

# Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

June 27, 2019

## WORSHIP

Our relationship with God  
Chair: Linda Showalter

## COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom  
Chair: Linda Kandel

### Last Sunday, June 23

We wrapped up our sermon series on Micah by studying chapters 6-7. As we turned to this final section of the book, we were once again brought into a divine courtroom for judgment – but this time, with an entirely different result. In this trial, God speaks openly and even vulnerably about the struggle of maintaining both justice and faithfulness to Israel, and in the end offers us a model of justice, kindness, and humility to follow.

### This Sunday, June 30

Brian will preach for the last time before his sabbatical begins. He will take the opportunity to reflect on the the spiritual journey that Shalom has been through over the past six years and to offer some hopes and prayers for the future. Deuteronomy 8:2-10 will be the guiding text.

### Next Sunday, July 7

Emily Fox will preach.

### Opportunities to serve Shalom

Last week an *Opportunities for Service* document was put in your mailbox to help you know what opportunities there are for different ways to serve our church body. This is a vital tool that can be used by the different commissions to find people who are passionate about the different aspects of our corporate church life. Please prayerfully discern where you best fit in and return to my mailbox. The sooner the better.

-Linda Showalter

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Hymn Sing

Please join us for a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Hymn Sing this Sunday evening from 6:30-8pm. It will be at Showalter's instead of at the church so we don't interfere with Iglesia Amigos' service. Everyone is welcome!

### Calendar

Sun. 9:30am Worship

11:00am Sunday School

Sun, June 30 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Hymn Sing at Showalter's, 6:30-8pm

July 3-6 – MennoCon19

Sun, July 7 – Carry-in Meal after SS **\*\*NO OVEN\*\***  
Pastoral Care/Visitation group mtg

Wed, July 10 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Thu, July 11 – Thriving Thursdays, 5-7pm

Thu, July 18 – Thriving Thursdays, 5-7pm

Wed, July 24 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Thu, July 25 – Thriving Thursdays, 5-7pm

### Carry-in July 7

A carry-in meal will follow Sunday School on July 7. Please bring meals that do not need to be heated in the oven.

### Thanks Carmen!

CLC would like to thank Carmen Tackitt for making arrangements for flowers to be sent to persons in our congregation. She responds quickly and efficiently. Thanks Carmen! We appreciate your help.

### Pastoral Care and Visitation Team

The Pastoral Team is forming a Pastoral Care and Visitation Team to help with these ministries during Brian's sabbatical. On Sunday, July 7, at noon, we will fill our plates at the carry-in and take our meal to the Adult Sunday School room. We will have a session for some brief training on pastoral care approaches and to discuss how we will coordinate this ministry among ourselves and stay connected for support, accountability, and congregational needs. Although several among us have offered to participate in this ministry, others of you who sense a leading of the Spirit to serve in this way are invited to join us. If so, or for more information, please contact Sabrina.

### Photographer Needed

The Community Life Commission would like to update the photo directory of attendees that is on the bulletin board in the Shalom foyer. We have a list of people needing a current picture, and the photographer can plan times on Sunday a.m. to take pictures and post them on the board. We hope this visual will remind us of our love and commitment to all at Shalom as the body of Christ. Please speak with Rose Love if you are able to help with this ministry.

### Church Retreat

Shalom Mennonite Church Retreat will be November 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are interested in helping to plan for the upcoming retreat please contact Herb Troyer, Linda Kandel, or Rose Love.

### **DISCIPLING**

Growing in our relationships  
Chair: Martha Yoder

### Adult Education

June 30: Chuck Dunn on "Food and Faith."  
Meets in the kitchen  
July 7: TBD  
July 14: Wilma Bailey, Laura Harms – Report on Conference and Convention  
July 21: Cheryl and Sam – structure evaluation  
July 28: Peter and Delicia – Ecuador  
Aug 4: TBD  
Aug 11: Kevin King on Mennonite Disaster Service  
Aug 18: Wilma, Rose, and Bob on their trip to Ecuador  
Aug 25: Wilma, Jeanne, and Brad on their trip to South Africa

### **SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM (SGDT)**

Chair: Joyce Troyer

Mike Wigginton has agreed to serve on the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team as Justin finishes his term. Joyce has agreed to continue as chairperson.

### **OUTREACH**

Relationships beyond Shalom  
Chair: Brad Yoder

### Thriving Thursdays

Pray for Neighborhood Kids & Volunteers!

### **Volunteers needed on Thursdays from 5-**

**7pm. July 11, 18 & 25.** Let Frank know when and where you can help. [Kandel93@gmail.com](mailto:Kandel93@gmail.com) or 309-532-2859.

### Mennonite Central Committee

MCC Appalachia is seeking a program coordinator. [Learn more.](#)

Mennonite Central Committee Central States is now collecting Immigration detainee care kits. When people who have been placed in immigration detention centers are released, they often have nothing more than the clothes on their backs. Kits containing clothing and hygiene products can help to rebuild their dignity as they are taken to bus stations and airports to reconnect with their families in the U.S. Please visit [mcc.org/immigrationkit](http://mcc.org/immigrationkit) for all the details of what goes into the kit and how the kits will be distributed. It is one small way we can share Christ's love with our neighbors. All kit supplies and financial donations should be sent directly to MCC Central States 121 E. 30<sup>th</sup>, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117. To help MCC purchase immigration detainee care kit supplies and cover transportation costs for the kits, checks should be made out to MCC with "CS Kits" in the memo line. Questions? Please contact MCC Central States at 316.283.2720.

### Sharing Space

The Julian Center is the focus for our Sharing Space in June.

- Office equipment/supplies
- School supplies
- Books
- Artwork
- Services (building repairs, landscaping, etc)
- Cell phones
- Clothing, toys, household goods, and furniture

We also have an opportunity to contribute to Family Promise: Bring in gently used clothing in 13-gallon white plastic bags – no shoes, no purses. Each bag equals a \$5 voucher at Goodwill for Family Promise clients.

In August we will be doing school kits for Mennonite Central Committee along with "My Coins Count."

## ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems

Chair: Laura Harms

### Kitchen Clean-up and Closing the Building

In July, families with a last name starting with K – R are invited to help with kitchen clean-up after Sunday School each Sunday. After July, groups are being slightly adjusted to ensure there enough hands to do the work each month:

August: S – Y

Sept: A – C

Oct: D – K

Nov: L – R

Dec: S – Y

If you don't know the routine, smile and pick up a dishtowel. Those that have done this before will help you learn.

These families are also responsible to close the building ensuring lights are out, no water is running or toilets clogged, and doors are locked, etc. Revised guidelines for closing the building are attached to the emailed newsletter and posted in the kitchen serving window.

### MennoCon19

Wilma Bailey will be attending the Mennonite Church U.S.A.'s Convention in Kansas City (July 3-6) as the representative from Shalom. The assembly this year will not be resolution driven. Some changes to the bylaws are being proposed, the most exciting and important one being to allow for youth delegates. If the resolution passes, each congregation will be permitted to send one youth delegate (16-21 years of age) in addition to an adult delegate to MCUSA Conventions, each Conference may send two youth delegates and each racial/ethnic group may send two youth delegates in addition to the adult delegates. If you have an opinion about the addition of youth delegates, do let me know. Unless there is a wellspring of opposition in Shalom, I plan to vote in favor of this bylaw change.

The information that is sent to delegates is available for anyone to read on the website: [mennoniteusa.org/resource/delegate-resources](http://mennoniteusa.org/resource/delegate-resources). There you will find the daily schedule, reports from the church agencies and lists of persons being nominated to serve in church positions.

From the website- "In 2019 we will focus on equipping our church leaders for mission while we discuss major issues of policy and discern

next steps for the national conference." In addition, Tom Yoder Neufeld will lead a Bible study each day on the book of Ephesians.

Anyone can attend the Convention. You do not have to be a delegate. It is a wonderful opportunity to experience worship with hundreds and thousands of others, to discover agencies and institutions that serve MCUSA, to learn new skills and gain new knowledge in workshops and seminars, to network with others who share your interests and to fellowship with new and old friends.

Wilma Bailey

## CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

A space to share your news

### Zenebe Abebe announces a new book!

Funding A Mission is based on my fundraising experience at MCC. It is a book about collective mission and vision of nonprofit organizations. It is about the commitment of donors and their unwavering trust and support to organizations' national and international programs. It is a book about nonprofit organizations's ability to form partnerships around the globe to provide support to those uprooted and displaced by war and/or natural disasters. It is about a culture of philanthropy that delivers sustainable programs to empower those at the receiving end. The overall theme of the book is about communicating the mission of your organization and building transformational relationships with donors. The book is now available at Amazon, Barnes & Nobel in Paperback, Hardback and Digital. Zenebe

### Veggie Market

Jason and Marcela will be growing and selling vegetables through Lawrence Community Gardens at 9240 E 46<sup>th</sup> St from 7am-12noon Monday thru Friday.

## MILEPOST #686

**[NOTE: Please read all the way to the end so you don't miss two very special requests!]**

The word "milepost" has several definitions: 1) a marker set up to indicate how distant a particular place is, 2) a post one mile from the finishing post of a race, and 3) a significant

stage or event in the development of something; a milestone.

Every week (almost!) since our transitional pastor Gary Martin started our newsletter, *Journeying Together*, a brief written reflection entitled "Milepost" has appeared, and each one has been numbered. Today's is #686. How is that even possible? I'm not sure about our numbering system, but the idea seems to have been to mark every mile along our journey through this pastoral and structural transition until we reach our destination!

Today is our final "Milepost." Does that mean we have run the race? Crossed the finish line? Arrived? According to one of the above definitions, a "milepost" is the post that is one mile from the finishing post. Does that mean that we're not quite there yet, but close? The Christian journey is ongoing. I'm not sure we ever actually arrive at a destination in this lifetime because God is always doing a new thing in us and we're always growing in grace. The Christian journey is a "pilgrimage"-- an intentionally **sacred** journey, a spiritual quest. How do we know when we've "arrived"? This and other questions would make ideal topics for future reflective comments in this newsletter! Even though this column no longer will be called a "milepost," we still want to have a space in our newsletter for reflection, testimonies, sharing faith stories and thoughts and questions and inspirations...and more! It can be as creative as we want it to be!

**Now here is the first very special request:**

Each and every one of you is invited--and needed--to contribute to this space. It can be a poem, song lyrics, a drawing, a devotional/reflective piece, a story, a prayer, a testimony. It can be written or composed or drawn--either by you or by someone else and you want to share it with us. This is a way to bless one another with our creative gifts and our stories and struggles and insights of faith. Without your contributions, this space will be empty. (The pastors may occasionally contribute but during Brian's sabbatical we will not be doing so on a regular basis.)

**And the second very special request:** We need a new name/title for this space and we need your suggestions! This is not a contest and there are no winners or losers--only the satisfaction and joy of seeing your brilliant title

in bold print every week! OK, and maybe a Shalom T-shirt.

As we lay down the Milepost and move on into the next phase of our Shalom pilgrimage, here are two scriptures to encourage us on the road:

Philippians 3:10-14

*I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings...Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

Hebrews 12:1-2

*...let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.*

--Pastor Sabrina Falls

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Journeying Together is a weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church: 6100 E 32nd St, 46226; (317) 549-0577 [shalommennonite.com](mailto:shalommennonite.com)  
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