

RESPONDING

Hymn *Lead Me, Guide Me* VT 601

Mission Moment: Heidi Hoover, Bridge of Hope

Prayers of the People

Litany of Blessing

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

SENDING

Introductions, Announcements

Sending Song *God Be with You* Insert

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.'*

Kirsten Beachy, Worship Leader

Stan Godshall, Music Leader

Brian Bolton, Speaker

Ross Erb, Children's Time

Krista Showater Ehst, Prayers

Jan Emswiler, Visuals

Peter Fairfield, Zoom Host

Daniel Zook, Theda Good, AV

Maria Swartzentruber, Susan

Godshall, Becky Johnston,

ST/Snack

Today

9 am: Parents' Circle

9 am: Adult Formation: Laurie & Ellen Miller

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

1 pm: Mother's Day Hike, leaving from EMS parking lot. Infants and any self identifying mom is welcome. Carpooling suggested.

3-4:30 pm: Youth Group @ Shalom Office

7 pm: Hymn Sing @ Shalom Office (1110 Smith Ave)

Coming up this week

May 12, 10-11:30 am: Shalom Sage Gathering, VMRC's Village Hall

May 12, 4 pm: Visitation Team @ Shalom Office

May 13, Pastoral Sabbatical begins for Brian Bolton

May 14, 7 pm: Women's Group, meets at the home of Cathy Smeltzer Erb: 455 Monte Vista Drive, Rockingham. New members welcome!

May 15, 7 pm: Children's Team

May 16, 8 am: Group Prayer Time @ Shalom Office

May 17, 9 am: Meeting for all youth and parents attending MennoCon

Next Sunday, May 18

9 am: Adult Formation: Mike Ramer

10 am: Worship (no staffed nursery)

11 am: Congregational Meeting, following worship

3-4:30: Youth Group @ Shalom Office

7-9 pm: Young Adult Gathering

Budget Summary (May 4, 2025)

ACTUAL

Weekly \$ 3,326.85

Offering \$ 3,326.85

May

YTD

\$105,900.

38

BUDGETED

Weekly

Offerings \$6,160.58

Average

\$

Monthly

26,695.85

YTD

\$110,890.

44

Special Offerings - MennoCon \$55 (YTD MennoCon Offerings - \$3561.66)

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.



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 Address: 1110 Smith Ave, Harrisonburg VA 22802

Mailing Address: EMU, Campus Box 8, 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



Shalom Mennonite Congregation

Rest. Remember. Renew.

May 11, 2025

GATHERING

Centering Bell

Gathering Song *Shall We Gather at the River* VT 667

Welcome

Call to Worship VT 1011

One: A wilderness beckons us; a desert, a barren place, yet a place of blessing and discovery.

Many: Jesus, steady companion, accompany us as we enter the hurtful places, the frightening places, the dangerous places deep within us.

One: Jesus, our wild and well-traveled guide, lead us into this emptiness, where all will fall away, and we will have nothing but you.

Many: Walk with us through the valley of the shadow of death, where we shall be raised and drink of deep springs.

Hymn *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* VT 640

HEARING THE WORD

Children's Story

Blessing for Pastoral Sabbatical

Hymn *Quietly, Peacefully* VT 533

Scripture Revelation 7:9-17

Scripture in Song *The 23rd Psalm* McFerrin

Sermon

Litany of Blessing

On this day of celebration and opportunity,
May God bless you with discomfort
At easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships
So that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with holy anger
At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people,
So that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless you with tears
To shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war,
**So that you may reach out your hand to comfort them
and to turn their pain into joy.**

May God bless you with enough foolishness
To believe that you can make a difference in the world,
**So that you can do what others claim cannot be done
To bring justice and kindness to all of God's children.**

And may God bless you with love
For yourself, your neighbor, for the earth, and God,
**So that you will find unflagging hope and joy
in all that you do.**

Graduates being honored this morning:

Iris Anderson, BS in Psychology and Sociology

Mariana (Mana) Acosta, BS in Engineering

430

God be with you

RANDOLPH 98 89

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's
4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, may the Shep - herd's
wings, pro - tect - ing, hide you, dai - ly man - na
per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing
ban - ner float - ing o'er you, smite death's threat - 'ning

care en - fold you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
arms a - round you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
wave be - fore you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, *Gospel Bells*, 1880, alt.

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906

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