

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

January 23, 2020

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God
Chair: Linda Showalter

Last Sunday, Jan 19

The Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary sent one of their seminary students, Henok Mekonin, to preach at our church. Henok is from Nazareth, Oromiya, Ethiopia, and is a Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies student at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from Meserete Kristos College in Bishoftu, Ethiopia, in 2016 and is currently serving as Ethiopia Assistant for AMBS's MA: Theology and Global Anabaptism program. He is interested in exploring a ministry of administration and leadership. We look forward to having him, his wife, Misgana Eshete (who is also an MA: Theology and Peace Studies student at AMBS), and their daughter join us on Sunday, and to hearing what God has to say to us through Henok.

This Sunday, January 26

Brian will begin a four-part series on Slavery and Freedom in the Bible, with Exodus 1:1-14 and Galatians 4:1-7 as the introductory texts.

Next Sunday, February 2

We will continue with the theme of slavery and freedom by wrestling with the way that the Bible treats the institution of ancient slavery. Paul especially calls for our spiritual liberation, but what implications does this have for people who have been literally enslaved? 1 Corinthians 7:17-24 and Acts 16:16-24 will serve as key points in this discussion.

IN-MI Connections for Special Worship

On February 23rd, during our morning worship, we will celebrate Shalom's connection to the larger community of faith at the Indiana-Michigan Conference. We are inviting individuals who would like to share a blessing or personal testimony or experience that has positively impacted them as it relates to being

part of the IN-MI conference. Have you been a delegate or had a leadership role with IN-MI conference? Maybe you have a story of a wonderful summer/ winter camp experience? How about a special time at a women's or men's retreat? Was there a meaningful fellowship connection made through a meeting of the IN-MI conference? If so, we invite you to share it with the congregation! Please contact Grace Rhine, Emily Fox or John Amstutz to let them know you'd be willing to share during the Sunday morning worship service on February 23rd.

Visuals Volunteer Needed

Worship Commission is in need of help to create the visual displays on the front sanctuary table (in front of the pulpit). Helpers are needed now through the end of March. Although displays are often coordinated with the Sunday's theme, this isn't required! Flower arrangements (dried, silk or fresh) are always appreciated. The Worship Commission has a closet full of items (cloths, candles, and other meaningful symbols) at your disposal if you wish to use them. If you are able to create a visual display or share an arrangement during this time frame, please contact Grace Rhine, Emily Fox or John Amstutz.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom
Chair: Herb Troyer

Calendar

Sun. 9:30am Worship
11:00am Sunday School

Mon, Jan 27 – Roving Office, Greenwood Panera, 789 US 31N; 8am-2pm

Sun, Feb 2 – Soup, Salad, and Bread Carry-In meal, noon

Mon, Feb 3 – Office hours at Shalom, 8-2

Thurs, Feb 6 – World Day of Prayer planning meeting, 10am

Mon, Feb 10 - Northwest Panera, 2902 W 86th

St Suite 220, Indianapolis, IN 46268, 8a to 2p Please note that this is a different Panera than I normally do on the NW, one that is farther east.

Mon, Feb 17 – Hubbard & Cravens Cafe – 6229 Carrollton Ave, Indianapolis, IN, 8-2

Mon, Feb 24 - Southeast Starbucks again – 9605 E Washington St, 8a-2p

Mon, March 2 - Greenwood Panera - 789 US 31N; 8am-2pm

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

Update on Roving Office

Although our childcare situation is not completely settled yet, it looks like Brian will be available for the next few Mondays at least. We will "resume" the Roving Office, but Brian encourages those of you who plan to meet him to consult your email first in case the situation changes.

Choosing Sisterhood

Mennonite Women USA invites the women of Shalom to meet with Cyneatha Millsaps, executive director of Mennonite Women USA, while she is in Indianapolis sharing her vision for Mennonite Women and discussing exciting ways of "finding a sister." She will be at Marie Harnish's house at 5141 Lancelot Dr, Indianapolis, IN on Thursday, January 30 from 2-4p, and at Tea's Me Cafe, 140 E 22nd St, Indianapolis IN on Friday, January 31 from 9-11a. Feel free to attend either event and to bring a friend, mentor, mentee or "sister" with you.

Greetings from southern Texas!

We are ending week 3 of 12 in Rockport and making good progress on our house. We got in on insulating, drywall and drywall finishing, painting, and now laying flooring and hanging kitchen cabinets. We are at the same campground where we were last year, working with 5 other couples, 4 of whom we've worked with before! They are from Ohio, New York, Manitoba, and Alberta.

It's amazing how these groups come together and work together with various skills and gifts, but most of all, willingness to work and learn. We miss you all but are grateful for this opportunity to serve.

Linda & Jim

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships

Chair: Martha Yoder Maust

Child Safety Training

If you were not able to attend our annual child safety training on January 5, you may access the training online.

There are 3 parts:

1. The training videos are at www.safechurch.com, see the attachment for username and password details. There is a video about children and one about youth.
2. Read our policy on the members' page of our website. Look on the [Discipling Commission Page](#).
3. In that document is a page called "Memorandum of Understanding" that should be printed off and signed. Don't have access to a printer? There are usually copies by the mailboxes, or church staff would be glad to print a copy for you.

Any questions? Ask Jeanne Smucker, Brian Bither, or Martha Yoder Maust.

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom

Chair: Brad Yoder

Sharing Space

We will continue to collect blankets through the month of February.

SENT 2020 Conference

This Peace Church conference is for church planters and anyone else interested in seeding the kingdom presence in every context of America. Save the date – April 24-26 in Philadelphia, PA. More details to follow.

Stand with Immigrants and Refugees

John Amstutz has shared an attachment where you can purchase t-shirts, banners, and other items that show you stand with immigrants and refugees.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This week we have honored one of the United States' greatest advocates for social justice, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King is well known for his leadership in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950's and until his assassination on April 4, 1968. Dr. King would have been 91 years old this month.

Dr. King's commitment to racial justice led him to take direct action through nonviolent means to eliminate unjust laws and to push toward racial equality. Through sit-ins, boycotts, marches, and other public protests, Dr. King demonstrated Why We Can't Wait (the title of one of his many books). In his famous Letter from Birmingham Jail, King said "I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the [Negro's] greatest stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is . . . the white moderate who is more devoted to "order" than to justice."

Less known sometimes are Dr. King's strong opposition to the US war in Vietnam, and his 1968 Poor People's Campaign to improve the life of the most needy in the US. (I participated in that movement here in Indianapolis.) May we all continuously renew our commitment to work of various kinds toward the achievement of Dr. King's "beloved community".

-Brad Yoder

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems
Chair: Laura Harms

Elevator out of service

The lift (elevator) is out of service until further notice. Work is being carried out to get it operational as soon as possible.

VAT Minutes

The minutes from the [December 16](#) VAT meeting have been uploaded.

Reflections On Pilgrimage

After this week, this section of the newsletter will be removed. Any time you want to share something, whether you wrote it yourself or came across it in your reading, you can still send it in to be included.

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

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