

AssemblyLine

December 25, 2016

Volume XXXVI, Number 52

Lectionary Texts: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

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

December 25

No Morning Service, 2nd hour, or Sunday School!

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

January 1

9:30am: Breakfast followed by Worship Service

Worship leader: *Kristy Shellenberger Yordy*

Sermon: *Mary Lehman Yoder*

Welcoming & tear-down: *Z and Auklet*

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians
3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

No Sunday school

CALENDAR

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	11:30am Lunch Bunch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

assembly life and people

Christmas Eve: Come to the annual Christmas Eve supper at 6pm, including a short service. All should bring a bowl, cup and spoon.

Learn our Christmas Eve Candle Dance, (and then participate in the service): We will go over the movements at 5:30pm on December 24 (before the soup supper and service). Join us to learn it or refresh your memory of the movements

In this season of Advent anticipation and preparation, we, the Assembly body, are also anticipating the unveiling of the final design for our building and renovation project, and the next phase of assessing the financial feasibility of this vision. The big day is Celebration Sunday, January 8. During second hour, we hope as many of us as is possible will gather to celebrate the hard work that has been done thus far, see the final plans, and lay the groundwork for the congregational survey which will start promptly and proceed throughout January. A 2-page document prepared by the Financial Feasibility Task Force in consultation with Leadership Group articulating the vision for this project is attached to this week's AssemblyLine. Please read it

carefully and prayer-fully prior to January 8. Hard copies have been placed in every mailbox; extras are on the literature table, and a link to the document is at the top of the digital Assemblyline.

Both of our pastors are out of the office enjoying time with family Dec 30 and 31. If you have urgent pastoral care concerns during this time, please contact Jeanne Liechty or Rose Stutzman (elders).

Our hearts and prayers go out to Jim and Betsy Lehman, and all the students and staff of Bethany Christian Schools following the death of Anna Barnard, high school senior, in a traffic accident last Sunday. Anna was Jim and Betsy's granddaughter. Viewing and visitation is scheduled for Friday, December 30 from 12pm-3pm at Yoder Culp Funeral Home, and the memorial service will be that evening (December 30) at 6pm at the Maple City Chapel.

Please pray for Ethel Metzler who recently fell and suffered a pelvic fracture. She is rehabbing at the Maples at Waterford Crossing.

Welcome to Double Oak for a New Year's Eve party! Dennis and Susan Mark Landis invite you to come anytime after 9:00 and bring any, all, or none of the following to share: food, games, playlist, friends, family, and children.

We'll provide nonalcoholic drinks, a chocolate fountain and a warm foundation for the new year. We will watch the ball drop in Times Square, have a short time of prayer and disburse by one. Please RSVP if convenient to:

SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com

(repeat) **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 did cancel our service, cancellation info would be posted to our website, sent out via the AMC list serve, 3rd hour Facebook page, and posted on WNDU.

(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) **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 on Thursday, Jan 5 at 7pm. Preregistration required. Two hours of training and ideas with Carolyn Schrock-Shenk, Mary Yoder Holsopple and Susan Mark Landis. To sign-up: SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com.

community connections

The Window's list of needs: Pantry - shampoo, deodorant, diapers (3, 4 &5), canned beans (kidney, pork, chili & refried), canned tuna, pastas, macaroni and cheese, canned corn & mixed vegetables, soups, canned fruit, cereal, hamburger helper, spaghetti sauce, tomato products; Katie's Kitchen – salad dressings (Italian, Ranch, French), canned beans (black, refried & northern), #10 cans of fruit & vegetables, butter, egg noodles, coffee, coffee creamer, olive oil, paper napkins, laundry soap, Kool-Aid, lemonade mix, elbow macaroni, spaghetti pasta, stuffing, instant potatoes.

Silverwood Mennonite Church will be hosting a GriefShare support group on Thursday afternoons, Jan 5 – Mar 30, 12:30 – 2:30. GriefShare is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life. The cost is \$20 per person, \$30 per couple, and there is no cost for previous attenders. RSVP is requested at 533-1922. Registration will take place at the first session you attend. Anyone is welcome to attend at any time during this cycle as each session is self-contained. To sign-up or for questions, please call Silverwood at 533-1922.

The Window's First Friday Meal: On Jan 6 from 4:30pm to 7:00pm, our head cook, Ron Dove, is our First Friday host. On the menu: Turkey Manhattan and green beans, salad and pineapple upside-down cake for dessert, along with hot cocoa or coffee to drink. This meal guarantees to hit the spot on a chilly January evening. The suggested price of the meal is \$9.00 and, as always, all proceeds benefit our programs.

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.

(repeat) **Soccer Night Out: Femi Hollinger-Janzen**, a collegiate national champion and professional soccer player from Goshen, will speak at a 6pm dinner on Thurs, 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

Please email announcements to assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org by 8 AM local time Friday for inclusion in the following Sunday's *AssemblyLine*. To receive the *AssemblyLine* via email visit <http://eepurl.com/bsXsDr>.

Assembly Mennonite Church

Pastoral Team

Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732
Karl Shelly 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 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

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 —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.

Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Jan 15-16, featuring Sarah Thompson, executive director, Christian Peacemaker Teams. Schedule of events: Sunday, Jan 15 at 9:30am - service at College Mennonite Church followed by a Sermon Discussion; 7pm - community gathering, featuring local artists in the Umble Center. Monday, Jan 16 at 7:30am - Community Breakfast (tickets required) followed by Convocation at 10:00am. 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.

(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.

(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 or contact Amber Falcón at [574-534-4133](tel:574-534-4133).

(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 or call [574-533-9720](tel:574-533-9720).

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

(repeat) **The December Pathways Retreat** newsletter Rhythms is attached at the top of this email.

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