

Hymn *At the Dawn of Your Creation* VT 179

HEARING THE WORD

Children's Time

Hymn *I Saw a Tree by the Riverside* VT 514
Scripture Genesis 2:2b-24
Sermon

RESPONDING

Hymn *The Garden Needs Our Tending Now* VT 788
Confession ...Loving God, "**we offer you our prayer.**"
Assurance *God Calls You Good* VT 172
Prayers of the People
Offering
Offering Hymn *In the Quiet Curve of Evening* VT 587

SENDING

Introductions, Announcements
Sending Song *You Shall Go Out with Joy* VT 847
Benediction and Passing the Peace
 The peace of Christ be with you.
 And also with you.

*Credits: Call to Worship adapted from seasonofcreation.org resources,
and confession adapted from Voices Together 901.*

<i>Melody Mast, Worship Leader</i>	<i>Stan Godshall, Music Leader</i>
<i>Brian Bolton, Speaker</i>	<i>Faye Yoder, Eliza Godshall, Tim</i>
<i>Ruby Friesen Zehr, Visuals</i>	<i>Godshall, Musician</i>
<i>Ross Erb, Children's Time</i>	<i>Joel Yoder, Leland Ropp, Monique</i>
<i>Georgia Metz, Prayers</i>	<i>Tshibola, AV Tech</i>

Season of Creation

This Sunday we begin a four-Sunday series based on humanity's relationship with everything else, joining a growing global movement of churches to focus September on Creation. This year, each Sunday will follow imagery of Forest, Land, Wilderness, and River.

Today at Shalom

9 a.m.: Fall book study begins

10 am: Worship. Staffed nursery for children through age 5 is available.

Coming Up at Shalom

Sept. 8-10: Shalom Retreat at Highland Retreat Camp with worship at 10am at Highland Retreat Upper Camp. No Sunday worship service at EMS, no livestream on Zoom/YouTube.

Sept. 16, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.: Safe Congregation training at Park View Mennonite Church.

Sept. 24: After worship, there will be a notary available to notarize approved adult paperwork. Contact Ellen Miller with questions.

Children and Youth Fall 2023 Save-the-dates

September 17: StoryTime resumes, youth group resumes

Wednesday, October 4: Pet blessing, stuffed animals welcome!

Oct. 20-21: Shen. Valley Mennonite Middle School Retreat at Highland Retreat

October 29: Trunk or Treat at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church

Nov. 5, 12, 19: Circle of Grace boundaries training for kids

Nov. 19: Youth Progressive Dinner

December 10: Christmas Pageant

Budget Summary (August 27, 2023)

ACTUAL

Weekly Offering	\$3,114.34
August	\$14,689.90
YTD	\$161,917.32

BUDGETED

Weekly Offerings	\$5,499.69
Average Monthly	\$23,832.00
YTD	\$192,489.23

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 or access the giving link for Shalom.



Covid/Flu Policy - Masks are optional at our gatherings, but please join virtually if you are sick or mask if you are unsure or being cautious.

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: Virginia Showalter; Bookkeeper: Joo Kim; Facilities Setup Coordinator: Norys Robles; Nursery & Safe Congregations Administrator: Ellen Miller.

Congregational Chair: Tim Godshall

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: Tim Godshall, 540-908-8194, Georgia Metz, 540-830-8490, Ross Erb, 540-435-0350; Brian Bolton, 540-830-8381



Shalom Mennonite Congregation

September 3, 2023 | Season of Creation: Forests

GATHERING

Centering Bell & Candle lighting

Gathering Song *As We Rise, O God, to Meet You*

VT 39

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We invite the forests to worship with us:

**Many: White oak and red maple,
quivering ferns and glistening moss!**

One: We quiver with the trees as they shake before God:

**Many: When tempests and tornadoes hit,
and raging winds invade the forest.**

One: We invite tall trees to celebrate life:

**Many: Eastern white pine and dogwood,
and trees where lizards and lichen find their home!**

One: We invite the forest night-life to sing:

**Many: Toads and timid moths,
screech owls and swirling bats!**

One: We join with the fauna of the forest in praising God:

**Many: Eastern bluebirds and woodpeckers,
ducks, snakes and butterflies!**

One: We celebrate the song of the forest!

Many: Sing, forest, sing!

One: We invite you to name forest creatures
to join us in worship.

(**We name, silently or aloud, other creatures or parts of the forest
and invite them to join us in worship.)

All: We celebrate the song of the forest! Sing, forest, sing!