



WORSHIP

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

<p>August 28 9:30 AM Worship & Sunday school</p> <p>Worship Leader: Becky Smuts Sermon: Jim Stump Scripture: Ecclesiastes 6:7-12; 7:15-8:1</p>	<p>September 4 9:30 AM Worship & Sunday school 2nd hour Hymn sing Fellowship meal <i>2% offering</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Susan Nelson Sermon: Stephen Lowe Scripture: Ecclesiastes 11:6-12:8</p>
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SUNDAY AUGUST 28

9:30am Worship Our fall worship series focuses on the book of Ecclesiastes. 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 Teachers will be dismissed at the beginning of the closing hymn. Children are dismissed after the closing hymn. See below for classrooms.

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

Second Hour – Adults of all ages are invited to gather in the Worship Space for continued discussion of small group life and especially the small group shuffle, facilitated by Karl Shelly. If you're interested in being part of a small group, if you're currently in a small group, or if you have questions or opinions to share about small group life at Assembly, you are especially encouraged to participate. 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.

6-8pm MYF kick-off event at Ben and Jen Bontrager's (15278 CR 28, Goshen 46528). Hot dogs and veggie dogs will be provided and MYFers are asked to bring a snack, side or dessert. Activities could include swimming and kayaking as well as yard games so bring a swimsuit and towel if interested. Look forward to seeing everyone there.

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/2nd 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](#).

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURS	FRIDAY	SAT
Aug 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 6pm MYF kick-off event 					Sept 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Greencroft meet up on Zoom 	
Sept 4 <i>2% offering</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:3am Worship & Sunday school; 2nd hour Hymn sing 12pm: Fellowship meal 		Sept 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm: Leadership Group meeting 	Sept 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm: Women's lunch bunch at meetinghouse, meet inside main entrance 			
Sept 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 12pm Fall parent meeting 	Sept 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Dance group 					
Sept 18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 11am Congregational Meeting 12pm Mentor-Mentee Kick-off at Fidler Pond 	Sept 19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Labyrinth Walk 					

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

My Coins Count: Continue to bring your coins during offering time for MCC. As our children continue to collect coins for MCC's projects related to food insecurities around the world, consider giving a one-time gift, or a matching gift to MCC. Simply mark your contributions/checks for My Coins Count and place them in the offering.

Meal train for the Smuts family: Here's a link to sign up to take them a meal during Aydian's surgery & recovery. <https://takethemameal.com/HWYB1860>

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.

Fellowship Meal next Sunday Sept 4, following 2nd hour! Households with names beginning with A through L please bring a salad or side dish; M through Z bring a main dish. If you prefer to bring something different than requested that's fine; what is important is to have all types of food! Please also bring plates and utensils for your household. We will ask everyone ages 2 and older to wear a mask indoors during the meal except when you are sitting at your table eating. Weather permitting, tables and chairs will be set up outdoors. *Volunteers are needed to help set up tables in the north parking lot on Sunday morning – please contact the church office if you can help with this.*

Fall parent meeting Sept 11: Parents of Sunday school age children and their teachers are invited to a pizza lunch and meeting after second hour on Sept. 11. The MYF will provide childcare and we will conclude by 1:30pm. This is a chance to connect with other parents and talk about how Sunday school is going. AMBS professor and former Assemblyite Rachel Miller Jacobs will join us to lead a conversation about digital media for ages 4-17 from a Christian formation perspective. Please bring a finger food side to share. More information about Rachel's topic will be emailed to parents.

Host Students for lunch Sept 25. Consider signing up to host Goshen College and seminary students in your home for lunch on Sunday, Sept 25. If you are interested in hosting, please sign up [using this Google Form](#) before Sept 14th.

Sign up for a Personal Retreat at Pathways There is still money left from Lora's sabbatical grant to take a retreat day at Pathways Retreat at no cost. [Contact Pathways Retreat](#) to make arrangements, and let them know you are from Assembly.

Assembly's annual church retreat at Camp Friedenswald is coming up Oct 7-9. This is a time to relax, enjoy nature, and get to know your fellow Assemblyites better. Open to all Assembly participants. Registration opens soon!

Retreat-within-Retreat: "Laboring Toward Wholeness: A Training on Dismantling Patriarchy" will be offered as a focused option this year at Friedenswald during Assembly's annual Fall Retreat, Oct 7-9. Up to 20 participants of all genders are welcome and are asked to commit to the full 11-12 hours of sessions. These will be spread over the weekend, from Fri dinner - Sun morning before worship, allowing participants to still enjoy key portions of the larger Assembly retreat. From the authors: "Patriarchy is not God's intention for humanity and creation. Through this training, we'll explore the history and roots of patriarchy and how it got entangled with our faith. We'll unpack the church's role in perpetuating it as well as our responsibility to dismantle it." *More info about this option will be sent out after Lora returns from her sabbatical.*

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.



CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

Leland Shenk Koontz turns one on Aug 30! Leland loves practicing his walking skills, climbing up and down stairs, playing hide and seek with his big brother Elliot, dancing to music, going on stroller and bike rides, and getting into anything and everything he can reach.

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Invitation to Past, Present and FUTURE members of the Maple City Community Orchestra: All are invited to attend a meet-and-greet ice cream social this afternoon (Aug 28) from 2pm to 4pm at the Rogers Park Pavilion to start the 22-23 concert season and meet our new conductor, Tori Petrak. If you have played with the orchestra before or would like to consider joining us this coming season you are welcome to attend and enjoy some of Steve Shantz' famous homemade ice cream. Bring any musical friends that might also be interested.

Trail of Death: Sunday Afternoon Pilgrimage. The Land Acknowledgment Team of Eighth Street Mennonite Church invites you to pilgrimage with us on October 2 to five sites along the Trail of Death near Plymouth and Rochester, Indiana. In September 1838, over 800 Potawatomi were forced to leave their homeland and walk to the plains of eastern Kansas. Over forty adults and children died on the 660-mile trek. The purpose of the pilgrimage is to remember their unjust treatment and lament this tragedy. We will leave Eighth Street Mennonite Church on the church bus around noon and return by 6 p.m. For more information and to reserve your place, please contact Eileen Saner (eksaner@gmail.com)

It's not too late to join the Relief Sale Choir! Practices are Sundays, 3:00-4:30 pm at College Mennonite Church. All are welcome! For more details, visit mennonitesale.org/volunteer#choir.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Mediator Training: Interested in involvement in your community's response to crime? Want to help others find healing in the midst of conflict? Center for Community Justice will offer its annual mediator training for interested community members and volunteers September 8th (8:30-4:30), 9th (8:30-4:30), and 10th (9:00-12:00). Register at www.bit.ly/ccj_vmtraining. Call (574) 295-6149 or email Anne Lehman at lehman@ccjelkhart.org with questions about the training or about volunteering at CCJ.

Develop skills for holistic leadership! Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Master of Arts in Christian Formation program equips students to lead biblically grounded ministries of spiritual formation, discipleship and guidance in

congregations or other faith-based settings. Generous need-based financial aid, scholarships and matching grants are available! ambs.edu/macf

WIDER CHURCH

We invite you to join us for the *Anabaptist Church Tour Oct 27 to Nov 7* hosted by SEMILLA, the Latin American Anabaptist Seminary, in Guatemala City. The tour includes a wide variety of experiences to expose you to what Anabaptist churches are doing in Guatemala, the challenges and joys they face, visiting areas of special interest, and understanding how SEMILLA responds in educating church leaders. To register, see the attached flier. For more information, please contact us. Arden Shank (ardenshank@outlook.com) and Meribeth Shank (meribethshank@gmail.com).

Central District Conference Women's Retreat: Sept 16-18. Embodying Courage: Healing Connections with guest speaker Samantha E Lioi. More information can be found [here](#). Some congregations have discovered the good spirit and content of this long-standing retreat and others have yet to do so. Come check it out! Bring a friend. Camp Friedenswald is a beautiful setting and the weekend is intended for women to choose among offerings and also have time to enjoy the peaceful woods. Register online at friedenswald.org/retreat

Mission Network prayer request Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Joseph and Rachel Givens and their sons, Elijah, 8, and Micaiah, 4, as they adapt to life in Calais, France. Pray for them as the boys prepare to begin school and as Joseph and Rachel immerse themselves in language study before settling into ministry at the Maria Skobtsova House, which offers temporary shelter to migrants from Africa and the Middle East.

Mennonite Church USA sent three representatives to the Mennonite World Conference General Council and global Assembly last month. Read about the event here: mennoniteusa.org/news/mc-usa-attend-mwc

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

MCC Great Lakes in Goshen is looking for occasional volunteers to help with driving and vehicle maintenance. Driving responsibilities include driving a pick-up truck and trailer to pick up donated kits and comforters across the region and bringing them back to our Goshen warehouse. Vehicle maintenance includes taking care of several organization-owned vehicles on an as-needed basis. For more information and to volunteer, contact our office at 574-534-4133 or GreatLakes@mcc.org.

Seeking a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Program Director. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, is accepting applications for this quarter-time position. The person in this role will oversee all aspects of the new competency-based Doctor of Ministry degree at AMBS. Qualifications: PhD in a theological discipline or DMin required. See the full job description: ambs.edu/jobs

Bethany Christian School job openings can be found [here](#). **Goshen College** 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 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

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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; 574-534-4190

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