

AssemblyLine

December 6, 2015

Volume XXXV, Number 49

Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

1201 S 11th St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

574-534-4190 / office@assemblymennonite.org

Worship at 9:30am, Sunday school at 10:45am

WORSHIP

<p>December 6 Worship leader: <i>Barb Swartley</i> Sermon: <i>Dawn Yoder Harms</i> Welcoming & tear-down: <i>Rad & Grape</i> The Window & 2% Offerings Messiah Sing during 2nd hour Fellowship meal</p> <p>Scripture: <i>Malachai 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6</i> Sunday School: <i>Zachariah & Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25, 57-80)</i></p>	<p>December 13 Worship leader: <i>Jodi Beyeler</i> Sermon: <i>Lora Nafziger</i> Welcoming & tear-down: <i>Hug & One & Food Group</i></p> <p>Scripture: <i>Zaphania 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18</i> Sunday School: <i>Mary says yes (Luke 1:26-56)</i></p>
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CALENDAR

TODAY	Dec 6	Messiah Sing during 2 nd hour & fellowship meal
Sat	Dec 12	9-11am Advent retreat, worship space 5:30 & 7pm Family Advent spiral, worship space
Mon	Dec 21	7pm Longest Night service, worship space
Thurs	Dec 24	6pm Christmas Eve bread & soup supper
Sun	Dec 27	9:30am Finger food breakfast, followed by worship at 10:30, no Sunday school

ANNOUNCEMENTS

assembly life and people

Aylian Smuts (3rd Chandler) turned 9 on Dec. 1st! Aylian likes to make up stories and read the ABC mystery books. He helps out at home by reading to his sister and helping to bring in groceries. He loves cake, Lego and Star Wars. He likes to play outside on his scooter.

Rachel Schrock (4th Chandler) turned 10 on Dec. 5th! Rachel likes to play softball and do crafts. Her favorite foods are fondue and pesto. She really likes animals; and at school likes reading, social studies and math. She likes to play games and ski with her family.

Christmas Eve: Please sign up in the gathering space to come to the annual Christmas Eve supper at 6pm, including a short service. We are asking for a sign up to be sure we have enough tables and chairs ready. All should bring a bowl, cup and spoon. Those who are able can sign up to bring a pot of soup, basket of bread, or butter. Helpers are also needed to take down tables and clean up after the meal. You can indicate your willingness to help when you sign up to attend the service/meal.

Helpers needed to take down tables and clean up after the *Christmas Eve soup and bread meal*. You can indicate

your willingness to help when you sign up to attend the service/meal.

2016 Volunteer Schedules are in your mailbox! Schedules can also be found on the website by clicking [here](#).

As we enter this season of active Advent waiting, consider making space for reflection, prayer, and silence by participating in the Advent Prayer Retreat on Sat, Dec 12, 9-11am at the meetinghouse. The retreat time will begin with a time of centering and dwelling with scripture together, followed by time for individual reflection at prayer stations and an opportunity to walk the Advent Spiral.

Bobby Switzer (attends Assembly and Open Table) leads a community hymn sing at the Plymouth United Church of Christ (corner of Plymouth and Main Streets) at 6:30pm every Thurs. This Thurs evening we are hoping for a group large enough to go caroling. Please join us! See Bobby or Jep and Joyce Hostetler with questions.

Would you like to bring JOY to Syrian refugees? MCC is in great need of Relief Kits which consist of the following: 4 medium weight bath towels, 13-24oz shampoo, 4 adult toothbrushes, 4 bars of 4oz soap, 4 bars

of laundry bar soap, 40 band aids, 2 wide tooth combs, 1 nail clipper, 1 pack of 20 thin maxi sanitary pads. You can buy the items yourself or if you prefer, Johanna Sutter will be glad to be your shopper. About \$25 will fill a Relief Kit; you can write a check to Assembly Mennonite Church and put it in the offering (mark "Relief Kit" in the memo line). Any amount of money is appreciated.

All Advent and Christmas Books have been placed on the lowest shelves in your church library. They have red labels on their spines, and are available for check out.

Three books are missing from your AMC Library: The Great Emergence - how Christianity is changing and why; and The naked Anabaptist. Please return as soon as possible.

This weekend is fruit delivery time! You and the person who sold you the fruit together will plan a pick-up/delivery time. Thanks again for buying fruit!

(repeat) **Advent began on Nov 29.** Throughout this Advent journey our theme will be Freedom Bound. We will focus on the path away from fear toward the welcome of the Christ child. For more info about Advent at Assembly, be sure to see the document attached to this week's Assemblyline (paper copies are in your mailbox, on the lit table and can be found [here](#) on the website). Families, you will also find in your mailbox Advent candles and a family resource guide for this Advent season.

(repeat) **For many of us,** this season before Christmas is a season of ramped-up activity. Our Advent worship seeks to create an alternative space: space to slow down and rest; space to reflect on our longings; space to watch for their signs as we wait Christ to be born in our lives and in our world. To that end, we invite you to arrive promptly to worship, to gather in silence, to enjoy the darkness as we welcome the light.

(repeat) **Lunch Bunch** will meet on Wed Dec 2 at 11:30, at the Goshen College Music Center (room 153 just before the art gallery). All women of the congregation are invited to meet with Bev Lapp. Bev will share some of her favorite Christmas music and stories from her life. Please bring your own sack lunch. Cookies and drink will be provided.

(repeat) **Help Local immigrants** as they prepare their applications for asylum and other forms of protection. Please join us for a conversation on Dec 7, 7:30 pm at the meeting house, about forming an Elkhart country support group for immigrants and refugees receiving legal services from the National Immigration Justice Center (NIJC). Client needs include transportation, counseling, interpretation, monetary assistance, childcare, etc. Conversation will be with Lisa Koop, (NIJC Associate Director of Legal Services) and Mara Weaver (NIJC Goshen paralegal), Questions? Contact Susan Mark Landis, slandis@heartlandalliance.org

(repeat) **G's Bees** (Gordon Prieb) has a good supply 2015 raw honey for sale. Catch Gordon at church if you're interested.

(repeat) **As a thank you** to the congregation for providing funding in the church budget for MYF activities, Assembly youth provide service for the Assembly community. This can include babysitting, music lessons, moving, snow shoveling, cleaning, help with worship etc. See the new bulletin board in the coffee area highlighting our great Assembly high-schoolers and their service interests. Contact info is on the church [website](#). (login required) Please contact the youth directly.

(repeat) **Thanks! From Margarita Klassen de Melo & David Melo:** We greatly appreciate receiving AssemblyLine since we have left in Summer/Fall of 1996 to move to Germany. Hearing from you is like connecting with good, old friends. We have been part of Assembly for a long time (1988-1996). Both David and I graduated from Goshen College. And while there, Assembly was both our spiritual home and our family. David, originally from the Dominican Republic, and I, from Germany, enjoyed very much the international, welcoming flair of Assembly. Our oldest daughter, Jessica, was born in Goshen in 1994 and was married in Spring of this year. We have one more daughter, Sabrina (17) and one son, Sebastián (14). Click [here](#) for a picture of the family. Margarita's email: meloklassen@gmx.net

(repeat) **Family Advent spiral:** Advent spiral for families with children ages 3 and up will take place Sat, Dec 12 at 5:30 and 7pm. Please sign-up to attend by emailing Lora (loracn@assemblymennonite.org).

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(repeat) **This year's Messiah** sing will be taking place this Sun morning, Dec 6 during 2nd hour. It will be followed by a potluck meal. The rehearsal for the orchestra and soloists begin at 8am. All are welcome and encouraged to participate, as either singers or orchestra members. Copies of Messiah will be available, but please bring your own if you have one. Orchestra participants who would like a copy of the music in advance can get one from Bill Mateer (or it can be downloaded for free from the IMSLP website - pick the Mozart-Prout arrangement).

(repeat) **We extend heartfelt sympathies** to Rod Hanby and his family upon the death of his father, Richard Kent Hanby, Sr., 77, of San Angelo, Texas. He passed away at home on November 14, 2015, after a lengthy illness. You can send condolences to Rod and Anne at their new address: 19744 Peach Ln. Goshen, IN 46526.

(repeat) **Andrea Moya** is planning on leaving Goshen on Dec 10 to move back to Colombia. As a going away gift to the congregation she is sharing a music link (<https://soundcloud.com/andrea-moya-91166/sets/cafe-surtido-2015>) that includes 14 songs she and her friends recorded in early Oct. She says, "Thank you for being my church family over the past five years! Feel free to email me at andreamoya1191@gmail.com."

(repeat) **A huge thank you** to those who signed up for volunteer tasks for 2016!! We are only in need of 10 more volunteers for 1st hour child care. Email Naomi at office@assemblymennonite.org to sign up.

(repeat) **Six books are missing** from your AMC Library: Praying the Psalms; Learning to walk in the dark; The Great Emergence - how Christianity is changing and why; The Heart of Christianity; and The naked Anabaptist. Please return as soon as possible.

(repeat) **Due to recent problems** with her e-mail provider, Byrdalene Horst is changing her e-mail address to byrdalene.horst@gmail.com.

(repeat) **Lynette Bauman** is going through a difficult time in her cancer treatment right now. She struggles with pain and low energy. Remember Leon and Lynette in prayer.

community connections

The Window Needs: Food Pantry: Plastic Grocery Bags, Soap, Shampoo, Tooth Paste, Body Wash, Deodorant,

Diapers sizes 3,4 & 5, Canned & Bag Beans, Canned Tuna & Chicken, Pasta, Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Corn & Green Beans, Soups, Canned Fruit, Cereal Katie's Kitchen: Instant Mashed Potatoes, #10 cans or Frozen Fruit and Vegetables, Egg Noodles, Spaghetti, Stuffing Mix, Jiffy Cornbread Mix, Coffee, Coffee Creamer, Butter, Olive oil, Sugar, Instant Sugar-Free Pudding & Sugar-Free Jell-O, Paper Napkins. Clothes Closet: Sweatshirts, Sweatpants & Hoodies, Men's Jeans, Men's T-Shirts, Socks.

Shop Ten Thousand Villages in Goshen on Thur, Dec 10, and Ten Thousand Villages will donate 20% of sales to Bethany Christian Schools. Your loved ones will enjoy the creative handcrafted gifts you purchase and artisans will receive vital, fair income as you support Bethany. Store hours for this benefit are 3-7pm.

Bethany Christian High School will hold its annual Christmas concert at 7:30pm Fri, Dec 11, in Goshen College's Sauder Concert Hall. Come hear choral and instrumental groups as they celebrate the birth of Christ in music and join them on stage for their concluding song "The Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah.

New Perspectives on Faith meets Dec 13 at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall of College Mennonite Church, Goshen. This month's guest speaker will be Roger N. Beachy, Ph.D. speaking on the topic, "Striving for Nutrition Security For All: The Role of Science, Technologies and the Private Sector." Dr. Beachy is Professor of Biology at Washington Univ. in St. Louis, MO. He was appointed by President Obama to the National Science Board in June, 2014. All are welcome to attend and participate in the discussion following the presentation. Learn more: www.newperspectivesgoshen.org

Goshen College Afternoon Sabbatical Dec 15 1pm Music Center, Sauder Concert Hall. *The Norell Piano Duo Presents Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite* - Dr Luke Norell, Community School of the Arts, piano program director, and Dr. Mary Rose Norell, Community School of the Arts, activities director and piano faculty. Ring in the Christmas season with a performance of Tchaikovsky's festive Nutcracker Suite, played on two pianos by the Norell Piano Duo! This celebratory program will also feature seasonal works by Bach and Liszt. This event is free and open to

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the public. For information or questions call [574-535-7565](tel:574-535-7565) or email aftsabb@goshen.edu.

Bethany Christian Schools Alumni Night. Bethany alumni will receive free admission and be eligible for prizes at the boys and girls evening Holiday tourney games on Sat, Dec 19. Girl's game begins at 6pm and boys at 7:30. Note alumni night does not include the morning games of the Holiday Tourney.

Mennonite Disaster Relief urgent needs in Pilger, NE- volunteers with finishing construction skills needed for the week of Dec 6-12. Short-term weekly volunteers needed at all four MDS fall projects. To schedule, please contact Alicia by e-mail at ahurst@mds.mennonite.net or by phone at (800) 241-8111.

Administrative Assistant Position Available
College Mennonite Church is accepting applications for an administrative assistant to join our administrative team. This is a 0.8 – 1.0 FTE position to assist in carrying out the vision and mission of CMC by providing administrative support services in a variety of areas. Duties include answering the phone, greeting visitors, arranging meetings, assisting Christian Formation pastors with a wide variety of projects, etc. The job description is available online at www.collegemennonite.org. Resumes and a letter of interest can be sent to Marty Lehman, administrative pastor at Marty@collegemennonite.org. Interviews will begin December 14 and continue until the position is filled.

The Window, Inc. has a receiver position available in the afternoons, Mon-Fri, 20hrs/week, 4hrs/day. This position consists of picking up, weighing and stocking donations. The ideal candidate will possess some maintenance knowledge as well as the ability to lift 40-60lbs. If you or someone you know would like more information about this position, please contact Ed Swartley at [574.533.9680 ext. 209](tel:574.533.9680).

(repeat) **Bethany Christian Middle School** will hold an instrumental concert on Tues, Dec 8, with beginning instrument groups performing at 6:30pm and the middle school band and orchestra at 7:30. The concerts are in the school's chapel and open to the public with no charge.

(repeat) **Searching for Christ in Israel/Palestine:** An evening of reflection. Gwen Gustafson-Zook, College

Mennonite Church Pastor, recently returned from a two-week "Come and See" Learning Tour to Israel/Palestine sponsored by Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Central Committee. Gwen will share out of this experience of meeting with numerous Palestinians and Israelis currently embroiled in a decades long conflict in the land that is called the "Holy Land" but far too often feels anything but "Holy." The meeting will take place in the College Mennonite Church Koinonia Room at 7pm on Tues, Dec 8, and is open to the public.

(repeat) **A Christmas program for the community!** Sun, Dec. 13, 3-4 p.m. at College Mennonite Church. You are warmly invited to a Christmas worship service that will include carol singing, Scripture readings, a handbell choir and a new children's musical, *The Inn Crowd*. Written by pastors Lee and Susan Dengler, the musical tells the story of the over-crowded inn at Bethlehem and the folks who might have been staying there when Jesus was born. The cast includes children from seven congregations across the community. There is no cost to attend, and all are welcome! Refreshments will follow the service.

(repeat) **"Learning to Love Boko Haram: A Nigerian Peace Church Responds:"** On Tue, Dec 15 at 7pm the Institute for the Study of Global Anabaptism and College Mennonite Church will host a public lecture by Peggy Faw Gish in the College Mennonite Church-Chapel on the campus of Goshen College (handicap parking available). Gish, born in northern Nigeria to American missionaries, has been active in peace and justice work all of her adult life. In the spring and summer of 2015, she worked closely with members of the Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN), the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, who have suffered great violence and upheaval at the hands of Boko Haram, a radicalized group in northeastern Nigeria. Gish will share stories and insights based on her work among the EYN and their search for nonviolent responses in a context of intense persecution. For more information contact John D. Roth (johndr@goshen.edu).

(repeat) **Beginning Nov 23** (the Mon prior to the first Sun in Advent) and culminating on Christmas Day, Goshen College students, faculty and staff will provide weekday reflections based on the upcoming lectionary Scripture passages, available online at

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www.goshen.edu/devotions, by [daily email](#) or via an RSS feed. Many writers will reflect on the Advent theme: “Freedom Bound,” taken from *Leader* magazine.

(repeat) **Mennonite Mission Network** has an immediate opening for a full time budget and finance manager in the Elkhart, IN office. Responsibilities include overseeing budget development and monitoring budget performance as well as managing internal financial reporting. The complete job description can be seen at www.MennoniteMission.net. Interested applicants may send a cover letter and resume to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net.

(repeat) **Do you have gifts** in accounting and book-keeping? 8th Street Mennonite Church is looking for a part-time administrative assistance for finance. Contact Brenda Sawatzky-Paetkau for a job description at bpaetkau@8thStmennonite.org

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