

AssemblyLine

January 31, 2021

Volume XL, Number 5

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

January 31	February 7
Worship Leader: Small Group Cardinal (Jep Hostetler)	Worship Leader: MYF
Preacher: Scott Coulter	Preacher: Karl Shelly
Scripture: Mark 1:21-28	Scripture: Mark 2:1-12

CALENDAR

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

Sun	Jan 31	10:00 am Worship on Zoom , followed by Second Hour 11:30 am MYF Worship Planning meeting on Zoom 1pm, 2pm, 3pm Sledding for PreK-5th (sign up) 7:00 pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom
Mon	Feb 1	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Tues	Feb 2	7 pm Leadership Group meeting on Zoom
Wed	Feb 3	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom 1 pm Women's Lunch Bunch on Zoom 7 pm "Voting Rights and the Struggle for Democracy" Presentation by Jacob Shelly on Zoom
Thurs	Feb 4	5:30 pm Hymn Recording in Worship Space
Fri	Feb 5	9:30am Greencroft meetup on Zoom 12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Mon	Feb 8	6-8 pm Interplay Dance Group on Zoom
Wed	Feb 17	4-6 pm Lent Stations begin at AMC

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

THIS SUNDAY the Season of Epiphany (Jan 3 - Feb 7) continues, inviting 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)

The 2nd Hour series on Progressive Christianity continues this Sunday, starting 5 min. after worship. Mary Lehman Yoder will lead a conversation on Progressive Christians and the inner/spiritual life -- why it's important and how it can be nurtured.

Small Group Cardinals is leading worship this week: **Joyce and Jep Hostetler** lived in Columbus OH for 45 years. Jep taught at The Ohio State University and Joyce was a psychiatric nurse and director of an addiction

treatment center. They moved to Goshen in 2011. After living in the middle of a busy and noisy city, they are grateful for their home at Greencroft, their Assembly faith family and their delightful new hometown.

Sharon and Norm Kauffmann moved to Goshen from East Peoria, Illinois in 1969. Norm worked at Goshen College from 69–97, mostly as Dean of Students and Associate Professor of Psychology. From 97–2008 he was Town Manager at Shipshewana. Sharon was a preschool teacher at 8th Street Mennonite for a number of years and then taught 3rd grade in the WaNee School corporation for 18 years. They were part of the founding members of Assembly in 1974.

Elaine and Linford Martin live in Middlebury. Linford is director of Life Long Learning in Elkhart County and Elaine is a Financial Consultant at Everence. They are eagerly awaiting February/March when Linford can start planting garden and flower seeds in his greenhouse!

Patricia Nuyken says, “Without music, life would B flat!” Love of music drew me to Goshen College in 1971 from Illinois. After more than four decades of making music with young people in Middlebury Community Schools, I am grateful for more time to garden, explore Indiana trails, play ping pong with Al Shelly, connect with friends & family (Randy, Mary & Anika Roth), and geek out on the Enneagram. I especially enjoy being part of my small group and eagerly await a reunion with my contradance band in the spring.

Els and Alton Shelly met at Bluffton College (University) when Els was an exchange student from the Netherlands. They moved to Goshen in 2007 and enjoy living in the same town as Karl and Michelle. Al was a social worker and Els a librarian. They are retired and live in Greencroft. Els likes working at the Manor 4 Library and both are looking forward to the Pandemic being over when they will see their 4 great-grandchildren again.

Grandma Jan is one of my (Jan Siemens) identities here in Goshen, home since 2011. I moved here from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where I did Human Resource work in the Mennonite Central Committee office for 17 years. MCC work took me to Jerusalem for 5 years and to Bangkok, Thailand for 6 years. I also lived in California for over 15

years where I taught elementary age students. I am grateful to live near the Mill Race and the many paths through the woods. ZOOM has helped me connect with family and friends in many locations.

The MYF will meet this Sunday, Jan.31st at 11:30am on Zoom for a brief worship-service planning meeting (Zoom link to be sent out by email). If you are interested in participating but are not signed up yet, please let one of the sponsors know as soon as possible!

Join in an Assembly Sledding day! Families of children PK-5th are invited TODAY **Sunday January 31st** for sledding and hot chocolate at Jim and Lois Kaufmann's house (18166 CR 48 New Paris) Parents are invited to join and there will be a fire and restrooms available. To increase peer connection and reduce numbers we are suggesting children sign up according to their age group. Sign up [here](#). Feel free to contact [Lora Nafziger](#) with questions.

Congregational Meeting rescheduled for TONIGHT, Jan 31st at 7pm on Zoom. All Assembly participants are welcome to attend. For an updated agenda and handouts, including the proposed 2021 Spending Plan, [click here](#).

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.

Voting Rights and the Struggle for Democracy: Zoom presentation by Jacob Shelly on Wednesday, February 3, at 7 pm. Jacob is a former Assembly Mennonite member and was one of the attorneys defending democracy across the country from the Republican Party and Donald Trump's attempt to overturn election results. He will discuss the work he's done, what led him to this work, what the future holds, and answer your questions. Join us on the [main Assembly Zoom link](#).

Small group reps met this week and discussed Assembly's new [Library of Care](#), this year's edition of the [Leader Selection worksheet](#) (due Feb 28), and the new

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Elders: Dennis Landis (chair), Regina Shands Stoltzfus, Jonathon Schramm, Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Lydia Miller
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[Instant Church Directory](#). Direct any questions to your small group rep.

The new Voices Together Hymnals have all been labeled and unpacked. If you would like to borrow one for 30 days come on into the church and sign one out. We've put 30 in the Gathering Space for borrowing. Either use the physical sign up sheet in the Gathering Space, or use the [Google spreadsheet](#). Please be careful with them, they are very precious.

Year-end receipts: After considerable discussion, we decided this year to distribute year-end receipts on an as-needed basis. Those that itemize deductions for taxes will need these receipts for documentation. You can contact John at treasurer@assemblymennonite.org or Jane at office@assemblymennonite.org for your receipt. You can get yours one of three ways: PDF emailed to you, printed and mailed, or printed and placed in your mailbox at church. This will likely save Jane and John a lot of time. Note that receipts for QCD's (Qualified Charitable Distributions) from IRAs will be sent regardless since those are necessary documentation for your tax accountant.

Safety Networks continues to support local immigrants in a variety of ways including transportation for those without a driver's license and financial support. Many immigrants are referred to us through [National Immigrant Justice Center](#). During the last 4 years [Safety Networks](#) has paid for part or all of some clients' legal filing fees and even bought some gift cards for clients that lost their jobs when the pandemic hit. Many immigrants who lost their jobs were ineligible for unemployment benefits and did not receive stimulus checks. While NIJC has high hopes that new forms of relief may become available under the Biden Administration, it could take some time to see changes take place and the majority of the restrictive policies of the past administration remain in place. As financial support rolls in for all Americans, we ask that you consider giving a portion of what you receive from the government to Safety Networks to directly benefit some of your immigrant neighbors. Questions can be directed to Naomi Roots at roots.naomi@gmail.com.

The Leader Selection process is the way the Assembly congregation discerns who will serve in various volunteer leadership roles in the coming year. We do this discernment in small groups. If you are not in a small group but you want to volunteer yourself for a committee, you are invited to complete the [online Leader Selection Worksheet](#). If you have any questions about the process, please talk with your small group rep, or you may talk to one of the pastors. Worksheets are **due by Sunday Feb 28!**

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 (1/24-1/30) to: Deana Baker, Michelle Shelly, Roberta Stutzman, Richard Hirschler, Eunice Brenneman, Mary Beechy-King, and Eric Yordy. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday this week (1/31-2/6) to: Brian Mast, Lisa Kauffman, Joel Zwiier, and Lorna Mynsberge. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) **Lunch Bunch will meet by Zoom on February 3rd** at 1 pm when Lora Nafziger will share from her Wabash Leadership experiences.

(repeat) **You are invited to join the annual Great Decisions study group** in Goshen, to explore U.S. foreign policy and global issues. The group will meet Wednesdays, February 3 to March 24. Each of the eight sessions begins with an educational video at 9 am; open discussion follows at 9:30 am. This year we will meet via ZOOM. The study guide, essential reading for each meeting, is available at the Greencroft Community Center for \$25. Be sure to give your phone and email address when you purchase the study guide. Mary Ellen Meyer and David Powell are helping to organize this year's event. If you have questions, call or email: davidpowellbus@gmail.com, 574-238-5086.

community connections

Central District Conference's Meetings: [Mid-Year Gatherings](#)

The Board of Directors will host two gatherings via Zoom instead of the annual Regional Gatherings. These meetings

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will be held March 6 and March 27, 9:30a - 11:45a Eastern time. You are invited to attend your preferred date.

[Register here for the March 6 meeting.](#)

[Register here for the March 27 meeting.](#) After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

[Annual Meeting 2021](#)

The Board of Directors has made the decision to hold the annual meeting online again this year due to continued uncertainty surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic. It will be held sometime during the fourth weekend of June, our normal time frame. Dates are June 26-27. More information about when, the schedule and registration instructions will be available later this spring.

Use your skills or try something new! Join the summer staff of MCC's Sharing With Appalachia People (SWAP) program to support home repair projects in Kimball, West Virginia or Harlan, Kentucky. Positions for Job Site Coordinators and Meals Coordinators are now open. Applicants should be at least 19 years old, but the roles are not limited to young adults. 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 Creation Care Network Newsletter is [here](#).

Mennonite Education Agency's "Prayers for Mennonite Education" Newsletter is [here](#).

Mennonite Disaster Service's quarterly "Behind the Hammer" is [here](#).

(repeat) **Announcements from Central District Conference** are [here](#). The Central District Conference "Reporter" Newsletter is [here](#). Printed copies of the Reporter are available on the lit table at AMC if interested in a paper copy.

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

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

(repeat) **Updates from Mennonite World Conference** are [here](#).

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