

AssemblyLine

March 14, 2021

Volume XL, Number 11

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

March 14	March 21
Worship Leader: Karl Shelly	Worship Leader: Gretchen Krause
Preacher: Bethany Swope	Preacher: Lora Nafziger
Scripture: Numbers 21:4-9, John 3:14-21, Ephesians 2:1-10	Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 12:20-33

CALENDAR

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

Sat	Mar 13	10 am Hymn Recording in Worship Space
Sun	Mar 14	Set your clocks ahead 1 hour for "Daylight Savings" 10:00 am Worship on Zoom , followed by Second Hour 11:30 am MYF Second Hour
Mon	Mar 15	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Tues	Mar 16	8-9 pm Voices Together Exploration on Zoom
Wed	Mar 17	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom 4-6 pm Lent Stations at the meetinghouse
Fri	Mar 19	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Sun	Mar 21	2-3 pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom
Mon	Mar 22	6-8 pm Interplay Dance Group on Zoom
Tues	Mar 23	7:15-8:30 pm Small Group Reps Meeting on Zoom
Fri	Apr 2	9:30-10:30 am Greencroft Meetup 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

This is the fourth Sunday of Lent. Our theme this week is Deep in the wilderness: Called to deep healing. This season's theme "Deep calls to deep" is not only about deep pain, it is also about deep belovedness. Enter into this season hearing the voice that urges you to see yourself as God sees you. Allow yourself to be led into deeper relationship with God and others. [Read the full intro to Lent here.](#)

Zoom Chatting: During Lent, we have left the chat settings so that you can privately chat with each other during the service, but we encourage you to limit public chatting until Sharing our Joys and Concerns, as some find the chat feature distracting during worship.

Lenten Second Hour Options: Each week there will be

two options for the second hour: 1) "Visio Divina," led by Kyle Schlabach is a class that will be exploring the images from Voices Together. It will be kid-friendly, all-ages, and very intergenerational. Kids (and adults who want to) will be given the chance to draw their own pictures in response, so paper, crayons, markers, pencils, etc. would be helpful to have. 2) "Podcast and Conversation" led by a rotating group of people, will be discussion based. Each week a podcast on a current issue broadly related to social justice and racial justice will be in the Assemblyline, please listen ahead of time and come prepared to discuss. Sun Mar 14 will be a discussion of Philip Metres' work. (See details below).

This Sunday, March 14 the Podcast and Conversation second hour class will discuss Philip Metres' work. Metres gave the [Goshen College S.A. Yoder Lecture](#), "The Place

Where Peace and Justice Meet in Palestine/Israel.” Read his essay “[The Wall of Silence: On Trying to Talk about Palestine, Israel, and the USA](#)” or check out his work on [On Being’s Poetry Unbound project](#). Metres is professor of English and director of the Peace, Justice, and Human Rights program at John Carroll University (and a graduate school friend of Kyle Schlabach and Jessica Baldanzi). Next Sunday, March 21 we will discuss an On Being podcast, [Bishop Michael Curry and Dr. Russell Moore: Spiritual Bridge People](#).

Lenten self guided “mini-retreat” stations: Each week of Lent from **4-6 p.m. on Wednesday evenings** we are offering in-person faith formation stations. Walk through the worship space, gathering space, and labyrinth, visiting different stations that family groups or individuals can move through at their own pace. Each week the materials will change according to the lectionary and the theme. There will be a pastor there during that time to offer a ritual: this week (Mar 17) they will offer communion. These rituals are for all. Please wear a mask and distance yourself from others. If you can’t come to the meetinghouse, [a virtual lent retreat is also on the church website](#).

Are you a photographer or artist? The themes and scriptures for Lent introduce images from nature: deep in the sea, the woods, the sky, the wilderness, the earth and the current. **Each week, you are invited to send in your own images or artwork on the theme for a slideshow we’ll use in worship.** Please send to Anna at annays@assemblymennonite.org by Friday each week.

Daylight Savings Time Reminder! Nothing means “spring” quite like losing an hour of sleep. Please spring forward by setting your clocks an hour ahead on the night of March 13 so that you don’t miss First Hour on Sunday morning. There are also other, more enjoyable signs of spring to get you in the springtime spirit if DST isn’t your thing such as sap flowing, frogs and birds singing, bulbs bursting, and invertebrates ambulating.

Anabaptist World Subscription Deadline: This is a reminder that the deadline for Anabaptist World subscription forms and payments is March 16. Please have

everything submitted to Jane by then or let [Jane](#) know if you have questions.

Join us for a Congregational Meeting at 2pm Sunday March 21 on Zoom. Agenda will include a report from Lora Nafziger about her experience with the Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program, and ongoing discernment about surplus giving from 2020.

It’s Tax Season: Tax season is a great time to evaluate your financial situation. Am I saving enough for emergencies? Do I take advantage of employer based retirement benefits? What is the best way to make charitable contributions? Everence has qualified Financial Advisors to answer these questions. Contact Everence at 574-533-9511 to schedule an appointment. Feel free to also connect with our church Everence steward, Barb Hassan.

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 (3/7-3/13) to: Adam Siemens-Rhodes, Sam Ostergren, Lisa Koop, and Patrick Farran. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday this week (3/14-3/20) to: Deanna Minnick, Kia Kurtz, Mary Yoder Holsopple, Jim Lehman, Matt Beachy, and Jennifer Eberly. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) **Date Change for Voices Together Exploration:** Becky Snider will be leading an exploration of our new hymnal, Voices Together, **on Tuesday evenings at 8pm on Zoom**, through Mar 30. Designed for anyone who is curious to learn more about this new worship resource, the five sessions will each consider the hymnal from a different perspective, so while it would be most meaningful to attend all five, you’re welcome to join as often as is possible for you. To participate fully, you’ll want to have a copy of Voices Together at home; they’re available to check out at the Meetinghouse, outside the worship space.

(repeat) **Miss singing with others?** Recording “Familiar and Unfamiliar” Hymns for worship is moving from Thursday evenings to **Saturday mornings (starting Feb.**

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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

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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

13) at 10am. Sign up to join [here](#). As always, we'll be distanced and masked, and singing out of the new Voices Together hymnals.

(repeat) **Thank you** to the Assembly people who helped move Bertha Beachy's possessions from Manor 2 at Greencroft last month: John and Sandy Fribley, Glenn Gilbert, Jeff Martin, and Kathy Meyer Reimer. And thanks to Sandy Fribley for packing up the kitchen. We (and Bertha) appreciate very much all you did! Bertha is making progress in rehab/healthcare but we don't yet have a discharge date for when she can transition into her assisted living apt. In the meantime, she loves notes and phone calls, especially since she doesn't have access to her email right now. Her address in healthcare is: 1225 Greencroft Dr., Rm 52, Goshen, IN 46526; ph: 574-537-4868 (This is the same number she had in Manor 2, but she doesn't currently have voicemail.) Thank you for being such a caring community for Aunt Bertha, aka Sister Beachy!
~Rose (niece) & Leonard Shetler

(repeat) **Safety Networks Needs:** Recent elections have brought new hope for immigrants without documents. But financial resources are needed to turn these hopes into reality. Please consider making a donation to Safety Networks at this critical time. Safety Networks (SN) is a project initiated by Assembly in 2017 which supports the National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC) and others aiding immigrants. In 2020, SN paid out almost \$14,000 to provide finances to DACA applicants and others who can't afford the filing fee, transportation to those who can't legally drive, food cards to people who've lost their jobs, and rent assistance to immigrants threatened with eviction. With the change in the White House, the number of people eligible for life-changing help has ballooned, and we want to be there for them! Tax-deductible contributions can be made by writing a check to "Assembly Mennonite Church" with "Safety Networks" in the memo line. For more information about SN or the current need, contact [Karl](#) (pastor) or Michelle Shelly (mshellymd@gmail.com). *"I can't overstate how meaningful Safety Networks' support is to immigrants in our community and to us"* – Lisa Koop, NIJC Associate Director.

(repeat) **Time to get cooking!** Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Network (Goshen's program to help people without homes become stable) is slowly opening to having volunteers come in to help with meals. They've been quarantined several different times the past year when guests and staff had Covid. Staff now are always present for meals but are delighted for help from volunteers who leave food off or help to serve. They appreciate anything we bring any time. We can bring food for breakfast, lunch and/or dinner. Our dates (all Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays) are: May 24, 25, 27; Sept 13, 14, 16; Dec 20, 21, 23. Please contact SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com for more information and to volunteer.

(repeat) **Assembly's Annual State of the Congregation report and Statistics for 2020** were recently completed and have been posted to the church website, here: <https://assemblymennonite.org/about/history/congregation-reports-and-statistics/>. We can celebrate creativity, resilience, and growth, in the face of 2020's significant challenges. Thanks especially to Jane Litwiller, Regina Shands-Stoltzfus, and Jonathon Schramm for their work on these documents.

community connections

The Center for Community Justice (CCJ) quarterly magazine, *Beyond the Crucible*, is available. In it you will find stories about the work of CCJ. Restorative Justice is a way of healing brokenness in our community. This healing power is something we all need. As you can see from the magazine, we are providing some of the services we began over forty years ago along with new programs like the proactive response to violence in the workplace. Note too that CCJ is offering five RJ Summits during the coming months. We hope you will join us for as many as you can.

Bethany Christian Schools Presents the Broadway Musical "Little Women" on March 19, 20, and 21. For more information and to purchase tickets, click [here](#).

Pathways Retreat is hiring a Part-Time Volunteer Coordinator. Stations of the Cross will be up in Pathways woods and online March 28 - April 3, with Stations of the Resurrection following on April 4. Read our newest story

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about one person's experience with spiritual direction. Daily prayers continue via zoom. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org. The "Rhythms" newsletter can be read [here](#).

The Quarter 3 Update from Bethany Christian Schools is [here](#).

(repeat) **Goshen College Events:**

~View upcoming performances at Goshen College at

goshen.edu/livestream:

*Goshen Monologues, Saturday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.

*GC Winter Choral Concert, Sunday, March 14, 4 p.m.

*International Student Club (ISC) annual coffeehouse, Saturday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m. Support ISC at

goshen.edu/give/isc.

*Spring Mainstage Opera, "Orfeo ed Euridice" March 19, 26 & 27 at 7:30 p.m., and March 21 & 28 at 2:30 p.m. EST.

(repeat) **From Hesston College:** Join us for "Dyck Arboretum's Conservation Stewardship in the Flint Hills" (Online Lecture), March 30, 2021 - 7 to 8:30 p.m. - Register online [here](#).

(repeat) **Virtual Coffeehouse (date change):** Join the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions for a virtual "Climate Justice Coffeehouse" via Zoom on April 10 at 4:00 pm. For more information and to sign up to perform, click [here](#).

(repeat) **From Bethany Christian Schools:** We're so excited to share our Winter 2020 Bulletin with you, and hope you enjoy the chance to see what Bethany students both past and current are up to in the world. We're also sharing our 2019-20 Annual Report which includes the recently approved 2020-2025 Strategic Plan. You're invited to take a look and learn more about the recently reimagined mission and vision for the school. The Bulletin and Annual Report are accessible on our website at bethanycs.net/bulletin/ and the Strategic Plan can be found at bethanycs.net/strategicplan/.

(repeat) **Bethany Christian Schools is hiring!** Now seeking: Marketing and Communications Manager, Director of Enrollment, Evening Custodian. Learn more and apply at bethanycs.net/employment/.

(repeat) **An update from the Ross-Richer family, who serve with Mennonite Mission Network in Ecuador** is [here](#).

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

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