



Shalom Mennonite Congregation

September 25, 2022

GATHERING

Centering Bell

Gathering Song

We Dream of a Turning

VT 209

Welcome

Call to Worship

Hymns

O Thou in Whose Presence

VT 600

Comfort, Comfort Oh My People

VT 212

HEARING THE WORD

Children's Time

Confession

(insert)

Scripture

Sermon

RESPONDING

Hymn

Spirit, Open My Heart

VT 636

Mentor Blessing

(insert)

Prayers of the People

Children may bring offerings up to the board and go to Story Time

Hymn

Come and See

VT 282

Offering

SENDING

Introductions, Announcements

Benediction & Passing the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Peter Fairfield, Worship Leader

Duane Bontrager, Music Leader

Krista Showalter Ehst, Children's Time

Georgia Metz, Speaker

Duane Bontrager, Peter Fairfield, Tim

Godshall, Steve Jones, Musicians

Stewardship Moment, David Yoder

Mentor Coordinator, Virginia

Showalter

*Krista Showalter Ehst, Prayers of the
People*

*Melody Mast, Joel Yoder,, Carrie Yoder,
Tech Support*

Sarah Myers, Visual

Hannah Kelley, Georgia Metz, Iris

Anderson, Leading Children's

StoryTime

Announcements

Memorial Guild

The Memorial Guild will have on display the initial piece of the memorial tree sculpture and the memorial book each Sunday between now and All Saints Day. It will be in the front near the prayers of the people candle table. Please, take some time with these items. The guild values any thoughts that you might have about them. The guild consists of Suzi Martinez Carter, Margaret Wenger Johnson, Krista Showalter Ehst, Micah Shristi and Herb Myers

SnackLuck

Next Sunday there will be a Snackluck. Bring a finger food to share.

Today, we continue our journey through the Old Testament, using the Narrative Lectionary. We believe it is important to read stories from the Old Testament to connect with our ancestors in faith and hear about the ways that people have encountered God throughout history. However, we also acknowledge that sometimes these passages contain violent or disturbing material. Our Scripture today, from the story of Joseph in Genesis 39, contains mentions of sexual violence. We encourage all gathered here to engage with this story and this service in whatever way feels appropriate for you.

Budget Report | Sep 18, 2022

2022 Budget \$264,396

Year-to-Date (YTD) Budget: \$193,190.54

YTD Offerings Received: \$157,196.95

YTD Expenses: \$195,647.65

Current Deficit: -\$38,450.70

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. You can also scan the QR code to fill out a survey about yourself!



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 Many who identify as LGBTQIA+, and our policy and practices around maintaining an environment that protects children from abuse.

Office and Mailing Address

1086A Smith Ave, Harrisonburg VA 22802

Phone 540-432-1659

Staff

Pastors: Brian Bolton, Georgia Metz, Krista Showalter Ehst;
Communications Specialist: Carrie Yoder; Bookkeeper: Jooyeon Kim;
Facilities Setup Coordinator: Norys Robles. Nursery & Safe
Congregations Administrator: Ellen Miller:

Congregational Chair: Donna Schminkey

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: Donna Schminkey, 540-478-6576, Georgia Metz, 540-830-8490, Ross Erb, 435-0350; Brian Bolton, 830-8381

Mentor Blessing

Virginia: Eliza and Melody, Jenny and Charlotte, Elisabeth and Rachel, this morning we recognize the ways that you have been sharing your lives. We celebrate the work that has already been done. We invite the blessing of God to be upon each of you as you continue to talk together.

Congregation: As your community, we support you in your journey, and we pray that you each discover wisdom in the other. We affirm youth and mentors alike as you learn from one another and grow in faith, hope, and love.

*Mentees: We come with real hopes and expectations,
with questions and curiosities about our faith and our world.*

Mentors: We also come with hopes and expectations, questions and curiosities. May the power of God, the love of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit guide us to create space and extend our lives as an invitation for years to come.

Mentor/ees: Today, we commit to growing together

Mentees: laughing together

Mentors: grieving together

Mentees: working together

Mentors: listening and responding together

Mentees: thinking and dreaming together

Mentor/ees: that we may join in the body of Christ together.

Congregation: May the love of God, which turns strangers into friends, guide and keep these relationships. May Christ's enduring faithfulness be an example for you. And may the Spirit's creativity bless you with joy and energy for the coming year.

Confession:

One: Author of life, some scriptures are especially challenging for us to read, leaving us bewildered and repulsed.

All: We lament the violence in them, in our stories, and in our lives.

One: There are things in these stories attributed to you that we must believe were not your deeds or your will.

All: There are things in our lives – things done and undone – which we also know are not of God.

(silence for calling these things to mind)

One: In today's story, we find slavery, exploitation, abuse, and sexual violence.

Forgive us for these sins, both personal and collective.

(silence)

Sacred companion, as we wrestle with scripture today,

All: Assure us once again of your love, inspire us with hope, and send us toward justice.