

The Elders have been called to guide and lead the congregation in vision, mission and spiritual matters. Each elder is devoted to one dimension of the interdependent congregational life. If you have a congregational life concern, please get in touch with one of our elders.

Matt Baer, administration (and facilities)
Mark Schildt, mission
Anna Groff, worship
Elisabeth Monsma, community (and fellowship)

The Deacons have been called to serve those who participate in our congregational life together, caring for the pastoral care needs that we share. If you have a need of any sort, interest in becoming a member, interest in joining a small group, or any other issues or concerns, please contact one of the deacons or pastor:

Char Schildt
Jerry Short
Duane Ediger

Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) Unit: Shalom maintains a strong MVS unit in Tucson, housing about 5 volunteers at a time. Our volunteers come from across the nation and the globe to work with the people of Tucson for service terms of 1-3 years. Our VSers are a central part of Shalom, and are active within wider Tucson communities. Please take the opportunity to get to know our VSers during their time in Tucson.

Interested in connecting more directly? Shalom uses several email lists to carry announcements and concerns during the course of the week. You can also receive the bulletin each week, as well as minutes for congregational business. See <http://shalommennonite.org/contact> to sign up.

The Sermon for most Sundays is available online as an mp3 file. See shalommennonite.org/worship/sermon for the latest sermons. The sermons are generally posted on Sunday afternoon, but may not be immediately available.

Shalom anniversary this week:

Jay and Tina Schlabach

Dec. 22

Prayer request from Mennonite Mission Network:

Democratic Republic of Congo is in political turmoil as the country tries to organize presidential elections. Pray that the Mennonites in Congo will provide a strong witness to Jesus, the Prince of Peace, and that they can help move the country toward governmental transition without more loss of lives.

Feedback requested by Mennonite Church USA:

A revised version of the Israel-Palestine resolution first brought to delegates at the Mennonite Church USA assembly in 2015 is now available for review. Visit www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/seeking-peace-israel-palestine to view the document and provide feedback by Dec. 20.

College Internship Opportunity with Mennonite Church USA:

The Mennonite Church USA Communications team is looking for interns! Beginning in January and culminating in July 2017 at Mennonite Church USA Convention in Orlando, these internships will include positions for writers, editors, photographers, social media, and graphic design. Internships will be paid and prioritize students of color. Interested students should contact janiebk@mennoniteusa.org for more information.

Do you have your summer vacation plans set yet? Why not spend it in Orlando, Florida? You can attend the **Mennonite Church USA convention**. The convention takes place July 4-8 with the theme "Love is a Verb." Learn more at <http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/> or find the convention on Facebook or Twitter.

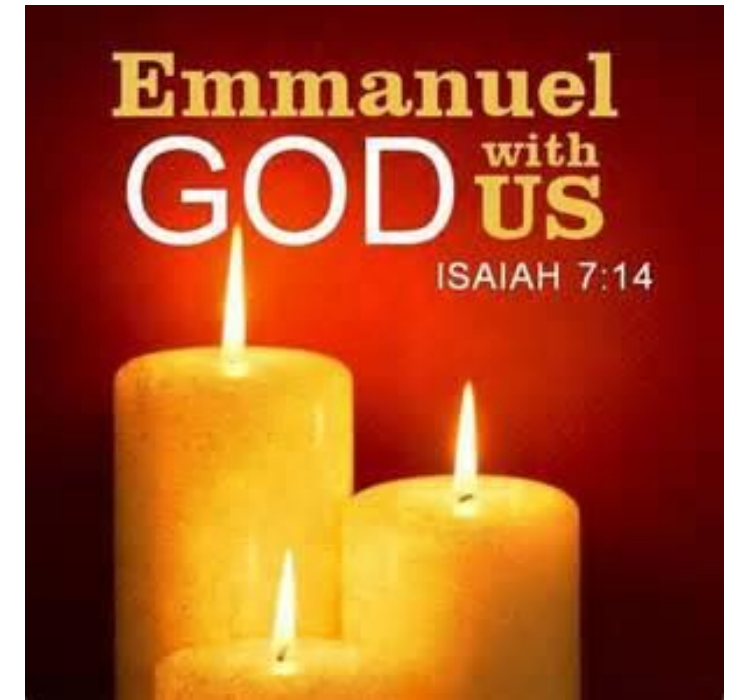
To contribute information to the bulletin, please send email to bulletin@shalommennonite.org by Thursday evening. A small team prepares the bulletin each week.

December 11th General Offering	\$2,288.00
Amount needed per Sunday per budget	\$2,221.00
General Offering Year to Date	\$52,993.67
Amount needed YTD per budget	\$53,304.00
Youth Fund	\$100.00
Total Youth Fund	\$8,251.00

SHALOM MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

ADVENT 4

December 18, 2016



Co-pastors:

Carol Rose
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We are glad you are here!

Whether you are plain or fancy, confident or questioning, whole or in pieces; whatever your age, race, abilities, sexual orientation, gender, immigration status...; here every Sunday, for a season, or on sweet rare occasions, you are welcome as member, worshipper, participant, observer, leader...

¡Qué gozo nos trae su presencia!

Siendo humilde o sofisticad@, convencid@ o con dudas, fuerte o frágil; siendo lo que sean su edad, raza, habilidades, orientación sexual, género, condición migratoria...; bendiciendonos con su presencia cada domingo, por temporada, o de vez en cuando, Usted es bienvenid@ como miembro, devot@, participante, observador o líder ...

As we gather we celebrate our connection with our sister church, Teusaquillo, in Bogotá, Colombia.

Order of Worship

God's restoration is at hand. Come, walk in the way of God's heart.

Gathering

Singing - *Angels we have heard on high* - HWB 197
Fling wide the door, unbar the gate - HWB 186

Candle lighting - *Come, Light of the world* - StS 3

Call to worship:

Leader: In the nighttime of our longing, we find ourselves feeling far from God's presence.

People: Even though we yearn to see God's face, our daily burdens and distractions keep us from coming near.

We forget that the truest joy comes from being in God's presence.

All: Come! Walk in God's presence.

Welcome, introduction of visitors, passing the welcome sheets

Children's time

Singing - *Save us, O Lord* - StS 6

Confessing/Reconciling

Leader: God of Restoration,

People: We yearn to walk in your way, but often choose our own path of turmoil and pain. Save us, O Lord, from the pride and foolishness of choosing our own course, that we may humbly and trustingly follow your lead, through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Silence

Words of assurance:

Leader: Throughout the tumult of life, God holds you close in love.

Rejoice, because God's wisdom is your guide, God's compassion is your strength. God's love is your restoration.

All: Come, let us walk in the way of God's heart!

Giving our offerings - *Longing for light* - StJ 54

Prayer of blessing

Hearing God's Word

Scripture reading: Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25

Message: Carol

Responding

Praying

Singing - *Come, thou long expected Jesus* - HWB 178

Sharing joys and concerns

We pray together:

Bwana, usikilize sala zeta / Lord, hear our prayer

Sending

Announcements

Sending songs - *Maisha Yangu Yote* and/or other songs from the Shalom International Choir

Benediction

Speaker: Carol; Worship leader: Tina; Musicians: Duane, Jen, Lucas

Abbreviations:

HWB: *Hymnal A Worship Book* (Blue Book)

StJ: *Sing the Journey* (Green Book)

StS: *Sing the Story* (Purple Book)

Today's Schedule

9:30 a.m. – Worship (nursery staffed by Belén)

11:00 a.m. – Second hour Christmas caroling at the McCunes'

Calendar

Dec. 24 – Soup supper (5:30 pm), followed by worship (7 pm)

Dec. 25 – Carol speaking at worship

Jan. 1 – Vic Stoltzfus speaking at worship

Jan. 8 -- John Fife speaking at worship

Jan. 10 – Deacons meeting

Jan. 12 – Elders meeting

Mid-January to Mid-February – Congregation/Pastor Review

Every Saturday 9 am-2 pm – our facility is used by Church of God, a Worldwide Association

Announcements

Second Hours in December, early January:

Dec. 25: Christmas morning! Fellowship after worship; no Sunday School.

Jan. 1: Fellowship second hour, no Sunday School.

The family is gathering for Christmas Eve! Folks from one to ninety two are invited to gather at Shalom on Christmas Eve for a hearty meal of soup, cheese and crackers. We will gather at around 5:30, and eat at 6:00. After supper we will share songs, scriptures and stories. Come by yourself, or with family or friends. Bring your appetite and seasonal memories! If you can bring a little bread, cheese, or crackers (or cookies!), all the better to share this evening together.