

JOURNEYING TOGETHER

Shalom Mennonite Church

July 21, 2021

WORSHIP: Our relationship with God

Chair: Grace Rhine

Last Sunday (7/18), Brian preached about spiritual fatigue and how we may find refreshment and renewal in Christ.

This Sunday (7/25), Craig Oury will be joining us and will preach his first sermon as a co-pastor at Shalom!

Next Sunday (8/1), Brian will draw from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 to speak on the topic of productive conversation.

COMMUNITY LIFE: Relationships at Shalom

Chair: Herb Troyer

CALENDAR

Sunday, July 25

10:30 am – Hybrid Worship service

Monday, July 26

9 am to 3 pm - Roving Office at Panera Bread, 789 U.S. Highway 31 N, Greenwood, IN

Sunday August 1

10:30 am - Hybrid Worship service.

Sack Lunch outdoor fellowship meal after the Worship Service

Monday, August 9

10 am to 3 pm - Brian's Roving Office at Coat Check Coffee (downtown; in the Athenaeum), 401 E Michigan St, Indianapolis, IN

Monday, August 16

9 am to 3 pm - Brian's Roving Office at Northwest Panera Bread, 2902 W 86th Street, Indianapolis, IN

Monday, August 23

9 am to 3 pm - Brian's Roving Office at Fishers Panera Bread, 8510 E 96th St, Fishers, IN

Monday, August 30

9 am to 2 pm - Brian's Roving Office at Greenwood Panera Bread, 789 US Highway 31 N, Greenwood, IN

Celebrations

Thu, Jul 22 – Gemina Trochez

Tue, Jul 27 – Harlan Nelson

Wed, Jul 28 – Emily Ludden

CLC would like to have a social time of fellowship to welcome Pastor Craig Oury. The date is August 1, after the worship service. Because of Covid restrictions, we are asking everyone to bring their own sack lunches and lawn chairs to eat outdoors. More details to come later

DISCIPLING: Growing in our relationships

Chair: Martha Yoder

Children's Church: Six weeks, six volunteers. Thank you to those that have invested time in the children of Shalom. We have adult volunteers scheduled through July 18 but empty slots after that. Please reach out to Laura if you can cover any of these dates: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Sunday School: No word yet one when Sunday School might start but I'd like to know if you are interested in teaching when that becomes a possibility again. We may have up to 4 classes: 2's and 3's; PreK/K; Early Elementary; Youth. To show your interest for Children's Church or Sunday School email Laura at harms.laura@gmail.com

Help needed with children's toy bags: Something that helped my kids (Laura) get through worship when they were little were personalized toy bags that they could use at their seats in the pews during the service. Carol Stocksdale was one of the volunteers on the initial project years ago and has agreed to help again. Is there someone willing to work with Carol to dig through the existing stash of toys, make a few purchases, clean toys, and assemble bags? We'd like to have these bags ready for fall either when Sunday School starts up again or when weather stops us from going outside for Children's Church. Please reach out to Carol to coordinate a time - csstocksdale@gmail.com

OUTREACH: Relationships beyond Shalom

Chair: Brad Yoder

Over the past several years, Outreach Commission has been working to build relationships to serve Shalom's geographic community. Zenebe Abebe has been a key person in reaching out to two important community partners: 1) Eastern Star Church (ESC) at 5620 E. 30th Street, and 2) Arlington Woods Neighborhood Association. Joint projects have included neighborhood cleanup days, and work at the ROCK Fresh Urban Garden.

Eastern Star Church has several important programs going that we hope to be able to participate in. During the past several years, Eastern Star Church, along with other partners, has launched the ROCK (Reaching Our Community for the Kingdom) Initiative, and have made significant strides toward achieving their goals. They have developed new affordable housing units, renovated houses, advocated and supported for high quality education opportunities at all levels, supported efforts for a stronger neighborhood, and introduced the ROCK Fresh Urban Garden and the ROCK Fresh Market to ensure our neighbors have access to healthy food options in an area that was previously a food desert.

However, the ROCK Initiative plan is large and comprehensive. It includes construction of the ROCK Community Center, for which a major grant has been received. Completion of the entire plan will require ESC to involve many partners. By developing partnerships with the city, corporations, individual investors, and nonprofit organizations (including Shalom), ESC is committed to bringing additional investments into this neighborhood to strengthen the community for both residents and employers. ESC recognizes that it probably will take a decade or longer for the true impact of this work to be noticeable: The decades-long decline in economic indicators for this neighborhood will be reversed, to show positive improvement. Examples include:

- The percentage of neighborhood residents living in poverty will decline.
- The median home value of homes in the area will increase.
- The median income of residents will increase.
- The percentage of households spending more than 30% on housing costs will decline.
- The number of family households headed by a husband and wife will exceed the number of family households headed by women with no husbands present.
- There will be options for non-predatory financial services and healthy grocery choices within walking distance for residents.

Outreach Commission will keep you informed as further opportunities develop to participate in this comprehensive plan to improve our geographic neighborhood. ~ Brad Yoder

The Outreach Commission wondered what our new pastor thought about outreach. Pastor Craig Oury said that when he thinks of Outreach, what first comes to his mind is relationship building with those in the church neighborhood. Frank Kandel for the Outreach Commission

Sharing Corner: School Kits for Mennonite Central Committee: Contents (NEW items only)

- 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 **all metal** pencil sharpener, one or two holes. **All metal** sharpeners can be found online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or [Bazic.com](https://www.bazic.com) or in the art supply section of retail stores like Staples. Plastic case pencil sharpeners are not accepted because these are poor quality and do not last as long. **If you cannot find all metal sharpeners** please pack the kits without them and we will add the sharpeners

SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM (SGDT)

Chair: Joyce Troyer

SGDT is grateful for all who use their gifts to serve Shalom in so many ways!

The Vision and Accountability Team (VAT) will have significant changes in personnel this year. Jeanne Smucker ends 4 years (Vice Chair, then Chair), Rod Maust (Congregational Representative [CR]) ends 3 years, and Thad Wilson (CR) leaves after 2 years due to a job-required move. Cheryl Martin moves from Vice Chair to Chair, and Carol Bixler continues as a Congregational Representative (CR). We thank them for their leadership in guiding and overseeing Shalom. We also request congregational feedback for Frank Kandel who has agreed to become the Vice Chair (the first 2 years) -> Chair (the following 2 years). Please email your comments and affirmation about Frank's gifts to serve in this role to Joyce Troyer (troyers_hj@hotmail.com) by July 30, 2021.

Please read the attached VAT Selection Form document about this year's process of selecting 2 CRs. Prayerfully consider the members listed, follow the guidelines to make your selections, and communicate your selections to Cheryl Martin before August 4 by email, snail mail, or Cheryl's church mailbox. (If you are not able to open the attachment for the VAT selection Form, please contact Joyce Troyer ASAP at troyers_hj@hotmail.com.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joe Ford, father of Becky (Ford) Wigginton, passed away Sunday afternoon July 18 in Sidney, Ohio. He was 88 years old. The memorial service will be held Saturday morning July 24. <https://www.shivelyfuneralhomes.com/obituary/Joe-Ford>

Craig Oury can be contacted for church business at: craig@shalommennonite.com. 317-549-0577. He and Brian both will receive e-mails sent to Pastors@shalommennonite.com

Pastor Brian will be on vacation from Monday, July 19 through Sunday, July 25. If you need to reach someone during that time, please contact Cheryl Martin, the Vice-Chair of the VAT, at 1cmm@att.net.

Minutes from the Commission Chairs Team meeting are attached.

Elsie Koop Liechty from Goshen is looking for housing for 6 months this fall. She has received a sign language internship in Indy and has a small stipend, but not enough to cover a temporary apartment. She is looking for a room in a home or shared housing.

If you can help, or have more questions, please contact Elsie by text or call at (574) 536-3320.

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_ReooskuxUXA!

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 or 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 or bixlersc@gmail.com.

Send announcements for *Journeying Together* to 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

Pastors: Brian Bither, (317)-332-7320; Craig Oury, (301) 302-3181

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