



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

October 6, 2019

Suffering

*Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.”
- Job 2:8*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *Andante from Lyric Symphony* Rulon Christiansen

Choral Call to Worship – *Come, ye disconsolate v. 1* Mark Ortman

Welcome and Call to Worship (from Psalm 102) Tim Eisenbeis

L: Hear my prayer, O LORD; let my cry come to you.

P: Do not hide your face from me in the day of distress.

L: My heart is stricken and withered like grass.

P: I lie awake; like a lonely bird on the housetop.

L: But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever.

P: Your name endures to all generations.

ALL: We declare the name of the LORD and offer our praise to God!

Opening Prayer

PRAISING GOD

* Hymn of Praise – *How firm a foundation* HWB #567

Greetings and Announcements

Children’s Story MCC School Kits Dedication Lacey Friesen

Offering our gifts – Household Treasury

Offertory – *Adagio from Lyric Symphony* Rulon Christiansen

* Song – *Praise God from whom* (HWB #119) & Offertory Prayer

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the Text Job 1-2 Various readers

Sermon – “The Mystery of Suffering” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – *Come, ye disconsolate vv. 1,3* HWB #497

Celebrating Communion

Congregational Prayer

* Sending Song – *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* HWB #582

* Benediction

Postlude – *Improvisation on God of Grace*

* Congregation please stand. If standing is difficult, please remain seated.

The peace lamp is lit weekly as a reminder that there is violence and suffering in the world. We as a faith community pray for peace for all people and look for ways to be active in peacemaking and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Church Calendar

Deadline for bulletin submissions is 8:30 p.m. Wednesday; salemzion@gwtc.net

TODAY

The character of Job invites us to ponder suffering, faith and God’s activity. As we reflect on those who suffer (including ourselves), we are invited to trust that God knows, God cares, and God is redeeming all situations. On this World-Wide Communion Sunday, we welcome all who earnestly love Jesus and who are committed to follow him to come to the communion table. We welcome you to this time of worship.

Greeters: Diane & Ted Ellinger; **Organist:** Ken Mannes

9:00 a.m. – Packing MCC School Kits in Fellowship Hall

9:15 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

“Celebrating Giving”

Today’s offering supports our household treasury. It is the last offering that will go toward our household treasury in this fiscal year. Thank you for your generous gifts today and throughout the past year!

This Afternoon at 4:00 pm: Join us for a Community Prayer Meeting for our farmers and the fall harvest at the Historic Bethel Church on the Freeman Academy campus.

NEXT SUNDAY – Oct. 13

Next Sunday we will continue our series on the book of Job. The theme will be “*Pain*,” the texts will be Job 2:9, Job 3:1-26 and Pastor Corey will be preaching. We invite you to be reading through these texts and reflect on how pain has impacted your relationships. We will be invited into God’s healing grace.

Greeters: Steve Graber family; **Offering:** Mennonite Church USA

COMING EVENTS

Oct. 17 – Board of Education meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 27 – Harvest Mission Festival at Salem-Zion. Jerrell or Jane Ross Richer will be sharing. Jerrell is an economics professor at Goshen College and also works with Mennonite Mission Network in Ecuador. We are invited to a potluck meal at noon at the South Church.

Oct. 31 – Outreach and Service Committee meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 3 – Guess Who’s Coming for Dinner

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Ardis Jantzen's brother, Jim Leder, was recently placed on home hospice care due to liver cancer.
- Pastor Corey attended a retreat in Northwest Iowa with the Christian Formation Committee of our Central Plains Conference on Friday and Saturday. Part of this committee's work is to create opportunities for our congregations to grow in our faith formation.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Duane & LaVonne Schrag.
- Gabriel Eisenbeis as the MCC Canner officially begins canning meat in the Sterling, Ohio community this week.

Remember to thank God for:

- all the giving that Salem-Zion Mennonite Church has offered to the household treasury. Today is the last offering that will go toward our household treasury in our fiscal year. Praise God for generous hearts and willing spirits!

Turning in Forms for CARING GROUPS: We invite you all to consider signing up to be a part of a Caring Group. You can even share what people you'd like to have in your Caring Group. Brochures are in the foyer and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Corey or any of the deacons. Forms need to be turned in by **October 20th**. We will be meeting later in October to begin formulating the groups.

Thank you for your prayers and concerns in my recent hospital stay. Special thanks for cards, food and visits. May God bless you. - Clara Graber

Thank you for your prayers, calls and visits, and gifts of food during my recent hospitalization and recovery. It is a blessing to experience such care from the church community. - Janette (and LeRoy)

Sign up now in the narthex to "**Serve one another in Love**". The sign-up sheet will be available until October 20, so now is the time to choose how you will serve those with whom you worship and fellowship. All are encouraged to take part. You can read the explanation of each role, but if there are questions, please ask Elizabeth Janssen, MW Exec. Chairwoman.

We are currently collecting **feminine hygiene items** for girls in the local schools. Please place items in the white collection box in the women's

coatroom by October 13. We are looking for tampons and pads. These items will be shared with Marion School, Freeman Public and Freeman Academy. Thank you for showing care to the young women of our community in this way.

Elmer Wall is turning 90 on October 30! On behalf of his children we invite you to help us celebrate his life at this milestone. We are hosting an Open House on Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Silverwood Mennonite Church, Goshen, IN. We understand it is a long trip so we are asking church friends from the places Elmer has served to shower him with birthday cards and notes (Elmer was Pastor of Salem-Zion from 1984-1991). Please send a card to:

Elmer Wall
415 Fairview Dr
Goshen, IN 46528

Junior department teachers and anyone else interested: Do you have questions about *Shine: Living in God's Light*, the Mennonite children's Sunday School curriculum? Join us on Tuesday, October 29 and Thursday, November 21 for webinars exploring the "whys" and "hows" of Shine. See the Central Plains website for more information. www.centralplainsmc.org/shine-webinar

Our fall selection of servants is underway! This is your opportunity to help the Selection Committee staff the various committees that serve Jesus through Salem-Zion. We will be looking for your **completed selection ballot by Monday, Oct. 7th**. If you have it completed, you can put it in the offering this Sunday. Please do not select Larry Kaufman for the MDS representative role.

This past summer Salem-Zion took part in a ministry in Sioux Falls called **Laundry with Love**. We are looking for someone to take responsibility for this new ministry. The right person will make contact with this ministry, will coordinate when Salem-Zion goes to serve and will plan the meal and create a sign-up sheet. If this sounds like something you'd like to take on, please contact Elizabeth Janssen to volunteer or to ask more questions.

September Offerings & Gifts: Household Treasury - \$17,101.31; Student Tuition Sharing Fund - \$1,877.00; Deacon Sharing Fund - \$500.00; Central Plains Mennonite Conference - \$1,726.00; Mennonite Church USA - \$1,401.00; Bethany Food Pantry - \$1,319.00.

September Household Treasury Report – Income: \$17,115.14; Expenses: \$10,716.58; Balance: -\$12,621.72.

Praying for the Holy Spirit: *“Come Holy Spirit, Come. Fill the hearts of thy faithful people and kindle in us the fire of thy love.”*

Community Connections

Prayer Gathering – “O God Our Help in Ages Past, Our Hope for Years to Come”: Today, Oct. 6 at 4pm join a simple time of prayers, songs and fellowship at the old Bethel Church building on the Heritage Hall Museum grounds. As our farms, businesses, churches and schools face ongoing challenges, the pastoral leaders of Hutterthal, Salem-Zion and Salem Mennonite invite you to come remember God’s faithfulness throughout our past, and petition for God’s ongoing help in our present circumstances and for our future. All community members welcome.

The **Freeman Network for Justice and Peace** will be meeting at 12 p.m. Wednesday, October 9, in the Freeman Public Library meeting room. Anyone is welcome to attend.

The **Freeman Academy Music Department** will present their Fall Concert Thursday, October 10, at 7:30 p.m. in Pioneer Hall. A variety of music will be performed by the Vocal Department (grades 4-12) and the Instrumental Department including the Concert Band (grades 7-12) and the High School Jazz Band.

Salem Mennonite Home is celebrating 70 years of caring for the elderly in our community with our annual Fall Harvest Festival. Please come join us, Saturday October 26th from 5:30-8:00pm, for an evening of fellowship, food, entertainment, raffles and a silent auction at the Freeman Community Center. Tickets, including raffles, can be purchased in our business office, at the door or online salem-mennonite-home.com. We hope you can join us!

Suffering: “I believe that God is a fellow-sufferer. I also believe that if we are to address evil in our midst, we need to participate with God in responding. There are things we can’t change, but we can play a part in making this a better world, where violence is not as common place as it seems to be in recent years. We can comfort those who are suffering. We have a role to play, let us not, if it is in our power, let that opportunity pass us by.” – Robert D. Cornwall – Disciples of Christ pastor

Pastor Corey Miller
Office Hours:
Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon
corey.miller@gwtc.net
Cell phone: 319-930-7320

Church Admin. Assistant:
Lisa Kaufman
Tues. & Thurs. 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
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