

WORSHIP

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

<p>August 6 9:30AM Worship <i>2% Offering</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Lora Nafziger A service of Thanksgiving & Blessings Scripture: Numbers 6:24-26, Ephesians 3:17-19</p>	<p>August 13 9:30AM Worship <i>Communion</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Becky Snider Sermon: Scott Coulter Scripture: Luke 14:15-24</p>
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SUNDAY AUGUST 6

9:30am Worship. [The Order of Worship can be read here.](#)

6-8:30pm The Assembly Green Team invites everyone to participate in an Open House to see examples of “rewilding” our yards. This Open House will be **TODAY Sunday, August 6** from 6:00 - 8:30pm, and will feature four properties owned by Assembly members. Visit as many as you like. Information is available on the literature table, or you can find it posted [here](#). This is part of one of the second hour electives in the coming weeks titled “Rewilding: Nature’s Best Hope.”

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.

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Aug 6 • 9:30am Worship • 6-8:30pm Gardens open house		Aug 8 • 6:30pm Labyrinth Walk			Aug 11 • 9am Play group	Aug 12 • 9am Assembly Green Team
Aug 13 • 9:30am Worship • Sunday school begins infants thru 2 nd grade • 2 nd hour electives begin 3 rd grade - adults		Aug 15 • 7pm Gardening			Aug 18 • 9am Play group	Aug 19 Leadership group orientation
Aug 20 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 12:30pm Surprise luncheons • 7pm Congregational meeting		Aug 22 • 7pm Gardening • 7:15pm Small group Reps				

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

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Lia Sywulka (rising 3rd, BCS) turned 8 on July 20th! Lia had a really full summer and enjoyed travelling to Guatemala and Colorado and attending Camp Friedenswald. She also spent a lot of time swimming and improved her skills at holding her breath and diving. She enjoys gymnastics, playing teacher drawing and inventing things. She really likes playing games and watching movies with her family.



Malia Coulter turned 1 on July 26th! She is learning to walk, and recently discovered ice cream! Malia loves splashing in water, blowing raspberries, bouncing to music, and playing with her big sisters. Her favorite foods are pancakes and cheese. She likes to shake her head back and forth to say "no" and sign "more" while eating foods she enjoys.



Caleb Yoder Schlabach (rising 5th, BCS) turned 11 on Aug 3rd! Caleb is looking forward to starting school next week! He enjoys playing board games (any!) and Minecraft. He loves soccer and swimming and enjoyed both at Camp this summer. He is good at cooking pasta (his favorite food) and building complicated Lego sets. A highlight of his summer was hiking to a great outlook in Oregon!



Sophie Yoder Schlabach (rising 5th, BCS) turned 11 on Aug 3rd! This summer Sophie has enjoyed swimming, attending Camp Friedenswald and travelling to Oregon- she really liked her mom being on sabbatical! She enjoys hanging out with friends, watching shows with her brother, playing violin and writing (at school). She is looking forward to getting a bunny and one day would like to travel to England.



Maisie Yost turns 1 on Aug 8th! Maisie loves playing with cups, grooving to music, and smothering stuffed animals with affection. She loves all things water, including bath time, swimming in the pool, and getting licked by dogs. She enjoys eating pretty much anything, and has a particular affinity for watermelon. Smiling is one of her most frequent activities, and her dog and big sister often garner the biggest grins.

Beck Mast (8th St. Preschool) turns 5 on Aug. 9th! Beck loves to swim and dive for things in the water. He enjoyed going to Little Eden this summer. Some of his favorite foods are strawberries and blueberries. He enjoys helping his mom cook and his dad sweep the pool and split wood! With his brother, he likes to watch shows, play with trucks and help him out. Beck has a great imagination and loves to make things. He tells a great knock, knock joke!



COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

From Anna Yoder Schlabach: I'm delighted to be back after my three month sabbatical. Thank you so much for the time away. You can read my sabbatical report [here](#) or watch a video report [here](#).

Labyrinth Walk: 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.

Surprise Luncheons happening on Aug 20! This is a great way to get to know people in the congregation. If you would like to host or to be a guest that brings food to a lunch gathering with others, [sign up here](#). There are also sign-up sheets on a table in the Gathering space. You will find out that Sunday morning who will be around the table. You will receive an email the week before detailing how many people will be there and if there are food restrictions to be aware of.

All Sunday school volunteers for grade 3-8 classes in 2023-2024, please plan to stay for a 20-minute meeting on Sunday, Aug. 27 immediately following 2nd hour to go over dates, dismissal plans and other details for the year ahead. If you are unable to attend, contact Bethany Swope.

Two Percent Committee is meeting August 27. Please contact SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com with suggestions or requests, including for public school funds. Remember that we give to established organizations, not individuals. We don't begin programs. Other members on the committee are Barb Swartley, Glenn Gilbert, Barb Hassan, Joel Zwier and Marshall King.

My Coins Count. Coins add up. Each year, spare change collected by churches, children and families add up to more than \$600,000 for Mennonite Central Committee's work around the world. Please begin saving your coins for our collections on Sundays in September before the Relief Sale Sept 23. If you would like to match the donations we collect on Sunday morning, please drop me a note. SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com

AUGUST WORSHIP & SECOND HOUR

Over the summer we heard stories of neighbors and neighborliness, stories of making connections across differences and we told stories in the neighbor challenges of the ways we offered hospitality and the ways we were shown care and community. As we shift back into the rhythms of the school year, we are carrying our learnings about neighbors forward and beginning a short four-week series on "Food and Hospitality." You can read the intro & see the schedule [here](#).

Sunday School & 2nd hour: Sunday school for infants through 2nd grade will begin next Sunday, Aug 13. For three weeks (August 13, 20, 27) during 2nd hour, adults, children and youth (grades 3-12) will be joining together to have multigenerational conversations and share food together. During these weeks you are invited to choose one elective you would like to be a part of and participate as much as you are able. Because many of these electives include food, and some are limited by space and we need to plan ahead - please sign up for the one you would like to be a part of. There are sign-up sheets on the table in the Gathering space. You can also [sign up here](#). You may sign up multiple family members using this form.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

School Kits Challenge! Assembly's school kit project is in full swing. Mennonite Central Committee has a goal of gathering 10,000 kits in August. By donating money for a kit, you can help kids in places like Syria, Ukraine and South Sudan who have been forced to flee their homes or struggle to afford basic school supplies. I have purchased many supplies already. If you want to help a child go to school, please consider donating money. One kit costs \$4. You can write a check to Assembly and put it in the offering with "MCC school kit" written in the memo line, or cash with a note. You can also give money directly to me. Join this effort to share a tangible message of God's love with children around the world. Learn more about this challenge and download a free activity resource at mcc.org/school-kit-challenge. Thanks! Johanna Sutter

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Grief Facilitator Training: Do you have a heart for helping children and grieving adults? If so, become a trained grief facilitator! Ryan's Place is looking for volunteers to help with children and adult groups for our Monday Night Program. We are also looking for volunteers to help with our School Program. You Should Know: We have a lot of fun, and our volunteers make a huge difference! No clinical experience is required and you'll never be in a group alone. Our next training is **August 18th and 19th**. Contact Lindsay Diener-Locke if are interested or would like more information @ locke@ryansplace.org or 574-538-1744. [Read the flyer here](#).

WIDER CHURCH

Mennonite Central Committee 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 MCC 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.

The Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly acted on three proposed organizational resolutions at its meeting on July 7-8, 2023, in Kansas City, Missouri. The assembly of more than 300 registered delegates approved resolutions to clarify the MC USA bylaws and streamline its agency structure, while narrowly voting down a proposal to meet less frequently. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/delegates-vote

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for staff at Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute (NARPI) as they prepare to begin their two-week summer training session in South Korea. Pray for fruitful relationship building and learning as NARPI brings together peacemakers from China, Japan, Mongolia, Russia, South Korea and Taiwan.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Presentation on Palestine. The public is invited to a special presentation August 24, 10 am in the Greencroft Goshen Jennings Auditorium by Dr. Mazin Qumsiyeh, a scientist, author, and activist from Bethlehem, Palestine. A native Palestinian, Dr. Qumsiyeh was educated in the United States (PhD. in Zoology/Genetics from Texas Tech) and taught at Universities of Tennessee, Duke, and Yale, before returning to Palestine in 2008 where he founded the Palestine Museum of Natural History and the Palestine Institute for Biodiversity and Sustainability in Bethlehem. A prolific author, he writes on topics ranging from biodiversity to conserving Palestine's natural world, culture, and heritage in the face of the current human rights challenges and environmental issues. He describes himself as a "Bedouin in cyberspace" while being President of the Bethlehem/Palestine Rotary Club. His presentation, including PowerPoint slides and time for Q&A, will focus on "Popular Resistance in Palestine: A history of hope and empowerment with an example from the Palestine Institute for Biodiversity and Sustainability" and "How does the Current State of the Middle East Affect the World?" Dr. Qumsiyeh's presentation is made possible by the Indiana Center for Middle East Peace of Fort Wayne. There is no charge but a free-will offering will be taken. For more information contact David Janzen, 574-537-4568.

Anabaptist Short Course Bundle. Deepen your understanding of Anabaptist history, thought and witness through discussion-based online short courses from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary! Learn about topics such as Anabaptist approaches to Scripture, peace and justice in the Bible, and transforming congregational conflict. Take four noncredit online courses in 2023–24 for only \$995 total and save more than \$400. (The regular price is \$350/course.) No grades, no papers! Each course lasts six weeks. CEUs available. amb.s.edu/bundle

Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible: Sept. 13 – Oct. 24. Taught by [Drew Strait](#), PhD, and [Jackie Wyse-Rhodes](#), PhD. How does God act for peace and justice — and how should we act? In this course, you'll learn and reflect on what a robust and biblically based practice of peace and justice looks like today. Register by Aug. 23 to save \$50! [Learn more](#)

CELTIC PILGRIMAGES

An Iona Pilgrimage--September 13-22, 2024. Led by: Jane Thorley Roeschley and Jana Schrag Schopp. Come away for refreshment and renewal to one of the world's most beloved Celtic "thin places". You are invited to join us on a pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona, a holy island on the western coast of Scotland. We will engage in daily prayers and

worship, soulful wandering, personal solitude and group reflection in a place beloved by pilgrims for centuries. [Read more and register](#)

CELTIC PILGRIMAGE: IONA & HOLY ISLAND LINDISFARNE--May 16-31, 2025. Co-led by Spiritual Directors Cathy Roby and Jane Roeschley. This 2-week pilgrimage focuses on Celtic Christian spirituality as experienced through the stories of Celtic Christians living on the Isle of Iona (Scotland) and at Holy Island Lindisfarne (England). We will be following the path of Celtic monks from Iona to Melrose to Holy Island, pondering how their stories guide and inspire us today. [Read more and register](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Office Administrator Position: East Goshen Mennonite Church (EGMC) is hiring for their part-time (20-25 hours per week) Office Administrator Role. To read a complete job description and submit a resume, please go to tinyurl.com/EGMCOffice. Come join the EGMC staff team and participate in the congregation's vision of Passionately Follow Jesus!

Seeking an Admissions Counselor. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, is accepting applications for this 0.5 FTE position. The person in this role will serve as a member of the AMBS Admissions Team, recruiting and working with prospective students from the U.S., Canada and across the world and connecting with church leaders and alumni about AMBS programs and offerings. See the full job description: ambs.edu/jobs

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 4, 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/>

<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 loracn@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 (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>	