

# AssemblyLine

January 10, 2021

Volume XL, Number 2

## 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

January 10	January 17
Worship Leader: Small Group Bees	Worship Leader: Small Group Polar Bear
Preacher: Kristen Swartley	Preacher: Sean Smuts
Scripture: Mark 1:4-11	Scripture: John 1:43-51

### CALENDAR

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

Sun	Jan 10	10:00 am Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a> , followed by fellowship time 2 pm MYF Winter Day Camp at Camp Friedenswald
Mon	Jan 11	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer <a href="#">on Zoom</a> 6 pm Interplay Dance Group on Zoom
Wed	Jan 13	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer <a href="#">on Zoom</a>
Thurs	Jan 14	5:30 pm Hymn Recording in Worship Space
Fri	Jan 15	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer <a href="#">on Zoom</a>
Tues	Jan 19	7 pm Leadership Group meeting on Zoom
Sun	Jan 24	7 pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom
Tues	Jan 26	7:15 pm Small Group Reps Meeting on Zoom

**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

**Isaya Magatti** (6th Bethany) turned 12 on Jan. 7th! Isaya enjoyed singing with the *Shout for Joy* choir in the Festival or Carols this year. He plays violin and hopes to be in the middle school play. His favorite food is shrimp Alfredo. He recently enjoyed reading the Mysterious Benedict Society and watching Soul. Isaya can do 75 jumping jacks in 60 seconds! Yeah! Some day he would like to drive through every state. A picture of Isaya is [here](#).

**Stefan Magatti** (2nd, Waterford) turns 8 on Jan. 12th! Stefan loves soccer and swimming. He enjoys playing with his friends and wishes there would be enough snow for a good snowball fight. He also likes to build Lego, play tag and go to the zoo. Someday (after COVID) he would like to watch a professional soccer match and stay in a hotel with a pool. A picture of Stefan is [here](#).

**The Season of Epiphany (Jan 3 - Feb 7)** invites us into up-close stories of Jesus' ministry from the Gospels of Mark and John, including his baptism, the call of the

disciples, and healing the sick and rejected. In witnessing these Jesus stories, come ponder how we can experience newness and offer newness to those around us. Small groups will take turns leading worship during this series. The full series introduction can be found [here](#).

**Zoom Worship Chat Etiquette:** During this season, we are changing the chat settings on Zoom so that you will be able to chat privately with people instead of only chatting publicly. We especially hope that you share your words of affirmation or expressions of care with a private chat just to the person for whom the message is intended. Affirmation is good and important, but we don't want our worship to be a space where some get lots of public affirmation and others don't. This leads to some people feeling undervalued and others feeling like worship participation is about getting "likes" rather than deepening our relationship with the One who proclaims that all of us are beloved by God. (See Epiphany intro above for the full rationale)

**Join us every Thursday at 5:30 p.m.** in the worship space to record two hymns for Sunday worship. Each Thursday

during the season of Epiphany we'll be seeking singers to sing and record an "old" hymn and a "new" hymn for worship. Please sign up using the [link here](#) and as always, please wear a mask and plan to sing six feet apart. It should take 20 minutes and we'll cap it at 20 people.

**Excited about Carnival?** At Assembly, we prepare for the start of Lent with a Carnival worship service - this year on Sun Feb 14. Carnival is a time for holy laughter and play, for exaggerating our "shadow sides" and leading us into a space of confession and healing. Laughing at ourselves helps make space for the Holy Spirit to do her Lenten work in us. Volunteers are needed for a committee to plan Carnival. Please contact [Lora Nafziger](#) if you're interested in joining this committee.

**Finance Update:** By year end, our offerings totaled \$451,181 which is just \$299 less than the budget. That's incredibly close! However our expenses were significantly below budget so we will have a large surplus this year. Final numbers will be released within a week. Thanks for your generous offerings. - John Nafziger, Treasurer

**The two percent committee met on Jan 4** to distribute remaining 2020 2% funds. We recommend the following distribution. **Local Giving:** \$2000 to the Maple City Health Dental Clinic. \$1000 each to Center for Community Justice, Elkhart County Clubhouse, Goshen Interfaith Hosp. Network, Goshen Ministerial Association Jubilee Fund, Jail Ministry of Elkhart Co. and Ryan's Place. \$250 to Mosaic Health and Healing Arts. **World Giving:** \$1250 To Mennonite Central Committee for Honduras hurricane relief, \$1000 Each to National Immigrant Justice Center, Association for a More Just Society <https://www.ajs-us.org/>, Christian Peacemaker Teams, SEMILLA Guatemala, Mennonite Disaster Services and MCC Great Lakes. \$500 each to Dove's Nest and Jubilee Partners. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions of where to give to next time please email Chair Sarah Horst or anyone else on the committee: Glenn Gilbert, Kathleen Jones, Sandy Fribley, Joel Zwier or Barb Swartley.

**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 12/27-1/2 to:** Luke Yordy, James Stuckey Weber, Kora Beasley, and Stacey Farran. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

**Happy Birthday last week (1/3- 1/9) to:** Jonathan Graber, Julie Keim, Monica Beachy, Kristy Shellenberger-Yordy, Rachel Hirschler, and Lisa Rose Martin. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

**Happy Birthday this week (1/10-1/16) to:** Becky Smuts, Susan Lanning, Karen Powell, Naomi Lapp Klassen, Bruce Glick, Sharon Kauffmann, Erich Miller, Tom Hassan, and Susan Mark Landis. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

**Information from Goshen Health regarding the COVID-19 vaccines** is available [here](#). Goshen Health is hoping to partner with churches in the area in order to share timely and accurate information with the general public.

**A sincere thank you from Mennonite Central Committee** to our friends at Assembly for your recent generous donation of \$1,000. Your support assures that even in the midst of a global pandemic, your love, care and prayers are supporting the vulnerable people being served by MCC partners as they minister in their communities. Your donations continue the 100 year mission of MCC of offering dignity, solidarity and hope to communities in crisis. Thank you for caring and ministering through MCC in the name of Christ. – Les Gustafson-Zook, MCC Great Lakes – [www.mcc.org](http://www.mcc.org)

**(repeat) New Online Church Directory:** We're trying out a new online directory service here at AMC. To access it, visit <https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/> or search for the app in the Apple or Android app stores. At the top of the page, click on "Church Member Sign In." Create an account by using your email address that is on record in the [current church directory](#) and creating your own unique password for your account. Add photos and update information accordingly. If you would prefer, you can [send updated information and photos to Jane at the office](#) and she can add them for you. If you would simply like a PDF

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**Assembly Mennonite Church**

**Pastoral Team**

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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/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

copy of the directory instead of accessing it via the website or app, let Jane know and she can print one for you or email it to you for you to print on your own. We will likely not print any immediately but will give folks time to enter and update their information first. Finally, as we navigate this together, your feedback is appreciated as to how you experience using the service. Many thanks to Jim Kaufmann for helping us get this up and running!

### community connections

**The Indiana State Department of Health is now offering COVID-19 vaccines to those 80 and older.** Eligible seniors can schedule a vaccine here: <https://Scheduling.Coronavirus.IN.gov/Vaccine>

**Join Elkhart County Health Department Health Officer Dr. Bethany Wait** for a conversation about the COVID-19 vaccine in Elkhart County on January 12 from 12-1:30 pm. More information is available [here](#).

**The MCC Material Resources Center at the Depot in Goshen** is not accepting donations until after meat canning to limit the number of people in the building. Donations will be accepted again beginning on Tuesday, January 19. For questions contact Nadine Zook Miller at 574-534-4133. Thank you for sharing God's love and compassion in tangible ways through MCC.

**Join MCC and Great Lakes BIC for a free webinar: Consuming Media Responsibly.** Framed with a time of biblical reflection, Bishop Lynn Thrush will facilitate a discussion with Pastor Tracie Hunter and Nekeisha Alexis, AMBS' intercultural competence and undoing racism coordinator, about how we should understand the ways the media influences us. The free webinar will take place on Thursday, January 21, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. EST. Participants will come away with a better understanding of the racial undertones of media consumption. Please register by January 20 at [mcc.org/gl-webinar-media](http://mcc.org/gl-webinar-media) to receive the webinar link.

**Seeking the Beloved Community: From Racism to Reconciliation** As part of God's reconciling work, we are called to dismantle racism and build relationships across racial divides. On Saturday, January 23, 2021 from 9:00 -

11:30 a.m. EST, Mennonite Men will be hosting a meeting, open to all genders, with members of Seeking the Beloved Community, a group of Black and White men in Elkhart, Indiana, who have been engaged in this work for seven years. A number of these are pastors and members of Mennonite congregations. To learn more about the event, [click here](#). To register for the event, [click here](#).

**Bethany Christian Schools** is expanding and seeks a full-time teacher for a new third grade class beginning the 2021-22 school year. Learn more and apply at [bethanycs.net/employment](http://bethanycs.net/employment).

**An update from Bethany Christian Schools** is [here](#).

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

**Mennonite Central Committee's** In Touch newsletter is [here](#).

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