

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.

Community: Matt Baer
Mission: Mark Schildt
Worship: Anna Groff
Administration: Fern Hieb

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
Barry Hieb
Sara Rickard Regier

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 shalommennonite.org/contact/keepintouch to sign up.

The Sermon and worship for most Sundays are available online as an audio podcast. See shalommennonite.org/worship/sermon for the latest podcast. Podcasts are generally posted Sunday PM, but may not be immediately available. Full worship services are available with a login account.

Shalom birthdays this week:

Dan Rickard Regier Dec. 21
Joshua Schildt Dec. 27

Shalom anniversary this week:

Jay and Tina Schlabach Dec. 22

From the Mennonite Mission Network *Prayer Vine* (Dec. 9): Pray for SOOP participants serving in Tucson, Arizona, in low-income home repair, and at local food banks, schools, and homeless shelters.

Shalom is **seeking musicians and singers** for special music during Advent Sunday morning services and the Christmas Eve service. If you are interested in participating during this special season, talk to Tina Schlabach (tina@shalommennonite.org) or Dan Regier (dan.regier@gmail.com). Thanks!

Creation Care Tip: *Take short showers instead of baths and use low-flow shower heads for additional energy savings. Cut your shower time by one minute and save 2-3 gallons of water!* Join us on January 11 at 7pm at Carol and Duane's house (511 N. Cuesta Ave. in Tucson) for the next Creation Care Group meeting!

To submit updates to the church directory, send an email to Joan Martin at jdk110850@gmail.com. Please use the word "directory" in the subject line.

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 13th General Offering	\$2,008.00
Amount needed per Sunday per budget	\$2,220.00
General Offering Year to Date	\$50,934.00
Amount needed YTD per budget	\$53,280.00
Youth Fund	\$50.00
Total Youth Fund	\$1201.00

SHALOM MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

December 20, 2015
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Freedom Bound: The Path of Love



Co-pastors:

Carol Rose
carol@shalommennonite.org
312-933-8986

Tina Schlabach
tina@shalommennonite.org
574-903-9153

6044 E. 30th St.
Tucson, AZ 85711-6919
Email: info@shalommennonite.org
(520) 748-7082 (church)
www.shalommennonite.org

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship. As a church we are committed to welcoming all persons as participants in the body, regardless of status, language, race, disability, or orientation. We are pleased to have you with us.

Bienvenidos! Gracias por acompañarnos en el tiempo de adoración. Como iglesia estamos comprometidos a darle la bienvenida a todas las personas como parte del cuerpo, sin importar su estatus social, idioma, raza, discapacidad, u orientación. Estamos muy contentos de tenerlos con nosotros.

Every Sunday we light a candle to represent our connection with our sister church, Teusaquillo, in Bogotá, Colombia.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Invitation to enter in joy and prayer

Singing

HWB 176 Comfort, comfort, O my people

Welcome and introduction of visitors

(Please pass the welcome sheets down your row and back again)

Singing

HWB 175 O Savior, rend the heavens

StS 13 Sing we a song of high revolt

Shared Call to Worship from Luke 1:39-56:

Leader: Our souls magnify you, our God.
Our spirits rejoice in you, our Savior.

People: You have looked with favor on your lowly servants;

Because of you we are called “blessed.”

Leader: You have scattered the proud
And brought down the mighty.

**People: You have raised up the lowly
And filled the hungry.**

Leader: You have remembered your mercy,
Helping those in need and their
descendants forever.

All: Praise. Praise God’s Holy Name.

Bringing the light, removing the chain

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Scripture reading: Genesis 17:18-27

Sermon: Rev Dr. Magdy Behman

Singing: *اذت عظم*

Translation from Arabic: “*You are Great O God.*”
You are great in your love and your faithfulness, in your liberation and your healing. You are great.

Congregational Response

COMMUNITY LIFE AND MISSION

Sharing joys and concerns

We pray together: Lord, hear our prayer.

Connecting time: MVS and SOOP assignments at Community Home Repair Project of Arizona CHRPA through Thomas Schlabach interviewing Hugh Ward

Bringing our offerings

Singing *HWB 181 My soul proclaims with wonder*

Announcements

SENDING

Prayer for Liberation (unison): Liberating God, set us free. As we walk this road of freedom, let us live into Your great love and faithfulness, liberation and healing.

Sending song

O Freedom

Blessing

Speaker: Magdy
Worship leader: Carol
Musicians: Dan, Tom, Matt, Joshua

Abbreviations:
HWB: *Hymnal A Worship Book* (Blue Book)
StJ: *Sing the Journey* (Green Book)
StS: *Sing the Story* (Purple Book)
SS: Shalom Songs (Projected on screen)

TODAY’S SCHEDULE

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

10:45 a.m. – coffee and fellowship

11:00 a.m. – no Sunday School for children & youth; carol-singing for Jim Hieb and Jim Yordy at their midtown residences

CALENDAR

Dec. 24 – 6 p.m. soup supper, followed by 7 p.m. worship led by Tina

Dec. 27 – Post-Christmas service led by Carol

Jan. 3 – Vic Stoltzfus speaking at worship

Jan. 10 – Harold Kauffman speaking at worship

Jan. 11 – Creation Care group meeting

Jan. 14 – Elders meeting

Jan. 17 – Tina speaking at worship; congregational meeting following second hour

Jan. 22 – Wayfarers small group meeting

Saturday afternoons, 12-5 p.m. – use of the facility by Church of God, a Worldwide Association (COG-WA)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WARM WELCOME to our first SOOPer of the season, Bernice Hartman, from Portland, OR

Second hour activities:

Today - singing Christmas hymns at the two midtown residences where Jim Hieb and Jim Yordy are living. All are invited to participate, including children and youth. We will share rides.

Dec. 27 - a fellowship Second Hour. You are welcome to bring leftover Christmas finger foods!

The annual **Christmas Eve** soup supper will be held on the 24th at 6 p.m., followed immediately by Christmas Eve worship. Several families have been asked to bring soup. Everyone else-- please bring bread/butter, crackers and/or a plate of Christmas cookies. You are encouraged to bring your own table service.

There will be a **Shalom congregational meeting** on Sunday, Jan. 17, after second hour.