

WORSHIP

Join us Sundays [on Zoom at 10 AM](#):

<p>Feb 13 10 AM Worship on Zoom Sermon: Aaron Sawatsky-Kingsley Scripture: Jeremiah 17:5-10</p>	<p>Feb 20 10 AM Worship on Zoom Sermon: Karl Shelly Scripture: Genesis 45:3-11, 15</p>
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CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Auggie Nafziger Rhodes (College Kindergarten) turns 6 on February 13! He's looking forward to celebrating up at Camp Friedenswald and will have a rock party and rock cake. He loves reading books, especially fantasy books for older kids. He enjoys playing with Lego and his new astronaut robot.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 13

8:55am – Children in Worship (Sunday school for Kindergarten & 1st grade students) at the Assembly meetinghouse.

10am - Join us [on Zoom](#) for **Worship at 10am**. There will be a dedicated breakout room for children hosted by the Christian Formation committee; children are also welcome to join another worship cluster with their parents.

For more information and for a short video orienting you to Zoom cluster worship, [click here](#).

Zoom Cluster Worship is a more intimate, participatory form of online worship at Assembly. Each Sunday from Jan 16-Feb 20 we will worship at 10 AM in groups of 16-20 households. This will allow everyone to be seen on one screen, and will move away from “watching a performance” of worship done somewhere else. The sermon, children’s time, and music will be pre-recorded and shared by the tech host; you can volunteer to read or pray, and you can respond to the sermon and share prayer requests. Join [via the same Zoom link](#) as always, and then join a cluster group (breakout room). Breakout rooms are assigned by small group, or last name (for those not in small groups). There will also be a breakout room for children, hosted by a member of the Christian Education committee, and using content related to that week’s theme. (Children may also choose to join a cluster group with their parents).

11:15am – Join us [on Zoom](#) for “second hour” electives, including: “Defund the Police? An Abolition Curriculum” led by Karl Shelly, “Sermon Response” facilitated by Scott Coulter, and “Harry Potter” led by Lora Nafziger.

Share Prayer Requests by [filling out the online form at this link](#). You may continue to do this throughout each week. Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays. **(This will be especially important to use in the coming weeks if you want to share beyond those present in your cluster on Sunday morning).**

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:55am Children in Worship 10am Worship on Zoom 11:15am Second Hour 	Feb 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Dance Group 		Feb 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 		Feb 18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 	
Feb 20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:55am Children in Worship 10am Worship on Zoom 11:15am Second Hour 7pm Congregational Meeting on Zoom 		Feb 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:15pm Small Group Reps Meeting on Zoom 	Feb 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 		Feb 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 	Feb 26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:30pm Lent Kick-off Event for Families
Feb 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Carnival Sunday Worship (in Person & on Zoom) 1pm JYF Gathering 	Feb 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Dance Group 	March 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Leadership Group 	March 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Pathways Ash Wednesday service on Zoom 1pm Women's Lunch Bunch on Zoom 7-8:30pm Ash Wednesday Retreat at meetinghouse 		March 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Greencroft Meet up on Zoom 12pm Psalm & Prayers on Zoom 	March 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30-11:45am Central District Conference Regional Gathering on Zoom

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

Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732
 Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037
 Anna Yoder Schlabach annays@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-5319
 Scott Coulter scottc@assemblymennonite.org 419-535-2918

Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

Elders: Randy Roth (chair), Anne Horst Hanby, Jamie Lake, Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Elena Fischer
Youth Coordinators: Sara Morris, Erich Miller, Ashley Fehlberg, Darin Bontrager, Amy Bontrager

Administrative Assistant: Becky Overholt (Tues,Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm) office@assemblymennonite.org; 574-534-4190

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Carnival is February 27! This annual tradition kicks off the season of Lent. We will be worshipping indoors and on Zoom. Please note the time change: worship will begin at 9:30 a.m. Masks are required. The theme this year is "Called to be..." What are the ways you are hearing God's persistent and surprising call? Read all about it in the link [here](#). Questions? Don't hesitate to email Anna Yoder Schlabach.

Lent Kick-off Event for Families. For families that want to spend some time getting ready for Lent together can join Lora at the meeting house on Feb. 26th from 3:30-5:00 pm to prepare together for Lent. This will include options for creating family Lent rituals and ways to prepare for Carnival and Lent with ashes, pancakes, and prayer. We look at the ways the earth prepares for Spring by planting a Lenten garden. Please RSVP to loracn@assemblymennonite.org. Grandparents/friends are welcome with to bring children as well. While this is created with families K-6th grade in mind, older and younger children are welcome.

Volunteer for Sunday Morning Tasks in March-April! We plan to need volunteers **beginning February 27** (Carnival Sunday) to do the following Sunday morning tasks: Greeters, Attendance Takers, Cash Offering Counters, Lock Up, and Nursery Volunteers (for ages 0-4 years). Please sign yourself up to help [using this Google spreadsheet](#), or contact office@assemblymennonite.org. If each person puts their name in two cells on this spreadsheet, we should easily be able to cover all of these needs through Easter Sunday.

Our prayers are with Beck Unternahrer whose mother Annabelle died on Friday morning last week at Greencroft. Annabelle was 85 years old and had grown more ill with preexisting cardiopulmonary symptoms after contracting Covid in late 2020. Her last months were spent at Greencroft and her death was peaceful, with her husband and several children present. Her obituary can be read [here](#). Beck is grateful to all those who have supported her during her mother's illness.

Pastor Anna Yoder Schlabach will be out of the office Feb 15-20.

Pastor Lora Nafziger will be out of the office Feb 18-21.

Changes have been made to the 2022 Spending Plan since last month's congregational meeting. Because the changes are significant, we will have a "first reading" of this draft of the spending plan at the congregational meeting on Feb 20 (next Sunday). Significant changes include: an increased budget for Staff Salaries (correcting an oversight in the last draft), and an increased budget for Telephone & Technology (as we are planning to switch to fiber-optic internet service this year). [Please review the revised spending plan here](#), and come to the congregational meeting on Feb 20 at 7pm via Zoom to discuss it.

Letter to Assembly re: the May 2022 MCUSA Special Delegate Session. Assembly will be sending delegates to the special delegate session for Mennonite Church USA in Kansas City, May 27-30. At this session, delegates will consider important resolutions about justice, accessibility, and LGBTQ inclusion. **Anna Yoder Schlabach** is on a planning committee for this delegate assembly; Anna has written [this letter](#) to the Assembly congregation about her hopes for the upcoming delegate session, and how we might prepare for the potential outcomes. There will be upcoming opportunities for those interested to meet with Assembly's delegates. Learn more about the resolutions and the process on the [MC USA resource page](#). You may also watch [this video](#) put together by Atlantic Coast Conference for an overview of one important resolution. Central District Conference (our own conference) will have opportunities for delegates to meet by Zoom for discussion and prayer in the weeks before the delegate session.

The Leader Selection process is the way the Assembly congregation discerns who will serve in various volunteer leadership roles in the coming year. We do this discernment in small groups. If you are not in a small group but you want to volunteer yourself for a committee, you are invited to complete the [online Leader Selection Worksheet](#). If you have any questions about the process, please talk with your small group rep, or you may talk to one of the pastors. Worksheets are **due by Sunday Feb 20!**

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Beechy Peace, Justice and Reconciliation Lecture, featuring Reverend Dr. Jack Sullivan, Jr., will take place Friday, **Feb. 18 at 10 a.m.** in the Goshen College Church-Chapel. This event will also be streamed live at goshen.edu/livestream. Rev. Dr. Sullivan is an internationally-known ecumenist, preacher, justice advocate and death penalty abolitionist.

High school students: Consider a Goshen College visit during the President's Day Open House on Monday, Feb. 21. Individual visit days are also available. Meet professors and students, learn about GC programs, explore campus and have your college questions answered. Learn more at goshen.edu/visit.

Calling all pastors and faith formation leaders! Register for Pastors & Leaders | Deep Faith 2022, a joint conference of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Mennonite Church USA Faith Formation. Join us Feb. 21–24, either virtually or in person on the AMBS campus in Elkhart, Indiana, to explore the theme, “Formed in the Wilderness, Leading in Hope.” Speakers: Sibonokuhle Ncube, Eleanor Kreider, Tom Yoder Neufeld and Rolando Sosa Granados. See our workshop offerings online. **Sign up by Feb. 14.** ambs.edu/pastorsandleaders

History of Indigenous People of this area - Sat Feb 26 at 10am You are invited to the Middlebury Public Library to hear Luke Gascho speak about the history of indigenous people of this area. This event is Saturday, February 26th at 10:00am, and is sponsored by the Peace and Justice Action Group of Middlebury Church of the Brethren. For more information call 574 825-2955.

Think you can't afford seminary? Think again! Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary offers generous need-based financial aid, scholarships and matching grants to help you study either on campus or at a distance. Focus on areas such as pastoral ministry, Christian formation, peace studies, Anabaptist theology, environmental sustainability leadership and more. Apply for merit-based scholarships by March 15 and ministry scholarships by April 1. ambs.edu/degrees-and-programs

WIDER CHURCH

Learn about “Clarification on Mennonite Church USA Polity and the Role of the Membership Guidelines,” a resolution that will be voted on at Mennonite Church USA’s Special Session of the Delegate Assembly, May 27-30. Michael Danner, MC USA associate executive director, and Linda Dibble, MC USA moderator, will discuss it during a webinar on Tuesday, **Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. ET.** Read the resolution and register for the webinar on the delegate resource page: mennoniteusa.org/special-delegate

Thrift at Woodland Crossing. We are excited to announce that a new MCC Thrift shop is opening in Elkhart, Thrift at Woodland Crossing, 138 Hively Ave., Suite 7, summer of 2022! The Thrift shop will serve the neighborhood as well as contributing to MCC. Judy Miller has been hired as the full-time thrift shop manager, starting mid-February. Click [here](#) to learn more about Judy. There are a variety of ways for individuals and groups to contribute to the success of this ministry. We invite your individuals and groups in your church to join us. Remodeling the space has started. There are many opportunities for demolition, construction of display units, drywalling, painting and cleaning. Some of the work will be done by contractors in addition to volunteers. A specific need is for drywallers. Contact Jim Yoder to volunteer as an individual or group, jdoder1@gmail.com. Opportunities to sort and price items, as well as serve as a cashier, will be ongoing. Contact Judy to volunteer: elkhartthrift@gmail.com. To make a donation for startup, send a check or pledge to Thrift at Woodland Crossing, MCC Great Lakes, 1013 Division St, Goshen, IN 46528. The 501c3 status is pending. We have deep gratitude for God's work in this, for all of the work to come, and the people who will be touched by this ministry!

Climate Action Petition. Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light has developed a petition, encouraging President Biden to take meaningful action on climate, justice, and clean energy. The petition can be found [here](#).

“Bodies and Grief” with Erica Littlewolf. The second season of Holding it (,) Together gathers stories of our bodies and explores how we carry pain, lament, joy, pleasure, trauma and grief. Together with us, hear honest vulnerability, stories and wisdom as we listen to what the Spirit is revealing. In Season 2, episode 3, Erica Littlewolf discusses “Bodies and Grief.” Available here: mennoniteusa.org/hit

2022 Central District Conference Mid-Year Gatherings. This year CDC will again be hosting two Mid-Year Gatherings via Zoom (Feb 5 and Mar 5). Our focus will be on our theme of Tending Transformation as we hear stories from several congregations about how they are paying attention to how God is calling them to be transformed in their communities. We will also talk together about exciting things happening in the conference. Congregations are invited to choose to join a Zoom Video call on March 5, 9:30-11:45a Eastern Time. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3378130650> For a copy of the schedule for the day, [click here](#).

Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada are partnering to create a new guidebook that addresses the prevention of abuse by church leaders, as well as providing guidance for leadership accountability. The project is expected to be presented to the delegate assemblies in 2023. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/mc-canada-usa-partner

Mission Network prayer request. Praise God for the opportunities that Mennonite Mission Network's SOOP program offers for learning and service. February is a busy month for SOOP, with more than 60 participants working in Arizona (three locations), Colorado, Florida (two locations), New Mexico and Texas. Pray that each participant will be blessed, as they bless others.

MCC's February newsletter can be found [here](#).

Pathways Retreat February Newsletter can be found [here](#).

Central District Conference February Newsletter can be found [here](#).

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship is looking to hire an Admin/Comms person Brian Moll, pastor writes, "Our Office Asst. is retiring. We changed up the job description a bit and, at least for a while, we're definitely considering fully remote options, which hopefully opens up our pool of candidates." The job description is [here](#).

The Central District Conference (CDC) of Mennonite Church USA seeks a .33 - .5 FTE associate conference minister with primary responsibility for resourcing emerging communities of faith. CDC currently serves 48 congregations across 11 states. Several new or potential communities of faith are exploring how they are called to be Church. The successful candidate will demonstrate a deep love for the Anabaptist/Mennonite church in its many forms, be able to engage in creative discernment strategies, and be informed by MC USA agency resources. Travel is expected. Candidates who bring additional diversity to our current CDC staff are preferred. Salary commensurate with MC USA guidelines. For job descriptions and questions, contact the search committee chairperson, Jan Lugibihl at jan.lugibihl@gmail.com.

Mennonite Mission Network has 5 new job openings. Here is the link to the information: [Mennonite Mission Network Employment](#). Candidates can work out of Elkhart or Newton for all but one of the jobs – which is Elkhart only!

Mennonite Church USA's job postings are here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/employment/>

Mennonite Disaster Service is hiring. [See openings here](#).

Other jobs in Mennonite Education are posted [here](#).

Come work at Goshen College! GC has many employment opportunities for teaching faculty, administrative staff and more. Visit goshen.edu/employment to see all job openings and learn more.