

## Shalom Covenant Survey, 2018-2019

Every Fall we renew our annual covenant, which is also an opportunity for you to find and name ways you would like to participate in the life of the congregation. Of course you don't have to sign the covenant to be involved or to complete this survey!

Below are a host of ways to contribute. Please indicate the activities or items that interest you for the coming year -- as many as you want! If you have questions about a particular item, feel free to ask a relevant committee member or someone on the Pastoral Team (Brian Bolton, Marci Frederick, Hannah Kelley, Sharon Landis, Jaime Miller, Emily North, Valerie Showalter, James Ward) Return this to Brian or Valerie, put it in the offering basket, or submit online at [shalommc.org/get-involved](http://shalommc.org/get-involved)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact info (email, phone) \_\_\_\_\_

### Covenanting and Membership

Covenanting is an annual ritual open to anyone. It indicates your desire to be an active member in the life of this congregation for the current year. Membership is an open-ended, longer-term indication of our sense of commitment to Shalom congregation.

- Covenanting:** I affirm my desire for involvement and covenanted participation in Shalom Mennonite Congregation for the 2018-2019 season.
- Membership:** In addition to the annual covenant, I seek an open-ended, longer-term membership of Shalom Mennonite Congregation.

### Children & Youth

- Children's Formation Class teacher**       **Children's Formation Class assistant**
- Youth volunteer / sponsor:** attend youth group, retreats, other events
- Approved Adult training:** Our Safe Congregation policy requires we have two "approved adults" at any gathering geared toward youth or children. Approved adults will have attended a training offered twice a year. Anyone is encouraged or invited to attend. Check here if you haven't had this training and are interested.
- Serve on the Safe Congregation Committee:** meets as needed to help refine and implement Shalom's Safe Congregation Policy for the protection of children and youth.

### College, Adult, or Intergenerational

- Lead a formation hour discussion or series of discussions**  
- What sort of discussion or group would you be interested in leading or participating in?
- Invite college / graduate students to a meal (out or at your house)**
- I have another idea for connecting with college students:** \_\_\_\_\_
- Retreat Planning:** I would be interested in planning some aspect of 2019 fall retreat, Sept 6-8, 2019:
- Serve on the Formation Committee:** meets every other month; plans faith formation classes and activities for all ages, supports age-specific rites of passage, and coordinates the mentoring program

## Small Groups

Shalom small groups span a range of activities, from supper clubs to spiritual reflection. Some groups are long established and some can exist for a short time. Take a moment and let us know if you are interested in finding or creating a small group opportunity.

- Are you in a Shalom small group?
- Are you interested in finding a new small group connection?

How often are you open to meeting? (check any)

- Weekly
- Twice per month
- Monthly

Are you open to... (check any)

- Intergenerational - adults only
- Intergenerational - adults & children
- College Students
- Mostly peers
- A men's or women's group
- Sharing meals
- Hosting
- Personal sharing
- Praying together
- Discussing a topic
- Studying a book
- Studying scripture
- Watching movies
- Short-term commitment < 6 mos
- Longer term, 1 yr +

**Small Group Comments:**

## Setup, Hospitality, and Administration

- Sunday Setup & Take Down:** An easy and yet vital way to help on Sunday mornings. Help arrange our EMHS meeting spaces one Sunday per month for one quarter. Arrive about 8:30am.
- Potluck Clean Up:** After our monthly potluck, assist the hospitality committee in doing dishes, wiping tables, sweeping the floor, etc.
- Greeter:** Arrive 15 minutes early, smile, shake people's hands, hand out bulletins and say "welcome" to those who enter our doors. Open to new people (great way to meet everyone!) old-timers, families, or groups.
- \_\_\_ (1-12) **Snack** – number of times this year you'd be willing to bring a snack for fellowship time
- \_\_\_ (1-12) **Coffee clean-up:** Number of times this year you'd be willing to clean up after fellowship time
- Serve on the Hospitality and Community Building Committee:** meets as needed; coordinates potlucks, special meals and activities such as Christmas party, game night, etc
- Serve on the Stewardship and Administrative Committee:** meets as needed; Develops and manages budget, acts as trustees of worship & meeting spaces.

## Worship & Music

**Visual Arts:**

- Configure altar displays, wall hangings, fabric, candles or art based on a theme
- Provide & arrange flowers
- Children's Time:** Lead Children's time during worship
- Kids' Corner Attendant:** WC is exploring interest in having someone sit Kids' corner and facilitates engagement
- Worship leading:** set the tone of the service from start to finish with the spoken word, silence, or prayer
- Reader:** Read scripture or litanies
- Music Leading:** lead congregational singing, choose hymns
- Speaking/Preaching**
- Singing in an ensemble**
- Instrumental Music:** provide accompaniment or play offertory/prelude (name instruments you are willing to play)
- Serve on the Worship Committee:** meets monthly; reviews past services, plans broad themes, schedules

## Relationship with the larger church and community

Keep Shalom connected to one of the organizations we support or to our affiliated larger church bodies -- MCUSA or Central District Conference. Check if you are already involved, connected, or are interested in knowing more about any of the following:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge of Hope                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mennonite Disaster Services                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crossroads Brethren & Mennonite Heritage Center | <input type="checkbox"/> New Bridges                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Everence  | <input type="checkbox"/> New Community Project / Vine & Fig          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faith in Action                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Our Community Place                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift and Thrift                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patchwork Pantry                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harrisonburg Interfaith Association             | <input type="checkbox"/> VMRC - Virginia Mennonite Retirement Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harrisonburg International Festival             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                                      |

**Serve on the Mission and Service Committee:** The Mission and Service Committee meets bimonthly on a Sunday morning after worship/church. It seeks to inform and educate about the partners we support.

### *Mennonite Church USA and Central District Conference (CDC)*

Shalom is part of the Central District Conference of Mennonite Church USA. Check if you are interested in developing or helping us maintain relationships with other churches in the conference and denomination.

- Look for ways to reach out to other congregations in our conference (i.e. NC, GA, FL)
- Serve as a delegate at the annual meeting of the Central District Conference in Milwaukee, WI June 20-29, 2019
- Join the CDC's mailing list
- Attend or serve as a delegate to the national MCUSA Assembly in Kansas City, July 2-6, 2019.

**Serve on the Pastoral Team:** meets monthly; discuss prayers and pastoral needs, involved in pastoral care and worship life.

## Everything Else!

What is something you would like to see happen at or through Shalom this year, and how do you imagine it happening? Do you have time or energy to make it happen?

I plan to actively participate at Shalom by doing the following that is not on this list:

- I would like to talk with someone about other ways I could be involved

Other Comments:

## **Covenant Statements of Shalom Mennonite Congregation**

### Covenant Statement of Faith

adopted from the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*

We believe in God the Creator of all,  
who has called forth a people of faith.  
We believe in Jesus Christ,  
the Word become flesh,  
crucified and restored for us.  
He is our Savior from evil and sin,  
our peace and the exalted Lord of the church.  
And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the source of redemption and life.

We who respond to Christ in faith are his church,  
the community called to proclaim  
and to be a sign of the kingdom of God,  
the new people sustained by Scripture and Spirit.  
Thus we continue the mission of Christ,  
making disciples, forgiving, restoring,  
baptizing believers, sharing the Lord's Supper,  
using our gifts in unity and love.

We commit ourselves to follow Jesus Christ,  
in his path through suffering to life.  
By grace we are being changed  
into the image of God,  
in which God created women and men.  
As faithful disciples, we hear Christ's call  
to life in the Spirit in relation with God,  
to chastity, stewardship, love for the enemy,  
to the practice of justice and peace.

We joyfully worship the three-in-one God,  
as a holy nation, the people of God,  
giving allegiance to Christ as our Lord,  
living now as if in the age to come.  
We place our hope in God's everlasting reign,  
in victory over evil, the resurrection of the dead,  
in Christ's coming again in judgment and glory.  
To God be all glory! Amen!

### Covenant Statement of Life and Practice:

I commit myself to following the way of Jesus through personal disciplines such as:

- Regular Bible study, meditation, and fasting
- Praying for Shalom, the Mennonite Church, local and global concerns
- A simple lifestyle as a steward of God's creation
- Seeking peace and reconciliation with others
- Practicing sacrificial love and refraining from violence and retaliation
- Participating in the life of the poor and all who are oppressed
- Sharing God's liberating love and inviting others to follow the way of Jesus
- Extending friendship and hospitality to everyone

As a member of this congregation, I commit myself to our faith community through:

- Fostering community life by offering fellowship and encouragement
- Mutual accountability to other members of our church
- Involvement in a small group
- Participating regularly in worship services
- Taking an active part in congregational discernment and decision making
- Developing my spiritual gifts and helping others develop theirs
- Giving generously to support the church and its mission