

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

November 14, 2019

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God
Chair: Linda Showalter

Last Sunday, Nov 10

Cyneatha Millsaps, Executive Director of Mennonite Women USA, preached a sermon titled "The Power of Two" reflecting on Mark 6: 6b-13. Choosing sisterhood is a calling to women throughout the church to build bridges between societal divides. Women throughout the church are being asked to find a sister very different from themselves and begin walking with this woman as a way of building relationships and fulfilling the call of God. Mark describes such a calling and the tools needed to accomplish the goal.

This Sunday, Nov 17

"Who is Wisdom?" a sermon based on Proverbs 8. At the recent IN-MI Mennonite Women's Retreat at Amigo Centre, Sabrina offered four presentations on the theme, "She is a Tree of Life." "She" is Wisdom, and Her presence in both the First (Old) and Second (New) Testaments is more prominent than many of us have been taught. Several people who were unable to attend the retreat expressed an interest in hearing what Sabrina shared, so she will try to bring some of it together with this introduction to Wisdom, as well as to consider the significance of a balanced spirituality in which we experience and speak of God with both feminine and masculine images and terms.

Next Sunday, Nov 24

Shalom welcomes back Pastor Brian Bither from his sabbatical.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom
Chair: Linda Kandel

Calendar

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

Fri, Nov 15 – Eastside Creation Care Film
Night at Cumberland Baptist, 6pm

Sat, Nov 16 – Ecuador Fundraiser Dinner, 4pm

Thurs, Nov 21 – Meal, 6:30; Bible study, 7-8

Sat, Nov 23 – Fall Work Day, 9am

Wed, Nov 27 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Thurs, Nov 28 – Thanksgiving Meal, 1pm

Thurs, Dec 5 – Meal, 6:30; Bible Study, 7-8

Sun, Dec 8 – Congregational Budget Approval
Meeting, 12noon

Wed, Dec 11 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Sat, Dec 14 – Christmas Banquet

Meals for Emily and Tim

Emily and Tim would welcome meal assistance due to Emily's injury. To sign up, visit <https://takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=JQKE4182> or go to takethemameal.com and search using last name Ludden and password Shalom. Thank you! - Kristen Metzler-Wilson

Ecuador Fundraiser Dinner

Join us for an Ecuador Fundraiser Dinner, November 16, 4:00pm at Shalom. Live Music and authentic Ecuadorian food!

November 28 is Thanksgiving Day

There will be a Thanksgiving Day meal in the church's fellowship hall for anyone who is in town without plans. A sign-up sheet is on the back sanctuary window for you to indicate the number of people coming, as well as what food you would like to bring to share. Turkey will be provided. We'll plan to eat at 1 pm. If you have questions, see Linda Showalter.

Announcement from Chris and Nizeet

Dear Shalom Family,
Shalom has been in our hearts throughout our relationship. We would like to share with you the good news that we recently became engaged. We humbly ask for your continued support and prayers as we prepare for our marriage.

We would also like to ask you to join us in

prayer for Nizeet's mom's visa process. Her interview at the US embassy is November 27th. This is the final step, and if all goes well, she will be able to travel to the US once again. Blessings,
Chris and Nizeet



VISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (VAT)

Chair: Jeanne Smucker

Commission Chairs met on October 16, 2019. They have been meeting regularly while Brian has been on sabbatical to facilitate communications and will plan to continue with these meetings. Each commission shared what their commission is doing and challenges that they face. This allows for coordination of plans as well as advice regarding questions that the commissions may be dealing with. Read more details in the [minutes](#).

PASTORAL TEAM SEARCH COMMITTEE (PTSC)

Chair: Jeanne Smucker

Pastoral Search Update

Since the start of our pastoral search, we have posted advertisements in The Mennonite and Mennonite World Review and posted notices at CTS as well as relying on the Indiana-Michigan Conference to help us find persons interested in our half-time position. Once someone decides to move forward with applying for the position, they must follow an application process. The extensive process begins with the Ministerial Leadership Information form (MLI). The MLI

involves items such as multiple essays regarding the individual's faith and journey, references, and a background check. People who fill out the MLI work hard on this time-consuming and difficult task. After an individual completes the MLI, the application is reviewed by both Mennonite Church USA and Indiana-Michigan Conference, and they interview the individual. At this point, Shalom's packet is sent to the individual, and only if they indicate that they may be interested in our position do we receive their packet. We cannot consider individuals for the half-time position until the MLI/application process is complete. So where are we in the process? At this point, we are aware of at least one person working on the application process, and we never know when Indiana-Michigan Conference will forward additional names to us for consideration.

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships
Chair: Martha Yoder Maust

Adult Schedule

11/24 Brian will share about his sabbatical
12/1 Thanksgiving weekend, no SS

December adult education sessions will focus on vulnerable children, remembering that Jesus was born in a place that was dangerous for children.

12/8 Olajawon and Coralyn Turentine will share about foster parenting

12/15 Jeanne will share about being a child advocate



What an opportunity!

It takes a village. Watch a concise 10 minutes on ["Putting on the Mind of Christ"](#) on YouTube

by Emmanuel Charles McCarthy, a priest in Eastern Catholic church and a 1962 graduate of Notre Dame and the founder of the Program for the Study and Practice of Nonviolent Conflict Resolution at the University.

Submitted by Pastor Frank Kandel

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom

Chair: Brad Yoder

Eastside Creation Care

Cumberland Baptist will host the ECCN Film Night on Friday, November 15 at 7:00 pm. "Human Element" will be shown. James Balog, photographer and explorer, has focused his lens on the complex relationship between humans and the four elements of nature. He vividly reveals his experiences among everyday Americans who are already being affected by climate change. He argues that humans, the fifth element, are part of the whole system of nature and not apart from it. He does find hope. Flyer attached for more information.

Caps and Lids Update

First Mennonite Church has reached their goal of collecting plastic caps and lids for a colorful rainbow bench! They thank Shalom for all the caps and lids we collected and gave them for their playground project!

We are now helping an ECCN member church, Irvington Methodist, collect plastic caps and lids for a bench and a toddler table for their preschool's playground. We at Shalom are experts at this plastics project and Outreach is happy to help and support another church reach their goal.

Northview Church of the Brethren Fair

"Another Way of Giving" Christmas Fair will be held on Sat., Nov. 16 from 10:30-2:00 pm at 5555 E. 46th St. The purpose is to offer ways to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas by giving our guests the opportunity to purchase from or make donations to organizations which are dedicated to helping others. Live music. Lunch and baked goods available for a donation.

Tips on Caregiving

Caregiving takes many forms and can be both extremely rewarding and completely exhausting. All of us are caregivers in ways that wax and wane. As a congregation, we pray for

the person needing care, but do we know how to provide concrete support to the person(s) providing the care? Please [open this link](#) from Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADNet) for a quick review of the many ways we can all assist when help is needed.

Sharing Space

The collections for November are caps and mittens, as well as donations for the Morning Star food pantry.

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems

Chair: Laura Harms

Fall Work Day – Nov 23

Let's take care of our building and grounds and help our regular volunteers with some important tasks. Saturday, Nov 23 from 9-11 we'll be raking leaves and attending to other building and grounds needs. Some tasks may take longer than 2 hours and a noon meal will be provided for those that can stay.

Minutes

The Vision and Accountability Team (VAT) has posted minutes of the recent All Commissions [meeting held Oct 16](#).

Found

A key ring full of rewards cards (but no keys).

Reflections On Pilgrimage

In response to Cyneatha Millsaps' challenge to build a new friendship, I would like to share the story of my involvement with Miracles and Blessings UMC.

Church Women United in Indianapolis host a variety of events to encourage ecumenical service and fellowship. I have regularly attended World Day of Prayer, held the first Friday in March. About 5 years ago, the World Day of Prayer program called for sharing with another participant. Vera and I enjoyed our exchange. She invited me to join the Tuesday morning Bible Study at her church, then called Forest Manor UMC. I have not always been regular, I often have issues with the theology presented, but I have gotten a perspective that isn't mainstream. It seems like a gift. I now count as friends a dozen people in that church

that I would have had no other occasion to meet.

Next March, Shalom is the hosting congregation for our area World Day of Prayer gathering. The service is being written by women in Zimbabwe.

-Carol Bixler

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

Pastoral Team:

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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