



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

“Celebrating Family”  
May 14, 2023

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

- Prelude – *Rondo* (from Trumpet Concerto) by Hummel Christian Ortman
- Welcome Tim Graber
- Lighting the Peace Lamp
- Call to Worship VT #870
- Prayer of Invocation
- \* Hymn – *What Is This Place* VT #22
- Greeting each other
- Children’s Story Lynelle Hofer
- Offering – Central Plains Mennonite Conference
- Offertory – *Come, thou fount* (improvised) Ken Mannes
- Child Dedication *See the Children Here before Us* VT #509  
(congregation sings v. 3)  
Zeppelin Rhae Benjamin, born Feb. 23, 2022 to Ashlyn Benjamin  
Milo Alan Pidde, born Nov. 23, 2022 to Brett and Kelsey Pidde

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

- Old Testament Psalm 139:1-3, 7-8, 13-18 Katie Janssen signing
- Song – *God, Be the Love* VT #43
- \* Gospel Luke 2:41-52
- Sermon – “Celebrating Family” Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD

- Song – *Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us* VT #518
- Sharing and Congregational Prayer VT #996
- Sending Song – *Loving Spirit* VT #697
- Benediction
- Postlude – *Loving Spirit* (improvised)

## Church Calendar

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

### TODAY

On this Mother’s Day, we celebrate the gift of the Christ-centered home in which we grow and move and have our being. Today, we rejoice in the homes we have come from and the homes we are providing for future generations. As we worship our living and loving God today, we are so glad that you have joined us. Welcome everyone!

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

- 9:30am – Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30am – Worship Service
- 2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

### THIS WEEK

- May 15 (Mon)** – Anabaptist Bible Study at 7:00pm
- May 18 (Thurs)** – CPT presentation in the fellowship hall at 7:00pm
- May 19 (Fri)** – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

### NEXT SUNDAY – May 21

Next Sunday is **Ascension Sunday** as we remember when Jesus ascended to heaven before his disciples. The scriptures include Psalm 47, Acts 1:1-11, Ephesians 1:15-23, and Luke 24:44-53. We will also have a recognition of our high school graduating seniors.

Next week the offering is for the **Student Tuition Sharing Fund**.

### COMING EVENTS

- May 21** – Youth BBQ at Dan and Tina Graber’s at 5:30pm
- May 28** – Pentecost/Baptism Sunday
- June 5-9** – Joint North and South Church VBS at the South Church

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### **Happenings over the past week:**

- Tim Graber became a grandfather again this past week. Evelyn Carol Graber was born safely on Monday evening to Karen and Adam. We celebrate with Tim and Beth in this new addition to their family!
- Marlan and Rose Kaufman attended the funeral for Clellan Becker, Marlan’s brother-in-law. The flower arrangement up front is in memory of Clellan.
- Mary Schmidt had a good week at Avera Hospital. She is hoping to transfer to the Avera Prince of Peace facility soon.
- The Anabaptist Bible Study group spent two rich hours delving into the mystery and wonder of Exodus 13 and 14. This next week, our group will reflect together on Matthew 27:44-66.

### Remember to praise God for:

- the gentle rains to help nurture the good seeds in the ground.
- the mothers who birthed us, the mothers who nurtured us, and all the women who nurtured us with mothering love. We give thanks to God for all these strong resilient women who have shaped us into who we are today.

### Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Marian Gering.
- Mary Schmidt as she continues her recovery and anticipates a move to her new home.
- Ken and Mary Mannes' daughter Melissa, who will be undergoing surgery on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Mayo clinic.
- 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 Board of Education to excited to announce our **summer Sunday School series**, LOFT "Living Our Faith Together". This is a time for all ages to join together on Sunday mornings. There will be childcare for those children Preschool age and younger each Sunday during LOFT. We will be meeting in the fellowship hall; coffee starts at 9:00 am with programming starting at 9:30 am. Each month will focus on different topics: June will center around Creation Care, in July we will be hearing from some in our congregation who have done service through various organizations, and August will focus on Mind, Body, Soul, and Mental Health. The question to be answered during the summer will be "Where did you see God?" and/or "Where do you see God?" We look forward to this time and hope you will join us as we experience "Living Our Faith Together!"

CPT at Salem-Zion: Julie Brown, outreach coordinator for **Community Peacemaker Teams (formerly known as Christian Peacemaker Teams)**, will be traveling through the Freeman area on **May 18<sup>th</sup>**. Julie will be here along with another CPTer from the Iraqi Kurdistan field team and they will share a presentation about their work. We will have some refreshments and we would welcome everyone to join us that evening in the fellowship hall at Salem-Zion at 7:00pm.

You are cordially invited to the **Freeman Academy Graduation** in Pioneer Hall on Saturday, May 20, at 2:00pm & **Graduation Party** from 3:15-4:30pm in the Dining Hall to celebrate our international students: Jess Bashige, Simeon Eremin, Albert Kalonji and Leo Wang.

We are still looking for a couple more **delegates for Mennonite Church USA Convention** in Kansas City, MO July 3-8. If you are interested, contact a deacon or Pastor Corey. Our church will assist with registration fees and other expenses.

**Vacation Bible School** is just around the corner! This year the joint North and South Church VBS will be held at the South Church on June 5-9 starting at 9:00 AM and ending at 1:15 PM. If you are interested and willing to help in any capacity, please talk to Kelsey Pidde or Lacey Friesen. Also, registration forms are available in the narthex. Please leave your completed registration forms in Kelsey's or Lacey's church mailbox by May 21.

Salem-Zion is scheduled to serve the evening meal at **The Banquet** in Sioux Falls on **Thursday, June 22. The Banquet is a feeding ministry whose "mission is to equip volunteers to provide food and fellowship to those served through the ministry of the Banquet. We provide a safe place where people can gather, receive nourishment, and experience love in action" – taken from their Mission Statement.** The cost of the meal is around \$1000. If you are willing to be part of this ministry you can help by donating to the cost of the meal and/or by signing up to help prepare or serve the meal. There is a **sign-up sheet** for workers on the bulletin in the narthex. Monetary donations can be given to Anita Eisenbeis, Amy Kaufman or Lacey Friesen. Checks should be made out to **Salem-Zion Mennonite Church (memo line The Banquet)**. Information about this organization is available at [www.thebanquetsf.org](http://www.thebanquetsf.org).

Are you missing your brothers and sisters from Central Plains? You'll get to see them soon! Come to York, NE on June 15-18 for **Annual Meeting 2023**. Our theme will be "Where do we go from here?" Children, youth and adults welcome! Register by June 5 at [www.centralplainsmc.org](http://www.centralplainsmc.org).

### Community Connections

Tuesday, May 16, will be the evening of many events on the campus of **Freeman Academy** beginning with a lite picnic supper at 6:00 pm served from The Link. The Freeman Academy Pep Band will present an outdoor concert beginning at 6:30 in the area east of Pioneer Hall. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. (The concert will be moved indoors in inclement weather.) Following the Pep Band Concert, activities will include an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion and Awards. The evening will also include a celebration honoring band director Donna Ries, who is retiring at the end of this school year. A card basket will be available. The public is invited to attend this full evening of celebrations!

Mark your calendars for **Billy's 5K Run/Walk** at Swan Lake Christian Camp June 10, 2023. The race begins at 8:00 am. Register at [myslcc.com](http://myslcc.com). The race is a fundraiser for the camp's youth programs. Cost is \$30 and includes a t-shirt. Come join the fun along the shores of Swan Lake.

**Peace for all:** "Mother's love is peace. It need not be acquired. It need not be deserved." – Erich Fromm

**Pastor Corey Miller**  
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