



## Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

<https://assemblymennonite.org/>

[office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org)

[Find COVID-19 Information Here](#)

## AssemblyLine

February 20, 2022

Volume XLI, Number 8

### WORSHIP

Join us Sundays:

<p><b>Feb 20</b>  <b>10 AM Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a></b>  <b>Sermon:</b> Karl Shelly  <b>Scripture:</b> Luke 19:1-9, Luke 10:25-37</p>	<p><b>Feb 27</b>  <b>9:30 AM Worship in Person</b>  <b>Carnival Sunday</b>  <b>Storytellers:</b> Gretchen Krause, Naomi Roots  &amp; Doug Schirch</p>
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### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 20

**8:55am** – Children in Worship (Sunday school for Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> 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: “Sermon Response” facilitated by Scott Coulter and “Harry Potter” led by Lora Nafziger.

**2:30 pm** - The MYF will be ice skating at NIBCO on Sunday, February 20th. This event will take place from 3-4:30pm at NIBCO Ice and Water Park in Elkhart. Transportation is available for students to and from the event, so if you’d like to carpool with the group, please arrive at AMC at 2:30pm, and plan to be back at AMC at 5pm. Admission is \$5, and includes skate rentals if you need them! Please make sure you have filled out the MYF waiver for this school year (’21-’22) if you plan to attend. If you aren’t sure if you have an updated waiver on file, we would be happy to look that up for you.

**7pm** – Congregational Meeting [on Zoom](#). The agenda includes: first reading of the [revised](#) 2022 Spending Plan, and information about the return to indoor worship and the May 2022 MCUSA Special Delegate Session. [Read the agenda and attached documents here](#). Congregational meetings are open to all regular Assembly participants (not only to covenanted members).

**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 20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:55am Children in Worship</li> <li>10am Worship <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>11:15am Second Hour</li> <li>2:30pm MYF Gathering</li> <li>7pm Congregational Meeting <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>		Feb 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15pm Small Group Reps Meeting <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	Feb 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>		Feb 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	Feb 26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3:30pm Lent Kick-off Event for Families</li> </ul>
Feb 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>9:30am</b> Carnival Sunday Worship (in Person &amp; <a href="#">on Zoom</a>)</li> <li>1pm JYF Gathering</li> </ul>	Feb 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm Dance Group</li> </ul>	March 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm Leadership Group</li> </ul>	March 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm Pathways Ash Wednesday service <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>1pm Women's Lunch Bunch <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>7-8:30pm Ash Wednesday Retreat at meetinghouse</li> </ul>		March 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Greencroft Meet up <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> <li>12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	March 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30-11:45am Central District Conference Regional Gathering on Zoom</li> </ul>
March 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>9:30am</b> Worship &amp; Sunday school</li> <li>8pm Anti-Racism Accountability Group <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>			March 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>		March 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm Psalm &amp; Prayers <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	

**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](mailto: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 lorach@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](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org); 574-534-4190

## COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

**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.

**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](mailto: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.

**Local Black History Month Event on Sat Feb 26 at 5pm.** Karen Powell from Assembly is planning to attend a local NAACP program for black history month at St. James AME Church in Elkhart, and she is organizing a group of folks from Greencroft to go together to this event. If you are interested in attending or want to learn more about this program, please contact Karen ([karenpowellper@gmail.com](mailto:karenpowellper@gmail.com); 574-537-4973).

**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. 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](mailto: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.

**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.

**Seeking God's Ways Together is the theme for our Lent 2022 worship.** Lent is a 40-day (+ 6 Sundays) season of preparation for Holy Week and Easter. While we often think of Lent as a time to give up something, this year we urge you to take on something: face-to-face worship, in our Assembly meetingplace. We invite you to make a commitment to come join with your siblings in Christ as we Seek God's Ways. Together. Each week will focus on the theme of movement away from one thing (like fear) and toward something else (like compassion). We will practice embodied rituals together, like communion, anointing, and footwashing/handwashing. We will also celebrate Anna Yoder Schlabach's ordination on March 6! There will be two opportunities to begin Lent: a family kick-off on Sat Feb 26 at 3:30, and an Ash Wednesday retreat at 7pm on March 2. [Please read the full introduction to Lent here.](#)

**Begin Lent with an Ash Wednesday Retreat at the meetinghouse.** Gather on March 2, from 7-8:30 pm, to sing, pray and bless each other with ashes. Lent is always about a turning from self-preoccupation and this year Sunday morning worship will explore the movements away from one thing and toward something else. The Ash Wednesday retreat will invite you to consider what you would like to turn away from and what you would like to make new. Come prepared to share your ideas with others and together imagine ways to represent this turning and to make it concrete. Please RSVP to [Lora Nafziger](#).

**Our congregation continues to benefit from Everence Sharing Fund.** Last year we provided five grants, totaling \$3,000. This year, we have again been awarded \$3,000 in matching funds to support special congregational needs. If you have a special need, please share with your small group, any of our pastors, or Barb Hassan, our Everence Advocate.

**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.

## DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

**From NIJC, the lawyers representing our asylum family:** "Thank you for your compassion and support as we have worked to reunify and restore a separated family from Honduras. The mother and her eight-year-old daughter have been separated from the ten-year-old daughter since April 2021 when the family was separated at the U.S.-Mexico border. They had been attempting to enter the United States to seek asylum and the ten-year-old has been in U.S. government custody (foster care) since soon after the separation." After unexpected delays, we are now hopeful that the family will arrive before the end of February. A huge thanks to the many donors who are helping us furnish their apartment, and to small group Crisalida who will be walking closely with this family and helping them navigate their adjustment to our community. Safety Networks will continue to provide financial and transportation support until the mother has received her work authorization (which is estimated to take at least 6-8 months).

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**The 2022 C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest** will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. in the Goshen College Umble Center and will be live-streamed to the public on [goshen.edu/livestream](https://goshen.edu/livestream). This year's student speakers, Ebtihal Abdelaziz, Caleb Gingerich, Bryan Hernandez Rodriquez and Greta Lapp Klassen, will present speeches on themes of peace and justice. Learn more at [goshen.edu/news](https://goshen.edu/news).

**Registration is open for the annual Goshen College Conference on Religion and Science**, held virtually March 11-13, 2022, featuring Dr. Ann Pederson, professor of religion at Augustana University, and Dr. Jennifer Gubbels, associate professor and chair of biology at Augustana University, exploring the topic "Trauma and the Environment: How Then Shall We Live?" They will present two public virtual lectures on March 11 & 12. More information and registration is available at [goshen.edu/religionsscience](https://goshen.edu/religionsscience).

## WIDER CHURCH

**MCC Impact 2022:** Do you care about helping Mennonite Central Committee make an impact in the U.S. and around the world? If so, we want to listen to you. Your input can help fulfill MCC's desire to find the best ways of responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. Share your ideas in this short survey: [surveymonkey.com/r/MCCImpact2022-Media](https://surveymonkey.com/r/MCCImpact2022-Media). Thank you for caring.

**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](https://mennoniteusa.org/mc-canada-usa-partner)

**Mission Network prayer request.** Deb Byler, who is serving with Mennonite Mission Network, and the women leaders of the Kekchi Mennonite Church in Guatemala have resumed their ministries after more than a year of COVID-19 restrictions. Pray for their safety in travel, spirit-inspired teaching and healing from traumas that many of the women have experienced.

**Pathways Retreat** will be holding their annual Ash Wednesday prayers virtually at noon on March 2 via Zoom. Daily prayers are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at [pathwaysretreat.org](https://pathwaysretreat.org).

**Mennonite Disaster Service** newsletter can be found [here](#).

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Lancaster (PA) Mennonite School** has a full-time opening for a Middle School Principal, starting July 2022. See full position guide & job description, [click here](#).

**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](mailto: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!

**The Goshen College library needs to fill a position** (Good Library Services Assistant) and we are reaching out to area churches to see if there is anyone you know who might be interested. We think that this position (despite the pay) might be interesting to someone with children in college or about to enter Goshen College. We are not going to lie and say that the pay (\$12.50/hr) is stellar. It isn't. It is our hope that things are in motion that will get this pay raised, but we cannot promise that. Also, health benefits are not included with this position. What we can promise is that the schedule is VERY flexible. We will be asking for around 20-30 hours / week while classes are in session and 15-20 during the summer. But even this delineation is flexible. When the work would need to be done (what days of the week, time of day, etc...) is negotiable. And we can say that the tuition discount is okay. FOR THIS POSITION, a child attending GC would get a 32% tuition discount for the first two years of employment and a 48% discount for every year employed thereafter. The main job duties include working with our Inter Library Loan team with the procurement of items from other schools, materials (mainly books) ordering, some backup supervision of the circulation desk, and additional technical services tasks, such as book repair, labeling, and deaccessioning. Here is a [job description](#).

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

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