

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR

Class:

Early Childhood (*Ages 0-4 years*)Parents
Primary (*Ages 5 – 2nd grade*)Crystal Shellenberger & Stori Sullivan
Middler (*Grades 3rd – 5th*)Jon Shellenberger, Aaron Johnson,
Jim Beachy, Dave Woodsmall, & Doris Weaver
Junior High (*Grades 6, 7 & 8*)Andrew Blount & Mary Beth Gibbons
Youth (*Grades 9-12*)Evie Shellenberger & Phil Mininger

Teachers:

Adult Class: Reflections on events and people involved in Jesus' last days.

Call to Worship

Leader: Here in this place we gather to worship.
All: Open our eyes and our hearts.
Leader: Here in this place we gather to see you.
All: Open our eyes and our hearts.
Leader: Here in this place we gather to perceive you in all your glory and beauty.
All: Open our eyes and our hearts.
Leader: Remove our blindness so that we might see ourselves honestly, and humbly worship you.

Prayers

Remember Jim and Bonnie in prayer as they drive and move to VA today! May God grant peace and joy as they settle in to a new community.

Pray for strength as Connie Gilliom recovers from shoulder replacement surgery last Tuesday and receives therapy in Paoli. May God's healing power fill and restore her.

Pray for members of the Mennonite Church USA executive board as they meet March 30 to April 1 to worship, discern and care for the business of the church. Ask for God's guidance as preparations are made for the bi-annual National convention to be held in Orlando this July.

More Announcements

The steering committee of **Backpacks of Blessings** is holding their annual Chicken Barbecue on Saturday, April 1, 2017, from 5-7:00 p.m. This year, we're selling tickets for \$10.00 in advance. The meal will include a 1/4 chicken, cheesy potatoes, beans, cole slaw, a drink and dessert (dine-in/carry out). Please see Mary Beth for tickets. And, let her know if you can make a cake or pie! Thank you!



PAOLI MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

March 26, 2017

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

Lent 4

Restore Us O God! We See.

Focus: We are bombarded by visual images, and can mistake what is seen for what is true. Once our eyes and hearts are opened, we can see with greater clarity and respond in discipleship.

Gather to Worship

Song: Will you come and follow me – SS 39
Welcome and Introductions
Call to Worship (see back of bulletin)

Singing our Faith

Open my eyes Lord – SS 65
Beauty for brokenness – SS 115
You are all we have – SJ 29

Confession and Words of assurance (see insert)

Celebrating God's Gifts

Celebrating Shalom – Yolanda Yoder
Opportunities for Generosity – Special giving for March goes to the Food Pantry

Hearing God's Word

Children's time: JoAnn Borntreger
Scripture: John 9: 1-41
Meditation

Responding and Sharing our Stories

Lenten ritual – anointing
Song: Be thou my vision – H 545
Sharing Joys and concerns/intercessory prayer

Sending

Announcements
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 am-3pm, Wed. 10 am-noon, Fri. 9 am-1pm
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 Mar. 26, 2017 (worship at 9:30 am)	NEXT SUNDAY Apr. 2, 2017(worship at 9:30 am)
<i>Restore Us, O God</i>	<i>Restore Us, O God</i>
Worship Leader: Milton Borntager	Worship Leader: Rebecca Kauffman
Music Leader: Keith Gibbons	Music Leader: Marlene Beachy
Meditation: Rebecca Kauffman	Meditation: Dave Brown-Kinloch
Greeters: Mischelle Lewellyn	Greeters: Mary & Phil Mininger
Nursery: Becky Johnson/Patsy Heinz	Nursery: Evie Shellenberger/
A.V.: Aaron Johnson	AV: Aaron Johnson

TODAY

A Lenten frame of mind can give us courage to be honest about our own “blindness.” When Jesus heals our blindness we are able to see ourselves and others in new ways, to see in god’s perspective.

A lunch meeting will be held (12:15 till 2:00 pm) for anyone interested in sharing conversation and ideas about the shape of the continuing youth and families staff position. Soup and bread will be provided.

NEXT SUNDAY

In our Lenten journey we continue to seek, restoration from God. Sometimes we feel stuck in dust and deadness, unable to see what the Spirit wants to do in our lives or communities. Yet the Spirit of God is ready to breathe us into life. Jesus’ friend Lazarus experienced death as well as the power of new breath in his body, even as Jesus himself walked closer to his own death. In preparation for next week, read John 11: 1-45, (and Ezekiel 37: 1-14).

Youth Council will meet on Sunday, April 2, following the Sunday School hour. A light lunch will be provided for all youth council members and their families.

THIS WEEK

Wed. Mar. 29, 1:00 pm, GDC mtg.

UPCOMING

Save the Date! Tuesday, April 25 at PMF – **concert with music for all ages by Bryan Moyer Suderman.** Bryan is a thoughtful song-writer and an engaging performer who will entertain as well as have you singing along. Details to come.

April 30, **Shalom Sunday.** Watch for details.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The trip to Guatemala is nine weeks away and includes 22 travelers. The big bills will be coming soon with paying for tickets and arrangements with our country host agency (SEMILLA). **So we are asking for your FYI commitments by May 1** if possible. Only about \$5700 to go out of the \$31,000 that you amazing and generous people committed yourselves to!

Nine adults and 13 youth are preparing for our trip to **Guatemala.** We will leave on Friday, May 26 and return on Sunday, June 4. In preparation for this learning experience all travelers will meet together on the following dates: March 29, from 7-8 p.m., April 23, from 6-7 p.m. and May 14, from 6-7 p.m. These are required meetings for everyone. Please let me know if you cannot be at these scheduled meetings.

Louisville Bats game is scheduled for Friday Night, June 9. Tickets are \$7 per person. If you would like to attend you may purchase your tickets from Deb Giles. Deadline to purchase tickets is March 31. This would be a great mentor/mentee activity.

If you are interested in watching out for examples where **Shalom is being created** (locally or abroad) to share during worship, talk with Wally.

Paoli Fire Dept., IU Paoli hospital, the Ministerial Association, and others are partnering in a **“home fire preparedness campaign”** on Sunday, April 2, from 12:30 – 5:00 pm. Volunteers will work in teams to install smoke alarms and offer fire prevention education in specific Paoli neighborhoods. See poster on bulletin board, and contact Jim O’ Connell or Rebecca K if interested.

Confession and Words of Assurance

Leader: O God, you open our eyes to see what is true. We confess that sometimes it is easier for us to stay blind than to embrace the fullness of your truth.

People: We admit that it is scary and unsettling to fully accept what you want us to see.

Leader: Your truth exposes our hidden secrets, upsets our expectations, and establishes a new order where we are no longer leading the way. Forgive us, O Lord, when we would rather stay in the darkness of our current reality instead of receiving your miracle of light and new life.

People: Remove the cataracts from our eyes, that we may see and celebrate your goodness around us. Awaken our minds, and soften our hearts, that we may recognize that you are at work.

(Pause for silent confession)

Leader: God who brings all things into the light,

ALL: Restore us.

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd, we shall not want. Though we cannot see through the valley of the shadow of death, God is with us. We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

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