



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

March 14, 2021

Called to Deep Healing

“... God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world... but in order that the world might be saved through him.” - John 3:17

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

- Prelude Sherilyn Ortman
- Welcome and Call to Worship Jeremy Waltner
- Lighting the Peace Lamp instrumentation of *All Who Are Thirsty* (VT #49)
- Opening Prayer
- * Opening Hymn – *God of the Bible* (SJ #27)
Choristers: Polly & Estelle Waltner, Lacey Friesen

HEARING GOD’S WORD

- Children’s Story Jeremy Waltner
- Hearing the Scriptures Numbers 21:4-9 and Ephesians 2:1-10
- Song – *O healing river* (HWB #372)
- * Hearing the Gospel John 3:14-21
- Sermon – “Look up for Healing” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL

- Confession
 - L: Deep calls to deep. We call to you from the depths of our hearts.
 - P: We confess how the wilderness has revealed our need, uncovering our impatience, lifting up our pain.**
 - P: We confess how the wilderness has revealed your truth. We are created for good works. We can turn and live.**
 - Silence*
 - L: Deep calls to deep. You call to us from the depth of your love.
 - P: Calling us to deep relationship. We come to you, God.**
- Testimony LeRoy Epp
- Missional Moment – Central Plains Mennonite Conference
- Congregational Prayer
- * Sending Song – *You are all we have* (SJ #29)
- Benediction
- Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

One year ago, things began to “shut down” around us because of Covid. Much has happened over the past year, moments that were both exhausting and exhilarating. The wilderness of last year confronts us with our vulnerability and exposes our wounds and needs. We are invited to deep healing from our trustworthy God. We are so glad you are joining us in this time of worship. Welcome!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for *Central Plains Mennonite Conference*.

- 9:30 a.m. – Adult Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

THIS WEEK

- Mar. 17 (Wed) - Zoom Bible Study from Mark 14:1-25 – “Preparations for Passover” at 10 a.m.
- Faith From the Heart (Zoom) led by Malynda Penner at 6:45 p.m.
- The youth group will meet at 7:00 p.m. for an outdoor activity

NEXT SUNDAY – March 21

Next Sunday we continue our Lent series “Deep Calls to Deep” and the focus of the morning is “*Called to deep growth*.” The Biblical texts are Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 12:20-33, Psalm 51 and Hebrews 5:5-10. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Offering next Sunday will be for *Mennonite Church USA*.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Central Plains Mennonite Conference has expressed their gratitude for the many people who have donated some of their excess COVID relief stimulus checks to the conference. CPMC is planning on distributing these funds to congregations and individuals within the conference who have economic needs. If we see a need, we are invited to fill out the application at <http://www.centralplainsmc.org/application-for-covid-relief.html>.
- We received an unexpected gift this week from our friends at Shalom Mennonite Church in Eau Claire, WI. Their gift and letter was shared at our Ad Board meeting on Monday and the Ad Board is now inviting you to help discern where this love offering should go. The full letter is posted on the bulletin board. We give thanks for our friends at Shalom Mennonite and for this generous gift of grace.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Nita Engbrecht.
- our sister churches in South Dakota: Sermon on the Mount, Bethany,

Hutterthal, and Salem Mennonite.

- Candace Schrag, as she anticipates having an outpatient back surgery on Monday, March 15th.
- Tammy Benjamin as she anticipates her surgery on March 23rd.
- our upcoming Holy Week services with Rachel Miller Jacobs held at our church March 28, 29, 30, 31.
- all who are seeking healing in their bodies, minds, and souls these days.

Reflections over the past year: I know that each of us has experienced movements of God's Spirit in one way or another over the events of this past year. I am still inviting you to write those reflections down and share them with loved ones. I'd also love to read them myself. – Pastor Corey

Holy Week Services 2021: Salem-Zion will be hosting our annual Holy Week services, March 28-31. Rachel Miller Jacobs, professor at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, will be our featured speaker/teacher. These services will be in person and they will also be live-streamed.

Update from Flandreau: We received word from Tom Manzer of Bienvenidos that the “**Emergency Relief Fund for Immigrants**” that was administered by the “**SD Dream Coalition**” out of Pierre, has come to an end. This fund had been set up to meet the needs and financial support for immigrant and refugee families who have been impacted by the economic crisis caused by the pandemic of Covid 19. Bienvenidos, Caminando Juntos and South Dakota Voices for Peace are three of the nine organizations involved in this work. The fund was distributed to immigrant households who would not qualify for stimulus funding under the federal CARES Act. Tom shares these statistics: *1750 households received relief, 91 countries of origin were represented in the applications, the top 5 countries of origin in order were 1. Guatemala, 2. Ethiopia, 3. Mexico, 4. El Salvador, 5. Liberia and the Primary SD towns where applicants reside (a population below 26,900) were Brookings, Flandreau, Freeman and Vermillion. Each household received an average amount of \$533.00.* The total donations and grants for these funds were \$1,236,750.00. As of February 18, 2021 approximately 2,200 applications were submitted. The Emergency Fund stopped receiving applications on Jan. 4, 2021 and is disbursing the remaining \$20,000.00 through “**SD Dream Coalition**”. Tom expresses THANKS to those from this area who contributed financially to this work.

Have the winter blues got you down? Are you looking for a creative outlet? Look no further! The third of three “Creating Together: imaginative art as a spiritual practice” webinars is coming up soon! Thursday, March 18, join Michelle Hofer as she demonstrates an art technique and connects it to spirituality—then take a turn trying the new technique yourself! For more

information about this **webinar** and the zoom link, visit our website, centralplainsmc.org.

Community Connections

Schmeckfest drive-thru news: The Schmeckfest drive-thru sale, offering Schmeckfest baked goods and sausage, will be held the next two weekends, March 19-20 and 26-27. The drive-thru is open for business from 1 to 6 p.m. each day. Go to Schmeckfest.com to order and find out more information on the event. If you have been baking for the sale, please bring all food items to the Maintenance Building on Thursday evening, March 18, from 7 to 8 p.m., or Friday morning, March 19, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. This will allow us to get a final count and update all inventory we have for purchase. Contact Kathy Kleinsasser, 925-7952, if other arrangements need to be made. Thanks to all of you that have been willing to make items for this fundraising event. We appreciate your support of Freeman Academy and Schmeckfest!

Spring Events at Freeman Academy: Find out more at FreemanAcademy.org
March – Leap Forward and Schmeckfest donation match continues – we appreciate your support

March 19 – Open House 2-4pm. Families welcome to drop in or request a tour.

March 19-20 – Schmeckfest Drive-Thru (Open 1-6pm)

March 26-27 – Schmeckfest Drive-Thru (Open 1-6pm)

April 8 – Kindergarten Screening 3-6pm. Register for an appointment.

Now Open – Faith and Leadership Scholarship applications. Encourage your youth leaders to apply for this special opportunity and the 40% tuition discount.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! Plan to attend the SD MCC Relief Sale on Saturday, July 10. It will be a very different event than you have experienced in the past and will be held outdoors during the evening hours at the Prairie Rose Arboretum. There will be entertainment, an auction, activities for children and more. We are excited to be able to raise funds for Mennonite Central Committee in this unique way. More details at a later date.

Pastor Corey Miller

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Seeking God's Healing over the past year: "Eternal Presence, This has been a strange year: disorienting and isolating for some, liberating and full of opportunity for others, our experiences are disparate.

As we look back on this year, O God, help us be gentle with ourselves and with one another. Draw us together in curiosity and compassion. Unite us in our common commitments, to loving our neighbors, extending the tables piled high with grace, as we continue to seek your reign in our midst.

We give you thanks, Abiding Spirit, for journeying with us, renewing our spirits through the generosity of this Beloved Community. In Christ's holy name we pray. Amen."

--Prayer written by Valerie Showalter, pastor at Madison Mennonite Church