

AssemblyLine

July 12, 2020

Volume XXXIX, Number 28

Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

574-534-4190 / office@assemblymennonite.org

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

Our meetinghouse will remain closed until further notice.

W O R S H I P

July 12	July 19
<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>Mary Lehman Yoder</i> Storyteller: <i>Sally Weaver Glick</i></p> <p>Scripture: Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23</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>Mitch Rhodes</i> Storyteller: <i>Kim Kurtz</i></p> <p>Scripture: Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43</p>

C A L E N D A R

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

TODAY	July 12	10am Virtual House Church ONLINE (https://zoom.us/j/9995275153) 11am "Coffee Time" ONLINE (https://zoom.us/j/9995275153)
Mon-Fri	July 13-17	9:30am Anti-Racist Intergenerational VBS in the North Parking Lot
Mon	July 13	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE (https://zoom.us/j/9995275153)
Wed	July 15	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE (https://zoom.us/j/9995275153)
Fri	July 17	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE (https://zoom.us/j/9995275153)
Sun	July 19	1pm Congregational Meeting ONLINE (https://zoom.us/j/9995275153)

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.

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

assembly life and people

Ben Smuts turned 3 on July 9! Ben is a sweet, loving, adventurous little boy. He loves climbing, jumping, running, playing, reading, and loving on his family. His favorite show is Paw Patrol, his favorite food is hot dogs, and his favorite song is This Little Light of Mine.

Ira Siemens-Rhodes (rising 5th Bethany) turned 10 on July 9! He's been learning the habits of his family's 12 chickens, and he enjoys reading the Artemis Fowl series on his Kindle. Camping at Chain of Lakes State Park was a recent highlight, and he's hoping for more than a quarter under his pillow after losing a tooth yesterday.

Congratulations to Sara and Chris Klassen on the birth of their baby girl on Thursday, July 9 at 7:02pm! We look

forward to seeing photos and learning the name of the newest member of your family!

Today we continue our summer worship series "Small Things." Each Sunday's worship (in iMovie format) will focus on a different "small thing". This week our "small thing" is Small Acts of Remembrance. 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!

Assembly is hosting a Vacation Bible School for all ages next week! As a community, we will participate with in-person sessions each day from July 13-17 at 9:30am in the North parking lot at the meetinghouse. Please bring a mask and chairs/blankets for your household, and please maintain a 6-foot distance from those not in your household. If you cannot meet in person, you can still participate! [Please read this listserv](#) which includes information about each day's activities, and you can contact Lora at loracn@assemblymennonite.org with any questions.

Our condolences to Deanna Risser and family on the death of her uncle, Marion Yoder, on July 4. The obituary can be found [here](#). Please keep Deanna's mom (Marion's sister), and Marion's wife, children, grandchildren, and extended family in prayer during this time of loss.

A Zoom Congregational Meeting is being planned for Sun, July 19, at 1pm. All Assembly participants are welcome, and encouraged to participate. Topics for the agenda include: affirmation of [the work of Leader Selection Committee](#), when and how we will resume in-person meetings, and the application for the Paycheck Protection loan. The format will include breakout rooms for discussion, and opportunities to ask questions and give feedback to Leadership Group.

The Leader Selection Committee (Emily Stuckey Weber, Tobias Magatti, and Naomi Chapman) has finished their work of putting together the list of all those who have volunteered to serve in various [Committees and Positions](#) in the congregation for 2020-2021. Thanks to that committee, and to all of you who will be serving in these roles in the coming year! Committee chairs are encouraged to call a welcome & orientation meeting in July or August for your committee.

At last Tuesday's Leadership Group meeting, the group discussed finances, the [new Leader Selection: Committees and Positions list for 2020-21](#), and planning the first online congregational meeting. If you would like to read minutes from previous LG and Congregational meetings, [you can find them on our website](#).

Anti-Racism Book Group Take 2 A group of us met this week to discuss "White Fragility." If you'd like to be a part of another round of book reading and discussion, please purchase the book, "Me and White Supremacy" by Layla F. Saad. We'll plan to discuss the first 77 pages on Mon, July 27 at 7pm in the AMC Zoom room. All are welcome. Please e-mail Anna at annays@assemblymennonite.org for questions or to participate.

Happy Birthday last week (7/5-7/11) to: Isaac Sensenig, Hugo Avelar, Randy Roth, Ann Graber Miller, Sibyl Graber Gerig, Jim Kaufmann, Sarah Lind, and Kimberly Glick. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday this week (7/12-7/18) to: Sue Burkholder, Becca Shantz, Phoebe Graber, John Nafziger, Ryan Gomez Wengerd, and Betsy McCause. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Each week we will feature blurbs with updates about households within an Assembly small group. This week, here is an update from small group [Beta](#):

Small Group Beta has been meeting regularly via Zoom and more recently outdoors and, overall, we are doing okay during this strange time. Tom and Barb Hassan are healthy and happy and loving their garden. Mary and Glenn Gilbert are settling into being full-time homebodies, although Glenn continues a few hours weekly helping out on campus since his recent retirement. Mary spends much of her time sewing masks and contributing to the MCC comforter pipeline. Marna Mateer is keeping busy with art work and piano playing and Bill is reading and pursuing various yard and garden projects. Bontragers are involved with summer sports and other activities. And the rest of us are getting along, too.

Jamie Lake's bike ride is this week! She will be riding Sunday through Saturday mornings as much as she can around Goshen. Please honk and cheer her on if you see her on her little green trike with rainbow flag. Thank you to all who have been able to donate to Habitat. You can still donate if you would like just email Jamie at jamielake@gmail.com.

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Kathy and Paul Meyer Reimer are moving. Our new address is 1725 S. 13th Street. Our phone numbers remain the same. We will be selling our house at 618 S. Sixth Street in the next few weeks. We will miss our wonderful neighbors, a number of whom go to Assembly! (But we are also getting some wonderful new neighbors, some of whom go to Assembly!) Let us know if you are interested in seeing the 6th St House. -Paul and Kathy

Baby Shower for Joni and Aaron Yost Small group Groupyndor invites you to shower Joni and Aaron with gifts. They are expecting their first baby in August. Joni and Aaron are registered at <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/joni-yost-aaron-yost-august-2020-goshen/1WU4827FD1HXM> Groupyndor is not hosting an actual shower for them, but you can drop off a gift or card at 1009 S 8th and say a physically distanced hello and share words of encouragement. Joni and Aaron are at home most of the time.

Lacasa Inc thanks Assembly for Assembly's gift of \$1,000 to the Help-A-House program through the 2% fund. The donation helps bring volunteers together with the materials to repair the homes of low-income homeowners. [Click here](#) for more information about Help-A-House, and contact Sarah Phend Horst at sphend@gmail.com for more information about Assembly's 2% Fund.

The Christian Ed. Committee has provided a resource for use with small groups, households and friends that compliments the Summer worship theme of Small Things: "Great and Small" Guide to the Okayest Summer Ever! [Click here for the 6-week guide](#) including scripture, reflection questions, and activities for all ages. Each week features a new song that you can download and listen to as well: [here is the song for Week 5: "Rest"](#). You can [find the rest on the Assembly website](#). Enjoy!

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.

Opening for MYF coordinator. We are grateful for all the time and love that Ally Mast has given our high school

youth. Ally will be completing her 3-year term as MYF coordinator at the end of this summer. A search committee has been formed to find 1 or 2 people to replace her. If you are interested in working with other adults to coordinate Sunday school, social, and service events for our youth, if you have candidates to suggest for this position, or if you have any other questions please contact Lora Nafziger, loracn@assemblymennonite.org.

(repeat) **Our condolences to Phil Good-Elliott and family** upon the death of Phil's father, David Elliott, on July 2. David had been living with a variety of illnesses for the past several years. Please keep his wife, Phil's family, and his father's family in prayer as they grieve and celebrate his life. Due to the pandemic, Phil and family will not be traveling to visit David's wife.

(repeat) **Nadia Shank and Justin Rothshank** are excited to let Assembly members and friends know that our parents, Meribeth and Arden Shank, are moving back to Goshen after 19 years in Miami, Florida. They will arrive in Goshen the evening of July 9, according to the current plan. [Click here](#) to read about what Meribeth and Arden were up to during their time in Miami.

(repeat) **Naomi Roots** will be leaving the Administrator position on July 17. Thank you, Naomi for your service over the past five years!

(repeat) **Jane Litwiller** has accepted the position of the new Administrator in the church office. Jane will start in the office in mid-August. The pastoral team is excited about working with Jane! Throughout the office staff transition, please continue to direct any church-related inquiries to office@assemblymennonite.org, or to a member of the pastoral team.

community connections

Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests encourages all that are interested to attend a four part online series offered by the Kirkridge Retreat Center for families with trans or gender expansive/gender nonconforming children. It is led by Dr. Erin Swanson, a Presbyterian Minister and Marriage and Family Therapist who has been a leader and innovator in this area. The series is free, but participants must register. It begins this Sat,

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July 11. This series could be immensely helpful to families with trans or gender expansive children, please, please forward this information to them. *Trans in the Family: The basics of transgender and gender non-conforming experience from a family perspective.*

<https://kirkridge.org/events/trans-in-the-family/>

The African American Mennonite Association, a constituency group of Mennonite Church USA, has called upon fellow Mennonite congregations to address racism. <http://mennoniteusa.org/news/aama/>

Taking Each Next Step: Anti-racism in Our Homes, Churches, and Conference - July 16, 2pm Eastern. As followers of Christ, we are all called to work for racial, ethnic, and religious justice in our world. Join members of the Missional Church Committee of Central District Conference in taking each next step in our personal, congregational, and conference journeys toward dismantling white supremacy and racial injustice. The webinar will offer provocations and resources from a recent Missional Church Committee task group to spur you and your congregation on towards God's liberating, all-encompassing peace. [Register here](#)

Climate and Community: Creating and implementing plans for positive change, July 30, time TBA (Amy Huser) Description: We all understand the need to address the climate crisis, but it can feel overwhelming and even pointless on an individual scale. Where do we prioritize our time and energy? Working in community with others on shared goals can empower us to create positive change. Join Amy Huser and Jenna Liechty Martin of Camp Friedenswald to hear how Camp is addressing climate holistically through the implementation of a triple-bottom-line (environmental, social, and financial) strategic plan to become a more resilient and sustainable organization. Participants will be encouraged to brainstorm ways to apply a similar framework for their family, congregation, or community.

Join MCC Great Lakes for a virtual Pipeline to Prison learning tour. Explore the complex dynamics of the U.S. criminal justice system from different perspectives and learn about practical opportunities for engagement and advocacy efforts in your local context. Through five online

sessions, participants will explore the connections between broad systemic issues of racism and incarceration down through the local level, all through the lens of Anabaptist faith. This free virtual learning tour will take place each Monday in August from 2-3:30 p.m. (EST). Registration is limited to 25 participants. The goal is for all participants to commit to attending each virtual session to get the full learning experience. For more information and to register visit mcc.org/gl-pipeline-to-prison-virtual or call 574.534.4133.

Mennonite Mission Network is seeking a full time Network Systems Administrator located in the Newton, KS office. This position will ensure the stable operation of the organizations Local Area Network (LAN), wide area network (WAN), Internet systems and software applications. The ability to analyze and resolve end user hardware and software computer problems in a timely and accurate fashion is essential. Ability to provide excellent customer service is a must. Committed to denominational and agency goals of anti-racist action. Degree in computer science / information technology or 3-5 years' experience is preferred. View the complete position description at www.MennoniteMission.net. Submit cover letter and resumé to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net for consideration.

(repeat) **Amid widespread civil unrest, Mennonite Church USA** has issued a statement on racial injustice. Read it here: http://mennoniteusa.org/news/mc_usa-statement-on-racial-injustice/

(repeat) **Mennonite Church USA has launched a Justice Fund** to provide a way for individuals and congregations to support fellow congregations that are actively involved in dismantling racism, addressing police brutality, reimagining policing in our society or combating poverty. To learn more: <http://mennoniteusa.org/news/mennonite-church-usa-launches-new-justice-fund/>

(repeat) **The leadership team of Mennonite Church USA** recently led an interactive, online panel discussion, entitled Race, Church and Change, about the impact of racism on the church and meaningful approaches for dismantling it. View it here: <http://mennoniteusa.org/leadership->

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[development/webinars/](#). A second webinar (Race, Church and Change, Part 2) has been scheduled for July 23.

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