

AssemblyLine

June 6, 2021

Volume XL, Number 23

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

| June 6 | June 13 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Worship Leader: Kathleen Jones | Worship Leader: Susan Mark Landis |
| Storyteller: Beck Unternahrer | Storyteller: Wilma Harder |
| Scripture: Ruth 1:3-18 | Scripture: TBD |

CALENDAR

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

| | | |
|-----|---------|--|
| Sun | June 6 | 9:30 am Worship in the North Parking Lot 8:30-9:30 pm Anti-Racism Support Group on Zoom |
| Mon | June 7 | 9-11 am Family Play Time at Allan Kauffman Park |
| Wed | June 9 | 12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom |
| Sat | June 12 | 1 pm Ed Metzler's memorial service on Zoom 6:30-8:00 pm MYF Summer Kickoff Party |
| Mon | June 14 | 6-8 pm Interplay Dance Group on Zoom |
| Sun | June 20 | 11 am Bike Blessing following Worship 7pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom |
| Wed | June 23 | 9-11 am Drop-off Playdate at the church playground |

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

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.

Outdoor Summer Sunday School continues this week. 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.

MYF Breakout this Sunday, during outdoor worship Join us during the worship service for an MYF break-out time with donuts and iced coffee! This will be a time where we get to know and welcome Erich Miller. We will also be talking about our BIG July and August events, so please come with your schedules (work schedules, dates you might be out of town/ traveling, summer events/ camps etc.) so we can plan accordingly!

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.

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.

Congregational Meeting June 20 at 7pm Mark your calendars and plan to attend this month's congregational meeting on Zoom. Agenda will include [adoption of a proposed employee grievance resolution policy](#). We will aim to adopt this policy by consensus at the June 20 meeting. Other agenda items: approval of the Leader Selection slate, an update on church staffing, update on plans for moving worship indoors.

Family Play Time: Monday June 7th 9-11am join Lora and her kids at Allan Kauffman Park for a family play time. We hope to see you there!

Many "Thank You's" have been received at the church office from organizations expressing their gratitude for Assembly's generous donations as a result of the 2020 surplus discernment process. You can read some of them [here](#) and [here](#), if interested. Also, we received a special "Silver Life Member" certificate from the Elkhart Branch of the NAACP that can be viewed [here](#). You can read the full list of receiving organizations and amounts given by AMC Small Groups [here](#).

Office Transitions...again: Dear AMC community, I regret to inform you that I am resigning from my position as Administrator and my last day in the office will be June 18. After a more stressful than usual year teaching this past year, Molly expressed a deep need for a break from formal education. This meant I needed to look for full time work. I am pleased to report that I have accepted a position at Camp Friedenswald as Guest Services Director. Start date is still TBD depending on housing availability there. I have appreciated serving the congregation for this short time and making new connections with you all. We hope to continue to connect with AMC as participants and friends. We appreciate your prayers throughout this transition for our family as I begin full-time work again, as Molly transitions to primary parenting and toddler educator, as we physically move to Camp, and as Lyle adjusts to all of the new realities. I wish you all the best throughout this transition here at AMC and I look forward to seeing you at Camp! With gratitude, Jane Litwiller

Two notes about the recognition of the seniors last week: While the mugs for the MYF sponsors were made by Eric Strader, the mugs that were given to the graduates and Sue Burkholder were made by our own Trevor Daugherty. For those who are curious about the song Wilma sang it can be found here: [Every Long Journey by Anne Reed](#).

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:

-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!

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-Isaac Bontrager: Join us Sunday, June 13 5:00-8:00pm at the Bontrager's Pavilion, 15278 Co Rd 28, Goshen, IN 46528

-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

Congratulations to Deanna Risser on her new role at AMBS! The full press release can be read [here](#).

Opening for Part-Time Church Administrator. We are now accepting resumes and a letter of interest for this 25-30 hours/week position. Please express your interest to Scott Coulter in person or at scottc@assemblymennonite.org. [A complete job description can be found on the Assembly website here.](#)

Christa and Scott Janzen update: Many of you have heard that Scott and Christa Janzen and Norah and Sadie are moving back to Goshen after 5 years living near Scott's parents in Nebraska. Christa will teach art at Bethany Christian Schools and Scott continues at AMBS. You are invited to welcome them to town by bringing meals. Last name: Janzen, password: Goshen.

<https://takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=IIND5189>

Lora Nafziger will be on vacation traveling with her family June 9-24. Please contact Scott or Anna if you need a pastor while she is away.

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

Happy Birthday this week (6/6-6/12) to: Nadia Shank, Michael Miller, Greta Lapp Klassen, Trevor Daugherty, Brennan Beachy, Eric Kurtz, Marna Mateer, and Jen Bontrager. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) **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

(repeat) **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

(repeat) **Jeanne Liechty, Michael Dickens & Conrad**

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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 during this life transition.

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

community connections

Join EMU's Center for Justice and Peacebuilding's 25+1 Anniversary Celebration June 4-6. More information can be found on their website [here](#).

Lombard Mennonite Peace Center "Shalom" Webinar Series: Tuesday, June 8, J. Denny Weaver, author of *Nonviolent Atonement*, will present "*Why did Jesus have to die?*" This will be the first of six webinars in our new *SHALOM* series. All webinars in this series will run from 10:30am to noon (Central Daylight Time). Each webinar will focus on how our relationship with God impacts all our other relationships: with creation, with other people, even within ourselves. For a detailed list of dates, topics, and presenters, please [refer to the attached flyer](#). Online registration is available via *TicketSpice* directly on the website at <https://lmpeacecenter.org/all-events/>.

Providing Mutual Support When People Experience Mental Illness: A Webinar Thursday, June 17, 11 PDT/1 pm CDT/2 pm EDT How can we walk with people who are experiencing a mental illness in our congregations and community? Attend this "Mental Health 101" webinar with Janelle Bitikofer. Become more aware of the prevalence of mental illnesses in our congregations and communities, their causes and symptoms, and some keys to providing mutual support. Use this link to register in advance: <http://bit.ly/MISupportWebinar> After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Janelle Bitikofer is Executive Director of We Rise International, lead mental health trainer for Churches Care - a mental health and addictions training program for congregations, and author of *Streetlights*:

Empowering Christians to Respond to Mental Illnesses and Addictions - a mental health and addictions support manual for churches. This webinar is co-sponsored by Anabaptist Disabilities Network and Church of the Brethren Discipleship Ministries. For more information, contact Jeanne Davies at jeanned@adnetonline.org or 574-343-1362.

Mennonite Mission Network has openings for a Director of Finance and Director of Human Resources, two new positions for the agency. You can find details on our website at www.MennoniteMission.net/employment. To begin the application process, send a resume to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net.

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

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

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **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

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email newsletter. Join Climate Riders for a series of virtual and in-person Community Townhall meetings. More information at sustainableclimatesolutions.org/climate-ride.

(repeat) **Mennonite Creation Care Church Edition Newsletter** is [here](#).

(repeat) **Mennonite World Conference Newsletter** is [here](#).

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

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