



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

August 22, 2021

Creation Care Sunday at the Arboretum

“They will be called Oaks of Righteousness.” – Isaiah 61:3

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music	Sheila Epp
Welcome and Call to Worship	Steve Graber
Call to Worship (from Psalm 8)	HWB #812
Opening Prayer	
Land Acknowledgement	

We acknowledge that we are gathering on the traditional territory of Indigenous peoples. We affirm that settlers have specific responsibilities in the journey of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. The Yankton Sioux tribe lived on this land before the treaty of 1858, when they ceded a large portion to the US government in exchange for a reserve in Charles Mix County. This ceded land was then available for settlement by white European immigrants.

We give thanks to our Creator, and to those peoples who have stewarded this land for generations. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, work, and worship here, as we witness the reconciling movement of the Spirit and seek to live into right relations with our Indigenous neighbors and all of creation.

* Hymn – *This is my Father’s world* HWB #154
 Celebrating our Mission with *Swan Lake Christian Camp*

PROCLAIMING

Children’s Story	Polly Waltner
History of the Arboretum	Steve Graber
Hearing the Scriptures	Isaiah 61:1-3, Matthew 7:17-20
Meditation – “Oaks of Justice”	Corey Miller
Song – <i>God, who touches earth</i>	HWB #511

RESPONDING

Self-Guided Prayer Walk	handouts
Small Group Reflections/Conversations (non-walking)	handouts
Sharing and Congregational Prayer	
* Sending Song – <i>Called by Earth and Sky</i>	insert
Sending – <i>Gardener God, you have planted and protected us by your faithful hand. Send us the sap of your grace from Christ, the true Vine, and make us blossom and bear the fruit of love as a sign of your life in us. Let the sweet fragrance of the shoots you have planted give you praise forever. Amen.</i>	

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

We gather outdoors today to celebrate God’s creation. We are so grateful for God’s bountiful, benevolent and beautiful world, and yet we also grieve all the ways that creation has been neglected, misused and even abused by humanity. As we worship together, may God’s healing spirit unite us to love and care for God’s world. We are delighted that you have joined us for worship!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for *Swan Lake Christian Camp*.

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service at the Arboretum in Freeman

THIS WEEK

Aug. 24 (Tues) – Allen Schrag funeral at Salem-Zion

Aug 25 (Wed) – Board of Education meeting at 8pm

NEXT SUNDAY – August 29

Next Sunday we will launch our new hymn books, *Voices Together*. Our whole worship will focus around this new resource which will enhance our worship of God to the praise of God’s glorious grace. The scriptures, prayers and songs will be drawn from this new book. Make plans to be present with us!

Offering next Sunday will be for *Mennonite Church USA*.

COMING EVENTS

Aug. 29 – *Voices Together* launch at Salem-Zion at 10:30am

Sept. 11 – Comforter Blitz Round 2!

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- On Wednesday morning, Allen Schrag passed away. His funeral service will be held on Tuesday, August 24 at Salem-Zion church.
- On Wednesday, Carol Penner (Ruby Waltner’s daughter) had surgery to remove her thymus gland. The surgery went well and Carol is recovering in the hospital.
- Josie Epp and Rachel Miller began their fall semester classes this week at Bethel College.
- Many volunteers helped to serve the multitudes at the Turner County Fair this past week. Thanks to our youth and the wonderful Salem-Zion helpers that worked at our grandstand concession booth!

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Hilda Kaufman.
- Ardelle Schrag in the death of her beloved husband Allen. They would have celebrated their 73rd wedding anniversary on Thursday.
- our students as they began school this past week at Freeman Public and as they begin at Freeman Academy and Marion Public this week. We pray for safety and good learning experiences for our students.
- an increased awareness of the needs of creation and a higher level of commitment to care for the earth, so that future generations can also enjoy this space and this place.
- our sister churches in Minnesota and Wisconsin: Bethel, Emmanuel, Faith, First-Mountain Lake, Lao Fellowship, Rochester, Saint Paul Hmong Mennonite, Third Way and affiliated groups Fargo-Moorhead Faith Mennonite Fellowship and The Mennonite Worker in Minnesota, and Shalom in Wisconsin.

Since Salem-Zion is gathering at the Prairie Arboretum today, **Heritage Hall Museum & Archives invites you to tour the neighboring museum and outbuildings this afternoon.** Although we're usually open until 4 p.m, we'll remain open until 5 for the congregation. And children of Salem-Zion will be admitted free when accompanied by paying adults.

Thank you for your kind words, prayers, support, and love as we grieve the death of our mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. You were, and continue to be, such a wonderful, caring church community to Virginia and to our family. - The Virginia Graber Family

Thank you to our many friends from Salem-Zion who sent cards for our 50th wedding anniversary. We appreciate your friendship and thoughtfulness. We truly felt blessed. Listening to the live streaming North Church services keeps us connected to you. - Leroy and Winifred Saner

Wildfires in Montana - Pastor Willis Busenitz has written the following information regarding the fires in Montana so close to our CPMC churches: I was at the gathering with Gov. Greg Gianforte in Lame Deer. Progress is being made. My observation is that the Reservation is being inundated with clothes, food and hygiene donations, from all over. One of the bigger needs will be hay and fencing supplies for the ranchers, especially the smaller ranchers. The bigger ones probably have insurance. We really appreciated the prayers from Central Plains to our church here.

MDS Pine Ridge Project: Work on the volunteer center at Pine Ridge continues to progress. There is need for painting, installation of doors and trim, insulation and installing kitchen cabinets. Our SD Unit is planning another

work week there from Monday, Aug. 30 to Friday, Sept. 3. Please consider assisting with these remaining tasks. As always, transportation, food and lodging will be provided. Call Dennis Ries at 925-7788 or 605-759-4312 to make arrangements.

Living into God's Peace: "Peace is not when everyone agrees. It is when we can respect our disagreements and still play in the sandbox together." - Unknown

Community Connections

ALL ARE WELCOME to attend Freeman Academy's Convocation on Sunday, August 22. We will be serving a light supper starting at 6:00pm. Presentations will begin at 7:00pm. View our renovation progress and enjoy a delightful evening of fellowship as we prepare for the new school year with our amazing faculty and students. Please bring a lawn chair and park at the Link.

The **Rural Revival** monthly meeting will be August 23 at 8 pm in the Freeman Public Library, downtown Freeman.

The August edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service at <https://conta.cc/3D1sPDO>. In our current issue: A couple who served as RV volunteers reflect on their time with MDS, bridges are constructed in collaboration with Engineers in Action and MDS, and MDS actively monitors the wildfire situation in the western and central U.S. and British Columbia.

Join MCC in prayer and support for those suffering in our world. MCC has prepositioned relief materials in Haiti for immediate use. Earlier this month an additional shipment of supplies was sent to Haiti and is expected to arrive in September. MCC continues to respond to needs around the world in Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Congo and other crisis areas. We greatly appreciate your monetary donations to keep current projects going and to help with extra expenses due to recent disasters; we could use your help in replenishing our supplies of relief kits and hygiene kits. Questions can be directed to 316.283.2720 or centralstates@mcc.org.

Zoom Adult Sunday School
<https://zoom.us/j/97667382194?pwd=NHNieHZ6a29ZMGpZSHJpczlibUxtdz09; Meeting ID: 976 6738 2194; Passcode: 523139>
Livestream link for Sunday morning worship
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX8KyFIZChK0Ef-rIBAAa3A>

Pastor Corey Miller
 Office Hours:
 Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon
corey.miller@gwtc.net
 Cell phone: 319-930-7320

Church Admin. Assistant:
 Lisa Kaufman
 (605) 951-1871 ~ salemzion@gwtc.net
 Office hours: Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and by appointment as requested

