

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

April 18, 2019

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God
Chair: Linda Showalter

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom
Chair: Linda Kandel

Last Sunday, April 14

was Palm Sunday, the climactic moment in the gospel of Luke when Jesus finally brings the Jubilee movement to Jerusalem. In the first part of this sermon, focusing on Luke 19:37-48, we see Jesus liberate Jerusalem from the structural and spiritual forces that were keeping it in bondage. However, after a short period of celebration, we see the forces of evil take one last stab at Jesus and his movement, especially in Luke 22:1-6, 14-34.

This Sunday, April 21

is Easter, 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 will 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 will be the central texts.

Next Sunday, April 28

is Earth Day, where we will be celebrating God's creation and our responsibility to care for it during both the worship service and the Sunday school hour. Frank Kandel will deliver the message. (If Frank sent you his own description of the service, use his instead of mine.)

Nursery and Play Area Age Limits

The age guideline for the nursery is 0-3 years. To help our 4 and 5-year olds adjust, a child-friendly area is being set up at the back of the sanctuary. We do ask that parents oversee their children while in the area. If there are questions or comments, please direct them to one of the Worship Commission members: Linda Showalter, Grace Rhine, Brittany Bither, Sabrina Falls

Calendar

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

Sat, Apr 20 – Easter Egg Hunt with Iglesia Amigos; 2pm

Sun, April 21 – Easter Breakfast 8:30am
Worship to start at 9:50;
no Sunday School

Mon, Apr 22 – No Roving Office

Wed, Apr 24 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

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

Mon, Apr 29 – Roving Office 10:30am-3:30pm
Southeast, location TBD

Thu, May 2 – Meal 6:30pm; Bible Study 7-8

Sun, May 5 – Carry-in meal following SS

Wed, May 8 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Easter Breakfast

We invite your participation in our Easter breakfast by bringing a breakfast casserole, (fruit and bread slots all filled!). Breakfast will start at 8:30, so please have the food at the church and ready to serve by then.
Thanks – the Kitchen Committee.

Pre-service Singing on Easter

Please join us in the sanctuary for pre-service singing of Easter hymns after our breakfast next Sunday. Singing will begin at 9:50 am, followed by our worship service.

VISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (VAT)

Chair: Brad Sommer

Structure Evaluation

Shalom's organization/structure has been serving us for about a year and a half and it's time for a performance review. The VAT (Vision & Accountability Team, our governing body) has asked Sam Bixler and

Cheryl Martin to conduct this evaluation. They will meet with the VAT, the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team, the Pastoral Team, and each of the commissions to learn how the structure is working in those settings. Then the congregation will be surveyed to provide individual input – how well is our structure working for you? When all the information has been gathered, it will be shared in aggregate with the VAT and with the congregation in a group meeting. Proposals for tweaks or major changes may be proposed, depending on results of the feedback from the evaluation. No time has been set for the congregational meeting, but it should take place soon after the survey is completed.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM (SGDT)

Chair: Joyce Troyer

The Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team is happy to announce that OlaJowon Turentine has been affirmed by the congregation to serve as a member of the Discipling Commission. Continuing members of the commission are Martha Yoder Maust (chair), Jay Brubaker (member), and Brian Bither (pastoral representative).

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships

Chair: Martha Yoder-Maust

Child Safety Training

The Discipling Commission would like to thank everyone who attended our annual Child Safety Training during the Sunday school session last Sunday. In order to serve as a "Child Supervisor" at Shalom, our Church Safety Policy requires that each person must read the Church Safety Policy, either attend a training session or watch a video about church safety once per year, and sign a Memorandum of Understanding that allows the church to screen your name against the Indiana Sexual Offenders Registry. On [the Discipling Commission](#)

[page](#), we have uploaded a Child Supervisor Eligibility spreadsheet that allows you to see which requirements you have met, which ones you need to meet, and we also offer links to the Church Safety policy and training videos on that page. If you haven't met the requirements yet and you would be open to working with our children, we strongly encourage you to do so.

There is a document attached that outlines the steps to become a Child Supervisor.

Adult Ed for April

April 14 – Jeanne Smucker will lead our annual child safety training

April 21 – Easter – no Sunday School

April 28 – Earth Day conversation

Adult SS classes 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 witnessed 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

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20 starting at 2pm

A new, joint Shalom/Amigos event is in the works. Plans include an Easter Bunny, Bounce house, face painting, hot dogs, and, of course, an egg hunt with lots of candy! Our neighbors will be invited. Iglesia Amigos will have a number of volunteers on hand. Shalom members are invited to be a part of the prep work or to volunteer the day of the event. Contact Frank Kandel to volunteer or ask questions.

Creation Care Movie Night

Shalom will host Eastside Creation Care Network's spring Movie Night on Friday, April 26 at 7 pm. 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.

Giving Corner/Sharing Space:

Now located across from the mailboxes as you enter the classrooms hallway. In April, *hygiene kits* for Mennonite Central Committee are for international distribution. The cloth bags are supplied for the hygiene kits.

Contents (NEW items only)

- 1 adult-size toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging_
- 1 large bar bath soap (leave in wrapper)
- 1 nail clipper (good quality)
- 1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colors, approx. 16 in x 26 in)
- 1 wide-toothed comb (6-8 in)

I Support The Girls (ISTG) has a local chapter. An article about ISTG can be found on the foyer bulletin board. Three items, in any quantities are requested:

- new bras
- tampons
- sanitary pads

The Family Promise wish list for the Day Center is quite a bit longer. Any quantities accepted.

- Paper towels
- All surface cleaners in spray bottles (approx.. 32 oz)
- Umbrellas
- Male and female deodorant
- Disposable razors
- New twin
- Paper towels,
- All surface cleaners in spray bottles (approx. 32 oz.),
- Umbrellas,
- Male and female deodorant
- New twin blankets and pillows
- Paper cups *8-12 oz), hot or cold beverages
- Plastic forks, knives and spoons (in order of preference)
- Paper plates and bowls
- Toilet paper (if you'll permit, we humbly request at least as many play as you have thumbs)
- Pull-ups (and other diapers) of all sizes

- Liquid hand soap (large refill bottles, not dispensers)
- 39-gallon black trash bags (with built-in ties)
- 13-gallon white trash bags (ties not needed)
- Regular laundry detergent (pods are preferred; we won't eat them)
- Dye-free laundry detergent (for parents with infants, usually labeled "free and clear")
- Coffee, dry creamer, sugar in pourable/ sealable container

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems

Chair: Laura Harms

Administration Minutes

Minutes from the April 16 meeting are on the Shalom website.

Who do I contact for...

Visit the Shalom website Member's Page. You'll see a box called "Commission Minutes and Resources." Clicking the link will take you to a page that lists each Commission and a contact person. Unsure about who to reach out to? You can always email office@shalommennonite.com and Laura will help you connect to the right person.

MILEPOST #676

According to my Greek teacher, "ὄχι" (but) is the greatest word in the New Testament: "But God..." "But Christ..." "But now..." etc. When we see these expressions we can often expect a dire situation to become joy!

A good example is Ephesians 2:11-22. Paul writes:

Remember that at one time you gentiles by birth...were...without Christ, being aliens from the citizenship of Israel and strangers to the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. **But now in Christ Jesus** you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he

is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has destroyed the

dividing wall of hostility between us ...that God might create the two into one new

person, making peace ... by means of the cross... through him both of us have access

in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but citizens with the saints and members of God's household...

In this time of deep, dark divisions among humanity and with our beloved planet, Holy Week helps us remember that, in Christ, God has revealed to us that each and every person--created by God, as God created them-- has direct access to the Holy of Holies. And because Christ is our peace, we approach the Holy One together --not separate or alone but as one in Christ Jesus.

Good Friday may look as bleak as it gets. Surely Jesus' family and friends and disciples-- despite his promises--lost all hope at the sight of him on the cross.

"But God raised him from the dead..." (Acts 13:30)

Beloved, we don't have to wait until Easter Sunday to rejoice. We may observe Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday as reminders of God's overwhelming and boundless love and mercy. **But Christ is risen**, now and forever!

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.

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

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