

WORSHIP

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

<p style="text-align: center;">September 10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:30AM Worship & Sunday School 2nd hour Hymn sing</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Jeannette Hughes Sermon: Anna Yoder Schlabach Scripture: Genesis 2:4b-25</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">September 17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:30AM Worship & Sunday School 2nd hour Congregational meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Ally Mast Sermon: Lora Nafziger Scripture: Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7</p>
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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10

8:45am Young adult breakfast Those who are post-high school through age 30 are invited to a breakfast in the multipurpose space. Hosted this week by Anna Yoder Schlabach.

9:30am Worship. [The Order of Worship can be read here.](#) This is the first Sunday of our Fall worship series: Origin Stories. We will hear biblical stories that tell the beginnings of creation, the people of Israel, and the early religious practices of the ancient Israelites. And, we will reflect on our own origin stories here at Assembly. How are we being shaped into a people of authentic and deeply grounded faith? What are the new ideas or ways of being that we are wrestling with? [Click here](#) to read the introduction and see the schedule or pick up a copy from the literature table.

Sunday school and 2nd Hour: After worship all children & youth (infants thru 12th grade) are invited to participate in Sunday school. Classroom locations are posted in the Gathering Space. Adults are invited to return to the Worship Space after a short break for a hymn sing. Grab a hymn request form on your way into worship. We will be putting out Sing the Journey and Sing the Story. Please be aware that we have a commitment to not sing hymns by David Haas.

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.

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Clara Hanby (6th grade, Bethany Christian Schools) turns 12 on September 10th! Clara plays volleyball, piano and clarinet. She enjoys drawing pictures of people and learning about history. Over the summer she had a great week at Camp Friedenswald and traveled to Washington, DC with her family.

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Sept 10 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 2 nd hour Hymn sing	Sept 11 • 10am & 6pm: Yoga	Sept 12 • 6:30pm Labyrinth walk • 7pm Gardening				Sept 16 • 3-5pm MYF
Sept 17 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 2 nd hour Congregational meeting • 2-4pm JYF kick-off	Sept 18 • 10am & 6pm: Yoga	Sept 19 • 7pm Gardening				
Sept 24 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • Noon Mentor/Mentee event at Fidler pond	Sept 25 • 10am & 6pm: Yoga	Sept 26 • 7:15pm Small group Reps mtg			Sept 29 • 4pm Creative Movement class	

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Pastoral coverage: Karl Shelly will be out of town through Sept 18. Lora Nafziger will be out of town through Sept 10. Please contact Scott Coulter or Anna Yoder Schlabach during this time for any pastoral needs.

Hazelnut picking party: There will be a hazelnut picking party at the Shantz's place **this Sunday evening Sept 10 at 7:00 pm**. My bushes are loaded. The first 12 people to reply by email at stevems@goshen.edu are welcome to participate. Bring sacks and clothing to protect your legs and feet from the 'wild stuff'. Take home what you pick!

Leadership Group met this past week. Items for discussion included the 2024 pledge form, the budget build, update on Scott's ordination, and forming a pastoral search committee. The approved minutes from the June meeting can be read [here](#).

Yoga classes begin this week. Yoga classes with Alma have MOVED to the Gathering Space. Please enter through the east doors. Classes begin Monday, September 11th from 10am - 11am and 6pm - 7pm. Using this space means anyone on the wait list can now join either class. Please arrive early to sign in and get set up. Bring a yoga mat, a blanket, and yoga blocks if you have any. Look forward to seeing you on your mat. Thanks Alma

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.

Gardening & Weeding: Come to Assembly this Tuesday at 7pm to help Mary Roth weed the lirioppe. It takes many hands to keep Assembly's green spaces beautiful.

Congregational meeting next Sunday, Sept 17, during 2nd hour. Agenda items will include a Search Committee update and approval of the pastoral position job description.

Youth Creative Movement Class: Kids ages 4-8 are invited to explore the world of dance in a free youth class on 9/29 (Friday), from 4:00-5:00pm. Participants will enjoy stories, songs, and activities designed to engage with imaginative play, rhythm exploration, and creative movement. This month's theme is Disco Dinosaurs! Please [register](#) before 9/18 to reserve a spot. Contact Sara Morris with any questions.

FINANCIAL LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Capital Campaign 2024 - Thanks to your generous giving over the last four years, [we have only \\$132,200 left to pay on our Everence mortgage!](#) Let's celebrate by paying off this entire amount by May 2024, as we celebrate Assembly's 50th anniversary! We invite everyone to give what they can, above and beyond your regular giving. (For example: Consider a \$250/mo pledge or a one-time gift of \$500 or \$1,000 or more. No gift amount is too small.) Checks can be placed in the offering or mailed to the church office, and marked "Capital Campaign". Thank you!

Two Percent Committee met August 27. Just over \$9000 of Two Percent offerings has been set aside for distribution by The Reparation Committee. After Two Percent has distributed \$52,000, all funds will go to reparations. If you have concerns about these recommendations, please contact Susan Mark Landis, chairperson, by **September 17**. Thanks! (Our next meeting is December 10. If you have suggestions for distribution of funds, please contact Susan Mark Landis.)

Local distributions we propose: **United Village** (<https://thevillagecommunitycenter.org>), \$500; **La Posada** (<https://www.laposadaaid.com>), \$1,000; **Center for Community Justice** (<https://www.centerforcommunityjustice.org>); **Chain Reaction** (<https://chainreactionbike.wordpress.com>), \$500; **La Casa** (<https://lacasainc.net/>), \$1,000; **Ryan's Place** (<https://ryansplace.org>), \$500; **Walnut Hill Daycare** (<http://www.walnutvillecc.org/home.html>), \$500; **Jail Ministry of Elkhart County** (<https://elkhartcountyjailministry.org/>), \$500; **Center for Healing and Hope** (<https://chhclinics.org/>), \$500; **ADEC** (<https://adecinc.com/>), \$1,000; **Maple City Health Care** (<https://www.mchcc.com/>), \$1,250.

World and national we propose: MCC infant care kits (<https://mcc.org/get-involved/kits/infant>), \$500; Oak Flats/Doctrine of Discovery, (<https://dismantleddiscovery.org/>), \$1,000; My Coins Count, (<http://www.mennonitesale.org/my-coins-count>), match up to \$1,000; MCC Laos/Peter and Kelly (<https://mcc.org/what-we-do/where-we-work/laos>), \$1,000; Mennonite Disaster Service (<https://mds.org/>), \$1,000; UNICEF vaccines (<https://www.unicef.org/immunization>), \$1,000; National Immigrant Justice Center, Goshen (<https://immigrantjustice.org/>), \$1,000; Community Peacemaker Teams (cpt.org), \$1,000; Ten Thousand Villages Goshen (<https://www.tenthousandvillages.com>), \$750; Semilla (<https://semillagt.org/>), \$1,000.

Public School Funds: Two Percent Committee has **\$2,137.22** for use by public school teachers. You can fill out a request form [here](#).

CHURCH RETREAT

Church Retreat sign-up forms are due THIS WEEK! Our Annual Church Retreat at Camp Friedenswald is Oct 13-15. 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. There will be a separate registration form later to indicate which activities you would like to participate in. The format and options will be similar to other years. Please contact Jenna R. Martin with questions.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

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.

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

First Light Mission (formerly *Interfaith Hospitality Network*) provides resources and temporary shelter for people in crisis. The center is daily turning away two families with children. [The attached letter](#) explains their situation and requests donations. You might want to attend their fundraiser, [A Place at the Table](#). Two Percent Committee has designated \$1000 so far this year for FLM.

Period Products were recently provided to **GJHS** from our stash. Thanks! Susan Mark Landis

Discipleship opportunity for young adults: Applications are now open for [Seek, MCC's new discipleship program for 18- to 20-year-olds](#). Live with a small group of other young adults and explore what it means to grow as a follower of Jesus as you study Scripture, share cross-culturally and experience life in community. [Learn more about this year's cohort that starts in January 2024 and will be located in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.](#)

My Coins Count: The challenge is on! Can we collect BOTH enough coins so that no one at Assembly can lift the bottle AND enough dollars/checks to get the full \$1000 matching grant from Two Percent Committee? You may donate for the next two Sundays, September 3, 10 and 17. Checks should be made out to Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale, designated for My Coins Count. Attached you'll find an [MCC Giving Calendar](#) that gives you and your family a chance to talk about the uneven distribution of resources in the world. Susan Mark Landis

Stocking the Little Pantry at Center for Healing and Hope: Goshen folk are hungry. Especially during September Assembly is providing food. For a list of needed items see <https://chhclinics.org/donate/> or pick up a sheet on the literature table. You can place your donations in the CHH pantry at 400 Lincoln Ave, in the grey plastic box at church or give cash to Susan Mark Landis who will shop for you.

Volunteer Interpreters Needed. Center for Healing & Hope needs 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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Visit the Goshen Clay Artists Guild closing gallery reception on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 2 p.m. in the Goshen College Music Center's Hershberger Art Gallery. There will be a closing reception for the Goshen Clay Artists Guild exhibit featuring the work of several guild members. The event is free and open to the public.

Maple City Walk: Grab your walking shoes and join us for the Maple City Walk, Saturday, September 16th, hosted by the Goshen City Parks and Recreation Department. Choose between a marathon, half marathon or a 10K and enjoy a beautiful walk along the Maple City Greenway and the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. For more information and registration go to www.maplecitywalk.com or contact Goshen City Parks and Recreation 574- 534-2901. Information cards are also on the literature table.

Quilt Program at Goshen College, Sept. 16, 2 p.m. Quilt expert Janneken Smucker will give a gallery talk, Saturday, Sept. 16 at 2 p.m. in Goshen College's Good Library Gallery. The public is invited to this free program, sponsored by the Amish Mennonite Museum Committee. Smucker will speak about quilts featured in the current gallery exhibit: A Cabinet of Curiosities 3. A Goshen native, Smucker is professor of history at West Chester University (PA) and authored a definitive book, *Amish Quilts: Crafting an American Icon*. She is also working with forthcoming exhibits and publications for the International Quilt Museum (Nebraska) and the Smithsonian American Art Museum. [Read the flyer.](#)

WIDER CHURCH

The Support Group for parents with children of all ages who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community will resume meeting on Saturday, September 16th from 9:00-11:00am in the library at Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship. Feel free to invite anyone you know who might benefit from this gathering. Please contact Sarah Higley Morrison at sjhigley@gmail.com with additional questions.

Mennonite Church USA Executive Board has named two peacemakers, Jonathan Kuttab and Sydney Leah Bontrager, as the 2023 Bring The Peace award winners. The denomination gives the award to a Legacy Peacemaker and a Young Peacemaker each year. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/23-btp-winners

Newsletters: [Mennonite Central Committee](#)

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the members of the Movement of Anabaptist Women Doing Theology from Latin America (MTAL), as they compile their devotional book for 2024–2025. Pray that God's spirit will guide the team of volunteer editors and designers as they work with submissions from more than 300 women.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Documentary on the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi: Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 28th, 8:00 pm. on PBS for the premiere of [A Song for Everything](#), a documentary exploring the language and culture of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi.

Lacasa FREE financial education classes: Take advantage of a variety of classes, including home ownership, mastering your money, mastering your debt and mastering your credit. Click [here](#) for more information or see the flyer on the bulletin board.

Mennonite Central Committee Pipeline to Prison Learning Tour on November 1-3 in Goshen and Elkhart: Join MCC Great Lakes for three days focusing on the complexities of the U.S. criminal justice system as seen in northern Indiana. Participants will learn about the systemic forces at play that have led to mass incarceration and the criminalization of marginalized groups. The group will hear diverse perspectives from community organizations and people experiencing arrest, incarceration and re-entry. More information and registration at mcc.org/indiana-pipeline-to-prison.

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 (Sept 8, 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 Pastoral Intern: Isaiah Friesen ifriesen@ambs.edu 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, Stephen Lowe, 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>	