



JOURNEYING TOGETHER
A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church

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

AUGUST 13, 2025

CALENDAR

Wed, August 20: Wild Church, 10 am (see announcement)
Thu, September 4: Shalom Sisters 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

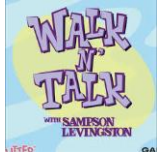
Linda Showalter (Chair), Bethany Martin, Beverly Smith
Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

Celebrations!

Wed, August 20: Callie Cook
Mon, August 18: Brian Bither
Mon, August 18: Barbara & Zenebe Abebe
Tue, August 19: Sheila Abebe



The *Shalom Sisters Lunch* will take place in the cafe at Newfields, The Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 Michigan Road, at the corner of 38th St. and Michigan Road on **September 4**. Parking in the surface lots or in the underground garage is free. There is no fee to enter the museum building when you are going to the cafe or gift shop. However, Sept. 4 is the first Thursday of the month. Admission to the entire museum and the museum grounds are free on the first Thursday of the month. So, if you have the time, plan to visit the galleries or walk through the gardens after lunch.



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.

DISCIPLING: GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

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



Those who have checked books out, don't forget to bring them back so you can get some new ones!

Children's Ed for Summer 2025: All Children's Ed classes are covered for August.

Children's Ed for Fall 2025: Fall classes will start on Sept 7.

Fall needs: The Older Elementary class needs one co-teacher (a lead teacher to split dates with Frank) and one or two assistants.

Substitute teachers may be needed for any of the four classes. Please consider adding your name to the list to fill in on occasion.

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:

August 17: Antiracism Sunday led by Martha Yoder Maust and Barbara Abebe; meets in fellowship hall with Zoom.

August 24:

1. Lesson #3 – Acts 18:24-28; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17, p 14.
Bible study led by Wilma Bailey meets in back of sanctuary, with Zoom.
2. Healthy Spiritual and Mental Health Practices using the 12 tools of GOGI led by Herb Troyer in basement classroom #1.

August 31: Labor Day Weekend

1. Lesson #4 - 1 Corinthians 1:1-10, p 20.
Bible study led by Wilma Bailey meets in back of sanctuary, with Zoom.
2. Healthy Spiritual and Mental Health Practices using the 12 tools of GOGI led by Herb Troyer in basement classroom #1.

Study materials are available for both adult classes.

OUTREACH: RELATIONSHIPS BEYOND SHALOM

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

Lexi, at Family Promise is soliciting some assistance for needed supplies for the Day Center. The list of items is included in the link. Thank you! ~ Solomon

<https://familypromiseindyhn.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=24b9c6c8fbecdd20cbf6427e2&id=03db652a33&e=366a1f4fee>

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 Matt Bauman has agreed to serve as a member of the Discipling Commission. Please communicate affirmation and feedback for Matt to Pastor Craig (craig@shalommennonite.com) by August 26.

Please continue to pray for the discernment process for the 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

Please see attached Minutes from the most recent VAT Meeting.

Please be in prayer for VAT's meeting with Pastor Brian on Wednesday, August 20th.
Frank Kandel, VAT Chair

WORSHIP: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

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

Last Sunday (8/10) Peter and Delicia Bravo Wigginton shared about their work in Ecuador.

This week (8/17) Craig will be preaching from Luke 12:49-56, what does Jesus mean when saying, "Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you,

but rather division!"?

Next Sunday (8/24) Wilma will bring the message.

This week's Prayer List:

- **Church:** *Waterford Mennonite Church*, Goshen, IN. Pastors: Cindy Voth, Deron Bergstresser, Katie Misz. This fall we will be studying the Lord's Prayer. We desire to learn new ways of living out the words in our daily lives today.
- **Organization:** *Arlington Woods Neighborhood Association* is the community organization that represents the region of Indianapolis that is bounded by 38th street to the north, 21st street to the south, Shadeland to the east, and Sherman to the west - which includes Shalom. Let us pray for them as they seek to beautify the area, bring neighbors together, bring awareness through advocacy, and build/continue legacies through neighborhood stories. (Contact: Becky Wigginton)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wild Church will next take place on **Wednesday, August 20** at 10 a.m. at Holliday Park. The early forecast is for morning rain so we may have to adjust. If it is dry, we will meet in our tree grove. There are stone seats there so you might want to bring a cushion to sit on. We will discuss snakes. Bring your snake stories.



On **Thursday, August 21**, Michael Homoya and family will give a talk and slide presentation at Oliver's Woods from 6-7 p.m. about the year that they set out to see every wild orchid in Indiana in bloom. Michael Homoya wrote the book Wildflowers of the Mid-West and was, for many years, the Indiana State plant Biologist. If you want to attend, sign up on the website of the Central Indiana Land Trust. Your favorite Indiana Master Naturalist will be on duty that evening!



Church At The Crossroads – *Conference for Christians Committed To Peacemaking*, **September 11-13** – Parkview Community Church, Glen Ellyn, IL.

Speakers include Jemar Tisby (author of *The Color of Compromise* which we have been reading together this past year), Shane Claiborne, Jonathan Kuttub (co-founder of Nonviolence International, which sponsors Mennonite Action), and Rev. Munther Isaac (Palestinian pastor and author of *Christ in the Rubble*), and many more.

I hope to attend this either virtually or in person and would love to know who might like to join me. ~ Sabrina



We are collecting cash for Mennonite Central Committee in our "My Coins Count" jug. The donations will be taken to the Michiana Relief Sale on September 26.

Daviess County Relief Sale August 16: <https://mcc.org/events/daviess-county-relief-sale>
Arthur Relief Sale, August 22, 23: <https://mcc.org/events/arthur-mennonite-relief-sale>
Michiana Relief Sale, September 26-27



A copy of my report on the MCUSA Convention is attached. ~ Wilma

During the sharing about what occurred at the MCUSA Convention, a number of people asked about the content of the Mennonite Church's World Conference's Shared Convictions. They appear below, and are also attached.

By the grace of God, we seek to live and proclaim the good news of reconciliation in Jesus Christ. As part of the one body of Christ at all times and places, we hold the following to be central to our belief and practice:

1. God is known to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Creator who seeks to restore fallen humanity by calling a people to be faithful in fellowship, worship, service and witness.
2. Jesus is the Son of God. Through his life and teachings, his cross and resurrection, he showed us how to be faithful disciples, redeemed the world, and offers eternal life.
3. As a church, we are a community of those whom God's Spirit calls to turn from sin, acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, receive baptism upon confession of faith, and follow Christ in life.
4. As a faith community, we accept the Bible as our authority for faith and life, interpreting it together under Holy Spirit guidance, in the light of Jesus Christ to discern God's will for our obedience.
5. The Spirit of Jesus empowers us to trust God in all areas of life so we become peacemakers who renounce violence, love our enemies, seek justice, and share our possessions with those in need.
6. We gather regularly to worship, to celebrate the Lord's Supper, and to hear the Word of God in a spirit of mutual accountability.
7. As a world-wide community of faith and life we transcend boundaries of nationality, race, class, gender and language. We seek to live in the world without conforming to the powers of evil, witnessing to God's grace by serving others, caring for creation, and inviting all people to know Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

In these convictions we draw inspiration from Anabaptist forebears of the 16th century, who modelled radical discipleship to Jesus Christ. We seek to walk in his name by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we confidently await Christ's return and the final fulfillment of God's kingdom. Adopted by Mennonite World Conference General Council, March 15, 2006

PERSON OF COLOR BIO

AUGUST: NATIONAL BLACK BUSINESS MONTH



August is National Black Business Month, and to celebrate, the ACHP (Advisory Council on Historical Preservation) is highlighting the Walker Building in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Walker Building was designed as the headquarters of the Madam C.J. Walker Manufacturing Company, founded by Madam C.J. Walker, who is celebrated as one of the first female self-made millionaires in the United States.

Walker was born Sarah Breedlove in Louisiana in December 1867. According to the National Park Service website, Walker built her company manufacturing and selling hair care and cosmetic products and employed approximately 3,000 African American women to manufacture and sell her products. Walker apparently chose Indianapolis as the site of her company's headquarters in 1910 after visiting the city and seeing its advantage as a manufacturing center. In particular, the city's access to eight major railway systems made it an obvious choice for her mail-order business.

The Walker Building, which is located on Indiana Avenue, was designed by Walker but not constructed until after her death in 1919. The building's National Historic Landmark nomination notes its Art Deco style brick exterior adorned with terra cotta designs inspired

by African motifs. Walker intended the building to serve as both her company's headquarters and a cultural center for the community. Today, the building continues to serve the community as the Madame Walker Theater Center and is a designated National Historic Landmark. Click [here](#) for more information on Madam C.J. Walker and the Walker Building.

This is the 15th annual Black Business Month, founded in 2004 by John William Templeton, executive editor of blackmoney.com and Frederick E. Jordan, P.E., civil engineer and president of the San Francisco African American Chamber of Commerce. During this month, people are encouraged to visit black-owned businesses.

<https://www.achp.gov/news/celebrate-national-black-business-month>



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 USAGE: 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.

<p>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 Aguilar Deiter Congregational Reps: Charity Bauman, Sam Bixler, Grace Rhine Pastoral Reps: Brian Bither, Craig Oury</p>
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