

Durham Mennonite Church

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Pastor: Spencer Bradford

Elders: Jackie Carroll-Garcia, Eliza Griffith, Cheryl Van Horn

A Congregation of the Virginia Mennonite Conference & Mennonite Church USA

August 13, 2017

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Worship Leader, Eliza Griffith; Music, Aaron Griffith

PRAISING OUR CREATOR WHO CALLS US

Call to Worship

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,
in the Spirit that gives faith, love and life.

Opening Songs

Confession of Sin – Hymnal #703, *unison*

Assurance of Grace – Hymnal #708, *unison*

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Hymn

HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Ruth 3:1-4:17

John 16:16-33

Genesis 31:1-55

God tells Jacob to leave Laban and return to Canaan, and Jacob convinces Rachel and Leah to come by telling them how he had earned much of their father's livestock despite Laban's attempts to cheat him of his earnings. Laban accuses his laborer and son-in-law Jacob of deceit in slipping away with Laban's daughters and the flocks Jacob had earned, but is Laban honest with Jacob about wanting to give him a celebration? Laban says he still regards Jacob's family and flocks as belonging to himself; if God had not told him to let Jacob go, would Laban have done so? Do laborers need an independent authority to advocate for and protect them when owners and employers act unfairly?

Video – Farmworker Justice Ministry in Florida
(*PBS Religion and Ethics Newsweekly, 2012*)

Philemon 4-21

After hearing about mistreatment of today's farmworkers, and Bishop Wright's sermon on Philemon, what would it mean for the church today to stand as an advocate for abused fieldworkers treated like slaves, to call on businesses to treat workers like their family, the way Paul did for Onesimus, to the extent of defining his relationship with Philemon through his commitment to Onesimus?

Video – Bishop Tom Wright on Philemon

RECEIVING THE SPIRIT, JOINED IN CHRIST'S BODY

Hymn

Testimonies, Sharing and Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal #731)

Offering and Offertory

RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn

Sending to Serve

God the Father himself loves you, because you have loved Jesus and have trusted that he came from God. In Christ, we have peace, for Jesus has overcome the world. Though now we part, we are not alone. The Lord watch between us when we are absent one from the other.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

For 8/20: Gen. 32: 1-21; Song of Songs 3: 1-4; 1Jn. 4: 7-12, 16b-21;

2Jn 1: 1-9; John 13: 31-35

Worship Leader, Aaron Griffith; Music, Kevin Nice

For 8/27: Gen. 32: 22- 33: 11; 2Sam. 5: 3-12; Rev. 3: 14-22; John 9: 1-41

Worship Leader, Jackie Carroll-Garcia; Music, Carol Detweiler

Pray for Mennonite Missions: Alisha and Josh Garber are beginning an assignment in Spain with Mennonite Mission Network. Pray for them as they adapt to a new language and culture and as they serve alongside the leaders of the Barcelona Mennonite Church, focusing on youth outreach and congregational mission.

Upcoming Durham Mennonite Dates:

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. – Quilting & Sewing at Durham Mennonite

Tuesday, August 15, 5:45 pm – DCIA Supper at Epworth United Methodist Church, Durham Police Chief C.J. Davis speaks.

Saturday, August 19 – 7 PM Ice Cream Social at Tieszens

Sunday, August 27 – Fellowship Potluck after Worship

Wednesday, August 30 - Singing and Prayer at Carver Assisted Living

Friday, Sept. 29 – DMC prepares and serves supper for 200 at Urban Ministries of Durham.

Happy Birthday to Emily Robie (8/9), Tom Weaver (8/10), Eliza Griffith (8/17), Jonathan Nice (8/21)!



*God saw my affliction and the labor of
my hands*

Front Image: The Rice Field Workers – Aldo Borgonzoni, 1948

*Our mission is to restore people to relationships of communion with God
and each other in Christ.*

*We will practice this mission through our worship and witness,
our discipling, fellowship and service.*

www.durhammennonite.org

**DURHAM
MENNONITE
CHURCH**