

## WORSHIP

Join us Sundays [on Zoom at 10 AM](#):

<p><b>Jan 23</b></p> <p><b>10 AM Worship on Zoom</b></p> <p><b>Sermon:</b> Gwen Gustafson-Zook</p> <p><b>Scripture:</b> Nehemiah 8:1-10</p>	<p><b>Jan 30</b></p> <p><b>10 AM Worship on Zoom</b></p> <p><b>Sermon:</b> Marshall King</p> <p><b>Scripture:</b> Jeremiah 1:4-10</p>
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## CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

**Stefan Magatti (3rd BCS)**, turned 9 on Jan. 12th! Stefan likes swimming especially when there are waterslides and wave pools! He really likes winter, but wishes there was more snow for snow forts, snowballs and sledding. He is looking forward to traveling this summer and would like to travel to China someday. Stefan's favorite land animal is a rhino, his favorite air animal is a bald eagle and his favorite water animal is a killer whale!

## SATURDAY JANUARY 22

**All are invited to attend Harold Metzler's memorial service** [at the Assembly Zoom link](#) this Saturday, the 22nd. The service will begin at 1 p.m. and the slide show will start at 12:45 p.m. His family will gather in the worship space. An order of worship is [here](#). The obituary is [here](#). Continue to pray for his wife Peggy and cousins Jep and Joyce Hostetler.

## SUNDAY JANUARY 23

**8:55am** – Children in Worship (Sunday school for Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> grade students) at the Assembly meetinghouse.

**10am** - Join us [on Zoom](#) for **Worship at 10am**. There will be a dedicated breakout room for children hosted by the Christian Formation committee; children are also welcome to join another worship cluster with their parents.

**For more information and for a short video orienting you to Zoom cluster worship**, [click here](#).

**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, and 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).

**Our sermon this Sunday** is from Gwen Gustafson-Zook. Gwen is a former member of Assembly, and is currently working as a chaplain in Portland, Oregon. Gwen is also serving as Assembly’s “congregational spiritual director” (formerly known as “alongside-seer”); she meets regularly with the Assembly pastoral team, and is also a resource as needed for the Leadership Group.

## SUNDAY JANUARY 23 continued

**11:15am – Join us [on Zoom](#) for “second hour” electives, including: “Defund the Police? An Abolition Curriculum” led by Karl Shelly, “Sermon Response” facilitated by Scott Coulter, and “Harry Potter” led by Lora Nafziger.**

**7pm – Congregational Meeting [via Zoom](#).** The agenda includes: (1) first reading of [the 2022 Spending Plan](#), and information about (2) [updated Safe Church documents](#), (3) the [congregational pastoral review process](#), (4) [Anna Yoder Schlabach’s ordination](#), and (5) church office staffing. Please read the linked documents in advance of the meeting. The congregational meeting is open to all regular Assembly participants (not only to covenanted members).

**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).**

## COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:55am Children in Worship</li> <li>• 10am Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>• 11:15am Second Hour</li> <li>• 7pm Congregational Meeting <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	Jan 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6:30pm Dance Group</li> </ul>		Jan 26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>		Jan 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	
Jan 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:55am Children in Worship</li> <li>• 10am Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>• 11:15am Second Hour</li> </ul>		Feb 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7pm Leadership Group</li> </ul>	Feb 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>• 3pm Lunch Bunch <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>		Feb 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30am Greencroft Meetup <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>• 12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	
Feb 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:55am Children in Worship</li> <li>• 10am Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>• 11:15am Second Hour</li> <li>• 8pm Anti-racism accountability group <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>			Feb 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>		Feb 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	

## MEAL TRAIN

**Some of you have been praying for Sandra McMasters**, a Rieth Park Neighborhood Association officer and AMC participant. (You may remember that Sandra preached in March 2020, in our last pre-pandemic worship service). She has come through a second brain surgery to relieve fluid and has experienced a rare form of meningitis. After more than two weeks in the hospital in Elkhart, she is expected home by this Friday. Her husband has tested positive for covid (mild case; the family is vaccinated) and has been quarantined, after having used up his vacation and sick days. So meals for them and their teenage daughter would be welcome for the next two weeks. You can sign up to bring them a meal at <https://takethemameal.com/IUMS2327>. Call Mary Gilbert (574-534-1852) with questions.

## DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

**In response to a request from NIJC**, Safety Networks has agreed to sponsor a Honduran woman and her 2 daughters who are seeking asylum in the US. After having been separated for 8 months, we anticipate them being reunited and arriving in Goshen in the next 1-2 weeks. Small Group Crisalda has graciously agreed to provide hands-on support and coordination, in collaboration with Safety Networks. But we're hoping the larger Assembly family will also help us welcome them to our community. We are furnishing an apartment and planning for their physical needs - if you have items to donate, be in contact with Gabriela Ochoa ([americaocha09@gmail.com](mailto:americaocha09@gmail.com)) or Char Yutzzy ([yutzzychar@gmail.com](mailto:yutzzychar@gmail.com)). We are still in need of 2 Dressers, Curtains, a vacuum cleaner, misc kitchen and household supplies. If you have time and talents to offer, contact Naomi Roots ([roots.naomi@gmail.com](mailto:roots.naomi@gmail.com)). If you're able to make a financial contribution to help cover rent and living expenses, please make your donation to Assembly and direct it to Safety Networks.

**In response to the National Defense Authorization Act**, Mennonite Church USA and Mennonites Against Militarism co-wrote a "Statement on the value and morality of the 2022 U.S. defense budget." This statement speaks out against the funding of this act and gives several tangible ways that you can take action. Read the statement here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/transformational-peacemaking/statement-2022-defense-budget/>.

**The MCC Great Lakes (Take Home) Comforter Bash in Goshen is in full swing!** We invite you to join us in making as many comforters for MCC as possible. The supplies needed to make a comforter are available until March 1 for pick up at the MCC Material Resources Center at The Depot (door #2) Monday-Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. or by appointment. Call Nadine Zook Miller at 574-534-4071 to schedule or if you have questions.

## COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

**Pastor Karl Shelly** is on vacation and will return to work on January 29. Contact Anna, Lora, or Scott if you need to speak with a pastor this week.

**Keith Graber Miller** will speak in Goshen College's chapel at 10 am Wed Jan 26, talking about his faith pilgrimage. Others are welcome to attend in GC's Church-Chapel or listen in via livestream through this link: <https://www.goshen.edu/news/live-stream/>

**February Lunch Bunch Zoom** is moving to **3pm on Wednesday February 2** to accommodate the time change for our speaker Rose Stutzman from Saipan.

**Small group reps** met recently and heard presentations about the Pastor-Congregation Review process and how participants can get involved, and the Leader Selection process and how small groups play a vital role in that. To learn more, ask your small group rep.

**The Leader Selection process** is the way the Assembly congregation discerns who will serve in various volunteer leadership roles in the coming year. We do this discernment in small groups. If you are not in a small group but you want to volunteer yourself for a committee, you are invited to complete the [online Leader Selection Worksheet](#). If you have any questions about the process, please talk with your small group rep, or you may talk to one of the pastors. Worksheets are **due by Sunday Feb 20!**

If you are NOT in a small group but you don't want to miss out on the Assembly Leader Selection process, you are welcome to join a **one-time, ad hoc small group** meeting for Leader Selection. Participants at this meeting would, together by consensus, discern names to recommend to the Leader Selection Committee for various volunteer roles in church life. If this interests you, contact [Scott Coulter](#) by Friday Feb 4 for more information.

**Building Tithe Proposal:** Assembly decided in 2015 that our fundraising for the building project (which included the completion of the new worship space in 2019) would "include a tithe benefiting those in the body of Christ who cannot afford a renovation project like ours." In December 2017 the congregation decided to give the first half of this tithe to Join Hands (<https://www.mennonitemen.org/JoinHands/>). The second half of the tithe was to be given away after the building project was completed. The ad hoc building tithe committee is Leon Bauman, Scott Coulter, & Eric Yordy. We propose giving the second half of this tithe also to Join Hands. The mission of that organization fits closely with the goal of our building tithe. Join Hands has given away \$2.5 million to churches all over the country and world. **We welcome your feedback on this proposal, including any alternative suggestions for tithe recipients you would like us to consider. Please [contact Scott Coulter](#) with your feedback no later than February 13.**

**Free COVID-19 At Home Rapid Test Kits** can be ordered here: <https://special.usps.com/testkits>. Each household is eligible to receive one set of 4 tests. Order your test kits now, and tell your friends and neighbors!

**Anabaptist World Subscriptions** should be renewed through the church office by January 31. Please contact [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org) if you are interested in subscribing at the group rate through the church office, or if you are renewing your subscription. (Payment will be due April 4th).

**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

[Find COVID-19 Information 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:** Vary. Contact the church office at [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org) or leave a message at 574-534-4190

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**Assembly's own Marshall V. King**, a longtime journalist in Elkhart County and adjunct professor of communication at Goshen College, will talk about his new book, "Disarmed: The Radical Life and Legacy of Michael 'MJ' Sharp" Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. in Goshen College's Umble Center. This event will also be streamed live at [goshen.edu/livestream](https://goshen.edu/livestream).

**Tues Feb 22 at 7pm – Been in the Struggle Conversation.** Join a CommonRead conversation with Assembly's own Regina Shands Stoltzfus, and her friend and coauthor Tobin Miller Shearer. [Click here to register](#). Their new book *Been in the Struggle* nurtures, challenges, and fosters the work and witness of dismantling racism for the long haul. Filled with wisdom and insight from nearly three decades of partnering across racial lines in this work, authors Regina Shands Stoltzfus and Tobin Miller Shearer offer a powerful mix of practical direction and poignant reflection to empower and sustain those working to dismantle racism, regardless of their stage on the journey.

**History of Indigenous People of this area - Sat Feb 26 at 10am** You are invited to the Middlebury Public Library to hear Luke Gascho speak about the history of indigenous people of this area. This event is Saturday, February 26th at 10:00am, and is sponsored by the Peace and Justice Action Group of Middlebury Church of the Brethren. For more information call 574 825-2955.

### **Mennonite Mission Network | "Stir Up Peace" video series**

As part of its peace witness, Mission Network has re-launched "[Stir Up Peace](#)," a nine-episode educational video mini-series that details how nonviolent direct action can be applied to create change. Episode 1 references Martin Luther King Jr., who reminded us that patience is necessary in that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Read the news release [here](#).

**Everence Scholarships.** Is your child a senior? Are they considering college admission? If so, Everence Financial is accepting scholarship applications for the 2022-2023 school year, until Feb. 28th. Everence scholarships are a member benefit. To qualify, the student, their parents or legal guardian need to own or use an Everence product. Feel free to contact Everence via their website or email with questions. (<https://www.everence.com/living-the-values/grants-and-scholarships-and-awards>)

**Lacasa, Inc. offers free classes via Zoom in February.** "Master your credit," "Master your money," "Master your debt," "Master homeownership". Learn more here: <https://lacasainc.net/classes/>.

**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](#).

**Michiana Regional Seed Swap** has been rescheduled for Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022, 10 am. to 2:30 p.m., at the Goshen College Church-Chapel. Join fellow gardeners, growers and plant enthusiasts at this free event to gather and exchange seeds, compare and discuss varieties, attend educational sessions and more. Participants are not required to bring seeds to the event, but if you save seeds please bring them along! Learn more at [goshen.edu/merrylea/seedswap](https://goshen.edu/merrylea/seedswap)

**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](http://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](#).

**Central District Conference** - Explore what is happening in the conference through a variety of stories and vignettes in [this January issue of Reporter](#). Also, please note the schedule of upcoming mid-year meetings and the Annual Meeting of Central District Conference, and the Mennonite Church USA special delegate session.

**Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer** for young people, ages 15-22, considering participation in Youth Venture next summer. Experiences include: learning about the Hopi people in Kykotsmovi, Arizona; joining an immigration/borderlands tour in Tucson, Arizona; and engaging with a civil rights learning tour in the southern states. International opportunities may also be available, depending on the COVID-19 situation.

**Glen Guyton on “Be Transformed”**. Through his mother’s recent death, Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) Executive Director Glen Guyton gained a renewed appreciation for the brevity of life and an understanding that life is too short for anger and hatred. In his blog, “A change in me, be transformed,” Guyton encourages MC USA delegates to keep this in mind, as they prepare for the Special Session of the Delegate Assembly, May 27-30, in Kansas City, Missouri. Read more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/a-change-in-me-be-transformed/>.

**Mennonite Men** is an organization engaged in planting trees, unpacking ways that patriarchy and white supremacy have been interwoven, and partnering to build churches in the US and around the world. Learn more about their work [here](#).

**Mennonite Disaster Service’s newsletter “On the Level”**; in the current issue: MDS needs volunteers in California and Washington, MDS has several employment opportunities to join our team, and you'll find links to join the MDS Annual Celebration online. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/32dfqLs>

**Pathways Retreat** will be holding their annual Candlemas and Crepes celebration via Zoom on Wednesday, January 26 at 7pm. Ash Wednesday prayers will be held at noon on March 2. Daily prayers have resumed and are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at [pathwaysretreat.org](http://pathwaysretreat.org). Read the January Pathways Newsletter here: <https://static-promote.weebly.com/share/38080959-39a6-4b6a-8522-378135cc8358>

**Questions about Community Peacemaker Teams? Thurs Jan 27 at 12 Noon Eastern (11am Chicago time)**. You are invited to a conversation around the CPT name change, about what it means to be a community rooted in spirituality and do the work of justice in different contexts. Bring your questions! Click [here](#) to join. “Everyone at CPT is encouraged to bring their expression of spirituality or faith or what motivates them to the work of peacebuilding while grounded in our shared values of equality, human dignity, justice and peace.” For more information, visit [https://cpt.org/about/cpt-name-change?blm\\_aid=22546](https://cpt.org/about/cpt-name-change?blm_aid=22546).

**CommonRead: “Been in the Struggle”**. Herald Press, Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada are encouraging Mennonites to read carefully selected books to equip the church. Join other North American Mennonites in reading the current CommonRead book, “Been in the Struggle: Pursuing an Antiracist Spirituality” by Regina Shands Stoltzfus and Tobin Miller Shearer. Learn more here: <https://www.mennomedia.org/commonread/>.

**Abolition Resource**. Mennonite Church USA developed a new online resource to help connect churches doing abolition work. An accompaniment to the “Defund the Police? An Abolition Curriculum,” the web page promotes mutual support and resource sharing between churches. Learn more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/abolition-networking-resource/>.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Associate Conference Minister Opening.** The Central District Conference (CDC) of Mennonite Church USA seeks a .33 - .5 FTE associate conference minister with primary responsibility for resourcing emerging communities of faith. CDC currently serves 48 congregations across 11 states. Several new or potential communities of faith are exploring how they are called to be Church. The successful candidate will demonstrate a deep love for the Anabaptist/Mennonite church in its many forms, be able to engage in creative discernment strategies, and be informed by MC USA agency resources. Travel is expected. Candidates who bring additional diversity to our current CDC staff are preferred. Salary commensurate with MC USA guidelines. For job descriptions and questions, contact the search committee chairperson, Jan Lugibihl at [jan.lugibihl@gmail.com](mailto:jan.lugibihl@gmail.com).

**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.](#)

**Other jobs in Mennonite Education** are posted here: <https://mailchi.mp/4a204ab60667/prayers-for-mennonite-education-5084781?e=93c8c56609>

**Come work at Goshen College!** GC has many employment opportunities for teaching faculty, administrative staff and more. Visit [goshen.edu/employment](http://goshen.edu/employment) to see all job openings and learn more.