

WORSHIP

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

<p style="text-align: center;">August 27 9:30AM Worship & Sunday School</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Randy Roth Sermon: Jep Hostetler Scripture: Luke 13:18-21</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">September 3 9:30AM Worship <i>2% Offering</i> <i>No Sunday School</i> <i>Fellowship Meal</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Stephen Lowe Service of Table Liturgy</p>
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SUNDAY AUGUST 27

9:30am Worship. [The Order of Worship can be read here.](#) This is our third Sunday of our series “Food and Hospitality.” You can read the intro & see the schedule [here](#). **Please bring garden produce for the offering** (your finest tomatoes, best zucchinis, etc). This is intended to be a playful way to practice releasing the good gifts we have received. Overwhelm the front table with harvest offerings and share in each other’s gardens of abundance! (Please do not purchase food to bring forward if you don’t have a garden. We need people to *receive* garden produce as well as offer it). After worship, all are welcome to take what they need; the rest will be donated to The Window.

Sunday school for 2nd graders and younger: Class locations are listed in the Gathering Space.

Second hour Electives: This is the last Sunday for electives. Please choose the elective you were part of last Sunday. If you were not here last Sunday, choose one of these: the Rewilding elective in the Worship Space, the Tea Drinking elective in the Multipurpose Space, the Foraging elective in classroom 3, or the Kingdom of God Makes Room for All elective in classroom 2b. Electives begin immediately following first hour and finish 45-50 minutes after the closing song/benediction.

For those interested in the Foraging and Gleaning option during 2nd Hour this Sunday, feel free to bring items with you to worship...blender, food processor, a boiler plate if you have one, as well as foraged or gleaned veggies or wild edibles (for example: elderberry!). Our group will meet outside of the MYF Room (Room 3 A/B) for 2nd Hour, and some of us will stay behind to process food during 2nd Hour while others will go foraging in the neighborhood. Anyone is welcome, and contact Jon Zirkle (574-612-5063) if you have questions.

Following 2nd hour: Volunteer meeting for Sunday school classes 3rd grade through MYF. Please meet in classroom 3.

Sharing Prayer Requests. Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays. If you have something to share with the congregation and are not able to share it on Sunday morning during sharing time, [please fill out this Google Form](#). If you wish a pastor to follow up with you, please contact a pastor directly via email or phone.

<p>Assembly Mennonite Church Pastoral Team 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 Lora Nafziger lora@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732 Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder</p>	<p>Elders: Sara Morris (chair), Randy Roth, Leon Bauman, Cheryl Shreiner, Trevor Daugherty, Ben Sywulka, Alex Graber Neufeld Youth Coordinators: 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 (M,W, Fri 9am-12pm) naomikr@assemblymennonite.org</p>	
<p>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.</p>	

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Aug 27 • 8:30am 2% comm mtg • 9:30am Worship & SS • 12pm SS Volunteer mtg		Aug 29 • 7pm Gardening	Aug 30 • 7pm Welcome statement comm.		Sept 1 • 9:30am Greencroft meet up	
Sept 3 • 9:30am Worship No Sunday school • 11am Fellowship meal • 2pm Retreat Comm.		Sept 5 • 7pm Leadership group	Sept 6 • 1pm Lunch bunch • 5:30-8pm Small group childcare			
Sept 10 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school	Sept 11 • 10am & 6pm: Yoga	Sept 12 • 6:30pm Labyrinth walk • 7pm Gardening				Sept 16 • 3pm MYF

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Phoenix Coonan-Johnson (PK, CCYC) turned 5 on August 14! Phoenix likes to sing and jump and play with her brother Xavier. She likes to help make pancakes and play picnic. Sometimes she enjoys having a real picnic after a bike ride with her whole family. She has a good imagination and would like to travel to New Zealand sometime. She likes to do art, and play outside and watch shows, especially Paw Patrol!



Xavier Coonan-Johnson (CCYC) turned 3 on August 18! Xavier enjoys playing with puzzles and trucks, kicking around balls, and looking through search and find books. He also loves to joke around and do all sorts of imaginative play with his sister Phoenix.

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Pastoral coverage: Scott Coulter will be out of town Aug 25-27. Karl Shelly will be out of town Aug 31-Sept 18. Please contact one of the other pastors during this time for any pastoral needs.

Fellowship Meal Sunday Sept 3 following worship! The Hospitality Committee requests that households with names beginning with A through L bring a side or salad, and M through Z bring a main dish. Everyone should feel free to bring a dessert in addition. If you prefer to bring something different than requested that's fine; what's important is to have plenty of all types of food. Please bring items that don't require longer than 1 hour to heat up. **Please label your food with any allergens (including gluten, dairy, nuts), and please deliver your food to the kitchen before worship. Remember to bring table service for your family.**

Weeding help: Come at 7pm on Tuesday to help Julie Gautsche to weed and water in the Memorial Garden. Bring your gloves & favorite weeding implement and help keep Assembly's green spaces looking beautiful!

Lunch Bunch: Women are invited to the first Lunch Bunch of the season on Wednesday September 6 @1pm in the meetinghouse. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be served as we plan for the year. Come with ideas for speakers and topics about which you want to hear. RSVP to Amy Kauffman @ zbamygk@gmail.com.

Kelly & Peter Shenk Koontz (and family) recently departed Goshen to begin their work as Laos Country Representatives for Mennonite Central Committee (a five-year term). While they're gone, an **Assembly Support Group** consisting of Jodi Beyeler, Adam and Karen Graber Roth, Bev Lapp, and Jan Siemens will maintain contact with them. You too can follow them through Kelly's Instagram @kshenkkootz, which should also update to her Facebook account. They will also be posting a more extensive photo collection and blog entries at: <https://shenkkootz-blog.tumblr.com/> Please note the blog is password protected for privacy purposes - the password is: **Goshen08** Make sure to capitalize the "G" in Goshen.

Building. Good News! We have been using our building for four years. The good news? Thanks to your generous giving, we have only \$132,200 left on our mortgage. Let's build on this good news by paying off our Everence mortgage in 2024. More information can be found in your mailbox or [here](#).

STUDENT AID

Student Aid: Did you know that [Assembly offers student aid](#) to students of covenanted members of Assembly that attend Mennonite educational institutions? These institutions include Bethany Christian Schools grades 6-12, AMBS, Goshen College, Bluffton U, EMU, among others. The Student Aid Committee is about to start budgeting for the next fiscal year and needs information from ALL students planning to attend a Mennonite institution during the school year 2024/25. **If there is a student in your family that is planning to attend in 2024/25, please fill out [this online form](#)** so that we can start budgeting. This form is a new requirement for anyone wanting to receive student aid from Assembly. Questions? Email Naomi at naomikr@assemblymennonite.org or talk to Paul Reimer or Cheryl Mast of the Student Aid Committee. Thanks!

SMALL GROUPS

Small Group Childcare starts back up on September 6 for infants – 5th grade. [Please sign your child up here](#) by Sunday, Sept 3, so we know how many child care workers to hire. Time is from 5:30-8pm.

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. Small groups are a key feature of congregational life here at "the Assembly of 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. Ask any pastor if you have questions about small groups.

CHURCH RETREAT

[Sign Up for Church Retreat Oct 13-15!](#) Our Annual Church Retreat at Camp Friedenswald is coming up Oct 13-15. Mark your calendars! Retreat is for everyone who attends Assembly. **[Please complete this sign-up form by Sept 12 if you plan to eat any meals \(including lunch after worship on Sunday\) or stay overnight at camp during retreat.](#)** We want retreat to be affordable for everyone, so no registration fee is required. However you are invited to pledge an offering to support retreat and to help make it affordable for others.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Ayidian Smuts will be living at Bashor Homes until he turns 18 in a little over a year. He joined the congregation when he was baptized earlier this year, and we all have a chance to keep in touch via the mail. Ayidian can receive snail mail (no gifts are allowed) at this address: Bashor Home for Children, 62226 C. R. 15, Geyer Cottage, Goshen, IN 46526, Attn: Ayidian Smuts.

Yoga classes will resume Monday evenings starting September 11th at 10-11am and 6-7 pm. Both classes are now full. Contact Alma Boyle (574-238-4536) if you want to be put on a waiting list for a space.

Mentors & Mentees: Mentor-Mentee kick-off event will be Sept. 24 following 2nd hour at Fidler Pond park. Mark your calendars and RSVP [here](#).

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer Interpreters Needed. Center for Healing & Hope is in need of volunteers who are fluent in Spanish and English to interpret for non-Spanish speaking medical providers who are giving care to uninsured and low-income patients at our office. Shifts are mornings from 9-12 or afternoons from 1-5. We currently need interpreters on Monday afternoons, Tuesday mornings, Wednesday mornings, and Thursday mornings or afternoons. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about medical interpreting at CHH, please contact Missy Schrock at mkschrock@chhclinics.org or 574-534-4744 ext 206.

Helping Your Neighbors: Some churches in Elkhart are organizing English as a Second (ESL) classes for adults. Volunteer teachers are needed for the next session of classes, August 31-November 16, meeting at Prairie Street Mennonite Church. Sessions are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6:30-8:00pm. Volunteering once or twice a week is your choice. Materials are provided. You do not need to be a trained teacher. If desired, you may start as an assistant-in-training working with a veteran teacher. You do not need to be able to speak Spanish. Please contact Sueann VonGunten, vonalter2@gmail.com or 574-612-3108 with your interest or questions. Approximately 20 teachers are needed to teach all of the classes. If you have friends who might be interested, encourage them to call or write. Please consider helping your neighbors learn English. We also need a greeter/door opener every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5:45-7:00 pm. Could you help once or twice a month?

Young adults age 18-20! Mennonite Central Committee's Seek Discipleship Program in Cambodia is a 6-month intentional discipleship program for 18–20-year-olds, with an Anabaptist flavor. Participants will live with a small group of other young adults, exploring what it means to grow as a follower of Jesus. They will study Scripture, volunteer locally, and experience life in the community. The cohort will consist of 6-10 international participants and will run from January 15 - June 24, 2024, in the rich and beautiful setting of Cambodia. More information and an online application are available at mcc.org/seek. Accepting applicants until October 1 or the cohort is filled.

Offering food to our neighbors: our harvest of gratitude - For the month of September we have the privilege of realizing the wealth of food we've been given and sharing of that wealth with our neighbors near and far through 2 opportunities:

- **My Coins Count (MYCC)** - Because the global hunger rate began climbing in 2019 and grew exponentially with the arrival of the pandemic, escalating climate disasters, and the invasion of Ukraine, this year's Mennonite Central Committee's **My Coins Count** project is food. **MYCC** helps make emergency food available to families who are fleeing war and conflict, helps farmers deal with changing weather patterns and learn new ways to increase the yields of their crops, offers new ways for gardeners to grow fresh vegetables and shares animals that help families build up their flocks and herds to provide food and extra money for school. Assembly's total donation over the years has varied from \$81 to \$1775. Can we outdo ourselves and reach \$2000 this year? Your bills and checks are welcome in the can next to the coin jar. Anyone can have a Food Calendar to help us think about the abundance of food we often take for granted. Copies are on the literature table or at the link [here](#). There is also a MCC Food Fun Page [here](#) and on the lit table. Bring your donations September 3, 10 and 17.
- **Filling Center for Healing & Hope Little Pantry** - On the back wall of the Center for Healing & Hope (CHH) building (**400 W. Lincoln Ave., Goshen, IN 46526**) you'll find a colorful little pantry, open 24/7 to help anyone needing food and hygiene items. In 2021, almost 19,000 people in Elkhart County lived with food insecurity. This is the population CHH primarily serves. CHH estimates that 12-15 paper grocery sacks full of food and hygiene items will fill the pantry for about 1 month. For a list of needed items see <https://chhclinics.org/donate/> or pick up a sheet on the literature table. Consider shopping at a Mexican grocery for culturally appropriate familiar foods. Spanish labeling helps. You can drop your donations off at CHH, either by placing in the pantry any time or taking to the registration desk when CHH is open (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, closed from 12 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. for lunch). You may also place your donations in the grey plastic bin under the mailboxes. Assembly is filling the pantry all of September.

WIDER CHURCH

MCC Great Lakes Open House on Thursday, August 31, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. You are invited to visit our office in The Depot building in Goshen (1013 Division Street) for an informal time of conversation and fellowship with Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes staff. There will be an opportunity for those who visit to donate items for and put together a school kit for MCC's School Kit Challenge. For more information and to register, visit mcc.org/gl-open-house or RSVP to 574-534-4133 or GreatLakes@mcc.org by August 24. See the poster on the bulletin board.

An interview with Mary Schertz on "Our lives as scholars." On Aug. 16, the AMBS learning community celebrated a monumental achievement by [Mary H. Schertz](#), PhD, Professor Emerita of New Testament: the release of her [commentary on the Gospel of Luke](#) as part of the Herald Press Believers Church Bible Commentary series. AMBS employees, students, former colleagues of Mary's, and members of local congregations gathered to congratulate her and to listen to an in-depth interview of Mary by [Jackie Wyse-Rhodes](#), PhD, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible. [Watch the interview here.](#)

The Culture of Hospitality: One of the many identity markers for being a Mennonite is hospitality and its culture. Reverend Erica Lea-Simka, pastor of Albuquerque Mennonite Church and southwest representative for Mennonite Women USA, proposes that hospitality and its meaning in Anabaptist culture can be examined more closely. Read more of her thoughts here: mennoniteusa.org/culture-of-hospitality

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Bekah York in her work with the Colombia Mennonite Church and Justapaz, the church's peacebuilding organization. May God grant Bekah wisdom, energy and contagious hope for her ministries.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Rooted and Grounded Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship: Sept. 28–30 at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Attend in person or online! This conference on "Pathways through Climate Doom: Resistance and Resilience" will examine theological, biblical and pastoral care responses to climate doom. Keynote speakers: Kaitlin Curtice; Leah Thomas, PhD; and Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, PhD. Register by Sept. 20 if meals are desired; final registration deadline is Sept. 26. ams.edu/rooted-and-grounded

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Job opening for an Executive Director at Goshen Montessori Preschool: Please click [this link](#) for details & to apply.

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 (Aug 25, 2023)

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

Masks are optional. Please join on Zoom if you are feeling sick.

We encourage everyone to stay up to date on vaccinations and boosters.

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