

Shalom Mennonite Church

August 23, 2015

Responding to the Word

Hearing devices are available from an usher or the sound booth.

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome & Special Announcements

Laurie Hesed

Prayer written by Theda Good

Gathering Music & Procession

We carry in a flame, the Bible and a prayer cloth. May we trust the Light to guide us, the Word to teach us, and prayer to knit our lives together with God as we begin our time of worship.

Call to Worship

Opening song STJ 3

Jesus calls us here to meet him

Proclaiming the Word

Children's Time

Valerie Klaassen

Nursery care for young children is available at this time until the end of the service.

Scripture Reading (insert)

Matthew 13:31-33

Scripture passages are read in English and Spanish to reflect the community in and around Shalom.

Hymn STJ 27

God of the Bible

Quiet Reflection

The periods of silence will begin and end with the ringing of a chime.

Meditation

Valerie Klaassen

Quiet Reflection

Hymn of Response (insert)

Peace before us

Taken from Sing the Story, Hymnal: A Worship Book - Supplement II

Offering

Commissioning for Erin Bradley

Melanie Zuercher

Sharing Time and Introductions

During this time in the service we welcome visitors, invite responses to the worship service, and share prayer concerns and joys. Please sign the Welcome Pages (black books) in the pews so we can learn each others' names.

Prayers of the People

Sending Song (insert)

It Gets Better, Keep On Walking

Written by Randall Spaulding

Benediction (back of bulletin)

Welcoming Statement for Shalom Mennonite Church

We embrace all people in the name of Christ. Everyone is a unique creation in the image of God. We are an open and affirming congregation that seeks to follow Jesus. We welcome into full participation in the life and ministry of the church, people of every race, immigration status, culture, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, education, economic status, and life situation. We welcome diverse perspectives as we gather around God's table together.

Shalom Mennonite Church

9:30 am – Sunday School (starts August 30, 2015) 10:45 am – Worship
800 E. First St., Newton, KS 67114

Phone: (316) 283-7395 Email: office@shalomnewton.org

Web site: www.shalomnewton.org

Valerie Klaassen is married to John. They live on a farm east of Newton and have four grown children and one adorable grandchild. Valerie is a nurse with Central Homecare. She and her husband attend Grace Hill Mennonite Church. Valerie grew up in Moundridge and graduated from Bethel College.

One: We come from many places, bringing different hopes, different fears, different joys, different pain. We love differently, look differently, live differently. And these differences do not exacerbate our polarities. These differences make us strong. In this place, let us proclaim,

Many: We are bound together. Together we are free.

One: We think of the folks who have gone before us, the survivors whose voices have been ignored, the fabulously fierce and sacred ones who have struggled for decades, and those who are not among us because they could not stomach another gathering where their bodies are allowed to become ecclesiastical combat zones. In this place, let us remember:

Many: We are bound together. Together we are free.

One: In a society where faith communities too often build walls rather than bridges, where flags of hatred are allowed to fly uninterrogated, where black churches burn while white churches measure their responses, where black lives and queer lives and brown lives and trans lives are pitted against one another, distracting us from the interconnections of our liberation. In this place, let us insist:

Many: We are bound together. Together we are free.

One: We come to this moment with much to celebrate, rejoicing that love wins, allowing ourselves to dance but knowing that there is still much work to be done. With every step on our journey toward freedom, we must commit ourselves to walk together, never leaving another behind. In this place, let us affirm:

Many: We are bound together. Together we are free.

One: We come to worship a God who makes us one, a God whose grace transgresses boundaries, a God who is relentlessly at variance with all the limitations we attempt to impose. In this place, let us pray:

Many: We are bound together. Together we are free. Amen!

Written by Mark Rupp

Greeters: Kristen Mayhue, Dick & Mary Rempel, Melanie Zuercher

Musicians: Mark Schmidt Andres, Shalom Band

Spanish Scripture Reader: Julian Gonzalez-Salamanca

Bulletin Cover Image: *Fallen Fern*, Emerlye Arts 2010

Visual Arts: Marla Sawatzky Rowe

Sound & Closing: Tim Buller

Pastor: Sara Dick

Transitional Pastor: Rob Burdette

Summer Youth Worker: Melanie Krehbiel

Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger

Congregational Board Chair: Barth Hague

Shalom Mennonite Church

Following Jesus, we risk love



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