

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

July 4, 2019

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God
Chair: Linda Showalter

Last Sunday, June 30

Brian preached for the last time before his sabbatical begins. He took the opportunity to reflect on 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 was the guiding text.

This Sunday, July 7

Emily Fox will preach on John 3:11-21. Nicodemus comes to learn from Jesus in the night, and Jesus tells him about what God wants from us. One of the things that Jesus emphasizes is walking in God's light instead of in darkness. This isn't always easy, but Jesus shows us how we can follow God's way.

Next Sunday, July 14

Gemina Trochez will preach with interpretation from Spanish to English.

Opportunities to serve Shalom

Please return your Opportunities to Serve form to Linda Showalter.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom
Chair: Linda Kandel

Calendar

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

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.

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.

VISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (VAT)

Brad Sommer's comments on Brian's sabbatical are attached and available on the [VAT archives](#) page.

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships
Chair: Martha Yoder

Adult Education

July 7: Interview with Raphael Edou of Benin
July 14: Wilma Bailey, Laura Harms – Report on Conference and Convention
July 21: Solar Panel Discussion
July 28: Peter and Delicia – Ecuador
Aug 4: Cheryl and Sam – structure evaluation
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

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom
Chair: Brad Yoder

Solar Panel Proposal

During the Sunday School hour on July 21, VAT (Vision and Accountability Team) has called a Congregational Meeting for the Proposal and Discussion on the installation of Solar Panels.
-Frank Kandel, Pastor for Outreach (and Creation Care)

Hosting for hospital stay

Eber Rice-Smucker from College Mennonite in Goshen will be having surgery at University Hospital on July 17. His wife, Becky, is looking for a place to stay Indy in July 18 & 19. If you would be able to host her let Frank or Linda Kandel know.

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 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 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. 30th, 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

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

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.

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems
Chair: Laura Harms

Sermon available online

Portions of the recording of each worship service will now be available each week on the Shalom Home page. An archives page will be developed for past sermons starting with the June 30, 2019 sermon.

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.

Minutes

This week, [VAT](#) and [Worship Commission](#) minutes were uploaded to the Shalom members page.

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' 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 46th St from 7am-12noon Monday thru Friday.

NEW GROUP SPACE TO REPLACE

"MILEPOST"

Two new title ideas:

"On Pilgrimage"

"Reflections"

Your words here!

We are looking for

- A new name for this column in our weekly newsletter. Two suggestions have come in and are listed above.
- Your written reflections or stories: email Laura Harms at office@shalommennonite.com to let her know your topic and preferred date. If there are two submissions the same week, we will save one for another week. Our due date will be Thursdays at noon.

Thanks to Herb Troyer for today's submission

Small Groups at Shalom

In the past Shalom Mennonite Church encouraged everyone to be in a small group for fellowship and fun. This continues with our new structure. In our vision statement adopted in 2017 the Shalom congregation set a goal of having 85% of Shalom participants involved in small groups. Small groups are one of the most effective settings for personal growth and spiritual nourishment if groups are structured around sharing and caring. The Community Life Commission (CLC) encourages each of us to have a place to talk about how God is working in our lives and how that is affecting us. It is in the small group setting where we most often share our natural and spiritual gifts with each other, and we encourage each person to know and share these gifts with the groups and with the larger Shalom Church.

In the past small groups tended to remain fairly stable over the years. Some small groups actually became large groups of 15 to 20 participants. Periodically the pastor elder team or the church council recommended that groups reform to mix up and encourage new connections among the Shalom participants. As Shalom transitioned to our new structure we again affirmed that small groups are vital to the life of shalom. The CLC recommends that groups remain small from 5 to 12 members and evaluate their purpose every 3 to 6 months. As small groups become more fluid opportunities develop to include new participants.

A few things are encouraged to happen in all small group settings. The first is that at the beginning of each small group all participants are to tell their story, including their spiritual journeys. . Your story is told so that everyone in the group gets to know you. Often our personal stories center around the events of our lives and we do not include how God is working in our lives and families. Groups to foster and teach each of us how to talk about God's love and how we experience this in our lives.

In other words, it is easy to tell everyone about the physical things we are doing such as trips we are taking and lawns we are tending, but we encourage you to share how God's love is working in your life as you take the trips and as you care for your lawns, for example after

saying, I mowed the lawn, I could reflect on how God is pruning my life for growth. This encourages other members in the group to reflect on their own spiritual journeys. By getting more comfortable talking about how God is working in your life with friends from church you are more likely to share your story with all those you encounter even your family members. The groups are to encourage us to blossom where we are planted and to own God's Love for our life as we talk and share the interests we hold in common or the hobbies that we meet around.

So the invitation is out. Lets talk and find interests we can interact around and encourage each other to grow in love and express the passions that make life meaningful. Contact a pastor or myself, Herb Troyer, as we plan for new groups to start.

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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Frank Kandel, (309) 532-2859, kandel93@gmail.com;

Sabrina Falls, (317) 902-9495, sabrinafalls@outlook.com

Vision & Accountability Team: Brad Sommer, Jeanne Smucker, Wilma Bailey, Carl Rhine, Rod Maust, Brian Bither

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