



***JOURNEYING TOGETHER***  
***A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church***

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

**JULY 2, 2025**

**CALENDAR**

Thu, Jul 3: Shalom Sisters Lunch, @ Blueberry Hill, 10289 E. Washington St, 11:30 am  
Sun, Jul 6: No Education Hour or coffee time  
Sat, Jul 12: Eastside Creation Care Network meeting @ Shalom, 8:30 am  
(see announcement under Outreach)  
Sun, Jul 20: No Fellowship Meal  
Sat, Oct 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!**

Thu, July 3: Linda Showalter  
Sun, July 6: Linda Kandel  
Sun, July 6: Sydney Maust



Underground Railroad Museum visit: go to <https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/b8KJROLa> to vote for which Saturday in August would work best with your schedule to visit the Underground Railroad Museum in Cincinnati. Respond by July 19<sup>th</sup> so we can finalize plans and get discounted group tickets.

Everyone would be responsible to pay for their own admission, meals and travel. Carpools can be organized.

No 3rd Sunday Carry-in in July since a lot of folks travel and it can get hot in the kitchen in the Summer! Keep an eye out for our Summer Picnic! ~ Kitchen Team

## DISCIPLING: GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

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

### Summer Children's Sunday School volunteer needs:

August 24 - teacher needed for Elementary class. Laura can provide digital resources for the lesson that day.

### Adult Sunday School Classes:

July 6: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

July 13: Jim M, Charity and Brad sharing in the Intergenerational Faith & Food class

July 20: Caucus Sunday

July 27: Reports from IN-MI and MCUSA conferences

Beginning August 3:

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. (See amended attachment)

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

## 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.***



EASTSIDE CREATION CARE NETWORK meeting at Shalom Mennonite Church, Saturday, July 12, 2025

Light breakfast 8:30 - 9 am

Meeting 9 - 11:00 am

- Welcome and introductions
- Reflection
- Guest: Daniel Hedglin and Jamey McPherson about Indy's bike/pedestrian/greenway infrastructure
- Faith In Place - Zach Garcia, Advocacy:
- Thriving Congregations for Environmental Justice, accepting applications for Faith, Action, and Renewal: Equipping Congregations for Climate and Environmental Action (July 28–31)
- 2025 Environment & Spirituality Summit Sept 29–30, Keynote Speaker: Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*
- Faith in Place - Grace
- Congregations - Green updates
- Other Business

### 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 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](mailto: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

### WORSHIP: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

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

**Last Sunday (6/29)** Sabrina brought the message.

**This week (7/6)** Craig will bring a message from Jeremiah 29:11-13

**Next week (7/13)** Andrew Martin will bring the message.

**(7/20)** Craig will bring the message.

#### **This week's Prayer List:**

- **Church:** Prairie Street Mennonite Church, Elkhart, IN

Pastor: Quinn Brenneke. "We are learning to pray through these challenging times as our pastoral intern Melika Hershberger leads us in a worship series on the Psalms. Our sisters and brothers in the conference can ask for God's grace as we seek solidarity with our neighbors."

- **Organization:** Mennonite Disaster Service is an organization that strives to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those affected by disasters by rebuilding homes and organizing and empowering volunteers in the U.S. and Canada. (Contact: Jim Showalter)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



All the people who usually pick up Robert are unavailable on July 27. We are looking for someone to pick him up and return him to his home on that Sunday. If anyone is available and willing, please let Cheryl Martin know (913-375-6264). Thank you.

First Mennonite Church is taking orders for blueberries. A 5 lb box is \$19 & a 10 lb box is \$38. Blueberries will be picked up on Saturday, July 19th. Let me know if you would like to order some. Contact Becky Wigginton

From Dan Rosenberger: **500th Year Anniversary of Anabaptism**; RSVP @ 217-873-4901

Where: Otto Center, ½-mile south of Arthur, IL

When: July 4th & 5th 2025

What Time: Doors open at 1:00pm, July 4th

Sessions: Friday July 4th

2:00pm - 1524 to 1744 – The Froschauer Bible by Lloyd Weiler

2:30pm - The State Church and Its Spiritual Darkness (Pre-Reformation), by Chester Weaver

3:30pm - The Years 1500 to 1550 (The Reformation), by Lloyd Weiler

4:15pm - The Anabaptist Swiss Brethren – Schleithem Confessions/Jacob Amman, by Andrew Ste. Marie

5:15pm - Evening Meal

7:15pm - The Ancestral Homes of the Illinois Amish, by John Sharp

Sessions: Saturday July 5th

7:00am - Coffee/Doughnuts (by donation)

8:20am - Why Anabaptism is Persecuted, by Lloyd Weiler

9:00am - The Nazi Mennonite Story, by Chester Weaver

9:45am – Morning Break

10:00am – The Devastating Outcome of the Hitler/German Mennonite story, by Chester Weaver

## REFLECTION

### The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Submitted by Pastor Craig

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

What is BIPOC? By including “BI” Black and Indigenous in addition to “POC” people of color, we are honoring the unique experiences of Black and Indigenous individuals and their communities, as well as the spectrum of existence and experience by POC. Formally recognized in June 2008, *Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month* has been observed each July and was created to bring awareness to the unique struggles that underrepresented groups face regarding mental illness in the United States.



Mental Health America (MHA) has honored Ms. Campbell’s memory each year by dedicating a mental health toolkit in July to the mental health needs of traditionally underserved and underrepresented populations. In their work, they have tried both to elevate voices in those communities and to improve understanding of the mental health challenges they face. In recent weeks, our country has awakened to the longstanding effects of racism and bigotry, including the effects on mental health. This includes the racism and bigotry that have been built into systems of care, services, and supports that often went unchecked and unmentioned.

That systemic racism and bigotry have had terrible consequences for so many people. As the Brookings Center has reported, Black, Indigenous, and Latinx people in the United States experienced higher infection and death rates from COVID-19. At Mental Health America of Putnam County (MHAoPC), greater mental health impacts on people who identify as Asian or Pacific Islander or of mixed race have been documented. The same been true for a long time for people who identify as LGBTQ+

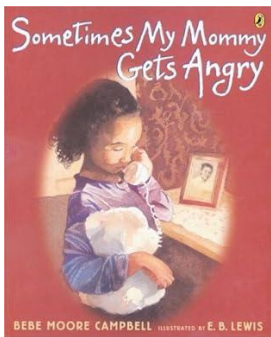
<https://www.mhaopc.org/bipoc-mental-health-awareness-month/has>

**Bebe Moore Campbell** (February 18, 1950 – November 27, 2006) was an American author, journalist, and teacher. Born Elizabeth Bebe Moore, reared in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, she graduated from the Philadelphia High School for Girls and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education from the University of Pittsburgh.

Campbell's works of fiction would often relay the harmful impact that racism would inflict on individuals and their relationships. In 1992, Campbell would release her first, and most critically acclaimed novel, *Your Blues Ain't Like Mine*, which was described



as one of the most influential books of 1992 by *The New York Times Magazine*. This book, which was inspired by the murder of Emmett Till in 1955, describes the impacts of this senseless crime experienced by the victim's family. Campbell, inspired by the Rodney King beating and the subsequent Los Angeles riots, wrote her second novel, titled *Brothers and Sisters*.



Campbell's interest in mental health was the catalyst for her first children's book, *Sometimes My Mommy Gets Angry*, which was published in September 2003. The book tells the story of how a little girl copes with being reared by her mentally ill mother. Her first play, *Even with the Madness*, debuted in New York City in June 2003. This work revisited the theme of mental illness and the family.

As a journalist, Campbell wrote articles for *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Essence*, *Ebony*, *Black Enterprise*, as well as other publications. She was a regular commentator on the National Public Radio (NPR) program, *Morning Edition*. Campbell is known for a number of inspirational sayings, including one on the process of writing: "Discipline is the servant of inspiration." [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bebe\\_Moore\\_Campbell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bebe_Moore_Campbell)



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 add

ress 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.

<p>Journeying Together is a weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church: 6100 E 32nd St, 46226; (317) 549-0577 <a href="http://shalommennonite.com">shalommennonite.com</a> Pastors: Brian Bither, (317) 332-7320; Craig Oury, (301) 302-3181 Vision &amp; Accountability Team: Nizeet Agular, Charity Bauman, Sam Bixler, Frank Kandel, Grace Rhine Pastors Brian Bither, Craig Oury</p>
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