



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

**Celebrating Nurturers  
May 12, 2024**

*“While I was with them, I protected them in your name...”* (John 17:12a)

## GATHERING TO PRAISE

- Prelude Mavis Ortman
- Welcome and Call to Worship (from Psalm 1) Lacey Friesen
- Opening Prayer
- \* Hymn – *O Blessed Spring* VT #522
- \* Greeting each other
- Children’s Story Lynelle Hofer
- Lighting the Peace Lamp
  - L: The light shines in the darkness.
  - P: And the darkness did not overcome it.
- Offering – Central Plains Mennonite Conference
- Offertory

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

- Hearing the New Testament Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
- Special Music David Friesen and First Graders
- \* Gospel Reading John 17:6-19
- Sermon – “The Gift of Nurture” Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

- Song – *I Saw a Tree by the Riverside* VT #514
- Sharing and Congregational Prayer
- \* Song – *In Christ There Is No East or West* VT #390
- \* Blessing
- Postlude

## Church Calendar

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

### TODAY

God has blessed us with people who have nurtured us throughout our lives, including our mothers. As we reflect on all the ways that Jesus nurtured his disciples, we open ourselves to be nurtured by Christ’s Spirit in this time of worship. Welcome to this holy time of worship!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Central Plains Mennonite Conference**. Did you know that Pastor Corey is on the Pastoral Leadership Committee of our conference? He along with conference minister Susan Janzen and four others meet with pastors and facilitate their credentials, both their licensing and ordination. Thanks be to God for all the ways CPMC provides competent and committed pastors in our conference.

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

### THIS WEEK

**May 13 (Mon)** – Administrative Board meeting at 7:30pm

**May 15 (Wed)** – Children’s choir, 6:00-6:30pm

**May 17 (Fri)** – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

**May 18 (Sat)** – Kitchen/Fellowship Hall private reservation

### NEXT SUNDAY – May 19

Next Sunday we celebrate Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit! The scriptures will be Acts 2:1-21, Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 104:24-34, and John 15:26-27;16:12-15. Pastor Corey will be preaching and we will bless our graduating High School seniors.

The offering will be for The Banquet.

### COMING EVENTS

**May 30** – Serving at The Banquet in Sioux Falls

**June 3-7** – Bible School at Salem-Zion

**June 20-23** – CPMC Annual Meeting in Wayland, Iowa

**September 7-8** – 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Swiss-Volhynian Mennonites in Freeman. Please share a story from your family that has been instrumental in your growth and faith formation.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### Happenings over the past week:

- Ascension Day was last Thursday.

- Timothy Epp graduated on Friday from his studies at Mitchell Vo-Tech School!

- Josie Epp will graduate on Sunday from Bethel College!

**Remember to praise God for:**

- the gift of our mothers who strived to nurture us in the best way they could.
- all people who have nurtured our lives.
- this special time of the year as warmer temperatures, blooming flowers, and drying fields await the good seed.

**Remember to pray for:**

- those who cannot be here today: Eva Goosen.
- Timothy Epp as he finishes his studies and begins his next chapter.
- Josie Epp as she graduates from Bethel and plans for her future.
- those who struggle with mental health issues. May is Mental Health Awareness Month, an important time for spotlighting mental health issues and combating associated stigmas. We pray for healing for those who struggle with addictions, depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts. Lord, hear our prayers and be merciful to us.
- the Board of Central Plains Mennonite Conference. We pray for wisdom and courage as they discern the best ways for Conference to continue supporting and encouraging and resourcing each local congregation for ministry.

The trustees have **hired the following people** for the coming year: Janitor---Linden Graber, Housekeeper---Estelle Waltner, Groundskeeper---Steve Graber.

The congregation is cordially invited to attend a **graduation open house for Liam Ortman** next Sunday, May 19, from 5-8 p.m. at the Ortman farm (44578 280th St).

Salem-Zion is scheduled to serve the evening meal at **The Banquet** in Sioux Falls (west location) on **Thursday, May 30**. The Banquet's mission is to welcome the community to gather and serve each other, feeding body and spirit. A **sign-up sheet** for workers to prepare and/or serve the meal is located on the bulletin board in the narthex. The **Sunday morning offering** on May 19 will go toward the expense of the meal. Contact Anita Eisenbeis or Amy Kaufman with any questions.

**Vacation Bible School** is just around the corner! This year the joint North and South Church VBS will be held at the North Church on June 3-7 starting at 9:00 AM and ending at 1:15 PM. If you have questions or would like to inquire about remaining volunteer opportunities, please talk to Kelsey Pidde or Lacey Friesen. Parents, please turn in registration forms to Kelsey's or Lacey's mailbox.

**Rachel Miller's April MVS newsletter** has been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Young people between ages 15 and 20:** Are you interested in what is going on in the church beyond your congregation? Did you know that youth are invited to participate in Central Plains Mennonite Conference's Annual Meeting delegate sessions? Consider coming to Wayland, IA, June 20-23 to participate in worship, church business and workshops. Ask Pastor Corey or a youth sponsor about this opportunity!

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for people to sign up to teach the **Jr. SS** class this summer one Sunday or two if you would like. There will be one class, **1st-8th grade**, meeting in the double classroom on the east side. We are using the Shalom Reader's club books as material for the class. You choose one book, read it to the class, and do an activity. The books are all in our library. Here is the link to access the titles of the books, <https://saalem-zion.librarika.com/search>. You can go the Salem-Zion Mennonite Church website, in the heading click on "MORE" and in the drop down menu click on library and search, "Shalom Readers Club". This is a wonderful resource!! We are also having a **Preschool-Kindergarten class**; we are looking for a few people to teach this class as well. We do have a summer Shine curriculum for this age group. Please talk to Sheila if you are willing to teach this class this summer. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** If there are Sundays this summer that you know you will not be in Sunday School, please let me know via text, call, or email so I can let the teacher that Sunday know.

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### Community Connections

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The **Freeman Regional Hospital Auxiliary** is having its May fund drive. Please put donations into Renee Hartman's mailbox as soon as possible. Thanks!

The **Et Cetera Shoppe** is exploring the possibility of starting a furniture pick-up service. Furniture is one of the things that many of our customers need most – and, larger items help us to raise more money for relief! We are seeking strong volunteers, and potential delivery pickup trucks, to help us make this happen. If you'd be willing to help us bring this idea to life, PLEASE reach out to us at the shop to let us know (925-7098). We do not envision this being much of a time commitment, and pick-ups would be scheduled when it works for YOU. Thank you!

**Praising God for Mothers!** "For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well."  
- Psalm 139:13-14

**Pastor Corey Miller**  
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Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon  
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Office hours: Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and by appointment as requested