



## *JOURNEYING TOGETHER*

### *A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church*

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

**FEBRUARY 26, 2025**

#### **CALENDAR**

Mon, March 3: \*BRO @ Fishers Panera, 8510 E 96 St, Unit A, Fishers  
Fri, March 7: World Day of Prayer (see announcement)  
Mon, March 10: \*BRO @ Northwest Panera, 6050 W 86th St, Indianapolis, IN  
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  
Mon, March 24: \*BRO @ Downtown Starbucks, 430 N Mass Ave, Indianapolis, IN  
Sun, March 30: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner  
Sat, April 5: Fellowship hall reserved: Troyer's, 2 – 8:30 pm  
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!

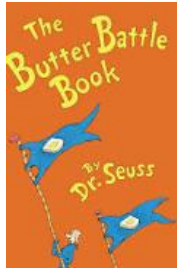
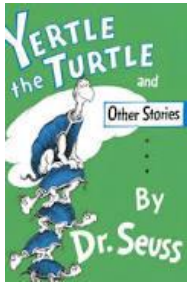
Wed, February 26: Jeanne Smucker



Watch for information about our annual "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner", coming March 30! See Angie Buller with any questions.

We're looking for copies of the following Dr. Seuss books for an activity in early April. We'd like to have 16-20 copies (total, not each), one for each child under Jr. Hi age, plus a couple extra. These can be used books in decent condition.

Yertle the Turtle, The Butter Battle Book, The Sneetches, Horton Hatches the Egg, The Lorax.



## DISCIPLING: GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

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

**Shalom Orientation Class:** Are you new to Shalom, or newish? Have you returned to Shalom after many years of being away? Do you want to learn about Shalom's values, or how our church operates? Would you like to get more deeply plugged into the congregation?

If you answered 'yes' to any of these, then the upcoming "Shalom Orientation" class may be for you! Pastor Brian and Pastor Craig will offer a "Shalom Orientation" class starting on March 9. Brian is on sabbatical now, but you can still email him or Craig to let them know if you would like to attend. These sessions are designed for newcomers, but anyone is welcome to sit in. If you do plan to attend, we encourage you to try to come as often as possible between March 9 and Easter Sunday (April 20) to get the most out of it.

### Children's Classes Hall Monitor:

March 2:

March 9:

March 16: Bob Love

March 23:

March 30:

### 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 2: Salt & Light: Session #9 (page 50) 1 Peter 2:1-10; Confession of Faith Review Articles #9 & #17  
Mar 9: Salt & Light: Session #12 (page 68) Matt 18:15-35; Confession of Faith Article #14; Shalom Orientation led by Brian Bither  
Mar 16: Antiracism Sunday; Color of Compromise, Chapter 8  
Mar 23: Salt & Light: Session #1 (page 2) Col 1:15-23; Confession of Faith Articles #2 & #8: Shalom Orientation led by Brian Bither  
Mar 30: Salt & Light: Session #2 (page 8) Matt 22:34-40; Shalom Orientation led by Brian Bither  
Apr 6: Salt & Light: Session #3 (page 14) Luke 1:26-38; Confession of Faith Articles #3 & #18; Shalom Orientation led by Brian Bither  
Apr 13: Salt & Light: Session #4 (page 20) John 1:1-18; Confession of Faith Article #4; Shalom Orientation led by Brian Bither  
Apr 20: Easter- No Sunday school  
Apr 27: Salt & Light: Session #5 (pg 26) Luke 2:25-35; Confession of Faith Review Article #8; Shalom Orientation led by Brian Bither

Mennonite Confession of Faith articles:

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

### 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

Wilma Bailey has been asked, and has agreed, to represent Shalom as our delegate to Mennonite Church USA. Please email Craig or Nizeet with affirmations by **Wednesday, February 26**.

Martha Yoder Maust has been asked, and has agreed, to represent Shalom as a delegate to Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference. Please email Craig or Nizeet with affirmations by **Wednesday, February 26**.

### VISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (VAT)

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

### WORSHIP: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

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

**Last Sunday (2/23)** Craig brought the message based on Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 titled, "Do not fret because of the wicked."

**This week (3/2)** Monica Miller will bring the message from Philemon titled, "For When We Don't Know the Next Step but We Need to Move Our Feet".

**Next Sunday (3/9)** Brian will bring the message.

## This week's Prayer List:

**Church:** *Grace Chapel* is a small Mennonite church in Saginaw, Michigan that is a member of the Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference.

**Organization:** *Hoosiers Concerned about Gun Violence* is a local, nonprofit, grassroots organization dedicated to ending the rising tide of gun violence and gun-related injuries and deaths. It brings Hoosiers together to seek solutions through education and the promotion of legislation at the local, state, and national levels. (Brad Yoder & Sabrina Falls)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Vox Profundi low-voices choral group from Goshen College will perform at First Menonite Church **this Friday, February 28, at 7:00 p.m.** Featured also will be a men's chorus from Franklin Central HS. You are invited to come and share this musical evening with your FMC friends and others. A freewill offering will be taken. We are grateful that several Shalom households have offered to provide lodging for some of the GC students. We look forward to seeing many of you at this special event.

On Friday, **February 28th**, 4:30-5:30, at 46th Street and Meridian Street, there will be a protest about the conflict in Gaza, sponsored by Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) and Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP). Bring signs related to ending the conflict, releasing all hostages, humanitarian aid for Gaza, and ending the Israeli occupation.

Pastor Craig will be on vacation March 3 – 9.



On Tuesday, **March 4th**, 7-8:00PM, Hoosiers Concerned about Gun Violence is doing a Zoom Forum focusing on the Talking Guns Project. There will be a viewing of a video, followed by a discussion of the video by its producers. DeCaree Lewis is a Crispus Attucks High School Student, and Allison Luthe is his mentor.

*"I Made You Wonderful"* World Day of Prayer service at Shalom, **Friday, March 7**. Begins at 9:30 AM with light refreshments; 10:00 - Prayer service written by women of the Cook Islands. ~ Carol Bixler

## REFLECTION

### *The People of Shalom*

This week I interviewed Brenda Smith and I learned a few new things about her and perhaps you will as well. Thank you, Brenda, for answering my questions! -- Craig

**Where did you grow up?** Sellersburg, IN. It has grown a lot since I lived there. When I was growing up there was only one bank, one grocery store, and one butcher shop.

**What was your first car?** A Studebaker.

**What is one of your favorite Scriptures?** I don't really have one favorite, I do like the Psalms.

**Do you have any favorite hymns?** Guide My Feet is my favorite hymn.

**What is an early memory you have of going to church?** I grew up Catholic and went to a Catholic school and I had to go to church 6 days a week!

**Is there a funny story you have about attending any church?** It didn't really happen at church but it did happen at the Catholic School. We were playing kickball and I kicked it so hard and far just as the principal was going outside and it hit Sister Serena in the head! I was scared I would get in trouble, but now it is pretty funny.

**How long have you been coming to Shalom Mennonite Church?** I've been coming a long time but I'm not sure the dates exactly. I started attending with my daughter Angie and son-in-law Joel back when Shalom met in the day care, so for a long time.

**One thing that you like about Shalom MC?** The people are so friendly and don't judge people based on appearance.

**One final question. Tell us something we may not know about you Brenda?** I used to own horses.

Thank you again Brenda for answering my questions. -- Craig

## AFRICAN AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

**Eunice Carter was born Eunice Hunton** in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 16, 1899. Her intellectual curiosity and drive for social justice were shaped by her influential family. Her father, William Alphaeus Hunton Sr., was a prominent figure in the YMCA and a lifelong advocate for racial equality. Her mother, Addie Waites Hunton, was a social worker and peace activist. Faced with the hostility of the 1906 Atlanta race riot, the family relocated to Brooklyn, New York, seeking a safer and more progressive environment.



Carter's academic ambitions flourished in New York. She excelled at school and, at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, she distinguished herself by simultaneously earning a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in social work in 1921. Her interest in law stemmed from her early social work experiences, exposing her to the injustices and systemic inequalities in society.

After a brief period as a social worker, Carter's determination to use the law as an instrument for change grew stronger. In 1927, she enrolled in Fordham University School of Law as one of the few women and even fewer African Americans in her class. She faced both racial and gender biases but overcame them, becoming the first African American woman to graduate from Fordham Law in 1932. [1]

Following graduation and passing the New York bar exam in 1933, Carter entered private practice and ran as a Republican candidate for New York's Nineteenth Assembly District seat in 1934. Her tenacity impressed New York District Attorney William C. Dodge. Though her bid for the Assembly seat was unsuccessful, it was her campaign's efficiency and street smarts that caught Dodge's eye. In 1935, DA Dodge hired Eunice Carter as an Assistant District Attorney, where she dedicated herself to prosecuting abuse cases and crimes in New York City's Women's Court. [2]



When prosecutor Thomas E. Dewey set his sights on dismantling organized crime's grip on New York City, Eunice Carter's strategic acumen became a game-changer. While initially assigned to the Women's Court, Carter had noticed an alarming pattern: many women arrested for prostitution spoke of shadowy figures pressuring them, hinting at deeper criminal networks. She realized that cracking the lucrative prostitution rings within the city could serve as a gateway to exposing the Mafia's control. [3] Carter used her position to create an atmosphere of trust with the women she interviewed. Recognizing their vulnerability, she ensured that they were treated fairly and received support instead of further condemnation. This approach paid dividends: women provided critical details about the inner workings of the prostitution racket, effectively unraveling a web of forced labor, protection payments, and illicit connections to top mob figures.

The culmination of Carter's meticulous investigation resulted in the 1936 trial of Charles "Lucky" Luciano and his associates. She was not front and center during the trial itself, but Carter's work was woven into the fabric of the prosecution's case, connecting organized prostitution to mafia dominance. Luciano was ultimately convicted on 62 counts of compulsory prostitution, serving a hefty sentence. His conviction dealt a severe blow to organized crime and cemented Carter's reputation as a brilliant legal strategist.

Carter's expertise in social justice and women's rights made her a natural fit for involvement with the newly formed United Nations. Having witnessed global conflict and injustice, she was convinced that international cooperation was essential for a more equitable world. Her initial forays into UN-related work began in the late 1940s as a legal advisor and consultant on human rights and the status of women. She was a passionate advocate for gender equality and human rights, dedicating significant effort to advancing the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, she became a regular fixture at UN conferences and assemblies, she helped shape discussions about women in governance, economic opportunity, and the eradication of societal barriers.

In 1957, Carter was elected chair of the International Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations. This leadership role put her at the helm of a crucial global assembly of NGOs focused on addressing humanitarian, social, and economic issues. Carter became the first woman to hold this prestigious position.

Eunice Carter died in 1970 but her influence on the United Nations and women's rights movements around the world is undeniable.

Citations:

1. "Two New York Women Pass Bar Examinations". *The Chicago Defender*. May 20, 1933
2. The Mob Museum: [https://themobmuseum.org/notable\\_names/Eunice-carter/](https://themobmuseum.org/notable_names/Eunice-carter/)
3. Whalen, Robert Weldon (2016). *Murder, Inc., and the Moral Life: Gangsters and Gangbusters in La Guardia's New York*. Fordham University Press

<https://ndaajustice.medium.com/eunice-carter-the-trailblazing-prosecutor-who-helped-take-down-lucky-luciano-f7b0e13b5c92>



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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) or [bixlersc@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) or [craig@shalommennonite.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](https://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](http://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

