



WORSHIP

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

<p>September 11 9:30 AM Worship & Sunday School</p> <p>Worship Leader: Tom Kauffman Sermon: Karl Shelly Scripture: Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:6</p>	<p>September 18 9:30 AM Worship & Sunday School 2nd hour Congregational meeting</p> <p>Worship Leader: Barb Swartley Sermon: Anna Yoder Schlabach Scripture: Ecclesiastes 2:1-3:15</p>
---	---

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11

9:30am Worship Our fall worship series focuses on the book of Ecclesiastes. This week’s theme is “Wealth & Poverty.” This short little book contains questions and ideas that still feel relevant today: What is the point? What gives life meaning? How do we live in a time of unjust economic systems and wealth inequality? There is indeed nothing new under the sun. [Read the full intro here.](#)

Sunday School Teachers will be dismissed at the beginning of the closing hymn. Children are dismissed after the closing hymn.

Second Hour We're bringing back Age-based adult Sunday school groups again this week. Look for the signs for locations. This week we'll spend just a little time going over how to use the church directory app and discuss how the Ecclesiastes Bible study might be shaping how you think about your own life.

12pm Parents of Sunday school age children and their teachers are invited to a pizza lunch and meeting after second hour. The MYF will provide childcare and we will conclude by 1:30pm. This is a chance to connect with other parents and talk about how Sunday school is going. AMBS professor and former Assemblyite Rachel Miller Jacobs will join us to lead a conversation about digital media for ages 4-17 from a Christian formation perspective. Please bring a finger food side to share.

Masks are required during worship services for everyone ages 2 and older.

We are thankful that we can worship (and sing!) together in person, while taking reasonable precautions that protect the most vulnerable among us.

For Sunday school/2nd hour: Masks are required for children ages 2-5 and their teachers.

Our Covid Advisory Committee encourages everyone be aware of the risks of attending large gatherings, particularly for those who are immunocompromised or unvaccinated. Please read their suggestions [here.](#)

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>.

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Sept 11 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 12pm Fall parent meeting	Sept 12 • 6:30pm Dance group					
Sept 18 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 11am Congregational Meeting • 12pm Mentor-Mentee Kick-off at Fidler Pond		Sept 20 • 6:30pm Labyrinth Walk				
Sept 25 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 11am CDC Sacred Listening • 12:30pm Students in homes for lunch	Sept 26 • 6:30pm Dance group	Sept 27 • 7:15pm Small group reps meeting on Zoom		Sept 29 • 7pm Book Discussion: "Disarmed" with Marshall King		
Oct 2 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 12pm Fellowship meal		Oct 4 • 7pm Leadership group	Oct 5 • 1pm Women's lunch bunch		Oct 7 • 9:30am Greencroft meet up	

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Pictures for the Online Church Directory. Is your picture outdated? Have your children grown since 2020? Or maybe you don't know how to upload a new photo to the online directory? This Sunday, Sept 11, after 2nd hour, please find Paul Meyer Reimer or Anna & Brian Yoder Schlabach to take your picture for the directory.

[Retreat registration is live!](#) We cordially invite you to Assembly's 2022 Retreat at Camp Friedenswald, October 7-9. This year our theme is "[Re]connecting". After several years of uncertainty, we hope you will come and find peace, respite, and renewal. We extended a special invitation for those of you who started coming to Assembly just before, or during the pandemic. Retreat offers opportunities for enjoying nature, getting to know each other, eating great food, worshipping, and enjoying (or participating in!) a talent show. This year we are also offering an optional series of seminars that discuss how Christianity can address patriarchy. [Registration](#) is required. Please check your email or 3rd Hour (on Facebook) for more details.

Welcome Goshen College and AMBS Students! We would like to offer you our hospitality, welcome you (back) to the community, and get to know you better. If you would like to be hosted in a home for lunch on Sunday Sept 25, please [contact the church office](#) or [sign up using this Google Form](#) before Sept 18th.

Congregational Meeting next Sunday during Second Hour. All Assembly participants (members and non-members) are encouraged to attend the congregational meeting next Sunday in the worship space during second hour. The agenda item is initial discussion of a proposal that Assembly formally become the sponsoring church for Goshen Christian Montessori School, the registered child care ministry that has been operating here in our building since August 2021.

Upcoming Mask Policy Changes. Beginning October 16, masks will be optional for Sunday school classes of all ages. Leadership Group is considering adopting a policy that masks will be optional for first hour worship also, beginning October 16, and that if [Elkhart County's Community Risk Level](#) changes to "High", then masks will again be required indoors for everyone over age 2. **We welcome your feedback on this change** – please contact [Randy Roth](#), Leadership Group chair, with your comments and questions before Sept 30.

September is "Small Group Shuffle" time – that time of year when we form new small groups and help people find their way into Assembly small groups. If you're interested in joining or changing small groups, please let Pastor Karl Shelly know by filling out the online form [here](#), or by filling out the flyer on the literature table.

Meal train for the Smuts family: There is still ONE spot left for September 27 to provide a meal. Here's a link to sign up to take them a meal during Aydian's surgery & recovery. <https://takethemameal.com/HWYB1860>

At the Leadership Group meeting Sept 6, LG discussed the results of the [congregational survey from May 2022](#), our good relationship with [Goshen Christian Montessori School](#), and proposed changes to AMC's mask policy. Approved minutes from Leadership Group and Congregational Meetings can be read [on the church website](#).

Prayer Requests. Please share prayer requests by contacting one of the pastors via email or phone. Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays.

FOR YOUTH, PARENTS, AND MENTORS

Mentor/Mentee event Sept 18 - On Sunday Sept. 18 following church, there will be a mentor, mentee kick off potluck at Fidler pond. We will meet at the Chiddister Pavilion. RSVP and sign up to bring food by Sept. 12 using [this form](#). If you have any questions, ask [Lora](#).

OUT OF OFFICE

Scott Coulter will be out of the office for the second part of his family leave from September 12-30. Please contact Karl Shelly, Anna Yoder Schlabach or Lora Nafziger for pastoral needs. For facility needs, contact Naomi Roots. To reserve space in the building, contact the church office.

Karl Shelly will be out of town September 15-17.

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Julian Quintana (Kindergarten, Waterford) turns 6 on September 11! He loves going to the Potawatomi Zoo and swimming at Shanklin pool. His favorite show is Wild Kratz and his favorite animal is a cheetah because it is very fast. This year he gets to ride the bus to school with his sister and friends from the neighborhood.

Clara Horst Hanby (3rd grade, BCS) turns 11 On September 10! Clara loves to write and read fantasy fiction. Right now she is enjoying the "Harry Potter" series, and "Wings of Fire"! This summer she filled a whole sketchbook with the drawings. She likes music and plays piano and sings in choir and is learning the clarinet. A highlight of her summer was attending the Goshen Theatre drama camp.



PATHWAYS RETREAT

Sign up for a (FREE) Personal Retreat at Pathways There is still money left from Lora's sabbatical grant to take a retreat day at Pathways Retreat at no cost. [Contact Pathways Retreat](#) to make arrangements, and let them know you are from Assembly.

Pathways Retreat is offering a new Rest, Reflect, and Renew Retreat on October 8. The annual St. Francis Animal Blessing will be held October 9. Pathways is looking to connect with potential volunteers through a brief survey. Daily prayers are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org. The most recent newsletter can be read [here](#).

SUPPORT FOR MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Volunteers needed! The MCC Relief Sale (Sept. 23-24) again needs some help coordinating the waste stream from this event, so that our wholehearted enjoyment of rich foods and fine fellowship doesn't result in excessive landfill waste. The job is simple: stand near the waste bins with a smile and encouragement to attendees to get their waste sorted into the proper bins (compost, recycling, and landfill). We're hoping to do this with others from Assembly on Friday evening from 7-9p, but if earlier in the evening or Saturday morning works best for you, that's great, too. Please contact Jonathon Schramm (jschramm@goshen.edu) with your interest by next Sunday the 18th. And let's make sure that we don't have Faith Mennonite out-volunteering us on this one!

My Coins Count: Continue to bring your coins during offering time for MCC. As our children continue to collect coins for MCC's projects related to food insecurities around the world, consider giving a one-time gift, or a matching gift to MCC. Simply mark your contributions/checks for My Coins Count and place them in the offering.

Contribute to MCC School Kits. A while back several people asked me about school kits. At that time, I was just finishing relief buckets and didn't want to ask for more. But I bought some school supplies ahead and yesterday I bought the last 424 35-cent notebooks at Walmart. If you want to contribute to the school kit project write a check to AMC and note: school kits. Cash can be given to Johanna Sutter. A kit is about \$4.50. Thank you!

MCC Bike Michiana – Sept 16-18 at Amigo Centre. Join other bicycle enthusiasts of all skill levels for an enjoyable experience of pedaling the beautiful lake and farmland region of southern Michigan and northern Indiana. You will be supporting the mission and service of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). Terrain is rolling and flat. Fellowship and worship included. Find out more and register [here](#).

Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale – Sept 23 & 24, Elkhart County fairgrounds. The relief sale will be here before you know it! There are fliers, posters & yard signs by the literature table, if interested. Check their [website](#) or Facebook page to donate, volunteer or see the schedule.

MCC Comforter Bash: Make plans to join us on [November 11 and 12](#) for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes Comforter Bash in Goshen. People of all ages are invited to knit comforters at Pleasant View Church (58529 County Road 23). For more information about the event visit mcc.org/goshen-comforter-bash or contact LaVera Schlabach at 574.538.9629. A handmade comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten.

Thank you. Dear friends at Assembly, thank you for your continuing support of the work of MCC through your recent donations, as well as your ongoing assistance at MCC thrift shops, putting together kits and comforters and volunteering at the relief sale! With your support, our partners are in 45 countries, providing a healing presence in Ukraine, helping farmers adapt to climate change in Bolivia, and offering peacebuilding and psychosocial support for traumatized Syrians in Lebanon. Closer to home, MCC is supporting flood victims in Appalachia and victims of gun violence in Chicago. Together, we are sharing God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ. Thank you for your part in this ministry! – Les Gustafson-Zook, MCC Great Lakes

Mennonite Central Committee newsletter *In Touch* can be read [here](#).

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

“Disarmed” Book Club with Marshall V. King - Many of you have read or aspire to read “Disarmed: The Radical Life & Legacy of Michael ‘MJ’ Sharp.” The author Marshall King has done events since its publication in January, but we haven’t delved into it more deeply at AMC. Here’s your chance to come and discuss this book. Join us at 7 p.m. Thursday, September 29, at the Meetinghouse for a book club of sorts. Marshall will do a short reading and discuss the book, as well as answer questions. (If you need a copy, Fables has them downtown or he has copies to sell.)

Free financial classes – Lacasa, Inc is again offering free financial classes this fall. Find more information [here](#).

Palestine Delegation-Nov 3-14, 2022. Community Peacemaker Teams sends short-term (7-14 day) peacemaker delegations into crisis settings around the world. These delegations link communities experiencing violence with individuals and groups. Delegations offer participants a first-hand experience of CPT’s on-the-ground experiment in non-violence. Learn more & apply [here](#).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Grab your walking shoes (and a friend) and join us for the 13th Annual Maple City Walk, Saturday, September 17th. Choose from three distances--10K, Half Marathon and Marathon-- and enjoy the beauty of the Maple City Greenway and the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. Restrooms and snacks provided along the trail. Register at www.maplecitywalk.com or in person at the Goshen Parks Department, 524 E. Jackson St, Goshen. Contact Vivian Schmucker or Julia Gautsche with questions.

CAMP FRIEDENSWALD FALL PROGRAMS

Central District Conference Women’s Retreat: Sept 16-18 at Camp Friedenswald. Embodying Courage: Healing Connections with guest speaker Samantha E Lioi (previous Assembly-ite). More information can be found [here](#). Some congregations have discovered the good spirit and content of this long-standing retreat and others have yet to do so. Come check it out! Bring a friend. Camp Friedenswald is a beautiful setting and the weekend is intended for women to choose among offerings and also have time to enjoy the peaceful woods.

Restoration Retreat: Oct 21-23. If you see the need for restoration in our world and desire connection with others interested in the same, please consider participating in this weekend retreat. [Doug Kaufman](#), Director of Pastoral Ecology with the [Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions](#), will lead us in restoration practices for ourselves and our natural and human communities, with a special focus on climate change. See a draft of the [weekend schedule here](#).

Fall Getaways: Oct 14-16 & Nov 4-6. Come on your own for a solitary retreat, or get away with family or friends! We’ll provide the tasty meals, comfy cabin, and trails for exploring. This is a great way to enjoy the peaceful woods on your own schedule. [Register today](#) or find out [more](#).

WIDER CHURCH

Sacred Listening. The Central District Conference Board of Directors and staff invite your congregation to participate in a Sacred Listening conversation during the year 2022. The CDC leadership has recognized that our conference is different than it was just six years ago and continues to change. Nine congregations have joined CDC in the last six years. Several emerging communities of faith are exploring affiliation with CDC. Many of our congregations have become more fully welcoming and affirming of individuals who identify as LGBTQ+. We have experienced a pandemic. Our nation continues to wrestle with issues of justice, privilege, culture, power, environment, race, and more. We are curious about how our congregations are tending to the ongoing transformation that God calls us to. We want to hear your stories. **Assembly will host the sacred listening process during second hour on Sept 25.**

Learn, Pray, Join: Mass Incarceration. Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) invites you to engage an initiative that examines the injustices in our criminal legal system that cause pain and suffering, especially for poor people and people of color. During September and October, MC USA will offer resources, prayers and ways to live into our Anabaptist faith values, resisting injustice in all forms and in all places. mennoniteusa.org/lpj-mass-incarceration

While at Mennonite World Conference Assembly in Indonesia, Sue Park-Hur, Mennonite Church USA’s director of racial/ethnic engagement, was moved by Dr. Paulus Widjaja’s message, which she shares in abridged form in her blog, “Embracing the global church.” Read about how Dr. Widjaja reminds us not to fear and, rather, to be vulnerable in our diversity: mennoniteusa.org/embracing-global-church

Dear Friends and Supporters of the Ross Richer Family and the Two Way Mission Partnership-We are deeply grateful for your partnership in accompanying Jane, Jerrell and their children on the evolving journey of the Two Way Mission. Their latest Prayer Letter is [attached](#). Through it you will see some of the challenges they have faced since April of 2020, but we hope you will also catch the excitement of a new vision for the future that has been germinating during that time. We look forward to sharing more in the coming months. In hope and faith, The Ecuador Ministry Support Team

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for La Casa Grande (The Large House), a Christian community for children in Benin who have nowhere else to go. Pray for the children and teachers as they return to classes at Les Leaders (The Leaders), a school on La Casa Grande's campus that also welcomes children from the neighboring communities.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

First Quality Laundry owned by Lenora Hirschler & Tobias Magatti in downtown Goshen, is seeking interested applicants to fill a part time laundry attendant position for evenings and weekends. Talk to Tobias Magatti, pick up an application at 118 Clinton St, or call 574-533-9415 for more information.

Mennonite Church USA is seeking a Project Manager for MennoCon23. The position is a 12-month contract position at .50 to .75 FTE. Responsible for coordinating the various aspects of the MennoCon23 process, managing logistics, giving continuity to convention operations, ensuring the event runs smoothly and within established budget parameters. Experience in project planning or convention is desired. Strong organizational skills required. Location: Any. We are committed to diversity among staff and welcome people of diverse backgrounds and abilities to apply. View the job description [HERE](#). Send cover letter with resume to HR@MennoniteUSA.org or call 316-281-4257.

Bethany Christian School job openings can be found [here](#). **Goshen College** job openings can be found [here](#). **AMBS** job openings can be found [here](#). **Other jobs in Mennonite education** can be found [here](#). **Mennonite Church USA's** job postings are [here](#).

<p>Assembly Mennonite Church Pastoral Team Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037 Anna Yoder Schlabach annays@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-5319 <i>Scott Coulter (on Family leave)</i> Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732 Pastoral Intern: Stephen Lowe sclowe@ambs.edu Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder</p>	<p>Elders: Randy Roth (chair), Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Sara Morris, Cheryl Shreiner, Ben Good-Elliott Youth Coordinators: Erich Miller, Marlette Gomez Wengerd, Ryan Gomez Wengerd, Gretchen Krause</p>
<p>Administrative Assistant: Becky Overholt (Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm) office@assemblymennonite.org; 574-534-4190 Church Administrator: Naomi Roots (Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-12pm) naomikr@assemblymennonite.org</p>	