



Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

<https://assemblymennonite.org/>

office@assemblymennonite.org

[Find COVID-19 Information Here](#)

AssemblyLine

May 22, 2022

Volume XLI, Number 21

WORSHIP

Join us Sundays at 9:30AM in Person, or [on Zoom](#)

<p>May 22 9:30 AM Worship <i>Parent-Child Dedication</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Jodi Beyeler Sermon: Lora Nafziger Scripture: John 14:23-29, Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5</p>	<p>May 29 9:30 AM Worship <i>Senior "Mugging"</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Lois Kaufmann Sermon: Jim Stump Scripture: John 17:20-26</p>
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SUNDAY MAY 22

9:30am Worship. This Sunday there will be a parent-child dedication during worship. Those being dedicated include Mateo Gomez Wengerd (parents Marlette & Ryan), Ruby Smucker (parents Becca & Simon), and Levi Stuckey Weber (parents Emily & James). During Eastertide our theme in first hour is "Recognizing Christ Among Us". In our lectionary texts, Jesus spends his last days, following his death and resurrection, with his disciples. During these times of turbulence, war, and uncertainty, may we hear Jesus' words of comfort: "Peace I leave with you...do not let your hearts be troubled" as an invitation to recognize Christ among us. Small groups are planning and leading worship services this season.

10:45am – Sunday school for children and youth will immediately follow worship. See the Order of Worship for classroom locations.

11am - Second Hour Electives: These elective discussion groups are for any interested adults.

Reparations: A Call for Racial Justice and Repair: Karl Shelly will present a Reparations Proposal for Assembly. Hosted by Arden Shank and Norm Kauffman in the Multipurpose Space.

Family Economics Come for engaging conversations with various parents on allowance, jobs & chores, extra-curriculars, and more. This Sunday's topic will be Priorities for lessons and extracurriculars- How are decisions made about what activities can be participated in and who pays for them? How much is too much (time and money)? This week's panelists are Wendel Landis & Cheryl Shreiner. Hosted by Dana Miller, located in Multipurpose North(East).

Some Assembly Required This Assembly elective is for anyone who is new(ish) to Assembly - along with anyone newly curious about how Assembly works, and its unique practices and history. This week's session is called: "How do we do Christian formation for our children & youth?" Pastor Lora Nafziger will lead discussion on this topic. Hosted by Scott Coulter, located in Multipurpose North(West).

Sing to the Lord a New Song! Actually, a whole bunch of new songs. Explore nine new hymns in *Voices Together* every week. No weekly theme, great if you can only stay for second hour a couple random Sundays. Come ready to sing! Hosted by Becky Snider in the Worship Space. Masks are required for this elective.

MYF Bike Trip - 9:30am-1pm

MYF Bike Trip this Sunday (5/22) to Ox Bow to spend some time at the park, and then head to Goshen Brewing Company for brunch! Our group will plan to meet in the church parking lot at 9:30am, and we will plan to be gone until about 1pm. Students will need to bring money to buy brunch at GBCo (or pack a lunch to bring along), water, sunscreen, clothing layers (depending on weather), a helmet, and of course a bike.

COMING UP

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

Pastors Away. Scott Coulter will be on vacation with his family May 27-30. Karl Shelly and Anna Yoder Schlabach will be away attending the special delegate session in Kansas City May 27-30. Lora Nafziger is on sabbatical beginning May 29. For urgent pastoral care needs this coming weekend, please contact pastor emerita Mary Lehman Yoder (574-238-9676).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THUR	FRIDAY	SAT
May 22 • 9:30am-1pm MYF bike trip to Ox Bow • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school	May 23 • 6:30pm Dance group	May 24 • 7pm Labyrinth walk • 7:15pm Small group reps meeting on Zoom			May 27 • 5:30pm Hour of prayer for the MCUSA Special Delegate Session (Rm 3) • MCUSA Special Delegate Session	May 28 • MCUSA Special Delegate Session in Kansas City
May 29 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • Lora Nafziger Sabbatical Begins (thru Sept 3) • MCUSA Special Delegate Session in Kansas City	May 30 • MCUSA Special Delegate Session in Kansas City				June 3 • 9:30 am Greencroft Meetup	
June 5 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 12pm Fellowship Meal • 7pm Congregational meeting on Zoom		June 7 • 7pm Leadership Group meeting				

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

Church Administrator: Naomi Roots (no office hours; contact office@assemblymennonite.org)

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Eliana Gomez Wengerd turned 3 on May 15! Eliana loves a good adventure, usually in the form of jumping on the trampoline, playing that the floor is lava, or a trip to the zoo! She is full of energy and loves to make people laugh. Eliana likes to guess how people are feeling and will often check-in with adults to ask "are you happy?" Her favorite color is blue, her favorite animal is a fish, and her favorite book is "Creature Features."

Kaylee Martin (3rd, Chamberlain) turned 9 on May 20th! Red is Kaylee's favorite color and Warrior Cat books are currently her favorite books. She enjoys playing kitty with Lisa Rose and going on walks with Jenna. She is creative and enjoys making things (especially cat things), swimming, biking and being silly.



Elona Daugherty (Montessori Preschool) turned 4 on May 20th!

Elona really likes playing with trucks and scootering! She loves to go on mommy-daughter and daddy-daughter dates. She especially likes playing Lego, using her big imagination and drawing with chalk. She likes to do the "flower work" at school and play at her neighborhood friends' houses.

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Praying for MCUSA Special Delegate Session. The Assembly Prayer Group invites you to join us on Friday, May 27, for an hour of prayer starting at 5:30pm in classroom 3. You can stay for the entire hour or come for any part of it. The focus of our prayers, whether spoken or silent, will be the MCUSA special delegate meetings in Kansas City. Anna Yoder Schlabach, Karl Shelly, Michael Miller, and Naomi Klassen will join 500 other delegates for the three-day conference (May 27-30). The delegates will vote on two particularly controversial resolutions: to retire the Membership Guidelines and to decide whether to vote on the Resolution for Repentance and Transformation. Anna will speak at the opening session which starts at 6:30pm. You can read Anna's recent blog post on MCUSA's website [here](#). *One Body, One Church*, a downloadable prayer guide by Leo Hartshorn for use by all delegates, congregations and individuals during May 27-30 can be found [here](#).

Here are links to various resources in preparation for the Special Delegate Session: [Background and Summary Document of the Four Resolutions](#), [April 11 CDC Zoom conversation with background and summary of resolutions](#), and [Video on the history of the Membership Guidelines from Atlantic Coast Conference](#).

AMC Survey. All participants should have received an **AMC survey about church and faith** in your email recently. Please complete it before you forget it's there. If you didn't receive this, please contact the office.

Vacation Bible School. We are delighted to invite children PK-6th grade are to participate in a new peace themed Vacation Bible School (VBS) partnership with local Mennonite churches. VBS will take place **June 19-22** in the evenings at Silverwood Mennonite church. In order to participate, register here. <https://forms.gle/8pXsoH5Bf7bJWkfM8>

Labyrinth Walk. Join Meribeth Shank, certified labyrinth facilitator, on Tuesday, May 24 at 7pm on the labyrinth in the memorial garden. We'll walk together after a brief introduction to the labyrinth as a meditation tool and conclude with a chance to reflect together after the walk. Contact Meribeth Shank with any questions.

Summer Worship. Summer worship will begin the Sunday after Pentecost, June 12. We've chosen the theme "Come to the water" as an invitation to come together and listen to each other's stories (and enjoy gathering in our beautiful and air-conditioned worship space). Special events will include worshiping at Camp Friedenswald June 19 and at Oxbow Park July 31. There will also be an all-Assembly-invited day of canoeing on the Elkhart River Saturday, June 25. Much more information to come!

Electric Vehicle Charging Station at Assembly! With the help of individual donations, a grant from Faith in Place's "Indiana Thriving Faith Communities" and support from Leadership Group, we are pleased to announce that two electric vehicle charging stations will soon be installed on the North end of the meetinghouse. The stations will be open to congregants, visitors and the general public, and will utilize electrical power sourced from our solar panels (which happen to be producing more than the meetinghouse currently uses). We are pleased to have an opportunity to share our resources with the community and encourage the use of electrical vehicles in Goshen!

Trees at Assembly. Curious about all the trees in our parking lot? We've updated our website with photos and bios so you can learn to know them all better. <https://www.assemblymennonite.org/trees-of-assembly/>

Learn to know newer participants. Be sure to check out the photo board in the Multipurpose Space that includes photos and introduction to several of our newer participants. (These have also been included in Prayer & Sharing emails). Look for additions to this board every couple of weeks!

Pastoral Sabbatical & Parental Leave. Lora Nafziger will be on sabbatical May 29-Sept 3. Her sabbatical will include time for rest and retreat, for connection with her loved ones, and exploring and connecting with the Book of Creation and the Divine. The Lily Grant funding Lora's sabbatical is also funding renewal opportunities for the congregation, including canoeing and hiking, planting trees, and retreats at Pathways and at Camp Friedenswald. You can read about the plan for pastoral coverage during Lora's sabbatical [here](#).

In addition, Scott Coulter plans to take six weeks of parental leave this fall, from July 23-Aug 14, and Sept 12-Sept 30. This leave will allow time to adjust to the arrival of a new child, and time to adjust to his spouse's return to work.

Upcoming Congregational Meeting. The agenda for the meeting on June 5 will include (1) presentation of the recently completed [Congregational Pastoral Review](#), (2) affirmation of the completed [Leader Selection slate for 2022-2023](#), (3) sharing of the [2021 State of the Congregation Report](#), and (4) continuing discussion of reparations, following up on the current elective. You are encouraged to read the linked documents and to contact Randy Roth (Leadership Group Chair) or Scott Coulter (Pastor of Congregational Life) with any questions. Please join us at 7pm Sunday June 5 on Zoom if you are able.

Eastertide -- April 24-June 5, 2022. Our theme this year is "Recognizing Christ Among Us." Our lectionary texts for this season give us an intimate picture of Jesus' last days with his disciples. During this season, we will have small groups planning and leading worship services. Sunday School will be offered for children after worship, and electives will be offered for adults. Electives will include: Sing to the Lord a New Song! Some Assembly Required, Family Economics, & Reparations: A Call for Racial Justice & Repair. This season ends with recovenanting at Pentecost. More information on Eastertide can be found on the literature table or read [here](#).

Share Prayer Requests by [filling out the online form at this link](#). Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays.



Current Mask Policy: Masks are still required during first hour worship for everyone ages 2 and older, and for singing in the worship space. Masks are optional in second hour during non-singing electives, and during fellowship time. Masks are also optional in Sunday school classrooms for children ages 5 and up. (Masks are still required in Sunday school for ages 2-4).

([Our Covid Advisory Committee](#) encourages everyone to be aware of the risks of attending large gatherings, particularly for those who are immuno-compromised or unvaccinated.)

MYF (GRADES 9-12)

Join us for the MYF Bike Trip this Sunday (5/22) as we bike to Ox Bow to spend some time at the park, and then head to Goshen Brewing Company for brunch! Our group will plan to meet in the church parking lot at 9:30am, and we will plan to be gone until about 1pm. Students will need to bring money to buy brunch at GBCo (or pack a lunch to bring along), water, sunscreen, clothing layers (depending on weather), a helmet, and of course a bike.

Sunday May 29 we will have our senior mugging during Worship and then a celebration for our seniors (all MYF welcome) during 2nd hour. This party during 2nd hour will include a brunch bar, corn hole tournament (for prizes), and time to celebrate the graduating class!

GRADUATING SENIORS

Congratulations to our seniors that are graduating this year! Brennan Beachy, Jordana Farran, Lily Johnson, Kia Kurtz, Mackenzie Mast, Joseph McKeage, Mara Sensenig & Sophia Yordy.

Open houses:

Mackenzie Mast Monday, May 30, 10am-12pm at the Goshen College Cabin, 309 Reservoir Pl, Goshen.

Sophia Yordy Friday, June 3rd at 7 pm at her house (215 Gra Roy Drive, Goshen). If you are the type of person who likes to bring a gift to graduation parties, Sophia will be accepting donations to the Malala Fund. Her goal is to raise \$2022.

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Thank you from Parkside school nurse, Brenda Wiebe: "Thank you so much for your passion and commitment to the girls and young women at Goshen Community Schools by providing so many menstruation supplies and encouragement to them. You are helping to fill an under-recognized need and bringing greater awareness to it. Thanks specifically for the "Period Packs" you made for our 4th grade girls during their puberty talks this year. They are wonderful. We appreciate it so much."

Mennonites Against Militarism – a collaboration of [Mennonite Central Committee, U.S.](#) (MCC) and [Mennonite Church USA](#) (MC USA) – is seeking to launch an initiative to counter military recruitment of U.S. youth. The vision for the project, Alternatives to Military Enlistment Network (AMEN), is to connect young people with volunteer advisors who can help them find non-military career, service and training opportunities. Mennonites Against Militarism invites interested volunteers to complete a [brief survey](#) that identifies areas in which they may engage with AMEN, including administration, web and graphic design, publicity, budgeting, fundraising and guidance/career counseling. Veterans and others who understand the realities of war and military recruitment are also encouraged to complete the form.

Volunteer Meeting at MCC Thrift at Woodland Crossing - Tuesday May 24 and Wednesday May 25, 10:00-11:30am. These meetings are identical, pick the one that works best for you. Come and learn about each department and see where you might like to plug in.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Intro to Environmentally Friendly Eating class– May 24, 6-7pm. Join Church Community Services for a class to discuss environmentally conscious eating & exploring vegetarian options at 907 Oakland Ave, Elkhart. No cost and all are welcome. RSVP to seedtofeed@churchcommunityservices.org.

Gardening for good. Creation care tips for your backyard and stories from Bolivia: **May 26 at 8 p.m. EDT** In this virtual visit, we'll explore what it looks like to care for the planet, from our own backyards to remote Bolivian communities. Join us to learn gardening and conservation tips in your own garden, then travel south to hear incredible stories from MCC's projects in Bolivia. Register here: mcc.org/mcc-virtual-visits

Chortitza Oak Planting and Dinner: A tree sapling with roots in Mennonite and Ukrainian history will find its home on the AMBS campus on Friday, June 3, 5–6:20 p.m. EDT. Click [here](#) for more information & schedule of events. The planting, dinner & presentation are open to the public. For those attending the dinner, payment (\$10/person) and [registration](#) by **May 26** are required.

AMBS Trees of Life Retreat: June 3–4 (Friday at AMBS; Saturday at Camp Friedenswald). This retreat led by Janeen Bertsche Johnson, MDiv, will weave together study of biblical texts about trees; understanding of trees as organisms and within ecosystems; ecological issues; and spiritual practices. The retreat can be taken for one hour of academic credit (\$560 total) or as a noncredit retreat (\$60 total). Both amounts include supper on Friday, lunch on Saturday and the use of the camp. (Lodging is not included.) **Register by May 27.** ambs.edu/trees

2023 Celtic Pilgrimage. Jane Roeschley and Karla Minter, both spiritual directors, will be leading a two-week Celtic Pilgrimage to Iona and Glendalough, June 2-18, 2023. Pilgrimage as a spiritual practice offers the opportunity to travel slowly and mindfully, with the intention of connecting spiritually with God, with fellow pilgrims and with sacred places. More information can be found [here](#).

CAMP FRIEDENSWALD

Calling all who love spending time in the peaceful woods! Camp Friedenswald is in real need of kitchen volunteers this summer (for a week at a time) and is still hiring several **summer staff positions**. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Program@Friedenswald.org or fill out [this form](#). Staff applications can be found [here](#). Please consider lending a hand making camp happen this summer!

Just Camp... for Justice - July 25-29 (pay on a sliding scale as you are able). Are you a **young adult** with a passion for justice? Do you miss your days as a camper or want to experience camp for the first time without breaking the bank? Join us for a special week of programming as we combine some of the fun and community-building aspects of a week at camp with the work of service and learning. Join together as a group of people who are passionate about enacting justice in the world and spend a week intentionally working to live in right-relationship with one another and with the land. Throughout the week we will be joined by Practitioners who will share with us their wealth of experience and knowledge spanning a variety of subjects within our theme of justice-work, or unraveling systems of violence and creating conditions for shalom. **Register by May 31** [here](#).

Summer Getaway July 25-29. Looking to get away this summer? Want to experience the wonder of Camp without expectation of group activities? (We love this stuff, but know it's not for everyone!) Join us for this Monday-Friday Getaway. We'll provide the simple cabin and meals, lake & trails, and you can feel free to pace your week in the way that feels right to you. [Discover more](#) and [inquire today!](#)

WIDER CHURCH

Cora Dale House (formerly Elkhart County Clubhouse) 10th Anniversary Celebration – May 21. At 8:30am join us at Schrock Pavilion for a relaxed “Stomp out the Stigma” run/walk from Shanklin park, down and back on the Millrace followed by a brunch at 9:30am. Then, at 3pm, we'll host an ice cream social in our backyard at Cora Dale House, 114 S 5th St.

Pathways Work Day. A way to support Pathways is by participating in the creation care day this **Saturday, May 21, from 1-4 pm**. You may have noticed in the May newsletter that Meadowlands is being restored. This is a multi-year project to remove invasives and plant a diverse, restorative ecosystem of native plants. We'll be removing brush, grinding stumps, moving dirt, planting trees, and otherwise preparing the land for the next step of the restoration process. If you're looking for a way to give back to the land - to participate in an important renewal effort - sign up for the creation care afternoon using [this link](#). Space is limited, so sign up soon to reserve your spot.

Parents of LGBTQ+ children. Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship has started a group for parents or guardians of LGBTQ+ children in Goshen-area Mennonite congregations. This group is meant to provide mutual support and to build resources for LGBTQ+ youth in our local congregations and community. For more information or to express an interest in joining, please contact Sarah Morrison at sjhigley@gmail.com.

MCC in need of material resources: MCC is resuming shipments of material resources to Ukraine. Five containers of emergency supplies are being shipped to Ukraine in the next few months with more planned for later in the year. With this increase in demand for supplies for Ukraine and other countries around the world, MCC's inventory of material resources is getting low. **We need comforters and relief, hygiene, school, dignity, infant care and sewing kits, as well as soap and towels.** Your donations will provide relief and a tangible sign of hope to people in Ukraine and other difficult situations around the world. Go to mcc.org/kits for information on needed supplies and drop-off locations.

Are you reading this? If you started attending Assembly between 2019-2022, please email scottc@assemblymennonite.org and mention this blurb; the 3rd person to email Scott will receive \$5 in Brew Bucks from the Electric Brew in their church mailbox!

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

Mennonite Disaster Service newsletter. The May edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Executive Director Kevin King shares a story of angels among us, we celebrate the MDS career of Jerry Grosh, and an MDS volunteer is reframing the Psalms as Haiku. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3LulKia>

Mission Network prayer request. Brian and Noelia Fox of Mennonite Mission Network visit the Mennonite church in Barcelona, Spain, monthly. Pray that God will protect the Fox family on the roads, as they make the seven-hour drive from their home in Burgos. Pray also for the congregation in Barcelona as they discern their next avenues of ministry.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Seed To Feed Teen Growers Internship. Elkhart County teens - Are you interested in a paid internship where you learn about gardening and help your community? Summer session begins June 13. Click [here](#) to learn more & apply.

Internship at Laurelville Retreat Center. Laurelville is now accepting applications for a full-time, year-long paid internship with room and board provided. Interns will be provided with the chance to acquire skills and knowledge relevant for a variety of career and ministry fields. We aim to provide our interns with the time and space to grow and develop as they explore new opportunities. Find more info and apply [here](#).

Jobs in Mennonite Education can be found [here](#).

Mennonite Church USA's job postings are [here](#).

Bethany Christian School job openings can be found [here](#).

Goshen College job openings can be found [here](#).