

Opening Session of 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of Swiss Mennonites in Freeman, South Dakota  
September 7, 2024  
Salem-Zion Mennonite Church  
7:00pm

*Celebrating...*



## OPENING WORSHIP & PRESENTATION

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 · 7:00 PM  
SALEM-ZION MENNONITE

Gathering Music Dan Graber, organ  
arr. R. Farrel, "Blessed Assurance"  
arr. D. Burton, "Holy Manna"  
arr. C. Hamlin, "The Unclouded Day"

Welcome Corey Miller

Call to Worship from Psalm 134  
L: Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, who  
stand by night in the house of the LORD!  
**P: We lift up our hands to the holy place, and bless the  
LORD.**  
L: May the LORD, maker of heaven and earth, bless you from  
Zion.  
***ALL: We worship God together in spirit and in truth.***

Opening Prayer

\* Hymn of Praise – *Come, We That Love* VT #31

Introductions and Greetings

Hearing the Scriptures Deuteronomy 10:17-22  
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-12, Matthew 13:31-32

Reflections Corey Miller

\* Hymn – *Faith of the Martyrs* VT #575  
Second refrain: "Faith of the Fathers"  
Third refrain: "Faith of the Mothers"

Presentation Marnette D. Hofer and Tim L. Waltner  
Heritage Hall Museum & Archives

Prayer

\* Sending Song – *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* VT #203

\* Blessing Ephesians 3:20

Please join us for an Ice Cream Social in the fellowship hall

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### Activities this weekend

- Sunday worship and communion service at 10:00am at Salem-Zion Mennonite
- Ethnic meal at noon
- Display tables containing photos, artifacts, and other memorabilia (in the foyer)
- Historical Tour at 1:30pm (meet by the bell tower)
- Salem-Zion Cemetery Exploring following the tour (led by Duane and Marlys Tieszen)
- Celebration of Music at Pioneer Hall at 7:00pm

### Looking for Stories

For anyone that wants to share a story, a memory, or an experience that has formed or shaped your family throughout these 150 years, you will be able to do that! In the narthex on the table is a space where you can write out your story or memory and place it in the box with your name on it. May our stories bear witness to God's great faithfulness to us throughout these years!

### Thank You

We thank you for taking the time to attend the activities that have been planned this weekend. It takes a village to be able to make this kind of an event reality. For the countless number of volunteers who made this possible - all who helped with the music, those who cooked and worked with the food and refreshments, those who provided childcare, our speakers Caley Ortman and Karen Graber Andres who proclaimed God's Word to us, those who led tours, helped gather pictures for slideshows, and set up display tables filled with memorabilia and artifacts, and to everyone else that contributed to our celebration in one manner or another, we thank you and are so grateful for you!

For God's glory,

Marnette Hofer, Everett Waltner, Polly Waltner, Rudy Brockmueller, Gwen Ortman, Corey Miller – the 150<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee

We acknowledge tonight that this land on which our forebears arrived as immigrants in 1874 was home earlier to many other peoples, including the Ihanktowan Dakota Oyate people. We honor their culture, heritage, and their continuing connection to the land, water, and community. We affirm that settlers have specific responsibilities in the journey of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

We give thanks to our Creator God, and to those peoples who have stewarded this land for generations. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, work, and worship here over these past 150 years, as we witness the reconciling movement of the Spirit and seek to live into right relations with our Indigenous neighbors and all of creation.

