



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

**Blessed
June 2, 2024**

*“...Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” - Mt. 5:3a*

GATHERING TO PRAISE

- Prelude Sheila Epp
- Welcome and Call to Worship (VT #12) Corey Miller
- Opening Prayer
- * Singing our Praise – *All Things Bright and Beautiful* VT #177
- * Greeting each other
- Children’s Story Diane Ellinger
- Lighting the Peace Lamp
L: The light shines in the darkness.
P: **And the darkness did not overcome it.**
- Offering – Household Treasury
Offertory

HEARING GOD’S WORD

- Hearing the Old Testament Isaiah 61:1-3
- * Hearing the Gospel Matthew 5:1-13 VT #295
- Meditation – “Through the eyes of Jesus” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

- Song – *Blessed Are You* VT #290
- Receiving New Members
Beth Bontrager
Rolf Olson
Anne Waltner
- Celebrating Communion
“Blessed” from *Jesus the Man, the Christ* (Will Ortman)
- Congregational Prayer
- * Song – *Renew Your Church* VT #717
- * Blessing
- Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

We begin our summer series on the Sermon on the Mount! Today, we listen to the wisdom of Jesus as we hear the Beatitudes. How do we consider these words of Blessing upon us as we follow Jesus in our time? We also welcome all faithful followers of Jesus to the communion table. We are delighted that you have joined us for worship! Welcome!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Household Treasury**. Did you know that a portion of your offering today helps us to host our incredible Bible School event that will be happening this next week? Water, electricity, paper, curriculum, and custodial services are all paid for out of our household treasury. Thanks be to God for these gifts and this faithful ministry of nurturing our children’s faith!

9:00am – Coffee time

9:30am – Jr. SS Opening; Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

June 3-7 (Mon-Fri) – Bible School at Salem-Zion, 9:00am-1:15pm

June 7 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – June 9

Next Sunday we will have our **Bible School children** lead the worship service. Even though we won’t be reflecting on the Sermon on the Mount, we encourage you to keep reading through this sermon. The text for next week is Matthew 5:13-16.

The offering will be for Mennonite Church USA.

COMING EVENTS

June 9 – Bible School Worship at 10:00am (no Sunday school)

June 16 – Adult SS Lesson on Mennonite History (Corey teaching)

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

September 7-8 – 150th 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

Remember to praise God for:

- our new members joining our Salem-Zion church body.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Bernie Koller.

- our farmers as they patiently labor to put in their crops.
- the start of the summer camping season for Swan Lake Christian Camp and Crooked Creek Christian Camp, the two Mennonite camps within Central Plains. We pray that campers and staff feel the love of God as they spend time in nature!

Adult Summer Sunday School continues on June 16: The 150th anniversary committee (Marnette Hofer, Polly Waltner, Gwen Ortman, Pastor Corey) are excited about our summer Sunday School time of remembering, learning, and growing. Each week we will be focused on one aspect of our faith story and our journey in this place as we strive to follow Jesus. There will be coffee starting at 9:00am and it promises to be a wonderful time! Make plans to join us as we prepare for our anniversary.

The Administrative Board would like to thank the Restructuring Task Force consisting of Jay, Dan, Charity, Elizabeth, and Lori for their work. The Administrative Board is now reviewing their recommendations.

As plans for the celebration of the Swiss Volhynian Mennonite immigration to South Dakota fall into place, we will need additional funds to promote these events. Any monetary gifts would be greatly appreciated. The South Church has created an account to fund this celebration. Checks should be made to "Salem Mennonite Church" and given to any of the committee members. - **The 150th anniversary committee** (Corey Miller, Marnette Hofer, Polly Waltner, Gwen Ortman, Everett Waltner and Rudy Brockmueller)

You are all invited to a **Father's Day Making Music for MCC program at Hutterthal Mennonite Church** on June 16 at 7pm. You will experience a variety of music (organ, piano and vocal) performed by musicians from several local churches. The offering will be designated to the MCC Relief Sale My Coins Count project to help secure pure water for families in Bolivia. Enjoy root beer floats to end the evening.

ATTENTION LOCAL MCC ALUMNI – in connection with the Father's Day *Making Music for MCC* program at Hutterthal, we are inviting local MCC alumni to form a choir to sing 2 familiar hymns. No rehearsal needed. Whether you are a singer or not, you are welcome in this choir. Please join us for this special evening as we acknowledge those who have served with MCC. Children who were with their parents while they were serving with MCC are also invited to sing. Let's make a joyful noise to the Lord as we raise funds for the relief sale My Coins Count clean water water project.

The June church **newsletter** is available on the table in the narthex.

Next week's printed bulletin will consist of the VBS program; **announcements will be emailed** and a copy will be posted on the bulletin board.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex with **volunteer opportunities for the SD MCC Relief Sale** on July 20.

Community Connections

Much of the focus of this year's 150th anniversary of the wave of Germans-from-Russia immigrants is on their arrival in Dakota Territory that began in 1874. But the story of that migration goes back to Europe and southern Russia prior to the exodus of thousands of German-speaking people who had lived there for more than a century. In the first of a three-part series, **Heritage Hall Museum & Archives** in Freeman will take a look at life in the area known today as Ukraine. Scheduled for 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 2 at the historical Bethel Church on the HHM&A grounds, the program will explore the impetus for people moving to that region starting in the 1700s. It will take a look at what life was like there, and what prompted them to leave starting in the 1870s. A four-member panel – Dan Flyger, Marnette (Ortman) Hofer, Norman Hofer and S. Roy Kaufman – will look at various aspects of this story. That includes the history and perspectives of Hutterite, Lutheran, Low German Mennonite, Reformed, and Swiss Amish who all settled primarily in Hutchinson and Turner counties in southeastern Dakota Territory in the 1870s. Museum admission that day will include the program. Admission for only the program (\$8) will be charged at the door; HHM&A members \$4. HHM&A is open Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and other times by appointment during the summer months.

The Freeman Network for Justice and Peace will meet Wednesday, June 12 at 11:30 A.M. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

Blessed are the Peacemakers: "Scripture scholars contend that the original language of the Beatitudes should not be rendered as "Blessed are the single-hearted" or "Blessed are the peacemakers" or "Blessed are those who struggle for justice." Greater precision in translation would say, "You're in the right place if...you are single-hearted or work for peace." The Beatitudes is not a spirituality, after all. It's a geography. It tells us where to stand." - Gregory Boyle, Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion

Pastor Corey Miller

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