

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

March 12, 2020

Health and Safety of the Church and our Wider Community:

Many large institutions are taking measures to limit close interaction that could spread the COVID-19 virus. Shalom plans to meet for worship this Sunday. Please remember to

- Stay home if you are experiencing symptoms
- Wash hands frequently
- Keep a little more distance between you as you worship and fellowship

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God
Chair: Linda Showalter

Last Sunday, March 8

Wilma Bailey preached on the subject of sin, our misconceptions and insights from the first story of sin, the story of Cain and Abel. The text was Genesis 4:1-7.

This Sunday, March 15

We will be looking at healing stories - from Mark 6:1-6 and 9:14-29 - in which Jesus confronts a significant obstacle to his ministry: unbelief. For Christians in a modern era, these stories are confusing if not troubling. Can a person really choose what to believe and what not to believe, or does the mind do that on its own? If we can choose what to believe, shouldn't we always choose to believe whatever positions have the most evidence behind them? How can Jesus command us to believe him? Let us pray that God will give us a deeper understanding of the contours of truth, doubt, and faith.

Next Sunday, March 22

The JYF Sunday School class will prepare a worship service focused on friendship.

Lenten Resources

During the 6 weeks of Lent, there will be a new, weekly Lenten meditation guide attached in each Journeying Together. These Lenten meditations will guide us to pray using scriptures and will

focus on how Jesus brings light into the shadow places of our lives and our world. The meditations will challenge us to seek and to shine light, finding hope in desperate times. There will be many prayer options suggested and you will likely not use each one listed. The meditation guides encourage us to be open to different ways of praying and where it can lead us. (see attached for Week Three, to start on Sunday, March 15th)

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom
Chair: Linda Kandel

Calendar

Sun. 9:30am Worship

11:00am Sunday School

Sat, March 14 – Eastside Creation Care at Shalom; 8:30-11am

No Roving Office Monday, March 16

Thurs, March 19 – Meal, 6:30; Bible study, 7-8

~~*Mon, March 23 – Northwest Panera; 2902 W 86th St, Indianapolis, IN; 8a to 2~~

Wed, March 25 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Mon, March 30 – Roving Office, Southeast Starbucks; 9605 E Washington St, Indianapolis, IN; 8a-2

Thu, Apr 2 – Meal, 6:30; Bible study, 7-8

Mon, Apr 6 – Holy Week, no Roving Office

Wed, Apr 8 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Sun, April 12 – Easter Breakfast

*Roving Office on Monday, March 23 is cancelled due to jury duty summons.

Meals for Brenda

Brenda has returned home from the Rehab Center and has a few more openings for meals. If you are able to provide a meal, please sign up at

<https://takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=MFAT4043&welcome=1>

Brenda welcomes visits but if it is more convenient to deliver your meal to Shalom 3/15, Angie or Rose will deliver it for you. Thank you for your help. (If the link doesn't work, go to:

<https://takethemameal.com> ; Last name: Smith; Password: shalom)

Thank you, Rose

Small group signup

There is interest in starting another small group. The theme for the group has not been decided yet but there is growing interest in new and old members who want to talk about starting a small group. Please let Herb Troyer know or a member of CLC. This would be Linda Kandel or Rose Love. You can even let Brian know and he will get the information to CLC. This can be done by email or in person.

Vision and Accountability Team (VAT)

Chair: Jeanne Smucker

In response to a conversation about how our stained-glass windows subtly reinforce racial stereotypes, one church member has been applying film to some of the window panes in order to give the images of Jesus a darker hue of skin. The VAT has been informed about this and will host a brown bag lunch after church on March 29 to discuss the stained glass windows and what if anything should be done. All are invited to attend. If you would like to give input into the conversation but are not able to come to the brown bag lunch on that day, we encourage you to reach out to Jeanne Smucker and share your thoughts with her at jmrsmucker@outlook.com.

PASTORAL TEAM SEARCH COMMITTEE (PTSC)

Chair: Jeanne Smucker

Update March 2020

The Pastoral Team Search Committee is pleased to welcome CoraLyn Turentine onto our committee to replace Kristen Metzler Wilson, who is no longer able to serve due to other obligations. We thank Kristen for her service and her wisdom on this committee. In early January, we sent out ads for the second pastoral position at Shalom to two publications and eight colleges and seminaries. As of this date, we have not received any credible applications. So, this past week, we again sent out the slightly modified advertisement. We are also speaking with Sharon Yoder, our Indiana-Michigan Conference representative about widening our search to neighboring conferences. VAT continues to work with Brian on adjusting his workload so that he will not be overburdened. Please continue to pray that God will help to direct the appropriate candidate to Shalom.

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships

Chair: Martha Yoder Maust

Adult classes for March-May

1. Wilma Bailey will lead a study of 1 & 2 Kings, in the back of the sanctuary.

2. Carol Bither will lead a study of *The DNA of Relationships* by Gary Smalley, in the library.

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom

Chair: Brad Yoder

Landlord/Tenant Legislation

On this Monday morning past, several Shalom members participated in a press conference on the third floor of the State House encouraging legislatures to remove harmful language in Senate Bill 148. We were encouraged to do so by Family Promise (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network), one of many organizations advocating on behalf of tenant/landlord issues and serving populations directly affected by changes in tenant/landlord laws. An Amendment was tacked on to SB148 which includes dangerous language for tenants. The attached letter explains why the Senate needs to remove harmful language that was amended into the bill without a public hearing.

An update to this note indicated that the bill was passed and your perspective on the legislation can be directed to the Governor to recommend he not sign the bill.

Mike Wigginton, Frank Kandel

East Side Creation Care

Saturday, March 14, 2020 - Shalom hosts the bi-monthly meeting of the Eastside Creation Care Network. A light breakfast is offered at 8:30 am before the 9:00 to 11:00 meeting. We will be celebrating our solar system with the group which has been so supportive of our clean energy project. Many creation care, legislative updates and peace and justice issues will be discussed. Join us!

ECCN Film Series

Friday, March 20, 2020 at 7:00 pm - The first film of ECCN's Spring Series will be shown at Cumberland First Baptist Church, 116 S. Musing Street. "Love Thy Nature" is the film, reminding us of how much we've lost touch with nature and takes us on a journey to reconnect. It shows us how this connection is essential to our health and the health of the planet

Marilynn Teel

Outreach

Sharing Space

Eirene was pleased to deliver your donations to Coburn Place on Tuesday. You can continue to contribute similar household items that will be taken to the Julian Center at the end of the month.

Amigo Centre retreat

We would like to call attention to our upcoming retreat based on Tim Lehman's book, "Hearing and Seeing Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew." We believe this book and subject are relevant in our current climate, and hope to have good dialogue about how we as followers of Jesus can make a difference in our world today. March 27-29 at Amigo Centre. Flyer posted in the foyer.

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems

Chair: Laura Harms

IN-MI Conference Meetings

On March 7, Zenebe Abebe attended the IN-MI Regional Delegate Meeting on behalf of Shalom, along with Frank Kandel. Attached is a report that Zenebe typed up on Shalom's behalf.

Building Fund donations for tree pruning

Since our tree pruning was not planned in our 2020 budget, the cost will need to come from the Building Fund. We will need to raise about \$5,000 towards this cost. Mike and Becky are continuing to evaluate the most cost-effective way of taking care of this need. To donate, please write Building Fund on the memo line of your check.

Seeking Administration Asst.

Laura will be stepping back from Administrative duties and the Administration Commission is looking for a new paid Administrative Assistant to prepare communications and handle service contracts. If you are interested please let Tim, Sam, or Laura know. Job description forth coming.

Bethany HS Choir

The Festival that the Bethany Christian High School Choir was traveling to was cancelled this week. They will not be coming on April 2.

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