



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

“Spiritual Practices Shape Community”  
September 17, 2023

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *Savior, again to Thy dear name* (Robert Hebble) Ken Mannes

Welcome and Lighting the Peace Lamp Tim Graber

Call to Worship (from Psalm 119)

L: Happy are they who walk in the law of God!

**P: Happy are they who observe God’s decrees and seek God with all their hearts!**

L: I will meditate on your commandments and give attention to your ways.

**P: We delight in your statutes; we will not forget your word.**

**ALL: Let your loving-kindness come to me, O GOD, and your salvation, according to your promise.**

Opening Prayer

\* Hymn – *For the Fruit of All Creation* VT #124

\* Greeting each other

Children’s Story Estelle Waltner

Sharing our Offerings – Mennonite Education Agency

Offertory – *Be Thou my vision* (Robert Hebble)

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the Scriptures Deuteronomy 5:12-15, II Cor. 9:6-15

Song – *Help Us to Help Each Other* VT #722

\* Hearing the Gospel Mark 1:35-39

Sermon – “Practices Shape Community” Pastor Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD

Song – *We Are People of God’s Peace* (v. 3) VT #797

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

\* Sending Song – *Christ Has No Body Here but Ours* VT #568

\* Benediction

\* Choral Sending – *Jesus, you have called us*  
Lacey Friesen, Kerwin Graber, LeRoy Epp

Postlude – *All praise to God who reigns above* (Paul Manz)

## Church Calendar

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

### TODAY

When the church engages in spiritual practices, it connects us with the past and invites us into the future where God is already at work. We are grateful that each of you has joined us in our holy communal practice of worshipping God in spirit and in truth. Welcome to you all!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Education Agency**.

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

### THIS WEEK

**Sept. 20 (Wed)** – Youth Group at 6:30pm; Supper and Session

**Sept. 20 (Wed)** – Children's Choir rehearsal - 1st-8th grades-6:30pm-7:00pm

**Sept. 22 (Fri)** – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

### NEXT SUNDAY – September 24

Next Sunday we continue our Fall series “*God’s Faithful Community*,” and the focus of the morning will be “*Trusting the Spirit with Difficult Issues*.” The scriptures include Esther 4, Acts 15, Matthew 26:36-46 and Pastor Corey will be preaching.

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

### COMING EVENTS

**Sept. 24** – Potluck meal at noon and kickoff for our Pastor/Congregational Review

**Oct. 8** – Communion

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### **Praises:**

- Thank you for the people teaching the Jr Sunday School classes this September: Liz Graber, Kerry and Lori Hofer, Rosemary Kaufman and Polly and Kyle Waltner. We value your leadership and willingness to share God's word and teachings with the young people of Salem-Zion!

- The Jr. Sunday School offering will be going to Swan Lake Christian Camp this fall. All are invited (youth AND adults) to give to this project!

### **Remember to pray for:**

- those who cannot be here today: Mary Schmidt.

- our farmers as the fall harvest slowly begins. Pray for patience, strength, and good health for the harvesters.

- faithful responses to our household treasury giving so we can meet our financial goals for this fiscal year. Salem-Zion’s fiscal year ends on October 31.

- our sister congregations in North and Central Iowa: Cedar Falls MC, Cedar Falls, IA, Christ Community, Des Moines, IA, and Des Moines MC, Des Moines, IA.

Dear members of Salem Zion, those who attend and those who watch online: the **household treasury** has been struggling to stay in the black. There has been an extra \$15,000+ in expenses that we don't normally have. Our insurance skyrocketed and we had some unexpected expenses with the furnace. Right now the household treasury balance is more than -\$20,000. I am sending out a request to ask those who are able to give or give some extra, consider doing so. Salem Zion is our community and in order for this community to continue to function, we need your help! Our fiscal year ends at the end of October and it would be wonderful to end with a positive balance! Please contact your loyal treasurer if you have any questions! Thanks in advance for your generosity!!!! - Lacey Friesen, treasurer

Under the umbrella of Wellspring, counselors from The Changing Behavioral Group have been seeing clients at Freeman Regional, providing **mental health support**. Realizing the importance of this service, Salem Zion has funds available for its members, including children, adolescents and adults. Make an appointment by calling the Freeman Clinic, mentioning you are a Salem-Zion member. If you have questions, please call the Group office at 605-201-0104.

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> year our church congregation participates in a **congregation/pastor review**. The purpose of the review is to affirm and strengthen the pastor and our congregation in shared ministry. This review is open to all members and regular attendants of Salem-Zion. This year we are encouraging Jr High and High School students to participate in the survey. Mark your calendars for a congregation potluck on September 24<sup>th</sup>. At that time the surveys will be available to fill out or take home to complete. Our hope is that all surveys will be returned by October 8<sup>th</sup>. Members and regular attendants who watch our services online are welcome to request a copy from the church office to complete and return to the church. Completed surveys may be returned by placing them in the box in the narthex, mailed to the church or emailed to the church office.

**Life Information Sheets:** Thank you for taking some time to fill out the Life Information Sheets that were placed in your mailboxes. Once completed, please return to Pastor Corey (place in his church mailbox or email a copy to him at corey.miller@gwtc.net) and he will hold in a confidential file.

### **Community Connections**

A program sharing the history of the Johannesthal Reformed Church will be held at the historical church on the grounds of **Heritage Hall Museum &**

**Archives** in Freeman on Sunday, Sept. 17. Steve Auch will present "Die Johannesthal Kirche: 1820 South Russia-1884 Dakota Territory" at 3 p.m. and again at 7:30 p.m. In addition, a hymn-sing and special music led by Deb and Kerry Carden, from Yankton, will be held at the church starting at 6 p.m. The church, which was built northwest of Freeman in 1902, served the Johannesthal congregation until 1967 when the church closed. It was then donated to the Freeman Historical Society and later to HHM&A; it was moved to the museum grounds in 1979. The program is free of charge to all HHM&A members and those who purchase admission to the museum on Sunday – it will be open from 1 to 7 p.m. that day. Admission to the program (\$5) can also be purchased at the door. For more information, call 605-925-7545.

**You and your family are invited for an evening of delicious food, live local music, games, prizes and fun!** On Sunday, September 24, 2023, Freeman Regional Health Services (FRHS) will be hosting a Harvest Festival at The Barn at Graber Vineyards at 43772 283rd St. Freeman from 4-7pm with a catered meal served between 5-6:30 pm. This event is being held as a fundraiser for Freeman Regional Assisted Living (Salem Home) to add a retractable awning to the east deck. This will provide more shade for our residents to enjoy the outdoors next summer. Tickets are \$35 for ages 13 and older, \$15 for ages 6-12 and children ages 5 and under are free. If you are unable to attend but would like to support the project, your donation would be greatly appreciated! Donations and ticket purchases can be made at the FRHS Business Office, Assisted Living or online at [www.givebutter.com/FRHSHarvest23](http://www.givebutter.com/FRHSHarvest23). Additional details can also be found at this website. Thank you for your continued support of Freeman Regional!

**Swiss Choral** will begin rehearsals on Sunday evening, September 24, 7pm at Salem Mennonite (south) Church. Preparation will begin for a performance of Brahms' *German Requiem*. Scores will be provided. All interested singers are encouraged to attend and be a part of learning a timeless piece of music!

**Kids Club Starts Sept. 25:** Games await all area kids, ages four to fourth grade, at the first Freeman Academy Kids Club of the school year. Join the fun and bring a friend on Monday, Sept. 25, from 5:45 pm – 7:15 pm at the Sterling Hall Link on the Freeman Academy campus. RSVPs are required for adequate supplies and snacks. Contact Jason Mehlhaf, Office of Enrollment, at 605-925-4237 x230 or via email: [jmehlhaf@freemanacademy.org](mailto:jmehlhaf@freemanacademy.org) for registration details. Kids Club includes a fun educational activity, active games, and a light snack before heading home. Each month is different! Come join us!

**Et Cetera Shoppe** is in need of some volunteer work that can be done in your own home, on your own time schedule! We're looking for volunteers to sew rug

strips together for our rug weavers. This is very simple sewing that doesn't require a lot of care or accuracy. It's similar to making a quilt binding, but a bit cruder. If you'd consider helping us out with this ongoing need, please let Kris or Anita know. Another (more short-term) job that we're looking for help with, is stripping dried summer savory leaves off stems so that we can package and sell it. This fragrant job can be done in front of the TV! Call the shop at 925-7098, or stop in, if you'd be willing to help with either of these needs.

**Practicing God's Peace:** "One of the most destructive mistakes we Christians make is to prioritize shared beliefs over shared relationship, which is deeply ironic considering we worship a God who would rather die than lose relationship with us." - Rachel Held Evans

**Pastor Corey Miller**

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

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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