

AssemblyLine

November 8, 2020

Volume XXXIX, Number 45

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 8	November 15
Worship Leader: Kristen Swartley	Worship Leader: Kimberly Glick
Preacher: Paul Keim	Preacher: Safwat Marzouk
Scripture: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20	Scripture: Exodus 32:1-14

CALENDAR

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

TODAY	Nov 8	10:00 am Worship on Zoom , followed by coffee break & electives
		11:30 am MYF Second Hour @AMC Outside
		12:00-3:00 pm Junior Youth Gathering
Mon	Nov 9	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
		6-8 pm Interplay Dance Group
Wed	Nov 11	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Fri	Nov 13	9:30am Greencroft Meetup on Zoom
		12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Sun	Nov 15	10:00 am Worship on Zoom , followed by coffee break & electives
Sat	Nov 21	1:00 pm Family Tabernacle Event

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

Eliza Herber (7th GMS) turned 13 on Nov. 6th! Eliza loves running and reading (mostly realistic fiction), and she tried cross country for the first time this year. She cares a lot about the outcome of the election, justice in the world and her family. Eliza is enjoying learning spanish and singing in choir. Pad Thai is her favorite food. For a picture of Eliza, click [here](#).

Layton Rothshank (6th Homeschool) turned 12 on Nov. 7th! Layton has been enjoying learning the skill of blacksmithing. He likes working with tools in general and has been making wooden utensils. He recently made a board game with his brother Linden. Layton thinks the best thing about homeschool is being outside but misses his friends. For a picture of Layton, click [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 Rebecca Dengler Kaufman to explore how music 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.

The MYF will meet for Second Hour this Sunday at 11:30am, outside at the Assembly church building. Our guest speakers this week will be Karen and Adam Graber-Roth. Please bring a chair to sit on and wear your masks!

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.

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.

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!

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.

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.

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

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.

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](#).

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](#).

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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!

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 (11/1-11/7) to: Miriam Miller Avelar, Josh Schrock, Sharayah Miller, Bill Mateer, Jena Kennedy, & Tara Burch. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

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

(repeat) **Is Advent your favorite time of the year?** Do you love the dark and cold? Do you love waiting for the light? The Advent planning committee is working hard to reimagine Advent in the time of COVID. Right now we are planning on two services. 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. Intrigued? Have questions? Talk with the committee: Karen Graber Roth, Wendel Landes, Jeanne Liechty, Lora Nafziger and Steve Shantz.

(repeat) **We are happy to announce the marriage of Dottie Eberly and Merle Hostetler** on Saturday, October 10. This was a private ceremony in Jen Eberly's back yard with out-of-state children and grandchildren, siblings and close friends joining through zoom. They continue to appreciate and covet your support. Thank you, Dottie and Merle.

community connections

Children's "Essential" Resale is happening Nov. 6 from 1:00pm-7:00pm and Nov. 7 from 9am to 1pm at the Northern Indiana Event Center. More information is available [here](#).

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](#).

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](#).

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 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.

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

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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.

Mennonite World Conference “Courier” is available [here](#).

Mennonite Central Committee “In Touch” is available [here](#).

(repeat) **Gospel Echoes Fish Fry Fundraiser** is Nov. 7th from 3:00-6:00 pm. For more information, view the flyer [here](#).

(repeat) **Pathways Retreat** will be hosting a creation care workday on Saturday, November 14. Advent Visio Divina will begin on November 25. Daily prayers continue to happen via Zoom. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org. The “Rhythms” newsletter can be found [here](#).

(repeat) **ATTENTION PEOPLE WHO SEW: Mosaic Health and Healing Arts** (Goshen’s own, and Indiana’s first LGBTQ-serving family practice) is in need of reusable isolation gowns! As Covid has spiked throughout the mid-west, Mosaic has stayed open and serving the community. They’re taking extra precautions to try to keep their staff and community safe. Because of the environmental and financial implications of disposable gowns, Mosaic is asking the community for help in providing cloth gowns. If you are someone who can sew, please consider sharing your talents with Mosaic and sewing some isolation gowns! Patterns are available at the office, or via email (mosaicinfo@mosaichha.org), and Mosaic is also taking donations of breathable cotton fabric for those who can sew but cannot provide fabric. This is a tangible way to

continue serving your local LGBTQ community throughout these difficult times. Thank you!

(repeat) **Mennonite Church USA** Executive Director Glen Guyton shared a message in response to the election on Nov 4th – [watch it on Facebook here](#). Also see this [call for bold peacemaking](#) from MC USA staff, and this [prayer by Isaac Villegas](#).

(repeat) **More election-related resources:** Pastors from across Central District Conference have shared the following resources for community collaboration related to the election: (1) [“Hold The Line” Guide to Defending Democracy](#). This guide is designed for people from all walks of life, those new to politics or experienced activists and organizers. Part 1 focuses on actions people can take until Election Day; Part 2 gives background on scenarios that could play out before Inauguration Day (Jan 20); Part 3 provides a 4-step process to start an election protection group in your community; Part 4 offers an analysis and model of change from the field of civil resistance. (2) [“Choose Democracy”](#) offers workshops and suggested actions of nonviolent protest to resist an undemocratic power grab.

(repeat) **Christian Peacemaker Teams Co-sponsored Online Rally: Unite to Decriminalize Indigenous Struggles** From Palestine to Turtle Island, Indigenous leaders face colonial governments attempting to criminalize their resistance. Let us take collective action to support Indigenous leaders. Join us on November 29th, the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, for an online rally and Twitterstorm! This online event will center Palestinian and Indigenous voices who will speak about the impacts of settler-colonialism on their lives. There will be a focus on the ways that criminalization is used by states to control land and liberation struggles. We’ll be joined by the Khury Petersen-Smith, a Michael Ratner Middle East Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS); Krystal Two Bulls, Director of the LANDBACK, a U.S based campaign; Celeste Smith, Executive Director from Skywomans Garden and the project lead of Ga Gitigemi Gamik. We’ll also hear from front line Palestinian activists Tariq & Eid Hathaleen from

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the village of Um al-Khair and Murad Odeh, a Palestinian activist and community organizer. We'll celebrate this resistance through artists and poets. Join us and let us unite to decriminalize Indigenous struggles! [Sign up](#) for our Zoom-based rally and Twitterstorm rally at 4-5pm ET.

(repeat) **Q Christian Fellowship Virtual Conference:** We are so excited to announce that registration is open for the 2021 Virtual Conference! Featuring Dr. Robyn Henderson-Espinoza, Dr. Emilie Townes, Fr. Richard Rohr, and so much more, this is going to be a profound experience for LGBTQ+ Christians and allies hoping to connect, grow, and seek justice. Best part is: At only \$45, this is our most accessible Conference yet. Join LGBTQ+ people and allies for our virtual experience with Affinity Gatherings.

Breakout Sessions, curated activities, and a variety of new and exciting ways for us to participate in community even while apart. By the Spirit's direction, we are catalyzing a movement towards oneness. Oneness is not the eradication or diminishment of identity, experience, or expression—it is the restoration of all things in the finished work of Christ, the consummate celebration of the coming Kin-dom. Learn more and register [here!](#)

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

(repeat) **Mennonite Church USA Announcements** can be found [here](#).

(repeat) **Church Community Services Newsletter** is [here](#).

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

(repeat) **The Mennonite Men Newsletter** is [here](#).

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