



March 20, 2022

From Exceptionalism to Inclusion

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SALEM-ZION MENNONITE CHURCH

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *Fantasia: 1,2* (J. S. Bach) Ken Mannes
Welcome Tim Eisenbeis

Preparing for Peace *And I Will Raise You Up*

Call to Worship

L: Together we seek the way of God.

P: rejoicing that we are new creations in Christ.

L: From a human point of view, we demand what is ours,

P: but through Jesus we learn that all share in God's inheritance.

L: Let us join God's feast,

P: where we celebrate together.

ALL: Let us live out God's way of inclusion.

Opening Prayer

* Hymn – *Could It Be That God Is Singing* (VT #42) Men's ensemble

Children's Story Leo and Penny

Jerrell and Jane sharing with children

PROCLAIMING

* Hearing the Gospel Luke 15:11-24

Sermon Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer

Song – *Far, Far Away* #300

RESPONDING

Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Affirming II Corinthians 5:16-21

Sharing and Congregational Prayer and Dedication of Offering

* Sending Song – *Together* (v. 1 – LeRoy Epp) #389

Blessing

Postlude – *Rise up, you saints of God* (Robert Hebble)

Musicians: Kerwin Graber, Andre Eisenbeis, Ken Mannes, LeRoy Epp,
Mavis Ortman

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

As we seek God's way, we move from a sense that "we" and "ours" have special standing to the knowledge that all are equally part of God's kingdom. We welcome Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer to our pulpit and our worship time. The Ross Richers are our mission partners serving in Ecuador with Mennonite Mission Network. We are so glad you are here with us to worship!

Following our worship, we are invited to a potluck meal in the Fellowship Hall and the Ross Richers will share in a time of Question and Answer. Our friends from Salem Mennonite will join us for lunch.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Church USA**.

- 9:00 a.m. – Zoom Adult Sunday School
- 9:30-10:15 a.m. – Jr. Dept. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for adults
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

NEXT SUNDAY – March 27

Next Sunday we continue our Lenten series "Seeking God's Ways." The theme is "*From Earning to Receiving*." The scriptures are Isaiah 55:1-9, Psalm 63, Luke 13:1-9 and I Corinthians 10:1-13. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Next week the offering is for **Mennonite Disaster Service**.

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, March 23 – Pastor Corey in Kansas speaking at chapel service at Bethel College

Sunday, March 27 – Noon meal hosted by deacons and conversation about the KC resolutions

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Elnora Unruh's older brother Maynard Schultz passed away recently.
- Eileen Kaufman's brother Herman Rempel passed away this week Wednesday in Kansas.
- The crew from *Raise Rite Concrete Lifting* came out last Tuesday to address our cracks in the Northwest corner. They will come again on Monday to continue their work. Thanks to our wonderful Trustees for overseeing this important need.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Eva Goosen.
- the continued trauma that Ukrainians feel as the war rages on.
- Hayva Larson, granddaughter to Ted and Diane, as she continues her journey toward health and wellness.
- Jerrell and Jane and their family as they continue their worshipful work with Mennonite Mission Network.
- safety, protection, and growth for the players, coaches, families and fans of Freeman Academy/Marion at the state basketball tournament in Aberdeen. May Christ's Light shine through everyone's life and witness.
- our sister churches in the Quad Cities area cluster: Casa de Oracion Emanuel, Iglesia Cristiana El Balsamo, Iglesia Menonita Centro Cristiano, Iglesia Torre Fuerte, Templo Alabanza and the El Buen Pastor church plant.

Response to Ukraine: Many of us have been wondering how we can help the crisis in Ukraine. Sending money to Mennonite Central Committee is a tangible and faithful way to respond to this humanitarian need. For ongoing information, go to <https://mcc.org>. As we give and pray, may God's peace bring healing.

Time/Talents Sheets: It's been three years since we last sent out the Time/Talents brochure and the new ones are now in your mailboxes at church. You are invited to take these home and prayerfully ponder the ministries that you feel drawn to. We hope that this exercise will empower each person at Salem-Zion to be involved with and engaged in the ministries that we feel called to offer as we live out our mission statement. Notice that we hope that all our children will also take some time to share where they want to plug into. There is a box in the foyer for completed brochures to go into and we will dedicate all these on **April 3**. May God be glorified in the sharing of our lives for the sake of God's Reign in Jesus' name!

The deacons will be making a financial contribution to the Maynard Yoder family. Baskets will be available next Sunday (March 27) as you exit the sanctuary for those who wish to add to this **love offering**.

Learning about Resolutions to be voted on in Kansas City in May: On March 27, all are invited to stay for lunch (the deacons will be serving) in the fellowship hall and learn about the Special Session of the Delegate Assembly of Mennonite Church USA in Kansas City from May 27-30, 2022. At this point, we have two delegates and are looking for a third person. Sharon Waltner will be present with us on March 27th to talk more about these resolutions.

Minutes from the January deacon meeting are available on the bulletin board in the narthex.

All ladies are invited to a **bridal shower for Katie Magera**, fiancé of William Janssen, on Sunday, April 3 at 2:00 pm. You may bring a gift for Katie or there will be a money basket and card available, if you prefer that option.

Prayer for Peace : “Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world. All things break. And all things can be mended, but with intention. So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally. The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is in you.” - L.R Knost

Praying our Mission: “As followers of Jesus Christ, our purpose is to live and share the good news of Christ’s kingdom, welcoming all as we worship, study, fellowship, and serve others together.”

Community Connections

Join Freeman Academy representatives for a **town hall meeting** on Saturday, March 26 in the Sterling Hall band room at 1:00 pm. We would like to share and hear feedback about our Schmeckfest Task Force that is exploring and reimagining Schmeckfest for the post-Covid era. Task Force members, board and FA staff will be present for this discussion. We will also share updates on the Freeman-Marion-Freeman Academy sports co-op. Doors to the Schmeckfest Country Kitchen will open immediately following the meeting.

The **Rural Revival** monthly meeting will be on March 28 at 8 pm in the Freeman Public Library, downtown Freeman.

"After We're Gone: Disabilities and Estate Planning" webinar: Caring for someone who is dependent due to a significant disability is a major responsibility. Making provisions for that person's physical, emotional and financial well-being after the death of a parent or caregiver can be complex and confusing. Anabaptist Disabilities Network is partnering with Everence to host a webinar about estate planning for families with a dependent disabled family member. "After We're Gone: Disabilities and Estate Planning" will take place **Thursday, March 31 at 1 and 7 p.m. Central Time.** For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/Resources/Webinars/Pages/After-We're-Gone.aspx>.

The **Voices of Conscience exhibit** at Heritage Hall Museum & Archives (HHM&A) continues at the historic Bethel Mennonite Church in Freeman through April 24. As part of this look at those who questioned involvement in World War I, the museum is sponsoring a related program on March 25 & 26. It will focus on a local connection to this story – Joseph and Michael Hofer,

who died from mistreatment while imprisoned by the United States military system. It will feature Dora Maendel of the FairholmeHutterite Colony in Manitoba and Dr. Duane Stoltzfus, professor of communication at Goshen (Ind.) College and author of "Pacifists in Chains: The Persecution of Hutterites during the Great War." They will present "On the Front Line of Conscience: An Account of Four Hutterites Imprisoned at Alcatraz." The evening program will be held at Pioneer Hall at 7:30 p.m. No admission will be charged but donations will be accepted. The program is supported in part by a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Admission to the Voices of Conscience exhibit at the Bethel Church is included with the regular museum admission fee of \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and \$4 for students (grades 1-12). The museum is open weekday afternoons until 4 p.m., but will extend open hours to 7 p.m. on Friday, March 25 as well as on Saturday, March 26 and Saturday, April 2 (as part of the 2022 Schmeck Stop activities). In addition, the museum will open for special group visits evenings and weekends, which include the Voices of Conscience exhibit.

You have a lot of options when it comes to finding new life for clothing and furniture you no longer use – Facebook Marketplace, eBay, or just putting things out on a curb! **We're so grateful when you choose to donate to Et Cetera Shoppe**, where your donations help support MCC's work here in our community, in Ukraine, and around the world. When you donate furniture pieces or clothing items to our shop, your donations are tax deductible – and it's a LOT less work than a rummage sale! Help us to continue to provide affordable items for people in our community. Our furniture area is currently almost empty, so bring us your donations on Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and let us turn them into help for those in need!

The March edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service at <https://conta.cc/3CM4P89>. In our current issue: Learn about the partnership between Fraser Valley Church and MDS Canada in response to last year's devastating flood and read about MDS volunteers making a difference for hurricane survivors in Louisiana.

Zoom Adult Sunday School

<https://zoom.us/j/97667382194?pwd=NHNieHZ6a29ZMGpZSHJpczlibUxtdz09; Meeting ID: 976 6738 2194; Passcode: 523139>

Livestream link for Sunday morning worship

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX8KyFIZChK0Ef-rlBAaS3A>

Pastor Corey Miller

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