

Prayers and Praises

Mennonite Mission Network Join Mennonite Mission Network in praising God for the recording of the entire New Testament in the Toba-Qom language, and for the 33 readers from eight denominations and 12 communities in the Argentine Chaco who volunteered to make this possible. Pray that God's word will find open hearts when it is aired on the radio.

VMMissions: Ask for safe travels for Elsa Miller as she leaves Israel tomorrow, and for Mitch, Lauren, and Ezra Yoder as they leave Nicaragua on Wednesday. Pray for peace as they leave many friends behind. Ask for smooth transitions back to life in the U.S.

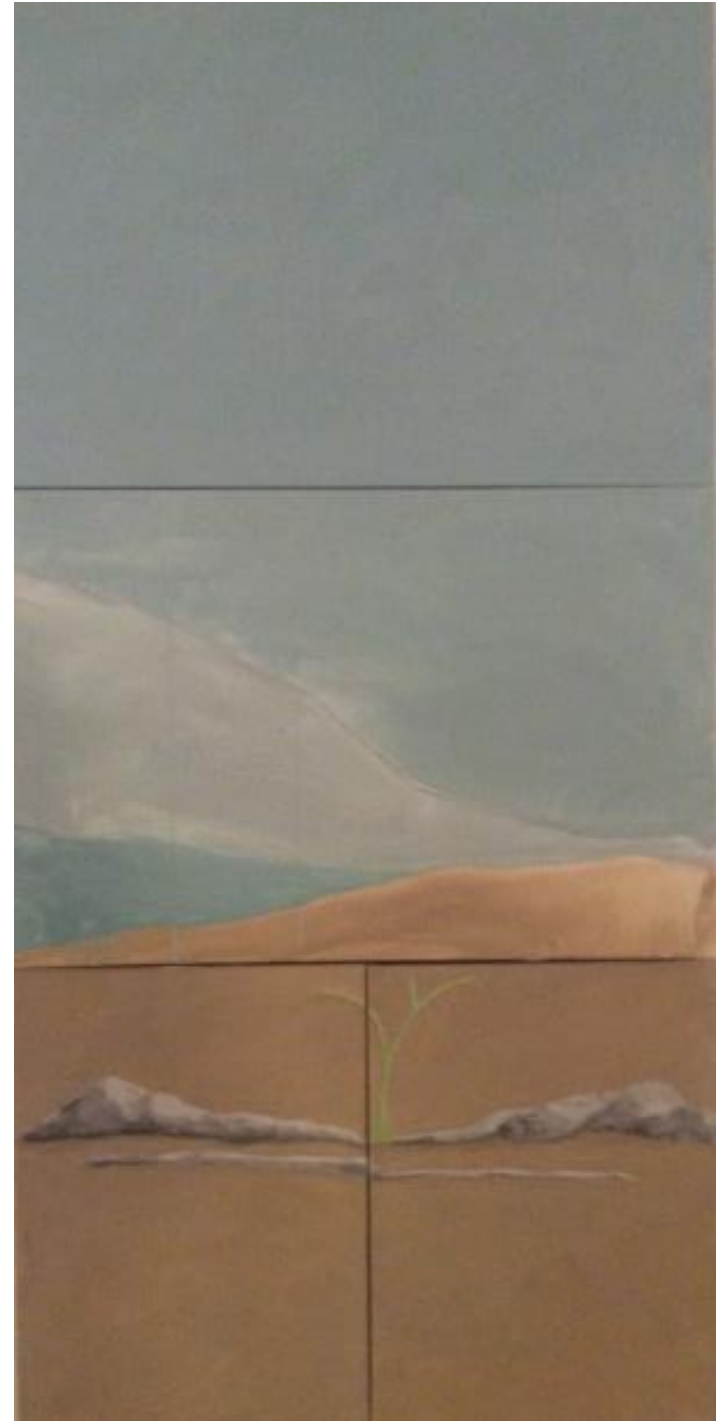
Pray for the local services for people in need: Love Inc., Shelter for Help in Emergency, Food Bank, Salvation Army, IMPACT – a justice ministry and PACEM- the initiative for the homeless.

Advent 1 focus: We long to be comforted, we long for change. Moving from uncertainty and fear, we call upon God to make things ready — the mountains leveled, the paths made straight, our hearts prepared.



Charlottesville
Mennonite
Church

701 Monticello Ave.
Charlottesville, VA 22901
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Pastors: Roy & Maren Hange
Ph. (434) 293-8306
Email: cvillemenno@gmail.com
www.charlottesvillemennonite.org



Advent 2: Let it be so December 10, 2017

Gathering in God's presence

Pre-service music

Call to Worship

one: Awake!

The invitation to carry Light
comes from the Voice who cries out
for a smooth way through wild places.

**all: Oh God, your call is uncomfortable.
How can we who are weak
remove the rough and rugged places?**

[silence]

one: Quiet our questioning souls.

all: Lead us into your presence so all can see your Way.

one: Let it be so.

Lighting of candle

Opening Prayer

Hymns Praise the One who breaks the darkness STS 1
Come, thou long-expected Jesus HWB 178

Noticing God's presence

Children's story

Hymn Longing for light STJ 54

Scripture Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8

Sermon A fragile and shimmering gift

Confession

*O God of blazing heavens,
you come to us gently and tenderly,
speaking peace and comfort into our fear.*

*We long for you,
we yearn for your promise of a new heaven and earth.*

*Yet we confess,
though we know how to get busy
and prepare for this season,
we do not know*

*how to slow down or wait
and make space for your presence.
May our ordinary lives intersect with the power of your Word
and the transforming presence of your grace,
Empower us to "Let it be so."*

(silence)

Words of Assurance

O God Immanuel,

In Jesus, the Christ you have come among us.

You have given us life and we are restored.

Hymn Comfort, comfort, O my people HWB 176

Responding to God's presence

Sharing of joys and concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Offering Praise God HWB 119

Hymn My soul cries out STS 124

Benediction

*As you go, may the Voice of comfort
speak peace and promise to you.
May grace spring up from troubled ground
and righteousness shine down from the sky.
May the light of Christ dwell within you,
and may you see clearly the path
the Spirit is blazing for you.
Amen.*

Today

Sermon: Roy Hange

This week

Today	Christmas play – finger foods	4:30 pm
Mon	Board of Elders	7:15 pm
Tues	Men's breakfast at Bodo's on Preston	7:00 am
Weds	Ad Council	7:00 pm

Upcoming Events

Dec 20

May 18-20, 2018 Annual church retreat

Announcements

Please email all bulletin announcements by Wednesday evening 8:00 pm. Please include the word “bulletin” in the subject line of the heading.

Belmont Baptist Church invites anyone from our congregation to go Christmas caroling with them on Wed. Dec. 20 at 6:00 pm. They plan to meet in front of Belmont Baptist at 6:00pm and sing in the neighborhood for about 1 hour, then return to their fellowship hall for cookies and hot chocolate and tea.

Welcome to a new book discussion: The Discussion Class that meets in the back of the sanctuary will begin discussing the book Borders and Bridges: Mennonite Witness in a Religiously Diverse World edited by Peter Dula and Alain Epp Weaver. <http://www.cascadiapublishinghouse.com/bab/bab.htm> It is a description of Mennonites engaged in transformational peacebuilding internationally. Books are available in or before the class from Roy. The class meets at 9:30am Sunday mornings and this discussion will begin on December 3.