

## Prayers of the People\*

Children ages 5-11 are welcome to go to StoryTime following prayers, while we sing VT 777, Seeds.

## SENDING

### Introductions, Announcements

**Sending Song**                      *Over My Head*                      VT 594

### Passing the Peace

*The peace of Christ be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*\*Online and in-person participants are welcome to share a prayer concern, or light a candle at the side table. Raise your hand and a mic will be brought to you. We respond to 'Loving God,' with 'We offer you our prayer.'*

*Andrew Payton, Worship Leader  
Brandon Chupp, Music Leader  
Steve Jones, Naomi Kratzer,  
Daniel Zook, Musicians  
Brian Bolton, Speaker  
Krista Showater Ehst, Prayers*

*Georgia Metz, Children's Time  
Jessica Williams-Chase, Visuals  
Monique Tshibola, Zoom Host  
Theda Good, Herb Myers, AV Tech  
Paulina Valencia, Maria  
Swartzentruber, Barb Root, ST*

## Covenant Sunday

This Sunday begins Shalom's Covenant Season, when we consider our shared interests and commitments for the year ahead. Each Sunday in October we'll have an opportunity in worship for signing our shared covenant scroll, agreeing together that:

*In the coming year I commit to Shalom Mennonite Congregation in being welcoming, inclusive, and following Jesus' way of love, justice, and peace. I will work to bring about Shalom by building relationships with others, committing to causes of peace and justice inside and outside our congregation, and attending to both my personal and our collective spiritual journey and transformation.*

We also hope all Shalom participants will complete our Covenant Survey online during October at [shalommc.org/covenant](http://shalommc.org/covenant).

## Today at Shalom

**10:00 am:** Worship. Staffed nursery for children through age 5 is available.

~ (after prayers) Children's Storytime

**11:30 am:** Snackluck following worship

**3-4:30 pm:** Youth Group @ EMS

## Coming up at Shalom:

**Oct 8, 7 pm:** Worship Team

**Oct 9, 7 pm:** Women's Group, meets at the home of Cathy Smeltzer Erb: 455 Monte Vista Drive, Rockingham.

**Oct 11, 10:15 am:** EMU Animal Blessing, Thomas Plaza

**Oct 13, 9 am:** Parents' Circle

**Oct 13, 12 pm:** Parents of youth meeting

**Oct 17-18:** EMU Fall Break Retreat, Camp Overlook

**Oct 19, 5 pm:** Newcomer Gathering, EMS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Youth group will be meeting here in the afternoon** and the youth sponsors would like this space cleared so they can use it to move around in. After worship, please stack your chairs and other chairs in your row and push them to the sides of the worship space. Thank you.

## Budget Summary (September 30, 2024)

<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>BUDGETED</u>	
Weekly Offering	\$2,875.36	Weekly Offerings	\$5,672.00
September	\$31,772.06	Average Monthly	\$24,579.00
YTD	\$215,265.38	YTD	\$221,208.00
<b>Attendance:</b>	Not counted		
<b>Zoom:</b>	8		
<b>Youtube:</b>	16		

*Shalom welcomes donations online (scan the QR code or go to [shalommc.org/give](http://shalommc.org/give)), via mail, or in-person using the offering box in the foyer. Each week in worship we'll bless our gifts at the end of Prayers of the People.*

Visitors: Welcome to Shalom! If you would like to be on our mailing list or be contacted by someone on the pastoral team, please send your name and email to [office@shalommc.org](mailto: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

Rest. Remember. Renew.

October 6, 2024 | Covenant Month

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**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.

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*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.

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**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:** Austin Sachs

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: Ellen Miller, 540-383-4209, Georgia Metz, 540-830-8490, Ross Erb, 540-435-0350; Doug Root, (814) 233-9870

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### **GATHERING**

**Centering Bell**

**Gathering Song**

*What Is This Place*

VT 22

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

VT 851

**Hymn**

*Jesus Calls Us*

VT 30

### **HEARING THE WORD**

**Scripture**

*Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12*

**Sermon**

### **RESPONDING**

**Hymn**

*I Come With Joy*

VT 478

**Mentor Blessing** (see insert)

**Children's Time**

**Communion & Covenant Signing**

*Shalom practices an open table. Communion is open to all, including children. The bread is gluten free. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of bread and juice, you can cross your arms over your chest and the servers will give you a blessing. If you wish to receive communion where you sit, please raise your hand.*

**Hymns**

*I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table*

VT 801

*Seed, Scattered and Sown*

VT 477

*Eat This Bread*

VT 476

## **Mentor-Mentee Blessing**

**Leader:** As you begin this season of learning to know one another better and supporting each other on your journeys, we hope you'll feel surrounded by this congregation, and also know that the Spirit is on the journey with you. We invite the Spirit's blessing upon you this morning.

**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.

*Mentees & Mentors: 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*

*Mentees & Mentors: that we may build the community of Shalom 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.