

AssemblyLine

November 29, 2020

Volume XXXIX, Number 48

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 29	December 6
Worship Leader: Lora Nafziger	Worship Leader: Wendel Landes
Preacher: Carol Good-Elliott	Preacher: Aaron Sawatsky-Kingsley
Scripture: Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-37	Scripture: Isaiah 40:3-5, Mark 1:1-8

CALENDAR

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

Sat	Nov 28	4:30 pm Advent Worship-Witmer Woods/GC College Cabin
Sun	Nov 29	10:00 am Worship on Zoom , followed by fellowship time 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm Candle Dipping at Steve Shantz's
Mon	Nov 30	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Tues	Dec 1	7 pm Leadership Group on Zoom
Wed	Dec 2	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom 1 pm Women's Lunch Bunch on Zoom
Fri	Dec 4	9:30 Greencroft Meetup on Zoom 12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Sat	Dec 5	4:30 pm Advent Worship-Witmer Woods/GC College Cabin 6 pm MYF Christmas Party

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

Martha Hanby (Waterford, 1st) turns 7 on Nov 26th! Martha is a great storyteller and likes to hula hoop. She enjoys reading The Boxcar Children and listening to audio books. Martha has a wonderful new bike that she likes to ride and enjoys playing imaginative games with friends and sister. A picture of Martha is [here](#).

Today is the first Sunday of Advent! The Sunday of Hope. This year the Advent planning committee is using Maya Angelou's poetry to speak to the particular and unique convergence of COVID, Advent, Social Injustice and long nights in 2020. The introduction to the Advent theme with preachers and details can be found [here](#). Today we will hear from Carol Good-Elliott. If you want to join the group in the woods Saturday at 4:30 sign up [here](#). There is also an option for children to gather earlier for a story and activity on Saturday in Witmer Woods. Sign up [here](#). On Sunday morning at 11 am we will have 2 "2nd hour"

options-a virtual coffee hour and an "Advent in Narnia" for the young and young at heart.

For many of us, this season before Christmas is a season of ramped-up activity. This year we will be joining our scripture throughout the season with the poetry of Maya Angelou. We are using materials from the SALT project out of Indianapolis and have purchased a devotional that you can use along with the season. The devotional includes scripture, poems and practices that are appropriate for individual, family or small group use. Burn the Advent countdown candle each day as you make space for the Christ child this season. Countdown candles and hard copies of the devotional are in a bin outside the front doors of the church. Additionally, a digital copy of the devotional can be found [here](#).

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 be in the garage as physical distancing

would be difficult. Wear old and warm clothes, and bring a hot drink if you wish! We will have three time blocks 1,2,3pm sign up for your time block [here](#). This year, parents are expected to stay. If you have any questions, please call Steve at 574-534-5315.

MYF will not be meeting this Sunday (11/29) because of Thanksgiving. Our next planned meeting will be our Christmas Party on Saturday, December 5th from 6-8pm

Christmas cookie exchange. This year we are going to try a surprise cookie exchange. Think something like surprise luncheon and Christmas Caroling combined. There are two ways to participate. The first is to bake and exchange cookies. The second is to let us know if you would like to receive cookies this year but are not up for baking them. If you would like to bake and exchange- you are invited to bake 3 dozen cookies. You will be assigned to 3 households to deliver your cookies and you can also expect to receive 3 dozen cookies from other households. Add a card or a note with your cookies and maybe sing a song when you deliver them! If you would like to be involved Sign up [here](#) by December 4th. Instructions will come the following week and cookies are to be delivered sometime on Sunday, December 13th.

Advent Spiral Outdoors Sunday December 20th 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 pm at the meeting house. This is a luminous activity for children. Children are told the story of the light and then get to light and carry their own candles through a spiral of greens. This activity is targeted at children ages 3-11, though older children often find it meaningful. I would encourage Jr youth aged children to sign up for the 6:30 pm time. This year the activity will be outside and adapted to ensure safe COVID practices. Please sign up [here](#).

Christmas Lessons & Carols Service: In this increasingly dark season of an already difficult year we need Christmas more than ever. If you are looking to unleash your creativity to bring some light into this season and celebrate Christmas with your Assembly community the Lessons & Carols Service (December 27th) is your opportunity. We are seeking individuals, families, small groups, pods of creative Assemblyites to contribute to this service. We need "performers" of both the lessons and carols. For the

lessons, we are requesting 90 second videos telling the Christmas story: acting, dance, dramatic reading, shadow puppets, playmobile figures, operetta. Use your imagination. For the carols we would like to see a variety of 3 minute videos of ensemble, solo, vocal, and instrumental performances. To sign up follow this [google forms link](#) and select the scripture or carol that you would like to contribute no later than December 13th. Send any questions to Erich Miller (kerichmiller@gmail.com), and your completed videos to Becky Snider (rksnider42@gmail.com) by Sunday, December 20th. ~Thanks, Worship Committee.

Small group reps met this week and heard about upcoming Assembly Advent events and opportunity for creative and fun involvement in the Christmas Lessons & Carols. Also offered were small group discussion questions geared to invite deeper conversations. Ask your rep for more information.

Assemblyline submission guidelines and deadline change: Please send your carefully crafted and finished announcements to assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org by **Thursday evenings no later than 11pm** for inclusion in that week's Assemblyline. Late announcements won't be prioritized.

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

Happy Birthday this week (11/29-12/5) to: Eric A. Kurtz, Joni Yost, Jon Zirkle, Aydian Smuts, Betsy Lehman, Glenn Gilbert, Harold Metzler, Rachel Schrock, and Karl Shelly. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) **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.

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Assembly Mennonite Church

Pastoral Team

Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732
Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037
Anna Yoder Schlabach annays@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-5319
Scott Coulter scottc@assemblymennonite.org 419-535-2918
Pastoral Intern: Kristen Swartley, 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 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

(repeat) **Ross-Richer Family Two-Way Mission “Relaunch” Event:** Saturday December 5th at 7:00 pm, join via [Zoom](#). 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

LIVE ONLINE CONCERT: The Steel Wheels & Girl Named Tom: Join the Pennsylvania Relief Sale on Sunday, December 6 at 8 p.m. EST (7 p.m. CST | 6 p.m. MST | 5 p.m. PST) for a free online concert to support Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)'s work, featuring an opening performance by [Girl Named Tom](#) followed by an hour-long concert from musical group [The Steel Wheels](#). Songs and stories will highlight MCC's work around the world. You can access the concert on December 6 at [charityauction.bid/Concert2020](#). The program will include an intermission with opportunities to financially support the programs and mission of MCC.

The Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale board wants to thank all the food and auction volunteers, donors, bidders, runners and My Coins Count collectors for the creativity, enthusiasm and support for the relief sale under the unusual circumstances this year. We are pleased to report that this year so far, we raised \$336,298, and My Coins Count contributions are still coming in. MCC is overwhelmed with the generosity of all of you who donated, purchased items, or otherwise had a part in raising funds through various Relief Sale efforts this year to assist in their work. Please check our Facebook and website in a few months as we keep you informed about plans for 2021!

Mennonite Creation Care Network Newsletter is [here](#).

(repeat) **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/. Show dates are November 27, 28 and 29.

(repeat) **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

(repeat) **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, by phone at (888)563-4676, or by mail at MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.

(repeat) **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 or contact Doug Luginbill at confmin@mcusacdc.org or at [574-534-1485](tel:574-534-1485).

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<p>Assembly Mennonite Church Pastoral Team Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732 Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037 Anna Yoder Schlabach annays@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-5319 Scott Coulter scottc@assemblymennonite.org 419-535-2918 Pastoral Intern: Kristen Swartley, kswartley@ambs.edu Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder</p>	<p>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</p>
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(repeat) **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) **Goshen College events** can be found [here](#).

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

(repeat) **Menno-Hof “Reunion” Newsletter** is [here](#).

(repeat) **Mennonite Disaster Service’s “On the Level” Newsletter** is [here](#).

(repeat) **Mennonite Men’s “Engage” Newsletter** is [here](#).

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