minute meeting which even included some small talk! We propose the following donations: Local: Center for Healing and Hope \$1000, LaCasa Help a House \$1000, Goshen Farmers Market -Share the Bounty \$500, Goshen interfaith hospitality Network \$500, Mosaic Health and Healing Arts \$400, The Window \$500. World: National Immigrant Justice Center \$1000, Mennonite Central Committee \$750, Mennonite Disaster Service \$750, Columbus Mennonite Church Edith Espinal Sanctuary support \$800. If you have any questions or concerns about this please contact Sarah Horst, 2% chair. We will meet again in the fall of 2020.

**"This is not a time for Mennonites to be the quiet in the land."** Please read [this statement released by Mennonite](#)

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**Assembly Mennonite Church**

**Pastoral Team**

Lora Nafziger [loracn@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:loracn@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-0732

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Scott Coulter [scottc@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org) 419-535-2918

**Pastor Emeritae:** Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

**Administrator:** Naomi Roots (M/W 9-3:30, F 9-12) [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org) 574-534-4190

**Elders:** Dennis Landis (chair), Wilma Harder, Regina Shands Stoltzfus, Jonathon Schramm, Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Hannah Friesen  
**Youth Coordinators:** Sarah Sutter Kaufmann, Aaron Kaufmann, Ally Mast, Hannah Friesen

**Assembly Mennonite Church** seeks to be a dynamic Christian community by together meeting God who draws us beyond ourselves into nurturing, sharing, and living the good news of God's love as known in Jesus Christ. ~ Mission Statement, adopted June 1997

As a reconciling faith community, Assembly Mennonite Church seeks to follow Jesus' example by welcoming all who come our way, regardless of age, economic or social circumstances, ethnic background, gender, marital status, physical ability, race, or sexual orientation. ~ Welcome statement, adopted Dec. 1999

[Church USA on racial injustice](#). It includes thoughtful, brief responses to the questions: "[Why do protests often turn violent?](#)" and "[Why is it inappropriate and tone deaf to say, 'All lives matter?'](#)". Also click on the following links for additional statements by: [MCUSA Executive Director Glen Guyton](#) and [Central District Conference](#) (of which Assembly is a part).

**Opening for Part-Time Administrator.** Naomi Roots will be leaving her position as Administrator in the church office on July 17. We are deeply grateful for her service to Assembly over the past five years. We are now accepting resumes and a letter of interest for this 25-30 hours/week position. Please express your interest to Scott Coulter in person or at [scottc@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org). [A complete job description can be found on the Assembly website here.](#)

**Are you tired of communicating** with people through pixels on a screen? Break the zoom fatigue, and come check out Sophia Yordy's outdoor card booth at the farmers market! Entitled Snail Mail, Sophia's business hopes to revive the lost art of communicating through beautiful and tangible letters. Her booth will open on Saturday, June 13. Come see her then, or email [snailmail.sophiamarie@gmail.com](mailto:snailmail.sophiamarie@gmail.com) for more information on how to order online.

**Jamie Lake** is once again riding 500 miles to support Habitat for Humanity. Unfortunately, this year the group cannot ride together in Minnesota so riders will be pedaling in their own communities. The ride will take place July 12-18. Jamie would love your support! Whether that is financially: [by making a donation here](#) or getting a check to her written out to "Habitat 500" (all money goes to either Habitat of Elkhart County or of Minnesota), physically: cheering on along her route or providing a safe and socially distant rest stop, or emotionally: with prayers and good thoughts. Email her at [jamieklake@gmail.com](mailto:jamieklake@gmail.com) for more information.

**Share Prayer Requests** by [filling out the online form at this link](#). You may continue to do this throughout each week. Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays, and are also included in the Pastoral Prayer each Sunday.

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(repeat) **Heidi Louise Nafziger-Peterson** was born Tue, May 26 at 7:30pm! She was 7lbs, 9oz and 20 inches long. All are doing well. If you would like to take Abby, Alex, Hans and Heidi a meal, [click here](#). Last name: Nafziger-Peterson Password: Heidi

(repeat) **The Leadership Group** has received a letter of resignation from Naomi Roots, Church Administrator, effective July 17. With Naomi's permission, [we are sharing her announcement with the congregation](#). Many of us have only a narrow view of the wide range of things Naomi has done over the past five years to keep Assembly organized and running smoothly. We will miss her cheerful competence in the office. This coming Tuesday, Leadership Group will begin the search process for her successor.

(repeat) **Though we are taking a temporary break** from singing together as a congregation, in our worship this summer we'd like to feature music from our homes. If you would be interested in sharing music with us - a hymn suggestion or a recording of yourself playing or singing - please let us know. -Summer Worship Committee (contact Maria Wenger at 404-435-1536, [frauwenger@hotmail.com](mailto:frauwenger@hotmail.com))

(repeat) **Summer Worship Committee** is looking for volunteers who are familiar with iMovie to help us put the parts of a Sunday service together digitally. We have guidelines and a format prepared, and we will be happy to support you. Contact Maria Wenger at 404-435-1536, [frauwenger@hotmail.com](mailto:frauwenger@hotmail.com)

(repeat) **Zoom Baby Shower for Emily and James Stuckey Weber** Small Group Derailed is pleased to invite you to a virtual baby shower on Sun, June 14, 3-4pm for Emily and James who are expecting their first baby in July! We will share a zoom link closer to the date so you can share your well wishes and wisdom with them in a small breakout room. They are registered at [Amazon](#) & [Target](#). Children's books, in lieu of cards, and hand-me-downs are also welcome. Gender neutral clothing is preferred. Their new address is 1405 Ashton Ct, Goshen, IN 46526. Thanks for joining this online celebration!

(repeat) **Finance Committee** would like to inform the congregation that we applied for a loan under the CARES act. We expect to receive \$14,552 by June 1. [Please read this note from the committee for more complete information.](#)

(repeat) **Thank you to everyone** for your participation in our Thursday afternoon activities. We ended last Thurs with a rousing game of Musical Jeopardy you can watch it here: <https://youtu.be/tvq33pM-wnU>

## community connections

**The Fire This Time: Reflections on Rebellion.** Hear the voices of black women preachers this Sunday June 7 at 3:30 PM on Facebook Live -- Join Rev. Naomi Washington-Leaphart, Rev. Calenthia Dowdy, Rev. Lori Person-Baynard, and Rev. Sharon Gramby-Sobukwe, with moderator Chantelle Todman Moore for Sermons and Talk Back, as these preachers speak to questions like: "Can America be what America must become?" and "What you gonna do when the world is on fire?!" . [Click here to RSVP to this event](#) on Facebook.

**Pathways Retreat, Goshen:** \*\*Individual retreats are available again! \*\**Iona Healing Prayer* happens virtually every Monday at noon and prayer requests can be submitted via our website. The past Monday's liturgy is on our website as a resource for individuals or groups. \*\*Virtual prayers via zoom continue Monday – Thursday; Friday morning's Creation Prayer is on-site. Visit [pathwaysretreat.org](http://pathwaysretreat.org) for details.

**Pathways Retreat's** June edition of their monthly newsletter, Rhythms, [can be read by clicking here](#).

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