

AssemblyLine

May 30, 2021

Volume XL, Number 22

Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

574-534-4190 / office@assemblymennonite.org

Join us for Worship Sundays at 9:30 AM

WORSHIP

May 30	June 6
Worship Leader: Mary Gilbert	Worship Leader: Kathleen Jones
Storyteller: Dana Miller	Storyteller: Beck Unternahrer
Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8	Scripture: TBD

CALENDAR

[Click here to subscribe](#) to Assembly's Calendar of Events on Google Calendar, or visit <https://assemblymennonite.org/about/calendar/>.

Sun	May 30	9:30 am Worship in the North Parking Lot
Tues	June 1	7:00 pm Leadership Group Meeting
Wed	June 2	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Fri	June 4	9:30-10:30 am Greencroft Meetup
Sun	June 6	7-9pm Fundraiser for Community of Peace 8:30-9:30 pm Anti-Racism Support Group on Zoom
Sat	June 12	Ed Metzler's memorial service on Zoom
Mon	June 14	6-8 pm Interplay Dance Group on Zoom
Sun	June 20	11am Bike Blessing following Worship

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

Eli Kauffman (Rising 5th) turned 10 on May 27th! Eli LOVES Harry Potter and Manchester United. He is looking forward to sleeping in and swimming this summer--and of course playing soccer. Eli's favorite foods are sushi and pizza and at school this year he enjoyed studying the art and life of Georgia O'Keefe. He would like to learn 100 digits of pi and see a World Cup game. A picture of Eli is [here](#).

Heidi Nafziger- Peterson turned 1 on May 26th! Heidi loves mac & cheese, pointing at trains, chasing after Hans and most recently walking short distances. She excels at giving snuggles, laughing at funny noises and eating things she finds on the floor. Heidi also enjoys walks outside, the chance to deconstruct the living room and getting tickles. A picture of Heidi is [here](#).

Join us Sunday at 9:30AM for our summer worship series: "What could possibly go wrong?" After a year of disasters we step into the summer with a mixture of

hesitation and hope. At Assembly, this is a season to pool our collective wisdom about stepping into the unknown. Our theme is a lighthearted doubletake suggesting paths forward, while holding our worries, fears, and hesitations. We ask "where is God in all this"? Read the full series introduction [here](#).

For this Sunday and in the coming months as we gather for outdoor worship: Bring your own chair. We will still be streaming the service on Zoom. We will cancel parking lot worship if there is a 30% chance or more of rain. Look for an email by 5 p.m. on Saturday to see if we'll be meeting in the parking lot or only Zoom. (We know this means there will be some Sundays where we could have met, but we can't risk getting the sound equipment wet.) If we need to cancel, worship participants and their families should still plan to come to the worship space and we will run zoom live from the church.

From MYF: Please join us this Sunday, May 30th, during the worship service as we "mug" our seniors farewell! We hope to see you there.

Outdoor Summer Sunday School starts TODAY. Please read [this document](#) for more information, and note that all unvaccinated participants over age 2 are expected to wear a mask, including while seated for the circle time. Contact a member of the Christian education committee with questions: Bethany Swope, Lois Johns Kaufmann, Lisa Kauffman, Kyle Baldanzi Schlabach, or Lora Nafziger, co-pastor.

Summer Worship Committee needs your help! If you're interested in playing, leading, or singing music this summer, please sign up [here](#).

Volunteers Needed for Summer Worship: There are needs that need to be filled as we move to meeting in person this summer. Specific responsibilities will still look a little different obviously than pre-COVID. If you're willing to help with welcoming, setup & teardown, attendance taking, etc [please consider signing up here](#). A specific list of responsibilities for each position is forthcoming. Contact Jane in the office if you have questions and/or if you're willing to help.

Update from Sue Burkholder: Dear Assembly Friends, This information is hard for me to report and explain but the facts are that I am moving. Yes, moving back to Lancaster County in Pennsylvania. Back to my roots you might say. Why would I do this when I am so happy with my communities here - Greencroft, Goshen and most of all at Assembly? I have lived here since 1963 when J.R. started teaching at Goshen College. Our children have been attracted to living along the east coast - Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia- and I want to be closer to them. I also have a brother and sister living in the area and other extended family. Age changes one's perspective. I will be living at Landis Homes which makes possible "independent" living which I enjoy here at Greencroft. The past Sunday mornings have been a powerful message to me that the Holy Spirit is with us all and with the church and will be with us wherever we go. Karl's challenge for us last Sunday was, "What does God have for us next? What are the possibilities?" So I will keep in touch and let you know what God has in mind for me. Thanks for all you have made possible. My address after June 4 - 1001 East Oregon

Road, Lititz, PA 17543 and my landline will be 717-519-2681. -Sue Burkholder

Scott Coulter will be out of town with his family this weekend to celebrate his parents' 50th wedding anniversary. He will return Tuesday June 1st.

Singers needed for Ed Metzler's Memorial Service: We are looking for folks who are willing to gather at 10 a.m. on June 5th in the worship space to sing and record several hymns for Ed Metzler's memorial service. Please sign up [here](#) if you are willing. -Anna

Defund the Police, an Abolition Curriculum: Curious about [this new curriculum](#) from MCUSA? Join the anti-racism accountability group for a sneak peak. We will explore only the first week of this nine week series as a way to figure out the best format to use the whole series at a later time. 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 6th in the Assembly Zoom Room.

Memorial Garden Help Needed: Thanks to your help we are making steady progress on the memorial garden and finishing the landscaping on the west side of the meetinghouse. Much of the periwinkle (the ground cover that will be used in the scattering areas) has been planted 18" apart, but we have enough to actually plant much closer. If you can help plant this additional ground cover here are some things you should know: 1) pierce through the mulch and landscape paper so that the deepest roots go down into actual soil 2) the bulk of the plant will set only in the bark mulch; tuck it in snugly and water well 3) use the Dram long handled waterer that goes on the end of the hose and count to 7 slowly as you water in each individual plant. 4) delight in watching this sacred space take shape and breathe a prayer of thanks for Al Meyer and J.R. Burkholder whose ashes have already been placed here. - Mary Lehman Yoder for the memorial garden committee

Jeanne Liechty, Michael Dickens & Conrad Dickens Liechty sincerely thank those of you who've offered us support during these weeks surrounding the death of Jeanne's father, Stan Liechty. We appreciate the prayers spoken and unspoken and the many ways we have experienced the warm embrace of our faith community

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 Anna Yoder Schlabach annays@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-5319
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during this life transition.

Congratulations to AMC's 9 graduating seniors! They are: Kora Beasley, Northridge; Isaac Bontrager, Northridge; Jeremiah Chico, GHS; Rilynn Good Kaufmann, Bethany; Naomi Lapp Klassen, Bethany; Josh Schrock, GHS; Isaac Sensenig, GHS; Theo Siemens-Rhodes, Bethany; and Meiling Yordy, GHS. Open house information is below:

-Rilynn Kaufmann: You are warmly & enthusiastically invited to an outdoor celebration of Rilynn Kaufmann's high school graduation. Friday, May 28 7-9pm at the College Cabin (400 Reservoir Pl, Goshen) If unable to attend in person, well wishes can be sent to her home address, 1307 Wilson Ave., Goshen, IN 46526 or email rgkaufmann22@gmail.com. She plans to attend Bluffton University in the fall to study nutrition and dietetics and play on the women's soccer team.

-Theo Siemens-Rhodes: graduation open house Saturday May 29, 2-4pm at 307 Parmley Dr.

-Naomi Lapp Klassen will have a graduation open house on Saturday, May 29 from 7-9:30 p.m. outside at 619 S. 7th St. All are welcome to stop by and celebrate. Naomi will be attending Goshen College next year where she'll study history and criminal/restorative justice unless she follows her sister's path and changes her major several times.

-Kora Beasley: Let's celebrate! Join us for cookies and Electric Brew coffee bar at the Beasley home at 500 Bristol Ave. Middlebury on June 5th from 11am-2pm. More info. [here](#).

-Jeremiah Chico is holding their Senior Open House Wednesday June 9th, at 1628 Aspen Dr, Goshen, IN 46526, from 12-5pm. We invite you to do a drive-by. Hope to see you then!

-Meiling Yordy: Join us to celebrate the graduation of Meiling Yordy from Goshen High School Saturday, June 19, 2021 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Shellenberger Yordy residence at 215 Gra Roy Dr, Goshen. RSVP to 574.536.0617 or meiling.yordy17@gmail.com

Church Office Hours Changing: Beginning next week on June 1, Jane's office hours will change to approximately Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:30-4.

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 (5/23-5/29) to: Naomi Chapman, Marcus Ebright Zehr, Regina Shands Stoltzfus, Jessica Baldanzi, Elisa Zwier, Xudon Sun, Patricia Ebersole-Zwier, and Wil Beachy. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday this week (5/30-6/5) to: Kathleen Jones, Jeanne Liechty, Michael Dickens, Scott Coulter, and Ryan Rittenhouse. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) **Philipp Gollner** covenanted with Assembly last Sunday May 23! Please share your words of welcome and affirmation to him. Philipp is a member of Small Group Polar Bear.

(repeat) **Vacation Bible School-** We have been invited by Silverwood Mennonite to join other area congregations in four weeks of Vacation Bible School (June 20-July 18th). There will be in-person and virtual participation options and story videos will be sent out each week. There will be a Wednesday night drop-in outdoors at Silverwood that will include activities based on the week's stories. Sign up [here](#) to participate in one or all of the weeks. [You can watch a short video about this VBS here](#). For more information contact Lora loracn@assemblymennonite.org

(repeat) **Spring Work Days tasks have been assigned.** Please find your group's assignments [here](#). Many groups, but not all, are assigned to similar tasks as in the fall. Most tasks continue to be outdoors. Let [Jane](#) know if you have any questions or concerns about your assignments. Also, please let Jane know if tasks remain unfinished on your list at the conclusion of your time. Please coordinate tasks and times with the groups your group is collaborating with on these assignments.

(repeat) **Karl Shelly will be gone on a 3 month sabbatical** starting May 24, through the end of August. The purpose of a pastoral sabbatical is to encourage growth in ministry and to provide for a regular rhythm of reflection and renewal.

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This benefits both the pastor and the entire congregation. Please contact Lora, Anna, or Scott with any pastoral care needs during this time. Karl's sabbatical will focus on the theme of healing. As the past year has revealed widespread human sickness--not only the coronavirus but also spiritual, systemic, political, ecological sickness--the Good News offers a remedy that impacts both our inner life and how we live in the world, a healing that requires deepening one's spiritual maturity and learning to see my healing is not simply about me but is connected with the liberation of all. [Please read more of what Karl has to say about his sabbatical theme and plans here.](#)

(repeat) **2% Committee Distributions:** The 2 percent committee recommends the following distributions of 2 percent funds: *Local*- \$500 each to Church Community Service Seed to feed, Goshen Farmer's Market - Share the Bounty, Goshen Interfaith Hosp. Network, The Window, Walnut Hill, Ten Thousand Villages Goshen. \$1000 each to LaCasa Help a House and Maple City Healthcare Dental Clinic.

World- \$500 each to MCC Great Lakes kits, SEMILLA Guatemala, Tanzania Education Aid, Mennonite Disaster Services, Mennonite Central Committee, National Immigrant Justice Center, Jubilee Partners, Dove's Nest, Christian Peacemaker Teams, Association for a More Just Society Honduras.

Please talk to a member of the committee with any questions. -Sarah Horst (chair), Sandy Fribley, Joel Zwier, Glenn Gilbert, Kathleen Jones, Barb Swartley (Finance Committee Link).

(repeat) **Thank you from Association for a More Just Society:** We wanted to reach out with an update from ASJ for you and your congregation at Assembly Mennonite church. First, we are so grateful for your support as a church partner! Your church is a part of a group of 35 churches who partner with ASJ through financial and prayer support. Last year, these 35 churches **raised about \$55,000** to support the work of ASJ - Wow! And your church gave \$2000 of that in 2020. We are so grateful for your commitment. Second, we wanted to give you an update on our work. ASJ works to bring justice and

transparency in many areas, including in **reforming the education system** in Honduras. We can imagine this past school year has been difficult for many of your parents in your congregation as well. In Honduras, we faced similar difficulties due to both COVID and also the after effects of the hurricanes that hit Honduras.

We wanted to share what we are doing within education in Honduras - [check out this video update from Mario in Honduras.](#) -ASJ

community connections

Responding to DR Congo volcanic eruption: You can provide emergency relief today through MCC. Thank you for your support for MCC's response to the volcanic eruption in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Hundreds of homes on the outskirts of Goma were destroyed by flowing lava after Mount Nyiragongo erupted on May 22. MCC and local partners will provide emergency assistance to affected families. Your donations and prayers will help bring critical support to these global neighbors. You can donate online at mcc.org/volcano-relief by phone at (888) 563-4676, or by mail at MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.

Cross-country bike ride to raise visibility on climate issues: The Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions (CSCS) - a partnership between Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) and Goshen College - is organizing the Climate Ride, a cross-country bicycle ride departing May 31 from Seattle, WA and culminating on July 28 in Washington, DC. Climate Riders will raise visibility on climate issues, learn about the impacts of climate change on diverse communities and connect concerned Anabaptists across the country with climate efforts of CSCS and other organizations. Follow along with the young adult Climate Riders and MCC guest riders by signing up for the weekly email newsletter. Join Climate Riders for a series of virtual and in-person Community Townhall meetings. More information at sustainableclimatesolutions.org/climate-ride.

-Virtual Townhall Kickoff on Sunday, May 30 at 8:00 p.m. EDT - "Moving the Story on Climate Change: Our Obligation to Respond" What motivates people to respond

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