

# AssemblyLine

December 18, 2016

Volume XXXVI, Number 51

**Lectionary Texts:** Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

## Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

1201 S 11<sup>th</sup> St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

574-534-4190 / [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org)

Worship at 9:30am, Sunday school at 10:45am

## WORSHIP

### December 18

Worship leader: *Anna Yoder Schlabach*

Sermon: *Kyle Schlabach*

Welcoming & take-down: *Well Seasoned & Here & There*

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Sunday School: *Shepherds show the way (Luke 2:8-20)*

### December 25

No Morning Service, 2<sup>nd</sup> hour, or Sunday School!

**4pm:** Carols and Cookies with Faith Mennonite  
Bring cookies to share!

## CALENDAR

Wed	Dec 21	7pm Longest Night service, worship space
Sat	Dec 24	6pm Christmas Eve soup and bread supper
Sun	Dec 25	4pm Christmas carols and cookies with Faith Mennonite (no morning service)
Sun	Jan 1	9:30am breakfast followed by service at 10:30am
Wed	Jan 4	Lunch Bunch

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### assembly life and people

#### Precious Oladipo (GMS 6th) turns 11 on Dec 27!

Precious likes to read humorous fiction and write fiction. She plays bassoon in school band. Science is her favorite subject. She enjoys playing connect 4 with her brothers, and having snow ball fights.

**While we usually have a Congregational Meeting** on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, there will be no Congregational Meeting in December. There will be an update from the Leadership Group during 1<sup>st</sup> hour.

**A reminder about weather-related cancellations:** Since many Assembly participants are within walking distance of the meetinghouse, AMC rarely chooses to cancel Sunday worship due to inclement weather. We will plan to gather to sing and pray with whoever is able to come, and assume that you will use caution when deciding if you are able to make it to church safely. If we do cancel our service, cancellation info will be posted on our website, sent out via the AMC list serve, 3rd hour Facebook page, and posted on WNDU.

**Lora and family will be out of town** from December 17-31. If need pastoral assistance during this time, please be in touch with Karl Shelly at [karlss@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org).

#### We will not have worship Christmas morning, Dec 25.

Everyone is invited to join Faith at 4:00pm for Cookies and Carols. Please bring some cookies to share.

**The Assembly Christmas** tradition (this year on Epiphany) of a shared breakfast will continue on Sun, Jan 1 at 9:30, followed by worship at 10:30. Milk for the children and hot drinks for all will be provided. Please bring festive finger foods of the season to share.

**Art Exhibit:** From now thru the first week of January my sister-in-law Anita Lehman has a series of 15 pieces on display at Greencroft. They run under the title "The Valley of the Shadow" and she created them as a response to Michael's Alzheimer's disease. Many have musical themes (so important to Mike) as well as other recognizable "pieces" and "fragments" of life. The works, a few inspired by Mike's own drawings, are across from the Meetinghouse in the newest area of Greencroft nursing care. - Mary LY

**Lunch Bunch** will meet Wednesday, January 4th at Greencroft Community Center. Rose Stutzman will be sharing. Please sign up by Sunday, December 18 in the gathering place or call Marilyn Miller at [574-537-3732](tel:574-537-3732).

**Due to a series of technical glitches**, we weren't able to post the audio recording of Lois Kaufmann's sermon from

last Sunday on the Assembly website. Instead there will be a printed version available in the Sermon folder.

(repeat) **Advent and Christmas books** have been shelved on a low shelf in the AMC library for easy access for children and parents. Children might like to use them during the service or to take them home.

(repeat) **Two opportunities to learn** our Christmas Eve candle Dance, (and then participate on Christmas Eve): We will go over the movements at 9:15am December 18 (before worship) and at 5:30 December 24 (before the Soup supper/service of Christmas Eve). Join us to learn it or refresh your memory of the movements

(repeat) **Please keep in mind** as you plan your year-end giving that we will only have two more offerings in Dec. There will be no offering received Sun 12/25. The IRS requires that any donations you want recorded for 2016 be received in the office by 12/31/16 or if you mail them they must be postmarked in 2016. -John Nafziger treasurer

(repeat) **Nonviolent intervention** in situations of harassment. Thur, Jan 5, 7pm. Preregistration required. Sign-up sheet on the round table. Two hours of training and ideas with Carolyn Schrock-Shenk, Mary Yoder Holsopple and Susan Mark Landis. Sign-up sheet on the round table.

(repeat) **Christmas Eve:** Please sign up in the gathering space to come to the annual Christmas Eve supper at 6pm, including a short service. We are asking for a sign up to be sure we have enough tables and chairs ready. All should bring a bowl, cup and spoon. Those who are able can sign up to bring a pot of soup, basket of bread, or butter.

(repeat) **Children (Pre-school thru 5th grade)** interested in participating in the Christmas Eve play, "Room for a Little One" are encouraged to stay after church for a brief run-through on December 18th. We're looking for animals of all shapes and sizes. Walk-ons Christmas Eve will be welcome too, but we'd like to give the kids a chance to practice once before. Questions? Contact Anna Yoder Schlabach at [yoderanna@gmail.com](mailto:yoderanna@gmail.com).

(repeat) **Offerings YTD** are 81.7% of budget. Last year at the end of November offerings were 84.7% of budget. December offerings last year totaled about 46,000. If offerings are the same this year we will end up at 94.6% of budget. However as I project December expenses, it looks

like our total 2016 expense could come in at less than 90% of budget. So if we are as generous in December as we typically are and if December projections are correct we will end the year in the black.

### community connections

**Women's Spirituality Retreat at Merry Lea.** Our annual retreat includes biblical input, time outdoors connecting with creation, conversation with other women, and quiet time alone. This year will focus on "Invisible Women, Invisible Earth" that will explore how women have often lived in the shadows - or moved in and out of them. Fri, Jan 27, 7pm to Sat, Jan, 28, 4pm at Merry Lea's Farmstead Barn Site (2152 S 425 W, Albion, IN 46701). \$50, includes input, lodging, and meals. Registration is required by Jan 24. Click [here](#) for more information or to register.

**Biblical Foundations for Creation Care,** a 6 week, non-credit, online class through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary from February 15 to March 28, 2017, will be taught by Ben Ollenburger, Ph.D., professor of biblical theology. Registration deadline is February 1. Click [here](#) for more information.

(repeat) **Soccer Night Out: Femi Hollinger-Janzen,** a collegiate national champion and professional soccer player from Goshen, will speak at a 6pm dinner on Thur, Dec 29, at Waterford Mennonite Church. Following the meal, Femi will share stories from his soccer career and his amazing story of faith and perseverance in overcoming a crippling leg deformity as a child in Benin to playing soccer professionally, and answer questions. The main course of this family-style meal will be Groundnut (Peanut) Stew, a Hollinger-Janzen family favorite from their days in Benin. Hot dogs and other foods will also be available. The event is sponsored by Waterford Mennonite Church. Advance reservations for the dinner are \$20 for grade 7 and older and \$10 for elementary school students—preschool free. Reserve your spot by Dec 27 by filling out this [google form](#) also available at [www.waterfordchurch.org](http://www.waterfordchurch.org) —or call the church at 533-5642. You may pay at the door with advance registration or show up the day of the meal for \$25. The dinner will be held at Waterford Mennonite Church.

(repeat) **The Depot MCC Thrift Shops** in Goshen, Indiana, is seeking a full-time general manager. Applicants must have commitment to personal Christian faith and

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#### Assembly Mennonite Church

##### Pastoral Team

Lora Nafziger [loracn@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:loracn@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-0732  
Karl Shelly [karlss@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org) 574-621-1037

**Elders:** Jeanne Liechty (chair), Justin Rothshank, Anna Yoder Schlabach, Joel Zwier, Rose Stutzman, James Stuckey Weber  
**Youth Coordinators:** Wendel Landes and Rebecca Yoder

**Administrative Assistant:** Janine Ostergren (maternity coverage - weekday mornings) [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org) 574-534-4190

**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

discipleship, active church membership, excellent organization skills, supervisory skills, communications skills, ability to work with volunteers, and computer skills. Responsibilities include organization and general oversight of the Thrift Shops (clothing, furniture, and variety), incoming donations and processing, warehouse area, outgoing merchandise, recycling, and volunteers. Experience in retailing helpful; working knowledge of Excel and Quickbooks is also helpful. Applications will be accepted until Jan 2, 2017. Send resume and cover letter to: Search Committee, email [brshirk69@gmail.com](mailto:brshirk69@gmail.com); or C/O Ben Shirk 63341 CR 33, Goshen, IN 46528.

(repeat) **Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes** is seeking a Program Director. The person who fills this role will be responsible for the direction and oversight of MCC Great Lakes programs. The Program Director is expected to connect with constituent churches and groups, as well as partner organizations, to work together and advance the mission of MCC. This position also explores ways to further develop relationships between program staff and partnerships within the Great Lakes region to reflect the commitment to diverse constituent churches. To see a full job description and apply, visit [mcc.org/gl-program-director](http://mcc.org/gl-program-director) or contact Amber Falcón at [574-534-4133](tel:574-534-4133).

(repeat) **Bethany Christian Schools Alumni Night.** Bethany alumni will receive free admission and be eligible for prizes at the boys and girls evening Holiday tourney games on Sat, Dec 17. Girl's game begins at 6 and boys at 7:30. Note, alumni night does not include the morning games of the Holiday Tourney.

(repeat) **Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at Goshen College:** All are invited to a concert on Sunday, Jan 15 at 7pm in the Umble Center. Then, join us on Monday, Jan 16 for a community breakfast (tickets required), workshops, lectures and other activities, and guest speaker Sarah Thompson, Executive Director of Christian Peacemaker Teams. This year's theme, "It Is Time," reminds the Goshen community that it is time to tell your truth, time to speak, time to tend to trauma, time for restoration, and time for compassion. For more information and the full schedule, visit [goshen.edu/mlk](http://goshen.edu/mlk).

(repeat) **MCC Alumni & Friends Gathering:** As alumni or interested friends of Mennonite Central Committee, you

are warmly invited to join us for an MCC Alumni and Friends International Potluck at 6:00 pm on Fri, Jan 20, at Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship, 2509 Berkey Avenue in Goshen. Special guest speaker will be Amela Puljek Shank, current MCC Area Director for Europe and Middle East. Please RSVP at [574-534-4133](tel:574-534-4133) or to [lmg@mcc.org](mailto:lmg@mcc.org).

(repeat) **MDC Goldenrod is hiring!** Join our team and work in a well-respected, high-impact organization! There are multiple exciting career opportunities available: Director of Finance and Administration, Program Coordinator, Program Admissions and Operations Coordinator, and Residential Services Program Assistant. For more info, detailed job descriptions and applications, visit [www.mdcgoldenrod.org](http://www.mdcgoldenrod.org) or call [574-533-9720](tel:574-533-9720).

**The Dec 2016, Central District Conference, focus,** is attached at the top of this email.

(repeat) **A 2016 year-end letter** from the IN-MI Mennonite Conference pastor is attached at the top of this email.

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