

WORSHIP

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

Oct 24	Oct 31
Worship Leader: Anna Yoder Schlabach	Worship Leader: Kristen Swartley
Homily: Jon Zirkle	Homily: Scott Coulter
Scripture: Luke 10:25-37	Scripture: Luke 16:19-31

BIRTHDAYS



Arthur Beyeler (4th, Chandler) turned 10 on Oct. 12! Arthur enjoys audio books, reading, playing video games and board games. Arthur is enjoying learning about the Potawatomi at school, and doing math. His favorite foods are sushi and pizza.

THIS SUNDAY



Breakfast for college students and young adults CANCELLED this week due to the inclement weather. We will plan to offer breakfast for college students and young adults again at 8:30am next Sunday Oct 31.

Join us for worship this Sunday Oct 24 at 9:30 am [on Zoom](#) as we hear the Parable of the Good Samaritan. 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.](#)

Due to the cold ("feels like" 40 degrees) and cloudy weather we will NOT be gathering outdoors in the parking lot this Sunday. Those with roles in leading the service should come to the worship space and wear a mask. We will livestream the service via Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/9995275153>. Look for an email by 5pm on Saturday with the order of worship. **Sunday school** for children & youth will take place at 11:00am inside at the meetinghouse and will last 30 minutes. All participants over age 2 are required to wear a mask. Please do not come if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or have recent confirmed exposure to COVID-19. [Click here for more information](#), including locations of classes indoors.

Adults are invited to [join one of two Zoom options for "second hour"](#) from 11-11:30am: (1) a discussion group responding to the morning worship hosted by Karl Shelly, or (2) a reading group focusing on next week's parable (the Rich Man and Lazarus).

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 24 • 9:30am Worship • 11am Sunday School • 1-3pm JYF Gathering	Oct 25 • 6:30pm Dance Group	Oct 26 • 6:30pm Labyrinth Walk • 7:15pm Small Group reps on Zoom	Oct 27 • 12pm Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom		Oct 29 • 12pm Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom	Oct 30 • 11am Remembrance Gathering • 1pm Service Remembering Carolyn Schrock-Shenk
Oct 31 • 9:30am Worship • 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	
Nov 7 • 9:30am Worship • 8pm Anti-Racism Accountability Group on Zoom	Nov 8 • 6:30pm Dance Group					
Nov 14 • 9:30am Worship		Nov 16 • 6:30pm Labyrinth Walk				Nov 20 • 3pm Stick Season Walk & Bonfire at Rothshanks

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Labyrinth Walk this Tues 6:30pm - Maybe you'd like to share walking meditation energy with others? Come for a labyrinth walk **Tuesday, October 26 at 6:30p**, led by Meribeth Shank, certified labyrinth facilitator. We'll open with a brief introduction to labyrinths and their use as meditation tools, spend the most time walking the labyrinth, and conclude with a chance for reflecting with each other after the walk. Contact Meribeth Shank (786 229 5065) with any questions.

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). 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.

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. 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.

(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)

- 10/24, 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. Join us for a spooktacular night at the MYF Halloween/ Fall Party! There will be pumpkin carving, pumpkin painting, prizes, and delicious fall treats. Event will take place outside in the AMC parking lot, with rain plan inside the worship space.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

(repeat) **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).

(repeat) **Retreat Pledges:** It was great to see everyone at Retreat on Oct 8-10! 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) 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) **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. 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

(repeat) **From Everence: 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

(repeat) **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

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 [Cynthia Lapp's blog discussing the language surrounding poverty and those who experience it. She argues that using person-centered helps remind us that we are all human and made in the image of God.](#) [Pray:](#) Discover [prayer & worship resources here](#). [Join:](#) For example, you can give to [the MCUSA Justice Fund](#), or join [the Poor People's Campaign](#).

Volunteer for the Window's Haystack Drive-Thru Event Sun Nov 13 at Grace Community Church (4-7pm). Both indoor and outdoor positions needed. Please contact Susi Miller (smiller@thewindowinc.com, 574-533-9680 x208). **Purchase tickets to support this benefit** at www.thewindowofgoshen.com/event-tickets, at the Window on Main St, or at the event. [See the event flyer here](#).

Mission through hospitality. [Learn about the work of Mennonite Voluntary Service, a program of Mennonite Mission Network, and how you can support it here.](#)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Racial Harm and Harmony Among Mennonites - Tues, Oct 26, 8pm, in this webinar session, Tobin Miller Shearer (Prof of African American History at the Univ of Montana) will provide context on some [historic documents](#) that show attempts and failures at racial reconciliation. Also, hear from John Powell about the Minority Ministries Council formed in 1969 to represent Mennonites of color in the (old) Mennonite Church and his continued work for racial justice. John is a former Mennonite pastor and administrator, and a civil rights activist. In break-out groups with a facilitator, discuss how Anabaptists can play a meaningful part in the hard work of racial justice and reconciliation. See more details and register for the free webinar at <https://tourmagination.com/events/>, or <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/racial-harm-harmony-mennonites>.

The Center for Community Justice will be offering a Basic Mediation Training on Oct 28, 29, and 30 for anyone interested in learning communication and conflict resolution skills that can help in resolving conflict. See [the attached flyer for more details](#) and register at www.bit.ly/CCJBasicTraining.

(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 20th 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.](#)

New *Vision* issue on "Reading the Bible as if our lives depend on it" available for free online. The Fall 2021 issue of *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* is guest edited by AMBS alumni Michelle Christian Curtis and Scott Litwiller and is dedicated to AMBS Professor Emerita of New Testament Mary Schertz, PhD. Contributors share about practices of engaging Scripture and encountering God in new ways. [ams.edu/ims/vision](https://www.ams.edu/ims/vision)

The [Women in Leadership](#) ministry of Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) has **relaunched its popular podcast, "Holding It(,) Together."** Bonita Croyle of the Women in Leadership steering committee hosts this podcast, created by women for women. Listen here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/hit>

!Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth: Participants in !Explore 2022 will attend Mennonite World Conference in Indonesia with nine Indonesian youth, explore theological questions and lived faith together, and visit parts of beautiful Java Island. The AMBS program — which is open to students in grades 10–12 — also includes a congregational internship. Generous financial support is available for the MWC expenses, and participants receive a \$1,000 stipend. Tap a shoulder! [ams.edu/explore](https://www.ams.edu/explore)

Are you considering a gap year? Head to Barcelona, and take part in the Barcelona Anabaptist Center's discipleship program. Learn about postmodern ministry, and develop your Spanish-language skills, as you identify the ways you are uniquely equipped to serve the neighborhood and local church community. Contact Eric Frey Martin at EricFM@MMNWorld.net to learn more.

(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](https://www.goshen.edu/sstt).

Calendar of Educational Opportunities (see details above)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
•	Oct 25 • 7pm Spiritual Audacity: The Abraham Joshua Heschel Story	Oct 26 • 7:30pm Unpacking Our Stories of Masculinity and Equity • 8pm Racial Harm and Harmony Among Mennonites		Oct 28 • Basic Mediation Training	Oct 29 • Basic Mediation Training	Oct 30 • Basic Mediation Training

Central District Conference's [monthly newsletter](#) shares stories of Journey, the undergraduate missional leadership program that Central District Conference sponsors together with several other conferences. Learn about the program through the experiences of three CDC participants: Charles Baraka, student; Lavon Welty, mentor; and Lois Johns Kaufmann, chair of the Journey board.

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Anna Alderfer, Bowen Dick-Burkey, Dawson Duerksen, Brooke Nafziger, and Service Adventure unit leaders, Barry and Erika Kreider, who are settling into community living and extending the ministries of host congregation, Albuquerque (New Mexico) Mennonite Church. Pray for them as they work with children and youth, people without homes, Habitat for Humanity, a community art center, and an urban farm.

For an update from the Ross Richers and the Ecuador Ministry Support Team, [click here](#).

Mennonite Disaster Service's monthly newsletter "[On the Level](#)" is available [here](#). In the current issue: MDS continues it's response to Hurricane Ida, volunteers head into the city to help rebuild after a fire and one of the oldest MDS units celebrates 65 years of service.

(repeat) **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](#). [Pathways' October newsletter can be read here](#).

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) seeks to hire a multidisciplinary cohort of faculty to advance the university's strategic goals for inclusive excellence, striving to be more diverse, equitable, and inclusive. As part of this cohort, the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding and the Sociology & Peacebuilding and Development undergraduate program are hiring the following three tenure-track positions, to begin in the Fall 2022 semester: [Assistant/Associate Professor of Peacebuilding](#); [Assistant/Associate Professor of Restorative Justice](#); [Assistant/Associate Professor of Sociology & Peacebuilding and Development](#). Informal inquiries may be directed to Dr. David Brubaker (dean-ssp@emu.edu).

Dove's Nest, a Christian Child Protection organization, seeks a new Executive Director. View the job description. Interested parties can fill out the [online application](#) and direct any questions to the search committee chair, Scott Litwiller, at slitwiller@gmail.com.

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
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Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

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

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