

# AssemblyLine

November 22, 2020

Volume XXXIX, Number 47

## Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

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

Join us for Online Worship Sundays at 10 AM

### WORSHIP

November 22 <i>Communion</i>	November 29
Worship Leader: Anna Yoder Schlabach	Worship Leader: Lora Nafziger
Preacher: Lora Nafziger	Preacher: Carol Good-Elliott
Scripture: Exodus 40	Scripture: Isaiah 64:1; Mark 13:24-37

### CALENDAR

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

Sat	Nov 21	1 pm "Creating Space for God" Tabernacle experience
TODAY	Nov 22	10:00 am Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a> , followed by fellowship time 1 pm JYF event at Ebright-Zehr's
Mon	Nov 23	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer <a href="#">on Zoom</a> 6 pm Interplay Dance Group
Tues	Nov 24	7:15-8:30 pm Small Group Reps Meeting
Wed	Nov 25	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer <a href="#">on Zoom</a>
Sat	Nov 28	4:30 pm Advent Worship-Witmer Woods/GC College Cabin
Sun	Nov 29	10:00 am Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a> , followed by fellowship time 1 pm Candle Dipping at Steve Shantz's
Tues	Dec 1	7 pm Leadership Group on Zoom
Wed	Dec 2	1 pm Women's Lunch Bunch
Fri	Dec 4	9:30 Greencroft Meetup
Sat	Dec 5	4:30 pm Advent Worship-Witmer Woods/GC College Cabin
Sun	Dec 6	10:00 am Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a> , followed by fellowship time

**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

**Roy Kauffman** turned 3 this week on Tuesday, Nov 19! He had a bulldozer shaped birthday cake and always wants to be driven past the hospital construction site, to get a glimpse of the cranes and other large vehicles and equipment. He loves to be read to and misses attending preschool at Goshen Christian Montessori. He was an excellent tomato and green bean harvester in our garden this year, enjoys jumping on the backyard trampoline and filling his dump trucks with sticks, dirt and mulch from the yard.

**Fall Exodus Bible Study: Who will we serve?** TODAY we conclude our study of the book of Exodus with the construction of the Tabernacle in the wilderness. Join us for

Zoom worship at 10am. We will also celebrate communion together; please have your own elements ready (bread and wine/juice, or manna and water). 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](#).

**Creating space for God-TOMORROW Saturday, Nov. 21** the Worship and Christian Formation committees invite everyone, especially families, to gather in the meetinghouse parking lot at 1pm for outdoor, physically distanced activities. Experience a life-sized model of the Tabernacle, meet the High Priest, and engage in hands-on creating space for God in our lives today. Instead of cancelling if it is raining or cold, you can come to the church and pick up a bundle of activities to do at home if

you wish, the same option is available if you do not want to stay with others in the parking lot. Lora has contactless Tabernacle kits ready for you! The Tabernacle will be set up to view as well. In order to stay safe, wear a mask and stay with your family unit.

**Sat Nov 21, Outdoor Masked Tabernacle Choir** - We are looking for 25 or fewer singers to come to the church parking lot at 2pm on Saturday for our very own Tabernacle (Physically Distanced and Masked) Choir. We'll record a handful of songs for worship on Sunday. Rain or shine. Contact Rebecca Dengler Kaufman at [rdkvoicestudio@gmail.com](mailto:rdkvoicestudio@gmail.com) if you plan to attend so we can keep track of numbers.

**MYF will not be meeting this Sunday (11/22).** Since the planned outdoor worship service is no longer taking place outdoors, we encourage all MYFers to attend this week's worship service on Zoom instead. Our next planned meeting will be our Christmas Party on Saturday, December 5th from 6-8pm.

**The JYF event for this month** will be TODAY Sunday afternoon, November 22, from 1 to 3 pm. We will gather at the Ebright-Zehr's (63950 Old County Rd 17) for a bonfire, s'mores, and maybe some capture-the-flag, depending on how many folks show up. As COVID cases continue to increase in Elkhart County, it's still important that everyone at our gatherings is wearing their masks in addition to our being outside and keeping physically distant from one another.

**Advent in the time of COVID.** 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 and be flexible with our current state of disease. There are already two changes to the introduction. The first is that due to the current COVID spike, we will not be providing hot chocolate or coffee and ask that you do not bring your own so you can keep your mask on. We will, however, provide hand warmers! There continue to be two services each week. One, in-person, outside in Witmer Woods on Saturday evenings at 4:30pm and a second on Zoom 10 am Sunday morning. Both will have the same elements and

participants. Sunday morning will also include a fellowship time (11am) in breakout rooms and an *Advent in Narnia* 2nd hour for children and young at heart! Early next week look for a listserve with all the details and a sign up for the outdoor service. For more information see [the handout](#).

**The church office will be closed for Thanksgiving Nov 25-27.** There will still be an Assemblyline sent that Friday, but blurbs will be due by 11pm Tues Nov 24.

**Missing carafes:** It seems that the church is missing some carafes for hot liquid. Please contact [Jane](#) at the office if you happen to know their whereabouts.

**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 (11/15-11/21) 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!

**Happy Birthday this week (11/22-11/28) to:** Karen Graber Roth, Martha Hanby, and Benjamin Good-Elliott. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **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

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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  
 Scott Coulter [scottc@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org) 419-535-2918  
**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/T/TR/F 4:15-6:15) [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org) 574-534-4190

**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

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.

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **MCC School Kits Update.** Thank you so much for the \$1441 so generously contributed, which provided the funds for 462 MCC school kits! What joy they will bring to families to be able to send their children to school. Thanks, thanks, thanks. -Johanna Sutter

(repeat) **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>.

(repeat) **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 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.

(repeat) **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.

### community connections

**Bethany Christian Schools is excited to present** the fall play *All in the Timing*, a virtual comedy experience. For information on ticket purchase and livestreaming the production, visit [bethanycs.net/allinthetiming/](http://bethanycs.net/allinthetiming/). Show dates are November 27, 28 and 29.

**Join MCC for a series of “MCC and me” webinars** to hear more about service opportunities. Are you ready to step out and into service? To gain new skills and experiences while working for relief, development and peace in the name of Christ? MCC is working to adapt our programming as the situation with COVID-19 develops. All sessions relate to anticipated service needs, though timing and some other details may be subject to change. December 9 at 7 p.m. EST: Serving and Learning Together (SALT); January 13 at 3 p.m. EST: Summer Service leadership program; February 25 at 10 a.m. EST: Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP) summer staff; February 25 at 8 p.m. EST: International service worker; March 6 at 12 p.m. EST: International service worker; March TBD: Mobile Meat Canner. For more information and to register: [mcc.org/mcc-me-webinar-series-service-opportunities](http://mcc.org/mcc-me-webinar-series-service-opportunities)

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**MCC asks for support for Central American hurricane recovery:** Not one hurricane, but two hurricanes within two weeks have caused extensive flooding in Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua. Hurricanes Eta and Iota have destroyed crops and forced people from their homes. MCC is working with churches and community organizations to provide emergency food, hygiene supplies and cleanup support. Join us as we help these communities recover. You can donate online at [mcc.org/eta-iota-relief](http://mcc.org/eta-iota-relief), by phone at (888)563-4676, or by mail at MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.

**Called to ministry?** When God calls someone to ministry, a journey begins. Perhaps you are on that journey. Perhaps you are looking for mentors and companions along the way. Central District Conference invites you to join Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program. This program is for pastors and other congregational leaders who are called without specific training for ministry or who are exploring a call to pastoral ministry. The early application deadline for Winter 2021 is December 15. For more information visit [www.ambs.edu/journey](http://www.ambs.edu/journey) or contact Doug Luginbill at [confmin@mcusacdc.org](mailto:confmin@mcusacdc.org) or at [574-534-1485](tel:574-534-1485).

**The Point Foundation**, the nation's largest provider of scholarships to LGBTQ+ students, announced a scholarship opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students. Our application opened **November 1** for the 2021-2022 school year. Students receive financial support for every academic year (up to four years), Mentoring, leadership training, and access to the Point Foundation network of LGBTQ scholars and more than 400 alumni. To be eligible applicants must be enrolled or intending to enroll at an accredited college or university based in the United States, including Hawaii and Alaska, in the fall of 2021. Must be "out" as a person who identifies as a member of the LGBTQ community. Must be enrolled full-time for the full academic year. Must [submit an application online](#). The application opened on November 1st, 2020. The application closes January 25, 2021. More information regarding eligibility can be found [here](#).

(repeat) **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](http://mcc.org/move-en-movimiento).

**Goshen College events** can be found [here](#).

**Central District Conference's Reporter** is [here](#).

**Menno-Hof "Reunion" Newsletter** is [here](#).

**Mennonite Disaster Service's "On the Level" Newsletter** is [here](#).

**Mennonite Men's "Engage" Newsletter** is [here](#).

(repeat) **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](http://bethanycs.net) and set up an Enrollment Consultation with Enrollment Director Trish Yoder at [admissions@bethanycs.net](mailto:admissions@bethanycs.net).

(repeat) **Mennonite Church USA's "Equipping" Newsletter** is [here](#).

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