

# AssemblyLine

August 30, 2020

Volume XXXIX, Number 35

## Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

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

Cluster Worship at 10 AM. Join us on Zoom or reach out by email to connect to an in-person cluster group.

### WORSHIP

August 30	September 6
Cluster Worship Join your assigned backyard cluster, or join us on Zoom at 10AM Scripture: Genesis 17:1-8,15-19; 18:1-15; 33:1-17	Cluster Worship Join your assigned backyard cluster, or join us on Zoom at 10AM Scripture: Genesis 25:19-34; 27; 32:1-15; 33:1-17

### CALENDAR

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

TODAY	Aug 30	10am Cluster Worship: Join <a href="#">on Zoom</a> , or join <a href="#">your assigned backyard cluster</a>
Mon	Aug 31	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> )
Tues	Sept 1	8:00 pm Take Our Moments and Our Days prayer group at Shanklin Park 6:30pm Leadership Group Meeting on the Playground at the Meetinghouse
Wed	Sept 2	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> ) 1pm Lunch Bunch on Zoom ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> )
Thurs	Sept 3	8:00 pm Take Our Moments and Our Days prayer group at Shanklin Park
Fri	Sept 4	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer ONLINE ( <a href="https://zoom.us/j/9995275153">https://zoom.us/j/9995275153</a> )

**Note:** If you don't already have the password for our Zoom meetings, 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

**Graham Ebright Zehr** (4th Chandler) turns 10 on Sept. 1st! Graham enjoys playing all sports, but especially likes basketball and swimming. He enjoys traveling, and reading graphic novels. He is working to make his handwriting better. He was glad to travel to New York State this summer and visit his grandparents.

#### TODAY we continue our Fall Worship series:

**Becoming a People of God.** This fall we are trying something new, taking a break from our weekly Zoom calls and inviting people to participate in outdoor neighborhood cluster group worship on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. from Aug. 16 through Sept. 27. The congregation has been thoughtfully divided into neighborhood cluster groups. [Click here for the list of groups](#). If you have not been assigned and would like to visit a group please email [Anna Yoder Schlabach](#). Anyone is welcome to show up for the Zoom cluster group. We'll be focusing on the familiar stories of Genesis, loosely based on the Shine curriculum. [Read the entire introduction to fall worship here](#).

**Lunch Bunch Zoom meeting:** We plan to have our first Lunch Bunch organizational Zoom on Wednesday,

September 2 at 1 pm. (<https://zoom.us/j/9995275153>) We plan to spend a lot of time in small groups chatting after an initial gathering together. Questions to consider are: What topics interest you? What speakers from Assembly do you want to hear? What December celebration is zoomable, since we are unable to have a tea together? We do have some topics left unaddressed from March to May which we hope to schedule. I look forward to gathering with you.  
-Amy Kauffman

**Time Change: Prayers at Shanklin Park have moved to 8:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.** You are invited to join in person. Bring your copy of Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book, or download the free app [for Android](#) or [for iPhone](#). If you have any questions about this gathering, contact Becky Snider or Lydia Miller.

**Christian Education Committee needs your feedback:** Parents of children through grade 5 are invited to respond to a [brief survey](#) from the Christian Education committee about possible resources and activities during this time without Sunday school. Please complete the survey by Sept. 6, and Zoom into the Fall Parent meeting on Sept. 27

at 2pm for chances to connect with other parents and hear about upcoming plans.

**Small group reps** met this week and discussed the start of this year's "small group shuffle" and whether Assembly should change the way it funds Mennonite mission agencies. Ask your rep for details.

**Small group shuffle.** This is the time of year when people change small groups and new groups form. If you're interested in joining or changing small groups, contact Karl Shelly for a list of options.

**AssemblyLine Announcements:** This is a friendly reminder from your new Administrator to please use the [assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org) email address to submit announcements for the inclusion in the weekly AssemblyLine. Please submit all announcements by 8am Friday. This will help me be more efficient. Thanks. -Jane Litwiller

**Mask Policy:** This is a reminder that wearing masks (covering nose and mouth) is required when entering the church building. This is in alignment with Elkhart County Health Department guidelines as well as the State of Indiana mandate issued by Governor Holcomb on July 27 that has recently been extended until the end of September. Please assume that AMC's policy requiring masks in the meetinghouse will remain in effect until further notice. Contact [Jane Litwiller](#) with questions.

**Sign up to bring a meal for Joni and Aaron Yost**, as we celebrate the birth of Winnie Marie on Aug 14! You can sign up here: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qa-LGgfPGKiTSGpHSFB6P\\_XLCzlbsXVkwytTU7sPiQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qa-LGgfPGKiTSGpHSFB6P_XLCzlbsXVkwytTU7sPiQ/edit) Dates are available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from Sept. 14-Oct. 9

**Sign up to bring a meal for Dominique Burgunder-Johnson and Patrick Coonan**, as we celebrate the birth of Xavier on Aug 18! You can sign up here: [www.TakeThemAMeal.com/MMXZ3866](http://www.TakeThemAMeal.com/MMXZ3866). Password: Xavier. Dates available include Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from August 31-Sept. 25.

**Meals for the Klassen family.** Small group Hygge is organizing meals for Sara and Chris Klassen upon the

arrival of their baby, June Tyler, on July 8. There are still some dates you can sign up to bring a meal. Please follow [this link](#) for more specific instructions and to sign up. -Small group Hygge

### **Camp Friedenswald Retreat Opportunity.**

Sadly, we are not able to have a church-wide retreat at Camp Friedenswald this year. The Assembly Retreat Committee invites you to participate in Camp Friedenswald's "Getaway Retreat" as a partial substitute. Oct 9-11 is reserved for Assembly people only. Assembly will cover the entire cost of any Assembly participants who wish to participate on this or any other weekend. Contact Camp Friedenswald if you're interested and let them know you're from Assembly. Spots are limited, and registration is on a first-come-first-served basis. If you are able, we invite you to reimburse Assembly for all or part of the cost of your retreat. [For more details please click here.](#)

**Happy Birthday last week (8/23-8/29) to:** Jason Kauffman, Julia Gautsche, Jane Litwiller, and Graysen Beasley. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

**Happy Birthday this week (8/30-9/5) to:** Graham Ebright Zehr, Byrdalene Horst, Jeremiah Chico, and Carmen Horst.. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

**Each week we have been featuring blurbs** with updates about households within an Assembly small group. We appreciate your patience as we anticipate bringing this feature back soon!

**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

(repeat) **At our outdoor worship service Aug 9** we heard faith stories and witnessed baptisms and welcomed 10 of our participants as covenanted members. It was lovely to worship together in person on that sunny, windy morning! The video recording of the service is now available on YouTube for anyone to watch. If you weren't able to be with us, I encourage you to check it out:

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#### **Assembly Mennonite Church**

##### **Pastoral Team**

Lora Nafziger [loracn@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:loracn@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-0732  
Karl Shelly [karlss@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org) 574-621-1037  
Anna Yoder Schlabach [annays@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:annays@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-5319  
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**Pastoral Intern:** Kristen Swartley, [kswartley@ambs.edu](mailto:kswartley@ambs.edu)

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

**Elders:** Dennis Landis (chair), Regina Shands Stoltzfus, Jonathon Schramm, Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Lydia Miller  
**Youth Coordinators:** Sarah Sutter Kaufmann, Aaron Kaufmann, Sara Morris, Hannah Friesen

**Administrator:** Jane Litwiller (M/F 9:15-12:45) [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org) 574-534-4190

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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

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSzIG\\_HbGEO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSzIG_HbGEO).

(repeat) **Anti-racism accountability group**. Are you hoping to be more proactive in working for an end to racism but don't always know what to do? Or do you have trouble following through on your best intentions? Anti-racism is hard work, and it may help to meet with others in the same boat where we can share ideas, provide encouragement, and hold each other accountable. If interested in such a group, [let Karl Shelly know](#), and he'll invite you to a meeting to explore how such a group might function.

(repeat) **Lora Nafziger** will be Zooming in to Wabash Pastoral Leadership Aug. 24-26. The theme this time is Anti-Racism, with sessions including: Racism, Public Protests, and Public Change; Dismantling Racism in Museums and Public Spaces and Ministering in Double Pandemics. Lora will be glad to talk with anyone about her time afterwards.

(repeat) **Goshen Christian Montessori School** has made the difficult decision to close for the entire 2020-2021 school year. GCMS is hoping for a successful re-opening in Sept 2021, when hopefully the COVID numbers for Elkhart county are greatly reduced. The pastoral team has let GCMS know they will still be welcome to open in the Assembly/Faith meetinghouse next year, and has given GCMS permission to store their classroom items in classroom 1a/1b, as the church is also not currently using that space. Please keep all those affected by this decision in your prayers

(repeat) **Temporary housing needed** for Wendy Shank, beginning October 1 for about 6-8 months. A one-bedroom or private floor of a house, preferably with few stairs. Please let Nadia Shank, Meribeth & Arden Shank, or Justin & Brooke Rothshank know if you have such a place or know of someone who does.

### community connections

**Police, Fairness & Security - Register by Aug 31 for this free webinar offered by MCC and Great Lakes BIC** Framed with a time of biblical reflection, Bishop Lynn Thrush will facilitate a panel discussion with people who

have interacted with the police at varying levels including: Ohio State Senator Cecil Thomas who served as a police officer in Cincinnati, OH. The free webinar will take place on Thursday, September 10 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. (EST). Participants will come away with a better understanding of the narrative of racial difference and how this is related to policing. Please register by August 31 at [mcc.org/gl-webinar-police](http://mcc.org/gl-webinar-police) to receive the webinar link.

**Can you name six Assemblyites** working behind the scenes to transform the annual Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale quilt auction into an online live auction this year? See next week's Assemblyline for the answer, and mark your calendars for the "100 quilts for 100 years of Mennonite Central Committee" auction on Sept. 26 starting at 9:30am.

**Bethany Swope will be speaking** about "Resilience in Uncertainty" for the Goshen Health Thrive! series on Tues., Sept. 1 at 11am. (Ally Mast was the August presenter. Go, Assembly!) This is a free Zoom webinar, but participants must pre-register at <https://goshenhealth.com/Thrive>.

**AMBS online courses:** "A Worship Leader's Introduction to Voices Together" and "A Song Leader's Introduction to Voices Together" will be offered this fall and last for 6 weeks. Visit their website for more information. <https://www.ambs.edu/lifelong-learning/anabaptist-short-courses>

**RECORDINGS AVAILABLE: MCC Great Lakes Centennial Service of Celebration** We had a wonderful virtual gathering celebrating the 100th anniversary of MCC with music, reflections, greetings, children's time and a powerful sermon livestreamed from Prairie Street Mennonite Church in Elkhart. Did you miss the livestream on July 26 or want to re-watch it? You can now view two recordings of the MCC Great Lakes Centennial Service of Celebration: English or Spanish subtitled. Thank you for joining the celebration and continuing to support the work of MCC around the world in the name of Christ. View the videos at: [mcc.org/gl-centennial-livestream](http://mcc.org/gl-centennial-livestream).

(repeat) **Outrunning Hunger 5K** is being facilitated by the Window at Shanklin Park on Sept 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. For more information [click here](#) and to register [click here](#).

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(repeat) **Mennonite Central Committee** is accepting donations to support people in need of food and other assistance in Beirut, Lebanon. A massive explosion on Aug. 4 destroyed the country's main port and silos filled with grain and worsened an existing economic crisis. You can donate online at [mcc.org/beirut-response](http://mcc.org/beirut-response), by calling (888) 563-4676 or by sending a check earmarked for "Beirut response" to MCC, 21 S. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Akron PA 17501.

(repeat) **Central District Conference's focus newsletter** can be found [here](#).

(repeat) **Mennonite Disaster Service's Newsletter** On the Level can be found [here](#).

(repeat) **Mennonite World Conference shifts Assembly to 2022** Mennonite World Conference (MWC) decided to postpone the global Assembly until 2022: 5–10 July. In close consultation with the National Advisory Committee in host country Indonesia, the Executive Committee of MWC has decided not to hold the international gathering in 2021 as originally announced.

(repeat) **The Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale** in 2020 will not be held due to the pandemic; however, several alternate "Relief Sale events" are being held by the Sale Board and multiple church groups to benefit Mennonite Central Committee. Find more information [here](#).

(repeat) **Camp Friedenswald** has [fall](#) and [day](#) getaway dates available. [Visit their website](#) for more information. (Remember: Assembly Retreat Committee will pay for all Assembly participants who want to go on a Getaway Retreat. Tell Friedenswald if you want to take advantage of this.)

(repeat) **Lacasa is hiring a Maintenance Technician** - If you are looking for a supportive team and work that makes a difference, we welcome you to consider joining us. On the job training is available. Check out the job description on our [website](#) and send your resume to [hr@lacasainc.net](mailto:hr@lacasainc.net).

(repeat) **Bethany Christian Schools** is seeking an additional evening custodian to join the facilities team. Successful applicants have the aptitude to work independently, perform minor repairs on equipment, and supervise student cleaning crews during the summer.

Bethany offers a positive community work environment and competitive benefits.

Contact [business\\_office@bethanycs.net](mailto:business_office@bethanycs.net) with inquiries.

(repeat) **House for rent next to Bethany campus** Bethany Christian Schools has a spacious single family home for rent next to the school campus. \$1300/month, plus utilities. Available beginning in October. 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath, with beautiful hardwood floors and historic woodwork. Laundry on site. Includes the use of a garage with room for one car and storage. No pets. Please send inquiries to [business\\_office@bethanycs.net](mailto:business_office@bethanycs.net). Thank you!

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