



JOURNEYING TOGETHER

A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church

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

JANUARY 21, 2026

CALENDAR

- Mon, January 26: Arlington Woods Neighborhood Association Community Meeting @ Shalom, 6 pm. All are welcome.
- Thu, February 5: Shalom Sisters Lunch, 11:30 am (see CLC)
- Sun, February 8: Game Night @ Shalom; (see CLC)
- Sun, February 15: Carry-in Fellowship meal after Sunday School
- Sat, February 21: Arlington Woods Neighborhood gathering, 11 am – 3:30 pm
- 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



We are currently looking for new cleaners at Shalom. Before we consider outside candidates, we want to see if there are members of the congregation who are interested in applying for the position of cleaner. We are looking for reliable, detail-oriented candidates who are willing and able to serve in this area. Please let Mike, Andrew, or Carl know if you are interested in maintaining the Shalom building as a clean, welcoming space for worship and our other activities! **Please respond by Sunday, January 25.**

COMMUNITY LIFE: RELATIONSHIPS AT SHALOM

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

Celebrations! (Wednesday – Wednesday)
Tue, January 27: Matt Bauman



Game Night on Sunday, February 8 in the fellowship hall. We understand there is a Game happening at the same time ... never fear, it will be on the TV.

Since the following week includes Valentine's Day, we're looking for people who would be willing to provide some valentine cookies and decorating supplies so the children can decorate them for our dessert! (And this year, we'll try to see that the children share with the everyone and don't eat all of them!)

Sign up on the back sanctuary window to provide soup or cookies/decorating supplies. Bring snacks and table games to share.



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

Shalom Sisters Lunch will meet on **February 5** at The Bosphorus, 935 S East St, Indianapolis at 11:30 am.



DISCIPLING: GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

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

Sunday school class for the adults will be as follows:

January 25: Review of Technology

February 1 - Sermon discussion of the Philippians series with Kim Johnson

February 8 - Discussion about Lent with Craig Oury

February 15 - Antiracism Sunday

February 22 - Discussion about Tithing and Offerings by Bob Love and Rod Maust

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:

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 (1/18) Herb continued the series, preaching from Philippians 2:1-18.
This Sunday (1/25) Craig will continue through Philippians and will preach from Philippians 3.
Next Sunday (2/1) Craig will preach from Philippians 4.

This week's Prayer List

- **Church:** *Mennonite Fellowship of Bloomington* is a Mennonite congregation based in the college town of Bloomington, Indiana, which is part of our CAMFell cluster of churches.
- **Organization:** *Mennonite Women USA* is a sisterhood of women following Jesus who engage the voices of all women, honoring our/their stories, practicing justice, and embracing healing. (Contact: CoraLyn Turentine)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Celebrating 50 years of More-with-Less! Herald Press and Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) invite you to share stories of food, joy, and resilience to help to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the *More-with-Less* cookbook. This beloved cookbook's call to thrift, Christian compassion and abundant living is just as urgent and relevant today as it was in 1973.

Go to <https://bit.ly/MoreWithLess50> to learn more and to submit stories, blessings or ideas for simple approaches to sharing food and fellowship. Please share your story by February 15 for a chance to be featured in the 50th anniversary edition or additional digital resources – and receive a chocolate oatmeal cake recipe as thanks!

Downstairs on the stage in the fellowship hall are several banners. These were made many years ago by various people. We no longer have need for them, but they may have a sentimental attachment for some. Please feel free to take one if you like. They will be removed after next Sunday, January 25.

Hoosiers Concerned Forum: Gun Safety & Public Policy, Thursday, January 22

Featuring State Senator Fady Qaddoura and Representative Maureen Bauer, By **Hoosiers Concerned About Gun Violence (HCGV)**.

Join HCGV for a virtual public forum exploring two important gun safety bills currently under consideration at the Indiana Statehouse. This

conversation will provide Hoosiers with the opportunity to learn directly from legislators about proposed policies, ask questions, and better understand how these measures aim to improve public safety.

Topics for Discussion

- **State Preemption and Local Authority:** Featuring Senator Fady Qaddoura, discussing his preemption bill and its implications for Indiana communities.
- **Domestic Violence & Lethality Assessments:** Featuring Representative Bauer, discussing legislation requiring law enforcement to use lethality assessments during domestic violence calls.

This event is free and open to the public. Advance registration is required.

Register [here](#) today!

PEACE CHURCH COALITION & INDIANAPOLIS PEACE AND JUSTICE CENTER are hosting a gathering:

Standing in Solidarity with Our Immigrant Neighbors, Sunday, February 1st, at Northview Church of the Brethren, 5555 E 46th Street, Indianapolis, 46226

This event is designed for attendees to learn, ask questions, and find ways to use your own unique gifts to support the most vulnerable members of our community during these difficult times. It will begin with a **pitch-in lunch at 12:00 pm. From 1:00-2:30 pm**, there will be speakers and training, including stories from people impacted by the actions of ICE/DHS, Q&A with speakers, a description of ways to be involved, and small group discussion. There will also be an announcement of an Ash Wednesday Action being planned. [Sign up here](#) (to give the hosts an approximate count) **or just show up! All are welcome.** Contact rhondabake@aol.com for questions.

PERSON OF COLOR BIO

Oseola McCarty

March 7, 1908 – September 26, 1999

Oseola McCarty was born into the world in 1908, and it was a raw start. She was conceived when her mother was raped on a wooded path in rural Mississippi as she returned from tending a sick relative. Oseola was raised by her grandmother and aunt, who cleaned houses, cooked, and took in laundry.

As a child, Oseola would come home from elementary school and iron clothes, stashing the money she earned in her doll buggy. The three women relied completely on each other, and when the aunt returned from a hospitalization unable to walk, Oseola dropped out of sixth grade to care for her and take up her work as a washerwoman. She never returned to school.

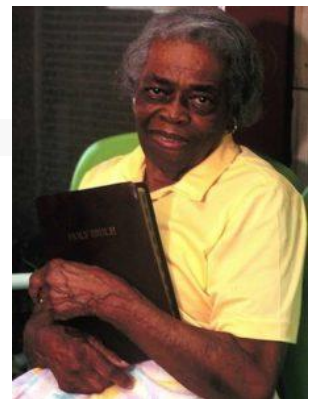
McCarty scrubbed her laundry by hand on a rubboard. She did try an automatic washer and dryer in the 1960s, but found that “the washing machine didn’t rinse enough, and the dryer turned the whites yellow.” After years of boiling clothes and then doing four fresh-water rinses, that wasn’t good enough to meet her high standards. The machine was almost immediately retired, and she went back to her Maid Rite scrub board, water drawn from a nearby fire hydrant, and 100 feet of open-air clothesline.

Shortly after she retired, McCarty did something that made many Americans very proud of her. She had begun to save almost as soon as she started working at age eight. As the money pooled up in her doll buggy, the very young girl took action. “I went to the bank and deposited. Didn’t know how to do it. Went there myself. Didn’t tell mama and them I was goin’.”

“I commenced to save money. I never would take any of it out. I just put it in. . . . It’s not the ones that make the big money, but the ones who know how to save who get ahead. You got to leave it alone long enough for it to increase.”

Of course, that requires self-control and modest appetites. “My secret was contentment. I was happy with what I had,” said McCarty.

When she retired in 1995, her hands painfully swollen with arthritis, this washerwoman who had been paid in little piles of coins and dollar bills her entire life had \$280,000 in the bank.



Even more startling: she decided to give most of it away—not as a bequest, but immediately. Setting aside just enough to live on, McCarty donated \$150,000 to the University of Southern Mississippi to fund scholarships for worthy but needy students seeking the education she never had. When they found out what she had done, over 600 men and women in Hattiesburg and beyond made donations that more than tripled her original endowment. Today, the university presents several full-tuition McCarty scholarships every year.

Like a lot of faithful philanthropists, Oseola McCarty was forgiving. Reminded that the university she was giving her money to had been white-only until the 1960s, she answered with equanimity: “They used to not let colored people go out there. But now they *do*. And I think they should have it.”

Oseola McCarty knew that giving is its own pleasure. When a journalist from *People* magazine asked her why she didn't spend the money she'd saved on herself, she answered with a smile that thanks to the pleasure that comes from making a gift, “I *am* spending it on myself.”

Edited from <https://www.philanthropyroundtable.org/hall-of-fame/oseola-mccarty/>



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

ROUTINE INFORMATION

Send an 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)
- **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

office@shalommennonite.com 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](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.

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](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) or bixlersc@gmail.com.

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