

AssemblyLine

August 29, 2021

Volume XL, Number 35

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 (in person [or online via Zoom](#)*)

WORSHIP

<p>Aug 29</p> <p>Worship Leader: Marshall King Homily: Robert Brenneman Greeters: <i>Small Group B</i> <i>Set Up & Tear Down: Small Group 8th St+</i> Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46</p>	<p>Sept 5 Fellowship Meal 2% Offering</p> <p>Worship Leader: Michael Miller Homily: Jason Kauffman Greeters: <i>Small Group Beta</i> <i>Set Up & Tear Down: Small Group Well Seasoned</i> Scripture: Acts 4:32-37</p>
---	---

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	Aug 29	9:30am Worship in the North Parking Lot MYF Breakout during Worship
Tues	Aug 31	7:15pm Small Group Reps meeting on Zoom
Wed	Sept 1	1:00pm Lunch Bunch on Zoom 6:30-8pm Garden Party for K-5 at Shantz home
Fri	Sept 3	9:30am Greencroft Meetup
Sun	Sept 5	Worship & MYF Breakout Outdoor Fellowship Meal after Worship
Tues	Sept 7	7pm Leadership Group at meetinghouse
Sat	Sept 11	2pm Voices Together workshop
Sun	Sept 12	8:30pm Anti-racism accountability group on Zoom
Mon-Th	Sept 13-16	Meals provided for GIHN
Sun	Sept 19	12pm Mentor-Mentee Kickoff
Fri-Sat	Oct 8-10	Assembly Church Retreat at Camp Friedenswald

*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

Linden Rothshank (3rd Bethany) turned 9 on Aug 14!

Linden likes to swim, play with Lego, read, and spend time outside. He knows a lot about Greek mythology- and likes to make board games. The highlight of the summer was going to the boundary waters! Linden loves candy, ham and pineapple pizza, bacon. [Click here for a photo of Linden.](#)

Join us this Sunday Aug 29 for worship in the north parking lot at 9:30am, as we Seek Justice Together.
God's justice is not only our work in the world, but God's work in us. As we are transformed and become aligned with the heart of God in Christ, we are better able to reflect

God's justice and peace through our lives to the world.
[Read the full introduction for this worship series here.](#)

Please bring your own chair. Children will be dismissed to outdoor Sunday school halfway through the service. We are asking everyone who is not vaccinated to mask outdoors unless you are sitting down with your family. You can also watch the service [via Zoom](#). Look for an email by 5pm on Saturday for the order of worship and weather-related cancellations.

Additional Helpers Needed Next Sunday: It would be a great help if 2 or 3 more able-bodied persons could show up by 9am on Sept 5 to help Small Group Well Seasoned set up the canopy, and possibly assist with some other set

up tasks. Please let [Amy Kauffman](#) know if you can help.

The Labor Day Potluck is back! On Sept 5 (next Sun), bring your own table service and a dish to share. We will be having our fellowship meal outside after the worship service. Look for an email this week with more information about logistics. **Please contact Scott in the church office if you are willing to help set up for the meal.**

Small Group Shuffle season is starting soon -- that time when we form new groups and fill spots in existing ones. All those on the Assembly listserv should have received an email inviting participation in the shuffle. If you haven't or are interested in knowing more about small groups, let pastor Karl Shelly know -- karlss@assemblymennonite.org

Children K-5 are invited this Wed Sept 1 to Steve and Kate Shantz's place for a garden party (60728 CR 27). We will be pulling up onions and digging potatoes this year, followed by a bonfire and smores. Please be dressed in garden work clothes. 6:30 - 8:00 PM. (Note the date was changed because of last week's heat advisory).

Be sure to register for Assembly's Church Retreat at Camp Friedenswald, coming up on Oct 8-10! [Click here for more information](#). We are planning to hold as many activities outdoors as we can; masks will be required indoors (except in your own lodging). Retreat is for everyone at Assembly, regardless of ability to pay. It will help us to know in advance how many people plan to attend and how much lodging we will use. The church has already paid for half the cost of retreat out of the budget; we are asking for special offerings to help cover the remaining half. (You can watch Facebook and the church website to see the progress of pledges to support retreat).

Scott and Lora will both be out of town from Fri Aug 27-Mon Aug 30. Scott is attending a wedding in Indy, and Lora is visiting family in Canada. **Karl is back from sabbatical!! Hurrah!** Please contact Anna or Karl if you need a pastor between now and Aug 31.

Oh, and **Karl will be gone again** from Wed Sept 1-Mon Sept 6. He's attending a wedding in New York. But then he's coming back to stay. Really.

COVID Testing Volunteers Needed. There is an urgent need for volunteers to help with COVID testing at the Center of Healing & Hope. Visit <https://chhclinics.org/volunteer/>.

My Coins Count (MyCC): Collect your coins, both children and adults, and place them in the water during offering each Sunday. Adults, consider making a matching donation of the coins collected to help Mennonite Central Committee's work to bring clean accessible water to people around the world. See what they are doing in this [MCC Water Impact Report](#). Check out this Water Fun Activity page [MCC Water Fun Page](#) and don't forget to pay attention to water in your life [Water Activity Calendar](#).

MCC School Kits Update: "I am finishing up the purchasing for school supplies this week. Next week, I will give you a detailed report. Thanks to everyone who contributed." - Johanna Sutter

Thank you! [Here are some recent thank you notes](#) the church office has received on behalf of the congregation for sharing from our abundant financial resources this summer. From: [Association for a More Just Society](#), [Emerge Ministries](#), [Northern Indiana Hispanic Health Coalition](#), [The Bail Project](#), [Christian Peacemaker Teams](#), [Church Community Services](#), [Doctors without Borders](#), and [the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT interests](#).

Don't miss the new series: "These are the people in your neighborhood!" Learn to know Assembly better by enjoying this new video series! Watch the latest interviews [with Bev Lapp & Dale Klassen](#), and [with Scott and Christa Janzen](#) on the [Assembly YouTube Channel](#).

Assembly's anti-racism accountability group will meet next on Sept 12, on Zoom, at 8:30 pm. This group consists of those who want to be more proactive in their anti-racism advocacy and would benefit from encouragement and accountability of others. If you'd like to participate, contact [Karl Shelly](#), and write a short description of what action you'd like to take that can be shared with the group. (repeat) **Coffee!!! Volunteers are needed** to help make

Please email announcements to assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org by 11 PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's *AssemblyLine*. To receive the *AssemblyLine* via email visit <http://eepurl.com/bsXsDr>.

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

Elders: Randy Roth (chair), Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Elena Fischer

Youth Coordinators: Sara Morris, Erich Miller, Ashley Fehlberg, Darin Bontrager, Amy Bontrager

Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

Church Office Hours: Scott is typically in the office T-W-Th 8:30am-1pm & Fri 8:30am-4pm.
Contact the church office at office@assemblymennonite.org or leave a message at 574-534-4190

Assembly Mennonite Church seeks to be a dynamic Christian community by together meeting God who draws us beyond ourselves into nurturing, sharing, and living the good news of God's love as known in Jesus Christ. ~ Mission Statement, adopted June 1997

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

coffee on Sunday mornings, which we will do as soon as it is cooler than 70 degrees. This involves coming early (around 9am) to start making the coffee on Sundays. If you can help with this task, please let Scott Coulter know. Many thanks to the other volunteers who have graciously and generously stepped up to help on Sunday mornings! Set up & tear down, and Greeting, have been assigned to small groups. If your small group hasn't heard from me yet, expect to receive an email this week!

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 (8/29-9/4) to: Graysen Beasley, Maria Wenger, Mackenzie Mast, and Byrdalene Horst. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday last week (8/22-8/28) to: Jason Kauffman, Julia Gautsche, and Jane Litwiller. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

(repeat) **Please wear a facemask when interacting with others indoors at the meetinghouse**, even if you are vaccinated. The Elkhart County Health Department, along with the CDC, is recommending that everyone (including vaccinated people) mask indoors in public spaces because of HIGH community spread in Elkhart county.

(repeat) **Update your contact information in the church directory.** Please check your entries in the “phone” and “email” directories as posted [here on the church website](#). (Contact a pastor if you need the password). [Please email Scott](#) with any updates or corrections. You are also encouraged to send in a recent photo of yourself/your family! If you are not listed in the church directory but would like to be, please let Scott know.

(repeat) **Do you bike to church on Sunday?** Are you tired of bringing your chair back and forth to the meetinghouse each week? Feel free to leave it inside the meetinghouse, in Multipurpose Space North (sometimes known as the former baby cave) during the week. (You’re welcome to do

this even if you don’t bike to church.)

(repeat) **Your Assembly Library is awaking** from its long COVID sleep! We have lots of new books in many different categories. If you are in the church building, you are welcome to browse and check out books, as usual. Very soon we will have all books available to search in a new online tool. In the meantime, please let Maria Wenger know if you have any questions or suggestions for the library.

community connections

Lacasa, Inc. is offering **FREE virtual classes** in financial education in September! Master your money, master home ownership, master your debt, master your credit. Learn more at <http://lacasainc.net/classes/>.

Climate Change and Migration: What it means for southwest Michigan, northwest Indiana, and crafting a faithful response: As climate disruption continues to intensify, climate migrants and refugees will seek refuge from rising temperatures, drought, famine, fire, and natural disaster. How are people of faith called to respond to climate migrants? How do we seek justice and live out our faith stories with political movements charged with xenophobia and hatred? Join MCC and the Interfaith Action Southwest Michigan Peace & Justice Collaborative on **Wednesday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m.** at Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ (1200 W. Glenlord Road) in St. Joseph, Michigan, or online via Zoom. Participants will hear from experts on climate and migration and learn how they can advocate for change. Please email KaterinaParsons@mcc.org for Zoom information or to RSVP.

Mennonite Health Fellowship (MHF) is hosting its virtual Annual Gathering Sept 17-19. All with an interest in healthcare from a faith perspective are welcome to attend, and all MHF members are encouraged to attend at least part of the weekend. Registration and information are on the MHF website at www.mennohealth.org. The theme for the weekend is Fostering Provider Resilience with a special 2-hour Introduction to Strategies

Please email announcements to assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org by 11 PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's AssemblyLine. To receive the AssemblyLine via email visit <http://eepurl.com/bsXsDr>.

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

Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

Church Office Hours: Scott is typically in the office T-W-Th 8:30am-1pm & Fri 8:30am-4pm.

Contact the church office at office@assemblymennonite.org or leave a message at 574-534-4190

Elders: Randy Roth (chair), Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Elena Fischer

Youth Coordinators: Sara Morris, Erich Miller, Ashley Fehlberg, Darin Bontrager, Amy Bontrager

Assembly Mennonite Church seeks to be a dynamic Christian community by together meeting God who draws us beyond ourselves into nurturing, sharing, and living the good news of God's love as known in Jesus Christ. ~ Mission Statement, adopted June 1997

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

for Trauma Awareness and Resilience (STAR) in partnership with Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute. MHF is open to those serving in all areas of healthcare, including mental health, public health, health administration, and more. [Register today!](#)

“Tongue-Tied: Learning the Lost Art of Talking about Faith” Join the denomination-wide “CommonRead.” This fall, the MC USA / MC Canada CommonRead book is “Tongue-Tied: Learning the Lost Art of Talking About Faith” by Sara Wenger Shenk. Learn more here: www.commonread.org

Mennonite World Conference offers [encouragement to donate to the UNICEF campaign to share COVID-19 vaccinations around the world](#), [suggestions on how to worship indoors without singing](#), [resources for Peace Sunday \(Sept 19\)](#), and more! Also, [read about the 2022 gathering in Indonesia here](#).

Hope for the Future for BIPOC, Jan. 21-23, 2022. The theme will be "Collective Trauma and Resistance, Esther 4:14 as such a time as this?" Learn more [here](#). Hope for the Future gatherings bring together leaders of color from across the church, sometimes with white allies, to explore the ways that power, privilege and racism function in our denomination. These gatherings provide spaces of retreat, opportunities for networking and more for people of color across Mennonite Church USA. Participants work together to address racism to help the Mennonite Church embrace diversity, so that it can thrive amid the racial and ethnic demographic changes that are occurring churchwide.

Laboring Toward Wholeness – A Training On Dismantling Patriarchy. Through this training, participants will explore the history and roots of patriarchy and how it got entangled with our faith. They'll unpack the church's role in perpetuating it as well as the responsibility to dismantle it. Participants will search the Bible for truths about who they are created to be and learn to recognize and respond to sexism and patriarchy in our own lives and contexts. [“Laboring Toward Wholeness”](#) is not an agenda to place women at the top of the hierarchy, and it is not meant to disparage, demean or destroy men.

The Youth Venture Civil Rights Learning Tour visited service and learning locations in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee from July 16-24. The group participated in projects, toured historical landmarks, and engaged with community members and activists who wove stories of inequality, struggle, and hope. Trip co-leader Joe Sawatzky detailed some of these stories in his blog post, [“Becoming human to each other.”](#) Youth Venture is a service program of Mennonite Mission Network.

Anna Groff of Dove’s Nest wrote, “Don’t bury the lead: Abuse in your congregation,” a blog in which she explains how Dove’s Nest can help prepare congregations to communicate effectively about abuse that has occurred within the church or by a church member. Read more about how to handle such a situation here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/abuse-congregation>.

“Worship for All” - Jeanne Davies, executive director of Anabaptist Disability Network, presented attendees at the MC USA convention ideas on how to make worship services accessible to all people, including those with intellectual disabilities and autism. Read about her ideas here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/worship-for-all/>.

Childhood encounters with God mature into multicultural ministry. [Read this interview with Ann Jacobs, M.Div.](#), Church Relations associate with Mennonite Mission Network. Ann has worked in multicultural ministry with the network for many years.

You can provide relief in Haiti: The people of Haiti need our help. Families who have already suffered so much have been hit once again. The 7.2 magnitude earthquake killed at least 1,300 people and injured many more. Thousands are sleeping outside, with little food and no protection from the elements. With your help, we can reach the people most affected by this tragic event. Your gifts will provide emergency support. Donate today at mcc.org/haiti-earthquake.

Continue to pray for the people of Afghanistan, including vulnerable women and children, and the many partners with whom MCC works. Pray that

Please email announcements to assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org by 11 PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's AssemblyLine. To receive the AssemblyLine via email visit <http://eepurl.com/bsXsDr>.

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

Elders: Randy Roth (chair), Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Elena Fischer

Youth Coordinators: Sara Morris, Erich Miller, Ashley Fehlberg, Darin Bontrager, Amy Bontrager

Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

Church Office Hours: Scott is typically in the office T-W-Th 8:30am-1pm & Fri 8:30am-4pm.
Contact the church office at office@assemblymennonite.org or leave a message at 574-534-4190

Assembly Mennonite Church seeks to be a dynamic Christian community by together meeting God who draws us beyond ourselves into nurturing, sharing, and living the good news of God's love as known in Jesus Christ. ~ Mission Statement, adopted June 1997

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

hope would not be extinguished during this season of uncertainty and fear.

Mennonite Disaster Service is scheduling volunteers for the Fall 2021 season. Visit their website to learn more, or [sign up at this link to receive the MDS Volunteer Update in your email](#).

(repeat) **“Celebration and Lament”** - Debbie Bledsoe celebrates the positive experiences that she has had as a queer woman in Mennonite Church USA. She also laments the fact that not all queer folks have had such a positive experience with the church. Read her blog entry from June here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/celebration-lament>

(repeat) **Decentering Whiteness in Worship:** MennoMedia, Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada recently partnered to create a two-part webinar that explored how to decenter whiteness, be more inclusive and promote anti-racism in worship, through the resources provided in Voices Together. Read more and find the links to the webinar in Katie Graber’s blog, “Webinar to explore Voices Together, worship and anti-racism.” <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/webinar-vt-antiracism>

(repeat) **“Practical Steps to Becoming a Welcoming Congregation”** - Pastors Amy Yoder McGloughlin, of Frazer Mennonite Church, and Joanne Gallardo, of Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship, led this seminar at MennoCon21. Read more for tips on welcoming LGBTQ people into church fellowship, including how to continue to be welcoming after the discernment process is over: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/practical-welcoming-congregation>.

(repeat) **Injustices experienced by the Palestinian people** is a focus of [the current issue of Central District Conference’s newsletter, Focus](#). [Read more](#) and consider how you can take steps to support the Palestinian people.

(repeat) **Camp Getaway at Camp Friedenswald** - Come on your own for a relaxing weekend or bring the family and friends to reconnect in the peaceful woods. Stay in a cabin, enjoy fresh and tasty meals served out of the Dining

Hall (to-go containers provided for front porch dining), and a variety of camp activities. It’s a great way to getaway!

Dates: 9/24-26, 10/15-17, or 11/5-7. [Discover more](#) and [inquire today!](#)

(repeat) **Church Community Services** is hosting “I had no idea!” tours, every 1st (English) and 3rd (Spanish) Thursday of the month at 10:30 am. Come learn about the important work CCS does for the community, and receive a bag of one of our famous Soup of Success soups to sample at home! The next tour is Thurs Sept 2! [Learn more here](#).

(repeat) **Mennonite Disaster Service’s August issue of On the Level is now available:** A couple who served as RV volunteers reflect on their time with MDS, bridges are constructed in collaboration with Engineers in Action and MDS, and MDS actively monitors the wildfire situation in the western and central U.S. and British Columbia.

(repeat) **17-20 year-olds** – do you want to serve in Alaska? There’s still time to apply for the Alaska Service Adventure unit, a 10-month program for ages 17-20! If interested, contact LaurenEH@MennoniteMission.net.

(repeat) **Serve in Barcelona** - Learn Spanish and live in community with others who are figuring out how to be disciples of Christ together in Barcelona. If you enjoy working with people, painting, organizing, and doing odd jobs to work toward finishing a community center, this is the position for you. Contact EricFM@MMNWorld.net for more information.

Please email announcements to assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org by 11 PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's AssemblyLine. To receive the AssemblyLine via email visit <http://eepurl.com/bsXsDr>.

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

Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

Church Office Hours: Scott is typically in the office T-W-Th 8:30am-1pm & Fri 8:30am-4pm.
Contact the church office at office@assemblymennonite.org or leave a message at 574-534-4190

Assembly Mennonite Church seeks to be a dynamic Christian community by together meeting God who draws us beyond ourselves into nurturing, sharing, and living the good news of God’s love as known in Jesus Christ. ~ Mission Statement, adopted June 1997

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

Elders: Randy Roth (chair), Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Elena Fischer

Youth Coordinators: Sara Morris, Erich Miller, Ashley Fehlberg, Darin Bontrager, Amy Bontrager