



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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February 2, 2020

Choose Life: A Pro-Life Choice Sunday

I. GATHERED IN CHRIST'S LIGHT

- Prelude** "Winter (The Four Seasons)" – Vivaldi, arr. Wolff
"If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" – J.S. Bach
- Hymn of Honor** "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" blue HWB #121
- Welcome & Invocation** **Psalm 139**
- Duet's "Shout With Glory"** "The Morning Trumpet" – arr. Young
- Offering** Central Plains Mennonite Conference (CPMC)
"When Love Is Found" – arr. Powell
- Affirmations of Faith** **John 10:6-21**
"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" – Mendelssohn

II. RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

- Hearing Scripture** **Matthew 18:1-7**
- Pastoral Teaching** "The Church & Abortion: Consistently Choosing Life"
Deuteronomy 30

III. RESPONDING WITH COMMITMENT

- Hymn of Response** "I Bind My Heart This Tide" blue HWB #411
- Congregational Sharing & Prayer**

- ❖ We celebrate the **counseling preparations for marriage** underway by various South Church couples; may their sessions strengthen them in the image of Christ's self-giving love, "*In their relationships having the same mind as Christ: not looking to their own interests but each of you to the interests of the others*" (Philippians 2:3-5).

- ❖ We celebrate with great joy the **104th birthday of Ruth (Schamber) Preheim** this past week; may God continue to use her experience of clear mind and joyful spirit to bless her family and those around her. May Ruth take heart in God’s care: *“I will be your God throughout your lifetime – until your hair is white with age. I made you, and I will care for you. I will carry you along and save you”* (Isaiah 46:4).
- ❖ We pray God’s protection of life for **all those children, elders, migrants, prisoners, women and men facing great threats to life**—whether facing risk of pandemic illnesses, repression and starvation in places like North Korea and Iran, terrorist kidnappings in Nigeria, catastrophic fires in Australia or the Amazon, and so on—may Christ’s redemption and healing come on all peoples, places, and nature itself as *“the creation waits with eager longing...groaning in labor pains...in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God”* (Romans 8:18-25).

IV. SENT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT OF LIFE

Sending Hymn

“For the Healing of the Nations” blue HWB #367

Spoken Blessing

Postlude

Greeters: Chantel Hofer & Peg Waltner; **Musicians:** Sharon Waltner (organ), Ken Mannes & Lyle Preheim, Linda Schrag (accompanist); **Worship Leader:** Dennis Ries; **Speaker:** Pastor Nick; **Nursery:** Wendy Miller; **Coffee:** Southeast #19

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

Adult S.S. Offering Today

Salem Sunday School

Offering Next Sunday

Gideons

Children’s S.S. Offering

Community Gardens

THE CHURCH AT WORK

TODAY

We welcome all who have come to worship with us this morning! Please take time to greet others, invite them to Sunday school, and grab some coffee.

Souper Bowl Sunday! Please consider giving a little extra offering at the end of the service. The youth will be at the sanctuary doors as you exit with soup bowls. For each dollar gifted by the congregation, the youth group will match and donate to both the Bethany Food Pantry in Freeman and also the Turner County Food Pantry in Parker. Let's make this Sunday a SUPER Sunday for our local communities!

THIS WEEK

Tues. (4th) – Monthly Day of Prayer & Fasting, **7:30 p.m.** – Prayer Meeting

Wed. (5th), 6:30 p.m. – Youth Supper/Assemble College Valentine Care Packages
6:30 p.m. – Handbells, **7:30 p.m.** – Ladies' Ensemble
8:30 p.m. – Men's Choir

Thurs. (6th), 7:30 p.m. – Trustees Meeting

Sat. (8th), 10:00 a.m. – Men's Bible Study (see **SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES**)

NEXT SUNDAY, February 9

Speaker: Pastor Nick; **Worship Leader:** Erika Detweiler; **Musicians:** Heather Haggerty (organ), Ladies' Ensemble; **Greeters:** Chantel Hofer & Peg Waltner; **Offering:** Swan Lake Christian Camp; **Nursery:** McKayla Preheim; **Coffee:** Southeast #19

COMING EVENTS

February 9 – Fellowship Hall Reserved

February 13 – Serving at the Yankton Banquet

February 19 – Youth Supper & Bible Study

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

The sign-up sheet for serving at the Yankton Banquet on Thurs., Feb. 13 is on the narthex table. Monetary donations for groceries are also welcome and may be given to Chris Eisenbeis earmarked for The Banquet

Hesston College's Bel Canto Singers, under the direction of Dr. Russell Adrian, will present a concert here on Saturday, February 15 at 7 p.m. The Freeman Academy Concert Choir will join in on some selections. Bel Canto will be at North Church during their morning worship service on Sunday, February 16.

Lodging will be needed for five (male) choir members and the director. If are able to help out, please contact Chantel Hofer at 218-556-2467.

Proofreaders needed. If anyone is interested in helping proofread the yearbook before printing, please contact Rachel Waltner (rachelwaltner@yahoo.com) Your help would be much appreciated!

February Feature Films: 9th, 6:00 p.m. – "Of Gods and Men" is based on a true story of eight French Christian monks in Algeria from 1993 to 1996; they lived in harmony among their Muslim neighbors until fear swept through their region because of an Islamic fundamentalist group killing. **These films (PG-13)** are all about 1 1/2 - 2 hours long; there will be a brief discussion at the end; light refreshments will be served.

Church Council is collecting your suggestions for possible Pastoral Search Committee members. Please put your suggestions in the designated box on the south narthex table by February 9. You do not need to confirm with the person you suggest. Council will do that as part of their process to form a slate of candidates to be approved at a congregational meeting on March 1. Please prayerfully consider the person you suggest. Paul Balzer, Church Moderator

Calling all MEN. Plans are underway for holding another men's group Bible study this winter starting **Saturday, February 8** and continuing for six weeks through March 14. We will be studying the first book in "The Jesus Way" series put out by Herald Press, entitled, "What Is the Bible and How Do We Understand It". Join us as we look at this Anabaptist based approach to reading, interpreting and applying the Bible in our lives. Gregg Waltner and Duane Ries will provide leadership for the group so let them know if you want to participate and we will get a book to you. We will meet Saturday mornings at 10:00 am in the Freeman Public Library. Donuts (or something) will be provided but attendees should bring their own beverage. If you know of someone from our church or community that would enjoy being a part of this type of group please invite and encourage them to join us.

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

A Valentine's Banquet will be held at Swan Lake Christian Camp on Sunday February 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Please reserve your seat by calling 605-326-5690 or emailing campoffice@myslcc.com. A free will offering will be taken.

The Christian Formation Committee of CPMC invites all elementary-aged children to join us for a virtual read-aloud on February 12 at 6:30 p.m. Details on our website. www.centralplainsmc.org/shalom-read-aloud.html.

SCHMECKFEST NOTES

In preparation for Schmeckfest, cheese pockets will be made on Feb. 4, 11 & 18 in the PH kitchen starting at 9:00. Snow date is February 25.

Kuchen baking days are scheduled for Feb. 21 in Tyndall (snow date March 6) and Feb. 27, 28, 29 in the PH Dining Hall kitchen, starting at 9:00 a.m. Filling will be made Feb. 20 and 26 in the Dining Hall kitchen, starting at 1:00 p.m. Donations of fruit or money to buy fruit would be much appreciated. Please contact Debra Schmeichel if you are willing to help any of those days. (648-3430, ssag@goldenwest.net) Thank you!

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am/ Sunday School – Following Worship
Office Hours – Wednesday – Friday 9:30-12:30; bulletin deadline – 9:30 a.m. Friday
Amy Waltner, Administrative Assistant (southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-4553
Nick Stoddard, Pastor (nick.southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-7106/940-7212
Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331

