

AssemblyLine

November 15, 2020

Volume XXXIX, Number 46

Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

574-534-4190 / office@assemblymennonite.org

Join us for Online Worship Sundays at 10 AM

WORSHIP

November 15	November 22
Worship Leader: Kimberly Glick	Worship Leader: Lora Nafziger
Preacher: Safwat Marzouk	Preacher: Anna Yoder Schlabach
Scripture: Exodus 32:1-14	Scripture: Exodus 40

CALENDAR

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

TODAY	Nov 15	10:00 am Worship on Zoom , followed by coffee break & electives 6:30-8:30 pm MYF Drop-In at Theo and Adam's house.
Mon	Nov 16	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Wed	Nov 18	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Fri	Nov 20	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Sat	Nov 21	1:00 pm Family Tabernacle Event @ AMC
Sun	Nov 22	10:00 am Worship on Zoom , followed by coffee break & electives 11:30 am MYF Second Hour
Mon	Nov 23	6 pm Interplay Dance Group
Tues	Nov 24	7:15-8:30 pm Small Group Reps Meeting
Sat	Nov 28	4:30 pm Advent Worship-Witmer Woods/GC College Cabin
Sun	Nov 29	1 pm Candle Dipping at Steve Shantz's

Note: We are no longer requiring a password for public Zoom meetings (including Sunday morning worship). When you join the Zoom meeting, you will be placed in a "waiting room" until the tech host lets you in. **You can also join our Zoom meetings 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

Isaac/Isai (E-sigh) Horst (2nd, Parkside) turns 8 on November 20th! Isai likes recess and that he gets to sit with his friend at school. He loves to read, especially Captain Underpants. He enjoys drinking milk and writing stories. He also loves drawing pictures and graphic novels with superheroes. Noodles and pizza are his favorite foods. A picture of Isai is [here](#).

Fall Exodus Bible Study: Who will we serve? TODAY we continue our journey out of Egypt with the book of Exodus. The stories we encounter in Exodus invite us to ask "Where does our allegiance lie? And what false gods do we need to be freed from?" Read the full intro to this series [here](#). Join us for Zoom worship at 10am.

Exciting Exodus Electives! Fall electives continue TODAY! Following the "coffee break", join via the Zoom links given below or in the chat window to engage in

exciting alliterative Exodus Electives. [Sermon response:](#) One group will be invited to dive deeper into the text and have further conversations with Paul following his sermon. The second group is focused on embodied responses and is entitled "[Creating a space to meet God](#)." (Meeting ID: 858 7678 8158, Passcode: 994747) *This week join Sara Klassen to explore how yoga can be used to create a space for God.* Children are welcome to join with an adult. [Children's Stories:](#) The third group is for children who want to listen to stories and watch videos with Lora (a sort of Sunday school) using the same story we heard this morning.

TODAY the MYF will be having a drop-in at Theo and Adam's house from 6:30-8:30pm. Their address can be found in the MYF email or by contacting one of the sponsors. Please dress warmly, wear your mask and bring an easy-to-share snack. Hope to see you then!

Creating space for God- The Israelites created a tabernacle as a place to meet God in the wilderness.

Everyone, especially families, are invited on Saturday, Nov. 21st at 1pm at the meetinghouse to experience a life-sized model of the tabernacle, meet the high Priest and engage in hands-on activities to learn more about the tabernacle and ways that we can create space for God today.

Exodus Grand Finale, November 22 will be on zoom, not in the parking lot as we had originally planned. You can still expect to experience the wonder of the tabernacle as we end our journey through Exodus. We would still love to have a number of musicians participate in the service. If you'd be willing to play an instrument (and record yourself inside the church or at home) or sing in a small masked group, outdoors at the church for some prerecorded elements, please contact Rebecca Dengler Kaufman at rdkvoicestudio@gmail.com.

Advent begins soon. November 29th is the first Sunday of Advent and Saturday Nov. 28th is the first Advent service this year. The Advent planning committee has worked hard to reimagine Advent in the time of COVID. There will be two services each week. One, in-person, outside in Witmer Woods on Saturday evenings at 4:30pm and a second on Zoom Sunday morning. Both will have the same elements and participants. For more information about the theme and details see the [handout](#) at the top of the Assemblyline and look for listserve updates coming soon.

Candle Dipping on Sunday Nov. 29th is an annual tradition for children at Assembly that takes place at Steve Shantz's house (60728 CR 27, Goshen). This year, we will be outside, not in the garage as physical distancing would be difficult. Wear old and warm clothes, and bring a hot drink if you wish! Children in grades K-2 are invited at 1pm; grades 3-5 at 2pm. (If it is easier for your family to have children come outside of their age group that is ok!) This year, parents are expected to stay. If you have any questions, please call Steve at 574-534-5315.

The 2% committee proposes the following distributions:
Local: \$1000 Center for Healing and Hope, \$1000 Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Network, \$1000 ADEC, \$1000 Share the Bounty Goshen Farmers Market, \$750 The Window, \$250 The Window- For the Kitchen. With the hope that

most of these funds will be able to be matched via the Everence Sharing Fund. *World:* \$1000 MCC, \$1000 Mennonite Disaster Service, \$1000 Christian Peacemaker Teams, \$1000 National Immigrant Justice Center, \$500 Assoc. for a More Just Society, \$500 to the building fund for [Sutisana](#) Bolivia (Heather and Wes Goertzen). Please contact a member of the 2% committee: Sandy Fribley, Joel Zwier, Glenn Gilbert, Kathleen Jones or Sarah Horst with any questions or feedback.

Library of Care: An Ad Hoc committee (Lora Nafziger, Eric Good Kaufmann, Rachel Hostetler) is working on a pastoral care project for our community. The project includes creating a gallery or lending library of symbolic items to be chosen and taken by an individual or household at especially significant times in their life. You may recall being asked for input on the idea in your small groups. And now we have been working with the feedback from small groups to make this idea a reality. We have decided on the ideas that we would like to include in this "library" and are now seeking people to create items that represent each of these 6 ideas: **Joy, Grief, Exhaustion, Barren space, Uncertainty, End.** If you are interested in creating a physical item to represent one of these ideas, please be in touch with [Lora Nafziger](#) for more details and information.

MCC School Kits Update. Thank you so much for the \$1441 so generously contributed, which provided the funds for 445 MCC school kits! What joy they will bring to families to be able to send their children to school. Thanks, thanks, thanks. -Johanna Sutter

Following the death of Jonas King, father of Marshall King, the immediate family agreed not to have an in-person memorial service due to the pandemic. A video memorial has been done instead with a slideshow, meditation, memories and parts of the burial service. You can watch it at <https://youtu.be/TdyoQhdeDUo>.

Singers Needed: As a result of conversation on a community Facebook page this week, Pam Weishaupt is trying to organize an event to counteract the messages of Lori Beavo Arnold on Main Street who now has signage promoting civil war. Someone on the page suggested Mennonite singing as an act of resistance and a way to

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make a statement as a community that her messages are not acceptable. She hopes to organize a group of people to gather and sing hymns/songs of resistance all while wearing masks and socially distancing to be safe. There is no date set yet but please contact her at 538-9623 if you are interested in participating or have other ideas to share. She has also contacted other churches as well.

Ross-Richer Family Two-Way Mission “Relaunch”

Event: Saturday December 5th at 7:00 pm, join via Zoom (link and registration details coming soon). We warmly welcome all friends, supporters and anyone interested in the ministry of the Ross Richer Family to help in "relaunching" their Two-Way Mission in the Ecuadorian Rainforest as they embark on a 3rd three-year term beginning January 2021. Come prepared to enjoy and learn from an interactive time with Jerrell and Jane and representatives of Mennonite Mission Network in this virtual meeting with fellow supporters.

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.

Happy Birthday last week (11/8-11/14) to: Sean Smuts, Ed Metzler, & Bruce Bishop. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday this week (11/15-11/21) to: Barb Swartley, Heidi Collins, Hilary Bertsche, Tristan Beechy-King, Wesley Mast, Gayle Gerber Koontz, and Elsie Mast. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) Have you always wanted to play choir chimes? Here's your chance! For our Advent outdoor church services Karen is putting together a small group that would be willing to play 2-3 songs **per week** with choir chimes (as other instruments would not work very well out in the cold!) We'll play hymns and other advent music. Bring your music reading skills and desire to play with others. Please contact Karen Graber Roth by Nov 11 via text or email (karenegraber@gmail.com; 574-202-9256) to let her know you're willing to participate as we'll start practicing

soon. We'll practice weekly or as needed starting in mid-November.

(repeat) Send or receive mail: Many of us are feeling isolated as we look into the lonely bleak days of winter; receiving mail can brighten those days with a tangible connection. Susan Mark Landis has compiled a list of the names & addresses of folks who would like to receive cards or notes in the mail. If you'd like to be added to the list to receive mail, OR if you'd like access to the list so that you can send mail to others, email SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com. Children's contributions are welcome!

(repeat) Using AMC Spaces for Small Groups: This is to remind you all that indoor space at the meetinghouse is available for your small groups to use if needed in compliance with the [previously released policy](#) by contacting Jane at the church office. We are asking that when spaces are being used by groups, individuals continue to use the all gender restrooms in the hall near the worship space and avoid using the classroom restrooms. Also, please sanitize any high touch surfaces your group may have interacted with after you are done in the space. Sanitizing wipes and gloves are available for your use in the rooms. Signage with reminders and more details will also be posted.

(repeat) Fall Work Days Updates: We have reached the end of the 3 week window for Fall Work Days. Jane would appreciate an [email](#) from a representative from each assigned group if there are tasks that still need to be completed. If so, we can work to round up more volunteers not in small groups or previously assigned for some miscellaneous tasks over the next several weeks. Also, please let Jane know if you have any suggestions or concerns related to the experience.

(repeat) Assembly Coat Drive: To help our neighbors in need, I am organizing a coat/hat drive. Winter coats for kids, teens, women and men are in great demand. Please review the clothing in your household. If you have gently used items to donate, please contact me for pick up. Ideally, you can bag them with a note "Assembly Coat Drive." Place on your porch and we will coordinate a

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suitable pickup time. All coats will go the Window. One small way we can assist those in need! Thanks! ~[Barb Hassan](#)

(repeat) **Prayers in the Worship Space.** You may continue to come to the meetinghouse this week to write your prayers on a prayer flag and hang them on the line hung up in the worship space. There is still much to pray about this week in the midst of a close and contentious election, in the thick of the pandemic, and as we continue to witness police violence and protests. Sharpies and cloth are on the front table. Text a pastor for the combination to get into the church if you don't have a key. Please wear a mask.

(repeat) **At the Congregational Meeting** Nov 1st, we had consensus to sign on to [the Resolution for Repentance and Transformation](#) as a sponsoring congregation, along with 22 other congregations. We also discussed Assembly's financial support to Mennonite Mission Network and Mennonite Central Committee through our Spending Plan. For a [handout summarizing the work of both agencies](#), [click here](#). You can read the meeting minutes [on the church website](#).

(repeat) **Leadership Group met last Tues** to discuss the recent congregational meetings and beginning the process of a search process for a new Treasurer when John Nafziger's term ends in 2021. Minutes from Leadership Group meetings can be read [on the church website](#).

(repeat) **Finance Update:** Offerings received this year through Oct 31 total \$338,000 (75% of the annual budget). Offerings received in October were \$22,096, which is less than the \$37,623 needed per month on average to meet budget, but we are ahead of where we normally are in October because of offerings given earlier in the year. Expenses year to date are \$319,000 (71% of the budget). If you haven't sent in [your pledge form for 2021](#), please email your pledge to treasurer@assemblymennonite.org today. Thank you for your continued faithful and generous giving!

community connections

Check out the new “On the Move – En Movimiento” podcast from MCC that uses storytelling to challenge current narratives of migration. In the first episode, Ron Byler, recently retired executive director for MCC U.S., reflects on his January 2020 pilgrimage along the southern U.S. border. Ron drove and walked along the border wall and visited with communities on both sides of the border. He shares about the communities, the people and what this pilgrimage has meant for him. For more information and to listen to the podcast, visit mcc.org/move-en-movimiento.

Bethany Christian Schools to add third grade class for 2021-2022 school year: Bethany is excited to announce the addition of a third grade classroom for the next school year. The third graders will join fourth and fifth grade as part of the lower school, which emphasizes hands-on experiential learning with a focus on the fine arts, outdoor education, field trips, and a lively learning environment that make the Bethany experience unique. Bethany welcomes new inquiries and applications from interested 3rd grade families. Learn more at bethanycs.net and set up an Enrollment Consultation with Enrollment Director Trish Yoder at admissions@bethanycs.net.

Mennonite Church USA's “Equipping” Newsletter is [here](#).

(repeat) **Mennonite Mission Network** is hosting a free webinar on Tuesday, November 17 at 7 pm titled “Adapting to the Pandemic and Innovating for the Future.” For more information and to register, click [here](#).

(repeat) **Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Witness Colloquium Course:** AMBS is offering an online series on “Understanding and Engaging Movements for Justice in 2020.” Some sessions have already occurred but there are some still remaining. More information can be found [here](#).

(repeat) **Thank you for making the 2020 MCC Great Lakes Alternative Comforter Bash a success!** Our current total is over 600 comforters that will be distributed by MCC to those in need of warmth and comfort around the world. We appreciate the effort and hard work that was done by many hearts and hands. We will continue

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distributing comforter making packets/snip & tie packets from The Depot in Goshen until November 27 or while supplies last. If you currently have packets to complete, please return the knotted comforters to the Depot at your convenience and they will be counted in our final 2020 tally. Stay tuned for information on our 2021 Comforter Bash! Fabric packets for making tops for our 2021 event are available at the Depot from Nadine Zook Miller.

(repeat) **MCC's Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP)** home repair program is looking for summer staff in Harlan, Kentucky and Kimball, West Virginia. These three month positions will allow you to explore new cultures and stretch your faith and understanding of Christ's call to serve others. Applicants should be at least 19 years old, but there may be a few assignments for junior staff members. An hourly wage plus room and board are provided. **Job Site Coordinators:** Will maintain open communication with homeowners, volunteers and SWAP location coordinator. Responsible for coordinating materials and tools needed for job sites, and will oversee work projects with the volunteers. Together with the SWAP staff team will help facilitate or assist with evening sessions and worship. **Meals Coordinators:** Duties include menu planning, food preparation and coordinating volunteers for kitchen duties. Will also be responsible for coordinating the sale of SWAP promotional items. Together with the SWAP staff team will help facilitate or assist with evening sessions and worship. For more information and to apply, visit mcc.org/swap-summer-staff or contact the MCC Appalachia SWAP office at (606) 633-4008 or AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org.

(repeat) **Mennonite World Conference "Courier"** is available [here](#).

(repeat) **Mennonite Central Committee "In Touch"** is available [here](#).

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