

Congregational Calendar

November

8	11:00 am	Worship
12	7:00 pm	Young Adult & Student Bible Study
14	8:30 am	Women's Breakfast @ FMC
15	11:00 am	Worship with Lamb's Basket
17	9:30-10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship
22	11:00 am	Worship with Communion
22	12:00 pm	Fellowship Meal
29	11:00 am	Worship

December

2	6:00 pm	1 st Wednesday Meal
6	11:00 am	Worship with My Coins Count
6	12:00 pm	Congregational Meeting
12	8:30 am	Women's Breakfast @ Jefferson
13	11:00 am	Worship
13	6:00 pm	Christmas Program
15	9:30-10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship
20	11:00 am	Worship with Lamb's Basket
24		Christmas Eve Service
25		Christmas Day
27	11:00 am	Worship



Communion Schedule for 2015

November 22

December 24 (Christmas Eve)

First Mennonite Church of Richmond
Worship Service

November 7, 2015

Vol. 61, No. 45

WELCOME AS GOD'S CHILDREN

Worship Leader Tina Eshleman

Music Leaders Charity Stutzman

Prelude Murray Ellison & Tina Eshleman

GATHERING

Welcome

Call to Worship Acts 2:36-42

Hymn "Heart with Loving Heart United" **HWB** 420

Hymn "Guide My Feet" **HWB** 546

Mentor Mentee Recognition

Dismissal for Junior Worship (ages 4-7)

Confession

Hymn "Be Thou My Vision" **HWB** 545

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

Scripture Ephesians 4:1-3; 11-15

Sermon "members and Leaders" Pastor Ryan Ahlgrim

Silent Reflection

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn "One Is the Body" **STJ** 72

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer Ryan Ahlgrim

Offering

Offertory Murray Ellison & Tina Eshleman

SENDING

Sending Song "Help Us to Help Each Other" **HWB** 362

Benediction

First Mennonite Church

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secretary@firstmennonitechurch.org

Pastor Ryan Ahlgrim: pastor@firstmennonitechurch.org

FMC ONLINE Ryan Ahlgrim posts a weekly Bible Study blog every Monday at www.fmcBibleStudy.wordpress.com. An online Bible Study link is on the church website. First Mennonite also has a Facebook page Like us at facebook.com/FirstMennoniteChurch.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES begin at 9:30am every Sunday. The Sunday school classes for most of fall there will be two options. One class will be the Uniform curriculum focusing on the book of Acts. The title for the quarter is "Praying for Signs, Wonders, and Boldness." The second class will look at end of life issues. Topics will include the benefits of planning well, Tame and wild dying, Advance care plan for a peaceful departure, what to do with my body, Necessary family conversations, and making your wishes known. Those of you who have experience and expertise are especially encouraged to come and share with those who don't.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL Preschool, Primary and Middler classes will be offered using the Shine curriculum. The Fall quarter introduces children to many important stories of the Old Testament. These are stories of faith that Jesus knew. Fall 2015 includes stories from Deuteronomy, Numbers, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, and 1 and 2 Samuel. Children and Youth will be encouraged to trust God as they hear the stories of Israel crossing the Jordan or of Gideon's unusual victory. They can witness the kindness of Ruth and be amazed at God's surprising call in the lives of Samuel, Saul, and David.

Additionally Pastor Ryan Ahlgrim will lead a class entitled "Looking for God and God looking for us". The class will explore and provide Jr. Youth and Youth students with a foundation for Christian faith.

OUR BULLETIN is published on Friday evenings send data via secretary mailbox, phone call to church office or email to secretary@firstmennonitechurch.org by Friday morning.

Our Congregational Ambassadors

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Greeter		
Opening Usher		
Closing Usher		
10:45 Nursery	Jim Martin	Marla Wilson
	Olivia Harrison	Craig Wilson
Host	Coffee Hour (Bowman)	Guest Meal (Bruckhart)
Flowers		

WELCOME VISITORS! We are glad you are here today. To get to know you better, please sign the guest book in the foyer and put your visitor card (found in the pews) in the offering bag. Join us again for worship and other activities! Some are on the back page of this bulletin.

COFFEE HOUR following worship this Sunday, all are invited to stay for coffee and conversation. Hosted by Hazel & John Bowman.

SERMON SERIES ON MEMBERSHIP

11/15: "How to Belong to the Church" 1 Corinthians 12:14-26

Pastor Ryan Ahlgrim will be at a Virginia Mennonite Conference Pastoral Consultation this Monday through Wednesday, and so will not be available in the church office except on Thursday and Friday.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY will resume Thursday, November 12, 7pm (at the Ahlgrims': 1613 Wallace St.). "Looking for Purpose," a study of Ecclesiastes.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST Nov. 14 at 8:30 @ FMC. After eating stay to help create comforters for MCC.

MEDITATION & PRAYER The Ministerial Leadership Team invites everyone to join us for a time of Quiet Meditation & Prayer each Sunday, 9-9:25am. This time of prayer will prepare us and undergird us as we begin the membership criteria discernment process later this fall.

NOV. 22 FELLOWSHIP MEAL Everybody bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish and A-L also bring dessert and M-Z also bring Veggie, salad, etc.

DECEMBER 6, 2015- Bring a bag lunch and stay for a Congregational meeting to approve church budget for 2016.

SEEKING ON SITE SECRETARY who can print, and fold bulletins, distribute mail, water plants, and other in house duties, for two hours a week (preferably Fridays). Email secretary@firstmennonitechurch.org for details.

SIGN UP FOR PATHWAYS "Pathways" is the magazine of the Virginia Mennonite Conference. If you would prefer to receive this publication through email instead of a hard copy in your church mailbox, sign up on the Commons table.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND Now is the time for the second half of your scholarship fund pledges! Thanks to those of you who have already fulfilled your pledge.

JOINT THANKSGIVING SERVICE will be hosted by Chamberlayne Heights United Methodist Church, 6100 Chamberlayne Rd, on Wednesday, November 25, at 7pm. Bring canned goods for Lamb's Basket (this will be our offering!). Light refreshments will be served after the service.

DISCUSSION OF MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA. For the first four Sundays of November, all FMC adults are invited to participate in a Sunday school discussion about the purpose of church membership and what criteria we should use. In your church mailbox is a list of all active adult attendees, divided into three groups. Each group has an assigned elder who will lead the group discussions for those four Sundays. If you are new or your name is not on the list, please join any of the three groups.

Don Oswald's group will meet in the classroom at the right end of the education wing; Jay Rohrer's group will meet in the larger adult classroom off of the Commons; Margaret Bruckhart's group will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Congregational Leadership

Elder: Jay Rohrer	672-3818
Elder: Margaret Bruckhart	262-4540
Elder: Don Oswald	330-2969
Chairperson: John Bowman	730-3195
Chair of PCRC: Bob Eshleman	794-7143

PRAYER GUIDE FOR FIRST MENNONITE

- Pray for peace in Syria, Iraq, Jerusalem, the West Bank, and elsewhere in the Middle East.
- Pray for our church as we discern the purpose and criteria for membership.
- Please pray for Grayson Felgar; Muzet and Daryl's son, he was in a critical car accident on Nov 4th.
- Pray for one of Marla Wilson's students, Lilah, who was recently hospitalized for an asthma attack.
- Pray for the Basinger family as they mourn the recent death of Darrell's father.
- Pray for Joel Reinford as he recovers from surgery to remove a giant cell tumor from his femur.
- Pray for Margaret Gainey as she recovers from a recent heart attack and complications.
- Pray for Curt Holsopple as he recovers at home from surgery to remove his knee implant and receives antibiotics to get rid of a dangerous infection.

METRO RICHMOND PRAYER – In November we pray for persons in Financial Need in Metropolitan Richmond. We especially pray for the homeless and the hungry, for the provision of food, for the personal safety, dignity, and wellbeing of those who are unable to work.

PRAYER REQUESTS may be placed in the offering bag or pastor's mailbox, emailed to secretary@firstmennonitechurch.org, or called to our office. We will rotate or replace prayer requests every few weeks unless you request otherwise.