

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

February 27, 2020

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God
Chair: Linda Showalter

Last Sunday, February 23

Along with many other Mennonite churches in Indiana and Michigan, we participated in "Conference Sunday," where we took the time to think about our identity as a part of a larger network of churches and to pray for God's work throughout these two states. Several individuals who have been involved with conference in various capacities shared in lieu of a sermon.

This Sunday, March 1

On the first Sunday of Lent, we traditionally read the story about Jesus being tempted in the wilderness according to Matthew or Luke. This year, however, we look at Mark's short version of the story in Mark 1:9-20, which reminds us of how wild Jesus is, and how he comes to shatter our assumptions and challenge us to take new steps of faith. Let us brace ourselves as we invite this untamed lion of Judah into our lives!

Next Sunday, March 8

Wilma Bailey will be preaching on the subject of sin.

Lenten Resources

During the next 6 weeks of Lent, there will be a new, weekly Lenten meditation guide attached in each Journeying Together. These Lenten meditations will guide us to pray using scriptures and will focus on how Jesus brings light into the shadow places of our lives and our world. The meditations will challenge us to seek and to shine light, finding hope in desperate times. There will be many prayer options suggested and you will likely not use each one listed. The meditation guides encourage us to be open to different ways of praying and where it can lead us. (see attached for Week One, to start on Sunday, March 1st)

Help our Youth-Led Worship be a success

The JYF class is doing the worship planning for March 22. In January and February, the class studied friendship and will convey some of what they learned by planning worship around this theme on March 22. The youth have chosen 3 Bible stories and we are seeking 3 volunteers to offer 5-minute reflections after the youth read summaries from the following scriptures.

- Naomi and Ruth (companionship); Ruth 1-4
- Jonathan and David (standing up for each other); 1 Samuel 18-20
- Priscilla, Aquila, and Apollos (mentoring); Acts 18: 1-3, 18-28

Talk to Laura, Jason, or Ernest to be one of our speakers.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom
Chair: Linda Kandel

Calendar

Sun. 9:30am Worship

11:00am Sunday School

Sun, March 1 – Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

Mon, March 2 - Greenwood Panera - 789 US

31N; 8am-2pm

Fri, March 6 - World Day of Prayer, 11 am

Wed, Mar. 11 – Morning Breakfast group, 7am

Sat, March 14 – Eastside Creation Care at

Shalom; 8:30-11am

Thurs, March 29 – Meal, 6:30; Bible study, 7-8

Wed, March 25 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Thurs, April 2 – Host Bethany Choir?? Concert??

Sun, April 12 – Easter Breakfast

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships
Chair: Martha Yoder Maust

Adult classes for March-May

1. Wilma Bailey will lead a study of 1 & 2 Kings, in the back of the sanctuary.

2. Carol Bither will lead a study of *The DNA of Relationships* by Gary Smalley, in the library.

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom
Chair: Brad Yoder

East Side Creation Care

Saturday, March 14, Shalom hosts the Eastside Creation Care Network meeting, 8:30am to 11:00 am. Come celebrate solar!

Sharing Space

Contributions for Eirene's project benefiting Coburn Place can be brought to the Sharing Space for the next two Sundays. Any items that are not suitable or miss the deadline will be donated to the Julian Center at the end of the month.

From Eirene: "The goal of this project is to collect items on the wish list for Coburn Place, a center for people who come from situations of domestic violence, and deliver it to them."

- Linens (new, not used)
- Household items and furniture
- Personal Care Items
- Cleaning Supplies
- Baby Items (new crib sheets and blankets; other items can be used)
- Non-Perishable Food
- Gift Cards
- Full list available by the mailboxes

Christian Peacemaker Teams screening

Join us, Thursday, March 5 for a screening and presentation about the City of Hebron and the work of Christian Peacemaker Teams, followed by a Q & A with Yousef Natsheh and Rachel Joy. Hebron examines the extent to which human rights are realized in a Palestinian community under Israeli occupation. Yousef and Rachel have been serving with CPT since 2013. Hosted by Prairie Street, Fellowship of Hope, and Michiana Voices for Middle East Peace March 5, 7 pm at Prairie Street Mennonite Church, 1316 Prairie Street, Elkhart, Indiana
-Suella Gerber
pastor, Fellowship of Hope Mennonite

Amigo Centre retreat

We would like to call attention to our upcoming retreat based on Tim Lehman's book, "Hearing and Seeing Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew." We believe this book and subject are relevant in our

current climate, and hope to have good dialogue about how we as followers of Jesus can make a difference in our world today. March 27-29 at Amigo Centre. Flyer posted in the foyer.

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)

MCC, A worldwide Ministry of Anabaptist churches, sharing God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. As MCC turns 100, all four regions in the U.S are planning centennial events. Supporters and friends of MCC are invited and encouraged to attend centennial events in the Great Lakes Region in Indiana.

July 25, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

Swords to Plowshares Children's Musical (adapted from Lisa Weaver's book)

College Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana
A Russian boy and art teacher turn bullets into a medallion to thank early MCCers

July 25, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

MCC Great Lakes Centennial Celebration Picnic
Goshen College (lawn outside Recreation-Fitness) in Goshen, Indiana
Potluck picnic supper, music from local group, sharing MCC memories, ice cream

July 26, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

MCC Great Lakes Centennial Service of Celebration
Prairie Street Mennonite Church in Elkhart, Indiana
Thanksgiving to God for 100 years with stories from MCC's global history.
Zenebe --- on Behalf of Outreach Commission

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems
Chair: Laura Harms

Administration Asst. and/or volunteers needed

Laura will be stepping back from Administrative duties and the Administration Commission is looking for volunteers to compile Journeying Together, create and print the bulletin, update the website, and attend to email and voicemail messages throughout the week. Please contact Laura if you would like to help.

AC will likely be looking for a replacement for the paid position of Administrative Assistant. If you have any interest, please don't hesitate to reach out to Laura, Tim, or Sam.

Bethany HS Choir

Shalom has the opportunity to host the Bethany Christian High School Choir as they travel through Indy to a festival. They would like to stay at the church, offer a concert, and would love it if we could provide dinner (but are willing to get their own food too). Are you willing to coordinate plans to host them? Please reach out to Laura ASAP if you can be available to let them in. The date is Thursday, April 2.

Reflections on Pilgrimage

We are planning to move to downtown Indianapolis at the end of March. That may come as a shock to those who know what strong advocates we are of the Shalom neighborhood. We have talked about downsizing for years, but never made much progress in that direction, for a variety of reasons. This past summer, with the facilitation of Sabrina Falls, we convened a "clearness committee" to discern possible relocation away from the neighborhood around Shalom Mennonite Church. In the tradition of Friends (Quakers), a clearness committee is formed to help a person (or couple) find clarity for a leading from the Holy Spirit. The gathered group--which normally meets only once--helps persons discern whether they feel "clear" to move forward with the leading, wait, or take a different action. A meeting for clearness is conducted in a spirit of worship, listening, and loving concern. It is a time for deep listening--to God and to the questions and concerns of the focal person(s). In this meeting for clearness we had an opportunity to share the decision we were considering and our questions and concerns about it. After prayerful listening, the committee had an opportunity to reflect back to us what they had heard from us and had an opportunity to ask questions for clarification. As a result of that meeting and other life circumstances, we took concrete steps toward a relocation to downtown Indy. As we prepare our current home for listing, you are welcomed to come take any of our "junk" that you can use – from rain barrels and piano to rice cooker and pencils!

-Sam and Carol Bixler

Pastor:

Brian Bither, (317) 322-7320;
brian@shalommennonite.com;

Vision & Accountability Team: Jeanne Smucker,
Cheryl Martin, Wilma Bailey, Rod Maust, Thad
Wilson, Brian Bither

Please submit information by Thursday, 12pm, to
office@shalommennonite.com