

Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

April 4, 2019

WORSHIP

Our relationship with God

Last Sunday, March 31

During the Sabbath dinner at the home of one of the Pharisaic leaders, Jesus uses parables to teach table manners (and deeper truths) applicable to both guests and hosts. Jesus' proclamation that the time of Jubilee has come (Lk 4:16-21) sets his followers free, both then and now, from entrenched social roles and hierarchies. With this good news, we are empowered to live with joyful humility and hospitable hearts, understanding that each and every one of us has a "place of honor" in the Reign of God.

This Sunday, April 7

Answering for hope – The familiar "cold-call" style of confronting people about faith feels inconsistent for many of us with the way we want to live and respect people. So how do we express our hope in authentic ways? Romans 12:1-2, 11-12; 1 Peter 3:15b

Next Sunday, April 14

Palm Sunday is when we join Jesus at the climatic moment when he finally brings Jubilee to Jerusalem. To prepare for this celebratory moment, read Luke 19:28-48.

Nursery and Play Area Age Limits

Due to the number of young children we have, our current nursery facility is very crowded many Sundays. (This is a good problem to have!) We would like to suggest an age limit for the nursery of 0-3 years. To help our 4 and 5-year olds adjust, a child-friendly area is being set up at the back of the sanctuary in the area where the Giving Corner has been located. (Don't worry, the Giving Corner – renamed "Sharing Space" – isn't gone. Check at the bottom of the basement steps...) This child's area is meant for those young children who might have trouble sitting through the entire worship service without a little additional

movement (suggested age: pre-school). There will be some quiet toys/activities at a table, floor pillows for a change of sitting in the pews and a rocking chair. We do ask that parents oversee their children while in the area so that running and loud talking/noise is discouraged.

Other plans for the nursery include removing one of the two cribs and adding a larger table and chairs. This will allow more room for children to spread out and engage in a variety of play. We would also like to trade the rocking chair for a glider. If anyone knows where we could find one for a reasonable cost, please let on of us know. If there are questions or comments, please direct them to one of the Worship Commission members: Linda Showalter, Grace Rhine, Brittany Bither, Sabrina Falls

COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom

Calendar

Sun. 9:30am Worship

11:00 am Sunday School

Sun, April 7 – Brian's Ordination Service, 2 pm

Mon, April 8 – "Roving Office" 10:30am-3:30pm
Della Leva Esp Bar, 8220 E106th

Wed, April 10 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Mon, April 15 – "Roving Office" 10:30am-3:30pm;
NW Panera; 6050 W. 86th St.

Thurs, Apr 18 – Meal – 6:30pm; Bible Study 7-8

Sat, Apr 20 – Easter Egg Hunt with Iglesia
Amigos; 2pm

Sun, April 21 – Easter Breakfast 8am

Mon, Apr 22 – No Roving Office

Wed, Apr 24 – Morning Breakfast Group, 7am

Fri, Apr 26 – Eastside Creation Care Movie
Night – "Dirt! The Movie" 7-9pm

Mon, Apr 29 – Roving Office 10:30am-3:30pm
Southeast, location TBD

Ordination Service for Brian: Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference has affirmed Brian Bither for ordination, and Dan Miller, the conference pastor, will come to Shalom to lead a special service in which Brian will be ordained as a minister in the Mennonite Church on Sunday, April 7 at 2pm. Everyone from Shalom is invited to come and participate in this service.

Structure Evaluation

Shalom's organization/structure has been serving us for about a year and a half and it's time for a performance review. The VAT (Vision & Accountability Team, our governing body) has asked Sam Bixler and Cheryl Martin to conduct this evaluation. They will meet with the VAT, the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team, the Pastoral Team, and each of the commissions to learn how the structure is working in those settings. Then the congregation will be surveyed to provide individual input – how well is our structure working for you? When all the information has been gathered, it will be shared in aggregate with the VAT and with the congregation in a group meeting. Proposals for tweaks or major changes may be proposed, depending on results of the feedback from the evaluation. No time has been set for the congregational meeting, but it should take place soon after the survey is completed.

DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships

Adult Ed for April

April 7 – Sara Blume of Families First will provide training on sexual assault awareness. This is a follow-up on a training that several of our leaders attended at First Mennonite Church in the fall.) Originally scheduled in January, on the day we cancelled worship due to road conditions.
April 14 – Jeanne Smucker will lead our annual child safety training
April 21 – Easter – no Sunday School
April 28 – Earth Day conversation

PASTORAL TEAM SEARCH COMMITTEE (PTSC)

We are in conversation with prospects who are in the early stage of the application process for the 0.5 FTE position. Please continue to pray for discernment during this process.

Pastoral Team Search Committee Carol Bixler, Linda Kandel, Kristen Metzler-Wilson, Brad Sommer (Chair), & Herb Troyer)

OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom

Solar Panels

The Outreach Commission is once again in the process of securing several proposals for the installation of Solar Panels at Shalom.

Once secured, these will be presented to the VAT (Vision and Accountability Team) for further consideration.

Frank Kandel, Pastor for Outreach

Giving Corner:

In April, *hygiene kits* for Mennonite Central Committee are for international distribution. The cloth bags are supplied for the hygiene kits.

Contents (NEW items only)

- 1 adult-size toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging)
- 1 large bar bath soap (leave in wrapper)
- 1 nail clipper (good quality)
- 1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colors, approx. 16 in x 26 in)
- 1 wide-toothed comb (6-8 in)

I Support The Girls (ISTG) has a local chapter. An article about ISTG can be found on the foyer bulletin board. Three items, in any quantities are requested:

- new bras
- tampons
- sanitary pads

The Family Promise wish list for the Day Center is quite a bit longer. Any quantities accepted.

- Paper towels
- All surface cleaners in spray bottles (approx. 32 oz)

- Umbrellas
- Male and female deodorant
- Disposable razors
- New twin
- Paper towels,
- All surface cleaners in spray bottles (approx. 32 oz.),
- Umbrellas,
- Male and female deodorant
- New twin blankets and pillows
- Paper cups *8-12 oz), hot or cold beverages
- Plastic forks, knives and spoons (in order of preference)
- Paper plates and bowls
- Toilet paper (if you'll permit, we humbly request at least as many play as you have thumbs)
- Pull-ups (and other diapers) of all sizes
- Liquid hand soap (large refill bottles, not dispensers)
- 39-gallon black trash bags (with built-in ties)
- 13-gallon white trash bags (ties not needed)
- Regular laundry detergent (pods are preferred; we won't eat them)
- Dye-free laundry detergent (for parents with infants, usually labeled "free and clear")
- Coffee, dry creamer, sugar in pourable/ sealable container

MCC Aid to Cyclone Victims

On March 15 Cyclone Idai destroyed 90% of Beira, one of Mozambique's largest cities and affected nearly 3 million people with widespread flooding up to 20 feet high. Your gift will help MCC and our partners provide emergency assistance to those in dire need. Donate online mcc.org/cyclone-idai.

ADMINISTRATION

Congregational support systems

Outreach minutes

Minutes from the March 28 Outreach Commission meeting can be found on the Members page of our website.

Conference Sessions and Convention

This summer, our conference will be holding its Annual Sessions at the Amigo Centre in Sturgis, MI from June 13-15, and then Mennonite Church USA will be holding its biannual Convention in Kansas City from July 2-6. Registrations for both events are now open. You can find the IMMC

registration [here](#) and the MCUSA registration [here](#).

Connections with broader Mennonite organizations

To receive announcements from AMBS (Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary) email marketing@ambs.edu

Prayers for Faith and Learning is a monthly email with ideas for prayer. Email info@mennoniteeducation.org to be added to the list.

MMN (Mennonite Mission Network) has a weekly prayer email which you can have sent to you by emailing prayer@mennonitemission.net

MILEPOST

Do you have some thoughts to share about this month's spiritual discipline? The Pastoral Team invites you to share your thoughts as one of the weekly milepost entries. Please email Sabrina, Frank, or Brian to explore this further.

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

shalommennonite.com

Pastoral Team:

Brian Bither, (317) 322-7320,
brian@shalommennonite.com;
Frank Kandel, (309) 532-2859,
kandel93@gmail.com;

Sabrina Falls, (317) 902-9495,

sabrinafalls@outlook.com

Vision & Accountability Team: Brad Sommer, Jeanne Smucker, Wilma Bailey, Carl Rhine, Rod Maust, Brian Bither

Please submit information by Thursday, 12pm, to office@shalommennonite.com