

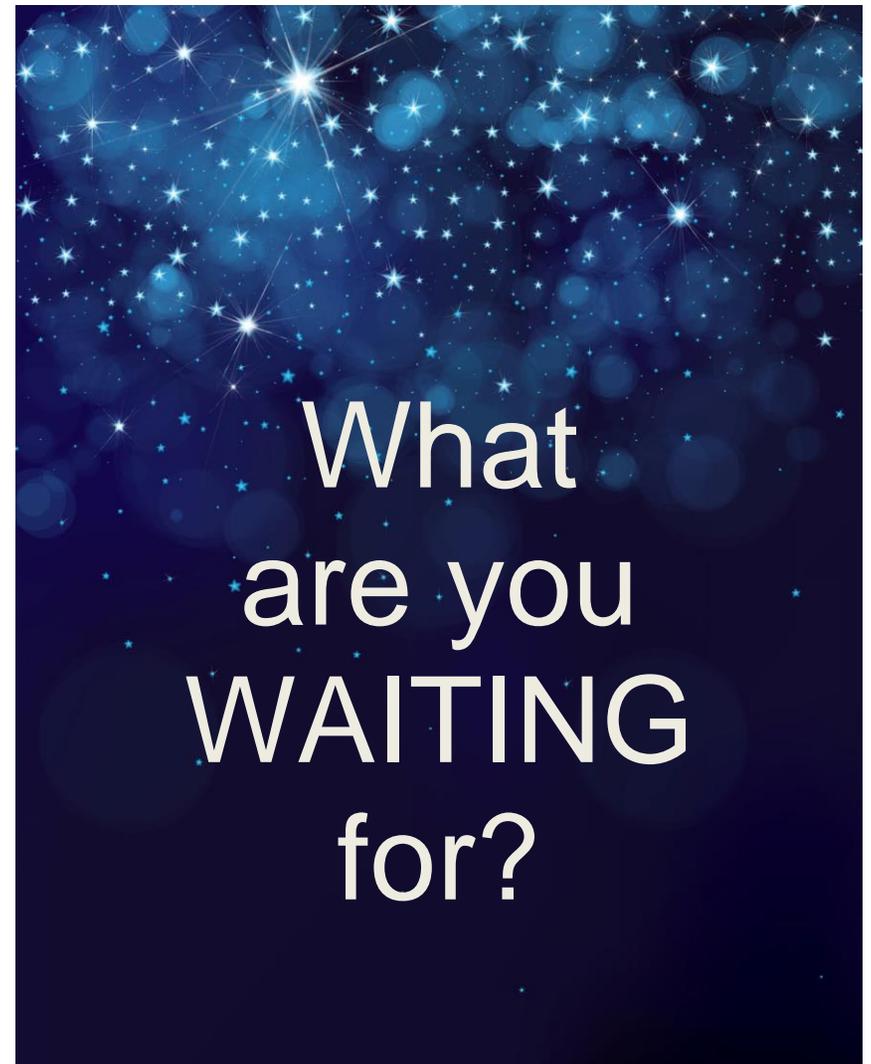
## Prayers and Praises

**Focus statement:** We ask, “What are you waiting for, O God?” God hears our cries and calls to us in return with words of hope. Can we hear God’s invitation? God calls us to repent, pay attention, and embrace the Lord’s vision for a new creation.

**VMMissions :** December often brings increased opportunities for evangelism in Thailand. Pray that Life Enrichment Church, together with the Horst and Schoenhals families, will steward these opportunities well and see new spiritual growth.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** David and Sophie Lapp Jost of Mennonite Mission Network have moved from their ministry in the Middle East to Germany. Pray for them as they engage in language learning and a cross-cultural transition period. David serves with the German Mennonite Peace Committee and Sophie’s work is with the Bammental Mennonite community.

**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 2: Getting ready while we wait  
December 8, 2019**



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



Sale. Visit [mcc.org/christmas-benefit-harrisonburg](http://mcc.org/christmas-benefit-harrisonburg) to reserve your seat(s) in advance for free. A donation to MCC through the Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale will be collected at the door.

*Throughout Advent, we light a second Advent wreath on our altar table, with a prayer of blessing for our Christian sisters and brothers in another country. This week's candle is lit for Christians in Moldova.*

Moldova is a small former Soviet state in eastern Europe between Romania and the Ukraine. Its population is around 4 million people, 1 million of which work abroad to support their families at home. It is the poorest country in Europe with many of its youth at risk of human trafficking, addictions, and health complications. Word Made Flesh runs La VIA Community Center in the capital, Chisinau, which serves at-risk youth from the city with extracurricular activities, therapeutic activities, social development, and academic assistance.

**Check out the Mennonite Women of Virginia blog** for some special Advent meditations and a recipe for Cranberry Apple Pie! Find it at: <https://mwva.home.blog>

**Tour of Jefferson School African American Heritage Center** Saturday, December 14, 2 to 4 pm, African American Heritage Center, 233 4th St., NW [Coming to the Table](#) is sponsoring a tour the Jefferson School and its history exhibits to learn about the rich heritage and legacy of the African-American community in the Charlottesville-Albemarle area. After the tour, a member of the Center staff will facilitate a more in-depth discussion of the topics covered and their connection to the present day. There is a \$5 tour fee for adults, free for high school students. Fees will be collected on site. Ample parking is available. RSVP by contacting Kathy Spaar [comingtothetableville@gmail.com](mailto:comingtothetableville@gmail.com).

**Albania Earthquake Relief Fund:** On November 26, a 6.4-magnitude earthquake hit Albania, causing loss of life and damage to buildings, including in the town of Lezhë, where VMissions has a number of workers and ministries. Thankfully, our workers

were physically unharmed, but they are dealing with the trauma of the event. Lezha Academic Center (LAC), the local Christian school we support, suffered structural damage and will remain closed until the new year. VMissions is establishing an Albania Earthquake Relief Fund to help provide food, lodging, clothing, medicine, counseling, and other necessities in the town of Lezhë. We invite you to join us in this effort to share God's love with our global neighbors in need. Gifts can be made online at [vmmissions.org/albaniarelieffund](http://vmmissions.org/albaniarelieffund), or by check, made out to VMissions, with Albania Earthquake Relief in the memo, and mailed to 601 Parkwood Drive, Harrisonburg, VA 22802. Funds exceeding the need in Lezhë may be used in other relief efforts.

**Shekinah and Cantore** (women's and men's vocal groups) warmly invite you to their **annual Christmas coffeehouse concert** with refreshments and festive music at 7 pm on Friday and Saturday, December 13 and 14, at Park View Mennonite Church Harrisonburg. Admission is by donation (\$8-10 suggested), and proceeds will benefit Bridge of Hope, a local program that matches young mothers at risk of homelessness with groups of individuals and/or families who want to walk alongside in a supportive way.

The **Annual Messiah Sing** will be held on Epiphany, Monday, January 6, 7 p.m. at Park View Mennonite Church. Come be the choir, along with soloists Leah Wenger, Sarah Hamilton, Les Helmuth, and Matthew Hunsberger; John Fast, organist; Ben Bergey, director; and a small instrumental ensemble. Bring your own score if you have it—there will also be scores available. This is a wonderful way to conclude the season of Christmas as we join our voices together in this amazing music. If you have questions, contact Karen Moshier-Shenk, [moshkr@emu.edu](mailto:moshkr@emu.edu)

**Memory verse for December:** *Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.* Isaiah 40:28