

RESPONDING

Hymn *The Love of God* VT 162
Remembrance and Renewal of Baptism VT 931

Leader: God of grace, creator of waters, your Spirit hovered over the deep.

Left: We remember that you separated the land from the waters and provided rain to freshen the ground.

Right: We remember that you flooded the earth and held creatures and people above the waters.

Left: We remember that you parted the waters as your people fled from bondage in Egypt.

Right: We remember Jesus your Son, who, like all of us, arrived in the waters of childbirth.

Left: We remember John baptizing in the waters of the Jordan and the Spirit descending like a dove.

Right: We remember that Jesus shared our thirst and a Samaritan woman shared water from a well.

**All: Living Water,
pour your Spirit upon us.
Wash us and free us from sin,
make us fruitful in every way,
and renew your world with showers of blessing.**

Hymn *Crashing Waters at Creation* VT 441

Prayers of the People

Storytime will resume next week.

SENDING

Introductions, Announcements

Sending Song *Solemn Stillness, Weary Streets* VT 276

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.'*

*Peter Fairfield, Worship Leader
Barbara Moyer Lehman, Music Leader
Brian Bolton, Speaker
Ross Erb, Children's Time
Krista Showalter Ehst, Prayers*

*Emily Hershberger, Visuals
Monique Tshibola, Zoom Host
Theda Good, Ross Erb, AV Tech
Andrew Yoder, Offering/Mics*

Today at Shalom

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

Coming up at Shalom:

Jan 7, 5 pm: Anti-racism Team

Jan 8, 7 pm: Women's Group @ the home of Cathy Smeltzer Erb (455 Monte Vista Drive). Newcomers welcome!

Jan 8, 7 pm: Anabaptism @ 500 Zoom Study

Jan 12, 9 am: Parents' Circle, EMS Library

Jan 12, 3 pm: Youth Group begins again

Jan 13, 10 am: Shalom Sages, Village Hall @ VMRC

Announcement:

Anabaptism @ 500 Zoom study: Join us each Wednesday in January at 7 pm online for a discussion about the history of Anabaptism, the global church, and what the next 500 years might hold. This Wednesday, January 8 Andrew Suderman will lead a conversation about the origins of the church. If you have been curious about what makes Mennonites different, please join us Wednesday at 7 pm via Zoom; the link is in your newsletter.

If you don't receive "Anabaptist World," feel free to pick up a copy of the special 500 years edition at the Welcome table.

Budget Summary (December 29, 2024)

<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>BUDGETED</u>	
Weekly Offering	\$7,417.35	Weekly Offerings	\$5,672.00
December	\$27,558.31	Average Monthly	\$ 24,579.00
YTD	\$282,161.31	YTD	\$294,944.00

Shalom welcomes donations online (scan the QR code or go to 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. 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.

January 5, 2025

How does a weary world rejoice? We trust our belovedness.

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: Katie Mansfield

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

GATHERING

Centering Bell

Gathering Song

Arise Your Light is Come

VT 273

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: In this new year, we gather, still seeking joy.

Many: We are drawn to the light of truth:

One: We belong to God.

Many: We are loved by God.

One: Let us worship the God who knows our names.

Many: Let us worship the God who calls us beloved.

Hymn

O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem

VT 275

HEARING THE WORD

Children's Time

Scripture

Luke 3:15-22

Sermon