

AssemblyLine

March 12, 2017

Volume XXXVII, Number 11

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

March 12

Worship leader: *Lydia Dyck*

Sermon: *Danny Aramouni*

Welcoming & tear-down: *Maple & Here and There*

Scripture: *Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17*

Sunday School: *Jesus refuses to cast stones (John 7:53-8:11)*

March 19

Worship leader: *Barb Swartley*

Sermon: *Lora Nafziger*

Welcoming & tear-down: *Cardinal & Three & One*

Scripture: *Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42*

Sunday School: *Jesus raises Lazarus (John 11:1-44)*

CALENDAR

TODAY	Mar 12	7pm Congregational meeting
	Mar 12	5:30pm "The Edge of the Inside" Group meeting at Mark Landis home (820 Steury Rd)
Sunday	Mar 19	Noon brown bag lunch and book discussion for adults, youth and children

ANNOUNCEMENTS

assembly life and people

Adam Siemens-Rhodes (5th, Bethany) turns 11 today! He likes to read (currently "An Acceptable Time" by Madeleine L'Engle) and play on his new circle swing when he isn't practicing percussion or piano. He's looking forward to a Harry Potter-themed birthday party, spring break trip to Washington DC, and a summer trip to the Atlantic Ocean.

The Lenten visual hung at the front of the Worship Space was created by Kathy Glick Miller.

Copies of a proposal to end our 40+ year affiliation with Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference are available on the literature table. Your feedback is welcome TONIGHT at the 7pm congregational meeting. We will also be making a decision on our surplus, hearing updates on the capital campaign and transition pastor. Childcare provided.

Gospel of Mary Magdalene. The new group forming to explore "the Edge of the Inside" of Christianity will meet Today, March 12, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Dennis and Susan Mark Landis's place (820 Steury Rd, Goshen). This week, we will begin our study of Mary Magdalene by focusing on the four gospels of the New Testament and orthodox Christianity. In the weeks following, we will explore how She is revealed through the Gospel of Mary Magdalene, one of several early Christian gospels left out of the New Testament. (The group meets every second and

fourth Sunday of the month from 5:30-6:30pm) If you have questions, contact Kristy Shellenberger Yordy.

In Memory of Her: Liberating Mary through Story In celebration and in memory of Mary of Nazareth of our Christian tradition, Judith Davis, Professor Emerita at Goshen College, will recreate the experience of a medieval pilgrim who journeyed to the cathedrals of Notre Dame in Paris and in Chartres, returning with stories that she heard of Mary's miracles of grace and tenderness for her children on earth. These stories are based on very early church traditions, some of which will be highlighted before and after the presentation. All are welcome to this celebration of Mary's presence in a broken world, *especially school-aged children*. It will be held **Tuesday, March 21, 7 p.m., at Assembly**. Contact Kristy Shellenberger Yordy with questions.

Tom Kauffman's first official day as our Bridge pastor will be Sun, Apr 16. He and spouse Amy are moving to Goshen. Tom is relocating from Albuquerque, NM, sometime prior to the 15th following the conclusion of his work with Albuquerque Mennonite Church (the "other" AMC) and Amy from Toledo, OH, in May, once she retires from her nurse practitioner practice where she specializes in women's health. The first phase of Tom's work will be meeting with as many of us as is humanly possible. Holding these household interviews will allow him to get to know us and gather the information he needs for both

systems review and pastoral care. Naomi Roots will schedule these conversations ahead of his arrival. The questions Leadership Group and Tom have generated for these interviews are: What keeps you at AMC? If you were to tell me how AMC works, how would you describe it (thinking especially about communication flow and decision-making)? If you were to suggest one change that you would like to see in the life of AMC, what would that be? And finally, what metaphor or image best describes AMC for you? These conversations can happen in a range of settings—from a coffee shop, to the meetinghouse, or in your home. Please join the Leadership Group and Pastoral Team in welcoming Tom and Amy.

If you would like to schedule your conversation with Tom, contact Naomi at office@assemblymennonite.org or 534-4190. Provide your availability and preference of day/time. Conversations will happen Tue-Fri morning, afternoon, or evening starting Tue, Apr 18.

Local beef available from Erich Miller. Taking over my parent's small farm meant also taking over their production of beef for friends and family. This year we have some extra so I am selling shares (quarters) of beef. This is a less expensive way to purchase small-scale farmed meat, if you have the freezer space. Front quarters run between 150 and 250 lbs and the common cuts are rib eye steaks, chuck and arm roasts and short-ribs for a price of \$2.85 a pound. The hind quarters run between 220 and 260 lbs each and include Swiss, round, t-bone and sirloin steaks, rump and sirloin tip roasts at a price of \$3.05 per pound. Both will include quite a bit of hamburger and stew meat. These are Holstein males cast off from the local dairy industry, pastured when they are young and finished on corn for the last couple of months. This produces quite lean but tasty beef. If you are interested or have any questions please contact me at kerichmiller@gmail.com or [238-0188](tel:238-0188) by no later than Mar 20.

(repeat) **The theme for our Lenten worship** this year is *Restore us, Oh God*, a response to the world filled with many voices that call us away from God (violence and fear, consumerism and materialism to name a few). As we engage these stories and texts, we are invited to place ourselves in the moment and think about that which draws

us close to God and gives us strength. More info can be found attached at the top of this email or on the lit table.

(repeat) **Practicing Lent**, a guide for individuals and families, is available on the lit table with a simple activities and devotion for each week of lent.

(repeat) **Bertha Beachy** new telephone number: 537-4944

(repeat) **We need cash counters!** As part of good practices, we no longer have the treasurer handling the cash offering on Sun morning. Instead, we have two volunteers count the cash together. We are in need of more volunteers to help out with this 10min task on Sunday mornings. If you're able to help, email office@assemblymennonite.org.

(repeat) **Overheard in the church office this week:**

Naomi: "Lora, can I toss those two dying ferns in the worship space?" (insert silent pause) Lora: "Maybe let's put something in the A-line about it." Naomi: "Sure." So here it is, folks. Under Naomi's very brown thumb, these poor ferns have been on a slow march towards death. If you're able, please consider helping these plants!

(repeat) **Mark your calendars** for Bible School this summer at College Mennonite Church June 5-9.

(repeat) **Mary Gilbert has been keeping MCC in stitches** ever since retirement, piecing comforter tops for refugees. The tops are taken to the Depot, where they are knotted and bound. After hearing of a woman whose friends helped her make 60 MCC comforters for her 60th birthday, Mary has jokingly set a goal of 70 tops for when she reaches 70.

With 12 months and 50 tops to go, she can use some help. If you would like to help her sew pieced tops and let people know that their needs are not forgotten, let Mary know. She can provide fabric from the Depot, pattern ideas and /or kits of cut-out blocks with directions for those who simply want straight sewing. See background information [here](#)

(repeat) **Thank you, Assembly Mennonite Church**, for giving \$28,909.47 to Mennonite Mission Network in 2016! Your donations, prayers, participation, and enthusiasm for mission play a vital role in our global church. Thank you for doing your part.

(repeat) **Mennonite Church USA's Executive Board** wishes to express our sincere appreciation for AMC's financial support. Our records show that you are among the top 10% of the congregations who have most generously

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for our work in the last three years. May God bless you abundantly. –Ervin Stutzman, Executive Director

(repeat) **We at Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)**, along with our partners in over 50 countries around the world, are blessed by your continuing support for the work of MCC. We want to thank our friends at Assembly Mennonite for the many ways you contribute to the work of MCC. In addition to the energy and time you give at relief sales, thrift shops, meat canning and material resources, your congregation contributed \$23,942.90 in 2016. We are especially grateful for your prayer support for MCC's work of relief, development and peace in the name of Christ. Whether in Syria, Haiti, Vietnam, Nigeria, Colombia or Appalachia, your support shares God's love and compassion with vulnerable people. Thank you! Les Gustafson-Zook, MCC Great Lakes

community connections

Goshen Monologues invites you to come to their 4th annual event presenting stories written and performed by female and non-binary Goshen College students and faculty. The stories cover a wide range of topics from mental health and abuse to empowerment and Goshen community appreciation. The event will take place on Sat, Mar 11 at 7pm. Because of sensitive topics covered, it is recommended for ages 18 and up. For more info, contact Hannah Friesen at hannahlf@goshen.edu.

Stations of the Cross...Pathways Retreat has a set of 14 watercolor Stations of the Cross by Ettore "Ted" DeGrazia on display in their retreat house during Lent, Mar 1-Apr 15. This is a wonderful opportunity for groups of all ages. For more info, visit pathwaysretreat.org or call [574-202-2864](tel:574-202-2864).

Prayers for Healing...Mon, Mar 13 at 7pm is Pathways Retreat's monthly prayer service for healing with the liturgy from Iona Abbey, Scotland. More info at pathwaysretreat.org or [574-333-1822](tel:574-333-1822).

LaCasa's Annual Meeting Luncheon is next Wed, Mar 15, at the Lerner Theater Crystal Ballroom in Elkhart from 12-1pm. The event features great food and looks at the accomplishments of the past year. It features stories of three people whose lives have been impacted by LaCasa's services. We want to invite as many of you as possible to join us for this inspirational gathering. You have helped to

create some great changes and the Annual Meeting is a great chance to hear about these first hand. To register [click here](#), or email chris.kingsley@lacasainc.net. We hope you can join us!

AMBS webinar: Migration and Pentecost: Thur, Mar 16, 2-3:30pm EDT. Join us in an interactive webinar to discuss these major challenges facing the contemporary church. Facilitator Greg Boyd, a scholar, author, pastor and leading Neo-Anabaptist, will engage Safwat Marzouk, Ph.D., AMBS associate professor of Old Testament, and Jamie Pitts, Ph.D., AMBS assistant professor of Anabaptist studies, on this topic. This webinar is offered by Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Church Leadership Center and is the first of a series of three webinars that Boyd will lead. Cost: \$20 by noon on March 15; \$30 after. Your first AMBS webinar is free of charge! ambs.edu/webinars

What should Anabaptist-Mennonite Christians think about immigration and how should we engage the immigrants who are our neighbors? Daniel Carroll Rodas will help us unite around the biblical framework of "welcoming the stranger," in a public event at Eighth Street Mennonite Church, on Sunday, March 19, at 6:30 pm. Danny Carroll is author of *Christians at the Border* and is an Old Testament professor at Wheaton College. His approach can help the whole church see how and why we must respond in compassion to the immigrants in our communities.

Rev. Alex Awad, Palestinian Christian pastor and co-worker with Mennonites, will speak on Sun evening, Mar 19 at 6pm at College Mennonite Church on "*A Palestinian Christian Perspective on the Arab-Israeli Conflict*". All persons concerned about peace in the Middle East are invited to hear this pastor and teacher speak out of his own personal experience.

Goshen Seniors for Peace next meeting on Mon, Mar 20 at 1pm in the Jennings Auditorium. at Greencroft Senior Center. Guest speaker is Dr. Alex Awad, Dean at Bethlehem Bible College and author of "Palestinian Memories", *The Story of a Palestinian Mother and her People through the Eyes of the Victims*.

Join the Project Promise Players as they present their annual Easter play at Clinton Frame Church on Sat, Mar

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25, at 3 and 6pm. During this live drama, the actors will interpret the events of Easter. Admission is free; a goodwill offering will be taken. The church is located at 63846 County Road 35, Goshen, IN 46528. Project Promise is a program of MDC Goldenrod that provides spiritual and social support for persons with disabilities.

Goshen College and College Mennonite Church are hosting a Minority Ministries Council Conference, titled “Black, Brown, and Mennonite: Lessons from the Chicano, Puerto Rican, and Black Freedom Movements for the Mennonite Church” on Mar 30 – Apr 1, at Greencroft Goshen Community Center. All are invited as we honor the essential work of Black and Brown leaders who, during the civil rights era, marched, struggled, imagined, and believed that another church—an anti-racist church—was indeed possible. Learn more at goshen.edu/mmc.

Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Network has about \$1200 left in NAP Credits that we need to sell still by the end of March. Their current newsletter is attached at the top of this email in tiny writing.

This summer’s Mennonite Church USA Convention will feature a new way to involve high school youth and young adult representatives in the delegate sessions. Called “Step Up,” the goal is to prepare young people who have an interest in being involved with the broader church for future involvement as denominational delegates and leaders. The program will include interactive seminar sessions and attendance at and participation in delegate sessions. Conferences and constituency groups have been invited to nominate youth who are rising high school sophomores or older. For questions, contact Brook Musselman at brookm@atlanticcoastconference.net.

Morning Prayers at Pathways Retreat...All are welcome to prayers at Pathways: Tue Welcoming Prayer, 7:30-8; Thur Centering Prayer, 7:30-8; Fri Lectio Divina, 8-8:30. More info at pathwaysretreat.org or [574-202-2864](tel:574-202-2864).

There are still 15 slots available for LaCasa's DreamSavers program that gives people an additional \$4,000 to buy their first home. Participants save \$1,600 of their own earned income and the program matches it 250% (\$4,000). If you are interested in buying your first home [click here](#) to find out more and take the next step. If

you have loved ones who could use the program, [click here](#) and share the article with them.

Pathways Retreat’s March edition of their monthly newsletter, Rhythms is available [here](#).

Mennonite Central Committee is seeking a Young Adult Coordinator: This position, located in Goshen, Ind., coordinates and recruits for MCC Great Lakes young adult programs, including the International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP), Summer Service Worker (SSW) program and the Serving and Learning Together (SALT) program. This position connects with Great Lakes' young adult alumni, especially using social media, and creates opportunities for young adults from the Great Lakes region to develop leadership skills. For a full job description, visit mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings. Individuals interested in this position should send a cover letter and current resume when they apply online. For more information or questions, contact Amber Falcón at [574-534-4133](tel:574-534-4133) or AmberFalcon@mcc.org.

(repeat) **Looking for a daily Lenten devotional** in your inbox? Goshen College's daily Lenten devotions, written by students, faculty and staff, are based on the theme "Restore us, O God!" Read and subscribe to the devotions at goshen.edu/devotions.

(repeat) **The Mennonite Youth Choir Festival concert** will take place on Sun, Mar 12, at 2pm in the Goshen College Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall. Come hear children grades 3-9 from IN, OH, IL and MI will come together for a concert that is free and open to the public.

(repeat) **The Hermitage Community welcomes** all to participate in Taizé Evensong. We hold these contemplative services of song, prayer, scripture, and silence in the Chapel of the Transfiguration on the second Sun of each month (except for Aug) at 7pm. Upcoming services are Mar 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, and July 9. Feel free to contact us with any questions.

(repeat) **Goshen College Hymn Sing marathon:** Sun, Mar 12- Thur, Mar 16, 6-11pm in Newcomer Center room 19. Our finale night will be Fri, Mar 17 in the Music Center choir room starting at 9 pm and going until we finish. If anyone wants to donate, please make checks out to CPT with "hymn marathon" in the memo line; they can be sent

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to CPT, PO Box 6508; Chicago IL 60680-6508. Or you can give cash or checks at the event.

(repeat) **Goshen College Afternoon Sabbatical** Tue, Mar 14 at 1pm in Sauder Concert Hall, Music Center.

“Nurturing Our Entrepreneurship Ecosystem,” by Michelle Horning, GC professor of accounting. The success of an entrepreneurship ecosystem depends on the robust and active interactions of individuals, organizations and the culture that surrounds them. Learn how the college’s entrepreneurship program provides a launching point for individual entrepreneurs who have been instrumental in helping to develop the local and regional entrepreneurship community. This community program is free. If you have questions call [574-535-7565](tel:574-535-7565) or email aftsabb@goshen.edu.

(repeat) **On Wed, Mar 15, all are invited** to a concert titled "Reflections: The Music of J. Harold Moyer" featuring the Sunflower Trio, at 7:30pm in Goshen College Music Center’s Rieth Recital Hall. Formed in 2002, the Sunflower Trio is dedicated to the performance of music featuring voice, violin and piano/organ, in a variety of styles, from Baroque to contemporary, folk and Broadway. The Sunflower Trio will present a concert of music by Mennonite composer J. Harold Moyer. Tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 seniors/students. GC faculty/staff/students free.

(repeat) **Don’t miss The Window’s Haystack Supper** benefit meal at Waterford Mennonite Church on Thur, Mar 16, 4:30-7pm. Pre-sale tickets available at The Window (\$8), \$9 at the door. Call 533-9680 for more info.

(repeat) **Bluffton University’s Camerata Singers** will perform at two area churches during the group’s tour in March: Benton Mennonite Church at 15350 Co Rd 44, on Thur, Mar 16 at 7pm, and Eighth Street Mennonite Church in Goshen at 7pm on Fri, Mar 17. Both performances are free and open to the public. "Hymns and Songs of the Church” is the theme of the program, conducted by Dr. Mark Suderman, professor of music and director of choral activities at Bluffton. The program will feature sacred choral music from the Renaissance period to the present, including music from a variety of styles and genres: gospel music, choruses from major works, spirituals, hymn arrangements and more.

(repeat) **Goshen College International Coffeehouse** is coming on Sat, March 18. This student-run event features a

dinner at 5:15pm in the College Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall and a family-friendly international variety show at 7:30pm in Goshen College Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall. Tickets for this fund-raiser are available from the Welcome Center (535-7566) or online (goshen.edu/tickets). Adults: \$20 (dinner & show), \$12 show only; students & children: \$12 (dinner & show), \$5 show only. This entertaining event promotes international friendship and also will be raising money for MCC Refugee Relief. Thank you for your support!

(repeat) **Please join Michiana MEDA** for our annual spring Business Tour, this year featuring Miller Poultry Pine Manor Hatchery. Sat, Mar 18, at 8:30am. Maple Indian Cuisine -- 127 S Main Street, Goshen (first stop) Pine Manor Hatchery -- 2704 S Main Street, Goshen (second stop). Please RSVP by Fri, Mar 10, to info@michianameda.org or [574-355-3607](tel:574-355-3607).

(repeat) **Visit Bethany March 20:** Students in grades 5-10 interested in exploring Bethany can shadow a Bethany student on Mon, Mar 20, 8:40am-3:30pm. Parents are invited to an 8:45-9:15am coffee and conversation followed by an optional tour at 9:15am. This is a great way for prospective students and families to discover Bethany! Contact us to explore visit options for younger children as well. For more info, to register, or to schedule a visit on another date see bethanycs.net.

(repeat) **23rd Annual Business Meeting** for The Depot. Thur, Mar 23. Catered meal begins at 6pm at Yellow Creek Mennonite Church. Dinner Reservations deadline Mar 17, 4pm. Call [312-4156](tel:312-4156) or email thedepot1013@gmail.com

(repeat) **Goshen College is hosting its annual** Conference on Religion and Science March 24-26, with special guest Niels Henrik Gregersen, a professor of systematic theology at the University of Copenhagen. The theme is "Deep Incarnation: From Cosmos to Commitment," and will include public lectures on Mar 24 at 7:30pm and Mar 25 at 10:30am, both in the Goshen College Church-Chapel. For more info or to register to attend the conference, visit goshen.edu/religionscience.

(repeat) **What does it mean to be an Anabaptist** peacebuilder in the midst of global conflicts, climate change, poverty, crime and divisions made by walls and borders? Young adults address these issues and this

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question when they attend the Global Anabaptist Peacebuilders Institute, which is sponsored by West Coast Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). In 2017, GAP Institute will be held from May 25 to June 2 for youth age 19 - 26. To learn more, visit mcc.org/gap-institute. The aim of GAP is to help youth grapple with these issues through practical activities and encounters during the institute and to motivate them to continue in peacebuilding after they finish.

(repeat) **Goshen College will be offering** summer camps for a variety of ages, interests and budgets, including sports, musical theater, writing and art. Learn more at goshen.edu/summercamps.

(repeat) **Are you excited about developing a vibrant,** local food system in Northern Indiana? Support the Elkhart County Food Council! The council hopes to add a part-time administrator to assist with coordination, communication, research, marketing and connecting with stakeholders. To make a tax deductible donation to assist with this staffing need, make checks payable to Elkhart County Food Council and send to 1400 Hudson Street Elkhart IN 46516. Contact Phyllis Miller at phyllismillern@gmail.com with questions.

(repeat) **The Mennonite Church USA** Archives is seeking volunteers between now and mid-March to assist with packing and moving collections from Goshen to Elkhart. Tasks include packing office supplies; flagging furniture to be moved; staging collections (labeling, stretch-wrapping boxes, etc...); helping to manage the process of loading and unloading boxes in Goshen and Elkhart; and placing boxes on shelves in Elkhart. If you are able to help, please contact Jason Kauffman at JasonK@MennoniteUSA.org or [574-523-3059](tel:574-523-3059).

(repeat) **Join Michiana MEDA** for a spring business tour of Miller Poultry Pine Manor Hatchery on Saturday, March 18, at 8:30am. Our morning will start with a buffet breakfast at Maple Indian Cuisine (127 S Main Street, Goshen), and then we'll head to Pine Manor Hatchery (2704 S Main Street, Goshen) for a tour and presentation about this portion of the Miller Poultry business. Please RSVP by Friday, March 10, to info@michianameda.org or [574-355-3607](tel:574-355-3607). Cost is \$5 for students, \$15 for Michiana MEDA members, and \$20 for others, payable at the door.

(repeat) **Save the date for a Comforter Bash! Tops** needed! Make plans to join us on Oct 20 and 21 for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes Comforter Bash in Goshen. People of all ages are invited to knot comforters at Pleasant View Mennonite Church (58529 County Road 23). We also need precision sewers to piece and sew comforter tops for the event. Size: 60"x80"; made of cotton fabric. Free fabric is available from Nadine Zook Miller, Material Resources Coordinator at The Depot. Contact her at nzm@mcc.org or [534-4071](tel:534-4071). For more info about the event contact Carol Honderich at [536-9062](tel:536-9062). A comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten.

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