

## **JOURNEYING TOGETHER**

Shalom Mennonite Church

June 2, 2021

### **WORSHIP: Our relationship with God**

Chair: Grace Rhine

**Last Sunday (5/30)** Brian preached the final sermon in the "Story of the Bible" series by taking a glimpse at life everlasting, especially as it is described in the final chapters of Revelation.

**This Sunday (6/9)**, Wilma Bailey will preach from Micah 4:1-5 as it relates to militaries and war. we will have our first hybrid service, with some Shalom members meeting in-person and others continuing to worship on Zoom. Let's pray for God's blessing as we enter this new chapter together!

**Next Sunday (6/13)** we will have our first hybrid service, with some Shalom members meeting in-person and others continuing to worship on Zoom. Let's pray for God's blessing as we enter this new chapter together!

### **COMMUNITY LIFE: Relationships at Shalom**

Chair: Herb Troyer

## **CALENDAR**

### **Sunday, June 6**

9:30 am - Peter Wigginton and Delicia Bravo Aguilar will meet with us by Zoom to share about their work in Ecuador.

10:30 am – Worship service via Zoom

### **Monday, June 7**

9a - 3p - Roving Office at Northwest Panera, 2902 W. 86th St, Indianapolis, IN

### **Sunday, June 13**

10:30 am - Hybrid Worship service. See details below (following Reflections) or attached document

### **Monday, June 21**

9a - 3p - Roving Office at McDonald's, 9851 E. Washington St, Indianapolis, IN

### **Monday, June 28**

9a - 3p - Roving Office at Fishers Panera, 8510 E 96th St, Fishers, IN

## **Celebrations**

Today – Lorraine Harms

Today - Jim & Linda Showalter, 1973

Fri, Jun 4 – Peter Wigginton & Delicia Bravo, 2011

Wed, Jun 9 – Carol & Mark Stocksdales, 1989

### **DISCIPLING: Growing in our relationships**

Chair: Martha Yoder

**Children's Church:** When our Shalom community begins to worship in person again on June 13, we would like to offer Children's Church for children ages 2-8. Children in this age-group would be dismissed before the Scripture Reading to go outdoors (or to Fellowship Hall in case of bad weather). I am looking for adult and youth volunteers to provide a short program and supervise play-time. Please let me know if you would be willing to cover a Sunday or two in June, July, and August. More details to come. ~Laura Harms

### **OUTREACH: Relationships beyond Shalom**

Chair: Brad Yoder

Hoosiers Concerned about Gun Violence is hosting a Zoomed forum on June 15, 7-8:00PM, focusing on "Fatal Risks of Guns at Home". In households with a gun present, it is five times more likely that a person in that household will be killed or injured by that gun than it is that they will ever need to use the gun to defend themselves against an intruder.

To participate in the forum, you must pre-register (See the attached flyer below for details about the guest speakers, and how to pre-register. Thanks for considering this important educational opportunity.  
Brad Yoder

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please read the notes from a meeting with commissions and the Safely Gathering Team included at the end of this newsletter. The document is also attached.

### **Earth Day Indiana Festival, 11AM - 5PM June 5, 2021, Garfield Park**

A free annual event designed to celebrate and educate on environmental topics such as recycling, conservation of natural resources and sustainable living. This year like years past, the Eastside Creation Care Network is partnering with Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light to staff a table at the festival. Contact Mike or Becky if you want to help out. Becky Wigginton

- In addition to our podcast, Shalom now has a **YouTube channel**, and many of our Zoom Sessions including the sermons in the "Story of the Bible" sermon series and the "Facing Hard Questions" sessions - can be found there. This is an easy way to share the good news with church members past and present, visitors and newcomers, and even outsiders. Check it out at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEn30AED17Q\\_ReoskuxUXA!](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEn30AED17Q_ReoskuxUXA!)
- **Video recordings** of our Zoom worship services are located online with our normal worship service recordings. A link to this location is on the Member's page of our website.
- Mike Wigginton manages our Zoom calendar, church calendar, and uploads minutes on the church website. If you need to schedule a meeting using the church account or you have minutes for him to upload, you can email the office at [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) or [mlwiggin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mlwiggin@sbcglobal.net).
- Sam Bixler manages our church directory, email address list, and telephone numbers. You can email changes or additions to the office at [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) or [bixlersc@gmail.com](mailto:bixlersc@gmail.com).
- Send announcements for *Journeying Together* to [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) by 5 pm on Wednesday.

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

Pastor: *Brian Bither, (317) 322-7320*

Vision & Accountability Team: Jeanne Smucker, Cheryl Martin, Carol Bixler, Rod Maust, Thad Wilson, Brian Bither

### **How will we gather safely?**

Notes from a meeting on 5/27/21

Present: Jeanne Smucker, Linda Kandel, Grace Rhine, Jim and Linda Showalter, Brian Bither, Tim and Emily Ludden, Sam Bixler, Mike Wigginton, Laura Harms, Martha Yoder Maust

Masks: All those 2 years and older need to wear masks while in the building. The rule of thumb is to do 2 of these 3 protective strategies: mask, distance, or be outside. This means we will need to distance and mask

while inside. Outside we can choose to mask and stand a little closer, or remove masks and stand at least 6 feet apart.

Ventilation: We will use fans and open windows, or air conditioning, as needed for comfort. Sanctuary doors can be left open throughout the service if AC is not on. Outside doors can be left open as people are arriving, then closed.

Disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer are located by both doors. Sam will donate a box of adult masks and Admin Commission will purchase a box of children's masks, in case anyone arrives unmasked.

Ushers will not be handing out bulletins at this point but will greet people and offer masks if needed.

Most of those involved in leading worship, preaching, etc. will sit on the stage or on the front pews. Folks who are managing the technology have their designated areas on the south side. In the rest of the sanctuary, every other pew has been roped off. This leaves 20 spots (one at each end of each open pew) for 1-3 people from a household to sit, with 6 feet of empty pew between households. Households with 5-6 persons may use a full pew, and if a household has 4 persons then only 1-2 people can sit at the other end of that pew. Chairs in the back are available for ushers and in case we have guests or other overflow needs.

Tim is working on a signup system, which would have 2 parts. One part will be for those for those having an active part in the service (musician for prelude, preacher, worship leader, children's storyteller, people doing children's activities, ushers, and 2 tech persons, one for sound and one to manage camera and Zoom). The second part will be for people not having a specific role, who will sign up and be entered in a lottery system, with people who are not participating in person one Sunday being given priority the next time. There are a lot of factors to consider, such as how to count persons who ride with others. This is still being worked out and you will hear more later.

There was conversation at the meeting about putting tape on the floor of the sanctuary to indicate the preferred flow of people, but in conversation between Linda S. and Martha after the meeting we decided not to do so, since those at the middle of the sanctuary will enter and leave from the middle aisle, and those sitting at the outsides will enter and leave from the outer aisles.

Nursery will not be staffed at this time but parents or other caretakers may use the space as needed (to change diapers, for example) then use disinfectant wipes to wipe down the areas used.

Children's play area in the back of the sanctuary will be closed for now.

Children's story will be told from the south side of the pulpit instead of the north side, for better viewing by the folks watching on Zoom. We will attempt to keep some distance between children from different households.

We will not be having Sunday school at this time, but Laura Harms is organizing a "children's church" time for children 2-8 years old, outside (or, if the weather is bad, in the fellowship hall) starting after the reading of the Bible text for the day.

A camera is mounted on a tripod to show the pulpit, the projection screen, and the children's storyteller. This connects to Zoom, so that persons at home can watch. Occasionally the camera can be turned to show the in-person participants to the folks on Zoom. Microphones transmit sound to Zoom. Zoom participants will be muted until sharing time.

Preacher and worship leader may remove their masks once they are in the pulpit if they have been fully vaccinated (at least 2 weeks after final dose) so they can be heard and seen better on Zoom.

For the time being we will not be singing inside, but persons are welcome to hum, stand, move, clap, wave hands, or play percussion instruments brought from home. A final song might be sung outside.

For sharing time and announcements, persons in the building who want to share will be asked to use a microphone standing in the front of the sanctuary, if able. Persons on Zoom who want to share will raise their hands and Jim (or another person managing Zoom) will call on them one at a time. This will likely take a little longer than we are used to, so that their faces can be seen on the projection screen in the sanctuary while they share. Brian will lead the sharing and prayer time initially.

Tim will record the service and post the recording on the website, or ask someone to do so.

Offering baskets will be at the back of the sanctuary on either side. Admin Commission will make sure that someone collects the offering, since the usual persons to do so might not be present in person.

Worship leader or person closing the service might remind people to do 2 of 3 safety practices—mask, distance and be outside.

Drinking fountains are turned off for the time being.

Handles have been affixed to the inside of the restroom doors so that the door can be pulled open with the forearm instead of the hand, to minimize touching after washing hands. New soap dispensers are in place.

The church sign will be changed to say we are starting to open. Website will be changed to indicate that we are starting hybrid services on June 13 and to contact [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) for further information.

We will continue to have worship at 10:30 for the time being.