

AssemblyLine

February 21, 2016

Volume XXXVI, Number 8

Lectionary Texts: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27;
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13: 31-35

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 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)*

February 28

Worship leader: *Randy Roth*

Sermon: *Jon Zirkle*

Welcoming & tear-down: *Rad & Grape*

Scripture: *Psalm 63:1-8; Isaiah 55:1-9; Luke 13:1-9*

Sunday School: *Jesus in the temple (Luke 19:45-48)*

CALENDAR

Sat Feb 20 10am-4pm Central District Conference regional meeting at meetinghouse
TODAY Feb 21 7pm Congregational Meeting at meetinghouse

ANNOUNCEMENTS

assembly life and people

Chad Kennedy (5th Grade model) turned 11 on Feb 18th! Math is his favorite subject; he likes to play football and piano, and enjoys playing with his family outside or running around the house chasing each other- dogs included! Chad enjoys spending time with his grandma.

Welcome August Hann Nafziger Rhodes! August (Auggie) was born Sat, Feb 13 at 2:45pm, and weighed 9 lbs 4oz. Lora and Mitch are open to short visits; please contact Mitch at 534-8055 to make sure it is a good time. They have asked that meals be brought starting in March. Sign up to take them meals [here](#). Any questions about meal arrangements can be directed to Betsy McCanse at 269-501-6789.

The Feb congregational meeting is TONIGHT, Feb 21, 7pm at the meetinghouse (child care provided). Agenda items include the 2016 Assembly budget, looking at demographic trends in the congregation, and reviewing how we've worked at the points raised in the Sept congregational review. Come and contribute to the life of the congregation.

Karl will be out of the office on the Borderlands trip Feb 20-28. Please see Dawn for any pastoral needs.

Naomi will be out of the office from 2/22-2/24. See Dawn for any office needs.

Women's Lunch Bunch: You are invited to join the Assembly women at 11:30 on Wed, Mar 2 at the Greencroft Community Center. Sue Burkholder will talk about "A Sister's Story- Coming of Age in the 20th Century". Lunch will be a pecan/chicken salad wrap

(\$4.00). Please sign up in the gathering space this Sun or call Joyce at 537-3762.

How does our Assembly Dance Group create the stuff you occasionally see during worship? Come to a Secrets of InterPlay Retreat taught by founder, Phil Porter. Learn how you can use the tools and ideas of the 25 year-old system known across the world as InterPlay! This retreat will give you direct experience of many aspects of the InterPlay system. No experience necessary. Retreat to be held at Amigo Centre, Thur Apr 14-Sun, Apr 17. The Secrets of InterPlay is an important element of the InterPlay Life Practice Program being offered one day a month May-Sept, taught by our own Linda Schlabach Miller. One can take the Secrets retreat independently of the entire Life Practice Program. Contact Linda for more info at lschlabachm@gmail.com or 538-8324.

(repeat) **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 ways we from the fullness of life God intends for all people and for all creation, and we will affirm 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 or on the lit table.

(repeat) **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, MI on March 4-6. Read more at riverterrace.org/facetoface and [register](#) by Feb 21.

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **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!

community connections

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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

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

Rebecca Janzen, assistant professor of Spanish at Bluffton (Ohio) University, will present the 2016 C. Henry Smith Peace Lecture at Goshen College on Tue, Mar 1 at 7:30 pm in the Administration Building Room 28 and is free and open to the public. Janzen's speech, "Small Signs of Pluralism in Mexico: Identification Cards and Other Images of the Low German Mennonites," addresses Mexican perceptions of Low German-speaking Mennonites, particularly through Mexican photography and film from 1926 to 1951.

Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible- [Online Anabaptist Short Course](#) taught by Mary Schertz Mar 2-Apr 12. In this class we will study six pertinent biblical passages (three OT and three NT) and reflect individually and collectively on what these texts contribute to a robust and biblically based practice of peace and justice today. For other short courses and webinars, visit ambs.edu.

The GC Theater Department brings Shakespeare's Julius Caesar to life in the round, engaging the audience in the story of patriotism and power; jealousy and betrayal; twists of friendship; warnings unheeded; and the mob mentality of citizens whose loyalty is easily swayed. Performances: Mar 4, 5, 11 at 8pm and Mar 6, 12, 13 at 3pm. To purchase tickets call [535-7566](tel:535-7566) or go to www.goshen.edu/tickets

The Goshen College International Student Coffeehouse dinner and show will be Sat, Mar 12. Dinner will include a wide array of international dishes cooked by our students; starting at 5pm in the College Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall. The variety show starts at 7pm in the Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall, and will feature a new collection of dances, songs and country presentations from around the world. Some of the profits will go to a charity chosen by the students. This is a family friendly event. To buy tickets, please visit or call the GC Welcome Center (535-7566) or buy tickets online at goshen.edu/tickets. Adults \$18 (\$10 show only); youth \$10 (\$5 show only).

8th St Mennonite Church is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Assistant. Work to begin as soon as the position is filled. This is a part-time position (~18 hours per week) and includes tasks in communication, producing bulletins/newsletters, providing administrative support to the 8th St Preschool. Conversational Spanish is

an asset, but not required. Please send resume to pastors@8thstmennonite.org.

(repeat) **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).

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **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.

(repeat) **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.

(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

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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.

take advantage of this opportunity, please contact Scarlett Garrison at 574-533-9680 ext. 203.

(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) **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

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