

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.

Large-print hymnals and hearing assistance devices are available on (or near) the hymnal cart.

Shalom Mennonite Congregation is a welcoming and inclusive community rooted in Jesus' radical call to love, justice, and peace.

We seek to grow our welcome and inclusion as we deepen our spirituality, build meaningful relationships, work for peace and social justice, and cultivate diverse community connections.

Visit our website at shalommc.org/vision to find out more about who we are, what we do, and what we strive for. You can also read there about our commitment statements regarding inclusion of people who identify as LGBTQIA+, and our policy and practices around maintaining an environment that protects children from abuse.

Address	EMU, Campus Box 8, Harrisonburg, VA 22802
Office	1086A Smith Ave
Phone	432-1659 (For EMS building emergency call 810-2706 or 578-0262)

Staff: Brian Bolton, Pastor; Elizabeth Fletchall, Admin. Assistant; Carrie Yoder, Nursery & Safe Congregation Policy Administrator; Jaime Miller, Sunday Set-up Supervisor

Administrative Council & Congregational Chair: Anne Martin

Please contact any member of the Safe Congregation Team 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: Kate Clark, 810-1067; Ross Erb, 435-0350; Anne Martin, 432-1086; Brian Bolton, 830-8381.



Shalom Mennonite Congregation

February 23, 2020 | Following Jesus into Sacred Space

*Your sacred space is where you can find yourself
over and over again*

~Joseph Campbell

GATHERING

Centering Bell

Gathering Songs

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

STJ 17

Over my head

STJ 18

Longing for Light

STJ 51

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We have seen the light of God;

**All: on high mountains of celebration
and in the ecstasy of a lover's embrace.**

One: We have seen the light of God;

**All: through the bitter scorn of betrayal
and the searing chasm of grief.**

One: We have seen the light of God;

**All: with eyes that have been shaded,
with eyes that have been opened,
with eyes that have been blinded.**

One: We have seen the light of God.

(Katherine Hawker)

Hymns

Cantemos al Senor

HWB 55

I sing the mighty power of God

HWB 46

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Reading

Matthew 17:1-9

Children's Time

Visio Divina & Sermon

1. What are the most obvious features in this picture for you?
2. What are the associations evoked by these features?
3. What atmosphere describes the setting of the picture, meaning? How does it make you feel?
4. How is the picture relevant to human concerns?
5. How is the picture spiritually relevant?

RESPONDING

Hymn

What is this place

HWB 1

Prayers of the People

"Loving God, we offer you our prayer"

Passing the Peace Offering

Peace before us

STS 16

SENDING

Introductions & Announcements

Benediction

TODAY Speaker: *Paul Cook*; Worship Leader: *Pat Martin*; Music Leader: *Brian Bolton*; Visio Divina Musician: *Becky Johnston*; Children's Time: *Josh Diamond*; Visuals: *Paul Cook*

Calendar | Upcoming Speakers and Events

Mar. 1 Boris Ozuna | Potluck

Mar. 8 Brian Bolton

Mar. 15 Krista Showalter Ehst

Mar. 22 Brian Bolton

Artist Statement—In June 2001, I took a bus from Edmonton to Guatemala City where I participated in an Arts and Cultural Study Tour organized by Mennonite Central Committee. I brought my sketch book along and drew the landscape from the bus window. Back home, I translated the graphite drawings into paintings using oils and acrylics. The first series remains in Edmonton with Margo Brunn's family. This current series was created last year. The planet Jupiter and the Earth Sciences symbolism reference a quirky theory and minor panic that erupted in the early 1980's around a unique planetary alignment, but this can be used as a time reference locating these scenes in 1983. This was the height of the trouble in the Guatemalan Civil War. The centrality of the Church architecture in these paintings allows us to ask questions about the role of the church on both sides of this conflict. It allows us to ask about the relationship between church and State, or Religion and Politics. As Mennonites we have long held that the reign of God is here in the present. I could cite the Schleithem Confession, or I could talk about Robert Friedman's theological musings from the 1950's. But what does this mean? How does this idea shape the way we interact with this world? These are the questions I wish to raise in these paintings.
—Paul Cook

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Potluck next Sunday, Mar. 1, immediately following the worship service. If possible, please bring a dish to share and your own plates, utensils and cups. Everyone is welcome to participate!

Worship and Mixed Forest during Lent will slightly shift our inclusion and focus toward the theme “An Uncommon Welcome,” with each Sunday’s lectionary texts framing something different and challenging that we can seek to welcome into our lives—resistance, unbelief, gender, dis/ability, and aging and dying.

Interested in the practice of meditation and contemplative prayer? Starting Sunday, Mar. 1 and running through the duration of Lent, there will be an additional formation hour opportunity for those interested in learning or deepening a meditation practice. Each morning will consist of a short teaching, 20 minutes of guided meditation, and some time for questions and reflections. Carrie Dengler Wenger will serve as our guide and will help us explore how meditation can serve as a personal practice for cultivating inclusion. Beginning and experienced meditators are all welcome! Contact Carrie at denglerwenger@gmail.com with questions.

Will you have a student at Eastern Mennonite School (K-12) during the 2020-2021 academic year? EMS would like to confirm our congregational assistance plan, which provides a tuition discount to Shalom members, for the 2020-2021 school year. We need to provide them with a preliminary list of students by Monday, Feb. 24, so please send an email to Elizabeth at office@shalommc.org with the names of any children attending EMS next fall. This is not a final list, but a projected list is helpful.

Shalom wishes to support students attending Eastern Mennonite School (K-12) by participating in a tuition grant program. This is an opportunity to preserve and promote the values, traditions, and perspectives of the Mennonite Church. If you are interested in contributing you can do so by **writing a separate check with “EMS Fund”** in the memo line and either mail it to the office or include it in the regular offering on Sunday. **For information and the application for EMS families, please see the e-newsletter.**

Budget Report | February 16 (Attendance: 176)

ACTUAL		BUDGETED	
Weekly Offering	\$1,761.00	Weekly Offering	\$3,648.58
February	\$13,113.00	Avg. Monthly	\$15,810.52
YTD	\$28,210.25	YTD	\$25,540.07

<u>VOLUNTEERS</u>	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Offering & Mic-Setup	<i>Cathy Smeltzer Erb and Pat Hostetter Martin</i>	<i>Austin Sachs and TBD</i>
Snack Schedule	<i>Donna Schminkey</i>	<i>Potluck</i>
Coffee Clean-up	<i>Donna Schminkey</i>	<i>All are welcome to help with clean-up</i>
Compost Wrangler	<i>John Asa Hertzler</i>	<i>John Asa Hertzler</i>
Greeters	<i>Everett Brubaker</i>	<i>Krista Showalter Ehst</i>
Nursery schedule	<i>Paid child care</i>	<i>Paid child care</i>
Acorns (PreK)	<i>Cindy Miller</i>	<i>Cindy Miller</i>
Sprouts (K-5th)	<i>Daniel Showalter and Clara Yoder</i>	<i>Barb Root and Jan Emswiler</i>
Mixed Forest (6th through Elders)	<i>Inclusivity as Sacred Encounter: Jane Peifer</i>	<i>TBD</i>

Formation classes begin at 9 a.m. Worship is at 10 a.m. (A staffed nursery is available for children ages 0-5 in room 158, and changing tables are available in the bathrooms.) Fellowship follows worship at ~11:15 a.m.
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