

AssemblyLine

February 14, 2016

Volume XXXVI, Number 7

Lectionary Texts: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17;

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:16-21

Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

1201 S 11th St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

574-534-4190 / office@assemblymennonite.org

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

WORSHIP

February 14

Worship leader: *Susan Mark Landis*

Sermon: *Dawn Yoder Harms*

Welcoming & tear-down: *Ad Lib & Cantaloupe*

Scripture: *Psalm 91:1-2; Luke 4:1-13*

Sunday School: *Searching for the lost (Luke 15:1-10)*

February 21

Worship leader: *Randy Roth*

Sermon: *Regina Shands Stoltzfus*

Welcoming & tear-down: *Egg Combo & Z*

Scripture: *Psalm 27; Luke 13:31-35*

Sunday School: *The loving father (Luke 15:11-32)*

CALENDAR

Sat Feb 20 8am-4pm Central District Conference regional meeting at meetinghouse
Sun Feb 21 7pm Congregational Meeting at meetinghouse

ANNOUNCEMENTS

assembly life and people

The theme for our Lenten worship this year is *Prone to Wander*, an image drawn from our lectionary texts and an old familiar hymn (*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, verse 3). As we engage these stories and texts, we are invited to reflect on our wanderings. We will reflect on the ways we are drawn away from the fullness of life God intends for all people and for all creation. We will explore the depths of God's love in which we find orientation, refreshment, healing, and strength for the ongoing journey. More info can be found attached at the top of this email.

Karl is increasing his awe quotient in the Colorado mountains, and will return to work on Feb 16.

Face-to-Face Women's Retreat this year will focus on the theme of "Letting Go"- letting go of the things that hold us back, the things that keep us stagnant, the things that prevent God in his grace from doing his creative work in our lives. Join Patricia Ebersole Zwier as she leads us through the use of Listening Circles in small groups. Together we will learn and practice deep listening to our sisters, using questions to explore and help one another better understand how God is working in us, and specifically, what we need to release in order for God to do that work in us more effectively. Please join us at Amigo Centre in Sturgis, Michigan on March 4-6. Read more at riverterrace.org/facetoface and [register](#) by TODAY to get discounted rates! Registration will close Feb. 21.

We at Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), along with our partners around the world, are blessed by your continuing support. Thanks to you, our friends and

supporters at Assembly Mennonite, for the many ways you contribute to the work of MCC. In addition to the energy and time you give at relief sales, thrift shops, meat canning and material resources, your congregation contributed \$16,704.55 in 2015.

An opportunity to respond to the Flint water crisis. The African-American ministers' association in Elkhart (IMA) is collecting bottled water for residents of Flint, Michigan. On Fri, Feb 5, they sent over 1,300 cases of water in a donated truck from the Elkhart community. When they buy 50 cases of water, Kroger donates a matching 50 cases. This provides an opportunity *this month* to support the assistance effort. If you want to support this cause put a check in the offering this Sunday or next with IMA in the memo line. People wanting to make direct donations of cases of bottled water may drop them off the week of Feb 22 at the Tolsen Center on south Benham Avenue in Elkhart.

(repeat) **Assembly members and participants** not in a small group: We want you to be part of the leadership selection process that is underway right now. Directions to access the online form can be found attached at the top of this Aline or on the lit table. The deadline for submitting forms is March 4. If you have any questions or prefer to use a paper form, please contact Naomi Roots at office@assemblymennonite.org.

(repeat) **2% Committee** dispersed \$40, 835.80 of above-budget giving. On the first Sun of every month, we offer an additional 2 % of our income as an act of restitution for injustices in economic distribution. This money is disbursed to impoverished people locally and in the 2/3rds

world. To see where the money went in 2015, see the print out report on the lit table.

(repeat) **Sunday school needs for the spring quarter:** 1 person to be a 1on1 assistant in the 2nd & 3rd grade class. 1 teacher to cover March 13 & May 1 in the 1st grade class as well as an assistant teacher to sub in the 1st grade. Pre K teacher for spring quarter. Contact Cynthia Good Kaufmann if you are willing to help at cynthia.eric@gmail.com.

(repeat) **Abby Graber**, along with two other Bluffton University graphic design majors, invite all interested parties to visit their senior art exhibit entitled, *RGB* (a graphic design term for a specific color model and also the first initial of the participants' last names) between Feb 28-Mar 4 at the Grace Albrecht Gallery in the Sauder Visual Arts Center at Bluffton University. There will be a reception with the artists on Sun, Feb 28 from 2-4pm.

(repeat) **Sunday School teaching schedule:** Last Sunday in the winter SS quarter is March 6. Spring quarter begins March 13 and ends June 5. (no SS on Easter Sunday March 27)

(repeat) **Gratitude Journal for Lois Johns Kaufmann:** You are invited to offer a favorite scripture passage, prayer, blessing or word of thanks to Lois Johns Kaufmann for her 8 years of service to Central District Conference. You may write directly in the journal at one of our regional gatherings, or at the annual meeting in OH. You may also email an entry to Lisa Weaver: weaverld70@gmail.com by June 1. Please write CDC Journal for Lois in the subject line. Entries received by email will be printed out and included in the journal. The journal will be given to Lois at the conclusion of our annual meeting on June 25.

(repeat) **A note from Central District Conference publications:** A big THANK YOU to Marlys Weaver Stoesz who has served as our editor since 2013. Due to work commitments, Marlys has needed to resign. We are sorry to see you go, Marlys! It has been a joy to have you on staff. We extend a warm welcome to Mary Klassen from Goshen, IN, who has agreed to serve as our new editor.

(repeat) **Name tags are back** after a short hiatus. Anyone who does not currently have a name tag is encouraged to make one!

(repeat) **Occasionally people ask about using direct deposit** for their regular offerings. The easiest way to do this is for you to use bill payer at your bank or credit union. About 2/3 of attendees use Interra Credit Union which offers free bill payer. Other financial institutions offer it free as well. Another option is for AMC to setup for Automatic Clearing House (ACH) transactions. The ACH requires some setup and a small fee per transaction plus a monthly fee for the church. If you are interested in the ACH option, talk to John Nafziger.

community connections

Rieth Chamber Series: David Jonies, organ. Sun, Feb 21 4pm at Rieth Recital Hall (Music Center). Tickets: \$10 general admission, available online at goshen.edu/tickets or by calling 535-7566. Gold medalist at the Landau International Organ Competition, and recipient of the Alec Robertson Scholarship, David Jonies has been a featured recitalist at the Organ Historical Society National Convention and has given recitals across the globe, including at Westminster Abbey, and the world's largest organ at Passau Cathedral (Germany).

A conversation with Freedom Rider, Charles Person, a civil rights pioneer, will occur on Feb 25 at 6:30 at the Lerner Theater in Elkhart. Mr. Person was 18 years old when he boarded the bus in Washington, D.C. as part of the Freedom Ride. He endured numerous physical attacks during his journey and was arrested as he silently protested by sitting at a segregated lunch counter.

You are cordially invited to participate in an ecumenical vespers service, "The Holiness of the Ordinary," that will be celebrated at 5pm in the Fellowship Room of 8th St Mennonite Church on Feb 28. The service will focus on Celtic spirituality and its deep awareness of the holiness of the world about us and the sacredness of each person, pet and object in our homes. We will share readings from Scripture, a brief presentation about the heart of Celtic prayer and relationship to God, sharing, and a communal blessing. For more info, call Judith Davis at 533-2948.

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Assembly Mennonite Church

Pastoral Team

Dawn Yoder Harms dawnyh@assemblymennonite.org 574-214-5610
Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732
Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037

Elders: Jeannie Brunk, Eric Good Kaufmann, Gayle Gerber Koontz, Jeanne Liechty (chair), Justin Rothshank, Anna Yoder Schlabach, Joel Zwier
Apprentice Elder: Anika Roth
Youth Coordinators: Deanna Risser, Jon Zirkle

Administrative Assistant: Naomi Roots (weekday mornings) office@assemblymennonite.org 574-534-4190

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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

Musical Tickets: Bethany Christian High School will perform the musical, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, on Thur-Sun, Mar 3-6. In this Tony Award-winning musical, six quirky 12-year-olds battle it out for the title of Putnam County Spelling Champion. This is not your typical musical, with lots of audience interaction and a casual atmosphere suitable for the whole family. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students. Tickets may be purchased online beginning Feb 15 at bethanycs.net/tickets.

Visit Bethany on Feb. 15: Students in grades 6-10 interested in exploring Bethany Christian Schools can shadow a Bethany student on Mon, Feb 16, (President's Day) 8:50am-3:30pm. Parents are invited to a 8:45-9:15am coffee and conversation. Parent tours are available at 9:15am. This is a great way for prospective students and families to discover Bethany! For more info, to register, or to schedule a visit on another date see bethanycs.net.

Mennonite Disaster Relief needs: Construction supervisor in Jamestown, CO Mar 7-Apr 15. Head Cook in Bastrop, TX Mar 14-Apr 1. Call Alicia at [\(800\) 241-8111](tel:8002418111) or e-mail at ahurst@mds.mennonite.net.

(repeat) **Every Thurs at 12:20pm** Goshen College students and community members gather for 5 min outside the GC Dining Hall join the global Wave of Prayer at the invitation of Christians from Palestine. This pause in the day allows us to add our voices, hearts and minds with those of our sisters and brothers living under occupation in Palestine, seeking justice for all people. Please join us. And if you can't get out, you can sign up to receive the Wave of Prayer as an email and pray with those close to you. Click [here](#) to link to the Sabeel Wave of Prayer.

(repeat) **Online Lenten Devotions:** Goshen College again offers an online resource to help believers make time and space in their hearts and minds to reflect during the season of Lent. Beginning Feb 10 (Ash Wednesday) and culminating on March 27 (Easter), Goshen College students, faculty and staff will provide weekday reflections based on the Sunday's upcoming lectionary Scripture passages. Many writers will explore the written texts through the theme: "Living Ink," taken from Mennonite Church USA/Canada worship resources. Read and subscribe to the daily devotions at goshen.edu/devotions

(repeat) **Curious about Goshen College?** Join us for an open house on Mon, Feb 15. Since you already have the day off from school, this is a great opportunity for high school students to tour campus, attend a class, hear from current students, eat in the dining hall, speak with professors, and find answers to your questions! Start times are 9:30am and 1:30pm. Learn more at goshen.edu/visit.

(repeat) **Oaklawn: Breaking Opiate Addiction** Hear Dr. R. Corey Waller, MD, MS, share groundbreaking information on opiate addiction treatment on Thur, Feb 25. Dr. Waller developed a treatment model that combines both medication-assisted treatment and counseling to drastically increase success rates of patients. He will share his research on medication-assisted addictions treatment and best practices of implementation.

(repeat) **A Way in the Wilderness:** A Women's Spirituality Retreat Fri, Feb 26, 7pm through Sat, Feb 27, 2pm at Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center of Goshen College. What sustained women like Miriam and Hagar in the wilderness? Where can we too find God in desert places? The keynote speaker is Jackie Wyse Rhodes an Old Testament scholar from Bluffton, OH. See goshen.edu/merrylea for more information.

(repeat) **8th Annual Children's Summit:** A Community of Hope. Network with fellow professionals in child-centered services and be inspired. 9am-3pm Fri, Mar 4 at Maple City Chapel in Goshen. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

(repeat) **The Window has been approved** to receive additional Neighborhood Assistance Program credits (allowing donors to receive 50% of their donation as a tax refund). They are now available, but must be purchased by Mar 31. These credits will go quickly, so if you want to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact Scarlett Garrison at 574-533-9680 ext. 203.

(repeat) **From Fencerows to Foodsheds:** Potluck and Film Showing. Fri, Feb 12, 5-7pm. Goshen College, Newcomer Center, room 17. This documentary features stories from two Indiana communities, one of which is Elkhart County. What do faith and food have to do with each other? How can a congregation address food insecurity with a plot of ground out back? Bring a dish to share and your curiosity about the local food movement in our region. This

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gathering is sponsored by Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center of Goshen College. Sample our homegrown organic pork!

(repeat) **Parkside and Waterford** need reading camp volunteers! Program runs Feb 2-March 24, Tues and/or Thurs afternoon; 3:10-4:00pm. Contact Michelle Kercher at: mkercher@goshenschools.org

(repeat) **Applications now being accepted** for Mennonite Disaster Service's Summer Youth Program. Project locations will be in TX, MI, and British Columbia. Applications are due by Feb 12. For questions or scheduling, call Alicia Hurst, [\(800\) 241-8111](tel:8002418111) or e-mail ahurst@mds.mennonite.net

(repeat) **Little Eden Youth Camps** in NW Michigan: brochures on summer camps for grade 3 all the way through High School can be found on the lit table or downloaded at www.littleeden.org

(repeat) **MCC's SWAP program** (Sharing With Appalachian People) is looking for summer meals coordinators and job site coordinators. These 3-month assignments include a level of interaction with youth and adult groups, youth sponsors, and local residents that provides opportunity to explore new cultures and stretch one's faith and understanding of Christ's commands. A stipend, room and board, and transportation to and from assignment are provided. For more information, visit mcc.org/SWAP.

(repeat) **Mennonite Disaster Service** will begin scheduling weekly and long-term volunteers for the months of April, May, and June on Mar 7. If you are interested in serving with us, please call. We would love to have you serve with us!

(repeat) **Bethany Seeks Softball Coach:** Bethany Christian High School (Goshen) seeks a varsity softball coach for spring 2016. For more information or to apply, contact athletic director Gary Chupp at glchupp@bethanycs.net or [574 534-2567](tel:5745342567).

(repeat) **MDC Goldenrod** is looking for a part-time Groundskeeper/Maintenance Assistant to oversee upkeep and maintenance of MDC Goldenrod grounds in Goshen and Middlebury. This position will also provide back-up to the Maintenance Director when needed. Requirements: at

least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or GED, be able to pass a thorough background check, have 3 business or professional references, have a reliable vehicle available, along with a valid driver's license and current vehicle insurance. Go to mdcgoldenrod.org or call [533-9720](tel:5339720) for more information or to apply.

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