

Advent Candlelighting

Voice 1: The Lord of heavenly forces proclaims: This wasteland, without humans or animals—and all its towns—will again become pastures for shepherds to care for their flocks.

Voice 2: Amidst Destruction,

All: God Promises Hope.

Voice 1: We light this candle to show that we, too, believe laughter will return to our land.

Voice 2: God of Hope,

All: We will watch for you in the greening of our world, and welcome you as the shepherd of our salvation.

Hymn *Wisdom from on High Is Dawning* VT 238
Scripture Jeremiah 33:10-18
Sermon

RESPONDING

Hymn *We Dream of a Turning* VT 209

Prayers of the People

Storytime Hymn *Seeds* VT 777

**Children ages 5-11 are invited to leave worship for a snack & story*

Offering

Offering Hymn *Wait for the Lord* VT 228

SENDING

Introductions, Announcements

Sending Song *Light Dawns on a Weary World* VT 205

Benediction and Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Kirsten Beachy, Worship Leader

Brian Bolton, Speaker

Stan Godshall, Music Leader

Sarah Myers, Visuals

Barbara Moyer Lehman,

Children's Time

Georgia Metz, Prayers

Derrick, Manuela, Lucas, and Siena

Troyer Noguiera, Candle Lighters

Leland Ropp, Herb Myers, AV Tech

Monique Tshibola, Zoom Host

Georgia Metz, Leading Storytime

Emily Hershberger, Storytime snack

Advent 2023 - God's Promises

This Advent we hold in contrast very difficult circumstances and God's promises of Hope, Love, Peace, and Joy. Our prophetic scriptures show that we are not the first to live in these tensions. Like many ancient followers, we wait and work for Shalom justice for all. We grieve and celebrate as we worship the sacred Shepherd who draws near.

Today at Shalom

9 am: Discussion on indigenous justice, with Eric Olson-Getty and Charlotte Shristi

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

~11 am: (after prayers) Children's Storytime

College-aged Care Package collection (also next Sunday). Bring 20 of some small, encouraging, useful, or tasty items to share with the college students (hot chocolate packets, goodies or snacks, pens, stress balls, etc.)

Coming Up at Shalom

Dec 2: Christmas Pageant practice, 1:45-4

Dec 3: College-aged Care Package Collection

Dec 3 after worship: Mentor/Mentee college care package assembly

Dec 10: Christmas Pageant practice, 8:30 am

Dec 10: Parent's Circle, 9 am;

Dec 10: Christmas Pageant;

Dec 10: Youth Group Christmas party, 4-7 pm

Dec 17, 4:30 pm, Christmas Caroling & Party

Dec 24, 10 am: Christmas Eve Worship in the morning

Royals: Come find Georgia at Common Grounds between 1-3 every Tuesday and she will buy you a drink!

Advent Devotionals: Advent devotionals for adults are available for a suggested donation of \$15.

Budget Summary (November 19, 2023)

ACTUAL

Weekly Offering \$ 3,652.66
November \$ 9,952.41
YTD \$211,008.59

BUDGETED

Weekly Offerings \$5,499.69
Average Monthly \$23,832.00
YTD \$258,485.54

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.



Shalom Mennonite Congregation

November 26, 2023

Advent 1: Amidst Destruction, God Promises Hope

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; **Administrative Assistant:** Sandy Wenger; **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

GATHERING

Centering Bell

Gathering Song

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

VT 747

Welcome

Call to Worship (*from VT 1009*)

One: Source and sustainer of life, we cherish the myriad works of your hands.

Many: Water, earth, and sky are yours, as are all their inhabitants, wild and tame.

One: We thank you for the creatures that nourish and serve us, befriend, enrich, entertain, and protect us.

Many: May we, who are made in your image, care for them well.

One: And may your groaning, yet wondrous creation rally and thrive,

Many: revealing to all who come after us your wise, redemptive, transforming love, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn

All Things Bright and Beautiful

VT 177

HEARING THE WORD

Children's Time