

Call to Worship

- Leader: People of God, we gather here to celebrate the Holy One in whose image we are created, male and female. Our souls thirst for the living God who delights in right relationships.
- People:** **We believe that we are created in God's image.**
- Leader: Children of God we celebrate the goodness of our Creator's hand. Like a patient artist, God has crafted all life forms, humanity in all shades of skin, all ages, all kinds of ability, to share in the joys of this world.
- People:** **We are in awe that we are created in God's image.**
- Leader: Beloved children of God, we recall that God mourns over the pain that we cause one another and ourselves. Violence, broken relationships, abuse and estrangement grieve God's heart.
- People:** **Knowing we are created in God's image, we claim the promise and path of healing and restoration.**
- Leader: We gather to celebrate the bonds of relationships, the beauty of caring for one another, the gift of our sexuality.
- People;** **We gather so that our whole lives may be formed by God's Spirit to reflect the image of God.**

Prayers

Pray for those you know who are experiencing stress. May they feel God's grace, and may we discern how best to offer assistance.

Give thanks for the mission and work of the Good Samaritan Fund and its volunteers. Pray for people in Orange County who are experiencing medical crisis. Pray too for lawmakers, that they might be willing to listen and work for the good of many as it relates to health care policies.

Our brothers and sisters in Congo continue to endure unthinkable trauma as government troops and rebel militias burn homes, steal crops, kidnap young people, and kill indiscriminately. Pray for God's protection, and that the church might be a sign of Jesus' reconciliation.



PAOLI MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

August 20, 2017

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

Bind us Together – Body and Soul

Focus: We are created in God's image, and in Christ we are designed to dwell in healthy relationships.

Gather to Worship

Song: God who touches earth – H 511
Welcome and Introductions
Call to Worship (see back of bulletin)

Singing our Faith

New earth, heavens new – H 299
Christ's is the world – SJ 62
Healer of our ev'ry ill – H 377

Celebrating Shalom – Doris Weaver

Opportunities for Generosity – Special giving for August goes to OCCF- Good Samaritan Fund-
Coins to Foods Resource Bank

Hearing God's Word

Children's time: Crystal and Veronika
Scripture: Genesis 1:26-27, 31; Galatians 5: 13-14; Philippians 4:8-9

The good gift of sexuality

When the tapestry is broken:

Prayer of confession: "Abusing a precious gift" (see insert)

Proclaiming hope:

We remember, O God, your invitation to healing.

In you, our wounds are patiently tended.

In your care, we are gently led towards wholeness.

Visit us with your all-encompassing embrace. Grant us fullness of life. Amen.

Pathways to healing and hope: Making PMF a place of safety for all ages - skit

Response song: I will come to you in the silence – SS 49

Sharing Joys and concerns/intercessory prayer

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
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.

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| <p>TODAY August 20, 2017 (worship at 9:30)</p> <p><i>Bind us Together</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Rebecca Kauffman Music Leader: Marlene Beachy Meditation: Various Greeters: Aaron & Shanna Johnson Nursery: Deb Giles/Daren Bender Beauregard A.V.: Aaron Johnson</p> | <p>NEXT SUNDAY Aug. 27, 2017 (worship at 9:30 am)</p> <p><i>Summer Campout</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Music Leader: Meditation: Greeters: Nursery: AV:</p> |
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TODAY

We are all sexual beings, created good in God's sight. But inappropriate use of the gift of sexuality tears apart the fabric of homes and society. How can the church be a place of safety and modeling of healthy relationships and behavior that binds us together?

NEXT SUNDAY

There will be no worship service at the PMF building. Instead, gather at the lakeside pavilion at Tipsaw Lake for a special time of worship, beginning at 11:00 am. (See announcements for further details).

THIS WEEK

Tues. 22nd, 10:00 am - PCRC meeting

UPCOMING

August 30, - **Large Group meeting** for all participants. Meal: 6:00 pm and meeting: 6:30 pm Agenda to include: PET and finance reports, conversation with the person that search committee is recommending for the position of Pastor of Youth Formation; and discussion of a possible energy-related grant.

Sept. 10 – **Christian Education hour resumes** for the fall season.

Sept. 22-23 – Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale in Elkhart to benefit MCC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Most people approaching retirement age have questions about Medicare. An upcoming **webinar presented by Everence Financial** will provide answers. Medicare made easy will be presented on Wednesday, August 16, at 3 and 8:30 pm. Specific topics will include Medicare eligibility, deadlines and costs plus enrollment details. The webinar will be presented by Jim Smith, Everence Financial Services Representative. To register, visit everence.com/MedicareMadeEasy or contact Melissa Short at (800) 222-5054, ext. 3392 or Melissa.short@everence.com

Summer Campout will be held on August 26-27 at Tipsaw Lake. Count on starting to arrive after lunchtime on Saturday for free-time fun , games and swimming. We have reserved Group campgrounds Goldenrod and Primrose for Saturday Night Only camping. Sat, evening Luke Mosemann will be doing pulled pork and there will be hotdogs and veggie burgers. Bring something to add to the meal, chips, veggies, desserts, drinks etc. Mennolympics 2017 will be back to normal this year. We'll start sometime as it gets dark. Bring your best jokes to share. Sunday morning worship will be at 11 am at the east pavilion by the lake. Coffee will be ready prior to the service. **Please bring your own table service.** Hope to see everyone there!

“Remain in Me” retreat for women and girls at camp Amigo, Oct. 6-8, 2017. See flyer on bulletin board for more details.

Abusing a Precious Gift – by Carol Penner

When all is not what it seems,
when evil masquerades as good,
when it seems the wrong path is calling us,
Jesus, we need your help.

When sexually explicit images appear before us,
when curiosity and desire urge us to linger,
when it seems innocent just to look,
Jesus, we need your help.

When we make sexual comments in a social setting,
when our words make another uncomfortable,
when it seems funny at the time,
Jesus, we need your help.

When affection turns to passion,
when we are not committed in marriage,
when it seems there is no point in waiting,
Jesus, we need your help.

When sexual desire sparks inside us,
when we know we are committed to someone else,
when it seems harmless just to imagine,
Jesus, we need your help.

When we touch someone who does not want to be touched,
when we trespass where we should not go,
when it seems that no one could prove it happened,
Jesus, we need your help.

When having sex is all about me,
when we give hardly a thought to our partner,
when it seems normal to live this way,
Jesus, we need your help.

When we want to act on our sexual desire,
when that person is a child,
when it seems that they will never remember,
Jesus, we need your help.

When we use our sexuality carelessly,
when we abuse this precious gift,
when we are confused and broken,
Jesus, your help saves us.

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