



Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

<https://assemblymennonite.org/>

office@assemblymennonite.org

AssemblyLine

November 14, 2021

Volume XL, Number 46

WORSHIP

Join us for Worship this Sunday [on Zoom](#) at 9:30am
followed by Sunday school at 11am

Nov 14

Worship Leader: Deanna Risser

Homily: Anna Yoder Schlabach

Scripture: Luke 16:1-13

Nov 21

Worship Leader: Jep Hostetler

Homily: Stephen Lowe

Scripture: Luke 13:18-19

BIRTHDAYS



Layton Rothshank (7th BCS) turned 13 on Nov 7! Layton enjoys blacksmithing on his homemade forge, wood carving and making knives with leather sheaths. He recently made his own longboard. He plays soccer and basketball at Bethany and is looking forward to futsal in the winter. His favorite books are the Harry Potter and Rangers Apprentice series.

THIS SUNDAY



Join us for worship [on Zoom](#) this Sunday Nov 14 at 9:30 am as we hear the **Parable of the Dishonest Manager**. 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 inclement weather we will not have outdoor worship this Sunday. Those with roles in the service should come to the worship space and wear a mask. We will livestream the service on 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. Locations will be posted in the Gathering Space.

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 *lectio divina* of the Parable of the Mustard Seed.

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

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 14 • 9:30am Worship	Nov 15 • 2pm Loading School Kit Supplies at Johanna's	Nov 16 • 6:30pm Labyrinth Walk	Nov 17 • 9am PT meeting • 12pm Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom • MYF Live In (Nov 17-20)	Nov 18 • MYF Live In (Nov 17-20)	Nov 19 • 12pm Psalm Reading & Prayer on Zoom • MYF Live In (Nov 17-20)	Nov 20 • MYF Live In (Nov 17-20) • 3pm Stick Season Walk & Bonfire at Rothshanks
Nov 21 • 9:30am Worship • 1-3pm JYF Gathering • 7pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom	Nov 22 • 6:30pm Dance Group	Nov 23 • 7:15pm Small Group Reps on Zoom				Nov 27 • 4:30pm Advent Woods Worship at Witmer Woods/College Cabin
Nov 28 • 10am Taize Service in Worship Space			Dec 1 • 1:30pm Lunch Bunch		Dec 3 • 9:30am Greencroft meetup	Dec 4 • 4:30pm Advent Woods Worship
Dec 5 • 10am Taize Service in Worship Space • 11am Defund the Police? on Zoom • 8pm Anti-racism Accountability Group on Zoom		Dec 7 • 7pm Leadership Group	Dec 8 • 9am PT meeting			Dec 11 • 1pm & 2pm Candle Dipping at Steve Shantz's home • 4:30pm Advent Woods Worship • 7:30pm Messiah Sing-Along at GC's Sauder Concert Hall

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Autumn Walk & Bonfire at Rothshanks, Sat Nov 20 at 3pm. As the weather changes join an autumn walk in the Rothshank's woods on Saturday, Nov. 20th 3 pm. The walk will be followed by a bonfire. Together we will consider the what we learn about God from this season change. The time will include some stories along the way and warm drinks and marshmallows at the end. RSVP to loracan@assemblymennonite.org if you would like to join.

Tuna Cans and Bubble Wrap? Please save your tuna cans (or other cans that size) and bubble wrap and give them to Lora Nafziger before Nov 27! Thank you!

Cookie Exchange Sign Up – Back by popular demand! You're invited to back 3 dozen cookies; you will be assigned 3 households to deliver cookies to, and you will also receive cookies from others. (You can bring cookies you can't eat by yourself to the Christmas Eve service!). If you want to participate, please [complete this form by Dec 4.](#)

ADVENT – “LESS IS MORE”



Advent begins Sun Dec 27. Advent provides an opportunity to slow down, pare back and wait in the darkness for the coming Christ child. This year's theme is "Less is More". We are trying to get back to the basics. Let's recapture the beauty of simplicity, darkness, music, and scripture.

This year we are offering different options for worship. We expect that most people will choose one or two of these ways to enter this season, NOT all of them.

Saturday Evening Advent Woods Worship: College Cabin 5 p.m. (4:30 for children's crafts)

This 45-minute outdoor service is planned with families in mind, but is intended for all ages.

Move through outdoor stations to hear scripture, sing advent hymns and pray together in God's glorious creation.

End the time with hot chocolate around a fire in the pavilion and walk around the woods on your own.

Sunday morning Taizé Advent worship: Worship space 10 a.m.

This contemplative service of scripture, Taizé-style music, silence, and sharing time will last around 45 minutes.

There will not be offering, a sermon, or children's time. This service is planned with adults in mind, but it is intended for (fully vaccinated) contemplatives of all ages. Masks will be required for all. Please do not come if you have any Covid symptoms. As a way of protecting the most vulnerable among us, we are requesting that this service be limited to those who are fully vaccinated (two weeks after their second shot). This service (and most services for the foreseeable future) will be streamed on Zoom.

Sunday morning Adult Ed: 11 a.m. only on Zoom

Join with others on Zoom December 5, 12, and 19 to work through a newish MCUSA curriculum

[Defund the Police?, an Abolition Curriculum](#) led by Karl Shelly

This curriculum is an initial guide for congregations who are desiring to begin or continue their reflection on what it means to engage the forces of state, their commitments to non-violence and how to act to end policing and police brutality.

For At-Home Resources and a complete list of events through Dec 26, [click here](#).

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY, cont.

Cookie Decorating with IHN, Dec 20 - Several MYFers are decorating cookies with children at IHN. More helpers are welcome! We also need folks to bake approximately 15 dozen cookies, make colored icing and provide sprinkles. Contact SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com to volunteer. Thanks!

Members' Needs Fund. As an Anabaptist community, we value sharing our resources. If you have any emergency financial needs (whether related to a health crisis, a loss of income, or other extraordinary circumstances), please consider sharing your needs with your small group rep, or directly with a pastor. This fund is available to assist all Assembly participants, not just covenanted members.

If you have been blessed with abundant resources, please consider making a donation to the Members' Needs Fund. (Write "Members Needs" on the memo line of your check). We anticipate some significant needs in the congregation in the near future.

Assembly Student Aid: Will you or your child be learning at a Mennonite school/college/seminary next year? We as a congregation want to financially support those among us who opt for education at a Mennonite institution. Covenanted members and their children will qualify for grants of 8% of tuition at Mennonite seminaries, colleges, and Bethany Christian High School and Middle School. **Now it's time to budget! By Nov 15:** Please let a member of the Student Aid Committee know if you or children in your family are considering or continuing Mennonite education for 2022-23, and at which institution and grade level. Contact Cheryl Mast <home.mast@gmail.com> about students at Bethany (6th-12th grades). Contact Paul Meyer Reimer <paulmr@goshen.edu> about students at Menno colleges and seminaries.

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)

- 11/14 MYF Breakout (following worship) - Please bring a chair. If worship is moved to Zoom due to inclement weather, we will still have our breakout but it will be indoors from 11-11:30am. Masks are optional for vaccinated individuals when we meet outdoors, and required for everyone when indoors.
- 11/16-11/20 MYF Live-In (Tues-Fri after school; Sat morning) - We are so excited for the 2021 MYF Live-in! This 5 day long event takes place after school each day (and into Saturday morning) and is full of games, guest speakers, activities, outings in the community, meals, laughter, and more! This event is designed to be flexible with student schedules and after-school activities, so students are able to join for any/all of the event that they can make. You won't want to miss this incredible week, it is a great bonding time for the MYF! Please make sure you have RSVP'd by November 3rd to the MYF sponsors, and be sure to attend the planning session on November 7th.
- 11/21 MYF Breakout (following worship) - This will be our last MYF breakout session of the 2021 year before we switch things up for Advent (more information on Advent and 2022 breakouts to follow). Please bring a chair. If worship is moved to Zoom due to inclement weather, we will still have our breakout but it will be indoors from 11-11:30am. Masks are optional for vaccinated individuals when we meet outdoors, and required for everyone when indoors.

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

School Kits!: Help Needed Mon Nov 15 at 2pm. From Johanna Sutter: The journey of the school kits goes on. I and my team (Hirschler Family) have been very busy lately to do all the many preparations for the great event! The Junior Youth will put the kits together on Sunday November 21 at the MCC Resource Center at the Depot. The team unwrapped all the individual things and: taped 7,040 pencils into bundles of 1,760 x 4; taped 1,760 pens into sets of 2; taped sharpeners on 880 boxes of colored pencils; unwrapped 880 rulers and erasers. All these and 90+ boxes of notebooks have been in Johanna's garage. We need help in loading these items to transport to the MRC/The Depot. **If you would like to help, please be at Johanna's house on Monday (November 15th) at 2pm.** It should not take more than an hour to load all of these things.

Combating Environmental Injustice - Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light has set a goal of 1,000 signatures on [this Interfaith Declaration](#) about Combating Climate Change, Environmental Degradation, and Injustice in Indiana. They are about 30 signatures away! If you haven't signed it yet, you are encouraged to consider it. [Click here to read more.](#)

Please remember to sign up to take meals to folks living at Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Network over the Christmas holiday. Assembly is responsible for meals Dec 20-24. Get more information and sign up <https://takethemameal.com/ZLDH6898>. Contact SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com for more information. Only one family has committed a meal, so you have many options!

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

(repeat) **Lunch Bunch Email List** - Amy Kauffman keeps an email list for Lunch Bunch and sends reminders and announcements to that list. If you get those emails and don't want them or don't get them and want to be on the list, please talk to Amy or email her at: zbamygk@gmail.com

PATHWAYS RETREAT CENTER

Pathways Retreat will be offering Advent Visio Divina on Wednesday mornings starting November 24. Pathways Retreat will be closed December 20 - January 10 for the holidays. Daily prayers are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org. Also, read the [monthly Pathways newsletter here](#).

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

MCC Great Lakes is seeking a Church Engagement Intern: This intern will support a church engagement survey process to grow the partnerships between MCC and churches in our region. This includes connecting with congregations via phone and email, along with compiling and analyzing survey data to identify how we can be most helpful in sharing about the work of MCC. **This 10-week paid internship (starting in January)** is for students enrolled in or having recently completed a college, university or seminary program. Location is flexible, but office space is available in the MCC Great Lakes office in Goshen, Ind. **Apply online for this opening by November 24 at mcc.org/gl-church-intern. For more information contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or AmberFalcon@mcc.org.**

Goshen College's Study-Service Theology Term (SSTT) invites high school applicants for a two-week study experience in Guatemala in June 2022. Participants are selected from any Christian denominational group in the U.S. who have completed their sophomore, junior or senior year by June 2022. The cost is just \$100 and the deadline to apply has been extended to Nov. 21, 2021. Learn more at goshen.edu/sstt.

Mennonite Youth Choir Festival invites children grades 3-9 to join us for a weekend of singing, Mar 5-6, 2022 at First Mennonite Church in Berne, Indiana. Guest Director: Brent Hyman. We love praising God through song and want to pass on the love of music to youth of all ages. Practice Saturday, March 5; concert Sunday, March 6 at 2 p.m. (free and open to the public). Cost per Child: \$35 before Nov 15; \$45 after Nov 15. www.mennoniteyouthchoir.com; mychoirfest@gmail.com

LaCasa offers free classes via Zoom in November: Master Your Credit, Your Money, Homeownership, Your Debt. More information is here: <https://lacasainc.net/classes/>

WIDER CHURCH

Camp Friedenswald is in need of a volunteer to give some love and care to their cross-country skis, hopefully repairing some bindings and aiding in general ski health discernment. If you have time and skills for this work, please contact Amy at amy@friedenswald.org or 269-476-9744.

“Dare to Imagine” - Advent at Home 2021: this free devotional written by Talashia Keim Yoder, pastor of Christian Formation at College Mennonite Church is appropriate for all ages. You can download your copy here: mennoniteusa.org/adventathome. Also: Join Talashia for a one-hour webinar Sun Nov 14 at 5pm for creative ideas on how to slow down and connect with God each day during this season of anticipation.

Mennonite World Conference writes about “[How do environmental problems make people feel, and why does that matter?](#)”. Also, read “[Six Reasons to attend the MWC Global Assembly in Semarang, Indonesia](#)”.

Call for Artists – Central District Conference is extending an invitation to artists across the conference to apply to create a work of art representing our new two-year theme of Tending Transformation. We will choose four artists from among the applications we receive. **Please apply by sending your name and contact info (mailing address, email address and phone) to office@mcusacdc.org by Dec 31, 2021.** We will let you know if your application has been accepted no later than Jan 15. Deadline to complete the piece will be May 15. [For a description of the theme and guidelines for the artistic piece, click here.](#)

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the professors at Kalonda Bible Institute, and their families. Many Mennonite church leaders are trained there in Congo. Severe funding cuts are hampering the functions of the institute, and professors have lost their incomes. Pray also for Bercy Mundedi, the director of the institute, who has an ardent desire to see the next generation of church leaders prepared for God’s work.

Mennonite Church USA invites prayer for Glen Guyton, executive directory of MC USA, and his family, upon the death of Glen’s mother Manetta Guyton, 93, of Kosciusko, Missouri, Saturday Nov 6. Manetta was a long-time Sunday school teacher and choir member at Pinecrest Presbyterian Church in Houston’s historic Fifth Ward. She served for many years with Neighborhood Daycare centers in the Houston area, caring for at-risk children. [To send condolences you may click here.](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Thrift at Woodland Crossing, a new MCC thrift shop, is set to open early next spring on Elkhart's south side. In preparation, we are seeking to hire a General Manager dedicated to the mission of MCC and those in need in our local community. Beginning in January 2022, this position will oversee operations of the thrift shop. We are looking for candidates with skills in organizing, managing, and working with volunteers. A complete job description and application can be requested by emailing ThriftatWC@gmail.com or by calling the MCC Great Lakes office at 574-534-4133.

Full-time job opportunities are available in various departments at Mennonite Mission Network: Human Resources, Finance, Global Partnerships, and Training & Resources. See full job descriptions and apply at MennoniteMission.net/Employment or direct questions to StaffRecruitment@mennonitemission.net.

Mennonite Church USA is seeking a Denominational Minister of Ministerial Leadership (Full Time Equivalent). Visit MennoniteUSA.org/Employment for more information.

Mennonite Church USA is seeking a half-time Administrative Assistant for Church Vitality Department to manage the day-to-day operations including administrative functions related to the pastoral calling system of MC USA, the MennoData database and Ministerial Leadership Information process. At least three years of office experience and a bachelor's degree is preferred. Preferred location is the MC USA office in Elkhart, Indiana. We are committed to diversity among staff and welcome people of diverse backgrounds and abilities to apply. View the job description [here](#). To request an application form, contact HR@MennoniteUSA.org or call 316-281-4257

MCC seeking SWAP Location Coordinators in Hindman, Kentucky: MCC Appalachia's SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People) program coordinates week-long service opportunities for young people and adults, to provide housing repair for low-income individuals and families. The Hindman Location Coordinators will plan and direct all aspects of the SWAP ministry in Hindman, Kentucky. MCC is also looking to connect with other ministries related to economic development and/or food security and would welcome location coordinators with these interests and backgrounds. The Location Coordinators will report directly to the Appalachia Program Coordinator. Apply online for this opening by December 10 at mcc.org/swap-hindman-location-coordinators. For more information contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or AmberFalcon@mcc.org.

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).

Jobs in Mennonite Education. [Click here](#) for a list of openings from Mennonite Education Agency.

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>.

<p>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</p> <p>Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	