

For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to Acts 15:28

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Last Sunday's sermon on Holy Spirit led council-iation (Acts 15), emphasized three qualities demonstrated by the Apostles in this conflicted situation in the early church: humility, conviction, and release of control.

I invite us to embrace these paradoxical qualities as we come together Sunday to discuss the proposed mission statement:

Shalom Mennonite Church is a diverse community rooted in the Anabaptist Christian tradition. Together we follow Jesus as we worship God, grow in the Spirit, support one another, and share God's justice, peace and love with those around us and the world.

We are hearing affirmation for the statement. We don't want to prolong the process, yet our goal is widespread congregational ownership.

If you have a concise suggestion for strengthening this statement as you have prayerfully reflected over the last three weeks, ***please send your specific changes via e-mail to Gary before 9 a.m. Sunday*** (gmartin5@comcast.net).

All suggested changes will be included on a handout for all to see as we discuss the statement in table groups at 11:00 a.m. This will facilitate our conversation and decision making. May what emerges Sunday seem good to the Holy Spirit and to us!

-Gary Martin

Looking Ahead: "The Spread of the Gospel"

11/13 9:30 a.m. *Telling our story* Acts 26:1-18 Gary

11:00 a.m. Congregational Dialogue: *Mission Statement*

11/20 9:30 a.m. ... *in Perspective* Acts 28:11-31; Col 1:11-20 Gary

11/27 9:30 a.m. Advent 1 Brian

12/11 11:00 a.m. Congregational Dialogue: *Leadership & Authority*

Gary's projected in town schedule: Nov. 13-15; 18-22; Dec. 4-5