



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

“Creation Care”  
June 22, 2025

## GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude Maria Paff  
 Welcome and Call to Worship (from Psalm 96) Austin Unruh  
 L: The Creator of the Cosmos reigns! The created world is a gift to all generations;  
**P: Let truth and justice give birth to peace and harmony!**  
 L: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
**P: Let the seas roar, and all that fills them;**  
 L: Let the fields exult, and everything in them!  
**P: Then shall the trees of the wood sing for joy before the coming of the Beloved, who reigns in glory!**  
**ALL: For through Love will come truth and justice, offering all the people gifts of new Life.**  
 Prayer of Invocation  
 \* Singing our Praise – *At the Dawn of Your Creation* VT #179  
 Greeting each other  
 Children’s Story Lori Hofer  
 Peace Lamp  
 Offering – Student Tuition Sharing Fund  
 Offertory

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the Scriptures Isaiah 24:3-6, Romans 8:18-23  
 Special Music – *The Garden Needs Our Tending Now*  
 \* Gospel Reading Mark 4:30-34  
 Sermon – “Creation Groaning Toward Redemption” Pastor Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Response Song – *I Saw a Tree by the Riverside* VT #514  
 Sharing “Where have we seen God’s HOPE this week?”  
 Congregational Prayer

## SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

\* Song – *You Shall Go Out with Joy* VT #847  
 \* Benediction  
 Postlude

## Church Calendar

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

### TODAY

As we experience the longest day of summer, we enjoy the gift of creation. We thank God for the beauty of the earth, the miracle of creation, and the sacred space of the land on which we live. We give ourselves again to care for creation in ways that honor the earth and glorify God. Welcome to our worship! We are glad that you are here.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Student Tuition Sharing Fund.**

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

### THIS WEEK

**June 24 (Tues)** – Deacons’ meeting at 7:30pm  
**June 25 (Wed)** – Spiritual Formation Team meeting at 6:30pm  
**June 25 (Wed)** – Session 3 of *What We Believe* (read chapter 5), 7:30pm  
**June 26-29 (Thurs-Sun)** – Central Plains Mennonite Conference in Rock Island, IL  
**June 27 (Fri)** – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm  
**June 28 (Sat)** – Making cheesepockets for the MCC Sale at 9:00am

### NEXT SUNDAY – June 29

Next Sunday the theme of the morning is “*Setting our minds on things above.*” The texts will be Matthew 6:19-24 and Colossians 3:1-2. Stacey Waltner will be preaching.

The offering will be for CPMC 2025 and MC USA Convention 2025 assistance.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

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

- Lynell Hofer’s memorial service (Kerry’s father) was held last Wednesday at Bethany Mennonite.
- Paul Ortman had an unfortunate incident with a cow last Wednesday. He has some bruised ribs and will likely need surgery on his shoulder in the near future.
- Salem-Zion served at The Banquet in Sioux Falls on Thursday.
- Yvonne Mast will be moving this weekend to her new home in Utah with her family.

### **Remember to praise God for:**

- the gift of God’s creation and for the way it continues to point us in the direction of our redeeming God.

**Remember to pray for:**

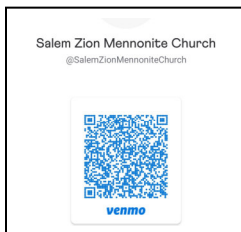
- those who cannot be here today: Paul & Darlene Engbrecht.
- the recent tensions between Israel and Iran. Pray for creative solutions that don't include warfare. Pray for leaders to make wise decisions that can lead to peace. O Lord, hear our prayers.
- faithful stewardship practices that help us care for the land, care for creation, and care for this earth.
- Central Plains Mennonite Conference next week in Rock Island, IL. Our delegates are LeRoy and Janette Epp, Chris and Carol Eisenbeis, Tim Graber and Pastor Corey.
- the ministries of Swan Lake Christian Camp, Camp Mennoscah and Crooked Creek Christian Camp. We pray for the spiritual formation that happens for children and youth during a week at camp.

**What We Believe Together:** Pastor Corey, Nathan Epp and Polly Waltner began the series "What We Believe Together" and they will continue these evening sessions throughout June and into July. The book we will use, "*What We Believe Together*" is an account of seven shared convictions by Mennonite churches on six different continents. You can either read it online or download a copy for yourself.

[https://mwc-cmm.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/what\\_we\\_believe\\_together\\_2015.pdf](https://mwc-cmm.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/what_we_believe_together_2015.pdf)

**The Outreach and Service Team dispersed the interest from our endowment fund to the following organizations:** \$1,000 to Growing Dreams, \$500 to Freeman Area Ministerium, \$200 in Etc Shoppe gift cards to Freeman Public School for students in need, and \$2,000 to South Dakota Voices for Peace. There will be another opportunity for dispersing the interest from our endowment fund in July, so please talk with someone on the Outreach and Service Team about your ideas on how to share our wealth and blessings with others. - Charity Ortman

**To give to Salem-Zion or the missions we support** through Venmo, please use the attached QR code or go through your Venmo app and search (under business) for Salem-Zion Mennonite Church. If you want your donation to go somewhere other than the household treasury, please put that in the notes. Thank you!



It's that time again for **making cheesepockets for the MCC Sale!** Please mark your calendars down for June 28 at 9am. Please join us for a time of fellowship and making cheesepockets! Any questions please contact Lacey Friesen.

**Selection ballots** for Assistant Sunday School Superintendents are being distributed today. Please return completed ballots to the selection box in the narthex by July 6.

**Community Connections**

**Reception for the Andersons - Sunday, June 22:** Join us for an open house reception for Brad and Elizabeth Anderson to express gratitude for their service to Freeman Academy and the wider community over the past 8 years. Please stop by the Prairie Arboretum visitors center for light refreshments between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. this afternoon, Sunday, June 22.

**Rural Revival** will meet on Monday, June 23 at 7:30 pm at the Freeman library for the annual meeting, board annual reorganization and election of officers. All are welcome to attend.

**Academic Support Coordinator (75% FTE):** Freeman Academy is seeking an Academic Support Coordinator to assist students to meet learning goals through one-on-one sessions and collaborative strategies with teachers. This work also includes helping international students acclimate and perfect their English skills. The position is full-time during the school year, and is benefits-eligible. **Administrative Associate (80% - \$16-20/hr):** Freeman Academy is seeking a well-organized self-starter to manage student enrollment, faculty certification, general office tasks, and assist the Head of School as needed. The position is full-time during the school year, with reduced and flexible hours during the summer. Benefits include paid leave, insurance, retirement, and tuition discounts. For more information about both positions or to apply, access the application at <https://freemanacademy.org/about/employment/> or contact Vince Green, Director of Operations, at [vgreen@freemanacademy.org](mailto:vgreen@freemanacademy.org) / 605.925.4237.

Mennonite Disaster Service's June edition of **On the Level** is now available at <https://conta.cc/4jSUZ8x>. In this edition, Executive Director Kevin King shares about the power of listening in disaster response, a children's choir lifts the spirits of hurricane survivors, and MDS responds to victims of Manitoba wildfires.

**Praying for God's Peace in creation:** *"We abuse land because we see it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."* - Colin Bell, Creation Care and the Gospel: Reconsidering the Mission of the Church

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