



JOURNEYING TOGETHER

A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church

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

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

CALENDAR

- Thu, March 5: Shalom Sister Lunch @ (Burmese) Kimu Restaurant in Greenwood (see CLC)
Sat, March 14: Eastside Creation Care Network meeting at Cumberland Baptist Church, 116 S. Muessing St. Cumberland, 8:30-11:00. All are welcome. Direct questions to Mike and Becky Wigginton
Sun March 15: Pizzas For Peace after Sunday School (see Outreach)
Sat, October 3, 2026: Annual Retreat @ Jameson Camp

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)

Wed, February 25: Tyler Falk

Thu, February 26: Jeanne Smucker

If you would like to send cards to Bill and Mary Albrecht, here are the addresses:
Bill Albrecht

c/o Copper Trace Assisted Living, Room 237
1250 West 146th Street
Westfield, Indiana 46074

Mary Albrecht
c/o Copper Trace, Room 404
1250 West 146th Street
Westfield, Indiana 46074



The next Shalom Sisters Lunch on March 5th 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

Henri Nouwen wrote an interesting message to us about our children. He says children are our guests in this life. "It belongs to the center of the Christian message that children are not properties to own and rule over, but gifts to cherish and care for. Our children are our most important guests, who enter into our home, ask for careful attention, stay for a while and then leave to follow their own way. Children are strangers whom we have to get to know."

I believe this applies to the church also. When our children are dedicated to God, we the church, pledge to help them grow up in Christian faith. This includes teaching them about God and Jesus and the Christian faith in our Sunday schools. Here at Shalom, it is becoming more and more difficult to find persons willing to help our children in this way. While not everyone has gifts for teaching, and some have other responsibilities, there are persons who can help teach our children.

All this to say we need someone or several people to teach the 2nd to 5th grade class for four weeks in March (8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th). Will you step up to meet this call? If so, let Cheryl Martin know immediately (913-375-6264). Thank you.

Sunday school class for the adults

- "Understanding Zionism" with Brad and Sabrina will be in the fellowship hall downstairs.
- The class using the "Salt and Light" materials with Mike will be at the back of the sanctuary.

OUTREACH: RELATIONSHIPS BEYOND SHALOM

(chair), Becky Wigginton
Pastoral Representative:

See the attached Prayer Letter from Peter and Delicia.

Pizzas For Peace is a fundraiser we have done over the years for different nonprofits. A group of us will be baking, you come and eat instead of going out and make a donation or not. This year our funds will be going to Indiana AID <https://www.indianaaid.org/>

~ Becky

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

Last Sunday (2/22) Wilma brought the message.

This Sunday (3/1) Sabrina will bring the message from Psalm 25:4-10 Matthew 5:7.

Next Sunday (3/8) Craig will bring the message.

This week's Prayer List

- **Church:** *North Goshen Mennonite Church* is a church in our conference located in Goshen, Indiana.
- **Organization:** *Family Promise* is a partnership of congregations and community organizations responding to the crisis of children and their families who are homeless. They work to eliminate homelessness in Greater Indianapolis. (Contact: Solomon Abebe)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For what would I give my life? See the attached article by Nelson Kraybill.

Just a note: for the next 4 or 5 weeks, *Journeying Together* will be sent out on Wednesdays, but it may not come out right at 5 pm, depending on internet accessibility, my schedule and the time change between here and Texas. ~ Linda

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

Fanny Jackson Coppin

The first African American woman to hold the post of principal of a large educational institute.



**It was in me to get
an education and
to teach my people.
This idea was deep
in my soul.**

Fanny Jackson Coppin

In her day, Fanny Jackson Coppin was widely known as an educator and an activist for freedom for blacks and women. She was born a slave in Washington, DC. Her aunt, Sarah Clark, purchased her freedom and then Fanny went to live with another aunt in New Bedford, Massachusetts. She worked as a domestic servant. At age fourteen she went to live in Newport, Rhode Island where she worked as a domestic for six years.

Fanny excelled in school and eventually attended Oberlin College, one of the few that were admitting African Americans. She pursued a classical course of study, usually only taught to men, becoming proficient in Latin, Greek, and mathematics. Fanny was one of only a few women to take these courses since it was felt at the time that women could not handle them. Fanny proved them all wrong.

Fanny went on to teach Latin, Greek, and mathematics at the Institute for Colored Youth. She was the principal of the girls' high school department and taught the girls to master Caesar, Virgil, Cicero, Horace, and Xenophon's Anabasis. Did you read any of these in high school? Clearly, race or skin color has nothing to do with determining intelligence.

When the headmaster, Ebenezer D. Bassett was appointed to minister in Haiti, Fanny Jackson replaced him as head principal, becoming the First black woman in the US to hold a position at that level in an educational institution. She remained at the institute for thirty-seven years. During her tenure she influenced many future black leaders and helped to shape some of the patterns for black education in the United States in the nineteenth century. She believed strongly in vocational training and introduced industrial training into the school with instruction in 10 trades.

In 1881, Fanny married Reverend Levi Jenkins Coppin. He was a bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME). Fanny held her membership in a Baptist church, but she became involved in the AME in missionary work. She was president of the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society. In 1888, she was a delegate to London for the meeting of the Centenary Conference on the Protestant Missions of the World. There she spoke forcefully about the intelligence of African American women and the tremendous responsibilities they assumed in every endeavor, including missions. In 1893, she delivered the same message at the Chicago World's Fair.

Fanny is mostly remembered for her work in education. As an activist she participated in speaking, lecturing, writing, and organizing black women's clubs. She wrote many things published by an arm of the AME and was among the first to publish works by African Americans.

Fanny resigned her post in 1902 and went to live in Cape Town, South Africa. She worked tirelessly with black women organizing mission societies. She founded Bethel Institute in Cape Town. Later she returned to Philadelphia where she died in 1913. In 1926 the High and Training School of Baltimore was renamed the Fanny Jackson Coppin Normal School. In

1939 the name was changed to Coppin Teachers College and eventually became Coppin State University in 2004.



On February 11, 2022, a statue was unveiled at Coppin State University. There is also a Fanny Jackson Coppin Scholarship to help students and continue her legacy.

Edited from <https://authormarywalker.com/fanny-jackson-coppin-educator-and-humanitarian/>



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 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)
- **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 by noon on Saturday. It will run before and after the service.

Bulletin Information:

- Send announcements to at.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.

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 office@shalommennonite.com

Pastor: Craig Oury, (301) 302-3181

Vision & Accountability Team: Chair Nizeet Agular Deiter, Vice-Chair Andrew Martin

Congregational Reps: Charity Bauman, Sam Bixler, Abri Hochstetler

Pastoral Rep: Craig Oury