



PAOLI MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

July 24, 2016

*We welcome all persons
to worship, study and fellowship with us as we continually
seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus.*

Call to Worship

Leader: Only when we admit we are lost

People: can we be led.

Leader: Only when we acknowledge our weakness

People: can we be given strength.

Leader: Only when we are empty

People: can we be filled.

All: We are lost. We are weak. We are empty.

Leader: Come Lord Jesus, hear our prayer. Amen

Prayers

Continue to remember Connie Gillion as she is transitioning to her new apartment. Her new address will be: 401 East Water Street, Paoli IN 47454 and her new phone number is 812-723-8644.

Pray for God's blessing on the Jr. High students who will attend "Know Jesus" this weekend, hosted by Goshen College and Camp Amigo. May they experience the love of God deeply in their hearts and discover the hope of faith in Jesus more fully. Those attending are: Lily, Bernice, Amos, Samuel, his friend Dakota, Matthew, Madeline, and Evie and Dave B-K as adult sponsors.

Pray for Erik and Dianna Thone as they drive back from Idaho. Give thanks for the positive meetings they had relating to Dianna's daughter. Continue to pray for clear communication and a smooth conclusion to the process of bringing her to live in IN. Pray they might be able to find a larger house. Pray also for Erik that he might experience healing and relief from pain in his shoulder.

Nazareth Village is producing a Women of the Bible docu-drama series where scenes are filmed in the same location that biblical history was made. Pray that the stories of these women will inspire, empower, and help us living in the 21st century

Searching for the Lost

Focus: God rejoices in finding us.

Gathering to Worship

Song: Jesus calls us – SJ 3

Welcome and introductions

Call to Worship: (see back of bulletin)

Praising

I sought the Lord – H 506

Rain Down – SJ 49

The love of God – SJ 44

Confessing and Reconciling

Prayer of confession – (with song response - see insert)

Song: Oh, Lord have mercy – SJ 47

Celebrating Shalom

Opportunities for Generosity – *July special giving is for Foods Resource Bank*

Song: My offering I bring to you

Hearing and Experiencing Jesus' Words

Children's time:

Scripture: Luke 15: 1-10

Meditation

Response Song: Wonderful grace of Jesus – H 150

Sharing our joys and concerns / Intercessory Prayer

Announcements

Sending song: Guide my feet – H 546, Vs. 1 & 4

Benediction

PASTOR-ELDER TEAM

Rebecca Kauffman, Pastor	653-4140
Darren Bender-Beauregard	723-5259
Doris Weaver	723-2841

MINISTERS

All the congregation

CHURCH OFFICE

Pastor: Rebecca Kauffman; Office Hours - Tues 9-4, Wed 9-1, Thurs 1-5
Director of Youth: Evie Shellenberger; Office Hours: Thur. 9 – 1. Cell: 812-653-9703
Secretary: Deb Giles; Office Hours – Wed. and Fri. 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
Phone: (812) 723-2414; **Fax:** (812) 723-3515 **email:** mennos.paoli@gmail.com
Address: 2589 N. CR 100 W., Paoli, IN 47454

OUR COVENANT

In covenanting together, we affirm that Jesus Christ is Lord. We gratefully acknowledge him as our Lord and accept his teaching as the way to live. We recognize the importance of:

- Regular Bible study, worship with others, and prayer as a vital part of our Christian life.
- Taking each other seriously, contributing our gifts and caring for one another in love to strengthen the Christian body.
- Living and sharing the Good News as Christ has taught us and as the Holy Spirit enables.

TODAY July 24, 2016 (worship at 9:30 am)	NEXT SUNDAY July 31, 2016 (worship at 11:00)
<i>Parables & Sayings of Jesus</i>	<i>Shalom Sunday</i>
Worship Leader: Veronika Sukup	Worship Leader: Mary Mininger
Music Leader: Marlene Beachy	Music Leader:
Meditation: Rebecca Kauffman	Meditation: Steve Thomas
Greeters: Dave & Marlene Beachy	Greeters:
Nursery: Keith Gibbons/Dessica Albertson	Nursery:
A.V.: Larry Lehman	AV:

TODAY

Many of Jesus' parables were told in response to a critique or question from his critics. Such is the case with the two parables in Luke 15: 1-10. Have you ever been "lost" and then found your way? What was your response when you lost something precious and then found it? Jesus invites us to recognize and participate in the divine celebration on occasions of repentance and being found.

La class de espanol es el domingo a las seis. This week we will focus on numbers and indefinite articles. This is Lesson 5, pp. 27-31 in the workbook. Bienvenidos!

NEXT SUNDAY

Shalom Sunday, July 31: Steve Thomas from Pathways Retreat in Goshen, In., will be presenting on "Trees" in our worship time at 11:00. A pitch-in meal will follow, after which there will be a hike on the Pioneer Mother's trail. Come be inspired by the spirituality of trees and the invitation to care for them!

THIS WEEK

Wed., July 27, 6:30-8:00 pm - Large Group meeting. Come at 6:00 to share a light meal and fellowship. Agenda to include: PET report; financial report; action on "pastoral assistance matching grant"; presentation of pastoral sabbatical plan; other reports.

At noon on Friday, July 29, seven junior high youth and two adults will be traveling to Goshen College to a "**Know Jesus**" retreat. This will be a time for these youth to know Jesus and each other in new ways. These retreats also acquaint youth with others in our broader church community.

UPCOMING

August 7, 5:00 pm - Back-to-school **Ice Cream Social**

August 27-28, **Summer Campout** at Tipsaw Lake.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 49th annual Michiana Mennonite **Relief Sale** is September 23-24, 2016, at the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds. The sale begins Friday September 23rd at 5 p.m. with activities continuing until 9 p.m. Saturday opens at 7 a.m. until early afternoon. Come and make this weekend a family event! For more information about the sale or to download printable forms, see our website www.mennonitesale.org.

As a follow up from the Adult SS class on "**Returning Veterans, Returning Hope**" - check out this blog series featuring people, congregations and organizations in Mennonite Church USA who are working with veterans who have experienced the trauma of war. One author writes about what returning veterans need from the church. See: <http://mennoniteusa.org/?s=returning+vets>.

The Small Group coordinators are beginning to form **new small groups** for the coming 2-year cycle. Please see the response form in your mailboxes to indicate your interest as well as your ideas! **Please reply by Sunday, August 7.**

Prayer of Confession

(song response: Oh, Lord have mercy" – SJ 47)

God our Maker, we are your creatures;
at night we grow weary;
in the morning we rise with new strength.
God, our Savior, we are the ones you rescue
from aimless wandering and blind despair.
God our Keeper, we are the ones you protect
from our own good intentions
and our foolish self, self-centered dreams.
We are your children –
fragile, finite, vulnerable.
(Song response, Stanza 1)

Merciful God,
We fail to love those nearest to us
with a tender and sturdy love.
We fail to love those on the other side of town
with generosity and compassion.
We fail to see in our enemies' faces
your image and your dreams.
Merciful God, we want to see as you see.
(song response, stanza 1)

Merciful God,
We waste the gifts of the earth
and then condemn those whose pantries are bare.
We keep silent when the war goes on
and we keep investing our wealth in systems that oppress.
We shade the truth,
and speak ill of others when we can get away with it.
Merciful God, we want to be true as you are true.
(silence, followed by song response, stanza 1)

And yet, merciful God,
you have made us for yourself.
You long to cleanse us and set us free;
You want to touch our eyes
and open them to the healing truth.
And so, with grateful hearts, we receive your grace.
We are beloved, and in your sight we are made whole. Amen.
(song response, stanza 5, repeat twice)

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