



Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

<https://assemblymennonite.org/>

<mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org>

[Find COVID-19 Information Here](#)

AssemblyLine

May 7, 2023

Volume XLII, Number 19

WORSHIP

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

<p>May 7 9:30AM Worship & Sunday School <i>2% Offering</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Susan Mark Landis Sermon: Anna Ressler Scripture: Psalm 139</p>	<p>May 14 9:30AM Worship & Sunday School</p> <p>Worship Leader: Michael Miller Sermon: Karl Shelly Scripture: Psalm 31</p>
--	--

SUNDAY MAY 7

9:30am Worship [Click here for Order of Worship](#). This is the third Sunday of our Eastertide series on Praise and Lament. [For the full series introduction, click here](#). Anna Ressler will be preaching on Psalm 139. Anna is currently a MDiv student at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. The morning also includes parent-child dedications: Jenae & Malia Coulter (Scott Coulter & Ana Yoder Coulter), Georgia Lucille Daugherty (Bre & Trevor Daugherty) and Brooklyn Hulbert (Douglas & Kelsey Hulbert).

Sunday School classes for children and youth (infants through 12th grade) immediately following first hour. Locations of classrooms by age/grade are posted in the Gathering Space.

Second hour There are three options to participate in 2nd hour:

- **The Land is Not Empty book discussion—north side of MP space.** All are invited to discuss Sarah Augustine's important book, *"The Land is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery."* John Blosser & Beck Unternahrer will be leading a discussion on chapters 5 & 6.
- **Some Assembly Required—west side of MP North.** 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. In this week's session we will talk about small groups at Assembly. Hosted by Scott Coulter. *To find the classroom in MP North: Walk past the mailboxes to the north entrance of the meetinghouse, then turn left (west) to go down the north hallway. Some Assembly Required is across from room 12.*
- **Worship Training Elective—Worship space.** Join the worship committee for a hands-on worship elective. Learn to lead worship, lead singing, and plan a worship service. Intended for beginners or experienced folks who want to get better!

Pizza lunch today! All teachers, parents and youth in Sunday school classes from John's class through MYF are invited for lunch and a meeting today. We do this twice a year as a way for families to connect with each other and talk about various aspects of Christian formation. Pizza, dessert and childcare provided. Please drop off finger food sides in the kitchen prior to worship, and gather in family groups in the hallway outside room 3 immediately following second hour.

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.

<p>Assembly Mennonite Church Pastoral Team Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037 Anna Yoder Schlabach (<i>on sabbatical</i>) Scott Coulter scottc@assemblymennonite.org 419-535-2918 Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732 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>
---	--

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
May 7 <i>2% Offering</i> •9:30am Worship •11am Sunday school & Electives for Adults •12pm Spring parent meeting	May 8 • 4:30 & 6pm Yoga • 6:30pm Dance group	May 9 • 6:30pm Labyrinth walk • 7pm Gardening group			May 12 • 9am Play group	
May 14 •9:30am Worship •11am Sunday school & Electives for Adults	May 15 • 6-7:30pm Yoga Retreat	May 16 • 7pm Gardening group			May 19 • 9am Play group	
May 21 •9:30am Worship •11am Sunday school & Electives for Adults •12pm Bicycle blessing & ride •7pm Congregational meeting	May 22 • 4:30 & 6pm Yoga • 6:30pm Dance group	May 23 • 7pm Gardening group • 7:15pm Small group reps mtg			May 26 • 9am Play group	

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Auden Stump turned 1 on May 4th! Auden loves to look at books, play ball, and eat bananas. He is a snuggle bug when he's not running around and rough housing with his big brother. He loves exploring in all the drawers and cabinets. We love his contagious smile and giggles. He is always ready to try anything!



Jenae Coulter (PreK, 8th Street Preschool) turns 4 on May 6th! Jenae is good at hopscotch and really likes Elmo! She likes to bake cakes with her mom, and draw pictures with her dad. She loves listening to the Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe. She is a fast runner and likes to play tag and dance and sing!

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 11PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's AssemblyLine. To receive the AssemblyLine via email visit <https://tinyurl.com/Aline-subscribe>.

Sign up to read the full version of the Assemblyline each week: <https://tinyurl.com/Aline-subscribe>

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

New Worship Tech Request: Do you have a tech need for Sunday morning worship like an image, a recording or a video? In order to make things easier for the tech folks, please send your content to soundbooth@assemblymennonite.org no later than Friday mornings at 9 a.m. Thank you.

Fundraisers This Saturday May 6

- **Goshen Montessori Preschool carnival fundraiser from 8am-1pm at Assembly** in the North parking lot. If it rains, the event will be indoors. A garage sale of gently used donated items: clothing, furniture, housewares, etc. Baked goods and snacks will also be for sale. There will also be carnival games, hair tinsel, face painting, kids' activities, and a silent auction with new items or local gift certificates.
- **Plant sale supporting JoinTrees** - On Saturday from 10am-1pm, come to a plant sale fundraiser in the west parking lot at Assembly to benefit Mennonite Men's JoinTrees projects. At 11am, director Steve Thomas will share words about JoinTrees and tree planting projects in Benin, Angola, and Congo that need funding. The plant sale will feature native tree species, flowers, herbs, native forbes, figs, raspberry plants, and much more! Want to contribute plants, volunteer, or donate to the cause? Contact Jon Zirkle (574-612-5063) by Friday night. www.mennonitemen.org/jointrees

Assembly gardening group - This summer we will be gathering weekly on Tues from 7-8pm to care for the gardens surrounding the meetinghouse under the guidance of a member of the landscaping committee. **This upcoming Tues, May 9 at 7pm** we will be weeding and mulching the native beds around the perimeter of the parking lot. If it is actively raining, we will not meet; plan to join us on May 16. **Added bonus: the top 3 attenders to these gatherings will receive a Justin Rothshank nature-inspired mug!** Email naomikr@assemblymennonite.org with questions.

Labyrinth Walk Tues May 9: Join Meribeth Shank, certified labyrinth facilitator, on Tuesday at 6:30pm on the labyrinth in Assembly's 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. If it rains, we'll walk indoors using a small canvas labyrinth, in Assembly's multipurpose space. Contact Meribeth Shank with any questions.

Thank you to Bruce Bishop, Assembly participant and local artisan, for gifting us with an 8" high communion chalice of his making.

The Leadership Group met Tues May 2. Agenda items included reflections on the LG retreat, approving the Leadership Selection slate and an update on the Access audit. The approved April minutes for LG can be [read here](#).

SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS

Support of Equity & Inclusion in Goshen Community Schools. A [recent Goshen News article](#) mentioned a video claiming that school administrators are lying about teaching controversial materials such as Critical Race Theory and Social-Emotional Learning. It is important at the next school board meeting that our community show up in support of the Goshen Schools administration in equity and inclusion work. The most powerful voices are GCS parents, but ALL voices are welcome! The next school board meeting is **May 8th at 6pm at the admin building**. Public comment on non-agenda items is the third agenda item. We want to keep the message positive and show and speak to how we support equity work, especially since we are in such a diverse district. The demographics of the Goshen district include 56% Latinx; 4% biracial; 2% black; 1% other; and 37% white. **If you have questions or would be available to speak at the next school board meeting, please let Julia Schmidt, pastor at Faith, know!** You can also write directly to school board members to let them know that our community supports equity and inclusion work. School Board Members are:

- Roger Nafziger, At-Large, President - roger.nafziger@goshenschools.org
- Bradd Weddell, At-Large, Vice President - bradd.weddell@goshenschools.org
- Jose Elizalde, District 3 - Secretary - jose.elizalde@goshenschools.org
- Mario Garber, At-Large, Member - mario.garber@goshenschools.org
- Allan Kauffman, District 4, Member - allan.kauffman@goshenschools.org
- Maria Sanchez Schirch, District 2, Member - maria.sanchezschirch@goshenschools.org
- Ryan Glick, District 1, Member - ryan.glick@goshenschools.org

GOSHEN MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL

Goshen Montessori Preschool, a ministry of Assembly Mennonite Church, is looking to add new members to the preschool's Board of Directors. GMP's mission is to create a loving environment that will enable students to gain independence, emotional and social skills, an appreciation of the outdoors, and a greater understanding of mathematics, language, and sensory skills. [The GMP Board Member Job Description is here](#). Nominations for board members should be sent to Caleb Morris (morriscaleb44@gmail.com).

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY, cont.

MYF Coordinator Search-We are grateful for all the time and love that Erich Miller has given our high school youth. He will be completing a two-year term as a MYF coordinator at the end of the summer. A search committee has been formed to find one or two people to replace him. If you are interested in working with other adults to coordinate Sunday school, social and service events for our youth or have more questions about this position please contact Lora Nafziger, (loracn@assemblymennonite.org)

Yoga Mini Retreat May 15: You are invited to join Alma Boyle in the Multipurpose Space of Assembly for a SPRING CHAKRA MINI RETREAT on Monday May 15th from 6pm until 7.30pm. This slow flow restorative practice will help to till our inner soil, clear stagnation, rejuvenate and energize us as we move along with the change of the seasons. Please come and support a worthy cause and be refreshed in body and mind. We'll finish the evening with some refreshing tea and wholesome cookies! All proceeds will be donated to support First Light Mission. Suggested donation of \$20.

Christian Berambaye, who was an IVEPer from Chad working in IT at Goshen College last year and hosted by Lora Nafziger and Mitch Rhodes and family, has been accepted for full-ride tuition scholarship at AMBS for a Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies. He writes this letter:

Family of Assembly Mennonite Church, I believe you are well and enjoying the great Easter season. I am happy to inform you that I have been admitted to AMBS for a Master of Arts in Peace and theology. I also received 100% scholarships, however, I still have to pay the cost of attendance fee (cost of living). I hereby come, to you my Assembly family, requesting for your financial support in order to cover the costs of attendance (~\$5,000). --Non tax deductible Donations can be made directly to Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary designated to Christian Berambaye.

COMMUNITY ARTS EVENTS

Camerata Singers Concert– *Life, Love and Libations* – 7:30pm, May 11 or May 14. Raise a glass with Camerata Singers at a festive evening of choral and operatic classics, Broadway favorites, and sing-alongs at Ignition Garage in Downtown Goshen. Purchase tickets at <https://www.thecameratasingers.org/> or at the door. Space is limited.

Concert at Greencroft: Joyce and Jep Hostetler invite you to attend a concert at **3 p.m., May 20 at the Greencroft Community Center**. Singer, songwriter, and storyteller Phil Hart and his bass playing friend, Steve Rolfe, have given concerts to appreciative audiences in the Columbus, Ohio area for many years. Their original music includes songs like “Jesus was a Migrant” and “Dumpster Diving.” There will be a freewill offering.

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Stamp out Hunger – Saturday, May 13. Goshen residents are asked to put out boxes or bags of non-perishable food (no glass containers) by their mailboxes by 9AM. Volunteers from The Window & The Salvation Army will collect, weigh, and deliver to the pantries by the end of the day. Information about volunteering can be found [here](#).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers needed for Ten Thousand Villages rug event: We need help bringing some things up from the basement, setting up the rugs, and then tearing down after the end of the event. If you are available to help during the listed times below, please contact goshen@tenthousandvillages.com. Pizza is included for those who help during these times.

May 6, 7, 8, or 9: 3 Hours max; Bringing up displays from the basement; moving product to the edges of the store

May 9: 12pm-5pm: Setting up the platforms and rugs

May 14: 4pm-8pm - Packing the rugs and taking displays back down to the basement

Volunteer with Horizon Education Alliance May 10-11: Be a part of a career awareness event for almost 3,000 Elkhart County 7th Grade Students! (May 10-11). Career Quest by [Horizon Education Alliance](#) is a two-day event to raise awareness about local career pathways for 7th graders from Elkhart County. Nearly 50 local businesses, across many industry sectors, will gather with interactive demonstrations to help almost 3,000 students learn about career pathways available to them. Volunteer Opportunities would include Student Group Guides, Hall Monitors, Lunch Set-up, and Door Monitors. Shifts available are Wednesday, May 10th from 8:15 am - 2:15 pm and/or Thursday, May 11th from 8:15 am - 2:15 pm. Lunch will be provided. Location - Orthwein Pavilion, 21565 Executive Pkwy, Elkhart, IN 46514 (RV Hall of Fame). Jane and I (Merle Baker) will be helping and hope others can join us. They need about 50 people total. [Career Quest Volunteer Sign-up](#). Further info can be had by contacting Brenna Slaight at <mailto:bslaight@heaindiana.org>

WIDER CHURCH

Central District Conference invites you to attend the [2023 Annual Meeting](#) at Goshen College in Goshen, Indiana, June 22-24. All ages are welcome to attend as we explore our theme of *Tending Transformation*. The [website](#) contains information about the annual meeting and registration forms. Registration deadline is June 10.

The Mennonite Church USA Executive Board met in Los Angeles on April 13-14, 2023, and voted to forward three proposed organizational resolutions to the Delegate Assembly, including one that recommends shifting the Delegate Assembly to a three-year, or triennial, cycle. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/executive-board-april-meeting.

Register today for MennoCon23, MC USA's leading faith formation event, and the Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit. Early bird registration ends on May 14. convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration

Give-Back night for Bethany Christian Schools: Tuesday, May 9 from 5-8pm is a Culver's Give-Back night supporting Bethany Christian Schools. A percentage of all purchases made between those hours will go back to Bethany.

There's still time to visit Bethany! It's not too late to come check us out! Bethany Christian Schools is still accepting applications for the fall of 2023, so come visit for lunch or a tour. To learn more, visit www.bethanycs.net/ataglance

A contest open to all high school students grades 9-12! The [Center on Conscience & War](#) (CCW) is hosting a video essay contest for teens. Founded in 1940, CCW is a non-profit organization that advocates for the rights of conscience, opposes military conscription, and serves all conscientious objectors to war. To enter, [submit your short video and brief essay](#) telling the world why you oppose the draft and why you think the US should repeal Selective Service, ending decades of draft registration and overturning damaging penalties against those who do not register.

Pathways Retreat's most recent newsletter can be read [here](#).

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

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer Alfonsina and José Oyanguren, serving through Mennonite Mission Network, request prayer for the more than 40 people from 15 communities in Argentina's Chaco region who are helping voice dub the Jesus Film in the Toba Qom language. Pray that those who participate will be led into a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and his love for all people.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Public Lecture: "Misunderstanding Judaism Means Misunderstanding Jesus and Paul" by Amy-Jill Levine, PhD—May 8 from 2-4. The lecture will be held at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount, 3003 Benham Ave, Elkhart, IN. Amy-Jill Levine is Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace. She is Professor Emerita at Vanderbilt Divinity School. Amy-Jill has played a crucial role in Jewish-Christian dialogue and has contributed greatly to understanding the Jewish roots of Jesus and Christian practices. She is the author of acclaimed books such as *Entering the Passion of Jesus* and *The Difficult Words of Jesus*. For more information contact andybk@ambs.edu.

Online Workshop: "Becoming Resilient Leaders with Trauma-Aware Practices" with Rev. Dr. Beverly Prestwood-Taylor, an ordained UCC minister, the founder of [HomeFront Strong](#) (formerly the Brookfield Institute), and a highly sought-after expert in Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience (STAR). This workshop is based upon the [STAR training](#) developed by EMU's [Center for Justice and Peacebuilding](#). Participants will examine harmful patterns of relationships that can develop during rapid transition and community trauma. Then we will learn to take up faith-based leadership practices that can help us manage and transform negative patterns. And finally, we will discover ways to build

on lifegiving patterns that can emerge during crisis and change. Half-Day, Online Workshop, 12:30p to 4:30p, Thursday, May 18, 2023. [Register here](#) for \$79. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for this workshop. For more information, contact our administrative program associate [Veva Mumaw](#).

Documentary premiere. *What Happened at Benham West: African American Stories of Community, Displacement and Hope* will premiere **Friday, May 19**, at the Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner Theatre at 410 South Main Street, Elkhart, Indiana. The film features stories of life in Elkhart's predominantly African American Benham West neighborhood and documents the process of the city's eventual clearing of the neighborhood. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary is hosting the launch event. There is no charge to attend, but space is limited to 300 participants, and registration by May 12 is recommended to reserve a seat: benhamwestproject.com

Global Mennonite Peacebuilding Conference & Festival III – June 15-18 at Eastern Mennonite Seminary - "Coming Together: the Journey of Faith & Peace." Join Mennonite practitioners, artists and theologians from around the world to learn, share and discuss their work for peace. [Click here](#) for more information and registration.

Grow your skills in offering spiritual direction! With a focus on practice-based learning, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's **Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction** offers a curriculum and supervised program to prepare you to become a spiritual director or to strengthen the spiritual direction aspects of your ministry. You can complete the 21-credit-hour certificate part time in two years, either fully online or with a combination of distance-friendly and campus-based courses. ambs.edu/certificate

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 Mennonite Education** job postings can be found [here](#). **Mennonite Church USA's** job postings are [here](#).

Current COVID-19 Information (May 5, 2023)

In Elkhart County, Indiana, the [COVID-19 Community Level](#) is **Low**.

Please join on Zoom if you are feeling sick.

Masks are optional during worship & Sunday school, unless Elkhart County's Community Risk Level becomes "High" – 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.

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.

For more information visit <https://assemblymennonite.org/covid-19-information/>