

## WORSHIP

Join us for Worship on Sundays at 9:30am (in person or [online via Zoom](#))  
followed by Sunday school

Oct 17	Oct 24
<b>Worship Leader:</b> Barb Hassan	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Anna Yoder Schlabach
<b>Homily:</b> Karl Shelly	<b>Homily:</b> Jon Zirkle
<b>Scripture:</b> Luke 18:1-8	<b>Scripture:</b> Luke 10:25-37

## BIRTHDAYS



**Lyle turned 3 last week!** He's enjoying living at Camp Friedenswald and sitting on tractors, riding in golf carts, and going on boat rides. He continues to be enthralled with all things vehicle related. He enjoys singing, playing games, and helping with various household tasks. He has a shy, kind-hearted, mischievous spirit, and strong opinions.

## THIS SUNDAY



**College students and young adults** are invited to come at 8:30am Sunday for breakfast hosted by Scott Coulter in the west parking lot.

**Join us for worship this Sunday Oct 17 at 9:30 am in the north parking lot as we hear the Parable of Persistent Widow and the Unjust Judge.** (You are encouraged to bring your own chair, coffee mug, and warm clothing--the forecast Sunday morning is 50 degrees and sunny). How might the parables of Jesus help us to see the world in a different way, to be challenged and perhaps even indicted? What might they reveal to us about the Reign of God? And how can we playfully hear these stories anew? [Read the introduction to the fall bible study series here.](#)

**Following worship**, children and youth will have Sunday school outdoors. During the 30-minute Sunday school time, adults are invited to join a response group hosted by Karl Shelly focusing on this week's parable (the Widow and the Unjust Judge) & the worship service, or a reading group hosted by Jon Zirkle focusing on next week's parable (the Good Samaritan), or adults can enjoy informal fellowship time in the north parking lot over coffee. After Sunday school, parents please pick up your children and bring them to Pastor Anna in the north parking lot for hot chocolate. [Click here for more details, including locations for children's Sunday school classes.](#)

**Surprise Luncheons** are this Sunday! If you signed up to participate, you should have received an email from Anna Yoder Schlabach this week with instructions on where to go for lunch, and who you are meeting.

**No Congregational Meeting Tonight.** The congregational meeting planned for this Sunday has been canceled. The next scheduled congregational meeting will be Nov 21 at 7pm on Zoom. [For a summary of what was heard at the Sept meeting, click here.](#)

## COMING UP

<https://assemblymennonite.org/about/calendar/>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 17 • 9:30am Worship • 11:45 Surprise Luncheons • <b>NO CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b>			Oct 20 • 12pm Psalm Reading & Prayer <a href="#">on Zoom</a>		Oct 22 • 12pm Psalm Reading & Prayer <a href="#">on Zoom</a>	
Oct 24 • 9:30am Worship • 1-3pm JYF Gathering	Oct 25 • 6:30pm Dance Group	Oct 26 • 7:15pm Small Group reps <a href="#">on Zoom</a>				Oct 30 • 11am Remembrance Gathering • 1pm Service Remembering Carolyn Schrock-Shenk
Oct 31 • Pledges Due • 6:30pm MYF Fall Party		Nov 2 • 7pm Leadership Group	Nov 3 • 1:30pm Lunch Bunch	Nov 4 • 10:30am Goshen Pastor Peer Group	Nov 5 • 9:30am Greencroft meetup	

## PASTORS TRAVELING

**Anna Yoder Schlabach** is on vacation Oct 18-21, and **Lora Nafziger** is on vacation Oct 18-24. If you need a pastor this week, please contact Karl Shelly or Scott Coulter.

## COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

**All are invited to join the Assembly lantern festival at 6:30pm. Oct 16.** This is an inter-generational song and light festival that will take place at the Greencroft Pavilion so we can sing to our long-living members. Please RSVP to [loracn@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:loracn@assemblymennonite.org) if your family or small group is interested in attending.

**Please complete your offering pledge form by Oct 31.** The Finance Committee will use pledges received to draft a Spending Plan for 2022. They need this information by Oct 31 in order to prepare for their budget planning meeting. In the past, you would receive this pledge form in your physical mailbox at the meetinghouse, but this year we encourage you to [complete and return the form electronically](#) (email your completed form to [treasurer@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:treasurer@assemblymennonite.org)). If you prefer a paper form, there will be some paper copies available on Sunday mornings when we meet in person, or you can get one from the church office.

**Fall Sunday School.** Lora sent [this email to parents about fall Sunday school this week](#). If you would like to be subscribed to the parent listserv, please contact the church office.

**Remembrance Gatherings:** Join others who have experienced loss Sat, Oct 30 at 11am in the Memorial Garden. The purpose of this gathering is to create a holy place to tell stories about our loved ones with others who have been touched by loss. Each person will have five minutes to share with the group about someone who has died followed by five minutes to answer questions about that person. Bring a picture of your loved one or something that reminds you of them. We will light a candle for each person remembered. Please RSVP to [annays@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:annays@assemblymennonite.org). If we have more than six people interested we will form multiple groups, each hosted by a pastor.

**Remembering and Releasing Service:** Join us on Saturday, October 30 at 1p.m. for a simple service of remembering Carolyn Schrock-Shenk and scattering her ashes in the memorial garden. All are welcome.

**The 2 Percent Committee** met on Oct 11. We propose the following distributions:

*Local* - \$500 each to ADEC, Center for Healing and Hope, Center for Community Justice VORP, Church Community Service Seed to feed, Elkhart County Clubhouse, Goshen Farmer's Market - Share the Bounty, Goshen Interfaith Hosp. Network, Goshen Ministerial Association, Jail Ministry of Elkhart Co., LaCasa General Fund, Mosaic Health and Healing Arts, Ryan's Place, Walnut Hill Childcare Center, Maple City Health Care- Dentist. And \$1000 to The Window.

*World* - \$500 each to Association for a More Just Society - Honduras, Christian Peacemaker Teams, Jubilee Partners, Mennonite Central Committee, Mennonite Disaster Service, SEMILLA- Guatemala, \$2000 to UNICEF for their work toward Vaccine equity. A further \$2000 is proposed to be sent to help Afghans in Afghanistan, to be sent to a yet-to-be-determined organization. You will be informed when this recipient is selected. And \$1000 to The National Immigrant Justice Center. Please speak with a member of the committee with any feedback. -Sarah Horst (chair), Kathleen Jones, Sandy Fribley, Glenn Gilbert, Joel Zwier, Barb Swartley (finance link).

**Retreat Pledges:** It was great to see everyone at Retreat last weekend! If you haven't already done so, please put your pledged money in the church offering (memo: Retreat). Use whatever method you normally use to pay your offering, whether that is physical checks, online pay, or even PayPal. – Church Retreat Committee



(repeat) **Fall Work Days are upon us!** Your small group rep should have received an assignment for your group this week to be completed any time between October 11- November 6. Please let Naomi know ([roots.naomi@gmail.com](mailto:roots.naomi@gmail.com)) if your small group did not receive an assignment, or if you are not part of a small group but would like to help. Many hands make light work!

(repeat) **Conversations about Hospitality.** How can we nurture a culture in which visitors on Sunday morning feel welcomed? In a congregation of over 200 people, how do we help everyone feel known and seen, and not like they are overlooked/slipping through the cracks? How can we help Assembly participants who feel newer or on the margins to more easily navigate their way into belonging? How do we make Assembly's community less like a maze (with confusing turns and many dead-ends) and more like a labyrinth (where anyone can find their way to the center)?

If these are questions you are passionate about, you are invited to participate in a series of conversations about hospitality. Some of these conversations will be on Zoom, others will be in person. The schedule is to be determined. Please contact [Scott Coulter](#) to indicate your interest.

**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.

## MYF (Youth Events & Announcements)

- 10/17, 10/24, 10/31 – MYF Breakout, Join us immediately following the worship service. Please bring a chair. If worship is moved to Zoom due to inclement weather, we will still have our breakout indoors from 11-11:30am. Masks are optional for vaccinated individuals when we meet outdoors, and required for everyone when indoors.
- 10/31 MYF Halloween/Fall Party Sun 6:30-8pm. Come celebrate all things "Fall" with us at the MYF Halloween Party! More details to follow.

## BETHANY CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

(repeat) **The Bethany Senior Fish Fry is this month**, Oct 29 from 4:30-8pm and is in the form of a drive-thru carry out only. Tickets are \$11, available online by searching "Bethany Christian Fish Fry" or by using the link below. We are working hard this year to make everything go well and would love it if you came by! This year we also are bringing back pie! When purchasing tickets online, there is a place on the order form to select which students get the credit for the ticket sales. Thank you for supporting our two Assembly Mennonite seniors, Mackenzie Mast and Jordana Farran. More information and tickets are available online in the link below:

[https://www.bethanycs.net/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=1716530&type=d&pREC\\_ID=1881990](https://www.bethanycs.net/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1716530&type=d&pREC_ID=1881990)

## DOING JUSTICE

**The Cost of Poverty: Learn, Pray, Join.** Mennonite Church USA's Sept-Oct initiative, [Learn, Pray, Join: Cost of Poverty](#) offers stories, blogs, prayers and resources to encourage you to [learn](#) about the impact of poverty, to [pray](#) for economic justice and to [join](#) in mutual aid and advocacy work. [Learn](#) from [Leonard Dow's blog about "What intentional efforts can we do now to eradicate the poverty created by the systems that intentionally kept diverse communities in poverty?"](#) [Join](#): For example, you can give to [the MCUSA Justice Fund](#), or join [the Poor People's Campaign](#).

**From MCC Great Lakes:** Dear friends at Assembly: As we enter the fall of a second COVID year, we at Mennonite Central Committee are so grateful for your ongoing generous support of our work in 47 countries with 385 partners and over 500 projects. Your recent donations have allowed MCC to support our partners in projects like assisting victims of the recent earthquake in Haiti and hurricanes in Honduras, helping school children in Nicaragua and Ethiopia, improving health through providing clean water in Kenya and Chad, building peace between prison inmates and guards in Zambia and providing safe and warm homes in Appalachia. Your support allows our partners to offer the hope and healing of God's love in culturally effective ways in their communities. Thank you for your partnership in MCC's ministry of relief, development and peace in the name of Christ. – Les Gustafson-Zook, MCC Great Lakes

## EVERENCE

(repeat) **Are you 65 or older, and receiving Medicare?** If so, Open Enrollment began on Oct 15. This is your chance to review your current plan and explore changes. Dec 7 is the end date for any changes. Why not contact an Everence Medicare Specialist to review your options? Call Everence at: 574-533-9511

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**Children as Peacebuilders: Equipping Resilient Leaders – Bullying Prevention** 12 PM Eastern Sat Oct 23. Join "On Earth Peace" for the launch of this webinar series inviting parents and educators from all around the US to address common, and sensitive topics that their kids are exposed to now more than ever surrounding justice and inclusion. This month's seminar addresses equipping caregivers and educators with tools, such as storytelling using OEP's [Read Aloud Program](#), to talk to children and the community about bullying prevention. The series plans to address other related topics such as social justice, military recruiting, and more! The series invites parents and caregivers to talk about ways in which topics such as racial justice, LGBTQ+ justice, migrant justice, and many other important topics can be addressed! OEP will host speakers and psychologists that specialize in children development to discuss the safest and most efficient methods of how we can raise healthy children that are compassionate, caring, and inclusive of others. [To RSVP click here](#).

(repeat) **MC USA and MennoMedia | CommonRead Conversation with Sara Wenger Shenk | Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. ET** Many Christians easily talk about movies, sports, politics, jobs and emotions. So why are we tongue-tied when it comes to talking about our faith? Join us for a conversation with the author of "Tongue-Tied." [Register here](#).

(repeat) **Spiritual Audacity: The Abraham Joshua Heschel Story** is being presented in a FREE virtual screening Mon Oct 25 at 7pm. The screening will be followed by a virtual conversation with filmmaker Martin Doblmeier and Susannah Heschel, Rabbi Heschel's daughter and Eli M. Black Distinguished Professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College. Register here: <https://jccindy.org/community/festival-books-arts/>

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel was one of the most remarkable and inspiring figures of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Born in Warsaw, Poland as part of a centuries-old rabbinic dynasty within the Hasidic tradition, he narrowly escaped the Holocaust and arrived in New York in 1940. During the next 30 years he emerged as one of the most influential voices in the world of religion. He was a mentor to Martin Luther King, Jr. and other leaders within the U.S. civil rights movement (including John Lewis and Andrew Young, who are interviewed in the film), a leading critic of the Vietnam War, a champion for Soviet Jews, an author of several books now considered religious classics and a pioneer in the work of interfaith dialogue.

(repeat) **Unpacking Our Stories of Masculinity and Equity**. AMBS and Mennonite Men are co-sponsoring a three-part series, Oct 26, Nov 6, and Nov 16 in which participants will share their own personal narratives, identify the ways they've been shaped by masculine messaging, and reframe their own masculine identity so it's more inclusive and holistic. **All genders are welcome to join the Tues eve webinar Oct 26 from 7:30-8:30pm**, which will unpack some of the ways in which patriarchy and White supremacy have been interwoven, and help participants dissect their own narratives so that they can see when they're being influenced by either. Registration is \$100; a recording of the Oct 26 webinar will be made available at no cost. [Read more here](#). [Register here](#).

(repeat) **Attention High Schoolers: Goshen College's Study-Service Theology Term (SSTT)** is currently inviting high school applicants for a two-week study experience in Guatemala in June 2022. Participants are selected through a competitive application process and will be drawn from students from any Christian denominational group in the United States who have completed their sophomore, junior or senior year by June 2022, with priority given to students from African-American or Latino communities. The deadline to apply is October 31, 2021. Learn more at [goshen.edu/sstt](http://goshen.edu/sstt).

## WIDER CHURCH

**Pray for** Mennonite Mission Network's partner, Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission, which is meeting with international representatives in Burkina Faso and Congo this month. Pray for wisdom, as church leaders from many countries, including first-time representation from the Angolan Mennonite churches, evaluate their ministries and discern God's direction.

**Sally Weaver Glick recently wrote a blog, "Looking for a spiritual director?"**, showcasing the Mennonite Spiritual Director Network website and explaining how to begin the process of finding your own spiritual director. <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/looking-for-spiritual-director>

**Pathways Retreat** has new opportunities coming up: Deep Leadership Community of Practice for organizational leaders (November-January) and a Men's Desert Spirituality Retreat in Utah (October 2022). Daily prayers are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at [pathwaysretreat.org](http://pathwaysretreat.org). [Pathways' October newsletter can be read here](#).

Please email announcements to [assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org](mailto: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](mailto: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