



JOURNEYING TOGETHER

A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church

**** To view graphics and a more colorful version, open the attached pdf file. ****

MARCH 12, 2025

CALENDAR

- Sun, March 16: Fellowship Meal following Sunday School
- Mon, March 17: *BRO @ Greenwood Panera, 789 US Highway 31 N, Greenwood, IN
- Wed, March 19: Wild Church, 10 am (see announcement)
- Mon, March 24: *BRO @ Downtown Starbucks, 430 N Mass Ave, Indianapolis, IN
- Sat, April 5: Fellowship hall reserved: Troyer's, 2 – 8:30 pm
- Mon, April 7: *BRO @ Fishers Panera, 8510 E 96 St, Unit A, Fishers
- Mon, April 14: *BRO @ Northwest Panera, 6050 W 86th St, Indianapolis, IN
- Mon, April 21: *BRO @ Greenwood Panera, 789 US Highway 31 N, Greenwood, IN
- Mon, April 28: *BRO @ Downtown Starbucks, 430 N Mass Ave, Indianapolis, IN
- Sat, May 17: Celebration of 500 years of Anabaptism @ First Mennonite

*BRO: Brian's Roving Office, 9 am – 3 pm

ADMINISTRATION

Mike Wigginton (chair), Andrew Martin, Dan Rosenberger
Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

COMMUNITY LIFE: RELATIONSHIPS AT SHALOM

Linda Showalter (Chair), Bethany Martin, Beverly Smith
Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

Celebrations!

Sun, March 15: Jason Rosales Harms

Mon, March 17: Abri Hochstetler

Mon, March 17: 

Each week the Fellowship Team provides the congregation with drinks between our worship service and our Sunday School hour. This is a service we can all enjoy and take part in. Families are assigned a month to help with the clean-up and seeing that the building is closed properly. The monthly schedule uses the first letter of the last name of household - for March, anyone whose last name begins with C - L are asked to help. This includes washing the cups, checking if all the toilets in the building are flushed, being sure all lights are turned off, and being sure the front and back doors are locked. If you have questions, see one of the Fellowship Team (Becky Wigginton, Krystal Johnson, Jim Martin, Carol Weaver) or Linda Showalter. Thank you for your help in our fellowship.

DISCIPLING: GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

Carol Bixler (chair), Wilma Bailey, Carol Bither
Pastoral Representative: Brian Bither

Children's Classes

Hall Monitor:

March 16: Bob Love

March 23: Joann Buerge

March 30: Joann Buerge

Teachers:

2-yr old class: Abri Hochstetler and Carol Weaver will co-teach

Pre-K and K: Beverly Smith will teach with Joyce Troyer as a substitute

Elementary: Frank Kandel and Rod Maust will co-teach

Youth: Jeanne Smucker and Brad Yoder will teach

Adult Sunday School Classes:

Mar 16: Antiracism Sunday

Mar 23: Salt & Light: Session #1 (page 2) Col 1:15-23; Confession of Faith Articles #2 & #8;
Shalom Orientation Class

Mar 30: Salt & Light: Session #2 (page 8) Matt 22:34-40
Shalom Orientation Class

Mennonite Confession of Faith articles:

<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/who-are-mennonites/what-we-believe/confession-of-faith/>

May Your Day
be touched with a bit of
IRISH LUCK
Brightened by a
song in your
heart
And warmed
with smiles by
the people you
love



CallRope/St

OUTREACH: RELATIONSHIPS BEYOND SHALOM

(chair), Chuck Dunn, Becky Wigginton
Pastoral Representative: Brian Bither

SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM

Angie Buller
VAT Representative: Nizeet Deiter; Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

VISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (VAT)

Frank Kandel (Chair), Nizeet Deiter (Vice-Ch) Sam Bixler, Charity Bauman, Grace Rhine
Pastoral Representatives: Brian Bither, Craig Oury

VAT is proposing Jim Showalter as chair of the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team for a 2 year term beginning in September. Send affirmations, questions or feedback to Frank Kandel or Nizeet Deiter.

WORSHIP: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Brittany Bither (chair), Justin Hochstetler, Jeanne Smucker
Pastoral Representative: Brian Bither

This Week (3/16) Brian will bring the message.

Next Sunday (3/23) we will continue our study on the Final Discourse as Brian preaches from John 15:1-25.

This week's Prayer List;

Church: Hopewell Mennonite Church is a Mennonite Church in Kouts, Indiana that is a part of Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference.

Organization: *Mennonite Central Committee* is a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches, which shares God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. (Contact: Zenebe Abebe)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For those who know Mel Swartzentruber, a card shower is being planned for His 95th birthday on April 2. His address is 1200 E. Patridge, Apt. 27, Metamora, IL 61548.



To my Shalom family.

Thanks for the cards, emails, text messages, phone calls, flowers and prayers. The outpour of love and support really meant a lot to me and my family. My mom's homecoming celebration went well. Gathered by loved ones, extended family and dear friends. ~ Barbara Abebe

Wild Church will meet on Wednesday, March 19 at 10 a.m. at the Virginia B. Fairbanks Art and Nature Park (100 acres) at Newfields (the Indianapolis Museum of Art), 4000 Michigan Road in Indianapolis. From the corner of 38th Street and Michigan Road, go west on 38th Street, pass the main entrance to Newfields and make the first right turn. There is a sign that reads "White River Parkway East". Go half-way around the circle and turn right at the parking sign. Park in

the new parking lot. If you miss the right turn, park in the old lot in the circle and cross the road to the new lot. We will be reflecting on two trees that nourish us: the sugar maple and the olive. Bring your stories that connect to these two trees. If you have a camp chair or folding chair and can bring it, please do so that we can form a bit of a circle. ~ Wilma

Easter Sunday church will start at 10 am. Easter Sunday breakfast at 8:30 am.



WOMAN OF COLOR BIO

A retired educator and counselor, Opal Lee has dedicated much of her life to preserving the history of Juneteenth. Fondly known as Ms. Opal, she gained national attention in 2016, when at 89, she began a 1,400-mile trek from Fort Worth to Washington, D.C., to petition for the recognition of Juneteenth as a national holiday.

Her annual 2.5-mile walks in major cities — the distance a reminder of the 2.5 years after the Emancipation Proclamation freed the enslaved in the South — were lauded by President Joe Biden, who on June 17, 2021, signed the law making Juneteenth a federal holiday. “Over the course of decades, she’s made it her mission to see that this day came,” Biden said. “It was almost a singular mission. She’s walked miles and miles, literally and figuratively, to bring attention to Juneteenth.”

In January 2022, Rep. Marc Veasey of Texas and 33 members of Congress sent a letter to the Norwegian Nobel Committee urging them to consider Lee for the Nobel Peace Prize. “As an advocate,” the letter noted, “Ms. Lee’s hopes to establish Juneteenth as a national holiday went far beyond just recognizing the day that the final enslaved people were notified of their freedom. It is also a symbol of her hope that we as Americans can come together and unify against social issues that are plagues on our nation such as homelessness, education inequality, and food insecurity to name a few.”

In May 2024, President Biden awarded Ms. Opal Lee with the Medal of Freedom, recognizing her pivotal role in the establishment of Juneteenth as a federal holiday. This prestigious honor celebrates her unwavering dedication to civil rights and her efforts to ensure that the significance of Juneteenth is nationally acknowledged and celebrated.

“This is the providential next step — from my walking campaign to Washington, D.C., the petition, and having Juneteenth declared a federal holiday...” — Ms. Opal Lee



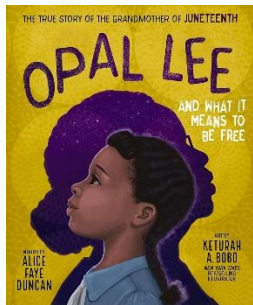
Ms. Opal is the oldest living board member of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation. At 95 years old, she also leads the Annual Fort Worth Juneteenth Celebration and the urban farming project proudly named Opal’s Farm.

<https://nationaljuneteenthmuseum.org/ms-opal-lee>



“Juneteenth is not a Texas thing. It’s not a Black thing. It’s freedom for everyone. And none of us are free until we’re all free.”

— Ms. Opal Lee

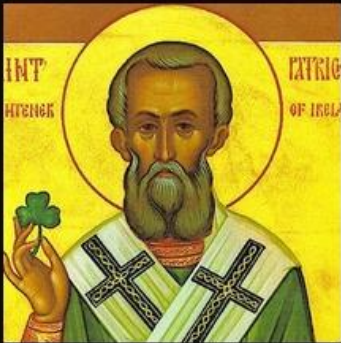


You can find a copy of “Opal Lee And What It Means To Be Free” by Alice Faye Duncan in the children’s section of our library.



Need something? Have something to give away?

Saint Patrick



May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us, may the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us. Be always ours this day and for evermore.

AZ QUOTES

ROUTINE INFORMATION

“SHARING OUR LIVES” weekly power point: We invite photo submissions of events / hobbies / interests in your lives. Send pictures to Linda Showalter at lindashowalter52@gmail.com by noon on Saturday. It will run before and after the service.

BULLETIN INFORMATION:

- Send announcements to Linda Showalter at lindashowalter52@gmail.com by Friday, 10 am.
- **Bulletins** are now attached with the Zoom link for those who are worshipping on Zoom. A link will continue to be sent out each week. If you have a prayer request or announcement you would like to

share, ***type your request live into the chat*** feature on zoom and someone on the tech team will read it to the congregation at church.

JOURNEYING TOGETHER is compiled by Linda Showalter each week. Send information to office@shalommennonite.com by 5 pm on Wednesday.

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.

CRAIG OURY is managing our Zoom calendar, church calendar, and uploads minutes on the church website. If you need to schedule a meeting using the church zoom account or have minutes to upload, you can email the office at office@shalommennonite.com or craig@shalommennonite.com.

BUILDING USEAGE: If you want to use the building for a meeting or event, please check the online calendar first to be sure it's open, then email Craig at office@shalommennonite.com so he can add your item to the calendar. It's helpful to include the contact person and which parts of the building you expect to use.

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: In addition to our podcast, Shalom has a Youtube Channel. 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 youtube.com/@shalommennonite55.

VIDEO RECORDINGS (MP4) of our Zoom worship services are available online. A link to the worship service recordings is on the Member's page of our website.

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: Nizeet Agular, Charity Bauman, Sam Bixler, Frank Kandel, Grace Rhine
Pastors Brian Bither, Craig Oury