

AssemblyLine

September 5, 2021

Volume XL, Number 36

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 style="text-align: center;">Sept 5 Fellowship Meal 2% Offering</p> <p>Worship Leader: Anna Yoder Schlabach Homily: Jason Kauffman Greeters: <i>Small Group Beta</i> Set Up & Tear Down: <i>Small Group Well Seasoned & Small Group Maple</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Scripture: Acts 4:32-37</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sept 12</p> <p>Worship Leader: Jodi Beyeler Homily: Anna Yoder Schlabach Greeters: <i>Small Group Beta</i> Set Up & Tear Down: <i>Small Group Polar Bear</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Scripture: Numbers 27:1-11</p>
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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	Sept 5	9:30am Worship & MYF Breakout Outdoor Fellowship Meal after Worship 6:30pm MYF Drop-in at Jordana's house
Tues	Sept 7	7pm Leadership Group at meetinghouse
Wed	Sept 8	12pm Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom
Sat	Sept 11	2pm Voices Together workshop
Sun	Sept 12	9:30am Worship & MYF Breakout 2pm Parent Meeting on Zoom 8:30pm Anti-racism accountability group on Zoom
Mon-Th	Sept 13-16	Meals provided for GIHN
Mon	Sept 13	6:30-8pm Interplay Dance Group on Zoom
Sun	Sept 19	12pm Mentor-Mentee Kickoff 6:30pm MYF Drop-in 7pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom
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

Join us this Sunday Sept 5 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.

Outdoor Fellowship Meal after Worship this Sunday! Bring your own picnic blankets or chairs, your own dinner service, and a dish to share. Please do not bring foods that need to go in the oven or fridge. You may bring a crock pot into the kitchen to plug in before worship if you wish. To minimize how many people go into the meetinghouse, bring your own cooler, or warming containers for casseroles. Volunteers will set up tables for a serving line

in the north parking lot after worship, after which we ask that you put your food out on the serving tables. Please use the cards provided to label any allergens in your food. (Please avoid anything with peanuts). **Please wear your mask when visiting the food service line or when inside the building.**

Coffee! will be available this Sunday after worship. To minimize clean up and waste, please bring your own travel mug (there will be some paper cups available).

Thank You Volunteers! Our church life on Sunday mornings happens because of your contributions. If you're interested in helping make coffee, set up, clean up, take attendance, read scripture, or offer other gifts on Sunday, please [contact the church office](#).

Sign up for Surprise Luncheons Oct 3! This is a great way to get to know people in the congregation. To host or bring food to an outdoor lunch gathering with others, [sign up here](#). You will find out on the day of who will be around the table. You will receive an email the week before about how many people will be there and if there are food restrictions to be aware of.

Attention Parents of Children at Assembly - Next Sunday, September 12 at 2 pm on Zoom, we will talk together about Sunday school in the fall. Look for an email from Christian Ed committee for more details.

Clergy Renewal Grant Approved! In April an application for the Clergy Renewal program was submitted to fund congregational and pastoral renewal activities during Lora's 2022 sabbatical. This week we learned that the congregation was approved for the grant! The renewal activities will take place in 2022, primarily in the summer. For more information [read this document](#). If you have questions or want to see the full application just ask Lora.

MCC School Kits Update from Johanna: "What a Journey! From not knowing if I was going to purchase the school supplies for MCC this year to this. I started out purchasing for 200 kits, then as more money came in and with my faith in the generosity of Assembly friends, I purchased for 500, then 600 – 700 and at the end for 800

kits. When John Nafziger told me about the amount given, (\$2,890.74 + \$124 given to me in cash) I went to by some more! It took about 18 shopping trips! So that will make about 862 kits. Some people also donated supplies so I'm planning for 880 kits. It's a special number for us at MCC Resource Center. I am not asking for more money! Thank you so much for all your support and generosity! What a joy to be part of this congregation which cares for the world. With joy, Johanna S."

A Note from Pastor Lora: Beginning in mid-September, I will begin spending one day a week at Camp Friedenswald (10ish hours a week) in the capacity of "Program Advisor." I am delighted to partner with Friedenswald in this way, spend time in the peaceful woods, and offer theological insight and reflection to help evaluate, shape, and articulate the value of the programs at Camp.

(repeat) **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](mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org)

(repeat) **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).

(repeat) **Pastor Karl left town**, but his sabbatical really is over, and he will be back to stay after Mon Sept 6. He's attending a wedding in New York.

(repeat) **Assembly's antiracism accountability group** will meet next on Sept 12, on Zoom, at 8:30 pm.

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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

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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) **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/>.

(repeat) **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](#).

(repeat) **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](#).

(repeat) **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](#). Contact Pastor Anna if you want to interview someone or to be interviewed.

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 (9/5-9/11) to: Jeremiah Chico, Carmen Horst, Tara Landis, Lora Nafziger, Elroy Holsopple, Scott Hochstetler, Brooke Rothshank, Lois Kauffman, Jamie Lake, and Lenora Hirschler-Magatti. May God bless you. We are glad you are part of Assembly!

Happy Birthday last 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!

(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.

community connections

Anabaptist Witness: Call for submissions. With awareness of the urgent challenge to diversify theological education and recognize the interconnectedness of formation, discipleship and witness, *Anabaptist Witness* welcomes submissions for its April 2022 issue on "**Formation and Witness**" that critique current patterns of Anabaptist/Mennonite education and formation and offer constructive proposals. Submissions can be from various genres. The deadline is Nov. 1, 2021. View submission guidelines: anabaptistwitness.org

Seeking Peace with Creation. Join Mennonite Creation Care Network in shared practices, such as prayer for the UN Climate Talks in November, and learn about opportunities to connect with others around creation care in Sept & Oct. [Read more here](#).

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Unpacking Stories of Masculinity and Equity. Oct 26, Nov 6, & Nov 16, AMBS and Mennonite Men are co-sponsoring *Knowing Your Narrative* a three-part series of that seeks to unpack narratives around masculinity, faith, and equity. Participants will learn to coherently articulate their own personal narratives, identify the ways they've been shaped by masculine messaging, and reframe their own masculine identity so it is more inclusive and holistic. For more info and to register visit ambs.edu/narrative.

The Cost of Poverty - During September and October, Mennonite Church USA invites you to learn about poverty considering the pandemic, by engaging its new “Learn, Pray, Join” initiative – The Cost of Poverty. We will include a special focus on housing insecurity and mutual aid. <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/ministry/peacebuilding/learn-pray-join/cost-of-poverty/>

Relief Sale Musicians Wanted. Want to perform on the main stage at the 2021 Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale, Sat morning, Sept 25? Music groups and solo acts are welcome. Sets are 45 minutes in length and since the Relief Sale is a fundraiser, this is a volunteer gig. The Michiana Relief Sale is at the Elkhart County 4H Fairgrounds in Goshen. If interested, please contact Kent Dutchersmith, kdutchersmith@gmail.com or at (574) 536-4180.

Pray for Mennonite schools every day with [this September prayer calendar from Mennonite Education Agency](#).

Pray this week for Amanda and Tyler Yoder, and their two toddlers, who began a year-long SOOP assignment, through Mennonite Mission Network at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp in Colorado. Pray for them as they work alongside camp staff in hosting, maintenance and wherever else they are needed.

Share accurate information about COVID-19 with the monthly resources from the National COVID-19 Resiliency Network. [You can find out more here](#).

Interfaith Health & Wellness Seminar, a free webinar

offered by Anthem, Wed Sept 22 11 AM. Register at InterfaithSummit.com.

(repeat) **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/>.

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **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 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!](#)

(repeat) **“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

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Art of Talking About Faith” by Sara Wenger Shenk. Learn more here: www.commonread.org

(repeat) **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](#).

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **Continue to pray for the people of Afghanistan**, including vulnerable women and children, and the many partners with whom MCC works. Pray that hope would not be extinguished during this season of uncertainty and fear.

(repeat) **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](#).

job opportunities

Mennonite Central Committee has an opening for an [Organizational Development and Racial Equity Director](#).

Mennonite Church USA Executive Board has [staff openings](#) for a Marketing Communications & Engagement Associate, and for a Multimedia News Editor.

For other openings in Mennonite schools and colleges, [visit this page](#).

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