

## JOURNEYING TOGETHER

Shalom Mennonite Church

October 12, 2022

### WORSHIP: Our relationship with God

Chair: Brittany Bither

**Last Sunday (10/9)**, Gemima Trochez was our guest, preaching a sermon entitled, "Do not abandon the processes of God."

**This Sunday (10/16)**, we will resume our study of Amos as Brian preaches about the "plumb line" mentioned in chapter 7.

**Next Sunday (10/23)**, Craig will continue our series in Amos.

### COMMUNITY LIFE: Relationships at Shalom

Chair: Herb Troyer

### CALENDAR

Sunday, October 12, 9:30 am Worship, Sunday School following.

Coffee and tea time between Worship and Sunday School will be served downstairs, please get your drink and don't linger/talk at the window! just keep moving to Sunday School! We can only do this if everyone helps, so the clean up schedule is those who's last name begins with A-B are to clean up in Oct. after Sunday School. --The Kitchen Group

Friday, October 14, 2:00 pm Discipling Commission

Monday, October 24 from 9a to 3p - Brian's Roving Office at Downtown Starbucks (430 Massachusetts Ave., Indianapolis, IN)

Monday, October 24, 6pm VAT

Monday, October 31 (PLEASE NOTE ADJUSTED TIME AND LOCATION) from 8:30a to 2:30p - East Side Starbucks, 9605 E Washington St., Indianapolis, IN

Monday, November 7 (PLEASE NOTE ADJUSTED LOCATION) from 9a to 3p - Northwest Panera, 2902 W 86th St, Indianapolis, IN

Thursday, November 10, 6 pm Commission Chairs

Monday, November 14 from 9a to 3p - Greenwood Panera, 789 US Highway 31 N, Greenwood, IN

Monday, November 28 from 9a to 3p - Brian's Roving Office at Fishers Panera Bread - 8510 E 96th Street, Fishers, IN

**Bulletins** are now attached with the Zoom link for those who are worshipping on Zoom. There will continue to be a virtual zoom option available for those who will be at home or away. A link will continue to be sent out each week. At this time, we will not be able to accommodate active participation from home. If you have a prayer request or announcement you would like to share, there will be two options. You can either **email** the office at [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) or [pastors@shalommennonite.com](mailto:pastors@shalommennonite.com) with the request by Saturday night and a pastor will share the request at church, or you may **type your request live into the chat** feature on zoom and someone on the tech team will read it to the congregation at church.

### Celebrations

Sat, Oct 15 -- Josh Martin  
Mon, Oct 17 -- Justin Hochstetler  
Wed, Oct 19 -- Mary Albrecht

**Vivienne Florence Bauman** – Matt and Charity Bauman welcomed their new daughter recently. If you would like to sign up for the meal train please follow this link. [mealtrain.com/66yelz](https://mealtrain.com/66yelz)

**Meal Train.** As Bek is recovering from surgery the CLC has created a meal train to support them with a meal train. Follow this link to sign up: [mealtrain.com/k0v8z0](https://mealtrain.com/k0v8z0)

### **Shalom Retreat**

Shalom Retreat 2022 at Camp Jameson. The planning committee would like to thank everyone who helped to make the retreat a joy by leading, helping or participating in it. About forty children and adults were present. In reflecting on the experience of living with restrictions caused by Covid in the community, individuals noted that they were happy that they could still feel connected via Zoom and meaningful worship happened. Many noted that getting together outside for the dedication of the park in honor of Pastor Dagne was wonderful. Some enjoyed the solitude forced by the pandemic while others felt isolated. Suggestions were made as to what might be changed now or in preparation for another period of lockdown. They include: keep in mind that individuals have different levels of comfort using technology, welcome participants on Zoom by name because persons worshipping in person do not know who is with us on Zoom, use the phone more to stay in touch, plan for informal visiting or other events on Zoom outside of Sunday morning and have more outdoor activities or worship experiences.

**Here are a list of small groups** that are meeting. Feel free to contact one of them if the timing suits and you would like to meet and talk. There is also the possibility of forming your own small group by asking others to join you around a hobby or passion. There is one member of shalom who suggested having a Zoom group around the theme of a sermon response group sometime during the week. If interested let Herb Troyer know.

**Wednesday Breakfast Group** Rod Maust contact person Phone 317 593-4355.  
Email [yodermaust@gmail.com](mailto:yodermaust@gmail.com) We meet on the second and fourth Wednesday morning of each month at 7am via zoom. We had been meeting at the Illinois St Emporium for breakfast but have not yet resumed that since COVID came about. Our conversation can include sermon responses, our Shalom journey, broader church issues, personal sharing, and general news concerns.

### **Martha Maust is the contact person for this small group.**

Members are Brenda Smith, Barbara Longoria, Bob and Rose Love, Bill and Mary Albrecht, and myself. We meet once a month on Zoom at 1:00 PM on Sunday. The meeting date depends on our schedules. We focus on sharing and praying for each other. Sometimes we also talk about things that are going on in the congregation or things we have been studying. I'm the contact person and my preferred email is [yodermaust@gmail.com](mailto:yodermaust@gmail.com).

### **Herb Troyer is the contact person for our Wisdom around the campfire small group**

We meet about every other week depending on our schedules. contact one of the group members for the next meeting time and place. We try to meet outside when the weather is cooperative and at times we continue to have a campfire. We often have someone lead in a small devotional and then have sharing and prayer before we leave. The members are Herb and Joyce Troyer, Cheryl Martin, Bek and Dean Linsenmeyer, Becky and Mike Wigginton, and Chuck Dunn.

## **DISCIPLING: Growing in our relationships**

Chair: Martha Yoder

### **Shalom Youth**

Children's Sunday School substitute update:  
The youth class has a substitute for the needed October dates.

Children's Sunday School Co-Teachers needed.

The ideal situation for our Pre-K and Youth classes would be to have a co-teacher that could cover about half the dates. If you can help, reach out to Laura or talk with Carol Weaver about PreK or Jeanne Smucker about youth.

### **Adult Education schedule**

Sunday, October 16

- Sermon covers Amos 7
- Adult SS - Bible Study on Amos (4th session)

Sunday, October 23

- Sermon covers Amos 8-9
- Adult SS - Bible Study on Amos (5th session)

Sunday, October 30

- Adult Sunday School: Mission & Vision Discernment (1st session)

Sunday, November 6

- Adult Sunday School: Mission & Vision Discernment (2nd session)

Sunday, November 13

- Adult Sunday School: Mission & Vision Discernment (3rd session)

Sunday, November 20

- Adult Sunday School: Anti-Racism Caucus Conversations

Sunday, November 27 - First Sunday of Lent/Thanksgiving Weekend, no

Sunday school for adults or children

### **OUTREACH: Relationships beyond Shalom**

Chair: Zenebe Abebe

**Attached** is the newsletter from **Peter and Delicia**. Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministry.

### **Including Youth with Autism**

The latest Anabaptist Disabilities Network Newsletter highlights inclusion of those with autism in congregations. One article, written by a young woman with autism, poignantly describes talking to God as a nonverbal person. In another, the mother of a son with autism shares joys as well as getting caught in the trap of "The Comparison Game." A high school Sunday school teacher who is also a special ed teacher writes about including individuals with difficult behaviors. His article concludes with the challenge to all of us in the church: "The youth try to inform us to live up to the promise of Jesus that all are welcome. If we do not see those faces, tolerate those outbursts, or fully embrace the differences in God's Garden, are we then the welcome ones?" (Tom Szambecki at <https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/Newsletter/Pages/2022/Fully-Embracing-Differences-in-God's-Garden.aspx>; click on the pictures to the right for the other two articles.)

### **SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM**

Chair: Joyce Troyer

The SGDT is thankful to share that Beverly Smith agreed to serve as a member of the Community Life Commission . Please communicate your affirmation or other feedback regarding Beverly for this position to Joyce Troyer (email: [troyers\\_hj@hotmail.com](mailto:troyers_hj@hotmail.com); phone: 317-446-4353) by October 26.

### **Vision and Accountability Team**

Chair: Cheryl Martin

## **Shalom Survey**

The VAT would like to spend some time with the congregation discussing the Mission and Vision Goals of the congregation. It was in 2017 that these were established. Because of the pandemic, it was difficult to have these discussions and so it was decided to wait until we could meet in person again. We plan to have those discussions starting at the end of October. In order to facilitate the discussions, we are asking the congregation to give us some insight into what is being thought/felt by the congregation members. A survey has been developed which should help us begin the discussions.

Please complete the survey either in electronic form (attached) and return it in that form. You can also print off the form and turn it in or take one of the available copies (at the mailboxes) and filling it out. Place completed paper forms in Cheryl Martin's mailbox. All names or identifying information will be removed from the survey before tabulation is done. All information will be presented in aggregate form so it is anonymous.

## **Masks**

The VAT met on Tuesday 9/13 and discussed mask wearing at church. The daily COVID-19 new infection rate is decreasing in the US. Because of this and the increase in vaccinations and the availability of receiving booster vaccines, it has been decided we will make masks optional starting with Sunday 9/18. We continue to ask you to stay home and worship on Zoom if you are sick. If you are feeling a bit unwell and attend church in person, please wear a mask. We want to keep each other safe.

We will continue to monitor the situation and masks may become mandatory again at some time if the situation warrents. We continue to encourage everyone to get vaccinated for COVID-19 and stay up to date with boosters as appropriate. We encourage the annual flu vaccine as well. We want everyone to stay healthy and well.

## **Administration**

Chair: Mike Wigginton

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Bulletin announcements** should be sent to Linda Showalter at [showalter@indy.rr.com](mailto:showalter@indy.rr.com) by Thursday, 10 am.

**Pastor Brian** will be on vacation from Monday, October 17 to Sunday, October 23. Please direct any pastoral concerns to Pastor Craig at that time, who can be reached at [craig@shalommennonite.com](mailto:craig@shalommennonite.com).

**Vigil for Detained Immigrants.** Notice: The prayer vigil at the Clay County jail for this Saturday has been **canceled**. An update will be included in Journeying Together when a new date is set.

**Indiana AID** has produced its first newsletter! Please read the attachment and email Brian at [brian@shalommennonite.com](mailto:brian@shalommennonite.com) if you'd like to subscribe to receive these monthly.

**Goshen College "Parables" on Tour.** The Goshen College traveling choir "Parables" will be traveling through Indianapolis and performing at First Mennonite on the evening of Sunday, October 16 (exact time TBD). All from Shalom are invited to attend their free performance entitled, "Spreading Love."

I will be leading several hikes for the **Indianapolis Hiking Club** in October and November. You are invited to join me on any that interest you. We always start on time so get there a little before the listed starting time. Children are welcome but parents or guardians must supervise them. The hiking leader cannot keep an eye on children. There is no charge for hiking with the club. See the attached schedule. Wilma

### **\*\*\*Notice change to hiking schedule\*\*\***

My McCormick's Creek State Park hike will be on Saturday, October 15 at 10 a.m. not Nov. 5. The pace will be 2

or 2.5 mph.

**Mennonite Church USA** launched the “**Learn, Pray, Join: Mass Incarceration**” initiative in September. This initiative, in conjunction with the “For Justice in the U.S. Criminal Legal System” resolution, seeks to raise awareness of injustices in the U.S. criminal legal system, especially those that disproportionately affect people of color and people without financial security. The initiative will continue through the end of October. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/lpj-mi](http://mennoniteusa.org/news/lpj-mi)

In addition to our podcast, Shalom has a **YouTube channel**, and many of our Zoom Sessions including the sermons in the "Story of the Bible" sermon series and the "Facing Hard Questions" sessions - can be found there. 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 [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEn30AED17Q\\_ReoskuxUXA!](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEn30AED17Q_ReoskuxUXA!)

**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.

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](mailto:bixlersc@gmail.com).

Craig Oury compiles *Journeying Together* each week. You can continue to send information to [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com) by 5 pm on Wednesday. Craig 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).

Journeying Together is a weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church: 6100 E 32nd St, 46226; (317) 549-0577 [shalommennonite.com](http://shalommennonite.com)

Pastors: Brian Bither, (317) 332-7320; Craig Oury, (301) 302-3181

Vision & Accountability Team: Cheryl Martin, Carol Bixler, Frank Kandel, Grace Rhine, Mark Stocksdale  
Brian Bither, Craig Oury