

AssemblyLine

May 9, 2021

Volume XL, Number 19

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

May 9	May 16
Worship Leader: Deanna Risser	Worship Leader: Jon Zirkle
Preacher: Erich Miller	Preachers: Glenn Hochstetler & Joyce Hostetler
Scripture: Isaiah 53:1-5	Scripture: Matthew 11:25-30

CALENDAR

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

Sat	May 8	10:00 am Old and New Hymn Recording in Worship Space
Sun	May 9	10:00 am Worship on Zoom , followed by Second Hour 7:00 pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom
Mon	May 10	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom 6-8 pm Interplay Dance Group on Zoom
Wed	May 12	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Fri	May 14	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Sun	May 16	10:00 am Parking Lot Worship Service at AMC
Wed	May 19	4-8 pm Memorial Garden Work Day
Sun	May 23	10:00 am Pentecost Worship in AMC Parking Lot

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

Jenae Coulter turned 2 on Thursday May 6! She enjoys waking up early, playing with her big sister, waving to people on Zoom and in person, and looking at books. She spends much of her time singing, climbing, jumping, dancing, and playing "ready, set, go." Her favorite food is "cookies," her favorite color is "green," and her favorite animals are cats and dogs and cows and chickens and ... pretty much all of them! A picture of Jenae is [here](#).

Join us for live worship on Zoom this Sunday as we continue to celebrate Eastertide: the liturgical season from Easter to Pentecost, with the theme "At Home in Our Bodies". Living during a pandemic has given us a unique perspective as our bodies and our breath have become a danger to each other. So after a full year of worshipping at home and gathering as "disembodied" faces on screens, the worship committee decided it was time to talk about how we experience life and faith through our visceral selves. Read the full series intro [here](#).

Following worship, join us for one of these electives for Second Hour discussion on Zoom:

--*Body Talk* offers space for sharing personal stories and other responses to the morning's theme, "Mental Health." -
--*After the Storm: CoVid Wisdom* is an intergenerational elective, led by Rose Stutzman, with a focus on viewing and creating art in response to the pandemic. This week: join in to explore nature photos by Theo Siemens-Rhodes and the music of classical guitarist Arturo Castro Noguera. ([Click to join via Zoom](#))

--*Some Assembly Required* is for anyone curious about how Assembly works, especially newish attendees. This week: "This we believe"- Karl Shelly will talk about the Assembly covenant and practices ([Click to join via Zoom](#)) (Zoom links for each elective will be found in the Order of Worship and shared in the chat at the end of the first hour of worship.)

JYF Activity: This Saturday, May 8 from 1:00 to 3:00 we'll be meeting at the Ebright Zehrs' to pick up trash along

Old County Road 17. Wear bright colors for visibility and maybe older shoes and work gloves if you want them. It looks like we'll have some decent weather. Hope to see many of you!

The MYF will meet for 2nd hour on Sunday, May 9th, at 11:30am, in the AMC main worship space. Our guest this week will be Bethany Swope, as we cover the topics of sexual harassment and violence alongside healthy relationships and equality. As this session can be a bit heavier, please feel free to contact Sara Morris or Lora Nafziger before or after our session with any questions, or for follow up conversations. Please remember to wear your masks, and we hope to see you then!

Congregational Meeting this Sunday: Plan to join us for a Congregational Meeting on May 9 at 7pm via Zoom for discussion of: *How do we as Assembly want to act as an anti-racist congregation on the question of reparations?* Please read [this handout](#) & [the agenda](#), which were sent out on Thursday night.

Parking Lot Worship Service Sun May 16: Sunday May 16, we plan to gather for outdoor worship in the parking lot for the final Sunday in our series *At Home In Our Bodies*. This service will recognize heavy burdens we carry--grief, addiction, discrimination, burnout, etc--and consider ways that we can accept love and support from others and from God. Given the range of emotions that could arise, extra support options will be offered during and after worship. There will be opportunities for movement and percussion for adults and for children during the service. Also, Jon Zirkle is gathering participants to be involved in a group ritual of carrying an object together during the service, a ritual based on a vision experience he had in 2012 about Assembly. Anyone is welcome to join, and a few more women participants would be particularly welcome. Interested? Contact Jon by Sun May 9th (jon.zirkle@gmail.com or 574-612-5063). The group will rehearse the ritual before May 16.

Hymn Recording: Join others in singing "Familiar and Unfamiliar" hymns for worship Saturday mornings at 10am. Sign up to join [here](#). As always, we'll be distanced

and masked, and singing out of the new Voices Together hymnals.

Karl Shelly will be on vacation May 10-15 visiting grandchildren. Also, **Karl will be taking a 3 month sabbatical this summer**, beginning May 24. His 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.](#)

Memorial Garden Work Day: On May 19 from 4-8 pm the Memorial Garden Committee will be facilitating a work day at the AMC Memorial Garden. Periwinkle, liriopse, shrubs, and annuals will be planted. Please contact [Julia Gautsche](#) if you are available to help with this endeavor.

Goshen Christian Montessori School yard sale & carnival fundraiser: We are holding an outside yard sale and carnival to help raise funds for our grand 2021 reopening! Come buy gently used toys, furniture, clothes and MORE! Come play \$1 carnival games and crafts! Fun for the whole family. May 22 starting at 8:00 am in the AMC parking lot.

Guidance for indoor meetings: Instructions for groups using the meetinghouse have been revised to give clearer guidance to persons who are fully vaccinated. Please continue to wear a mask in public, open areas indoors even if you are vaccinated. Groups meeting in classrooms may choose to meet without masks if everyone in the group is fully vaccinated. Please verbally check in with each other before taking off your masks, and be sensitive to the preferences of more cautious people in your group. Spaces need to be reserved with the church office in advance: contact [Jane](#) or [Scott](#) to reserve space. [Please read the instruction sheet posted here.](#)

Defund the Police, an Abolition Curriculum: Curious

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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.

Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office essay and video contest: Mackenzie Mast of Goshen won grand prize for the top essay in the [Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office essay and video contest](#). Naomi Klassen also earned honorable mention.

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.

Mennonite Mission Network wrote to thank Assembly Mennonite Church for our gift of \$12,416 in 2020. "Your prayers, participation and generous financial support empower us to bring inspiration and innovation to the church and our partners across the street and around the world, so that people of all cultures may be transformed by Jesus Christ."

Happy Birthday last week (5/2-5/8) to: Nathan Kingsley, Angie Gingerich South, Keith Graber Miller, Steve Schrock, and Ashley Fehlberg. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday this week (5/9-5/15) to: Carol Good-Elliott, Johanna Sutter, Keith Johnston, and Jodi Beyeler. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) **Small group reps met on April 27 to discern Assembly elders for the next term.** Out of a list of many gifted people they choose Randy Roth for the elder-chair position and Leon Bauman for the elder position. If affirmed at an upcoming congregational meeting, they will join Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Sandy Fribley, and Eric Yordy as elders beginning in Sept 2021.

(repeat) **2020 Reports for 2% Spending and the Public School Fund are now available [on the website](#).**

(repeat) **Spring Work Days 2021:** Spring Work Days are coming up soon. Details are forthcoming but we hope to

complete the work sometime around the end of May or first week of June. Small group assignments will be made in the next couple of weeks.

(repeat) **Volunteers Needed for Retention Pond:** The retention pond needs your help. The native plants are being outcompeted by nitrogen fixing clover. We are in need of volunteers to help us keep the clover in check long enough for the native plants to get deep roots established. We're hoping to accomplish this through a mechanical control method, i.e. high mowing. Please let [Jane](#) know if you would be willing to: 1) loan a riding lawn mower with a deck that could be raised to 6 inches, 2) help with weed whacking with a team of other folks. Final needs will emerge as the growing season progresses but it will likely need to be cut every few weeks.

(repeat) **Volunteers Needed for Building Storage Shed:** The Building Committee needs volunteers to help build a storage shed in the parking lot. If you have availability on 1 or 2 Saturdays in May to help with this, please contact Dana Miller, or Jane in the church office.

(repeat) **At the Congregational Meeting on Apr 25,** we discussed questions about the changing realities of the COVID-19 pandemic and what that means for how and when we might gather as a worshipping community. [Click here to watch the meeting recording on YouTube.](#)

(repeat) **Clergy Renewal Grant application- Lora will go on sabbatical in 2022.** On behalf of the congregation and in collaboration with Bethany Swope, Regina Shands Stoltzfus, and Jodi Beyeler, she applied for a grant from the Lilly Endowment to fund renewal activities during that sabbatical. [For more information read this document.](#) If you have questions or want to see the full application just ask Lora.

community connections

From CAPS of Elkhart County: Child Abuse Prevention Month has officially come to a close, however the work to prevent abuse and neglect in our community continues! It is up to all of us to ensure that every child has a safe & happy childhood. One way to do this is to attend our Darkness to Light trainings and help us meet our goal of

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training **100 adults in 100 days!** Our next virtual presentation of 'Stewards of Children' is on May 14th from 10 am-12:30 pm, and is aimed at teaching adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. This is a free training, so register today by calling 574-2277 (ext. 252) or emailing communityeducation@capselkhart.org!

Bethany Middle School Play: Meet the Virtuals, an ordinary family living in extraordinary times in *The Virtual Family*, by Jeremy Johnson. They communicate solely through their digital devices, always in different rooms of their house, never managing to see each other face to face. A slew of technological advances and computerized appliances make their lives both easier and more complicated. Follow this family and their electronics through a day of hit and miss. Tickets are on sale for this streaming performance, now through Friday, May 14. [Click here to purchase now!](#)

Goshen College is again offering a variety of summer camps for youth, including Broadway Bootcamp (high school), basketball fundamentals (grades 3-6), and creative kids camp (grades 4-6). Learn more or sign up at www.goshen.edu/summercamps.

MCC Great Lakes Virtual Borderlands Learning Tour: Join MCC on a virtual learning tour to the borderlands between Mexico and the U.S. on June 28-July 2 from 3-6 p.m. EST each day. This tour is designed to engage participants with the reality of immigration from a different perspective. Through Zoom video conversations, participants will hear first-hand from folks on the ground about the complexities of the U.S. immigration system, U.S. immigration policies that have worked to dismantle the asylum-seeking process, and the human factor on various sides of the spectrum. The cost of the learning tour is \$75. More information and registration at mcc.org/gl-virtual-borderlands.

Mennonite Mission Network, Elkhart, IN is seeking to fill two senior level positions.

Senior Executive of Ventures: Help create, foster, and deliver collaborative programs and services to our constituents and partners.

Senior Executive of Operations: Oversee administrative and operational functions of the organization. Detailed position descriptions are [here](#). Letters of interest and resumes should be emailed to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net.

SWAP summer staff needed! MCC's Sharing With Appalachia People (SWAP) program is in need of Job Site Coordinators and Meals Coordinators to support home repair projects in Kimball, West Virginia or Harlan, Kentucky. Applicants should be at least 19 years old, but these paid 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) 634-4418 or AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org.

The Dove's Nest May Newsletter is [here](#).

MCC's "In Touch" Newsletter is [here](#).

(repeat) **Bethany Bright Time Summer Camp registration is now OPEN!** We're excited to offer an assortment of Covid-19-safe camp tracks the week of June 7-11, and want to see your children learning and exploring on our campus again. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more and to register... but don't wait too long! Camps are filling up fast and registration closes May 24. We can't wait to spend Bright Time week with your kids!

(repeat) **Registration is now open for MennoCon21!** Learn more about online and in-person registration options for the first-ever hybrid convention here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/in-person-mennocon21>

(repeat) **Part-time Summer Job Opportunity:** Weeding the landscape around the Mennonite offices (3145 Benham Ave, Elkhart) during the 2021 growing season, beginning immediately and ending by the end of September/beginning of October. The job would pay \$12/hour and offers great flexibility since the job is performed on an "as-needed" basis - typically 2-5 hours per week depending on the amount of rain. Applicants must be self-starters, taking care to keep the landscape weed-free. If you are interested in applying for the job, please contact Lisa Heinz at LisaH@MennoniteEducation.org.

(repeat) **"Prayers for Mennonite Education"** is [here](#).

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(repeat) Mennonite Men's "Engage" Newsletter is [here](#).

(repeat) Mennonite World Conference's "Courier" Newsletter is [here](#).

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

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