

WORSHIP

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

<p style="text-align: center;">September 24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:30AM Worship & Sunday School 2nd hour: Presentation by Cyneatha Millsaps</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Philipp Gollner Sermon: Cyneatha Millsaps Scripture: Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">October 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:30AM Worship & Sunday School 2% Offering Communion & Fellowship Meal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Susan Mark Landis Sermon: Jim Stump Scripture: Exodus 1:8-14 [1:15—2:10]; 3:1-15</p>
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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24

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.](#) Our Fall worship series: Origin Stories, continues this Sunday. 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 or pick up a copy from the literature table.

Welcome to our preacher, Cyneatha Millsaps. Cyneatha is the Executive Director of Goshen College’s Center for Community Engagement since January 2023. She is also Chair of the Board for the Tolson Center for Community Excellence in Elkhart and a leader with Mennonite Women USA. She has also been a pastor, leading congregations and communities for over 17 years. During 2nd hour Cyneatha Millsaps will speak briefly about the Tolson Center and the history of southcentral Elkhart, and why people in Goshen should care. It will be a time to ask Cyneatha questions you may have.

Sunday school: After worship all children & youth (infants thru 12th grade) are invited to participate in Sunday school. Classroom locations are posted in the Gathering Space.

Noon: Mentor/Mentee Kick Off event at Fidler Pond.

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 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>	

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Sept 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45am Young adult bkfast 9:30am Worship & Sunday school Noon Mentor/Mentee event at Fidler pond 	Sept 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am & 6pm Yoga 	Sept 26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:15pm Small group Reps mtg 			Sept 29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm Creative Movement class 	
Oct 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45am Young adult bkfast 9:30am Worship & Sunday school Fellowship meal 1-3pm MYF event 	Oct 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am & 6pm Yoga 6:30pm Dance group 	Oct 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm LG meeting 	Oct 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30am Lunch bunch 5:30-8pm Small group childcare 		Oct 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Greencroft meet up 	
Oct 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45am Young adult bkfast 9:30am Worship & Sunday school Noon Parent/teacher meeting 7pm Cong meeting on Zoom 	Oct 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am & 6pm Yoga 6:30pm Dance group 	Oct 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Labyrinth walk 			Oct 13 5:30pm Church Retreat begins	Oct 14 Church Retreat All day

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Our prayers are with Maria Wenger on the death of her father, Mario Wenger, on Thursday. Information on visitation & funeral are forthcoming.

Worship gifts form: Each Sunday morning, many people are involved in the worship service. One way to share your gifts is to fill out a worship gifts [form](#). This helps worship leaders and planners to continue our value of participatory worship. There will also be paper copies of this form in the gathering space for the next several weeks. Even if you have filled out this form in the past, we encourage you to fill it out again so that we have an updated list of willing participants.

Children in First Hour Worship. We are delighted to have so many children in our worship services! In order for all to be able to fully participate, please help your children to use a whisper voice so that all can hear the service. (Adults can help model this too!) Also please remember that children's time is a special time in worship for our children to speak and be heard. They are earnest and giving careful answers. (Sometimes it is difficult not to laugh, but we try our best). *To give answers during children's time without being laughed at*, is one of [the Privileges of the Child at Assembly](#).

Next Sunday, October 1, there is a Fellowship Meal after 2nd hour. The Hospitality Committee requests that households with names beginning with A through L bring a main dish, and M through Z bring a side or salad. 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 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.**

Small Group Childcare Oct 4, 5:30-8pm. Childcare will be in the MP space. Parents—in order to determine how many childcare workers we need, it is imperative that you RSVP by Oct 1. [Please sign your children up here.](#)

Church Retreat Activities Sign up: Please help the Friedenswald Retreat activity leaders plan by indicating your interest in various activities. Unlike the lodging and food registration you already did, this is encouraged, but optional and non-binding. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdviUFnrtdFzIPmOpXfAO1Yjrb-0nAAReb5z-6dgQW_X1luA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Scott Coulter's Ordination Update: An ordination committee consisting of Cheryl Shreiner, Jon Zirkle, Carla Gull, and Tom Kauffman met with Scott twice this summer for conversations regarding his ministry here at AMC and his calling to a lifelong ministry in the Mennonite Church. A letter of recommendation for Scott's ordination was written by the committee and approved by the Leadership group. Sara Morris, our Leadership Chair contacted our conference minister

at Central District, Doug Luginbill, with our recommendation and now are awaiting an ordination interview to be scheduled with Scott. We are so thankful for the pastoral gifts and skills that Scott brings to our church community and offer him our support and blessings as he continues on this path toward ordination. Please contact Cheryl Shreiner, Chair of the Ordination Committee directly at 301-792-9031 or cheryl.shreiner@gmail.com with any questions regarding Scott's ordination.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Stocking the Little Pantry at Center for Healing and Hope for September: This is the last week that Assembly is collecting items for the pantry. Your donations are appreciated by your neighbors. 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.

Birthday cards: For several years, Naomi Chapman has been making and sending birthday cards on behalf of the congregation. She is ready for someone else to take this on. We are wondering if anyone would feel called to continue this ministry of care or volunteer for a month at a time. Assembly provides the stamps and cards if needed. Please contact Naomi with questions (574-312-9255 or nrchap49@gmail.com). And THANK YOU, Naomi for sharing your time and creativity in this way.

2024 AMC Volunteer Tasks: It's that time of year again to sign up for tasks for next year. As part of our congregational life together, we need individuals on Sundays to provide childcare, make coffee, clean up, take a head count, count offering, close up the building, and help with fellowship meals. This past year we did not have enough volunteers. It takes many hands to make light work! Please fill out the volunteer form [here](#) by Oct 1.

Offerings at the end of August were about \$9600 behind actual spending. The congregation's **spending** has been higher than usual this year, due to higher than expected inflation, travel costs for the MCUSA Convention in July, and maintenance issues. We need about \$50,000 in offering over Sept-Dec 2023 to meet the 2023 Spending Plan. - Leadership Group

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Volunteers needed. Wondering how creative Catholics and Mennonites share in a love feast? Want to have a free meal? Participating in the "Rooted and Grounded Conference" at AMBS the end of September? If you answered Yes! to any of those questions please consider being a **server at the Bridgefolk Love Feast Saturday evening September 30, 5-6:30 PM at AMBS.** Contact Mary Lehman Yoder 574-238-9676 if you can help out in this way or have questions.

Volunteer Training for the Elkhart County Jail Ministry – Tuesday, Oct 17, 6:30-8pm at [RESTÖR Church](#) in Goshen. Come and learn about volunteer opportunities inside the jail, inside Work Release, as well as with our reentry housing ministry. We will also discuss the possibilities inside our upcoming community center! We will also be joined by Dave Lanzen, Captain of the Elkhart County Jail. Cpt. Lanzen will give an update on how things are going inside the jail from his perspective, as well as answer questions you may have. Refreshments will be served. [Pleaser register here.](#)

Kitchen Help Needed at Camp Friedenswald! Summer is now officially over and we are in the busy fall season of outdoor education programming and retreat groups. We could use your help! We have shifts for food prep and dishes/cleanup tasks with a variety of dates and times available through October. You can make it into your own mini-retreat if you come to volunteer and stick around for a couple of days enjoying all of what Camp has to offer during your time off with lodging and meals provided. If interested, please contact our Food Service Director, Eric Emerson, at eric@friedenswald.org

Community for Immigrant Justice 5k run/walk on the Goshen Millrace is happening on October 28 (a virtual race occurs the week that follows). The link to register is [here](https://runsignup.com/nijc5kforimmigrantjustice) (<https://runsignup.com/nijc5kforimmigrantjustice>). After the race, we will gather at Goshen Brewing Company, where those who partake can enjoy a special NIJC beer! Talk to Lisa Koop or Andrea Moya if you have questions. We hope to see you there!

Mennonite Disaster Service: Volunteers are needed this fall! You can be a part of bringing hope to communities affected by disaster by volunteering for a week or more. Click [here](#) to see all the ways to volunteer with MDS. For the months of October and November 2023, MDS is offering financial travel assistance for US volunteers that serve for a week or more in **Jennings, LA** and **Arcadia, FL**. Contact kmiller@mds.org (US) for more information.

WIDER CHURCH

In the wake of the U.S. sending cluster bombs to Ukraine, Titus Peachey, who currently serves on the steering committee for the [Cluster Munition Coalition](#), reflects on his experiences dealing with cluster bombs in Laos and calls Mennonites to witness against war makings. Read more of his experiences here: mennoniteusa.org/cluster-bombs-witness

Mennonite Public Educators: Join us for “Being a Mennonite in public ed,” the first of four Zoom meetings on Thursday, October 12 at 7pm. Mennonite Public Educators is a group that brings together Mennonite teachers and other education professionals who work in a public school setting in the US or Canada for mutual encouragement, support, and learning. There is no cost to join the conversation, but registration is required to share the Zoom link. RSVP [here](#). For more information, email info@MennoniteEducation.org.

Restoration Retreat at Camp Friedenswald Oct 20-22. This retreat is designed for people who long for restoration in our world and desire to connect with others around this longing. You will leave feeling more connected, inspired, and empowered to work for positive change in your community and the world beyond. Sarah Werner will be leading four core sessions throughout the weekend. Each participant will receive a signed copy of her recent book, *Rooted Faith: Practices for Living Well on a Fragile Planet*. This retreat is open to all ages. More information is available [online](#). [Register today](#).

Everence Toolkit: Download the most recent toolkit [here](#).

Mennonite Church USA installed a sculpture at its Elkhart, Indiana, offices that was designed and built by Emma Zuercher, a 2023 graduate of Goshen College from Apple Creek, Ohio. Read more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/unveil-sculpture/>

Prayer requests for October [are now available](#) from Mennonite Education Agency.

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for a couple who has spent decades ministering in the Middle East, where they are part of a media team that works at “transforming lives with unstoppable hope.” Pray for them and the 16 full-time animators; multiple trainers, who help people share the good news with their neighbors; and a social media team of three Arabic women, who address issues like human trafficking and child brides.

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. **Final registration deadline is Sept. 26.** ambs.edu/rooted-and-grounded

Bridgefolk: Curious about the grassroots movement that has brought Mennonites and Roman Catholics together over common concerns for 20 years? [Bridgefolk](#) is meeting alongside the *Rooted and Grounded Conference* this year, following their focus last year on First Nations Peoples and the need for both groups to learn, engage, repent. Samantha Lioi (former Assembly member and intern) is helping plan the Bridgefolk dimensions of the larger conference.

Online Short Course: Resisting Christian Nationalism with the Gospel of Peace: Oct. 25 – Nov. 21. Join Drew Strait, PhD, in this four-week online Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary short course to deepen your understanding of White Christian nationalism and explore practical and effective nonviolent strategies for resisting it — drawing insights from how Jesus countered oppression. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by Oct. 4 to save \$50. ambs.edu/nationalism

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

MCC Plain Community Liaison: MCC seeks someone to serve as the primary liaison to large segments of Anabaptists in the U.S. that self-identify as Plain Anabaptists. In collaboration with MCC colleagues, this position develops, analyzes, implements and evaluates engagement with Plain communities. This position sets broad goals for building relationships with key representatives in Plain communities and demonstrates MCC’s commitment to engaging the full range of Anabaptist churches and beyond. For more information contact Marilyn Peters at MarilynPeters@mcc.org or apply online by October 23 at mcc.org/plain-community-liaison.

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 22, 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/>