

## WORSHIP

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

<p><b>August 14</b>  <b>9:30 AM Worship and Sunday school</b>  <i>Begin Fall Worship &amp; SS</i></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Stephen Lowe  <b>Scripture:</b> Ecclesiastes 1-12</p>	<p><b>August 21</b>  <b>9:30 AM Worship and Sunday school</b></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Becky Snider  <b>Sermon:</b> Paul Keim  <b>Scripture:</b> Ecclesiastes 1:1-18; 12:9-14</p>
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## SUNDAY AUGUST 12

**9:30am Worship** This is the first Sunday of our fall worship series on Ecclesiastes. This week, we'll kick off the Bible Study by hearing most of the book read or performed. We encourage you to read the book ahead of time. This short little book contains questions and ideas that still feel relevant today: What is the point? What gives life meaning? How do we live in a time of unjust economic systems and wealth inequality? There is indeed nothing new under the sun. [Read the full intro here](#)

**Sunday School** starts this Sunday! Teachers will be dismissed at the beginning of the closing hymn. Children are dismissed after the closing hymn. See below for classrooms.

Class	Room
Babies	2A (Nursery)
2's	7&8
3's	6
PreK	2B
K/grade 1	Gather in Room 9
Grade 2&3	5
Grade 4&5	3B
JYF (grades 6-8)	1A&B
MYF (grades 9-12)	3A

**Second Hour - Adult ed** Beginning this Sunday, we'll have two weeks of Age Based adult conversation groups during second hour. We'll be discussing [Assembly practices](#) and [small group life](#). The locations are: Under 40: worship benches nearest the playground, 40-55: worship space benches nearest the parking lot, 56-70: Multipurpose space north, 70+: South end of Multipurpose space South. Look for signs. There's also a second option if structured conversation isn't your thing: there will be a table with art supplies in the multipurpose space to make Ecclesiastes inspired art or greeting cards.

**Masks are required during worship services for everyone ages 2 and older.**

We are thankful that we can worship (and sing!) together in person, while taking reasonable precautions that protect the most vulnerable among us.

**For Sunday school/2<sup>nd</sup> hour:** Masks are required for children ages 2-5 and their teachers.

Our Covid Advisory Committee encourages everyone be aware of the risks of attending large gatherings, particularly for those who are immunocompromised or unvaccinated. Please read their suggestions [here](#).

## CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

**Lia Sywulka (2nd, BCS) turned 7 on July 20!** Lia celebrated her birthday with a unicorn cake, a rice krispie cake at the beach, and possibly a third cake in Guatemala. She has gone to 4 different schools in the last four years, but she likes getting to explore new schools and learn about them. She enjoys reading Jack and Annie books and loves swimming in her pool. She's also super good at doing the splits.



**Beck Mast (GCMS) turned 4 on August 9!** Beck enjoys swimming in his pool, hanging out with his grandma and going to his dad's beach volleyball games. This summer he went to Little Eden with his family. He's pretty excited about the big machines working on the road outside his house.

**Phoenix Coonan-Johnson (CCYC) turns 4 on August 14!** Phoenix loves playing with water, spontaneous singing, "cooking" imaginative meals for her family, and eating fruit straight off the plant from the garden. Two of her highlights this summer were swimming at the lake and flying on an airplane to Deutschland to visit her Oma.



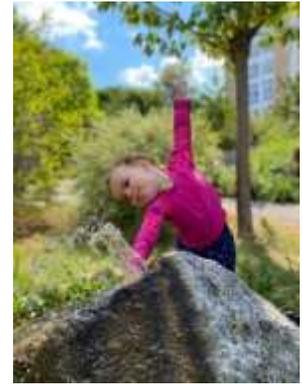
**Linden Rothshank (4th grade, BCS) turns 10 on August 14!** Linden got to take a trip to Chicago with his dad for his birthday and pick out two sets at the Lego store. He's looking forward to celebrating with a Camp Cretaceous birthday party with mini lemon braids shaped like dinosaurs. He is great at making stop motion videos and enjoys playing minecraft and reading graphic novels.

**Winnie Yost turns 2 on August 14!** Winnie enjoys books, big trucks and trains. She hasn't met a dog she doesn't like, and loves being outside. Her favorite things to play with are her toy kitchen, anything that resembles a phone, and every rock that crosses her path. Her best friend is her dog, Oscar. Winnie became a big sister last week, and she likes to point out all of her sister's body parts and reiterate how tiny they are.



**Saya Quintana (2<sup>nd</sup>, Waterford) turns 8 on August 15!** Saya enjoys all things arts & crafts. This summer she enjoyed swimming lessons, art camp, soccer camp, and camping with friends. One of her favorite out-of-town trips was staying with her baby cousin, Asa, in Chicago.

**Xavier Coonan-Johnson (CCYC) turns 2 on August 18!** Xavi loves trucks and tractors, water, puzzles, and books. He enjoys greeting others with a wave, giving out fist bumps, and practicing new words.



## COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURS	FRIDAY	SAT
Aug 12 <i>Begin Fall Worship &amp; SS</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday school</li> </ul>						
Aug 21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday school</li> </ul>	Aug 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm Dance group</li> </ul>	Aug 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm Labyrinth Walk</li> <li>7:15pm Small group reps <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>				

## COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

**Congratulations** to Joni, Aaron and Winnie Yost on the birth of baby Maisie! Maisie was born Monday afternoon and all are doing well. Here's a link to take them a meal. <https://takethemameal.com/MEOR3170>

**September is "Small Group Shuffle" time** – that time of year when we form new small groups and help people find their way into Assembly small groups. If you're interested in joining or changing small groups, please let Pastor Karl Shelly know by filling out the online form [here](#), or by filling out the flyer on the literature table.

**Thank you** to all who helped roll yarn and cut t-shirt squares. Everything I set out was finished, fabric squares even multiplied...I was amazed! Thank you so much for your gift of time, energy and additional fabric you donated to the Chamberlain Elementary Art department. My students will reap the benefits of your thoughtful, careful work. Karen Graber Roth

**Visuals:** The visuals we're using for this season were created by Allison Troyer, a member of Grand Rapids Mennonite Fellowship. She created them for the Central District Conference Annual Assembly, inspired by the theme, "Tending Transformation." You can read about her four pieces, [Snake, Bee, Squirrel and Beaver here](#). These earthy woven pieces relate particularly well to the seasonal wisdom of Ecclesiastes 3: "There is a time for everything...a season to plant and season to harvest, to scatter stones and to gather them, to tear and to mend."

**Vacation:** Karl Shelly is on vacation August 11-21. Please contact [Anna Yoder Schlabach](#) for any pastoral needs.

**Prayer Requests.** Please share prayer requests by contacting one of the pastors via email or phone. Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery.** Since the first of July I have been in contact with Katerina Friesen, coalition organizer, for the [Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition](#). I have attached the [flyer](#) that they send out inviting congregations to join them. I am interested in being a part of it and wonder if others from Assembly might join me in the zoom meetings with them. If interested, contact [Norm Kauffmann](#).

**Goshen's Jewish Story: How a Small Group of Peddlers and Merchants Built a Community: August 25, 6:30pm, Ann M. Schrock Auditorium, lower floor at Goshen Public Library.** Goshen was once home to a small Jewish community that started forming as early as the 1850s. By the turn of the 20th century, this community had a thriving business, social, and religious presence in Goshen. Since many of Goshen's residents are unaware of this rich history, this event is dedicated to telling a part of Goshen's Jewish story and making it visible again. Presenter, Alyssa Rhodes, grew up in Goshen and recently graduated with a B.A. in Judaic Studies from Brooklyn College. She will be sharing photos, news clippings, and stories that she has discovered through her research on Goshen's Jewish community. Also joining us will be Mike Brown, Director of The Indiana Jewish Historical Society, a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization with a mission to collect, preserve, publish, and share the Jewish experience in Indiana. Space is limited. Please RSVP to [Barb Hassan](#). Masks optional.

**Trauma training.** The Center for Justice and Peacebuilding in Harrisonburg, VA, offers STAR training this fall both in person and online. Strategies for Trauma and Resilience (STAR) trainings offer an educational gateway toward working and living in more trauma-informed ways. Click [here](#) for more information.

## CAMP FRIEDENSWALD FALL PROGRAMS

**Women's Retreat September 16-18.** Join us for spirit-filled worship, relaxation among friends, trails to wander, and water to rest by. This annual retreat, planned by women from across Central District Conference of MC USA, seeks to provide a place of connection and gathering for women. This year's theme is "Embodying Courage: Healing Connections" featuring guest speaker Samantha Lioi. Find out [more](#) and [register today](#).

**Restoration Retreat October 21-23.** This retreat is designed for people who long for restoration in our world and desire to connect with others around this longing. You will leave feeling more connected, inspired, and empowered to work for positive change in your community and the world beyond. This retreat is open to all ages. A schedule and more information is available [online](#). [Register today](#)

**Fall Getaways October 14-16 & November 4-6.** Come on your own for a solitary retreat, or get away with family or friends! We'll provide the tasty meals, comfy cabin, and trails for exploring. This is a great way to enjoy the peaceful woods on your own schedule. [Register today](#) or find out [more](#).

## MICHIANA MENNONITE RELIEF SALE SEPT 23&24

- The annual quilt auction for the Relief Sale has some beautiful donations being prepared for the sale. Donations are still being accepted but must be registered by August 20. Contact Gail Shetler at [gail.shetler@gmail.com](mailto:gail.shetler@gmail.com).
- The Relief Sale Mens and Womens Choirs will rehearse Sundays beginning, Aug. 14, at 3 pm at College Mennonite Church. All are welcome!
- Runners and walkers: Be sure and visit the website (<https://runsignup.com/Race/IN/Goshen/MCCRunForRelief>) to register for the Run for Relief and, if you want a T-shirt, reserve your size. You can also register in person at the sale Friday evening or Saturday morning. There is a paper form on the web site you can fill out and mail in if you prefer. The registration fee remains a reasonable \$25 with T-shirt or \$20 without a T-shirt.
- Your help is needed with Children's Activities at the Relief Sale! Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4da9a829a2fbc61-2022>. Grab your spot hosting your favorite game!
- Start thinking about what you can contribute to the sale: baked goods, plants, crafts, quilting supplies, items for the online auction; or if you want to help with set-up, recycling, or working in a booth. Note there is **not** a garage sale this year.
- Keep collecting your coins for My Coins Count! Families and adults are invited to collect your coins to bring to the Michiana Relief Sale Sept. 23-24. Adults - consider giving kids seed money to use to raise money for My Coins Count! Your efforts will help support food projects benefiting children and families around the world through Mennonite Central Committee and its partners.
- Check out Ten Thousand Villages "Vintage Villages" online auction August 21-28, [Auctria](#) with a portion of sales benefiting the Relief Sale.

## WIDER CHURCH

**You're invited to the GRAND OPENING celebration for Thrift at Woodland Crossing!** Join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony with Elkhart Mayor Rod Roberson and other guests on Thursday, August 18 at 4 p.m. There will be special in-store sales throughout the day until 5 p.m., and light refreshments will be served from 3:30-5:00 p.m. As the newest shop in the Mennonite Central Committee thrift network, every purchase is a gift to the world. Thrift at Woodland Crossing is located at 138 W. Hively Ave., Suite 7 in Elkhart.

**MCC Bike Michiana September 16-18.** Join other bicycle enthusiasts of all skill levels for an enjoyable experience of pedaling the beautiful lake and farmland region of southern Michigan and northern Indiana. You will be supporting the mission and service of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). Terrain is rolling and flat. Fellowship and worship included. [More details](#) and [registration information](#) for the weekend at Amigo Centre in Sturgis, Michigan.

**Mennonite Church USA (MC USA)** is now offering a wide variety of MennoCon21 resources, including the evening sermons, seminars and Bible studies, for free on the MC USA website and YouTube channel. Learn more here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/resources-menncon21](http://mennoniteusa.org/news/resources-menncon21)

**Save the date for a Comforter Bash!** Make plans to join us on November 11 and 12 for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes Comforter Bash in Goshen. People of all ages are invited to knot comforters at Pleasant View Church (58529 County Road 23). For more information about the event visit [mcc.org/goshen-comforter-bash](http://mcc.org/goshen-comforter-bash) or contact LaVera Schlabach at 574.538.9629. A handmade comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten.

**Mennonite Arts Weekend.** Early-bird registration is open for the 2023 Mennonite Arts Weekend in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 3-5. Twelve artists and our featured musical group, A Girl Named Tom, will explore this year's theme BETWEEN: Embracing Vulnerability. You will find information about the participating artists, venue, schedule, and registration at [mennoniteartsweekend.org](http://mennoniteartsweekend.org). Hope to see you there!

**Mission Network prayer request.** Join Naomi Leary, Mennonite Mission Network's regional co-administrator for North America, as she praises God for renewed vigor in service programs across eight locations in the United States. After two years of decreased participation, due to the pandemic, the number of participants has doubled since last year. Pray for the 16 Mennonite Voluntary Service participants and the 19 Service Adventure participants — 12 youth and 7 unit leaders.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Bethany Christian School** job openings can be found [here](#). **Goshen College** job openings can be found [here](#). **AMBS** job openings can be found [here](#). **Other jobs in Mennonite education** can be found [here](#). **Mennonite Church USA's** job postings are [here](#).

**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

Karl Shelly [karlss@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org) 574-621-1037  
Anna Yoder Schlabach [annays@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:annays@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-5319  
*Scott Coulter (on Family leave)*  
*Lora Nafziger (on Sabbatical)*

**Pastor Emeritae:** Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

**Elders:** Randy Roth (chair), Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Sara Morris, Cheryl Shreiner, Ben Good-Elliott

**Youth Coordinators:** Erich Miller, Marlette Gomez Wengerd, Ryan Gomez Wengerd, Gretchen Krause

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

**Church Administrator:** Naomi Roots (Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-12pm) [naomikr@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:naomikr@assemblymennonite.org)