

AssemblyLine

July 4, 2021

Volume XL, Number 27

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 (Outdoors or [on Zoom](#)*)

WORSHIP

July 4	July 11
Worship Leader: Barb Swartley	Worship Leader: Jodi Beyeler
Storyteller: Jonathon Schramm	Storyteller: Patrick Coonan
Scripture: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	Scripture: TBD

CALENDAR

[Click here to subscribe](#) to Assembly's Calendar of Events on Google Calendar, or visit

<https://assemblymennonite.org/about/calendar/>. [Click here to subscribe](#) to the space reservation calendar to see availability.

Sun	July 4	9:30 am Worship in the North Parking Lot
Wed	July 7	12 Noon Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Thurs	July 15	8 am Climate Ride from AMC to Merry Lea
Sun	Aug 1	Worship Service at Oxbow

*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

Bertha Beachy (Evergreen, Greencroft) turned 90 on July 2! Bertha worked for a number of years at Provident Bookstore. She got her love of reading from her mother and her love of people from her father. She is an avid prayer and cares deeply about the children of Assembly. Her time in Somalia shaped her lifelong commitment to interfaith relationships based on curiosity and respect. [A photo of Bertha is here.](#)

June Klassen turns 1 on July 9! June is curious, observant, and silly. She is enthralled by turning things over in her hands, pointing to the things she recognizes, especially her kitties, and playing with a spoon. June is very precise with her hands and is moving at a snail's pace toward crawling. She loves blueberries, humming on walks, and making her family laugh with her.

Ira Siemens-Rhodes (rising 6th, Bethany) turns 11 on July 9! He is looking forward to attending Camp Friedenswald next week. He enjoys listening to and reading books, especially the Missing series by Margaret Peterson Haddix. He thinks a great job would be a youtuber who makes gaming videos. [A photo of Ira is here.](#)

Sunday Morning Volunteers Needed for July: For the remaining Sundays of July we still need volunteers to help

with taking attendance, greeting, and setup & teardown. [Please consider signing up here.](#) Contact Scott Coulter if you have questions and/or if you're willing to help.

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. If we cancel parking lot worship due to the weather forecast we will also cancel Sunday school.

Flowers this Sunday: If it brings you joy, please bring potted or vased flowers this Sunday to distract from the brown wall behind. If you like, you can share your flowers with others after the service.

Climate Riders visiting Assembly. On July 14 and 15, seventeen bicyclists who have been riding across the country to raise awareness about responses to climate change (see more about their journey [here](#)) will be in Goshen for several days. Our own Greta Lapp Klassen is one of the riders! On Wed the 14th there will be a town hall panel discussion open to the public at Chiddister Pavilion in Fidler Pond Park, from 6-8 pm. And beginning around 8am on Thursday the 15th, the public is invited to ride along with the group as they head to Merry Lea from Assembly. Please reach out to [Jonathon Schramm](#) for more details. If you would be interested in being part of a group putting together a simple dinner for them on the 14th, please contact Jonathon.

(repeat) **Ryan Sensenig, who is part of Small Group Hygge, covenanted with Assembly last Sunday June 27th.** We invite you to send him your words of welcome.

(repeat) **Update from Sue Burkholder.** To my Assembly friends and supporters. I will always remember the "parking lot" farewell you gave me on my last Sunday at AMC, May 30. I am getting settled into my small "independent living" apartment here at Landis Homes. Thanks for your help and support on making the move possible which was safely accomplished. I think about you often, but it has been a good move. --Susan (Sue) Burkholder.

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 this week (7/4-7/10) to: Doug Schirch, Isaac Sensenig, Hugo Avelar, Randy Roth, Ann Graber Miller, Sibyl Graber Gerig, Jim Kaufmann, and Kimberly Glick. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday last week (6/27-7/3) to: Mara Sensenig, Bertha Beachy, and Paul Horst. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Story to Stage Summer Theater Camp for 7-12 year olds. This will be held at Goshen College from 9-11:30 am on July 15, 22, & 29. This camp aims to help teach and promote stories of peace and diversity through creative expression and theater. Request registration information by email: storytostage2021gc@gmail.com. [Click here for informational poster.](#)

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.](#)

community connections

At the Central District Conference annual meeting June 26, delegates welcomed two member congregations: Grand Rapids (Mich.) Mennonite Fellowship and Keller Park Church (in South Bend, Ind.). [Read more about Keller Park in the current issue of Focus.](#) [Click here for more conference announcements.](#)

Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests (BMC) is hosting a special online worship service July 3rd at 7pm Eastern Time on the theme: *Justice, only Justice, You Shall Pursue* (Deut 16:20). Eric Bishop will offer reflections, new SCN communities will be welcomed, and the music of Shawn Kirchner will be featured. It promises to be an empowering and inspiring service. Please join us! [Zoom link here.](#)

The Mennonite Church USA convention is July 6-10 in Cincinnati, Ohio, and online. Read speaker [Dr. Lesley](#)

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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

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, Erich Miller

Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

Administrator: *In transition.* Contact the church office at office@assemblymennonite.org 574-534-4190

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[Francisco McClendon's thoughts on "The root of peace" here.](#) You can [register for convention here.](#)

Also check out [Duncan Smith's blog "Caring for each other during COVID-19" here.](#)

Mennonite World Conference Assembly 2022 will be in Indonesia, but participants will also be able to join online. Workshops can be offered both in Indonesia and online. MWC is looking for topics and workshop leaders that reflect the cultural and linguistic diversity of our global communion and are interactive, dynamic, and interesting to a broader audience. If you would like to offer a workshop, apply by July 31. [For more information click here.](#)

Ten Thousand Villages Goshen is hosting a Vintage Villages Online Silent Auction to help raise money for the Michiana Relief Sale on August 15-22. They are asking for craft donations of Ten Thousand Villages items that are no longer available in store or online; they could be as old as 3 years or 30 years! Contact goshen@tenthousandvillages.com before July 10.

Mennonite Mission Network publishes weekly prayer requests. [Click here](#) for a sample of what Mennonite Mission Network is doing in the world and to remember them in prayer.

Pray for Mennonite Education. [Daily prayer requests for Mennonite schools around the US are published here.](#)

Mennonite Men is an organization of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada. [Click here for a video](#) introducing the work of this organization, including work related to tree planting and sustainable forestry. [Register here for a workshop on where and how to plant trees at AMBS on October 15.](#)

[Church Community Services newsletter is here.](#) Look for Assembly member Kora Beasley's photograph! CCS is hiring a Soup of Success Production Manager. Also learn about volunteer opportunities and other ways to support this ministry.

Mennonite Creation Care Network's July Newsletter is here. Learn about the remembrance garden using native plants created by Fellowship of Hope in Elkhart; find resources for relying more on bicycling, and information

about monthly gatherings for congregational leaders working on creation care initiatives.

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) in Elkhart is offering noncredit short courses in topics like "Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible" and "Transforming Congregational Conflict and Communication". [Learn more here.](#)

(repeat) **Goshen College's Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center** (Wolf Lake, Ind.) offers many hands-on summer educational opportunities for adults and children, including Tales & Trails, Boating & Birding Family Workshop, and Nature Pre-K programs. Visit goshen.edu/merrylea to learn more!

(repeat) **Pathways Retreat** online silent auction and open house scheduled for June will now be held August 21 - 28 with the open house on August 28, 1-4pm. Pathways invites guests to come walk trails and labyrinths during the month of July, its sabbatical month. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org. The Rhythms newsletter is [here](#).

job opportunities

Mennonite Health Services (MHS) seeks a part-time (24 hours per week) Director of Finance to provide leadership and direction for all financial and accounting services of MHS and MHS Consulting. The Director of Finance works closely with the senior team to provide financial services, accounting and reporting for MHS and MHS entities. The Director ensures all financial services are in alignment with MHS values, priorities and goals. This position is salaried and receives MHS employee benefits. Send a resume and cover letter to Cynthia Miller at cynthia@mhsonline.org.

Greencroft Goshen has an opening for "Chaplain of Evergreen Place" (assisted living). Pat Shoemaker is retiring this week, after being in this position 5.5 years. The position will remain 30 hrs/wk. This chaplain will join a team of chaplains: Randy Roth (in healthcare, 537-4013) and Teresa Dutchersmith (in ind. living, 537-4159). Call these chaplains with questions. Or call Evergreen Administrator Dan Crooke (537-4109) to express your interest, and/or for more details.

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Job Opportunities in Mennonite Education. [Bethany Christian Schools](#) is seeking a receptionist, and a high school language arts teacher. [Goshen College](#) also has a number of open positions. For additional [job opportunities in Mennonite education, visit this site.](#)

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