

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

June 21, 2018

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God

Last Sunday, June 17:

Karla Minter, the church relations representative for Mennonite Mission Network, preached on our theme of the spiritual discipline of service. She reminded us that there are many types of service - from volunteering with an agency such as MCC, to assisting in the spread of the gospel, to supporting someone whom we know through an individual relationships. Most importantly, she drew from John 20:19-31 to show that true service is inspired by the commission of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

This Sunday, June 24:

In light of the terrible "zero tolerance policy" that was instituted (and then partially revoked) by our government in the past week, we will reflect on the question of how Christians ought to respond to the law of the land, especially when it is unjust. Drawing from Daniel 6, we will see that the law is something that Christians are called to honor, but that God's law supersedes human law and sometimes requires us to defy it.

Next Sunday, July 1:

Sabrina will deliver the message.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom

Calendar

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

June 21: Thriving Thursday
June 27: 7:00 am Morning Breakfast Group
June 28: Thriving Thursday
July 1: No Sunday School; No potluck

July 3: Family Promise at First Mennonite Church

July 5: 10:00am Worship Commission meeting at Showalter's

July 5: 6:30pm Meal/Bible Study

July 12: Thriving Thursday

July 14: 8:30am Eastside Creation Care Meeting

July 18: (WEDNESDAY) 6:30pm Meal/Bible Study

July 19: Thriving Thursday

July 26: Thriving Thursday

July 29: 5th Sunday Hymn Sing (ready for HWB #378)

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships

Summer Sunday School Schedule:

This summer we will have one intergenerational Sunday school class, so everyone except the children in the nursery will be with the adults. On Sunday, June 24, Sunday school will be held in the basement.

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom

Thriving Thursday:

Thriving Thursday welcomes the Neighborhood into the Shalom Church Family from 5 to 7 p.m. on June 21 & 28 and July 12, 19 & 26. Let Frank know on which of these dates you can be present to help share the love of Jesus.

And guess what? The Neighborhood is joining us for: **A Bench for Caps. ABC** is our summer program to get a new bench for the playground that we share with our neighborhood. Marilynn Teel has the details!

Giving Corner:

We are doing School Kits for June and July. Florence is sewing the bags and we will fill the bags together on July 22. Feel free to contribute quantities of individual items or whole kits. Please note the content additions from previous years.

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 2 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small metal pencil sharpener (one or two holes)

Save the date for Family Promise:

The next Family Promise --IHN is scheduled for the week of July 1 - 7. Shalom will participate by hosting on Tuesday, July 3rd. Please sign up to help if you are able to do so. Thank you for helping the homeless!!
-Solomon Abebe

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems

Youth Room Plans:

The Building Committee (formerly Building & Grounds), in conjunction with the Administrative Commission is planning to remodel the Youth Room area, which includes a bathroom and the worship supply storage area. The project includes furnace, drywall, ceiling, lights, recondition doors, and electrical and telecommunication upgrades.

In order to make the space most suitable for future needs, we want to explore long-term plans for the room and how much flexibility it needs to have. Anyone who'd like to participate with input should contact the Administration Commission at admin@shalommennonite.com no later than July 15th.

A brief tour of the rooms for anyone interested will be offered by the Building Committee between Church and Sunday School on June 24 and July 1.

Newsletter and Bulletin Submissions:

Emily Fox is now putting together both *Journeying Together* and the bulletin. Please email any announcements for either publication to Emily at office@shalommennonite.com. Announcements should be submitted by noon on Thursday.

Pastor Brian on Vacation:

Pastor Brian will be on vacation from Monday, June 25 to Sunday, July 1. If you have any pastoral concerns during that time, please contact Sabrina Falls at sabrina@shalommennonite.com.

Milepost #446

In the midst of the day-to-day, heart-wrenching turmoil of our times, one word keeps standing out for me: "hope." Not because I feel hopeful, but because when I am tempted to feel hopeless, this word reminds me that we are not without hope.

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us to pray, "Do not bring us into temptation..." (Mt 6:13) It is most definitely a temptation to feel hopeless, to despair. Every day I am faced with a choice: do I turn on the radio and listen to the news so I stay informed about what is happening, do I turn on the radio and tune it to a music station (or my phone to Pandora), or do I *not* turn on the radio and enjoy the peace and quiet?

As a therapeutic musician, I understand the powerful impact that sound has on our bodies, minds, and spirits. When I'm driving to a stressful work situation and feeling anxious, I know the difference it will make in my mood if I listen to news or if I pop in my Bill Douglas "Deep Peace" CD. If I want to arrive at my destination feeling centered and serene, I will choose the CD.

This is not the same thing as denial or apathy, and we must be careful to remain in touch with the world around us. Truthful, responsible news sources provide a vital service for which I am profoundly grateful. As

people of faith, called to bear the sorrows and joys of our fellow beings, we need not be afraid to hear the truth no matter how painful because, as we do so, we can “pray the news” -- i.e., take what we learn and turn it over to God in prayer. In this way, we can both fix our ears on the information and our eyes on Christ! With trust and confidence in God’s Provident care for all, we also pray for the courage to be instruments of God’s will wherever we are.

In Christ we have the hope that God delivers us from evil. We have hope because, when we experience or learn about evil in our world, we can both pray for God’s deliverance and work creatively with God to bring the love, mercy, healing, and justice we pray for. (James 1:22-27)

In his letter to the Romans, Paul distinguishes believers from unbelievers. Christians “rejoice in hope” (Rom 12:12) as opposed to “those who have no hope.” (1 Thess 4:13) Those who are without God are without hope (Eph 2:12).

The people of God are called to hope, and to bring this hope to the world. For “hope does not disappoint...” (Rom 5:5)

“Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you so disturbed within me? Hope in God...” (Ps 42:5, 11; Ps 43:5)
-Pastor Sabrina Falls

Do you have some thoughts to share about this month's spiritual discipline? 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 shalommennonite.com

Pastoral Team: Brian Bither, (317) 322-7320, brian@shalommennonite.com; 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, Kim Johnson, Brian Bither

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