

## WORSHIP

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

<p><b>October 22</b>  <b>9:30AM Worship</b>  <b>No 2<sup>nd</sup> hour, No Sunday School</b></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Brian Roots  <b>Sermon:</b> Carla Gull  <b>Scripture:</b> 2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150</p>	<p><b>October 29</b>  <b>9:30AM Worship</b>  <b>Sunday School</b></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Lora Nafziger  <b>Sermon:</b> Arden Shank  <b>Scripture:</b> 1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29</p>
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## SUNDAY OCTOBER 22

**8:45am Young adult breakfast** Those who are post-high school through age 30 are invited to a breakfast in the Multipurpose space.

**9:30am Worship.** [The Order of Worship can be read here.](#) This is the first Sunday in part 2 of our fall series using the [Narrative Lectionary](#).

*Who is Sovereign?* Our next set of texts include stories from throughout the history of Israel and Judah. These stories wrestle with the politics of living together and the brokenness of human society. Throughout all of these stories, we are called to wonder: Where is God in this? Who is Sovereign? Is it the God of Abraham, Isaac and Judah, or is the real Lord some other power?

In this series, we will wrestle with some of the same questions in our own lives: who is Lord and Sovereign of our world today? We'll explore where God's *hesed* (steadfast love) shows up, how she works actively in human history, and how we, like the children of Israel, respond to her in sometimes surprising ways.

[Read the full introduction here.](#)

**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

**Alyda Miller Avelar (4th, Waterford) turned 10 on Oct. 18!** She loves to read, especially fantasy and historical fiction. Snowy owls are her favorite animal. She likes writing narrative stories, and swimming, playing piano, and having movie night with her family. Alyda has a great imagination, she's good at running, and loves jumping with her sister on the mattress!

### **Assembly Mennonite Church**

#### **Pastoral Team**

Karl Shelly [karlss@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org) 574-621-1037  
 Anna Yoder Schlabach [annays@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:annays@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-5319  
 Scott Coulter [scottc@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org) 419-535-2918  
 Lora Nafziger [lorach@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:lorach@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-0732

**Pastoral Intern:** Isaiah Friesen [ifriesen@ambbs.edu](mailto:ifriesen@ambbs.edu)

**Pastor Emeritae:** Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

**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

**Administrative Assistant:** Becky Overholt (Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm) [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org); 574-534-4190

**Church Administrator:** Naomi Roots (M,W, Fri 9am-12pm) [naomikr@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:naomikr@assemblymennonite.org)

Please email announcements to [assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org](mailto: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>.

## COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Oct 22 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship • No 2 <sup>nd</sup> hour, no Sunday school	Oct 23 • 10am & 6pm Yoga • 6:30pm Dance group	Oct 24 • 7:15pm Small group reps meeting			Oct 27 • 9:30am Creative movement class	
Oct 29 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school	Oct 30 • 10am & 6pm Yoga • 6:30pm Dance group		Nov 1 • 11:30-2pm Women's lunch bunch • 5:30-8pm Small group childcare		Nov 3 • 9:30am Greencroft meet up	Nov 4 • 6:30pm Lantern Festival at Greencroft
Nov 5 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 12:30pm Surprise luncheons	Nov 6 • 10am & 6pm Yoga • 6:30pm Dance group	Nov 7 • 7pm Leadership group				

**Staff out of town.** Lora Nafziger will be out of town from Oct 20-27. Anna Yoder Schlabach is out of town Sunday afternoon thru Wednesday. Please contact either Karl or Scott for any pastoral needs during that time.

## BARN DANCE FRIDAY NIGHT

**The Barn Dance is back!** After a several-year hiatus, this annual tradition is back. Join us **TONIGHT, Fri, Oct 20** at Robin and Marcus Ebright Zehr's Barn: 63950 Old CR 17. We will be gathering at 6:45pm, with dancing and music beginning at 7pm. Cider and light refreshments will be provided by the JYF and MYF. You're encouraged to bring a monetary donation for the musicians. Interested in playing along? Contact Anna Yoder Schlabach.

## OFFERING & PLEDGES

**AMC Financial Update.** As of Sept 30, actual expenses for the year exceed our offerings by about \$39,000. **We need \$58,000 in offerings each month in October, November, and December in order to meet our anticipated expenses.** The congregation's spending has been higher than anticipated this year because of inflation, travel costs for the MCUSA Convention in July, and maintenance issues. Thank you for your ongoing generous giving! – Leadership Group

**Pledges for 2024:** An email was sent on Monday regarding pledging for the 2024 Spending Plan. A link to the pledge letter can also be found [here](#). Physical copies are available on the literature table. Pledges should be completed by Nov 5. Please contact [Dancy Hirschler](#) or [John Nafziger](#) with questions.

**Retreat Pledges:** Did you enjoy retreat? Please remember to give the money you pledged to help pay for this important event in our church community life. You can use [this link](#), or mark your money in the offering, with the memo "Friedenswald". Our retreat cost \$15,626 this year, and we are counting on at least \$3500 in direct donations.

**Our neighbors are hungry.** Elkhart Food Bank estimates that one in ten people in Elkhart country don't know where their next meal is coming from. The Goshen Salvation Army says that one in six children in Goshen face hunger. Our October **Sharing with Neighbors** contributions will go to THE WINDOW. Place your shelf-stable items in the gray box. This can include personal care items (including small, unopened hotel bottles) and used towels. To receive food from the Window, one must provide a photo ID or proof of address. Clients may receive food once a month during limited open hours.

## SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS FOR WORSHIP & HOSPITALITY

**Volunteer Tasks.** Please sign up for volunteer tasks for 2024! As part of our congregational life together, we ask individuals to volunteer for 2 tasks for the year. Tasks include providing childcare, making coffee, clean up, taking a head count, counting offering, closing up the building, and helping with fellowship meals. Please fill out the volunteer form [here](#).

**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.

## UPCOMING AMC EVENTS

**Kids Creative Movement class:** Kids ages 4-8 are invited to explore the world of dance in a free youth class on 10/27 (Friday), from **9:30am-10:30am**. Participants will enjoy stories, songs, and activities designed to engage with imaginative play, rhythm exploration, and creative movement. This month's theme is Halloween Hullabaloo! Please [register](#) by 10/25 to reserve a spot. Contact Sara Morris with any questions.

**Small Group Childcare.** The next small group childcare evening is Wed, Nov 1 from 5:30-8pm. [Please sign up here](#).

**You are invited to an intergenerational Lantern Festival** on Nov 4 at 6:30pm. This time of singing, sharing cookies and light will take place at Greencroft. RSVP to [Lora](#) to participate in this event (and ensure enough treats!)

**Surprise Luncheons are happening on Nov 5!** 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 is also a sign up 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.

**Assembly tour of South Central Elkhart.** Assembly has been offered a walking tour of South Central Elkhart (also known as the Benham West Neighborhood) on **Sunday afternoon, November 12th. The tour will begin at Prairie Street Mennonite Church at 1:30pm** and will be led by Cyneatha Millsaps and Jason Shenk. This will be an excellent opportunity to better understand the harm caused to the local African American community through "urban renewal" in the '60s through today. Those who are interested in carpooling from the meeting house should meet at 1pm. Please let Glenn Gilbert ([ggilbert1301@gmail.com](mailto:ggilbert1301@gmail.com)) know if you are able to attend and if you plan on carpooling or driving separately.

## ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE – Oct 28 & 29

**Remembrance Gathering** - Many people who have experienced loss don't get the chance to talk about the person they miss. All who are grieving the loss of a loved one are invited to gather for a structured time of sharing on Sat, Oct 28 from 2-3:30pm at the meetinghouse. In groups of 6-8, each participant will share for about 5 minutes, introducing a loved one who has died, and then answer follow-up questions from the group (for another 5 min) about their loved one. All are encouraged to bring a photo. Please RSVP to give us a sense of how many people to expect. Contact Anna Yoder Schlabach to RSVP or with questions.

**On Sunday, October 29th we'll have an All Saints** candle lighting time during the service to remember those who have died. If you want to include a photo of a loved one in a slide show please send it to [annays@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:annays@assemblymennonite.org). Include their name with birth date and death date.

## WIDER CHURCH

**Responding to the Palestine and Israel conflict:** As conflict has escalated in the region, Mennonite Central Committee laments the violence and mourns all lives lost in Palestine and Israel. MCC remains committed to a just peace for all, and we invite you to join us in praying for an end to the violence. [Read the prayer here](#). MCC is planning an emergency response to the current crisis with existing partners. Our response will focus on the humanitarian needs in Gaza, given the vulnerability of the population and lack of resources available to families. MCC's work will build on previous responses to the ongoing conflict, including the distribution of food and bedding. We are also planning to offer trauma healing support and housing reconstruction. Donate online at [mcc.org/Palestine-Israel](http://mcc.org/Palestine-Israel)

**Newsletters:** [Mennonite Disaster Service](#)

**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](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/23-btp-winners)

**Mennonite Mission Network prayer request.** On Monday, Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission and its partners, from eight countries, are beginning their annual International Central Council meetings in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Mennonite Mission Network, one of these partners, asks you to join in prayer for God's Spirit to guide the five days of worship, prayer, discernment and decision making for the coming year.

## COMMUNITY MUSIC EVENTS

**The Goshen College Choirs** will present their annual Fall Choral Concert in Sauder Concert Hall on Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. ([live streamed](#)). Performing are the Goshen College Chamber Choir and Vox Profundi, directed by Scott Hochstetler, and Voices of the Earth, directed by H. Roz Woll. The choirs will be joined by Community School of the Arts chorus *Somma Voci* in a performance of Robert Ray's "Gospel Mass." Tickets can be purchased at [goshen.edu/tickets](https://goshen.edu/tickets).

**A Musical Thanksgiving: Sunday, Oct. 29, 4 p.m.**, in Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount (3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana). Organist Shirley King and pianist Beverly Lapp will share solo settings of several hymns of praise and thanksgiving, with congregational singing integrated throughout the program. All are invited, and admission is free.

**The Open Fifths** low-voice choir presents "You Find Yourself Here: Songs of Home" the first weekend in November. The idea of home is explored in the music from composers like Schubert and Barber to pop icons Sinéad O'Connor, Sting and David Byrne. The group will sing Sat., Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. at Assembly Mennonite Church in Goshen and Sun., Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart. Tickets are available at Fables Books, 215 S. Main, Goshen and at the door.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**MCC Alumni & Friends Service Activities:** Join other local MCC alumni and friends at our MCC Material Resources Center in Goshen for fun and fellowship while helping to pack much-needed kits. There is an increased demand for supplies to send to Ukraine and other countries around the world, and these kits are a tangible way to share hope with people in difficult situations. There are two chances for you to join the kit packing event: Thur, Oct 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. or Fri, Oct 27 from 1-3pm. More information and registration at: [mcc.org/gl-alumni-service](https://mcc.org/gl-alumni-service).

**Thrift at Woodland Crossing, the MCC Thrift shop located in Elkhart**, is seeking a team member to fill the position of Donation Receiver/Processor. Primary responsibilities include efficiently and effectively processing and preparing donated goods. Must be able to lift up to 50 pounds and work on one's feet for a shift of 9:45 am – 5:00 pm. For more details, contact Haiam Gendi at 574-326-3674.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**Anabaptism & US Gun Culture.** Watch as we explore the issues that drive today's violent gun culture in the U.S. and examine how our Anabaptist faith informs our response. Host Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, denominational minister of Peace & Justice, led this conversation with theologians Malinda Berry, Ph.D., of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, and Andrew Suderman, Ph.D., of Eastern Mennonite University. [English](#). [En Espanol](#). **Save the date** for a second webinar on the topic of gun violence | Mon., Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. ET / 4 p.m. PT.

**Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes Pipeline to Prison Learning Tour**--November 1-3, 2023. 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. [Register by October 23 here](#).

## 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 (Oct 20, 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 current vaccination recommendations see: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>

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