



## *JOURNEYING TOGETHER*

*A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church*

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

**FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

### **CALENDAR**

Sat, February 21: Arlington Woods Neighborhood gathering, 11 am – 3:30 pm (see Outreach)  
Sun March 15: Pizzas For Peace after Sunday School  
Sat, October 3, 2026: Annual Retreat @ Jameson Camp (see CLC)

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Mike Wigginton (chair), Andrew Martin, Carl Rhine

### **COMMUNITY LIFE: RELATIONSHIPS AT SHALOM**

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

### **Celebrations!** (Wednesday – Wednesday)

Sat, February 21: Barbara Abebe  
Sun, February 22: Brenda Smith  
Tue, February 24: Chris Deiter  
Wed, February 25: Tyler Falk



Our annual retreat isn't until **October 3**, but it's been proven that planning needs to start early! CLC proposes the theme of "Joy" for this year's emphasis. We are asking for help in the planning and implementation of this. If you have interest, or

ideas, please contact Linda S, Beverly, Bethany or Craig.

The next Shalom Sisters Lunch on March 5<sup>th</sup> will be at Kimu Restaurant which is Burmese. The address is 280 US 31N., Greenwood, IN 46142. This is directly across from the Greenwood Mall in a small strip mall. Google gives some strange directions to enter the strip mall from County Line Road. Ignore this. Enter the strip mall directly from US 31. Kimu is next to Yatz.



## **DISCIPLING: GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS**

Cheryl Martin (chair), Wilma Bailey, Matt Bauman  
Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

### **Children's Education**

A Teaching Assistant is needed for the 2nd-5th grade class starting in March. Carol Bither will do the planning and preparation. All you need to do is be ready to cultivate an engaging classroom setting each week. Please reach out to Laura or Carol.

**Sunday school class for the adults** will be as follows:

February 22 - Discussion about Tithing and Offerings by Bob Love

Starting March 1 there will be 2 adult classes. The Standard Bible series with Mike Wigginton and the class on Zionism and Christian Zionism with Brad Yoder and Sabrina Falls.

## **OUTREACH: RELATIONSHIPS BEYOND SHALOM**

(chair), Becky Wigginton  
Pastoral Representative:

Arlington Woods Neighborhood gathering, Feb. 21st 11am - 3pm.

The gathering will be a come-and-go event and there will be a lunch catered by a local caterer. The entire neighborhood has been invited to get together to encourage more participation in the neighborhood association. Shalom is in the neighborhood and our members are welcome to attend. It would be nice to have some greeters.

## **SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM**

Jim Showalter (Chair), Angie Buller  
VAT Representative: Andrew Martin

## **VISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (VAT)**

Nizeet Deiter (Chair), Andrew Martin (Vice-Ch) Sam Bixler, Charity Bauman, Abri Hochstetler  
Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

## **WORSHIP: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**

Melissa Walsh Martin (chair), Justin Hochstetler, Jeanne Smucker  
Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

Follow-up Report from the Worship Commission

The survey results from the questionnaire indicated the following:

- Communion style - A preference to gather in small groups around round tables, as is currently practiced.
- Offering - A preference to pass the offering plate as congregants sit in pews, as is currently practiced.
- Foot-washing - An evident interest for foot-washing to be offered annually and/or part of a special service.

In conclusion, the Worship Commission decided to continue with the current practices for communion and offering. However, due to survey comments, we decided to communicate to offertory musicians that they should not feel the need to prematurely conclude their prepared music when the passing of plates is completed, and that congregants could utilize any additional time for reflection and prayer.

Additionally, we intend to have a Maundy Thursday service this April in which foot-washing will be included.

**Last Sunday (2/15)** CoraLyn Turentine brought the message via Zoom.

**This Sunday (2/22)** Wilma will bring the message.

**Next Sunday (3/1)** Sabrina will bring the message.

### This week's Prayer List

- **Church:** *Ninth Street Community Church* is a church in our conference located in Saginaw, Michigan, which is part of the African American Mennonite Association.
- **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. (Contacts: Zenebe and Becky)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you need a new name tag, please contact Sam or Carol Bixler by Saturday morning.

A protest is being planned on February 22 to push for ending ICE detention at the Miami Correctional Facility. More information at

<https://www.mobilize.us/indivisiblecentralindiana/event/896832/>



There will be a Peace Church Coalition gathering leading up to our next **Standing in Solidarity With Our Immigrant Neighbors Action (see below)**

at Northview Church of the Brethren (5555 East 46th Street)

Saturday, February 21st, 6:00-7:30

6:00-7:00 Learn protest songs and hymns to sing at the action

6:30 -7:30 Sign Making (bring your own poster board)  
or just come and hang out and get to know Peace Church Coalition Folks  
for more details contact [rhondabake@aol.com](mailto:rhondabake@aol.com)

#### INVITATION FROM MENNONITE ACTION

Have you heard the singing? As part of Mennonite Action's Sing Down the Doors at Target campaign, Mennonites and friends are holding prayerful demonstrations at local Target stores across the country, calling on Target to end its cooperation with ICE.

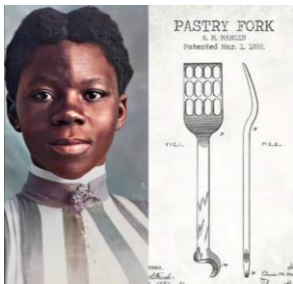
During our upcoming mass call, we invite you to hear directly from the action organizers and participants. Please join us on Thursday, February 26 at 8 PM ET / 5 PM PT.

During the call, you'll also hear reportbacks from our December To Build Our Courage tour and from Mennonite Action participants who were part of a recent delegation to the West Bank. In addition, we'll announce our next opportunity for collective action in March. We look forward to joining with you in community and resistance. Please register here.

### PERSON OF COLOR BIO

Celebrating 100 Years of Black History Commemoration

#### Anna M. Mangin 1844 - 1931



Her hands hurt so badly from baking that she changed American kitchens forever. No money. No status. No permission. Just a Black woman who refused to accept that pain was “normal.”

In 1891, in a modest kitchen in Woodside, Queens, Anna M. Mangin watched women fight their dough every single day. Not metaphorically. Physically. Butter melted too fast in warm hands. Flour crusted onto knuckles. Fingers cramped from endless kneading. Shoulders burned from hours of labor. One mistake—one minute too long touching the dough—and the pastry was ruined. Most women sighed and kept going.

Anna didn't. She saw something everyone else had accepted as inevitable—and thought: this doesn't have to hurt. Baking wasn't a hobby for women in the 19th century. It was daily work. Unpaid, unacknowledged, and physically punishing. Anna understood that kitchens were designed without women's bodies in mind. Tools crushed butter instead of cutting it. Hands did what a simple mechanism should have done.

And then she said something radical: “I can see it. A fork that cuts the butter—not crushes it.” Part fork. part blade. part mixer. A tool that didn't exist—yet. Her husband, Andrew Mangin, listened as she described it so vividly that he later said: “I saw that fork just as plain as I see you now.” He carved the first prototype from yellow pine. Anna tested it, approved it, and refined it. This wasn't inspiration—it was engineering.

On March 1, 1892, the United States Patent Office granted Patent No. 470,005 for Anna Mangin's invention: The Pastry Fork. A Black woman. In the 1890s. Holding a U.S. patent in her own name. That alone is history. But Anna Mangin was already a trailblazer long before that kitchen.

Anna was born Anna Matilda Barker in Louisiana in 1844. She entered Massachusetts through the Underground Railroad, raised by an abolitionist family in Nantucket who believed Black

children deserved education, dignity, and opportunity. While the Civil War tore the nation apart, Anna chose her battleground - she became a teacher.

Through the Freedmen's Bureau, she traveled to New Orleans to educate newly freed Black children—children born into slavery who were now expected to survive freedom without preparation. Anna helped shape an entire generation standing at the fragile edge between bondage and possibility.

After marrying Andrew Mangin and moving to New York, Anna worked as a cook and caterer. And even then, she never stopped teaching, offering lessons to Black children in Woodside. And when she saw women struggling with pastry dough? She didn't shrug. She solved it. Her pastry fork: Cut butter without melting it, mixed without toughening dough, mashed, blended, stirred, and replaced hours of painful labor

In 1893, at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, organizers resisted including Black Americans and women. But Anna's invention still made it in. In a small corner of the Women's Building, part of the New York Afro-American exhibit, her pastry fork appeared. A writer noted it as: "The only thing of its kind at the patent office."

Anna Mangin didn't stop with one invention. She joined Black women leaders in Brooklyn to raise funds for working girls and educational charities. Her life stayed rooted in uplift, learning, and community.

After Andrew's death, she retired to Connecticut. She died on March 1, 1931—exactly 39 years to the day after her patent was granted. A poetic ending to a life defined by purpose.

Her story isn't just about a kitchen tool. It's about a Black woman filing a patent when the law barely acknowledged her humanity. A teacher who believed freedom meant preparation. An inventor whose brilliance cut through erasure. A woman who refused to let pain be permanent. Her pastry fork wasn't just a utensil, it was a declaration. A refusal to be invisible. A demand to be counted.

Edited from

[https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid0n7C4CPEctiQLqChZu36Xnxhpakd4tSNbZqetwbScNdSVU1i7zVEibfjP92oTfCzyl&id=100066491657791](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0n7C4CPEctiQLqChZu36Xnxhpakd4tSNbZqetwbScNdSVU1i7zVEibfjP92oTfCzyl&id=100066491657791)

On this day in Black History:

- **1688**, the first formal protest against slavery by an organized white body in the "New World" was made. The protest was made by Quakers in Germantown, Pennsylvania (now a part of Philadelphia) at a monthly meeting. The protest, dubbed the famed "Germantown Protest" denounced slavery and the slave trade.
- **1903**: *In Dahomey*, the first full-length musical written, produced, and performed by Black artists, opens on Broadway.
- **1931**: *Chloe Anthony Wofford* was born in Lorain, Ohio, but you may know her better as the famous novelist, editor, and professor, Toni Morrison. Some of Morrison's accomplishments include the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for her novel *Beloved*, the 1993 Nobel Prize, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2012.
- **1959**: *Ray Charles* recorded "What'd I Say" at Atlantic Records. Charles was already an accomplished R&B hit maker, but this song finally broke Charles into mainstream pop music. The song also sparked the creation of a new sub-genre of R&B called "soul".
- **2006**: *Shani Davis* becomes the first Black person to win an individual gold medal in the Winter Olympics (1,000-meter speed skating).
- **2016**: 106-year-old school volunteer *Virginia McLaurin* visits the White House to celebrate Black History Month.



[https://www.google.com/search?q=February+18+in+black+history&rlz=1C1CHBF\\_enUS1158US1158&oq=February+18+in+black+history&gs\\_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOdIBCDUzMjVqMGo3qAIA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=February+18+in+black+history&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS1158US1158&oq=February+18+in+black+history&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOdIBCDUzMjVqMGo3qAIA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

and

<https://www.cbs42.com/news/this-day-in-history-black-history-month-edition-february-18th/>



Have something to give away? Need something? Skills needed or to share? Tools needed or to share?

## ROUTINE INFORMATION

Send email to [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) for the following:

- **Church calendar** (Grace Rhine)
- **To upload minutes** on the church website. (Carl Rhine)
- **Zoom** (Grace Rhine)
- **Announcements for Journeying Together**, by 5 pm on Wednesday (Linda Showalter)
- **New/update church directory, email address list, or telephone numbers**, managed by Sam Bixler ([bixlersc@gmail.com](mailto:bixlersc@gmail.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 the church office so your item can be added to the calendar. It's helpful to include the contact person and which parts of the building you expect to use.

**“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 [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.

**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:

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Congregational Reps: Charity Bauman, Sam Bixler, Abri Hochstetler

Pastoral Rep: Craig Oury