



## WORSHIP

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

<p><b>Nov 27</b>  <b>9:30 AM Worship &amp; Sunday school</b>  <i>First Sunday of Advent</i></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Bethany Swope  <b>Sermon:</b> Regina Shands Stoltzfus  <b>Scripture:</b> Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122;  Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44</p>	<p><b>Dec 4</b>  <b>9:30 AM Worship &amp; Sunday school</b>  <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>  <i>2% Offering</i>  <i>2<sup>nd</sup> hour Messiah sing &amp; potluck</i></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Bethany Swope  <b>Sermon:</b> Karl Shelly  <b>Scripture:</b> Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19,  Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12</p>
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## SUNDAY NOVEMBER 27

**9:30am Worship** This is the first Sunday of Advent! Our theme for this year is *Restoration is Near*. This year's theme reminds us that God's restorative work is ongoing. Restoration is near! Jesus has come and brought about restoration! And...we live in a world deeply in need of restoration. Restoration has seasons of intense work and of maintenance mode. It's active. It requires something of us. It's transformative. And it is inspired and guided by God's creative and persistent love. [Read more about our theme.](#) [The order of worship can be found online here.](#)

**2<sup>nd</sup> hour Advent stations** During second hour, you will have three different ways to prepare for Advent. There will be three stations set up in the multipurpose space. After you grab your coffee, you are invited to write letters of support for detained immigrants in Arizona, make your own advent calendar, or contemplate Advent through working with physical materials.

**7:30pm Holden evening prayer** Every Sunday during Advent we will join with Faith at 7:30pm for Holden evening prayer. An example of this simple 20-minute vespers service of spoken and sung prayers from Holden Village can be viewed [here](#).

Masks are optional during worship & Sunday school, unless Elkhart County's Community Risk Level becomes "High" (according to [covidactnow.org](https://covidactnow.org/)) – in which case masks will be required indoors for everyone over age 2. We encourage everyone to stay up to date on vaccinations and boosters, and encourage anyone who is not feeling well to join us on Zoom.

While many in our faith family are thankful masks are no longer required, a fair number of us feel the need to be even more careful when at church, and some are deciding to return to joining worship by Zoom.

**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.**

Please follow current CDC guidelines for Elkhart County. For more information visit <https://www.assemblymennonite.org/covid-19-information/>.

## COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
Nov 27 <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Winter Qtr Sunday School begins</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday school</li> <li>7:30pm Holden evening prayer</li> </ul>	Nov 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:30pm Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm Dance group</li> </ul>	Nov 29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3pm MYF live-in (thru noon 12/3)</li> <li>7:15pm Small group reps <a href="#">on Zoom</a></li> </ul>	Nov 30 & Dec 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MYF live-in</li> </ul>		Dec 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MYF live-in</li> <li>9am Play group</li> <li>9:30am Greencroft meet up</li> </ul>	Dec 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2pm MYF live-in ends</li> </ul>
Dec 4 <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i> <i>2% offering</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday school</li> <li>11am Messiah sing</li> <li>12pm Fellowship meal</li> <li>7:30pm Holden evening prayer</li> </ul>	Dec 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:30pm Yoga</li> <li>6pm 2% committee</li> </ul>	Dec 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm Leadership group</li> </ul>	Dec 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1pm Women's lunch bunch (also <a href="#">on Zoom</a>)</li> <li>6:30 &amp; 7:30pm K-5 candle dipping at Steve Shantz's (60728 CR 27, Goshen)</li> </ul>		Dec 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Play group</li> </ul>	
Dec 11 <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday school</li> <li>Christmas cookie exchange (sign up required)</li> <li>7:30pm Holden evening prayer</li> </ul>	Dec 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:30pm Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm Dance group on Zoom (contact Linda Schlabach Miller for the link)</li> </ul>	Dec 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Labyrinth walk</li> </ul>	Dec 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm JYF candle dipping at Steve Shantz's (60728 CR 27, Goshen)</li> </ul>		Dec 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Play group</li> </ul>	Dec 17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30 &amp; 7pm Advent spiral (RSVP to Lora Nafziger)</li> </ul>

## CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



**Martha Hanby (3rd, Bethany) turns 9 on Nov. 26th!** Martha enjoys drawing and playing violin. At school art and tech are her favorite classes. She loves cats. She is working on her gymnastics skills and enjoys practicing. She enjoys acting and is looking forward to doing a play at school. With her family she likes to play games, go downtown and enjoy pizza and ice cream.

## COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

**Hearing assistance during Advent:** The circular set up in the worship space means that there are fewer seats in the “best zone” for those who use the t-coil hearing loop. If you aren’t getting great reception on your hearing aid, try moving closer to the middle of the circle. Glenn Gilbert has mapped out a handy map of the worship space and where the best seats are for those who use the t-coil. You can see that map at the sound booth.

**MYF Live-In this week!** Our youth (grades 9-12) will be living at the Meetinghouse starting at 3pm on Tue, Nov 29 through 2pm on Sat, Dec 3. Please be mindful of this if you have need to be in the building during this time.

**Volunteers for 2023:** It's that time of year again! There are many tasks that happen on Sunday morning that require volunteers. We ask that each person sign up for at least **two tasks** for next year. Please fill out the form [here](#). Signup sheets are also on the table in the Gathering space.

**Pledges for 2023 due today!** Please complete your pledges for 2023. A link to the pledge letter can be found [here](#). Physical copies are available on the literature table. Please contact [Dancy Hirschler](#) or [John Nafziger](#) with questions.

**Messiah Sing and Fellowship meal next Sunday, Dec 4.** All musicians are welcome to come for an orchestra rehearsal at 8am. Join us for second hour for this annual tradition; bring your own Messiah score if you have it. There will be a fellowship meal afterwards. Please bring a dish (or two) to share and plates & utensils for your family.

**No small group childcare in December.** The December small group childcare evening coincides with the K-5 candle-dipping activity at Steve Shantz's. We want the children to participate in the candle-dipping so we are canceling the small group childcare night for December. We will resume on January 4 with a **new time of 5:30-8pm**.

**Faith's JYF/MYF is going to be collecting flexible plastic packaging to recycle through Terracycle.** This will help to care for the earth and also raise money for Faith youth activities. **All Kroger-branded flexible plastic packaging is eligible to be recycled** through this program; [see the attached PDF flier](#) for details on the "mail-in recycling". There will be a large box by the North doors for you to place your recycling items into.

**Women's lunch bunch** - December 7 at 1pm, in person and [on Zoom](#), will be a reader's theater with dessert to follow. Please RSVP to Amy Kauffman at [zbamygk@gmail.com](mailto:zbamygk@gmail.com)

**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.

## ADVENT THROUGH EPIPHANY AT-A-GLANCE

Advent begins Sunday Nov 27! This year's Advent theme, *Restoration is near*, reminds us that God's restorative work is ongoing. Restoration is near! Jesus has come and brought about restoration! And...we live in a world deeply in need of restoration. [Read the introduction here](#). A handout can also be found on the literature table.

Here are some opportunities to enter into the season:

- **Advent countdown candles & calendars** can be picked up from the table in the Gathering space
- **Holden Evening Prayer** (Assembly & Faith): Each Sunday of Advent, 7:30 pm at the Meetinghouse
- **Messiah sing & potluck:** Sunday December 4
- **Candle dipping at Steve Shantz's:** (K-5) Wed Dec 7, 6:30 & 7:30pm; (JYF) Wed Dec 14 6:30pm
- **Christmas cookie exchange:** Sunday December 11. [Sign up here](#) to deliver cookies to three households and receive cookie plates from three households.
- **Advent spiral:** Saturday December 17 at 5:30 and 7 pm. Please sign up to attend by emailing [Loracn@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:Loracn@assemblymennonite.org).
- **Longest Night Service:** Wednesday Dec 21, 7pm
- **Christmas Eve Service:** Saturday Dec 24, 6pm. [Sign up here](#) to indicate interest in attending/ participating
- **Christmas Sunday Evening Service with Faith:** Sunday Dec 25, 5pm (no morning worship Dec 25)
- **New Year's Breakfast Potluck:** Sunday Jan 1, 9:30am; worship at 10:30am
- **Women's Christmas:** Saturday Jan 14, 4-7pm

## DOING JUSTICE AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY

**From the AMC Repair Network Ministry Team:** What might this year's Advent theme "Restoration is near" look like? Might the federal government's action to allow the largest dam removal project in U.S. history to take place be an example? The Klamath River has been a primary source of food for the river basin tribes of California and Oregon. But the dams have severely hampered the salmon from their yearly journey to their upriver spawning grounds. This action will allow the natural habitat of the Klamath River to be restored, allowing the salmon to navigate the river to their

spawning grounds, and allow the tribes to regain self-sufficiency and renew their traditional lifestyle. If you want to read more about this landmark decision, [click here](#).

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

**2% funds for 2022:** The last scheduled collection of 2% funds for 2022 will be **Dec 4th**. Any 2% funds received later in the month will be disbursed in 2023 to make it easier to close the books for the year. This is a change in procedure to simplify the work of the treasurer, and will not change your accounting, only Assembly's. If you have questions or concerns, you can email Naomi, Administrator, at [naomikr@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:naomikr@assemblymennonite.org) or Dancy, Treasurer, at [treasurer@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:treasurer@assemblymennonite.org) or ask any member of the 2% committee (Susan Mark Landis (chair), Glenn Gilbert, Barb Hassan, Marshall King, Barb Swartley, Joel Zwier).

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**You are invited to the [First Annual Community Posada](#)** hosted by Center for Healing & Hope, Dec 2, 6-8pm at Maple City Conference and Event Center (222 South 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Goshen). Enjoy hot drinks, traditional pastries, piñatas, and gift bags for kids including Advent Activity Calendar cards, hats and gloves, and books from the Goshen Public Library.

## WIDER CHURCH

**Support Bethany Christian Schools:** On December 2<sup>nd</sup> (First Fridays) from 5-9pm, you have a chance to support Bethany Christian Schools by coming and shopping at Ten Thousand Villages Goshen. Bethany Christian Schools have teamed up with Ten Thousand Villages to host a benefit shopping night where all shoppers who mention Bethany Christian Schools will have a portion of their purchase go back to Bethany Christian Schools.

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

***Anabaptist Witness 9.2, "Mission and Health."*** This AW issue — edited by Jamie Pitts, PhD — explores the place of healing in the church's conception of its purpose and task. It includes essays connecting current issues such as the COVID-19 pandemic and HIV/AIDS to past and present Mennonite medical mission work, and a call for the church to be reshaped by the witness of persons with disabilities. Read it online for free: [anabaptistwitness.org](http://anabaptistwitness.org)

**Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in the Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes Comforter Bash in Goshen!** More than 350 people knotted 470 comforters over the two days of this fun-filled event. Thanks to you, people around the world will not only be kept warm but can go to sleep knowing that someone cares about them. Stay tuned for information about next year's Comforter Bash!

**Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer.** Austin Roberts, who is serving through Mennonite Mission Network, requests prayer for Northern Ireland, where Queen Elizabeth's death has fueled tensions between Catholics and Protestants. Inflation and the rise in heating oil prices and electricity, a result of Russia's war in Ukraine, add to the unrest. He asks us to join him in his plea for "a swift and peaceful end to this aggression," for the benefit of the people of Ukraine, all of Europe and the world.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Mennonite World Conference is hiring in North America for a Development Executive. See <https://mwc-cmm.org/mwcdevexec> for the job posting.

**Communications Coordinator needed:** Central District Conference seeks a part-time member of the conference leadership team to share stories of how CDC congregations and leaders are fulfilling our mission: Knowing Christ's Love. . . Answering God's Call. The successful candidate will be able to gather stories from across the conference and share these stories clearly and compellingly across various media platforms. Skills in content management will allow this person to work with existing staff and conference leadership to develop a strategic approach to sharing our stories. Travel to conference events expected. The position is up to half-time. Salary commensurate with experience and training. To inquire, contact Emma Hartman, [office@mcusacdc.org](mailto:office@mcusacdc.org)

**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**

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**Pastoral Intern:** Stephen Lowe [sclowe@ambs.edu](mailto: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](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org); 574-534-4190

**Church Administrator:** Naomi Roots (Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-12pm) [naomikr@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:naomikr@assemblymennonite.org)

**Please email announcements to [assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org) by 11PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's AssemblyLine. To receive the AssemblyLine via email visit <http://eepurl.com/bsXsDr>.**