



WORSHIP

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

<p>September 25 9:30 AM Worship & Sunday School <i>2nd hour CDC sacred listening</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Leon Bauman Sermon: Renee Kanagy Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:3; 8:14-9:12</p>	<p>October 2 9:30 AM Worship & Sunday School <i>World Communion Sunday</i> <i>Fellowship meal</i> <i>2% Offering</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Anna Yoder Schlabach Sermon: Brian Sauder Scripture: Psalm 3; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24</p>
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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25

9:30am Worship Our fall worship series focuses on the book of Ecclesiastes. Renee Kanagy will be preaching this Sunday. She is an ordained pastor and spiritual director who works as a chaplain for the Center for Hospice Care. She and her family moved to Goshen two years ago from Cincinnati. She is married to Bradley Kaufman and has two children, Lucca and Rowan.

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

Second Hour CDC Sacred Listening Project. Today during 2nd Hour, we welcome Lloyd Miller and Leroy & Winifred Saner from Central District Conference who have come to ask questions about what you appreciate at Assembly and your hopes for the congregation. Come to hear each other's stories and to share your own.

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. *Parents should contact Sunday school teachers directly if they are sending kids to Sunday school during days 6 through 10 after a positive COVID test. During this time children are asked to wear a mask during Sunday school and sit apart from the group during snack.*

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](#)

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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	Sept 30 ● 9am Play group	
Oct 2 <i>World Communion Sunday</i> <i>2% Offering</i> ● 9:30am Worship & Sunday school ● 12pm Fellowship meal		Oct 4 ● 7pm Leadership group	Oct 5 ● 1pm Women's lunch bunch in person & on Zoom ● 6pm Childcare for small groups		Oct 7 ● 9am Play group ● 9:30am Greencroft meet up	
Oct 9 ● 10am Worship at Camp Friedenswald	Oct 10 ● 6:30pm Dance group on Zoom (contact Linda Schlabach Miller for the link)	Oct 11 ● 6:30pm Labyrinth walk			Oct 14 ● 9am Play group	Oct 15 ● 1-3pm Joy Buschert visitation ● 4pm Joy Buschert memorial service
Oct 16 ● 9:30am Worship No Sunday school All ages hymn sing ● 7pm Congregational meeting					Oct 21 ● 9am Play group	

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Read Lora Nafziger's sabbatical report [here](#).

JYF (grades 6-8) event this Saturday! Instead of Sunday afternoon, this time around we'll be helping to clean up after the relief sale at the fairgrounds on **Saturday from noon until 2:00**. We'll have a little lunch and then help with cleaning up until 2. Contact [Becky Snider](#) or [Jonathon Schramm](#) if you have questions.

Sit toward the front! The last few rows will be roped off for latecomers. Please sit closer to the front.

Next Sunday, Oct 2, Brian Sauder will preach. Brian is the Executive Director of [Faith in Place](#), a powerful network of diverse faith communities organizing for environmental and racial justice. A Mennonite minister, Brian brings a passion for connecting the dots between faith, environmental justice, poverty, mass incarceration, race, violence, class, and health. He will also be leading second hour.

Fellowship Meal next Sunday Oct 2, following 2nd hour! Households with names beginning with A through L please bring a main dish; M through Z bring a side or dessert. Please also bring plates and utensils for your household. We will ask everyone ages 2 and older to wear a mask indoors during the meal except when you are sitting at your table eating. Weather permitting, a few tables and chairs will be set up outdoors.

Childcare for small groups. Once again, we will be offering childcare for small groups on the first Wednesday night of each month starting Oct 5 from 6-8:30pm at the Meetinghouse. If interested, please sign your child(ren) up [here](#).

Volunteers for Joy Buschert's memorial service & meal. We will need many volunteers for various duties on October 15, including set up, greeters, and clean up. If you can help, please contact the office at office@assemblymennonite.org or call 574-534-4190.

Yoga at Assembly. Alma Boyle is considering offering yoga classes at Assembly. She will start with one class per week and depending on interest, may expand to two. Classes can be suitable for all abilities and can combine some meditation, too. If you are interested you can email Alma at alma.boyle53@gmail.com or tel. 574 238 4536.

Consider Baptism? Have you found yourself drawn into the life of the church in a way you didn't anticipate earlier in your life? Are the questions of meaning and life ones that you are grappling with in a faith context? Are you wondering how to claim being a progressive Christian? Talk with Lora or send her an [email](#) if you are intrigued and interested in an exploring baptism class for young and older adults.

Weekly Friday morning 9am play group. Lora Nafziger & Becky Smuts invite parents to bring their children to the Meetinghouse room 2A to spend an hour together. Parents are invited to bring projects like knitting, crochet, etc. while you visit with other adults. A snack will be provided.

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.

Come Play With Us: You are invited to an **Introduction to InterPlay**. On October 29, InterPlayers from Michigan, Indiana and perhaps Chicago will gather at our Meetinghouse for a day of play. Maryellen May from Bloomington, Indiana and yours truly, Linda Schlabach Miller are designing the morning (9:30 - 11:30am) for those from our congregation (and the Goshen/Elkhart community) who are just a little curious about what our Assembly Dance Group does on Monday evenings. For more information contact Linda at 574-538-8324 or lschlabachm@gmail.com

Assembly Student Aid: Will you or your child be learning at a Mennonite school/college/seminary next year? We as a congregation want to financially support those among us who opt for education at a Mennonite institution. Covenanted members and their children will qualify for grants of 8% of tuition at Mennonite seminaries, colleges, and Bethany Christian High School and Middle School. **Now it's time to budget! By Nov 1:** Please let a member of the Student Aid Committee know if you or children in your family are considering or continuing Mennonite education for 2023-24, and at which institution and grade level. Contact Cheryl Mast <home.mast@gmail.com> about students at Bethany (6th-12th grades). Contact Paul Meyer Reimer <paulmr@goshen.edu> about students at Menno colleges and seminaries.

If you are interested in receiving spiritual direction, Jon Zirkle is looking for 1-2 individuals who would like to try spiritual direction as part of his seminary course requirements at AMBS. Spiritual direction would involve meeting about once a month for up to 8 months at no cost (Jon is receiving credit for this training and is receiving supervision from his instructor Dan Schrock). Sessions could take place at the meetinghouse, somewhere outdoors (could include walking or sitting), or by Zoom. Contact Jon directly (jon.zirkle@gmail.com or 574-612-5063) if you're interested in a non-judgmental experience of listening together for God's presence in your life.

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.

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.

FALL CHURCH RETREAT AT CAMP FRIEDENSWALD

Our church retreat at Camp Friedenswald is 2 weeks away (Oct 7-9). If you would like lodging or meals please [register ASAP here](#) so that we can prepare. 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, gathering for worship at 10am, and enjoying (or participating in!) a talent show. This year we are also offering a Retreat-within-Retreat. See below.

Retreat-within-Retreat: “Laboring Toward Wholeness: A Training on Dismantling Patriarchy” will be offered as a focused option this year at Friedenswald. Up to 20 participants of all genders are welcome and are asked to commit to the full 11-12 hours of sessions. These will be spread over the weekend, from Friday dinner through Sunday morning before worship, allowing participants to still enjoy key portions of the larger Assembly retreat. Registration is required and can be found on the main registration form. From the authors: “Patriarchy is not God’s intention for humanity and creation. Through this training, we’ll explore the history and roots of patriarchy and how it got entangled with our faith. We’ll unpack the church’s role in perpetuating it as well as our responsibility to dismantle it.”

BIRTHDAYS



Ira Siemens-Rhodes (7th grade, BCS) turned 12 on July 9 while he and his family were away for the summer. Ira enjoys reading and jewelry-making. Recently he's been making earrings and will have some for sale at this weekend's Michiana Pottery Tour. One of his best memories from his recent worldwide travels is the taste of German bread and cheese!



Alice Kauffman (2nd, Waterford) turned 8 on Sept. 19th! Alice enjoys reading *Magic Treehouse* and *Boxcar Children* books. She is delighted when her older brother Eli will play Lego with her and with regular Lego play with her dad. She likes to play all kinds of games with her younger brother and to pick flowers with her mom. Alice loves art, laughter and watching movies!



Finn Mast turns 2 on September 27! Finn loves pasta, saying “no”, and playing with his “we-o” (police car). His favorite animal is a turtle and likes to watch them at the zoo.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Michiana Pottery Tour – Sept 24&25. The Michiana Pottery Tour is a self-guided tour highlighting potters working in and around northern Indiana and southern Michigan. Come visit our homes or studios, meet many regional and national artists, and explore thousands of unique, handmade pots. Click [here](#) for a map & more information.

Voices Together Exhibit - Good Library Gallery. Don’t miss this new display of the original works of art that appear in the MC USA hymnal, *Voices Together* (2020), by twelve different artists in a traveling exhibit from Bethel College, KS and the Marpeck Fund along with a display of historic Mennonite hymn books and tributes to Mary Oyer, Walter E. Yoder and other earlier editors. On Oct 1 at 2:30pm, Adam Tice will speak on hymn texts. On Oct 8 at 3:15pm, Randy Horst will give a gallery talk.

***We Own This Now*, Live at the Goshen Theatre.** WHAT IF THE LAND YOU LOVE WAS STOLEN? Starring Ted Swartz and Michelle Milne, *We Own This Now* is a play by Alison Casella Brookins that looks at love of land, loss of land, and what it means to “own” something. The show is about the Doctrine of Discovery (the legal framework that justifies theft of land and oppression of Indigenous Peoples) and its impact on our world. Interested in ushering at this show? Contact Chelsea Risser at cjoyrisser@gmail.com. **Friday October 14, 2022 at 7:30pm. Free admission.**

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

The Open Fifths Concert at 8th Street Mennonite Church (Sunday, October 9 at 4:00pm). *The Open Fifths* is a choral ensemble that performs music from the Renaissance through contemporary composers as well as traditional hymns and arrangements of popular music and songs from around the world. The concert is FREE. An offering will be collected to support the [Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition’s Salary Campaign for Sarah Augustine](#). Anabaptist author, scholar and activist Sarah Augustine, a Pueblo (Tewa) woman, has been a leading voice in calling the church to dismantle structures that oppress Indigenous peoples and deprive them of their lands. Contributions to her Salary Campaign will empower her to do this prophetic work of repair full-time.

Community 5K for Immigrant Justice – Saturday, Oct 29. We at the [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) in Goshen are so grateful for the enduring support we receive from our community. The Mennonite churches of Elkhart County sustain and inspire us. We invite your congregations to join us for our fourth annual [Community 5K for Immigrant Justice](#). Our attendees will have the choice of participating in the 5K in person on the Millrace Trail in Goshen or virtually. This event is a chance for the community to come together and raise funds to ensure access to justice for immigrants in Indiana. There is an option at registration this year to create teams, so churches could engage in some friendly competition to see which congregation can turn out the most racers, turn in the fastest average time, show up in the best costumes (since it will be Halloween, after all), etc. We hope you will join us! **Sign up by September 23rd to get a t-shirt with your registration!** Registration is here: <https://runsignup.com/nijc5kforimmigrantjustice>. Click here to read the [flyer](#).

Knitting volunteer needed: Bethany 3rd grade teacher Karin Fast is looking for a volunteer to teach knitting to her class once a week for approximately 6 weeks. All materials will be provided and she will remain in the classroom to assist and for crowd control. If you are interested or have questions contact her at kfast@bethanycs.net

Volunteer mentors needed! *DRIVE* is a mentoring program provided through the Goshen School Corporation. In this program you will be able to connect with a 4th, 5th or 6th-grader to help them build a foundation and make a successful transition to junior high school! Mentors meet with their students once-a-week for 30 minutes. Mentoring occurs during the school day. If interested, email Sharon Sarber at ssarber@goshenschools.org or call 574-533-8631, ext. 12045

MICHIANA MENNONITE RELIEF SALE SEPT 23&24

Mennonite Relief Sale Online Auction bidding opens on Friday, Sept 23. Check out the items for sale and bid [here](#).

Friday evening activities begin at 5pm. Come for dinner and browse the quilts, some of the food and craft items will be available for purchase, and [children’s activities](#) will also be available. **Saturday**, come for the pancake & sausage breakfast, celebrate with us at the live quilt auction, it’s the final day to bid on your [online auction items](#), plus there are food booths, children’s activities, and more!

The Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale Choir will be performing at Sauder Hall at Goshen College Sunday, Sept. 25 at 7 pm. Fairfield HS choir will also be performing several songs. There is no admission charge but an offering will be taken to benefit Mennonite Central Committee.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Women of Faith Training & Resourcing Network – Sept 29-Oct 2 in Elkhart. You are invited to a women's leadership conference led by African American women to explore issues of diversity, equity and inclusion, sponsored by Mennonite Women USA (MW) and Mennonite Mission Network. Click [here](#) for more information & registration.

AMBS Short Course- Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology with Jamie Pitts- Oct. 26 – Dec. 13. Learn about the birth and development of the Anabaptist movement in the 16th century, as well as various interpretations of “Anabaptism” and it’s meaning today. **Register by Oct. 5 to save \$50! Register Now.**

New Doctor of Ministry degree from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. AMBS is now accepting applications for a new Doctor of Ministry degree in Leadership-the first of its kind. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

WIDER CHURCH

Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) invites healthcare providers in all disciplines, including allied health, and all interested in the intersection of health and faith to our Annual Gathering at MCC's Welcoming Place in Akron, PA, October 14th-16th, 2022. The theme is: Coming Together at the Well - Renewal Through Exploring the Five Life Standards. Participants will have the opportunity to explore and discuss the Five Life Standards from More-With-Less and how they apply to health and healing as well as hear from keynote speaker Malinda Elizabeth Berry, PhD, professor at AMBS. Commuter registration is available for local participants. Registration information at mennohealth.org/annual-gathering-2022/.

Young Adults! Nov 6-11: Puerto Rico Peace Camp: Young adults are invited to join MCC on November 6-11 on the beautiful island of Puerto Rico as we discover new ways to live and proclaim the gospel of peace. This week-long experience will be filled with practical learning about deconstructing oppressive systems, building community, participating in spaces of healing and commitment to hospitality. This experience will be facilitated in Spanish; a minimum of conversational Spanish is expected from all participants. Registration fee is \$200; sign up now at mcc.org/campamento-de-paz. More information about peace camps: mcc.org/peace-camps.

Daily prayers for Mennonite Education for October can be found [here](#).

The Mennonite Disaster Service newsletter can be read [here](#).

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer. Praise God for the new partnership program created by Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS), *Meserete Kristos* Seminary and Mennonite Mission Network, which offers a master’s level curriculum in theology to Ethiopian students. Pray for the students, as well as for Henok Mekonin and Joe Sawatzky, who are jointly supported by AMBS and Mission Network, as they provide leadership.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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](#).

Assembly Mennonite Church

Pastoral Team

Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037
Anna Yoder Schlabach annays@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-5319
Scott Coulter (on Family leave)
Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732
Pastoral Intern: Stephen Lowe sclowe@ambs.edu
Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

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

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

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>.