

# Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

January 24, 2019

## WORSHIP

Our relationship with God

Last Sunday, January 20:

Church was canceled due to inclement weather.

This Sunday, January 27:

Scriptures: Isaiah 61:1-3 and Luke 4:14-30, with references to Lev 25

This will be the first sermon in a series on "Proclaiming Jubilee" and will introduce the meaning of the Jubilee Year ("the year of the Lord's favor"). In the gospel of Luke, Jesus begins his public ministry by teaching that what he had just read from the prophet Isaiah to the congregation at the Nazareth synagogue has been fulfilled in their hearing. We will begin to explore the meaning of his "gracious words" – how they were received by those who heard them and what they mean for God's people today. Sabrina will preach.

Iglesias Amigos Visitors:

This Sunday a delegation from Iglesias Amigos will be joining us for morning worship in preparation for their use of our building beginning on February 3rd. Please extend to them a hearty welcome.

- Frank Kandel for the Outreach Commission

Next Sunday, January 27:

John Miller, a Wesleyan pastor who is planting a church in Speedway (within Indianapolis), will visit Shalom to participate in our sermon series by offering reflections on Luke 5 and his own church planting experience.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom

Calendar

Sun. 9:30am Worship

11:00 am Sunday School

Feb 3 – Pizzas for Peace lunch after SS

Feb 7 – Meal, 6:30pm; Bible Study 7-8

Feb 13 – Morning Breakfast Group 7am

Feb 21 – Meal, 6:30pm; Bible Study 7-8

Feb 27 – Morning Breakfast Group 7am

Pizza's for Peace, next Sunday, Feb. 3:

Everyone is invited to stay for a pizza lunch following SS. Delicious hand-crafted pizzas, salad and drinks will be provided. Your donations will be given to the Peace and Justice Support Network of Mennonite Church USA.

The Peace and Justice Support Network (PJSN) is the peace and justice office of Mennonite Church USA. The goal of PJSN is to strengthen Mennonite Church USA's commitment to peace and justice by equipping persons across the church called to this ministry and by encouraging the church to embody and communicate Christ's reconciling way. PJSN produces resources for congregations and individuals, promotes nonviolence and peace, and is involved with several advocacy issues.

## DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships

Shalom Orientation Class Starts this week:

Brian will be offering a "Shalom Orientation class" (formerly called the "Membership Exploration class") from January 27 to March 3 for anyone who is new to Shalom, newish, or just wants to learn more about Shalom, Mennonites, and the faith we share.

## OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary:

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS), located about 150 miles north of Indianapolis in Elkhart, Indiana, is one of two seminaries affiliated with the Mennonite Church USA. A seminary is an institution that educates pastors and leaders for congregations and church institutions. It also provides a variety of life long learning opportunities for persons who do not want a degree but just want to learn more about the Bible, the history of the church, their faith and how to put that faith into action.

AMBS offers programs and individual courses on site and on-line. Some courses are hybrids (partially on site and partially on-line). Students may take courses for credit or audit.

Degree programs include the Master of Divinity (focuses on educating people for pastoral ministry) and the Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies (educates people for careers in peace building and prepares them for further graduate work). In addition, one may earn a Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies. Opportunities for persons who do not intend to pursue a career in the church but who do want to prepare themselves to serve as lay persons include the Journey Program, the Pastors and Leaders week, short courses, spiritual guidance seminars and workshops. For example, for several years, AMBS has held a conference titled "Rooted and Grounded" which brings together theology (the study of God) and ecology (the study of the natural environment). People come from all over the U.S. and Canada for a few days to engage this topic. In addition, anyone can stop by to use the beautiful library, worship in the chapel or spend alone time walking paths through the lawn, prairie and woods.

AMBS serves another important function for the church. It generates scholarship related to the Bible and the church from an Anabaptist/Mennonite perspective.

For more information, you can check out the website: [www.ambbs.edu](http://www.ambbs.edu) or contact Daniel Grimes (574-296-6266) or Janeen Bertsche Johnson (574-296-6216). – Wilma Bailey

## ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems

### Pastoral Team Search Committee:

The PTSC is sending the following **job posting** to Earlham/Bethany, Christian Theological Seminary, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, The Mennonite, and Mennonite World Review. We are also sending an abbreviated version to First Mennonite (Indianapolis). **Do you feel called to the position or have someone to suggest?** Contact Brad Sommer if so.

Shalom Mennonite Church, which is a part of the Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference, is seeking a person to join our team in a 1/2 to 3/4 time pastoring position. This is an urban Anabaptist congregation located in Indianapolis, Indiana, with an average attendance of 65 participants. The focus of this team pastoring position will be determined by the gifts present in all the team members with the possible focus on spiritual development, counseling/pastoral care, and peace and justice issues.

### Survey Update:

As the Pastoral Team Search Committee continues, we are aware of some issues with the 20 pastoral tasks survey that we did one year ago. This tool is important for us as well as pastoral candidates to know where the congregation's priorities are. There are two major concerns which we wish to address:

- 1) With less than 40% of the congregation returning the surveys, we may not have had true representation of the whole congregation.
- 2) The tasks are meant to apply to the whole pastoral team, not just the current candidate.

The new survey will be available on February 3. It will need to be returned by February 17, 2019.

### Office Hours for Brian:

On Mondays, Brian usually puts in office hours at the church while doing administrative work. For this month, he is experimenting with a "roving office hour" model, where he will be traveling to different parts of the city in Indianapolis in case those of us who live far away from the church would be interested in

coming by to chat. This Monday (1/28), Brian will be at the Panera Bread on the Northwest side of Indianapolis (by 465 and W 86th Street) from 10:30am to 3:30pm. Feel free to come by if you'd like to talk.

Brian Vacation:

Pastor Brian will be on a short vacation from Thursday, January 31 to Saturday, February 2. Please contact Pastor Sabrina, Pastor Frank, or the Community Life Commission with any pastoral concerns during that time.

Minutes available:

The website has been updated and minutes have been posted from the most recent [Discipling Commission](#) meeting. Click on the link to review the minutes.

## **Milepost #660 Reflections**

On May 1, 2016, Gary Martin's first Sunday at Shalom, after he spent the Sunday School Hour explaining what the Transition was all about, during the question and answer time, someone ask him how he intended to keep us all informed as to what was going on. He went on to explain that he would like to start a mid-week electronic communication to keep us on track. A brief report, he said, that would give us advance notice of what's coming up. In addition, the communication could give a reflection on what happened at our gathering the previous Sunday. He went on to say, if you want, you can choose to put other announcements into the same format.

In the first Newsletter, on May 6th this is how Gary began:

Life is about transitions: from womb to world; from child to adolescent to adult; from school to employment to retirement; from one job or residence to another. Transitions go better when we take time to reflect. Transitions by their very nature, require change! They begin with an ending, and end with a new beginning.

And here we are, several years later still cranking out our weekly Newsletter. Does it help keep us on track? Does it help us

anticipate what's coming? Does it help us reflect on where we have been?

- Frank Kandel, Pastor for Administration

*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](mailto:shalommennonite.com)

Pastoral Team: Brian Bither, (317) 322-7320, [brian@shalommennonite.com](mailto:brian@shalommennonite.com); Frank Kandel, (309) 532-2859, [kandel93@gmail.com](mailto:kandel93@gmail.com); Sabrina Falls, (317) 902-9495, [sabrinafalls@outlook.com](mailto:sabrinafalls@outlook.com)  
Vision & Accountability Team: Brad Sommer, Jeanne Smucker, Wilma Bailey, Carl Rhine, Rod Maust, Brian Bither

Please submit information by Thursday, 12pm, to [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com)