



Shalom Mennonite Congregation

January 8, 2023 | Jesus' Baptism

“Change your hearts and lives!
Here comes the kingdom of heaven!”
~Matthew 3:2

GATHERING

Centering Bell

Gathering Song *Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord* VT 219

Welcome

Call to Worship VT 931

Hymn *Prepare the Way! The Prophet Called* VT 220

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Matthew 3:1-17

Children's Time

Sermon

RESPONDING

Song *Crashing Waters at Creation* VT 441

Remembering Baptism and Renewing our Covenant

God of covenant, when Jesus came up from the waters of baptism,
you claimed him as your beloved child.

Through Jesus you claim everyone who comes to you as your beloved.

For the faith and family into which we are baptized, and for which we are
daily gaining a deeper understanding,

Renew our commitment, O God.

To reject what is based in fear and to ever more embrace the freedom of
new life that Christ gives,

Renew our courage, O God.

To follow in the ways of Jesus, even at political or personal risk,

Renew our trust, O God.

To commit to discipleship by resisting those forces that defile and
demean creation, showing compassion and justice, and making the
ministry and life of Christ our own,

Renew our strength, O God.

To be faithful members of Christ's Beloved Community in learning,
service, and celebration,

Renew our bonds, O God.

(...)

**Strengthen us, God of love, bind us together as your baptized
people, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn *Come, Gracious Spirit* VT 371

Prayers of the People

Hymn

Come and See

VT 282

Children are invited forward at this time to attend Storytime.

Offering

SENDING

Introductions, Announcements

Sending Song *Go, My Children*

VT 830

Benediction & Passing the Peace

The Peace of the Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Kirsten Beachy, Worship Leader

Ross Erb, Children's Time

Brandon Chupp, Anthony Zook, Tech

Barbara Moyer Lehman, Music Leader

Brian Bolton, Speaker

Ruby Friesen Zehr, Visuals

Krista Showalter Ehst, Prayers

Visuals Note: "This is My Beloved"

Children's Story Time begins again today! This faith formation initiative begins when children are called up after Prayers and lasts approximately 30 minutes.

Mary Jo Swartzentruber, Georgia Metz, leading

Virginia Showalter, snack provider

Announcements

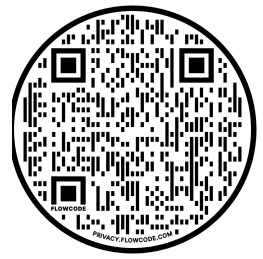
One of our Shalom Women's Groups will meet this Wednesday, Jan 11th, at 7 pm at Cathy Smeltzer Erb's house (455 Monte Vista Drive Rockingham 22802). Join in for a time of conversation and connection. This group meets consistently on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Shalom Sage Gathering: Any who self-identify as a 'sage' or elder are welcome to join the Shalom Sages on Monday, January 9th from 10am-12pm. We gather in the fifth-floor lobby of Park Gables (take the elevator to the fifth floor and turn left). Bring something that represents what you want to do, a place you'd like to go, a book you want to read or a goal/hope for 2023.

Harrisonburg Black History Tour, January 21st, 12-2pm.

All Shalomers are invited to attend a tour of the Northeast Neighborhood with Monica Robinson, Executive Director of the Shenandoah Valley Black Heritage Project. Begins with brown bag lunch at Ralph Sampson Park.

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