

JOURNEYING TOGETHER

Shalom Mennonite Church

April 13, 2022

WORSHIP: Our relationship with God

Chair: Brittany Bither

Worship this Easter Sunday will begin at 10 am.

Last Sunday (4/10), was the final Sunday of Lent and Palm Sunday. Craig will preached from Luke 19:28-40 looking at Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

This Sunday (4/17), is Easter Sunday! Please join us for a special service at **10am** at Shalom Mennonite Church or on Zoom as we celebrate the fact that there is no condemnation for us who are in Christ Jesus.

Next Sunday (4/24), We will be starting an 8-week series studying the book of Hebrews. Brian will offer an overview of Hebrews and some background information as we prepare to engage on of the most theologically dense books of the Bible.

COMMUNITY LIFE: Relationships at Shalom

Chair: Herb Troyer

CALENDAR

Thursday April 14 at 7pm we will be having a Maundy Thursday service in the church basement. It will be a service of Scriptures from John, singing, foot washing or hand washing, and communion. All are welcome.

Sunday morning worship begins at 10:00 with Sunday School following

Due to a change in his childcare situation, Brian is making a slight change to his Roving Office Hours so that they will be from 9am to 3pm on select Mondays instead of 8:30am to 2:30pm.

Monday, April 18 from 9a to 3p - Brian's Roving Office - Northwest Panera Bread, 2902 W 86th St Suite 220, Indianapolis, IN 46268

Monday, April 25 from 9a to 3p - Brian's Roving Office - East Side Starbucks, 9605 Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46229

Monday, May 9 from 9a to 3p - Brian's Roving Office - Fishers Panera Bread, 8510 E 96th St Suite A, Fishers, IN 46038

Monday, May 16 from 9a to 3p - Brian's Roving Office - Greenwood Panera Bread, 789 U.S. Hwy 31 N, Greenwood, IN 46142

As we begin meeting in person, there will continue to be a virtual zoom option available for those who will be at home or away. A link will continue to be sent out each week. At this time, we will not be able to accommodate active participation from home. If you have a prayer request or announcement you would like to share, there will be two options. You can either **email** the office at office@shalommennonite.com or pastors@shalommennonite.com with the request by Saturday night and a pastor will share the request at church, or you may **type your request live into the chat** feature on zoom and someone on the tech team will read it to the congregation at church.

Celebrations

Thur, April 14-- Cian Brubaker
Fri, April 15 -- Krystal Johnson
Sat, April 16 -- Jacob Rhine
Tue, April 19 -- Brad Sommer
Wed, April 20 -- Carol Weaver
Wed, April 20 -- Nizeet Aguilar

DISCIPLING: Growing in our relationships

Chair: Martha Yoder

Sunday School classes offered:

PreK class for 3-5yr olds not enrolled in school - Taught by Carol Weaver with Tania Goodloe

Early Elementary for K-3rd grade - Taught by Debora Akotonou with Rose Love

JYF/MYF for 6th-12th grade - Co-taught by OlaJowon Turentine and Frank Kandel with Julie Sanders

Older MYF students will also be invited to join an adult class if they prefer.

For any questions you can contact Laura Harms

harms.laura@gmail.com

April 17, Easter, no Sunday school for adults or children

April 24: OlaJowon will lead us in Bible study using tools from BibleProject.com

Child Safety Update

Our church safety policy calls for all volunteers and staff who work with children to read the child safety policy, have an annual training in child safety, and sign a form saying that we have done those two things and giving permission for Shalom to screen us against the Indiana Sex and Violent Offender Registry. Naturally, while we were meeting on Zoom, all of our training has lapsed. If you plan to volunteer with children and youth in any capacity, please read the whole policy at https://www.shalommennonite.com/files/ugd/ca885f_30c9c287c564489ebd2ff957b6687f60.pdf

Jeanne will lead a training session on May 1 during the 11:00 Sunday school hour. After that we will ask you to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on page 6 of that document and to fill out and sign the Authorization for Criminal History Check on page 7. Turn these completed forms in to Martha Yoder Maust or Jeanne Smucker or put them in the Discipling Commission mailbox at church. If you watch the training on Zoom and do not have a way to read or print the forms, please let Martha know and she will mail you the document. For those who cannot attend the training on May 1 (including those currently teaching the children), we will arrange additional opportunities for you to have training.

Questions? Contact Jeanne Smucker or Martha Yoder Maust.

Over the course of the past year, Tania Goodloe has gone through the baptism discernment class and has made the decision to be baptized at Shalom. The Discipling Commission is pleased to announce that she will be receiving baptism this Easter Sunday. We invite all to join us in this celebration.

OUTREACH: Relationships beyond Shalom

Chair: Zenebe Abebe

I am happy to announce that Becky Wigginton has kindly agreed to join me at the Monthly Arlington Woods Neighborhood Association meetings beginning April 25, through the summer. Becky thank you for willing to serve.

Zenebe, for Outreach

Hoosiers Concerned about Gun Violence newsletter is attached.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM

Chair: Joyce Troyer

Vision and Accountability Team

Chair: Cheryl Martin

VAT has reviewed the data regarding Covid-19. At this time, the case numbers are very low, approximately 1.3. This is well below the level the Safely Gathering committee had set previously. Therefore, in consultation with the Safely Gathering committee, it has been decided that starting April 10, this coming Sunday, masks will be optional. Those who still feel more comfortable with masks are encouraged to continue to wear them. Others can choose to leave them off. Please be aware that this may change at any time if there is a surge or a new variant. If that happens, you will be notified. Safety is still our main goal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As long as COVID-19 cases stay relatively low, Brian is going to resume his practice of holding a "Roving Office" on Mondays, where he works remotely from a Panera or coffee shop somewhere in the city. The schedule is posted on this newsletter. If you would like to recommend another place for him to go, email him at brian@shalommennonite.com.

"Political Idolatry: Countering Christian Nationalism" is a free webinar offered by Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary at 2:00 PM on May 4, taught by professor Drew Strait. More information and registration at <https://www.ambs.edu/what-is-christian-nationalism/>

At the Cross, a virtual production featuring OlaJowon Turentine as Satan, premieres on You Tube Saturday at 7 pm. See attachment for flyer.

Shalom has contracted a web designer to improve the appearance of our website and make it easier to use and view. As part of this process, we invite anyone to send any big or small suggestions about improving the website, including content changes, to Tim Ludden at timothy.ludden@gmail.com by May 10. The AC plans to review the recommendations and review them with the web designer. While not all suggestions will be adopted, we would love to hear the congregations' thoughts on improving the website. (For clarity, this redesign is focused on general improvements and will not make any major overhauls or changes to the current structure of the website.)

Easter Lilies

After the service, you are invited to take an Easter lily to any member who is not able to join us today. If there are still lilies, you may buy a lily. Check with Jeanne Smucker.

A message to Shalom from the daughter of Sarah Palmatier

(Sarah and Howard Palmatier were among the founders of Shalom Mennonite Church.)

I wanted you to know that Mom's melanoma metastasized to her liver and she has started Hospice while living in her apartment. She's still the same as before except tired more often, still able to care for herself and accepting of what's going on. As she says, "97 years of good living, so who can complain?"

She isn't doing much with email so phone calls or cards are the better way to communicate. She's still at 703-527-1478. I know she'd welcome visitors. Her address is:

Sarah Palmatier
900 N. Taylor St., Apt 5111
Arlington, VA 22203

In addition to our podcast, Shalom 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_ReoskuxUXA!

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.

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 compiles *Journeying Together* each week. You can continue to send information to office@shalommennonite.com by 5 pm on Wednesday. Craig 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.

REFLECTIONS ON THE JOURNEY

John 13:6-10 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean."

With Maundy Thursday coming tomorrow I wanted to give a look to footwashing which will be part of the service, also with the option of hand washing.

Foot washing was common in every home in Israel. Not only were the streets dusty and dirty, but they could contain garbage and the waste from the animals who traveled up and down the same streets. People wore sandals without socks and their feet could become very dirty. The custom was to recline around the table at the evening meal. Dirty, smelly feet could make the meal and the fellowship rather uninviting. Servants were provided to wash the feet of guests or you were expected to wash your own.

Jesus took the role of the servant to wash the disciples feet.

When Peter refused to allow Jesus to wash his feet, Jesus responded, "If I do not wash you, you have no part (fellowship) with Me." Jesus was not denying Peter the possibility of salvation or relationship with Him. The issue was intimate fellowship. For fellowship to occur, there must be daily cleansing through honest confession of all known sin (1 John 1:9). When we confess, Jesus is faithful to forgive and cleanse us (wash our feet).

In verse 10, Jesus made a distinction between being bathed and having one's feet washed by Jesus. In either case, the Lord is the one who does the cleansing, we only appropriate it by faith and obedience to the issue involved.

The one who is bathed is the one who has trusted in Christ. The result is a total cleansing—one with lasting results. This is emphasized in the tense used in the Greek text. "Has bathed" is a perfect tense which looks at action completed with results going on in the present. Once we are saved, we don't need another total bath, we don't have to be baptized over and over again. We have been baptized, we have been put in a right relationship with Jesus. Only the daily cleansing from the sins that occur as we walk down the dusty and dirty streets of life.

– Craig

Journeying Together is a weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church: 6100 E 32nd St, 46226; (317) 549-0577 shalommennonite.com

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Vision & Accountability Team: Cheryl Martin, Carol Bixler, CoraLyn Turentine, Frank Kandel, Mark Stocksdale
Brian Bither
