

## WORSHIP

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

<p><b>October 8</b>  <b>9:30AM Worship &amp; Sunday School</b>          2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Congregational meeting</p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Ted Larrison  <b>Sermon:</b> Isaiah Friesen  <b>Scripture:</b> Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9</p>	<p><b>October 15</b>  <b>10:30AM Worship</b>  <b>Camp Friedenswald</b></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Jon Zirkle  <b>Sermon:</b> TBD  <b>Scripture:</b> Ruth 1:1-17 [4:13-17]</p>
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## SUNDAY OCTOBER 8

**8:45am Young adult breakfast** Those who are post-high school through age 30 are invited to a breakfast in **classroom 3**. Hosted this week by Lora Nafziger.

**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.

**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.

**2<sup>nd</sup> hour.** All are invited to a Congregational Meeting in the Worship Space following the service. This will be a second reading of the proposed pastoral team job description. You can [read that job description here](#). You can also see a [summary of changes from the old job description here](#). ([The 2018 job description is here](#))

**Pizza lunch & parent-teacher Meeting:** All teachers and parents of Sunday school classes from John's class through MYF are invited for lunch and a meeting immediately following second hour. We do this twice a year as a way for families to connect with each other and talk about various aspects of Christian formation. Lora will speak about spiritual formation at Assembly as she has understood it and shaped it over the last 10 years. Bring your children, who will spend time with the MYF during lunch and the meeting. Pizza and dessert provided. Please bring a finger food side to share. We will conclude by 1:15pm.

**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><b>Assembly Mennonite Church</b>  <b>Pastoral Team</b>          Karl Shelly <a href="mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org">karlss@assemblymennonite.org</a> 574-621-1037          Anna Yoder Schlabach <a href="mailto:annays@assemblymennonite.org">annays@assemblymennonite.org</a> 574-312-5319          Scott Coulter <a href="mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org">scottc@assemblymennonite.org</a> 419-535-2918          Lora Nafziger <a href="mailto:loracn@assemblymennonite.org">loracn@assemblymennonite.org</a> 574-312-0732  <b>Pastoral Intern:</b> Isaiah Friesen <a href="mailto:ifriesen@ambs.edu">ifriesen@ambs.edu</a>  <b>Pastor Emeritae:</b> Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder</p>	<p><b>Elders:</b> Sara Morris (chair), Randy Roth, Leon Bauman, Cheryl Shreiner, Trevor Daugherty, Ben Sywulka, Alex Graber Neufeld  <b>Youth Coordinators:</b> Marlette Gomez Wengerd, Ryan Gomez Wengerd, Stephen Lowe, Gretchen Krause</p>
<p><b>Administrative Assistant:</b> Becky Overholt (Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm) <a href="mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org">office@assemblymennonite.org</a>; 574-534-4190  <b>Church Administrator:</b> Naomi Roots (M,W, Fri 9am-12pm) <a href="mailto:naomikr@assemblymennonite.org">naomikr@assemblymennonite.org</a></p>	
<p>Please email announcements to <a href="mailto:assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org">assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org</a> by 11PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's AssemblyLine. To receive the AssemblyLine via email visit <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Aline-subscribe">https://tinyurl.com/Aline-subscribe</a>.</p>	

## COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Oct 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45am Young adult bkfast</li> <li>9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday school</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> hour congregational mtg</li> <li>Noon Parent/teacher meeting</li> </ul>	Oct 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am &amp; 6pm Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm Dance group</li> </ul>	Oct 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm Labyrinth walk</li> </ul>			Oct 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Church Retreat begins</li> </ul>	Oct 14 Church Retreat All day
Oct 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Worship at Camp Friedenswald</li> </ul>	Oct 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am &amp; 6pm Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm Dance group</li> </ul>					
Oct 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45am Young adult bkfast</li> <li>9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday school</li> </ul>	Oct 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am &amp; 6pm Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm Dance group</li> </ul>	Oct 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15pm Small group reps meeting</li> </ul>				

## COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

**Out of office:** Anna Yoder Schlabach will be out of town this weekend for a family wedding. Becky Overholt will be out of town Oct 1-15. Please contact Naomi Roots ([naomikr@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:naomikr@assemblymennonite.org)) or Scott Coulter ([scottc@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org)) for any office needs during that time. Office hours during these 2 weeks will be M,W,F from 9a-12p.

**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

**Leadership Group met this past Tuesday** and discussed the upcoming pastoral transition, Assembly's financial aid policy, reparations and royalties, and received updates from several committees and ongoing projects. Approved minutes can [be found on the website](#).

**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](#) by Oct 15.

**School kits report from Johanna Sutter:** What a generous & caring congregation we are. I received \$2357.10 from the offering and \$433 was given to me in cash for a total of \$2790.10. I was able to buy enough supplies for 660 school kits & some extra supplies. Just think that 660 children will be able to go to school! That's like every child at West Goshen & Chamberlain receiving a school kit. Thanks everyone for your contribution – especially the 5 children who gave me some of their own money.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

**Service for Mario Wenger.** Visitation will be Friday, Oct 20 at College Mennonite Church from 2-4 pm & 6-8 pm. The service is Sat, October 21 at 11 am at College Mennonite Church followed by a light meal & sharing. The service will be livestreamed and recorded.

## ASSEMBLY'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**From Dance Group:** Several of us have started to meet on the first and third Monday evenings of the month to remember older dances that we have done over the last 50 years. As we decide which ones and schedule times to work on them over this next year, we would like to invite any of you of any age to join us to learn one or two of them. (Younger children should come with an adult.) Once we decide on what dances we will bring back and when we will learn them, we will share the time frame. We would love to dance these oldies but goodies with anyone who loves to move. If you have a specific dance you would like to see us work on, let Linda Schlabach Miller know.

## CHURCH RETREAT OCT 13-15

The Retreat schedule can be viewed [here](#).

**In preparation for the Lantern Festival on Nov. 4** children are invited to make a lantern at Camp Friedenswald during retreat. Adults and children who would like to make a lantern for the festival and will not be at retreat are also welcome to take a tin home to make one. Find instructions here <https://inhabitat.com/how-to-recycle-a-tin-can-into-a-gorgeous-outdoor-lantern-for-summer-parties/> LED and candle tea lights will be provided on the night of the festival.

**The time is now to sign up for the Assembly Church Retreat Variety Show!** Our yearly retreat at Camp Friedenswald is coming up Oct 13-15 and the sign-up list is now open for the Variety Show on Saturday night. Children, youth, adults, families, groups, solo acts, novelties, diversions, novices or pros--all are welcome to share during this celebration of our many and diverse collective gifts! We welcome skits, talents, music, dance, spoken word, or whatever you can dream up. Let's celebrate! Sign up at <http://bit.ly/Assembly-variety-signup> or email host Kyle Schlabach at [kylesbs10@gmail.com](mailto:kylesbs10@gmail.com)

**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/1FAIpQLSdviUffnrtdFzIPmOpXfAO1Yjrb-0nAArEb5z-6dgQW\\_X1luA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdviUffnrtdFzIPmOpXfAO1Yjrb-0nAArEb5z-6dgQW_X1luA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

**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.

**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](mailto:nrchap49@gmail.com)). And THANK YOU, Naomi for sharing your time and creativity in this way.

## DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

**From Daniel Tackett, Center for Healing & Hope:** AMC's partnership to stock the Tiny Free Pantry at CHH the past month made a significant impact in the lives of your neighbors. Gentlemen biked up, all of their belongings strapped to the frame. They take only as much as they need and always express gratitude. Families came; sometimes the children picked the items out. A few "regular" shoppers came by foot, loading up their tote bags. And our friends from Assembly came, sometimes just missing a pantry customer by minutes. The food comes in, the food goes out to those who need it. No barriers, no boundaries, just people helping people. The partnership you have provided in Sept is a blessing and extension of your ongoing support of Center for Healing & Hope and your eternal partnership with Christ. We sincerely thank all who attend Assembly for the many ways you are bringing equity and opportunity to the community!

**Increasing numbers of people in Goshen are hungry.** To make it easy for you to contribute stable food items to The Window, Center for Healing and Hope's Tiny Free Pantry and First Light Mission, a grey box labeled "Sharing with our Neighbors" will always be under the mailboxes. Barb Hassan and Susan Mark Landis will transport cans and boxes, distributing them to the agencies. During October we'll deliver items in the grey box to the [Window](#). This can include personal care items (including small, unopened hotel bottles) and used towels. Contact Barb and Susan with any

questions/feedback. Thanks for your generosity!

**Have 1-2 hours per week to talk English?** There will be some classes for Haitian people, newly arrived to the states. If you would be open to a conversation circle, with a teacher leading, let Anne Meyer Byler know: 574 621-3924.

**For the first time ever, the Elkhart County Parks survey** has been translated into Español but we have only had a few people follow the new link and we would love to have more people take the Elkhart County Parks survey to give us important feedback! The survey site will be open until mid-October and can be found in both English and Spanish via our website. Please feel free to share this link with your friends, family, and others via social media or by forwarding this link. <https://elkhartcountyparks.org/about/survey/>

## MY COINTS COUNT

**My Coins Count.** On behalf of Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale, thank you for your enthusiasm and energy at **Assembly Mennonite** in collecting coins and matches for **My Coins Count**. Your congregation donated \$ **2153.48**, helping MyCC bring in over **\$63,000** this year and bringing the sale total to over **\$425,000!** Your MyCC contribution will help MCC partners alleviate the growing threat of extreme hunger around the world. It will provide food assistance to vulnerable people in refugee camps in Syria and Ethiopia who have fled violence in their home communities. It will help farmers in Uganda and Guatemala learn new ways of growing crops that will expand their yield and improve the nutrition and economics for their families. It will assist families in Palestine and India to grow kitchen gardens, allowing them to grow fresh vegetables to improve the health of their families. It will assist with animal sharing programs in Cambodia and Lebanon, giving sheep, goats, chickens, and fish, which provide a renewable resource of nutrition and improve the financial security for families who struggle with sources of income. Thank you for sharing food with hungry people through MCC and their partners in the name of Christ. – Roelf Kuitse, MyCC Coordinator- MMRS

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**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](mailto:eric@friedenswald.org)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Taizé Sunday Evening Worship Service at Goshen College** Sun, Oct 8 at 8pm at Goshen College Newcomer Center Room 19. Join the Goshen College Community for contemplative worship based on the style of the Taizé community of France. This ecumenical service is focused on singing, Scripture, silence, and prayer. All are welcome!

**Goshen and its surrounding region have a rich history** as the land of the Potawatomi and Miami nations. To honor Indigenous Peoples Day, the City of Goshen Community Relations Commission will offer an opportunity for residents of all ages to learn this history. The Community Relations Commission will host an Indigenous Peoples Day event at the Goshen Theater on Mon, Oct 9 from 6–8pm. Doors at the Theater open at 6 p.m. with activity and information tables and an informative program starting in the theater auditorium at 6:30 P.M. The event is free and open to the community. Learn More: <https://goshenindiana.org/indigenousday>

**On Oct 13<sup>th</sup> 2023 Camerata Singers** will celebrate the music of Goshen's own nationally renowned composer, Lee Dengler. Lee has spent his illustrious career as a composer, engraver, voice teacher, singer and choral director, and has over 220 works published by most of the nation's major music publishers. Along with compositions for voice, piano, and

choir, the evening includes a world premiere of Enough, a powerful new choral work with text by Susan Naus Dengler on the theme of gun violence. Choirs from Goshen, Elkhart, and Bethany Christian high schools will join Camerata Singers on Lee's most popular choral work, *Things That Never Die*. Scott Hochstetler, artistic director; Brody Thomas, keyboard artist. Friday, October 13, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. Sauder Concert Hall, Goshen College Music Center 1700 South Main Street, Goshen, Indiana. Tickets available at [thecameratasingers.org](http://thecameratasingers.org) and at the door. \$18.00 adults, \$6.00 students

## WIDER CHURCH

**Newsletters:** [Central District Conference](#), [Anabaptist Disabilities Network](#), [Pathways Retreat](#)

**Prayer request:** Sunday is Indigenous People's Day. Pray for Mennonite congregations as they acknowledge that many Mennonites of European descent were among the first to move onto land from which Indigenous Peoples were forcibly removed. Mennonite Mission Network encourages congregations to find ways, in conversation with their Indigenous neighbors, to repair the harm done.

**Pathways Retreat is offering several retreats this fall:** Living that Matters for Men, Meditative Zentangle-inspired Art, Cultivating Awe in Advent, and weekly yoga. Daily prayers are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at [pathwaysretreat.org](http://pathwaysretreat.org).

**There's still time to register for the Generation Z Energy and Spirit challenge!** Mennonite Church USA is inviting young people to actively care for the planet through the challenge, which runs through April 2024. All high school student participants in graduating classes '24-'27 are eligible for a \$1000 grant toward tuition at one of our Mennonite colleges or universities. Two exceptional group projects will earn a cash prize of \$500-\$1000 for an outdoor experience. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/energy-challenge/](http://mennoniteusa.org/news/energy-challenge/)

**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](mailto:info@MennoniteEducation.org).

**Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) invites healthcare providers** in all disciplines, including chaplains and allied health, and all who are interested in the intersection of health and faith to our Annual Gathering at Camp Mack in Milford, Indiana October 13th-15th, 2023. The theme is: Nurturing People - Thriving as Providers in Today's Healthcare Environment. Participants will have the opportunity to explore what it means to nurture themselves in a fast-paced healthcare climate and how Christ calls us to nurture others in our path. Keynote speakers include MHF Director Cate Desjardins presenting her research on faith-based provider resilience, and Malinda Berry, PhD, professor at AMBS. Commuter and one-day registration is available for local participants, lodging is available for those who wish to enjoy Camp Mack. More information and registration at [mennohealth.org](http://mennohealth.org).

**Center for Community Justice** invites you to participate in the 45th Anniversary of the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) Sat Oct 21 at 5pm. This is a very special event because we will be recognizing those who founded this, first-in-the-nation Restorative Justice Program. To purchase a ticket: <https://www.centerforcommunityjustice.org/> For more info contact Center for Community Justice by phone at (574) 295-6149

**MCC 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](http://mcc.org/indiana-pipeline-to-prison).

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**Conflict Resolution workshops on Zoom.** [The Shalom Collaboratory](#) at Eastern Mennonite Seminary is developing new training programs for theologically informed conflict transformation skills. In these workshops, webinars, and short courses, participants will learn how to implement an adaptive leadership approach to transform conflicts in the creative spirit of Godly imagination, incorporate strategies for trauma awareness and resilience into their congregational

practices, or take up other practical approaches to the troubles our congregations now routinely encounter. Register [here](#).

**AMBS Forming Leaders Together Campaign Launch Celebration: Thurs, Oct 19, 6:30–8:30pm**, in the AMBS Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount (3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana). Please join the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary learning community, the AMBS Board of Directors, and leaders from Mennonite World Conference and Mennonite Church Canada to celebrate the public launch of the seminary's Forming Leaders Together campaign! The celebration will include a lecture by Jamie Pitts, PhD, Professor of Anabaptist Studies, on "Mysteries of Reconciliation: Culture, Violence, Politics," in honor of his recent promotion to full professor. A dessert reception will follow the presentation. Please RSVP by Oct 12: [ambs.edu/celebrate](https://ambs.edu/celebrate)

**Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology: Oct. 25 – Dec. 12.** Explore the birth and development of the Anabaptist movements in the 16th century in this six-week online Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary short course taught by Jamie Pitts, PhD. You'll be challenged to draw connections between the 16th century and your own life or ministry. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by Oct. 4 to save \$50; final registration deadline is Oct. 18. [ambs.edu/online-short-courses](https://ambs.edu/online-short-courses)

**Living that Matters for Men:** A half-day retreat. Men, what kind of man do you want to be and how can you live a life that matters? In this half day retreat, men will examine the scripts we've been given, explore differing expressions of masculinity, and reconsider their purpose in life. This retreat will be led by Steve Thomas, director of Mennonite Men and author of *Living that Matters* (Herald Press, 2023), at Pathways Retreat in Goshen 8:00-12:00 Saturday, December 9. See more information or register at <https://www.pathwaysretreat.org/living-that-matters-for-men.html>.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Mennonite Central Committee is hiring a Peace Education Coordinator!** The Peace Education Coordinator leads MCC's church education efforts nationwide in the U.S. related to peace and nonviolence. This includes peace theology, conflict transformation, and response to violence (including gun violence prevention, anti-militarism, and mass incarceration). Education efforts involve engaging MCC's constituency on these peace-related topics by working with MCC regional staff and with denominational and other partners. Apply at [mcc.org/peace-education-coordinator](https://mcc.org/peace-education-coordinator) by October 16.

**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](mailto:MarilynPeters@mcc.org) or apply online by October 23 at [mcc.org/plain-community-liaison](https://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 (Oct 6, 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/>