

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

September 19, 2019

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God

Chair: Linda Showalter

Last Sunday, Sept 15

Gemina Trochez preached in Spanish with English interpretation. "Don't Lose your First Love" examined Revelations 2:1-5 and Acts 20:29-31. We are not to let our service overshadow our calling to have a close relationship with God. That love will drive our service.

This Sunday, Sept 22

Jason Boone from the Peace and Justice Network will preach on "A Peace that Surpasses all Understanding" using Philippians 4:6-7 as a key scripture. What might peace look like today and how can we be engaged in it?

Next Sunday, Sept 29

Peter Wigginton will bring the message.

Mennonite Youth Choir Festival

Children in grades 3-9 are invited to join in a weekend of singing, Feb 29-Mar 1, 2020 in Goshen, IN. The church has a long and deep tradition of praising God through singing. In order for this to continue it is up to parents and the faith community around them to encourage their children with opportunities that develop a love for music in worship. For more information, see the flyer attached and posted to the bulletin board visit www.mennoniteyouthchoir.com or email mychoirfest@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom

Chair: Linda Kandel

Calendar

Sun. 9:30am Worship

11:00am Sunday School

Sun, Sept 22 – 5th Sunday Hymn Sing at Showalters

Wed, Sept 25 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Thurs, Oct 3 – Meal 6:30pm; Bible study, 7-8

Wed, Oct 9 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Thurs, Oct 17 – Meal 6:30pm; Bible study, 7-8

Wed, Oct 23 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Sat, Nov 2 – All Church Retreat at Jameson Camp

Sun, Nov 10 – Carry-in meal

Sat, Dec 14 – Christmas Banquet

Baby Boy!

Brian and Brittany Bither announce the birth of Luke Justus Bither on Sept. 18.



5th Sunday Hymn Sing

Our "5th" Sunday Hymn Sing will be a week early due to the Relief Sale. Join us on September 22, from 6-7:30pm at Showalter's home. We are ready for #508 in the hymnal. Only 150 hymns to go!

-Linda Showalter

Church Retreat

Plans are progressing for Nov 2 at Jameson Camp. Come and enjoy the beautiful venue, food, fun, and fellowship. More info to follow!

Shalom Christmas Banquet

The annual Christmas Banquet has been scheduled for December 14.

Ride between Elkhart and Indy

Delicia's sister Guisela is volunteering in Elkhart for the next 10 months and wanted to come visit Indianapolis when she can. She would like to get a ride with any folks who might be traveling to or from the Goshen/Elkhart area. Reach out to Peter and Delicia to offer. 317-405-7954 or peter.wigginton@icloud.com.

Thank you!

Bill and Mary thank you so much for all the anniversary cards and your joining in our daughter's surprise fellowship goodies on Sept 8. We love our church family!! Thanks so much!! Bill and Mary Albrecht

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships
Chair: Martha Yoder

9/22 – Jason Boone will talk about the Peace and Justice Support Network. Regular adult classes will not meet.

Young Anabaptist Dreaming Coalition (YADC)

The attached letter describes a new initiative for young Anabaptists and requests that all church leaders recommend the initiative to young people that might be a good fit.

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom
Chair: Brad Yoder

Faith in Indiana Gun Violence Prevention

For those of you concerned about gun violence prevention, Faith in Indiana is having a meeting on Thursday, Sept 19 at 7pm at Witherspoon Presbyterian Church, 5136 Michigan Rd. Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hoggsett will be participating in a discussion about ways to reduce gun violence in the Indianapolis area. The Outreach Commission encourages Shalom members to participate.
-Brad Yoder

Climate Strike Rally

Friday, Sept 20 from 11am to 3pm at the Indiana Statehouse, south side.
-Marilynn Teel

ECCN Film Night

Friday, Sept 20 at 7pm. The film "Bag It" will be shown at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church,

5333 E. Washington St. as part of the Eastside Creation Care Network. What are the effects of plastic bags, packaging and merchandise on land ecosystems, the marine environment, and human body?
-Marilynn Teel

Hoosier-Interfaith Power & Light

"Our Sacred Earth Calls for Action!" fundraiser benefit is Thursday, Sept 26, 6-8:30pm at 4363 Cold Spring Rd, Indianapolis. Guest Speaker Janet McCabe, Director of Environmental Resilience Institute at Indiana University. Musical Artist – Julie Mundell, folk singer and songwriter, will perform her Earthcare song "Creation" and lead attendees in climate movement singing. Tickets are \$100 for adults and \$25 for students.
-Marilynn Teel

Crop Walk Walkers

Mark your calendars for Sunday, Oct 6th! Click on this link below & register yourself and find Shalom Mennonite Church when you search for our team!

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/indianapolisin>

If you have any questions email Julie at Juliekins7182@hotmail.com.

-Julie Sanders

Crop Walk Pledgers

Wilma is planning to do the Crop Walk this year as part of the Shalom Team. "If you are inclined to contribute to the walk, please sponsor me. You can contribute online at www.crophungerwalk.org. I know that you are contributing above your usual donations because of special out of budget projects. I am not expecting large donations. If you can spare \$5 or \$10 or \$20, it will be gratefully received. Remember, you can designate your donation to MCC if you wish. "
-Wilma Bailey

My Coins Count

This is the last Sunday for collecting coins!

Sharing Space

Thank you for all the donations for Mennonite Central Committee school kits. We need notebooks more than any of the other items. School supplies that are not part of MCC kits will be donated locally to Teacher's Treasures.

ADMINISTRATION
Congregational support systems
Chair: Laura Harms

Minutes

Outreach Commission met on [Sept 16](#) and minutes have been uploaded to the website.



Reflections On Pilgrimage

Excerpts and Thoughts on
“A peace that passes all understanding”
By Rebeca González Torres (Mexico)
<https://mwc-cmm.org/content/peace-passes-all-understanding?language=en>

The full article can be found at the link above on the Mennonite World Conference website.

I. A call to experience this peace that passes all understanding.

Paul is in prison, in chains, under conditions that probably most of us have never experienced. In any critical situation two ways of living with the difficulties can be observed: a) Be the victim: only look at yourself, suffer for yourself and tell all those around you how much you are suffering so that they see your condition. Be a victim and wait for others around you to move because of what has happened to you, or b) Take care of yourself and get to work. Another way, be concerned about yourself while always thinking about those around you and those who are left out.

A crisis situation creates uncertainty and pain about the future (it could be physical or emotional). However, love for others, be it for family, friends, church, etc., enables the person to overcome the

situation and leads to deep reflections on their own behalf and on behalf of those around them. It is the presence of God that nourishes and orients, producing a peace that can be felt, making the impossible possible; a peace that allows the heart to trust, be secure, be saved and be well, in spite of the circumstances.

The chains, the military watch, the physical space of prison, the uncertainty about the sentence – whether life or death – do not prevent Paul from lifting his eyes and seeing his beloved brothers and sisters in Philippi and being concerned for them.

Due to its length, I am only able to paste a short excerpt of this article in our Reflections section. The longer article tells the story of Reina from Cameroon as well as providing much more context for the author's ideas. The main idea that Paul was able to find peace by making use of his time in prison to minister to others in his faith community connected with another story I read this week.

Honduran youth pastor Douglas Oviedo walked to the US border in one of the recent caravans after receiving death threats for his work encouraging youth to leave gangs. He was among the first asylum requesters to be returned to Mexico under a new policy that required asylum seekers to wait in Mexico for their court date. He had a lot of personal fears and worries when he returned to Mexico with nowhere to stay, no way to earn income, and as a vulnerable target for local gangs who kidnap migrants knowing they can appeal to family living in the US for a ransom. He also saw others in need and used this time in limbo to care for others in similar circumstances. Douglas and two others built a shelter for other returned asylum seekers that were even more vulnerable than he, knowing that women and children were targets in other shelters and on the streets. “In the final weeks leading up to his final asylum hearing, Douglas worked around the clock to finish the migrant shelter.”

You can read more about Douglas here:
<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/immigration/story/2019-09-16/honduran-youth-pastor-sent-to-tijuana-under-remain-in-mexico-wins-asylum>
and the shelter here:

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/border-baja-california/story/2019-09-04/tijuana-shelter-migrants-remain-mexico>

-Laura Harms

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

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