



**2025 SAGA Annual Meeting**  
**April 25-26, 2025**  
**Sunnyside Mennonite Church.**  
**23786 Sunnyside Avenue**  
**Elkhart, IN 46516**

**Because time is of the essence, we ask you to email your reservations to:**

**Jim Hermesen at [jghermesen@yahoo.com](mailto:jghermesen@yahoo.com) or phone at 317-881-4600.**

We need to know count for: 1) the meeting on Saturday, 2) dinner on Friday Night. Then please follow up with your remittance as soon as possible as we are required to pay fees before Friday. So, it would be great if we receive the funds before April 19, 2025. Send your checks made out to: SAGA and mail them to: SAGA / c/o Jim Hermesen at 8108 Laura Lynne Lane, Indianapolis, 46217-4927 DO NOT USE PAYPAL. **Meeting Agendas/Friday activities:** Troye Kauffman [troye@illinois.edu](mailto:troye@illinois.edu), (217)621-8530

## Friday, April 25, 2025

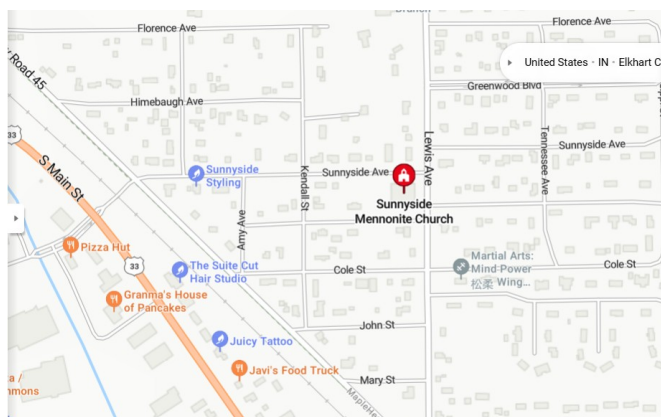
- 9:00 Mennonite Historical Library:  
Small tour and info session by Eric Bradley (open for research after)
- Afterwards cemeteries and shopping  
(See next page for details)

## Friday Night dinner

6:30pm at Das Dutchman Essenhaus  
 240 US 20, Middlebury, IN 46540



SAGA Annual Meeting  
**Cost is \$10 – Non-members are welcome!**  
 Sunnyside Mennonite Church  
 23786 Sunnyside Avenue  
 Elkhart, IN 46516



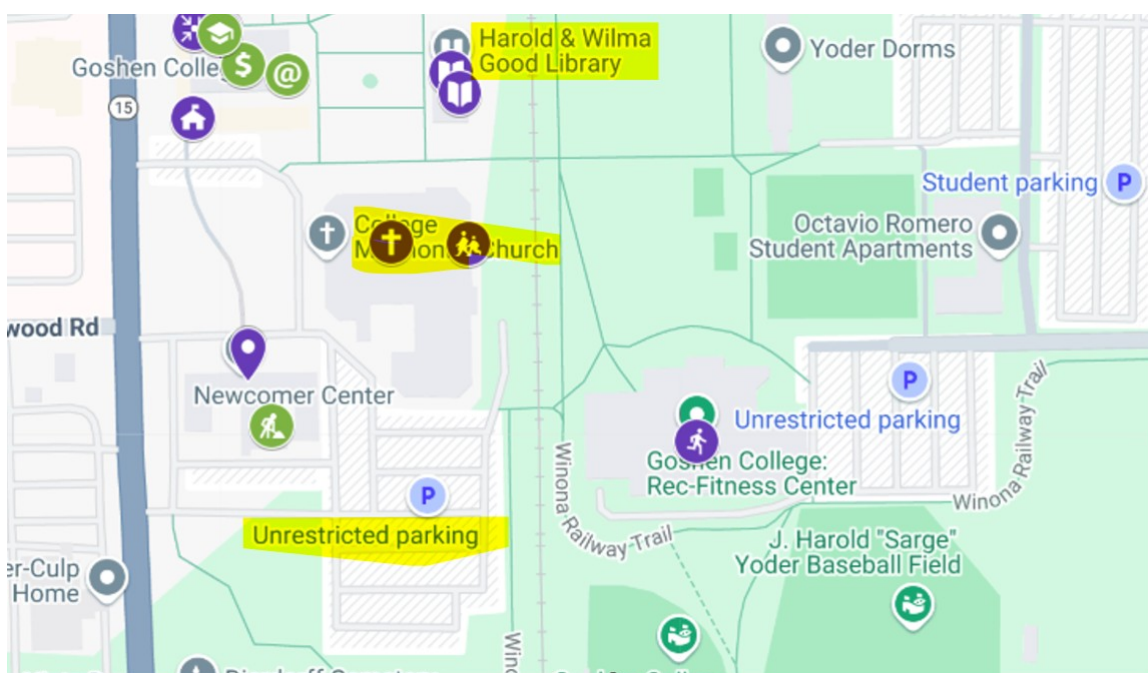
Sunnyside Mennonite Church is located just off of US 20 and South Main Street (US 33), Elkhart. Near Ox Bow Park. It is located northwest of Goshen, IN .



# Friday Activities Information

Friday activities are on your own.

**Goshen College Mennonite Historical Library:** 1700 S Main St, Goshen, IN 46526, located on the 3rd floor of the **Good Library** on the campus of [Goshen College](#). Hours 8-5, Mon-Friday. Eric Bradley will give a short tour and interested members can stay to do research.



**Other Friday Activities:** (On your own. If you need a ride or want to travel with a group, please email or call Troye Kauffman – [troye@illinois.edu](mailto:troye@illinois.edu)/217-621-8530)

- **Yellow Creek cemetery** (A map will be provided to interested folks)
- **Menno-Hof Cultural Center** (Shipshewana) 1.25 hour tours for \$9.50, last tour at 3:45pm - <https://menno-hof.squarespace.com/planyourvisit>
- **Shipshewana shopping!**

**Friday Night dinner** 6:30pm at Das Dutchman Essenhaus, 240 US 20, Middlebury, IN 46540. Buffet with Broasted chicken, Roast Pork, Mashed potatoes and gravy, Tossed Salad, Buttered corn, Green beans. \$28 must be prepaid before dinner.

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# Hotels

**The following hotels are closest to the Sunnyside Mennonite Church or the Das Dutchman Essenhaus. Also close to Shipshewana and Menno-Hof:**

**Hampton Inn Middlebury**  
105 Crystal Heights Blvd  
Middlebury, IN 46540  
(874) 822-0288

**Super8 by Wyndham Shipshewana**  
740 S. Van Buren St  
Shipshewana, IN 46565  
(260) 768-4004

**Der Ruhe Blatz Motel**  
1195 S. Van Buren Street  
Shipshewana, IN 46565-  
(260) 768-7750

**Holiday Inn Express**  
3610 South Nappanee St  
Elkhart, IN 46517  
(574) 296-1110

**Residential Inn**  
3214 South Main Street  
Elkhart, IN 46517-  
(574) 293-8922

**Holiday Inn Express Goshen**  
1415 Lincolnway East  
Goshen, IN 46526  
(574)-535-9200

**Best Western Inn**  
900 Lincolnway East  
Goshen, IN 46526  
(574) 533-0408



## 2025 SAGA Annual Meeting Agenda

### Saturday, April 26, 2025

**8:15am** Coffee and rolls

**9:00am** SAGA Annual Meeting

- Greetings
- Short opening prayer
- First introductions

**9:15am** Business meeting

- Topics to be determined by board

**9:45am** Member introductions

- **Bob Geiser** – updates about membership and databases  
Database contributors
- Other member introductions (45 seconds per person): Name, place of residence, and discussion topics of interest. Other members who are also interested in discussing these topics should raise their hand so that they can locate each other during lunch
- Oak Grove Cemetery Book and other publications by SAGA members

**10:15am** Break

**10:45am** Keynote speakers

- **Loren Johns:** "The Amazing Bontrager Family of Northern Indiana."
- **Eric Bradley:** (Head Librarian of the Mennonite Historical Library) – "Local Anabaptist History"

**12:00** Lunch served [Cost for lunch will be \$10.00/person prepaid or collected at registration]

**Afternoon** – Interaction and socializing with members. Some may wish to visit sites that are listed in the Friday suggested offerings.

### Share Your Work

Members are encouraged to bring any publications they have for sale. In addition, be prepared to share with the membership a short (1-2 minute) summary of projects, works, research you are currently doing. Bring along any "road blocks" to your research, your fellow members may have some insight for you to consider.

**NOTE:** This year we have the opportunity to LiveStream the meeting. Please let us know if you are interested. Further information will be posted closer to the meeting date.