



JOURNEYING TOGETHER
A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church

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

JULY 23, 2025

CALENDAR

Sun, July 27: Congregational meeting after Sunday School (see VAT)
Wed, July 30: Nominations for Congregational Rep for VAT due (see VAT)
Thu, August 7: Shalom Sister Lunch, 11:30 am (see Community Life)
Sat, October 4: Shalom Retreat (see Community Life)
Sat, November 15: Shalom will be hosting "A Nature Walk Down a Peace Path"
as part of The Spirit & Place Festival. More info to come.
Sat, October 3, 2026: Annual Retreat @ Jameson Camp

ADMINISTRATION

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

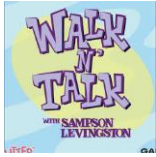
COMMUNITY LIFE: RELATIONSHIPS AT SHALOM

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

Celebrations!

Sat, July 26: Rolando Urquizo Zarate
Fri, July 28: Brenda Grimes
Wed, July 30: Amber Goodloe

The *Underground Railroad Museum* visit is scheduled for Saturday, August 16. Thirteen people have signed up. One more vehicle that can hold 6 passengers is needed to get all 13 of us to Cincinnati. Let me know if you would be interested. ~ Linda S



This year's annual retreat will be Saturday, October 4, a "Walk and Talk" with Sampson Levingston on Indiana Avenue, downtown Indy (through2eyes). A catered meal will follow at the church, and the afternoon will be available for games and fellowship.



August 7th's Shalom Sister Lunch will be at 10th Street Diner, 3301 E. 10th Street, at 11:30 am. The diner is a vegan restaurant, and has been showcased on tv's Diners, Drive-ins and Dives! All women are welcome.

DISCIPLING: GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

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

Children's Ed for Summer 2025

A teacher for the Elementary class is still needed for **August 24**. Laura can provide a digital curriculum.

Children's Ed for Fall 2025

Have you noticed the laughter, cries, and playful sounds that are interspersed with worship? Shalom has a lot of kids!

- 27 kids will form our 4 Sunday school classes this fall
- In addition to Lead Teachers, I'd like to have an Assistant for the 2 larger classes
- Fall classes will start on Sept 7

2-4s class	Early Elementary	Older Elementary	Youth
Leads: Abri and Carol W	Lead: Beverly Smith	Leads: Frank Kandel; need Co-Teacher to split coverage	Leads: Jeanne and Brad
Asst: Rose; could have 1 more to share coverage	No assistant needed	Need Asst or 2 if alternating Sundays:	Asst: Julie can assist as needed
7 kids: Zema, Abigail, Matthias, Vivienne, Allison, Nathan, Callie	6 kids: Yeshe, Luke, Elise, Kara, Junia, Lena	10 kids: Layla, Aubrey, Leo, Calvin, Eva, Lexie, Roslyn, Liam, Sydney, Karina	4 youth: Karina, Jacob, Phoenix, Caleb

Adult Sunday School Classes:

July 27: Reports from IN-MI and MCUSA conferences

Beginning on August 3: The *Salt & Light Bible study in I Corinthians*. Wilma Bailey is facilitating that class. No sign-up necessary, study booklets have already been purchased.

Beginning August 10: A sign-up sheet is posted at the back of the sanctuary for the class, *Healthy Spiritual and Mental Health Practices allows Love to Blossom*. This will be led by Herb Troyer, starting August 3.

OUTREACH: RELATIONSHIPS BEYOND SHALOM

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

It's time to make Mennonite Central Committee school kits!

This is the complete list if you want to fill kits on your own [drawstring bags provided]:

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



If you want to contribute individual items, being collected next to the lift downstairs, please note that ***we have enough erasers, rulers and pencil sharpeners already.***

SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM

Jim Showalter (chair beginning in September), Angie Buller
VAT Representative: Nizeet Deiter; Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

The SGDT is pleased to announce that Andrew Martin has agreed to serve as the vice-chair of the Vision and Accountability Team. Please communicate affirmation and feedback for Andrew to Pastor Craig (craig@shalommennonite.com) by July 30.

Seeking Your Nominations: VAT Congregational Representative

Grace Rhine's term as Congregational Representative (CR) on the Vision and Accountability Team (VAT) concludes on August 31. We are grateful for Grace's faithful service!

Now, we invite *ALL* who consider Shalom their church home to participate in the process of selecting a new CR. Congregational Representatives are chosen *BY YOU*, the congregation, and serve as your voice on the VAT. While the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team (SGDT) members facilitate the process, it is *YOUR NOMINATIONS* that shape who is called to serve. Continuing their service on the VAT in the upcoming church year are:

- Nizeet Deiter, Chair
- Andrew Martin, pending congregational approval, beginning in September, Vice Chair
- Charity Bauman, CR
- Sam Bixler, CR

A description of the selection process and the nominating form are **attached** in this issue of Journeying Together. Please prayerfully consider whom you might nominate and respond promptly.

Nominations are due **by July 30**. Paper forms are available at the back of the sanctuary.

~ Submitted by Pastor Craig Oury, on behalf of the SGDT

The SGDT is pleased to announce that Melissa Walsh Martin has agreed to serve as the chair of the Worship Commission. Please communicate affirmation and feedback for Melissa to Pastor Craig (craig@shalommennonite.com) by July 16.

Please continue to pray for the discernment process of the VAT vice chair and chairs of the Discipling and Outreach Commissions.

VISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (VAT)

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

More details will be sent out separately regarding the vote on Sunday.

Pastor Brian's leave is proposed to be extended through September 8 by using paid sabbatical, with a one-time exception to the pastoral covenant of understanding pending a congregational vote on **July 27 after Sunday School**.

WORSHIP: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

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

Last Sunday (7/20) Craig brought the message from Luke 10:38-42.

This week (7/27) we will have a song, Scripture, and Communion for our service.

Next Sunday (8/3) Craig will bring the message.

This week's Prayer List:

- **Church: Walnut Hill Mennonite Church** is a Mennonite church in Goshen, Indiana which is part of Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference
- **Organization: Anabaptist Disabilities Network** is an organization that connects and supports people who have disabilities, their families, and faith communities to create a culture of belonging for everyone (Contact: Joyce Troyer)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary is offering several on-line short courses this Fall. They are *Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible* (Sept. 10-Oct. 21), *Challenging Christian Nationalism* (Oct. 22-Dec. 9) and *Anabaptist History and Theology*. The early registration fee is \$300. No exams. No papers.

The Rooted and Grounded Conference that focuses on ecology and spirituality will take place from the afternoon of Sept. 18 (4:30 p.m.) until Sept. 20 at noon. The in person cost is \$130 with a \$10 lunch fee and a \$15 dinner fee. The on-line cost is \$60. The on-line version will not allow access to all activities and workshops. The theme this year is "*Kinship with all Creation: Pursuing Relationship, Justice and Community*".

Go to ambs.edu for more information.

PERSON OF COLOR BIO
BIPOC MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
A.K.A. BEBE MOORE CAMPBELL NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL
HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



**Remembering
Dr. Carl Bell**

Psychiatrist, author, and mental health advocate whose work focused on trauma, violence prevention, and Black mental health.

Dr. Bell dedicated his career to addressing the root causes of violence and trauma in Black communities, pioneering research and advocacy that emphasized community healing and resilience. His work continues to inspire mental health professionals and change-makers today.

Psychiatrist Dr. Carl Compton Bell was born on October 28, 1947, in Chicago, and grew up in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood. He graduated from Hyde Park High School, and received his B.A. degree in biology from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Bell received his M.D. degree in 1971 from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. He completed his psychiatric residency in 1974 at the Illinois State Psychiatric Institute in Chicago, where he worked with children, adolescents and adults. From 1974 to 1976, Bell served as a Lt. Commander in the United States Navy.

Bell worked as a psychiatrist at numerous Chicago area institutions. In 1982, Bell became the medical director of the Community Mental Health Council, one of the largest not-for-profit community mental health centers in the U.S. He was a professor of clinical psychiatry at the University of Illinois School of Medicine and School of Public Health. Bell also hosted radio talk shows on mental health issues on WVON-AM and WJPC-FM in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

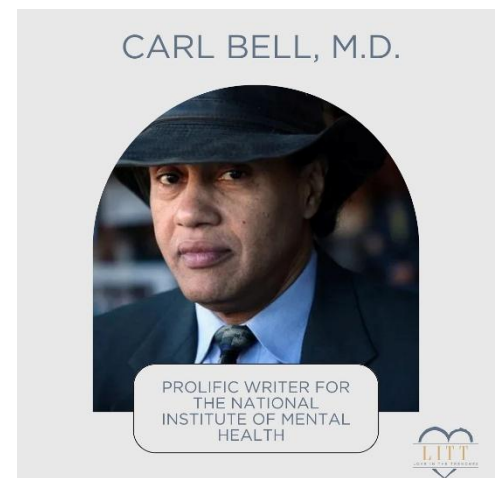
Bell was a National Institute of Mental Health international researcher and an author of more than 400 books, chapters, and scientific publications addressing issues of children exposed to violence, violence prevention, HIV prevention, isolated sleep paralysis and misdiagnosis of Manic Depressive Illness. He is the editor of *Psychiatric Perspectives on Violence:*

Understanding Causes and Issues in Prevention and Treatment, and author of *Getting Rid of Rats: Perspectives of a Black Community Psychiatrist* and *The Sanity of Survival: Reflections on Community Mental Health and Wellness*.

Bell was the recipient of numerous awards and became the first recipient of the American Psychiatric Foundation's Minority Service Award in 2004.

Bell passed away on August 2, 2019.

Edited from <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/dr-carl-bell-41>





Need something? Have something to give away?

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