



# Shalom Mennonite Congregation

September 12, 2021 |

---

*"In the beginning, God's love bubbled over when there was nothing else."*

*~ Desmond Tutu*

## **GATHERING**

**Centering Bell**

**Gathering Song**

*There's a Wild Hope in the Wind*

828

**Welcome**

## **HEARING THE WORD**

**Scripture Story**

*Genesis 1-2:4*

**Hymn**

*At the Dawn of your Creation*

17

**Kindergarten Blessing**

**One:** Today we celebrate our children at Shalom, especially Anabel, Elisa, Ezra, Frida, Jude, and Vivian. They are special children to us.

**Many:** **Children remind us how to play, to have delight and wonder. They challenge us to think in new ways and be open to new ideas.**

**Parents:** We are grateful for you and your place in our families.

**Many:** **We are grateful that you are part of our Shalom family.**

**One:** We ask God to bless your learning at home, at school, and at play.

**Many:** **We love you and want to grow with you.**

**We will celebrate your successes and stand by you when you fail.**

**One:** As Jesus blessed the little children, we bless Anabel, Elisa, Ezra, Frida, Jude, and Vivian.

**ALL:** **May you grow in wisdom, faith, and love.**

**Blessing for the New School Year**

**One:** Source of all Wisdom, at the start of this new school year,

**Many:** **Bless us as learners, teachers, and seekers.**

**One:** Give us strength to grow in body, mind, and spirit.  
Help us to be curious about your creation.

**EMS:** **Keep us mindful of others who are learning and growing alongside us.**

**Online:** Give us courage to explore the gifts you have given us, and in gratitude, freely share them with others.

**ALL:** **God, Source of all Wisdom, bless each of these students of life this year.**

<b>Hymn</b>	<i>Guide my feet</i>	816
<b>Prayers of the People</b>		
<b>Communion &amp; Anointing</b>		
<b>Hymns</b>	<i>Come bring your burdens to God</i>	679
	<i>O healing river</i>	706
	<i>I'm gonna eat at the welcome table</i>	801
<b>Birthdays</b>		
<b>Offering Prayer</b>		

## **SENDING**

### **Introductions & Announcements**

<b>Benediction</b>	<i>You Shall Go out With Joy</i>	847
--------------------	----------------------------------	-----

Hailey Holcomb provided the artwork used in today's worship. Hailey says, "These 9 paintings using acrylic on 8x10 stretched canvases were part of a ministry project exploring Genesis 1-2:4 by breaking down each day of creation into individual panels. I approached this project to explore the scripture in a way that is deeply personal - helping me to relate and conceptualize but also to communicate what the scripture means to me. I wanted to bring together one of my favorite scriptures and how I see God in the world around me. As such, the panels draw from nature here in the Shenandoah Valley."

**Today's Worship Leaders:** *Brian Bolton, Hailey Holcomb, Jaime Miller, Melody Mast, and Ross Erb*

*Visitors: Welcome to Shalom! 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).*

---

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](http://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 Many 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

**Staff:** Brian Bolton, Pastor; Elizabeth Fletchall, Interim Communications Specialist and Bookkeeper; Virginia Showalter, Nursery Coordinator.

**Congregational Chair:** Cathy Smeltzer Erb

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: Ross Erb, 435-0350; Anne Martin, 432-1086; Brian Bolton, 830-8381.

## **Announcements**

Use this link to reserve a spot at one of our events:

<https://rsvp.church/r/HaSbcAK7>

---

### **Shalom's Covid Principles**

Review our "S.M.A.R.T." Habits and our Covid response principles at [shalommc.org/covid](http://shalommc.org/covid)

---

### **Shalom is Hiring Nursery Staff and Recruiting Volunteers**

Shalom is looking for responsible and engaging childcare staff and volunteers for the Sunday morning nursery! Nursery staff and volunteers are needed from about 8:30am to 12pm, starting September 19. Paid staff receive \$12/hour. Please contact Virginia Showalter ([showalva@hotmail.com](mailto:showalva@hotmail.com)) to set up an interview for a paid position or to inform her of your interest in volunteering. Thanks!

---

### **Birthdays:**

Judith Wright – Sep 12

Cindy Hunter – Sep 14

Mary Jo Swartzendruber Sep 18

---

### **Budget Report | Sept. 5, 2021**

<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>BUDGETED</u>	
Weekly Offering	\$3,325.00	Weekly Offering	\$4,359.64
August	\$3,325.00	Avg. Monthly	\$18,891.79
YTD	138,778.26	YTD	\$156,947.19

Thank you for all of the Sharing Fund donations offered in the month of August. The total amount received since July 30 is \$38,855.07.

*Regular offering, as well as donations to other funds can all be made online at <https://shalommc.breezechms.com/give/online> as well as mailed into EMU, Campus Box 8, Harrisonburg, VA, 22802*