

*Visitors: Welcome to Shalom! Please join us for coffee and conversation after worship. If you would like to be on our mailing list or be contacted by someone on pastoral team, please send your name and email to [office@shalommc.org](mailto:office@shalommc.org).*

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**Website** <http://shalommc.org>

Staff: *Brian Bolton*, Pastor; *Valerie Showalter*, Pastor of Youth and Children's Ministries; *Elizabeth Fletchall*, Admin. Assistant.

Pastoral team: *Brian Bolton*, *Marci Frederick*, *Hannah Kelley*, *Sharon Landis*, *Jaime Miller*, *Emily North*, *Valerie Showalter*, *James Ward*

Servants Council Chair: *Anne Martin*; Members at Large, *Elizabeth Fletchall*, *Valerie Showalter*, and *Brian Bolton*;  
Hospitality Committee: *Tim Godshall*; Mission and Service Committee: *Mary Jean Cross*; Worship Committee: *Melody Mast*;  
Formation Committee: *Joel Yoder*; Stewardship & Administrative Committee: *Ellen Miller*; Pastoral Team: *Marci Frederick*

**Safe Congregation Committee:** *Kate Clark*, 810-1067; *Ross Erb*, 435-0350; *Anne Martin*, 432-1086; *Brian Bolton*, 830-8381, *Valerie Showalter*, 209-0242; Please contact any member of this committee if you have questions or concerns regarding inappropriate sexual conduct, violence, intimidation, or physical abuse by child-care workers, teachers, or others in the congregation.



## Shalom Mennonite Congregation

December 2, 2018 | First Sunday in Advent - Hope

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*He was like so many others;  
you could tell it was his first.  
Anxious to get back to her.  
Love shining in his eyes.  
That wasn't the only thing  
shining that night.  
You didn't need a light;  
the whole sky was aglow with  
one star.<sup>†</sup>*

*As disciples of Jesus and lovers of God we seek to be a community where God's love transcends all barriers that oppress and exclude people. These barriers include race, culture, gender, social status, sexual identity and economics as well as misunderstanding and prejudice.*

## **GATHERING**

### **Centering Bell**

**Gathering Song**    *O Come, O Come Immanuel*    HWB 172, v1

### **Welcome**

### **Call to worship**

One: Now is the time of waiting and watching. We wait for a Messiah, for the Divine Promise to be fulfilled.

**Many: How long must we wait? In our chaotic world, "trust" and "hope" seem like luxuries of the privileged.**

One: Yet, the seeds of trust and hope continue to grow in unlikely places.

**Many: What will they require of us? Can we bear it?**

**All: In song, in prayer, and in fellowship, we will keep watch, and see!**

**Hymn**                      *Longing for Light*                      STJ 54

### **Lighting the Candle of Hope**

#### Prayer

**All: Spirit of God, grant us trust, so that we might risk change. Grow Hope within us, so that we may be born anew.**

**Hymns**                      *Holy Spirit come with power*                      HWB 26  
   *Comfort, comfort, O my people*                      HWB 176

## **HEARING THE WORD**

**Scripture Reading**    *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

*Luke 21, Matthew 1:19-20, Luke 2:5*

**Children's Time**        *Good News, Bad News*

## **Invitation to Reflection**

*What is currently changing in your life?*

*What is your attitude toward it?*

*What gives you hope?*

## **RESPONDING**

**Hymn**                      *O God, who gives us life*                      HWB 483

### **Prayers of the People**

Loving God, **we offer you our prayer.**

### **Passing the Peace**

Peace before us / Hope before us

**Offering**                      *I am weak and I need thy strength*                      HWB 553

## **SENDING**

### **Introductions & Announcements**

**Benediction**                      *Hope is a candle*                      STS 15, v1

**TODAY** Speaker & Prayers of the People: *Brian Bolton*; Worship Leader: *Pat Martin*; Music Leader: *Melody Mast*; Children's Time: *Carrie Dengler Wenger*; Visuals: *Ruby Friesen Zehr*; Prayer for Hope: *Kathy Evans*

## **Worship Calendar | Upcoming Speakers and Events**

**Dec. 9**                      Valerie Showalter | Second Sunday in Advent  
**Dec. 16**                      Christmas Pageant | Third Sunday in Advent  
**Dec. 23**                      Brian Bolton | Fourth Sunday in Advent  
**Dec. 24**                      Christmas Eve | Lessons and Carols  
**Dec. 30**                      Children's Christmas Story & Cookie Potluck

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Join us in midweek reflection on the themes of Advent!** You can join a hymn sing and reflection from 6:45pm – 8:00pm this Wednesday at the home of Anne Martin and Duane Bontrager, 300 Dixie Avenue. Or use the same resource in your own home or your own midweek gatherings. See the next blurb for details:

† Each Sunday in Advent will include references to an advent poem, “The Midwife’s Story,” and associated woodcut artwork by Margaret Kyle. These are included in a weekly study guide published by Northstone Publishing and available at a link at [shalommc.org](http://shalommc.org), as well as a few printed copies on the table at by the door. This week’s worship is includes references from Week 1B “Stepping into the Unknown with Trust.” Our midweek reflection will be drawn from Week 1A: “Gratitude,” on page 6.

**Care Packages for High School Grads:** Hospitality Committee is coordinating care packages for nine historic Shalom youth who are in the 18-22 age range. Please consider contributing with notes of support and/or goodies for recipients. Note paper, pens, and labeled boxes will be located in the back and TODAY is the final Sunday to contribute. –*Brendan Erb*

**We are hiring childcare workers for the Shalom nursery!** If you know a dependable adult (18 or older) who enjoys working with young children, encourage them to check out the job description (link in e-news) and send Valerie their resume! Pay starts at \$11/hour.

**Youth Gatherings:** The next youth gathering will be TONIGHT from 6:30-8 p.m. We will gather at Judy and Joel Yoder's (1320 Greystone St.) for cookie decorating and carol singing.

**Mixed Forest:** In this season’s last two 9 a.m.-hour sessions of Mixed Forest, we delve into the jungle of Spiritual Autobiographies. Our intrepid guides will lead us deep into their personal journeys of faith as we probe the mysteries of life

together. On Dec. 9, Sharon Landis will be sharing her story—Join us!

### **Budget Report**

Nov. offering	\$12,144.10	YTD offering	\$159,777.78
Monthly need	\$14,521.80	YTD need	\$160,593.70

**Nov. 25** Attendance—87; Regular offering—\$1,818.00

### **Worship setup**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday—*Joel Yoder & Youth*

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday—*Jaime Miller & Miguel Muniz*

### **Offering & Mic-setup**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday—*Marty Showalter*

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday—*Jay Landis*

### **Snack schedule & Coffee clean-up**

Today—*Carol & Verne Schirch*

Next Sunday—*Clara & Ed Yoder*

### **Greeters**

Today—*Brendan Erb*

Next Sunday—*Marci Frederick*

### **Nursery schedule**

Today—*Paid child care*

Next Sunday—*Paid child care*

### **Acorns (Pre-K)**

Today—*Pageant Rehearsal / Hannah Kelley*

Next Sunday—*Pageant Rehearsal / Cindy Miller*

### **Sprouts (K-5 grade)**

Today—*Pageant Rehearsal / Barb Root (t), Ed Yoder (a)*

Next Sunday—*Pageant Rehearsal / Tim Godshall (t), Clara Yoder (a)*

### **Mixed Forest**

Today—*Journey Forward: Wrap-Up and Mixed Forest Review*

Next Sunday—*Spiritual Autobiographies*