

**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.

Anna Groff, administration  
Carrie Nelson, mission/service  
Harold Kauffman, community  
Barry Hieb, worship

**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:

Jerry Short  
Duane Ediger  
Fern Hieb

**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.

**Shalom birthdays this week:**

Destinee Wells Dec. 31  
Raymond, Georgette and Wilondja Jan. 1

**Anniversary this week:**

Harvey and Betty Hartzler Dec. 31

The hospitality coordinating committee is inviting the church to a **community potluck meal** on the first Wednesday of every month, to show hospitality to our friends living in Zuni House. The next community meal will be **THIS Wednesday**, Jan. 3, at 6 p.m. at the church. Contact Carrie or Destinee if you have questions.

**From T-Mail:**

**When you heard the announcement that the United States would recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, what was your reaction?**

*Here is the response from Rachelle Lyndaker Schlabach, Director of Mennonite Central Committee's Washington office:* With this announcement, the United States is really making a unilateral decision on Jerusalem's status, which is pretty dismaying because it doesn't contain an acknowledgment of Jerusalem's significance for Palestinians. If a two-state solution were enacted, it has long been assumed, Israel would have West Jerusalem, and there would be a Palestinian East Jerusalem. With this decision, the United States is taking a stance on a topic that is supposed to be negotiated between Israelis and Palestinians and taking sides with Israelis. It's signaling to Israelis that their actions are OK, and that's extremely problematic.

# SHALOM MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

December 31, 2017



**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 Shalom property commission has set up a new email account for folks to let us know when things are noticed that need attention:

[Shalom.property.care@gmail.com](mailto:Shalom.property.care@gmail.com)

To contribute information to the bulletin, please send email to [bulletin@shalommennonite.org](mailto:bulletin@shalommennonite.org) by Thursday evening. A small team prepares the bulletin each week.

December 24th General Offering	\$2,186.00
Amount needed per Sunday per budget	\$2,244.00
General Offering Year to Date	\$58,087.40
Amount needed YTD per budget	\$58,344.00
Youth Fund	\$0.00
Total Youth Fund	\$12,067.00

**Co-pastors:**

Carol Rose  
[carol@shalommennonite.org](mailto:carol@shalommennonite.org)  
312-933-8986

Tina Schlabach  
[tina@shalommennonite.org](mailto:tina@shalommennonite.org)  
574-903-9153

**6044 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St.**  
**Tucson, AZ 85711-6919**  
Email: [info@shalommennonite.org](mailto:info@shalommennonite.org)  
(520) 748-7082 (church)  
[www.shalommennonite.org](http://www.shalommennonite.org)

## **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...

**Sisi tuna kuwakaribisha ninyi!** Hata kama wewe ni mtu rahisi, hata kama wewe ni mtu ujasiri au aibu, mtu ambaye ana ulizwa maswali, mtu ambaye uko salamaa, au yule ambayo ana matatizo, chochote umri mnayo, rangi ya ngozi nyako, uwezo mnayo, mwelekeo wa kimapenzi mwako, hali ya jinsia mwako, hali ya uhamiaji mwako..., Iwapo tumemuona ninyi kila Jumapili, kwa ajili ya msimu mmoja, au kwenye baadhi maalum, nadra, na taamu, sisi tunakukaribishwa ninyi nyote kama mwanachama, mwenye kuabudu, mshiriki, waangalizi, viongozi ...

## **¡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.

Theme: *Christmas: Yes! Let it be new*

Worship Order:

## **Gathering**

Prelude

*Welcome! Karibu! ¡Bienvenid@s!* Lighting of Advent candles

Songs

HWB 208 (blue book) *Love came down at Christmas*

HWB 210 *Good Christian friends rejoice*

HWB 212 *O come all ye faithful*

Call to worship from Colossians 1:15-20

## **Hearing the Word**

Children's story

*We delight in our children; their ideas and questions. Please listen with the heart of a child, and refrain from laughing.*

Scripture: Isaiah 58:6-12

Sing! HWB 203 *Break forth O beauteous heavenly light*

Scripture: Luke 2:25-38

Sermon: *Expectant faith in difficult times*

## **Responding**

Spoken responses of the community

Confession

O God, you dwell among us!

We marvel at the mystery of your birth.

You open our eyes, our hearts, and our arms to receive you.

Yes, we say, and yet we confess that

we examine your coming

within the boundaries of our comfortable understandings.

We confess that

instead of rejoicing with Simeon and Anna,

we resist the mystery and demands of your presence.

Forgive us. Open our eyes to the grace in your Way.

(pause for silence)

Words of assurance

Jesus, God with us, in You we are restored.

Community sharing and prayer:

Sending prayer for Mary Beth and Jon

We pray together. **Bwana\*, hear our prayer!** (\*Lord)

Response in song and offering:

StS 124 (purple book) *My soul cries out*

## **Sending**

Introduction of guests and announcements

*If you are a guest or seasonal visitor, sharing your contact info on the welcome sheet as it is passed through the rows will help us stay in touch!*

Charge and blessing

Sending song - choir

speaker: Vic Stoltzfus; worship leader: Carol Rose  
musicians: Edie Lantz-Leppert, Clayton Lehman, Joyce Raglow  
nursery volunteer: Char Schildt (during worship), Betty Hartzler (second hour)

## **TODAY'S SCHEDULE**

9:30 a.m. – Worship (nursery supervisor is Nicole Link)

11:00 a.m. – Second hour and Sunday School

## **CALENDAR**

Jan. 3 – community meal

Jan. 4 – Elders meeting (7 p.m. at Barry's)

Jan. 5 – Prayer group at Shalom led by Georgette (9 a.m.)

Jan. 7 – Magdy Behman speaking in worship; followed by congregational meeting and potluck meal

Jan. 11 – Worship Commission

Jan. 14 – Raymond Malelo speaking in worship

Jan. 23 – Deacons meeting (6:30 p.m. at Jerry's)

Every Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m. – our facility is used by Church of God, a Worldwide Association (COGWA).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Second hour today** will be *Reflections and prayers for closing the past year and beginning the new year* - led by Cheryl Lehman.

**Next Sunday, January 7, there will be a congregational meeting** after worship. The main item of business will be consideration of the proposed changes to the Shalom constitution and by-laws, which were sent to the Shalom list for you to read in advance. The congregational meeting will be **followed by a potluck meal.**