# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

**Baptism Sunday: "Rooted and Grounded in Love"**
**May 25, 2025**

## GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude – *Morning Has Broken* (arr. Lorie Line)
*Give Me Jesus* (arr. Lorie Line) — Kaye Waltner
Welcome and Call to Worship — Gwen Ortman
L: Come, family of God, come join the celebration of new life!
**East: Come, mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers,**
**West: Come, grandparents, friends, and neighbors,**
**ALL: Come, family of God!**
L: God is about to do a new thing. Be glad and rejoice in what God creates!
**ALL: We have come to witness a birth; we have come to welcome new members to the body of Christ. Praise God, the Giver of new life!**
Prayer of Invocation
* Singing our Praise – *The Lord Is My Light* — VT #437
*Take My Life, and Let It Be* — VT #759
Greeting each other
Children's Story — Matthew 3:13-17 — David Friesen
Peace Lamp
Offering – Swan Lake Christian Camp
Offertory – *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* (arr. Lloyd Larson)

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Hearing the Scriptures — Romans 6:1-4, Ephesians 3:14-20
Meditation – "Alive to God" — Corey Miller
Song – *As I Went Down to the River to Pray* — VT #453
Believer Baptisms — Refrain: "Oh, sister/brother…"
Cadence Hofer, daughter of Kerry and Lori Hofer
Alea Miller, daughter of Matt and Digna Miller
Arianna Miller, daughter of Matt and Digna Miller
Armando Miller, son of Matt and Digna Miller
Estelle Waltner, daughter of Kyle and Polly Waltner
Oliver Waltner, son of Jeremy and Stacey Waltner
Congregational Response — VT #932
Hymn – *Be Thou My Vision* — VT #549

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

## SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Hymn of Praise – *Praise God* — VT #70
* Benediction
Postlude

## Church Calendar

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

**TODAY**

Today we celebrate the believer's baptism of six of our young people! Baptism is a gift by God's Spirit, a mandate from Jesus, and a blessing to Christ's church. With ordinary water, this sacred practice reflects the inner transformation that has happened in these youth. As we witness their vows to Christ and his church, we are all invited to reclaim our covenant of baptism as we are "*rooted and grounded in love*." Welcome all to this time of celebration and worship!

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

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

**THIS WEEK**

**May 30 (Fri)** – Deacons' meeting at 7:00pm
**May 30 (Fri)** – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

**NEXT SUNDAY – June 1**

Next Sunday concludes our series on Praying with Ephesians. The theme of the morning is: "*Equipping the Saints*" and the text is Ephesians 4:1-16. Pastor Corey will preach, the summer staff from Swan Lake Christian Camp will be here to give greetings, and we will have communion on this first Sunday of June. The offering will be for the Household Treasury.

**COMING EVENTS**

**June 2-6** – Vacation Bible School at South Church!!
**June 19** – Serving at The Banquet West in Sioux Falls
**June 26-29** – Central Plains Mennonite Conference in Rock Island, IL

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

**Happenings over the past week:**

- Six youth met with their parents and deacons on Wednesday night to share their faith stories and request to be baptized. We were on holy ground and witnessed the Spirit's unifying power through Christ. Praise God!

**Remember to praise God for:**

- the blessed gift of rain that has given moisture to the land on which we live.
- the testimonies and witness of Oliver, Estelle, Cadence, Armando, Alea, and Arianna. Praise God for their lives, their families, and their faith that has become their own!

**Remember to pray for:**

- those who cannot be here today: Helen Tieszen.
- peace and justice in the Middle East. We pray for an end to the senseless violence between Israel and Gaza.

- everyone's faith journey as we remember our baptism and as we anticipate others getting baptized and joining Christ's church.
- the graduating seniors in our local public and private high schools and colleges. In the midst of seasons of busyness and uncertainty, we pray for good endings and even better new beginnings. May the young adults in our midst know that they are loved and supported by the congregations and people of Central Plains Mennonite Conference.

**What We Believe Together**: Pastor Corey, Nathan Epp and Polly Waltner will be leading a series of gatherings on Wednesday nights in June to dwell in the Word together, reflect on the challenges/opportunities of our time, and seek the Holy Spirit's direction. A new book, "*What We Believe Together*" will guide our conversations. The book is an account of seven shared convictions by Mennonite churches on six different continents. You do not have to purchase the book in order to join the study and conversation. The dates are **June 11, 18, 25, and July 2**. The study will begin at 7:30pm in the fellowship hall.

This year's **VBS** theme is Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace and will take place at South Church on June 2-6 from 9-1:15 each morning. Snacks will be provided but children should bring their own sack lunch! Paper registration is available in the Narthex and online registration can be done here: https://shorturl.at/OTfsx. VBS Superintendents are also hoping to collect items to decorate the church that fit the Egyptian theme. These may include pillars/columns, plants/vines/flowers, baskets, pots, blue fabric/plastic, rugs, large brown paper bags, chains or trees. Let Bailey Carlson, Lacey Friesen, or Kelsey Pidde know if you have something to provide. Thanks!

The **Pastor Congregation Relations Committee** cares for the relationship between the pastor and the congregation. Open communication is an important part of healthy relationships in any congregation. We as the PCRC are available to hear any joys, sorrows, questions and concerns you may have. If at any time, you have any items you wish to share, you are invited to seek out a member of the PCRC: Beth Bontrager, Stan Ortman, and André Eisenbeis.

**Sunday School:** This summer the adults and children will be taking a break from the regular series. The high-school through adults can choose between a Bible Study on the Book of James or Meghan Larissa Good's book, "Divine Gravity". There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex to choose a class or volunteer to teach a children's class. The Children's classes begin June 1 and the Adult Classes, June 15.

**Central Plains Annual Meeting** isn't just for delegates and pastors! Register to attend Annual Meeting where you can worship, fellowship, discern and learn with your brothers and sisters from across CPMC! This is the last week for



early-bird pricing! See our website to learn more and to register, www.centralplainsmc.org.

You are invited to a ***Making Music for MCC*** **program** at Hutterthal Mennonite Church on June 8 at 7pm. You will experience a variety of music performed by musicians from local Mennonite churches. The offering will be designated to the MCC Relief Sale My Coins Count project to help with nutritional needs in Ethiopia (make checks payable to Hutterthal). Enjoy root beer floats to end the evening.

**ATTENTION LOCAL MCC ALUMNI** – in connection with the *Making Music for MCC* program at Hutterthal, all MCC alumni are invited to form a choir to sing one familiar hymn. No rehearsal needed. Whether you are a singer or not, you are welcome in this choir. Please join us for this special evening as we acknowledge those who have served with MCC. Feel free to wear something representing where you served. Children who were with their parents while in service with MCC are also invited to sing in this choir. Let's make a joyful noise to the Lord as we raise funds for the relief sale My Coins Count nutrition project.

**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!

## Community Connections

**Rural Revival** will meet on Monday, May 26 at 8:00 p.m. at the Freeman library. All are welcome to attend.

Please join us in making a difference in the lives of our community, patients, and residents, by supporting the **Freeman Regional Health Services Auxiliary Fund Drive**. Checks can be made out to FRHS Auxiliary and sent to Marlene Herman, Auxiliary Treasurer, PO Box 364, Freeman, SD 57029. Donations can also be dropped off at the FRHS business office. Thank you for your support!

**Head of School Opening at Freeman Academy**: Freeman Academy is seeking an interim Head of School to begin in summer of 2025. This individual will provide educational and spiritual leadership for a K-12 Mennonite school, which has a strong fine arts tradition and rich history of serving the church and community. To learn more about Freeman Academy, please visit

freemanacademy.org. To apply or for more information, email SearchCommittee@freemanacademy.org.

**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 or to apply, access the application at https://freemanacademy.org/about/employment/ or contract Dr. Brad Anderson, Head of School, at banderson@freemanacademy.org / 605.925.4237.

Mennonite Disaster Service's May edition of **On the Level** is now available at https://conta.cc/4ktd6T4. In this edition, Executive Director Kevin King shares insights into the collaboration between disaster response partners, learn about a new program for students at Rosedale Bible College and meet a family who is truly dedicated to MDS.

**Baptism brings God's Peace:** *"Baptism celebrates God's act of redemption in the believer. It is an outward, visible sign of an inner, spiritual transformation made possible through the resurrected Christ. Baptism is not in itself a salvific act, but witnesses to the saving activity of God in the believer."* – Mennonite Minister's Manual p. 39

**Pastor Corey Miller**
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