

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.

Address EMU, Campus Box 8, Harrisonburg, VA 22802
Phone 432-1659 For EMS building emergency call
810-2706 or 578-0262
Email office@shalommc.org
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 9, 2018 | Second Sunday in Advent—Peace



*I knew they were packing them in.
But to make a woman,
ripe to bursting,
sleep in a stable!
Oh, well.
At least no one would grumble at
the noise and the smell.
Birth so resembles death
sometimes.[†]*

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, v3

Welcome

Call to worship

One: We come together,
tired from another week of trying to perform.

Many: Take my yoke upon you. Give us rest.

One: We are here seeking peace,
but something stands in the way.

Many: Renew our minds, strengthen our bodies.

One: We gather in a holy place,
not to conform, but to be transformed.

**All: Hear our songs, Hear our prayers,
and show us the way.**

Hymn *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* Insert¹

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Prayer

**All: Peace Everlasting, pour your peace into our souls,
that everything of discord may vanish. Make us
midwives of justice, for in your justice is our peace.**²

Hymn *With Mary Sing Magnificat* Insert
As the pauper waits for plenty STS 9

¹ Hymns printed on the insert are samples provided by MennoMedia from the Advent section of the Voices Together hymnal, a project to create a single songbook with updated language and favorite old and new hymns. More information at voicestogetherhymnal.org.

² Adapted from a seventh century Mozarabic Liturgy and A New Zealand Prayer Book (1989).

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Reading *Romans 12:2*
Matthew 11:28-30

Children's Time

Invitation to Reflection

What is currently blocking or challenging you?
How do you experience God's support in the midst of challenges?
What gives you peace?

RESPONDING

Hymn *Poor of the Earth* Insert

Prayers of the People

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

Passing the Peace *Peace before us*

Offering *Keep your lamps trimmed* STS 118

SENDING

Introductions & Announcements

Benediction *Hope is a candle* STS 15, v1-2

TODAY Speakers: *Valerie Showalter, Carroll Yoder, Rachel Jenner, Samantha Suderman*; Worship Leader: *Jamie Miller*; Music Leader: *Brian Bolton*; Children's Time: *Ross Erb*; Visuals: *Ruby Friesen Zehr*; Prayers of the People: *Valerie Showalter*

Worship Calendar | Upcoming Speakers and Events

Dec. 16 Christmas Pageant | Third Sunday in Advent

Dec. 23 Brian Bolton | Fourth Sunday in Advent

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve | Lessons and Carols @5 p.m.

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 Stan and Susan Godshall, 957 Smith 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. This week’s worship includes references from Week 2A “Obstacles on the Way.” Our midweek reflection will be drawn from Week 2B: “Family,” on page 12.

Shalom's annual Christmas Caroling & Christmas party are next Sunday, Dec. 16. Caroling starts at 4 p.m. at Melody and Tina's house at 415 E. Wolfe Street. Dress warmly! Then from 5:30-7:30 come to VMRC's Village Hall for the Christmas party. Please bring a finger food snack or two to share. Drinks, cups, and plates will be provided.

Formation Classes will be on break for everyone from Dec. 16 through Jan. 6. **We look forward to seeing you again on Jan. 13!** During the same time period, there will be no childcare provided. Families are welcome to use the Quiet Room at the top of the ramp, if an alternative space is needed for little ones.

Save the Date: Parents of children aged 0 to grade 5 are invited to gather **Sunday, Jan. 13 at 9 a.m.** We'll discuss hopes for living and worshipping together at Shalom. Reps from Formation and Safe Congregation Committees will also be present for whatever questions you bring! Child care (and formation classes) will be provided.

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.

Budget Report

Dec. offering	\$9,724.00	YTD offering	\$169,501.78
Monthly need	\$14,521.80	YTD need	\$164,010.60

Dec. 2 Attendance—151; Regular offering—\$3,324.00

Worship setup

2nd Sunday—*Jaime Miller & Miguel Muniz*

3rd Sunday—*Jeff Heie & Kajungu Mturi*

Offering & Mic-setup

2nd Sunday—*Jay Landis*

3rd Sunday—*Cliff Lind*

Snack schedule & Coffee clean-up

Today—*Clara & Ed Yoder*

Next Sunday—*Jan Emswiler*

Greeters

Today—*Marci Frederick*

Next Sunday—*Brendan Erb*

Nursery schedule

Today—*Paid child care*

Acorns (Pre-K)

Today—*Pageant Rehearsal | Cindy Miller*

Next Sunday—*Pageant Rehearsal | Mary Jo Swartzendruber*

Sprouts (K-5 grade)

Today—*Pageant Rehearsal | Tim Godshall (t), Clara Yoder (a)*

Next Sunday—*Pageant Rehearsal | Valerie Showalter (t), Carol Schirch (a)*

Mixed Forest

Today—*Spiritual Autobiographies, Sharon Landis*

Next Sunday—*No Formation*