



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

“Contend for the Faith”

“keep yourselves in the love of God.”

February 19, 2023

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place*
(Norwegian Folk Melody)

Mavis Ortman

Welcome

Elizabeth Janssen

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Call to Worship (from Jude)

L: To those who are called, who are beloved in God the Father and kept safe for Jesus Christ,

P: May mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.

ALL: In our worship, we will contend for the faith of Jesus Christ.

Prayer of Invocation

* Hymn – *Holy Spirit, Come With Power*

VT #57

Greeting each other

Children’s Story

Lynelle Hofer

Offering – Deacon Sharing Fund

Hymn of Thanksgiving – *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

VT #419

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Scripture Jude 3-7, Jude 8-13, Jude 14-23

Song – *O God, We Call* (sung between the three Jude readings) VT #683

Sermon – “Upholding Christ’s Church” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD

Song – *Help Us to Help Each Other* VT #722

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

* Sending Song – *God, Be with Us* VT #613

* Benediction Jude vv. 24-25

Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

We welcome the message of **Jude** this morning in our time of worship. Jude’s call to “*contend for the faith*” was a word for the early church and a word for us. In a season where it seems that Christianity has been distorted by all sides, we seek Jesus above all to guide us toward faithful living. We are delighted that you have joined us for worship. Welcome!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Deacon Sharing Fund**.

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

2:00 p.m. – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

Feb. 22 (Wed) – *Ash Wednesday* service at Salem-Zion at 7:00pm. This will be an intergenerational service for all ages. Come and enter into this new season as Lent begins. No meal will be provided this evening.

Feb. 24 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

Feb. 25 (Sat) – Women’s book study at 9:30am

NEXT SUNDAY – Feb. 26

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Lent. The theme is “*Shaped by Testing*” and the scriptures are Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7, Psalm 32, Romans 5:12-19 and Matthew 4:1-11. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Next week the offering is for **Bienvenidos** ministry in Flandreau.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- We lament another school shooting in our country. This time, the Michigan State campus is grieving the senseless deaths of 3 students and 5 others who were wounded in the mass shooting last Monday.

- Delano Tieszen had successful heart valve replacement surgery on Tuesday at the Heart Hospital. He was able to return back to his home this week.

- Mary Schmidt was moved to a rehab unit at the Prairie Center on Avera’s campus. Her room number is 5023.

Remember to praise God for:

- the gestures of love that were given and received over this past week. The scriptures remind us that if we know love, we know God, for God is love. I John 4:7-8

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Eva Goosen.

- the people of Turkey/Syria as they continue to deal with the trauma of the recent earthquake.
- the Michigan State University campus as they feel violated by violence.
- Delano Tieszen as he recovers from his recent surgery.
- Mary Schmidt as she heals from her broken ribs.
- the Encuentro Andino Anabaptista, a gathering of Anabaptists from Mennonite conferences from across the Andean region. Please pray that this gathering would be inspirational and would be a time of good fellowship. Pray also for safe travel for Nathan Luitjens and Joel Beachy who are attending this gathering as CPMC's representatives in the Ecuador Partnership.

Prayer Time During Lent at 8:45am: Starting next Sunday, February 26th, everyone is invited to a time of scripture reading, reflection, silence, and prayer surrounding the Biblical texts for that Sunday. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Corey and the deacons will be providing leadership during this prayer time.

A sincere **thank-you** for all your prayers, cards, and phone calls during my recent surgery. A special thanks to Pastor Corey for his prayers, visits, and text messages. I appreciated everyone's support and am thankful to be a part of this church family. God's blessings, Judy Rechnagel

The Board of Education is planning a **multi-generational worship/study** for the summer Sunday School hour for all junior and adult classes. Teachers should prepare as usual through May, but we will not hold traditional classes from June through August. Watch for more information at a later date.

A new letter from **Jane & Jerrell Ross Richer** (Mennonite Mission Network) has been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

A Saturday morning **women's book study** will begin on February 25 at 9:30am. We will be reading "Tongue-Tied" by Sara Wenger Shenk. For a synopsis of the book, go to <https://heraldpress.com/9781513807782/tongue-tied/>. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Epp or Polly Waltner.

Please think about **young people** in your congregation who have demonstrated Jesus's way of love and peacemaking. This year the Central Plains Peace and Justice Task Group is doing the *Peace Mug Award* a little differently. We are seeking young nominations for the Conference's *Peace Mug*. We are looking for an emerging peacemaker. This can be anyone **in their teens and twenties** that you have seen doing small acts of peacemaking and kindness or who has spoken out in the face of injustice. Whom do you see as an **emerging** peacemaker in your congregation? Send names and a brief description of why you are

nominating them to Jane Y-S (wilmajane17@gmail.com). We need them by Wednesday, March 22!

Community Connections

Cheese Pocket Making Days Planned for Schmeckfest: Cheese pockets for the 2023 Schmeckfest Country Kitchen will be made on Friday afternoon and Saturday, February 24 & 25, in the Pioneer Hall Dining Room. Plans are to begin at 3:30 p.m. on Friday and at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday. Please bring a sack lunch on Saturday. Join the volunteer crew for a great time of work and fellowship and learn how this ethnic favorite is made. Watch the Courier or Freeman Academy websites for weather cancellation.

Sponsored by South Dakota Arts Council and Dr. Donald Schenk, join Freeman Academy for **Maggie in the Meantime** on Sunday, February 26th at 2PM at Salem-Zion Mennonite Church. Founded in September of 2009 in Sioux Falls, SD and inspired by Celtic and folk forms both old and new, Maggie In the Meantime is a blend of ballad, folk and storytelling that gives these master-level musicians a broad appeal. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$15. Kids 10 and under are free. Funds raised will benefit Freeman Academy.

Rural Revival will meet on Monday, February 27, at 7:30 P.M. in the Freeman Public Library. All are invited to attend.

Kuchen making days are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 3-4, starting at 9:00 a.m. in the dining hall. If you have glass pie plates we can borrow, please bring them, clearly labeled. We ask that you bring a sack lunch and join us for all or part of the day. Thank you!

The February edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service at <https://conta.cc/3EboHDz>. In our current issue: read about the MDS Annual Celebration in Lancaster, PA and check out the videos from the gathering; and a volunteer writes about the transformative experience during her time at Monte Lake, BC.

Living God's Peace: "If we want to reap the harvest of peace and justice in the future, we will have to sow seeds of nonviolence, here and now, in the present." - Mairead Corrigan

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