



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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August 31, 2025

I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

Prelude

Call to Worship (from Psalm 96)

Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth!

Invocation Prayer

Opening Hymn

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" – HWB #19

Greeting and Welcoming Each Other

Hymn of Confession

"Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me" – HWB #507

II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Reading

Psalm 96:10-13 (ESV)

Anthem

"Be Thou My Vision/ My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Arr. by Brant Adam

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 4:1-12 (ESV)

Sermon *"The Nature of True Apostolate: Transformation to Live Differently"*

III. RECEIVING THE SPIRIT, JOINED IN CHRIST'S BODY

Announcements and Offerings

- **Today's Worship offering:** Swan Lake Christian Camp
- **Today's Sunday school offering:** Bethany Food Pantry
- **Children's Offering:** Freeman Community Garden

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

IV. RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn

"This Little Light of Mine" – HWB #401

Benediction

HWB #752

Postlude

Speaker: John Fumana; **Worship Leader:** Brent Mutchelknaus; **Greeters:** Angie Brockmueller and Monte Waltner; **Musicians:** Sharla Unruh (organist); Audrey Graber Alonso (cello) and Amy Hofer Vetch (piano); **Coffee:** Conference Room Class

THE CHURCH AT WORK

TODAY

We welcome all who are worshiping with us this morning! Coffee is available in the fellowship hall following the worship service.

During Sunday School, John Fumana will speak about AIMM's work in the sanctuary.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, Sept. 2, 7:30 p.m. – Prayer and Fasting

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85365395504>
- **Meeting ID:** 853 6539 5504 **Passcode:** prayer2020
- One tap mobile +13462487799,,85365395504# US (Houston)
- Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 **Meeting ID:** 853 6539 5504

NEXT SUNDAY, September 7, 2025

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Dennis Ries; **Musicians:** Linda Schrag (pianist); Alison Neufeld (special music); **Greeters:** Brad and Kris Carlson; **Coffee:** Classroom #18

We will have a "Backpacks Blessing" for students and teachers during the morning worship service next Sunday, September 7.

Worship Offering: Freeman Academy

Sunday School Offering: Salem Sunday School

Children's Offering: Freeman Community Garden

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 10, 1:30 p.m. – FNJP at Freeman Public Library

Sunday, September 14, 4:30 p.m. – 75th Anniversary Celebration of MDS

Sat. & Sun., September 20-21 – Central Plains Women's Retreat at SLCC

Sunday, September 28, 9:30 a.m. – Worship Service at Graber's Barn

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

Volunteers needed – The Department of Mission & Service has been involved with the Weekend School Lunch Bag program for Elementary students through Bethany Food Pantry for the last school year. The schools decide who would benefit from lunches sent home for the weekend and we pack the requested number of bags. This fall we need to train several new volunteers. The time requirement is only once every 4-6 weeks for about 2-2 ½ hours anytime on Monday - Tuesday or Wednesday morning. Two volunteers work together. Call Marilyn Brockmueller for more details.

The Endowment Fund Team will accept grant applications until September 28 for projects that could benefit Salem Mennonite Church and/or a mission and outreach aspect of Salem Mennonite Church.

Distributions will be made in December 2025.

Based on Endowment Fund policy, account balances, and earlier 2025 distributions, approximately \$7,300 is available for distribution yet in 2025.

Application forms may be obtained from and submitted to any Endowment Fund Team member or the church office by September 28.

Duane Ries, Endowment Fund Team Chairman

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

The Freeman Network for Justice and Peace will meet Wednesday, September 10 at 1:30 P.M. (please note time change) in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

Call all MCC alumni in South Dakota! Join us on Thursday, September 11 at The Barn at Graber Vineyards, Freeman, South Dakota! We'll enjoy an evening of dessert, storytelling, and fellowship from 7-8:30 p.m. Bring your family along to enjoy the evening, as well! Please RSVP by September 1 at mcc.org/sd-alumni-gathering or email tinaschrag@mcc.org or call our office at 316.283.2720.

SD MDS will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of Mennonite Disaster Service on Sunday, September 14 at Fellowship Harvest Community Church in Freeman. Experience fellowship along with pictures, stories, speakers and music. The annual SDMDS meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m., prior to the evening meal at 5:30p.m. (RSVP 605-660-2714 by Sept. 1), and followed by the program at 6:30pm. See the poster on the bulletin board for further details.

Central Plains Outreach, Service, and Formation Committee is working with Mennonite Mission Network to offer another Just Peace Pilgrimage. Thanks to a CPMC grant, the costs is reduced to \$650 plus airfare to Tucson, AZ. The trip is scheduled for November 9-16, 2025. Registration deadline is October 1, 2025. See bulletin board flier for more details.

Ladies, join other Sisters in Christ at the Central Plains Mennonite Women's Retreat at Swan Lake Christian Camp near Viborg, SD on September 20-21, 2025. Guest Speaker for the weekend will be Heidi K. Greenwood Doell, pastor at Pleasant Valley UMC in Wichita, KS, speaking on "Seeking Holiness." Come for worship, singing, relaxation, guest speaker, conversation, and fun, all in the beautiful setting of the Still Waters Retreat Center at Swan Lake Camp. Cost for the weekend is \$100. Retreat begins Saturday at 9:30 a.m. through Sunday lunch. Register in advance at myslcc.com. Look for the event poster on your church bulletin board for information and also on the Central Plains Mennonite Women FaceBook page.

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association annual banquet will be held on October 18 at 5:00 p.m. at the Burrton City Auditorium (203 N. Burrton Ave., Burrton, KS). Peter Buller, recent Bethel College graduate, will speak about his experience this summer at Reba Place in Chicago, connecting with bigger themes about our role as Mennonites in the world. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Schwisters. RSVP by October 11 to Dave Stucky at bigdstucky@gmail.com or text or call 620-532-4408. The cost of the banquet is \$25 and can be paid at the door or online at www.swissmennonite.org.

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am/Sunday School – Following Worship
Vernetta Waltner, Administrative Assistant (southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-4553
Spencer Bradford, Pastor 919-808-2024/spencerbradford42@gmail.com