



Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

<https://assemblymennonite.org/>

office@assemblymennonite.org

[Find COVID-19 Information Here](#)

AssemblyLine

May 15, 2022

Volume XLI, Number 20

WORSHIP

Join us Sundays at 9:30AM in Person, or [on Zoom](#)

<p>May 15 9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>Worship Leader: Elena Fischer Sermon: Beverly Lapp Scripture: John 13:31-35, Revelation 21:1-6</p>	<p>May 22 9:30 AM Worship <i>Baby Dedications</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Jodi Beyeler Sermon: Lora Nafziger Scripture: John 14:23-29, Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5</p>
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SUNDAY MAY 15

9:30am Worship. During Eastertide our theme in first hour is “Recognizing Christ Among Us”. In our lectionary texts, Jesus spends his last days, following his death and resurrection, with his disciples. During these times of turbulence, war, and uncertainty, may we hear Jesus’ words of comfort: “Peace I leave with you...do not let your hearts be troubled” as an invitation to recognize Christ among us. Small groups are planning and leading worship services this season.

10:45am – Sunday school for children and youth will immediately follow worship. See the Order of Worship for classroom locations.

11am - Second Hour Electives: These elective discussion groups are for any interested adults.

Reparations: A Call for Racial Justice and Repair: Karl Shelly will join the group to speak on the history of the call for reparations. Hosted by Arden Shank and Norm Kauffman in the Multipurpose Space.

Family Economics Come for engaging conversations with various parents on allowance, jobs & chores, extra-curriculars, and more. This Sunday’s topic will be Family budget- How much is the budget shared with the larger family? How much do children know about family finances? This week’s panelists are Jen and Ben Bontrager. Hosted by Dana Miller, located in Multipurpose North(East).

Some Assembly Required This Assembly elective is for anyone who is new(ish) to Assembly - along with anyone newly curious about how Assembly works, and its unique practices and history. This week’s session is called: “How do we do corporate worship?” – We will hear from Anna Yoder Schlabach, pastor of worship and pastoral care, about Assembly’s values and practices of participatory worship, how you can actively contribute to worship, the privileges of the child at Assembly, and other topics. Hosted by Scott Coulter, located in Multipurpose North(West).

To find the two classrooms in Multipurpose North, you must walk past the mailboxes to the north entrance of the meetinghouse, then turn left (west) to go down the north hallway. Family Economics is across from the church office; Some Assembly Required is across from room 12. Look for a map posted at the literature table.

Sing to the Lord a New Song! Actually, a whole bunch of new songs. Explore nine new hymns in *Voices Together* every week. No weekly theme, great if you can only stay for second hour a couple random Sundays. Come ready to sing! Hosted by Becky Snider in the Worship Space. Masks are required for this elective.

12pm – Parent Meeting. Immediately after second hour-- parents, children and youth are invited to gather for a pizza lunch. The children will be supervised by high schoolers and a couple of adults; children can eat and play inside, or outside on the playground. Parents and Sunday school teachers will gather to talk together about Sunday school and parenting, and for relationship building. If you can bring vegetables or a bag of chips to share, please drop them in the kitchen before church. Hosted by the Christian Ed Committee.

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THUR	FRIDAY	SAT
May 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 12pm Parent meeting 						
May 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 1pm JYF gathering MYF bike trip to Middlebury 	May 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Dance group 	May 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Labyrinth walk 7:15pm Small group reps meeting on Zoom 			May 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCUSA Special Delegate Session in Kansas City 	May 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCUSA Special Delegate Session in Kansas City
May 29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Worship & Sunday school Lora Nafziger Sabbatical Begins (thru Sept 3) MCUSA Special Delegate Session in Kansas City 	May 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCUSA Special Delegate Session in Kansas City 				June 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 am Greencroft Meetup 	

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>.

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

Administrative Assistant: Becky Overholt (Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm) office@assemblymennonite.org; 574-534-4190

Church Administrator: Naomi Roots (no office hours; contact office@assemblymennonite.org)

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

Norah Janzen (3rd Bethany) turned 10 on May 10th! Norah enjoys reading lots of books, going to school and spending time with her friends. Norah likes to bake, crochet, create things and jump on the trampoline. With her family she likes to do remakes of contest shows and be the judge!



Current Mask Policy: Masks are still required during first hour worship for everyone ages 2 and older, and for singing in the worship space. Masks are optional in second hour during non-singing electives, and during fellowship time. Masks are also optional in Sunday school classrooms for children ages 5 and up. (Masks are still required in Sunday school for ages 2-4).

([Our Covid Advisory Committee](#) encourages everyone to be aware of the risks of attending large gatherings, particularly for those who are immuno-compromised or unvaccinated.)

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Parent Meeting Sunday May 15. Pizza lunch for parents and children after church this Sunday. Immediately after Second hour parents, children and youth are invited to gather for a pizza lunch. The children will be supervised by high schoolers and a couple of adults and can eat and play inside or outside on the playground. Adults will gather to talk together about Sunday school, parenting, and for relationship building. If you can bring vegetables or a bag of chips to share, please drop them in the kitchen before church. Hosted by the Christian Ed Committee.

Congratulations! Congratulations to Kristen Swartley & Luis Tapia Rubio, who celebrated their marriage on Saturday, May 14, here at Assembly. Blessings to you both as you continue your journey together.

Memorial wall-piece. We are working at creating an indoor memorial wall-piece with the names of Assembly attendees who have died, and in the coming months we'll be adding names to it. You can see the beautiful piece that Ben Nelson created outside of the kitchen under the sky light. If you know of someone who you think should be [on this list](#) and do not see their name, or if a family member's name is on this list and you do not want it on the wall, or if the information is incorrect please contact Anna Yoder Schlabach. To read the Artist's Statement, click [here](#).

Learn to know newer participants. Be sure to check out the photo board in the Multipurpose Space that includes photos and introduction to several of our newer participants. (These have also been included in Prayer & Sharing emails). Look for additions to this board every couple of weeks!

Pastoral Sabbatical & Parental Leave. Lora Nafziger will be on sabbatical May 29-Sept 3. Her sabbatical will include time for rest and retreat, for connection with her loved ones, and exploring and connecting with the Book of Creation and the Divine. The Lily Grant funding Lora's sabbatical is also funding renewal opportunities for the congregation, including canoeing and hiking, planting trees, and retreats at Pathways and at Camp Friedenswald. You can read about the plan for pastoral coverage during Lora's sabbatical [here](#).

In addition, Scott Coulter plans to take six weeks of parental leave this fall, from July 23-Aug 14, and Sept 12-Sept 30. This leave will allow time to adjust to the arrival of a new child, and time to adjust to his spouse's return to work.

Upcoming Congregational Meeting. The agenda for the meeting on June 5 will include (1) presentation of the recently completed [Congregational Pastoral Review](#), (2) affirmation of the completed [Leader Selection slate for 2022-2023](#), (3) sharing of the [2021 State of the Congregation Report](#), and (4) continuing discussion of reparations, following up on the current elective. You are encouraged to read the linked documents and to contact Randy Roth (Leadership Group Chair)

or Scott Coulter (Pastor of Congregational Life) with any questions. Please join us at 7pm Sunday June 5 on Zoom if you are able.

Thank You from Leader Selection Committee. I (Naomi Chapman) want to say a big “Thank You” to all of our Assembly family. It is such a good thing to see us all working together, through small groups and through the thoughtful consideration that was evident in your responses as part of the Leader Selection process. Yes, it was good to hear people say, ‘yes, I can do that’. But it was also good to hear the ‘no’ responses because I heard many good reasons for those no’s. I know we, the committee, appreciated how we all work together. Thank you so much!

Eastertide -- April 24-June 5, 2022. Our theme this year is “Recognizing Christ Among Us.” Our lectionary texts for this season give us an intimate picture of Jesus’ last days with his disciples. During this season, we will have small groups planning and leading worship services. Sunday School will be offered for children after worship, and electives will be offered for adults. Electives will include: Sing to the Lord a New Song! Some Assembly Required, Family Economics, & Reparations: A Call for Racial Justice & Repair. This season ends with recovenanting at Pentecost. More information on Eastertide can be found on the literature table or read [here](#).

Share Prayer Requests by [filling out the online form at this link](#). Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays.

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Want to engage in creation care and climate action by planting trees? All genders and ages 18+ are invited to help plant 300 trees at the Mishawaka toll plaza along the Indiana Toll Road on **Friday morning, May 20**. This project is part of *JoinTrees*, a campaign to plant one million trees to help restore the Earth. Contact Steve Thomas at SteveT@MennoniteMen.org to help with this project. Learn more about *JoinTrees* at mennonitemen.org/jointrees.

Mennonites Against Militarism – a collaboration of [Mennonite Central Committee, U.S.](#) (MCC) and [Mennonite Church USA](#) (MC USA) – is seeking to launch an initiative to counter military recruitment of U.S. youth. The vision for the project, Alternatives to Military Enlistment Network (AMEN), is to connect young people with volunteer advisors who can help them find non-military career, service and training opportunities. Mennonites Against Militarism invites interested volunteers to complete a [brief survey](#) that identifies areas in which they may engage with AMEN, including administration, web and graphic design, publicity, budgeting, fundraising and guidance/career counseling. Veterans and others who understand the realities of war and military recruitment are also encouraged to complete the form.

Volunteer Meeting at MCC Thrift at Woodland Crossing - Tuesday May 24 and Wednesday May 25, 10:00-11:30am. These meetings are identical, pick the one that works best for you. Come and learn about each department and see where you might like to plug in.

Multicultural Peace Collaborative for young adults. The 2nd annual Multicultural Peace Collaboration is bringing together young leaders from various backgrounds, communities and ethnicities in an effort to learn from one another, understand justice and move towards reconciliation. Join us for this experience of Christ-centered peacemaking as we are immersed in local and historical Latinx contexts while journeying from San Diego to Fresno, California, on June 14-22. Early bird registration ends May 20. Last day to register is June 1. More information and registration: mailchi.mp/93b2f1e07d8d/mpc2022

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Mission podcast. Through six episodes, the ['MissionWary?' podcast](#) has explored how the word 'mission' can mean distinctly different things to those who encounter it. On **May 16 at 12 pm**, join hosts Lynda, Travis and special guest Andrew Suderman for a live episode of 'MissionWary?' on Zoom and Facebook Live! Suderman, director of global partnerships with Mennonite Mission Network, brings a deep knowledge of the historical context of Christian mission, as well as a passion for what the future of mission can look like. [Register on Zoom](#) for this event, or [click here](#) to follow us on Facebook and to be notified when the broadcast goes live!

Ukrainian film showing. Goshen Theater will be showing the movie “The Guide” (2014, Rated R) on **May 20 at 7:00 p.m.** This event is co-sponsored by Art House and Goshen Theater. All proceeds go a Ukrainian Charity - TBD. The main child role, Peter, is played by Anton Sviatoslav Greene (son of Solomia Soroka, violin professor at Goshen College). Both

Solomia and Anton will be at this showing and will introduce the film with a Q & A period afterward. See the poster hanging above the lit table for more information.

Gardening for good. Creation care tips for your backyard and stories from Bolivia: **May 26 at 8 p.m. EDT**

In this virtual visit, we'll explore what it looks like to care for the planet, from our own backyards to remote Bolivian communities. Join us to learn gardening and conservation tips in your own garden, then travel south to hear incredible stories from MCC's projects in Bolivia. Register here: mcc.org/mcc-virtual-visits

AMBS Trees of Life Retreat: June 3–4 (Friday at AMBS; Saturday at Camp Friedenswald). This retreat led by Janeen Bertsche Johnson, MDiv, will weave together study of biblical texts about trees; understanding of trees as organisms and within ecosystems; ecological issues; and spiritual practices. The retreat can be taken for one hour of academic credit (\$560 total) or as a noncredit retreat (\$60 total). Both amounts include supper on Friday, lunch on Saturday and the use of the camp. (Lodging is not included.) Register by May 27. ambs.edu/trees

2023 Celtic Pilgrimage. Jane Roeschley and Karla Minter, both spiritual directors, will be leading a two-week Celtic Pilgrimage to Iona and Glendalough, June 2-18, 2023. Pilgrimage as a spiritual practice offers the opportunity to travel slowly and mindfully, with the intention of connecting spiritually with God, with fellow pilgrims and with sacred places. More information can be found [here](#).

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Joy Buschert will be turning 95 on May 21! If you would like to send her a birthday card her address is: Joy Buschert, Room 600, Waterford Crossing, 1212 Waterford Circle, Goshen, IN 46526.

CAMP FRIEDENSWALD

Justice Camp... for Justice - July 25-29 (pay on a sliding scale as you are able). Are you a **young adult** with a passion for justice? Do you miss your days as a camper or want to experience camp for the first time without breaking the bank? Join us for a special week of programming as we combine some of the fun and community-building aspects of a week at camp with the work of service and learning. Join together as a group of people who are passionate about enacting justice in the world and spend a week intentionally working to live in right-relationship with one another and with the land. Throughout the week we will be joined by Practitioners who will share with us their wealth of experience and knowledge spanning a variety of subjects within our theme of justice-work, or unraveling systems of violence and creating conditions for shalom. **Register by May 31** [here](#).

Summer Getaway July 25-29. Looking to get away this summer? Want to experience the wonder of Camp without expectation of group activities? (We love this stuff, but know it's not for everyone!) Join us for this Monday-Friday Getaway. We'll provide the simple cabin and meals, lake & trails, and you can feel free to pace your week in the way that feels right to you. [Discover more](#) and [inquire today!](#)

WIDER CHURCH

Mennonite Church USA Special Delegate Session. May 27-30, delegates from across Mennonite Church USA will be gathering in Kansas City for the Special Delegate Session on Membership Guidelines. Karl Shelly, Anna Yoder Schlabach, Jamie Lake & Naomi Lapp Klassen will be attending as our delegates. Here are links to various resources in preparation for the Special Delegate Session: [Background and Summary Document of the Four Resolutions](#), [April 11 CDC Zoom conversation with background and summary of resolutions](#), and [Video on the history of the Membership Guidelines from Atlantic Coast Conference](#). Anna has written [this letter](#) to the Assembly congregation about her hopes for the upcoming delegate session, and how we might prepare for the potential outcomes.

Vacation Bible School. We are delighted to invite children PK-6th grade are to participate in a new peace themed Vacation Bible School (VBS) partnership with local Mennonite churches. VBS will take place **June 19-22** in the evenings at Silverwood Mennonite church. In order to participate, register here. <https://forms.gle/8pXsoH5Bf7bJWkfM8> If you are an adult or highschooler interested in volunteering please let Lora Nafziger know.

Pathways Retreat. Join us for a creation care work day on May 21, 1-4pm. Also, the seven [Stations of the Resurrection](#), painted by watercolor artist Sylvie Gudin, will be in the Pathways woods until Pentecost, June 4. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org. Pathways' most recent newsletter can be found [here](#).

MCC Great Lakes Thank you. Please accept sincere thanks from Mennonite Central Committee and our partners in Ukraine for your recent donation to respond to this crisis as well as your continuing support for the work of MCC in other countries. Your gifts are being used immediately to alleviate the suffering of some of the most vulnerable folks affected by this war. MCC's church partners are providing emergency shelter, hot meals and food baskets, cash assistance, medicine, transportation, and other essential items to Internally Displaced People and conflict-affected families as an outreach of their ministry. Additionally, MCC is sending five shipments of material resources to Ukraine which will include a mix of relief kits, hygiene kits, infant care kits, comforters as well as canned meat, offering a tangible sign to people that they are not forgotten. Please visit mcc.org for updated stories (<https://mcc.org/stories/hope-still-standing>) from Ukraine. Thank you for your part in sharing God's love and compassion with the vulnerable people of Ukraine in the name of Christ. - Les Gustafson-Zook, MCC Great Lakes

MC USA new role on racial/ethnic engagement. Mennonite Church USA has created a new role focused on racial/ethnic engagement and announced several other staff transitions. Sue Park-Hur, the newly appointed director of racial/ethnic engagement, will work with the various racial/ethnic entities within MC USA, support the program agencies in this work and help denominational leaders to define diversity, equity and inclusion goals, standards and desired outcomes. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/new-position-transitions

Mission Network prayer request. Mennonite Mission Network's Service Adventure participants are in the final months of living in their unit houses and working in their volunteer placements. Pray for them as they bring closure to the relationships they built in their hosting community and find ways to implement what they learned as they move into their future.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Landscaping job. Looking for an Assembly person(s) who has landscaping skills. I need slope grading corrected so water does not flow toward my house, and I would like window wells installed. Call Jeannette Hughes at 574 312 3078 or email her at jeannettechristinahughes@gmail.com if interested or if you have a lead on someone who might be interested.

Jobs in Mennonite Education can be found [here](#).

Mennonite Church USA's job postings are [here](#).