



Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

<https://assemblymennonite.org/>

office@assemblymennonite.org

[Find COVID-19 Information Here](#)

AssemblyLine

January 9, 2022

Volume XLI, Number 2

WORSHIP

Join us for Worship online [on Zoom](#):

Jan 9 at 9:30am

Jan 16-Feb 20 at 10am

<p>Jan 9</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship on Zoom</p> <p>Worship Leader: Jonathon & Tilly Schramm</p> <p>Sermon: Lora Nafziger</p> <p>Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p>Jan 16</p> <p>10 AM Worship on Zoom</p> <p>Sermon: Rabbi Sharon Braus</p> <p>Scripture: Genesis 48</p>
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CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Sadie Janzen turned 7 on January 1st! Sadie is a first grader at Waterford and loves Specials (mostly Art and PE), lunch and recess. She is excellent at telling stories with drawings and an impressive variety of facial expressions. She likes to play outside and go on adventures with friends. Sadie loves animals of all kinds, especially stuffed animals, and wants to be a vet when she grows up.

THIS SUNDAY

Jan 9, 2022

9:30am - Join us for Worship [on Zoom](#) as we celebrate Epiphany Sunday! There is no Sunday school today, but worship will be followed by fellowship time in breakout rooms.

8pm – Assembly’s anti-racism accountability group meeting [on Zoom](#). This group consists of those who want to be more proactive in their anti-racism advocacy and would benefit from encouragement and accountability of others. If you’d like to participate, [contact Karl Shelly](#), and include a short written description of what action you’d like to take that can be shared with the group.

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

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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>.

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Jan 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Worship on Zoom MYF Winter Camp at Friedenswald 8pm Anti-racism Accountability Group on Zoom 	<p>Jan 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Dance Group 		<p>Jan 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 		<p>Jan 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom JYF Winter Camp at Friedenswald 	<p>Jan 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm Merritt Gardner Memorial Service 7pm Family Stars & Psalms Star Gazing Party at Steve Shantz' house JYF Winter Camp at Friedenswald
<p>Jan 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:55am Children in Worship 10am Worship on Zoom 11:15am Second Hour JYF Winter Camp at Friedenswald 		<p>Jan 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Labyrinth Walk 7:15pm Small Group Reps on Zoom 	<p>Jan 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 		<p>Jan 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 	
<p>Jan 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:55am Children in Worship 10am Worship on Zoom 11:15am Second Hour 7pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom JYF Winter Camp at Friedenswald 	<p>Jan 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Dance Group 		<p>Jan 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 		<p>Jan 28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 	

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

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: Vary. Contact the church office at office@assemblymennonite.org or leave a message at 574-534-4190

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Women's Christmas Retreat, Jan 8, 9am-3pm

Epiphany (Jan 6) is also celebrated as Women's Christmas. Originating in Ireland, Women's Christmas began as a day when the women, who often carried the domestic responsibilities all year, took Epiphany as an occasion to gather at the end of the holidays. Women's Christmas is a good time to pause and take a break from whatever has kept you busy in the past weeks or months. This is an occasion both to celebrate with friends and also to spend time in reflection before diving into the responsibilities of this new year. Registered participants should have received an email with additional details; contact Meribeth Shank with questions. A donation of \$10 per person is suggested. A basket will be on the registration table for your donation.

Our prayers are with Ruth Ann Gardner and the entire family on the recent death of Merritt Gardner, long-time member of Assembly Mennonite Church. A memorial service will take place at the Assembly Zoom link on Saturday Jan 15 at 1pm (come at 12:50pm for a slideshow remembrance). Read Merritt's obituary here:

<https://obituaries.goshennews.com/obituary/merritt-gardner-1084117932>

Meals for Beechy King family. Our prayers are with Tristan Beechy King and his family following the death of his mother unexpectedly on Christmas Eve Day. Small Group Polar Bear wants to support Tristan & Mary's family in this time by providing meals, and invites the congregation to share in showing tangible love in this way. Please consider signing up to bring them a meal here: <https://www.takethemameal.com/QNYN1806>.

Zoom Cluster Worship is a more intimate, participatory form of online worship at Assembly. Each Sunday from Jan 16-Feb 20 we will worship at 10 AM in groups of 16-20 households. This will allow everyone to be seen on one screen, will move away from "watching a performance" of worship done somewhere else. The sermon, children's time, and music will be pre-recorded and shared by the tech host; you can volunteer to read or pray, and you can respond to the sermon and share prayer requests. Join [via the same Zoom link](#) as always, and then join a cluster group (breakout room). Breakout rooms are assigned by small group, or last name (for those not in small groups). There will also be a breakout room for children, hosted by a member of the Christian Education committee, and using content related to that week's theme. (Children may also choose to join a cluster group with their parents). **Second hour electives** will be offered on the same Zoom link at 11:15, including: Sermon Response, the "Defund the Police? Abolition Curriculum" and a Harry Potter-themed Sunday school for children and Harry Potter fans of all ages. **For more information and for a short video orienting you to Zoom cluster worship, [click here](#).**

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. **(This will be especially important to use in the coming weeks if you want to share beyond those present in your cluster on Sunday morning).**

Stargazing and psalms party at Steve Shantz's (60728 CR 27) on January 15th at 7pm. We can learn so much about God and our place in the universe by looking at the sky. Bring binoculars and dress very warmly. We will see the crescent moon, Mercury and Mars while sharing warm drinks, psalms, and stories. Please RSVP to [Lora Nafziger](#) by Friday Jan. 14th. This is for all ages!

The AMC Leadership Group met Jan 4 and reviewed the proposed 2022 Spending Plan, and a revised Safe Church policy; began a conversation about Small Groups in the life of the congregation, and formed an ad hoc [Building Tithe committee](#). They also heard reports about the work of the Congregational Pastoral Review Committee and plans for worship and Christian formation in January & February. Approved minutes from past Leadership Group and Congregational Meetings can be found on the website [here](#).

Congregational Meeting Jan 23. Join us for the next Congregational Meeting on Zoom at 7pm Sunday Jan 23. The agenda will include a first reading of the proposed 2022 Spending Plan. [Please review both parts of the spending plan here: \(Assembly Life and Mission\); \(Mission Beyond Assembly\)](#). If you have questions about the spending plan, please contact Larry Gautsche, chair of Finance Committee, or Randy Roth, chair of Leadership Group.

Farewell to Assembly – from Alfonso Jiménez and Susana Cabezas. After twelve wonderful years of living in Goshen, in January we are moving to Seattle where our daughter Nayla and her family live. From the time we moved here from Costa Rica Assembly was our community, a true expression of a level of love and support like we had never before experienced. May God continue to bless you as you did for us.

Invitation to Update Your COVID-19 Vaccination Status. Knowing who in the congregation is vaccinated (and boosted) will shape our ability to make informed decisions as we continue to navigate the pandemic. (This information will be kept confidential to the pastoral team). Please complete the following form to notify the church office of any changes in your / household members' vaccination status: <https://forms.gle/QwTnEyNmBoYttds96>.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

You are invited to participate in an Intro to InterPlay class on Zoom. InterPlay is an active, creative way to unlock the wisdom of the body. We use the InterPlay tools in our Monday night Dance Group and many of the dances we used to dance for worship came from our integration of the InterPlay tools. We have a special guest and recently graduated InterPlay Leader, Maryellen May from Bloomington, Indiana leading us. January 10, February 14, March 14 and April 11 from 6:30 - 8:00. Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84571822266?pwd=cGZlYmJMQUFZdmVpVTVVWb0tRSXBQUT09> Email Linda Schlabach Miller at lschlabachm@gmail.com or Maryellen at bodyhome21@gmail.com for more information.

MCC U.S. is hosting a Young Adult Peacebuilders Training in Colorado from March 6-11, 2022! Young adults ages 18-30 are invited to participate. [Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp](#) will serve as a home base for participants, offering a beautiful and relaxing space to rest, study and have fun together as a group. This Peacebuilders Training will touch on themes of racial equity, immigration, mass incarceration, gun violence and conflict transformation. It will include trips to visit [RAWtools](#), an organization working out of Colorado Springs to move communities away from violence, as well as [Casa de Paz](#), an organization working out of Aurora to reunite separated families. The participant fee is \$200. All other costs (including travel, lodging and meals) will be covered by MCC. Register [here](#).

The Center for Justice and Peacebuilding is offering courses online in February and March for professional development (*no academic credit available*) including: [Intro to Restorative Justice](#), [Designing Powerful Solutions With\(in\) Community](#), [Circle Processes](#), and [Economics for Emancipation](#). [Apply here](#).

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Faith Mennonite Church is looking for new hosts for Hope House, a place of hospitality that offers two guest rooms for emergency, short-term housing for people in transition. The live-in host(s) provide(s) a welcoming presence and tends to the daily needs of hosting. Contact kay.bsinger@gmail.com or deronbbergstresser@gmail.com for more information.

Church Community Services will be offering a series of free, 1-hour community classes about different gardening topics in 2022. A different topic will be discussed each month by staff or local experts. To learn more, visit: www.churchcommunityservices.org/stfclasses. They are also [accepting applications for Soup of Success](#) (a job and life-skills program), and the [Teen Growers Internship](#). Volunteers are also needed to [drive box trucks and vans for the food pantry](#).

Mennonite Disaster Service has Weekly Volunteer Opportunities in Breathitt County Kentucky (Jan 23-29), Okanogan Washington (throughout Jan-Mar), and Paradise California (dates in Jan-Mar). [See opportunities here](#).

Read about what Mennonite Central Committee has been doing in 2021 [here](#).

WIDER CHURCH

Pray for Kate Widmer as she is currently on North American assignment, sharing updates with supporting congregations, before returning to her assignment with *Eglise la Prairie Montbéliard* (The Prairie Church in Montbéliard) in France for a second term to continue her ministries with children and other community outreach programs. (Mennonite Mission Network)

Register for the Pastors & Leaders | Deep Faith 2022 conference before Jan. 15 to receive the early registration discount. This joint conference of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) and Mennonite Church USA Faith Formation will be held Feb. 21-24, 2022, with the option to attend virtually or in person on the AMBS campus in Elkhart, Indiana. Learn more here: ambs.edu/pastorsandleaders.

MC USA's Church Peace Tax Fund provides funding for educational programs that address militarism and promote living out ways of peace, including an annual grant to support Mennonite youth actively engaged in resisting war and promoting peace in their congregation and community. [Support the Church Peace Tax Fund Here.](#)

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) in Elkhart will celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Mon Jan 17 with an event organized by the [Intercultural Competence and Undoing Racism \(ICUR\) Team](#) and the [Institute of Mennonite Studies](#). This live-streamed event will develop connections made at the 2020 celebration between King's legacy and Black history in Elkhart. For more information, contact [Nekeisha Alayna Alexis](#), MA, ICUR coordinator (icurcoordinator@ambs.edu).

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Mennonite Disaster Service is hiring. [See openings here.](#)

Lancaster (PA) Mennonite School has a full-time opening for a Middle School Principal starting July 2022. [Learn more here.](#)