

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

April 25, 2019

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God

Chair: Linda Showalter

Last Sunday, April 21

Easter is the day when we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. Throughout our study of Luke, Jesus has been going from town to town and village to village proclaiming peace, and now, we see how the resurrection of Christ “finishes the work” of Jubilee by establishing Jesus as both Lord and Christ. Luke 24: 1-12 & 36-49.

This Sunday, April 28

We will be celebrating Earth Day, because as Christians, we believe that the earth is the Lord's and everything in it and that God loves all of creation. Frank Kandel will be preaching from Ezekiel 34:17-20 and Matthew 13:3-8, encouraging us to look at ways we can adjust our lifestyles to help care for God's creation.

Next Sunday, May 5

We will begin a new sermon series on the book of Micah, which will continue throughout the months of May and June. Brian will preach the first sermon in the series on Micah 1:1-12 by introducing us to the genre of Biblical prophecy and encouraging us to make space for prophets to speak in our institutions and in our hearts.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom

Chair: Linda Kandel

Calendar

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

Fri, Apr 26 – Eastside Creation Care Movie
Night – “Dirt! The Movie” 7-9pm

Mon, Apr 29 – Roving Office 10:30am-3:30pm
Burger King, 7730 Brookville Rd.

Thu, May 2 – Meal 6:30pm; Bible Study 7-8
Sun, May 5 – Carry-in meal following SS
Mon, May 6 – Roving Office NW, 10:30-3:30
Panera, 6050 W. 86th St.

Wed, May 8 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Mon, May 13 – Roving Office, Greenwood
10:30-3:30; Panera 789 US 31 N

Thurs, May 16 – Meal 6:30; Bible Study 7-8

Sat, May 18 – Spring Work Day, 9am

Trochez/Hernandez Fund

The Support Group conducted a 6-month review of the support provided to the Trochez/Hernandez family. It is recommended to continue support. You can read the attached letter for more details. Please consider donations as requested in the letter.

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships

Chair: Martha Yoder Maust

April 28 – Earth Day conversation

Children's Education

[This is the link](#) for Sunday School sign-up. If you are unsure about teaching alone, June and July would be a good time to team up with someone else to be a part of this important ministry. Contact Carol Bixler with questions.

We are grateful that Mil and Ruth have given so much of themselves to the young people in our congregation over many years. They will be sorely missed when they move to Colorado.

Adult Sunday School from May 5 – June 23

No Sunday School on May 26

1. Mike and Becky Wigginton will lead a class on Bystander Intervention Training from the Peace and Justice Support Network. What would you do if you witness harassment? This training gives

you tools to respond in that situation.

Read more at

<https://www.pjsn.org/resources/bystander-intervention>

2. Martha Yoder Maust will lead a study of the book of Micah. Brian will be preaching a series of sermons on Micah during the same time frame. Read more in any Bible.

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom

Chair: Brad Yoder

Creation Care Movie Night

Shalom will host Eastside Creation Care Network's spring movie night on Friday, April 26 at 7pm. The film, "Dirt! The Movie" will be shown downstairs in the Fellowship room. Refreshments will be available before the movie and a short discussion will follow.

Bravo/Wigginton Matching Funds

MMN (Mennonite Mission Network) reports they have \$13,100 towards the \$18,000 matching funds goal set in March. There is 1 week left to raise the additional \$4,900. Bob Love has shared about his first-hand view of the impact Peter and Delicia are having in Ecuador and his letter is attached.

Society of St. Andrew

This national gleaning organization is now in Indiana. They are looking for volunteers and farmers to participate in getting food that our distribution system wastes to local food pantries throughout Indiana. Brochures and flyers are on the bulletin board.

- Have your email address added to their list so you'll know when volunteers are needed to glean
- Consider joining their fall gleaning retreat in Claypool, IN Sept 27-29
- Connect a farmer you know to project coord. Dawn Barnes

Sharing Space:

Thank you for your generosity in donating to the Day Center for Family Promise and I Support The Girls.

The Sharing Space will continue with hygiene kits for Mennonite Central Committee through May. Particularly needed are nail clippers.

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems

Chair: Laura Harms

Spring Work Day

May 18 is the day when our community will work together on fixing up the grounds. We have a short list of projects and are open to input on what needs taking care of. Share your project ideas with Laura at office@shalommennonite.com.

Minutes

Outreach, Worship, and VAT minutes have been uploaded to the Member's page of the Shalom website.

MILEPOST #677

Proclaiming Jubilee: Epilogue

Last Sunday, we read the final chapter of Luke together, in which Christ came back from the dead and re-established his peace among the disciples. Having clothed his disciples with the power of his indestructible love, his final proclamation of peace in Luke 24 brings our series on "Proclaiming Jubilee," to an end. What a high note to end on!

But is it the end? Although we finished Luke's gospel on Sunday, Luke went on to write a second book that is also in our Bibles, the Acts of the Apostles. And in this book, he writes a kind of "epilogue" to his gospel by looking back on the forty day period between Jesus' resurrection and his ascension. At the end of that time frame, Luke reports that the disciples asked him this question: "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"

That was kind of the whole point of Jubilee, wasn't it? To restore Israel so that it could be come a socially and spiritually flourishing

society, to throw off the reign of Satan and restore the kingdom of God, to rekindle the light of Israel so that it could be a light to the nations, fulfilling the vision we see in Isaiah and many of the other prophets. So what happened to that dream? Did it just... die?

In his response, Jesus doesn't say, "You're misinterpreting the Scriptures again. That's not going to happen." Instead he tells them that they don't know the times or dates when this final step of Jubilee will occur, but in the mean time, he is sending them out to preach the good news again – just as he did before – except this time, it is not just to Galilee, or even just to the land of Israel, but to 'the ends of the earth.'"

And so, everything that the disciples do in the book of Acts is actually a part of the "Epilogue" to Luke. In fact, we are still living in that Epilogue today. Whenever we try to carry on Jesus' ministry of healing, of confronting and casting out our social demons, of proclaiming God's will for humanity, and inviting people to put their trust in Jesus the Messiah, we part of the third wave of Jesus' disciples, who go from town to town and village to village proclaiming and establishing the good news, with the authority of Jesus and the power of his love as our protection and our guide.

--Pastor Brian Bither

Do you have some thoughts to share? The Pastoral Team invites you to share your thoughts as one of the weekly milepost entries. Please email Sabrina, Frank, or Brian to explore this further.

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