Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

"The Gifted Body of Christ"
August 16, 2026

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude/Gathering Music — Sheila Epp

Welcome and Call to Worship — Steve Graber

L: God calls us together from many places, bringing our own unique lives, skills, and stories.
P: We are different parts of one body, joined together in Christ.
L: There are many kinds of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them all.
P: There are many ways to serve, but we serve the same Lord.
L: Whether we bring songs, quiet prayers, teaching, healing, or helping hands—God activates them all in everyone.
P: Let us open our hearts to share what we have been given.
All*: *Together, let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving!

Prayer of Invocation

* Singing our Praise – *Life-Giver, Maker, God of All* — VT 38

* Sharing the Peace

Children's Story — Kelsey Pidde

Backpack Blessing — Sheila Epp

Peace Lamp

Offering – Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary
Offertory

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Reading — Parable of the Body — Reader's Theater

Special Music – *One Is the Body* (VT 386) — Quartet

New Testament Reading — II Corinthians 3:12-18

Sermon – "Transformed" — Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Song – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* — VT 638

Sharing and Announcements

Congregational Prayer

SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Sending Song – *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee* — VT 138

* Benediction

Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Just as the disciples represented many gifts, talents, and abilities, so does the church, Christ's Body. Today with Paul, we are reflecting on how all parts of Christ's church are vital and necessary for the health of God's Reign. As you represent the various parts of the church, know that you are welcomed here! We are glad you have joined us in worship.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary**.

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

THIS WEEK

Aug. 17-20 (Mon-Thurs) – Turner County Fair food booth
Aug. 21 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – August 23

Next Sunday we will continue our journey through the Biblical Story. The focus of the morning will be "*The Church in Mission*" and the texts will be from Acts 16:6-15. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

The offering will be for Mennonite Disaster Service.

COMING EVENTS

Sept. 13 – Worship at the Arboretum, potluck and activities to follow

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Judy Rechnagel moved recently to Sioux Falls to be closer to her children. She is now at **The Inn on Westport** and her address is: 4000 S Westport Ave, Sioux Falls, SD 57106. Pray for Judy in this time of change.

Remember to praise God for:

- the various and unique gifts that make up Christ's church, particularly here at Salem-Zion Mennonite!
- the lovely rain on Thursday morning to bring needed moisture to our crops and gardens.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Ronald Unruh.
- students and families that are anticipating another school year. Pray for peace for those who are anxious.

- the workers from our church who will serve at the Grandstand in Parker this week. Pray that our service would bear witness to Christ's transforming love to those around us.

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE: Our Biblical narrative continues with many writings from Paul to the early church. Reading Corinthians - Jude is Beth B., Marnette H., Kelsey P., Brett P., and Linda G. On August 30th, some time will be given to hear from you about what you experienced as you read your assigned text. Any insights, thoughts, or questions. Think about how your passage fits in with God's Shalom Building Dreams.

Membership Class this Fall: Pastor Corey will be offering a Salem-Zion Mennonite Membership Class on Sunday afternoons at 4:00pm during the month of September. If you are interested in joining Salem-Zion, please consider joining this class to learn more about Anabaptist history, our church story, and our personal faith journey. Contact Corey if you are interested in attending this class.

Faith Exploration Class will begin this Fall: Pastor Corey will be leading a faith exploration class for youth starting in September during the SS hour. More information will be given to interested youth and their parents.

From the Selection Committee:
Assistant Adult Sunday School Supt.---Nathan Epp
Assistant Junior Sunday School Supt.---Polly Waltner
DVBS---Kelsey Pidde, Lacey Friesen

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

Family members of current or former Salem Mennonite Home residents are invited to sing at the legacy event on Aug. 21 at 2pm. Anne Waltner and Clara Beseman are coordinating the special music for the program. Please contact them if you are interested in remembering your loved one in this way.

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 charity) 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!

July Offerings and Gifts: AMBS - $200.00; CPMC - $1,160.00; CPT - $1,158.00; Deacon Sharing Fund - $1,300.00; Household Treasury - $16,530.00; MDS - $310.00; Freeman Ministerial - $500.00; Outreach and Service Fund - $510.00; SD MCC Relief Sale - $2,320.00; Tuition Sharing Fund - $1,025.00.

Community Connections

Are you a person who would enjoy doing a simple sewing task, in your own home (in the air-conditioning!), to benefit the work of Mennonite Central Committee? **Et Cetera Shoppe** has the perfect opportunity for you! We are seeking more volunteers to sew rug strips together, for our weavers to make into rugs. It's a very simple process that is quite similar to preparing a quilt binding. This can be done on your own time, however it fits into your own schedule - and provides the perfect opportunity to enjoy an audiobook, podcast, or movie in the background! If this sounds like something you'd be willing to try, please call the shop at 925-7098, or stop in, and talk to Kris or Anita.

Rural Revival will meet Tuesday, August 25 at 8:00pm at the Freeman library. All are welcome to attend.

Beyond the Headlines: Haiti, Temporary Protected Status, and the Church webinar on Wednesday, August 19 at 1 p.m. CT. Please join MCC in listening to Haitian voices and exploring faithful action. In this webinar, we will hear stories from a pastor whose congregation has welcomed Haitian families, an MCC staff member who has been at the forefront of the work in Haiti, and a leader from The Haitian Bridge Alliance, a nonprofit organization that provides humanitarian, legal, and social services to Haitian communities. Register today: mcc.org/events/beyond-headlines-haiti-temporary-protected-status-and-church.

God's Peace in Worship: "Worship is not an experience. Worship is an act, and this takes discipline. We are to worship in spirit and in truth. Never mind the feelings. We are to worship in spite of them." - Elisabeth Elliot

Pastor Corey Miller
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