



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

Wisdom for the Journey

August 11, 2024

“Enter through the narrow gate...” - Mt. 7:13a

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude	Maria Paff
Choral Call – <i>Praise the Lord</i>	Mixed Quartet
Welcome	Tim Eisenbeis

Call to Worship
 L: Come, you who are weary.
P: Come, you who are anxious.
 L: Come, you who are uncertain.
P: Come, you who are burdened.
 L: Come away to a deserted place,
 to a restful place,
 to a renewal place,
 to a grace-full place,
P: with Jesus. Amen.

Opening Prayer	
* Singing our Praise – <i>O God and Father</i>	VT #45
* Greeting each other	
Children’s Story	Lori 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 NT Scriptures	Romans 13:8-10
Anthem – <i>Glory</i>	Mixed Quartet
* Hearing the Gospel	Matthew 7:12-14
Sermon – “The narrow gate of Jesus’ Reign”	Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – <i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	VT #549
Sharing and Congregational Prayer	

SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Song – <i>God Be with You Till We Meet Again</i>	VT #840
* Prayer of Blessing	
Postlude	

Quartet: LeRoy Epp, Kerwin Graber, Lacey Friesen, Judy Graber; Sherilyn Ortman, pianist

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Jesus reminds his disciples that there is a narrow gate and a wide gate to travel through. He urged traveling through the narrow gate and taking the hard road, which ultimately leads to life. We ponder Jesus’ words on our journey in faith. Welcome to our worship time!

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

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

THIS WEEK

Aug. 11-15 – Turner County Fair
Aug. 16 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – August 18

Next Sunday we will have Youth Sunday and we are blessed to have our youth share of their recent experiences on their service project to Omaha. The offering will be for Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

COMING EVENTS

Aug. 18 – Adult SS Lesson on “*Where do we go from Here?*” led by Marnette Hofer, Polly Waltner, Gwen Ortman, and Corey Miller
Aug. 25 – Movie Night at Salem Church at 7:00pm. “The Radicals.”
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:

- the opportunity to reflect on our past, thank God for the present, and anticipate what God will do in our future.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Mary Schmidt.
 - all helpers and volunteers at the fair this week. Pray that our lives, words, and actions bear fruit for God’s Reign.
 - our sister churches in South Dakota: Sermon on the Mount, Bethany, Hutterthal, House Church of Freeman, and Salem Mennonite.

Adult Summer Sunday School continues today with Pastor Corey leading a session on theological formation at Salem-Zion through the years. Make plans to join us for these last few sessions as we prepare for the 150th anniversary. Coffee on at 9:00am.

Next Sunday (Aug. 18) is the last Sunday to bring items for **MCC School Kits**.

Our congregations will share a **meal** following the joint service on September 8, at North Church. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex. We will be looking for donations of kuchen, poppyseed rolls, pies, and homemade dill and beet pickles. Please bring a salad for the meal such as potato salad, cabbage slaw, cucumber salad, or a seasonal favorite to accompany our ethnic meal of sausage and cheese pockets. All food donations should be brought to the Salem-Zion kitchen the morning of the meal before the worship service. Please contact Polly Waltner with questions. Thank you!!

All singers are invited to join us for a special choir performance on September 8th, 2024, at 7 PM in Pioneer Hall in Freeman. This event will be the grand finale of our 150th anniversary celebration of the Swiss Volhynian Mennonites settling in the greater Freeman area. The choir will be directed by Dan Graber and there will be two rehearsals -- Wednesday, Sept. 4 at 7 PM, and Saturday afternoon, Sept. 7 at 2 PM. We will also be singing at the joint Sunday morning service at Salem-Zion Mennonite on Sept. 8th. We welcome EVERYONE to join us in this celebration of our musical heritage. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/150Choir> to sign up. There is also a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer. Then help us spread the word by sharing this link with others who might be interested in joining us. We look forward to singing with you in September!

FreedUp: Everence[®] is offering a new stewardship training program. The FreedUp program is a way for everyone to get their finances in order – and gain a deeper faith perspective on your money. Everence facilitators will lead the group sessions, including the first get-acquainted session. There are two upcoming options for participants to choose from: Tuesdays at 2 p.m. ET beginning Aug. 20, ending Oct. 1; Mondays at 8 p.m. ET beginning Oct. 7, ending Nov. 18. Register at everence.com/partners.

Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for an update on the project that VBS supported last year (2023) - **Arsenic Mitigation Program** in Bangladesh.

July Offerings and Gifts: The Banquet - \$250.00; CPMC - \$500.00; CPT - \$1,476.50; Household Treasury - \$18,032.09; MCC - \$3,881.00; MC USA - \$250.00; Outreach and Service - \$3,738.94; SD MCC Relief Sale - \$1,680.50; Student Tuition Sharing Fund - \$200.00; Wellspring - \$250.00.

The Household Treasury **monthly report** is posted in the narthex.

Community Connections

Donate your best pie to the **Turner County Fair Contest** to support your local food pantries. Many prizes to win, for more information check the poster on the bulletin board or visit turnercountyfair.com. Bring your best tasting pie, not best looking. Thank you, from the Pie Committee.

The **Et Cetera Shoppe** will be hosting Kraft Pillow Service on Friday, August 23, beginning at 9 a.m. This traveling service completely sanitizes the contents of used feather pillows, and places them in brand new ticking pillowcases. Several colors and grades of ticking are available, and different pillow sizes can be made upon request. Pillows can also be “plumped” with additional feathers. Cleaning for foam pillows is available as well. The process can be done in approximately an hour. Following Kraft Pillow Service’s visit, the Et Cetera Shoppe will have brand new feather pillows available for purchase for as long as supplies last. Proceeds from the cleaning of your pillows, as well as the sale of new pillows, go directly to support the relief and development work of Mennonite Central Committee in the U.S. and around the world! For more information, please call the shop at 925-7098.

Mueller sisters tell Katy's story: Joan Mueller Peters and Lisa Mueller Howard will share details about their research and the process of writing their book "Katy: The Little Rose from Ukraine" in a program on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 18. The program will begin at 3 p.m. at the Interpretive Center at the Freeman Prairie Arboretum adjacent to HHM&A, which is sponsoring the presentation. The sisters grew up in the Freeman community hearing stories from their father, Bruce. They began imagining what it would have been like living through the challenges and adversities their forebears experienced. That led to their decision to write a book, described as historical fiction and geared for readers aged about 8 to 13. It tells the immigration story through the eyes of Katy, their great-grandfather's oldest sister. They will have a book signing at the HHM&A Mercantile from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Admission to the program includes the opportunity to tour the museum before and after the Sunday program – 1 to 5 p.m. Regular summer hours are Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and other times by appointment from May through September.

God's Peace in Jesus: “Spread abroad the name of Jesus in humility and with a meek heart; show him your feebleness, and he will become your strength.” - Thomas Merton

Pastor Corey Miller
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