



JOURNEYING TOGETHER
A weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church

JUNE 26, 2024

CALENDAR

Wed, July 10: Craig's Church Office hours, 10-4
Sun, July 14: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner (see announcement under Community Life)
Mon, July 15: *BRO @Northwest Panera, 6050 W 86 St.
Wed, July 17: Wild Church, 10 am (see announcement under Discipling)
Mon, July 22: *BRO @Greenwood Panera, 789 US Hwy 31N, Greenwood
Wed, July 24: Craig's Church Office hours, 10-4
Mon, July 29: *BRO @ East Side Starbucks, 9605 E Washington St., Indianapolis, IN
Mon, August 19: *BRO *BRO @ Fishers Panera, 8510 E 96 St, Unit A, Fishers
Mon, July 29: Commission Chairs Zoom meeting, 6:30 pm
Wed, July 31: Craig's Church Office hours, 10-4
Mon, August 5: *BRO @ Greenfield Panera, 2173 N State St, Greenfield
Tue, August 6: SMC hosts The National Night Out with Arlington Woods N'hood Assoc, 6-9 pm
Mon, August 12: *BRO @ Downtown Starbucks, 430 N Mass Ave
Mon, August 19: *BRO *BRO @ Fishers Panera, 8510 E 96 St, Unit A, Fishers
Wed, August 21, Wild Church, 10 am. Place to be announced.
Mon, August 19: *BRO *BRO @ Fishers Panera, 8510 E 96 St, Unit A, Fishers
Sat, October 12: Retreat @ Jameson Camp
*BRO = Brian's Roving Office, 9a – 3p

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

Let's celebrate!

Today June 26: Cheryl Martin
Wed, July 3: Linda Showalter



It's time for our annual Guess Who's Coming To Dinner but we are having a little twist. There will be options for dining timeframes. So, if you are looking for something with a little bit of mystery to do on a Sunday afternoon/evening, sign up for our event! Our Dining Experience will be held Sunday, July 14, 2024. Sign-up sheets are in your mailbox. Please complete and return to Angie Buller **by Sunday, July 7th**.

DISCIPLING: GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

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

The Sunday school children will be putting together school kits at the beginning of August. Please bring in the items listed below, either whole kits or individual items. If you are willing to sew the drawstring kit bags, contact Carol Bixler.

Contents (NEW items only)

- 4 spiral or perforated-page notebooks; about 21.5 cm x 27.5 cm (8.5 in x pages (70 sheets) each, totaling 500–600 pages (250-300 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm (inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small all-metal pencil sharpener (one or two holes)



Wild Church will meet Wednesday, July 17 at 10 am at the Virginia Fairbanks Park (100 acres) of Newfields (The Indianapolis Museum of Art). From 38th street and Michigan Road, go west on 38th Street. Pass the main entrance to Newfields. Turn right just after the museum at the White River Parkway East sign. Halfway around the circle, turn right onto the gravel road. Park in the new parking lot.

Our **Elementary summer Sunday School schedule** is almost ready. We still need:

- **July 7** – teacher needed to give a Lesson from our Digital Peace Curriculum
- July 21 – stay tuned for the contributions you can make for our Stone Soup
- Aug 4 – everyone can participate in collecting school kit supplies prior to this date

This schedule is still subject to change.

June 30	Lesson	Brian
July 7	Lesson	
July 14	Craft, Music, Games	Carol Bixler
July 21	Stone Soup Lesson	Becky and Laura, w/Frank's kettle
July 28	Movie	Brian
Aug 4	Back to School Day	Laura / Carol Bixler
Aug 11	Lesson	Brian
Aug 18	Craft, Music, Games	Brittany

Adult Sunday School Classes

June 30: *Stories in Genesis*, led by Wilma Bailey, upstairs: Joseph-Genesis 47:11-26, 50:15-21

Salt and Light Lesson #5, John 11:17-44

July 7: Sermon discussion

Salt and Light Lesson #8, Matthew 15:21-28

July 14: Sermon discussion

Salt and Light Lesson #12, Acts 11:1-18

July 21: Dismantling Racism Work

OUTREACH: RELATIONSHIPS BEYOND SHALOM

Zenebe Abebe (chair), Chuck Dunn, Becky Wigginton

Pastoral Representative: Brian Bither



Arlington Woods Neighborhood Association

Shalom is hosting the National Night Out for Arlington Woods Neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods the evening of Tuesday, August 6th. This is a great opportunity for us to serve our community. The event will be outside all around the Church and we will want to be welcoming everyone. Look for the sign up sheet on the back window on ways to get involved and volunteer. Plan on coming and meeting our neighbors. If you have any questions ask Zenebe Abebe, Becky Wigginton or Pastor Brian.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM

Angie Buller

VAT Representative: Nizeet Deiter; Pastoral Representative: Craig Oury

VISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (VAT)

Frank Kandel (Chair), Nizeet Deiter (Vice-Ch) Mark Stocksdales, Charity Bauman, Grace Rhine

Pastoral Representatives: Brian Bither, Craig Oury

At its last meeting on June 18th the VAT worked on revising the **Welcoming Statement IN PROCESS**. The revisions are based on input and feedback received during congregational discussions. The revised statement will be discussed with the congregants for feedback and questions during the Sermon Discussion Sunday School Class on July 14th. For those not in attendance, other provisions will be made for feedback, questions and counsel.

In other business, the VAT accepted the resignation of CoraLyn Turentine as chairperson of the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team. The other members of the Team, including Angie Buller, Nizeet Deiter, and Pastor Craig Oury will carry on the work of the Team until a new chair can be appointed.

The minutes of the most recent VAT meeting and previous meetings are posted at

<https://www.shalommenonite.com/ccjalsijfijaiwjf8u4825y358y398u9jhlilj>

Frank Kandel, VAT Chair

WORSHIP: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Brittany Bither (chair), Justin Hochstetler, Jeanne Smucker

Pastoral Representative: Brian Bither

Last Sunday (6/23), Brian engaged the story of Jacob and Esau, noting how important it was for Jacob to wrestle with God and become clear about who he was in order to reconcile with his brother.

This Sunday (6/30), Brian will finish the sermon series on "Family Matters" by reflecting on the story of Joseph and his brothers, and we will celebrate the dedication of Nathan Joseph Aguilar Deiter.

Next Sunday (6/30), Craig will bring the message.

This week's prayer list:

- Church: This week, our church in focus is **Hopewell Mennonite Church**, which is a Mennonite Church in Kouts, Indiana that is a part of our Conference. They ask for our prayers for their pastor, Joel Short, who has a sabbatical this summer and for their discernment over ways to bless their community.
- Organization: We are also praying for **Faith in Place**, which is a network of people of diverse faiths and spiritualities seek to lead the environmental movement by advancing environmental and racial justice, and providing resources to educate, connect, and advocate for healthier communities. (Contact: Brad Yoder and Becky Wigginton)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Pastor Brian will be on vacation July 1-7.

INFORMATION NO ONE NEEDS:



Celebrate *National Day of Joy* today!

June 27 is *National Handshake Day*. The handshake is possibly one of the oldest forms of greeting in the world. There are traces of pictorial evidence on pottery and pressings which show that the ancient Assyrians and Greeks used to clasp hands to seal a deal or indicate a peaceful approach. In medieval Europe, knights would clasp each other's arms in order to shake loose any weapons that might be up the other's sleeve. A popular belief is that the handshake originated in Europe due to the shaking part of this gesture. By the 1700s, the Quakers came to use the handshake in preference to more deferential ways of greetings such as the hat tip or bowing, because shaking hands conveys more of a sense of equality between both parties.



June 28 is *Paul Bunyan Day*. The character Paul Bunyan was brought to life by the stories lumberjacks from the Northeastern U.S. and Eastern Canada told, way back in the 18th century. They were all told orally and no original written account exists. Even the etymology of the name is unknown, but some people believe it is related to the Québécois expression 'bon venne!' which is an exclamation of surprise or astonishment.

Founded by the Hugs for Health Foundation, *Hug Holiday*, is observed on June 29. The origins were specifically meant to promote health in the elderly, but anyone can benefit from a hug!



Log Cabin Day is observed on June 30. Log cabins date as far back as medieval times in Scandinavia and Eastern Europe where tall, straight trees were readily obtainable. A medieval log cabin was called a chattel house and considered movable property. Villagers who were relocating dismantled their homes and transported them to a new location for reassembling. Historians suggest that the first log cabins built on American soil were in a Swedish colony around 1640. The houses were solid and long-lasting. In the 19th century, the log cabin became a political symbol in America, indicating humble beginnings and something that resonated with ordinary people. Seven U.S. presidents were born in log cabins.



Combining Log Cabin Day and July 1st's *International Joke Day*:
Log cabins are alright. But igloos are cooler.



National Wildlands Firefighters Day on July 2 honors the dedicated Personnel who coordinate the efforts to protect the nation's wildlands, and to remember the sacrifice made each time a firefighter steps into a wildland fire.



July 3 is *International Plastic Bag Free Day*. Five facts about plastic bags: 1) It takes between 100 and 500 years for plastic bags to disintegrate. 2) We make 5 trillion plastic bags a year. 3) The average person uses a plastic bag for 25 minutes. 4) Every minute around the world, 1 million plastic bags are used. 5) Plastic bags kill around 1000,000 marine animals each year.



Need something? Have something to give away?



If anyone has a small, stuffed, gray donkey braying about the house that didn't use to be there, possibly brought home by little hands from a library display, he would like to be returned, no questions asked. He might also be hiding in the church building somewhere

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

BULLETIN INFORMATION:

- Send announcements to Linda Showalter 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.

JOURNEYING TOGETHER is compiled by Linda Showalter each week. Send information to office@shalommennonite.com by 5 pm on Wednesday.

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 or 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 or 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 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.

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 shalommennonite.com

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

Vision & Accountability Team: Nizeet Agular, Charity Bauman, Frank Kandel, Grace Rhine,
Mark Stocksdale, Brian Bither, Craig Oury