



# Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

28103 443rd Ave  
Freeman, SD 57029-5840

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southchurchsd.org

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**February 5, 2023**

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## **I. GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

(9:15-9:30) Gathering

- <https://zoom.us/j/278905019>
- Or phone call-in # (312) 626-6799 and Meeting ID: 278 905 019
- One-Tab Mobile (iPhone) +16699009128,,278905019#

**Prelude**

“Winter” from Four Seasons – Vivaldi

**Choral Call to Worship**

“I Love You Lord” – Klein/Schrader

**Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn**

“Sing Praise to God who Reigns” – HWB #59

**Welcome & Greeting One Another**

## **II. RESPONDING TO JESUS CHRIST**

**Announcements & Offerings**

- Today’s **Worship offering** is for MenoMedia
- Today’s **Sunday school offering** is Salem Sunday School
- **Children’s Offering** is for Oyate Concern Christian School

**Congregational Sharing & Prayer**

## **III. HEARING GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture**

Psalms 119:65-72

**Sermon**

“Knowledge and Discretion”

**Anthem**

“Wonderful Savior” – Sumner/Linn

## **IV. COMING TO THE LORD’S TABLE**

**Prayer for Communion**

HWB #787

**Eating and Drinking Together**

**Prayer**

## **V. SENT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**Closing Hymn**

“Teach me, O Lord” – HWB #487

**Spoken Benediction**

**Postlude**

“Christ, the Life of All the Living” – J.S. Bach

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**Greeters:** Angie Brockmueller and Bob Wollmann; **Musicians:** Sharon Waltner (organist); **Worship Leader:** Brent Mutchelknaus; **Speaker:** Gene Miller; **Coffee:** Class Conference Room Class

## **THE CHURCH AT WORK**

### **TODAY**

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

### **THIS WEEK**

**Mon. (6<sup>th</sup>), 7:00 p.m.** – Deacon Board Meeting

**Wed. (8<sup>th</sup>), 6:30 p.m.** – Ladies’ Ensemble; **8:30 p.m.** – Men’s Choir

**Thurs. (9<sup>th</sup>)** – Serving at the Yankton Banquet

### **NEXT SUNDAY, February 12**

**Speaker:** Gene Miller; **Worship Leader:** Stewart Hofer; **Musicians:** (organist);

**Greeters:** David & Cindy Graber; **Coffee:** Class Conference Room Class

**Worship offering** is for Central Plains Mennonite Conference

**Sunday school offering** is for Gideons

**Children’s Offering** is for Oyate Concern Christian School

**"Souper" Bowl Sunday.** The youth will have soup bowls to collect your donations after the service. For each dollar collected from the congregation, the youth group will match and donate to both the Bethany and Turner County Food Pantries. Donations can also be directed to Youth Group treasurer, Seth Balzer.

### **COMING EVENTS**

**March 6 - Deacon Board Meeting**

### **SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES**

**Jessie and Eric Fjeldheim welcomed** Layla Jordan into their family on January 14. She was also welcomed by her older sisters Stella and Camryn. Terry & Kaye Waltner are her grandparents.

**Gene feels the way he can** get to know you best is by visiting you in your home. If you would welcome a visit from him on a Saturday, Sunday or Monday, please give him a call to set something up. His number is 330-749-1290.

**Due to the weather cancellation last Sunday,** we missed our General Fund offering. If you are able to contribute to this offering, please leave your gifts with the church office or in Lee Brockmueller's mailbox. Please mark your checks "General Fund offering" so it gets applied appropriately.

**Yearbook Addresses:** As you may have noticed, address correction forms are out. Look for the bright blue paper in your mailbox. Please fill out the form **even if you have no changes** and return it to Rachel Waltner by next week (Feb 12). You can also submit address corrections to Rachel via email ([rachelwaltner@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelwaltner@yahoo.com)). Thank you for taking the time to keep our yearbook updated!

**Pastoral Search Update:** The Pastoral Search Team continues our work, meeting twice in the last two weeks. We are working to finalize our updates to the Congregational Information Form which will be provided to the conference. After a few more book keeping notes, it should be ready to be reviewed by the Deacons and forwarded on to conference. We have also been working on compiling a posting for some online listings. We are open to suggestions of possible candidates from the congregation, so feel free to let us know. And as always, continue to pray for the Spirit's leading for the team, our future pastor, and our congregation.

**Looking for pianists** to periodically play piano for Sunday morning worship. Occasionally special services throughout the year offer additional opportunities. If interested, please contact Barb Yoder. We'd love to include you on the schedule!

**In order to protect the safety of our children,** both of the janitor's closets are now locked. If you need access, the keys are located on the doorframe in the upper right hand corner. - - Trustees

## **COMMUNITY & BEYOND**

**Bearcats Kids Club:** Children ages 4-10 are invited to an evening of glow in the dark fun and creative drum activities on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:45-7:15pm. Join us near the Sterling Hall gym on the Freeman Academy campus for this exciting time of fun and games! Space is limited. Please RSVP to Elizabeth, [eanderson@freemanacademy.org](mailto:eanderson@freemanacademy.org), by February 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Freeman Academy invites interested families** to Discovery Day on Feb. 20 beginning at 9:50am. Guests will experience chapel, classroom activities, and a free lunch while getting to know teachers and students. Parents and their children ages 4 through current juniors are welcome to attend. Please register at [FreemanAcademy.org](http://FreemanAcademy.org) or by contacting [Enrollment@freemanacademy.org](mailto:Enrollment@freemanacademy.org) by noon on Feb. 16.

**Amanda Bleichy has resigned** as the Conference Minister for Faith Formation effective March 1, 2023. I am deeply grateful for Amanda's passion for the church and the wisdom and energy she brought to her role as a conference minister in Central Plains. She has challenged our conference to think about what it means to continue to grow into faith regardless of the stage of life we find ourselves in. She has worked hard at intercultural development work and made space for many of us in leadership to think more deeply about how we engage our own culture of origin and other cultures around us. We will miss her gifts here at CPMC but we wish her well as she begins a new role as co-director of Crooked Creek Christian Camp. Nathan Luitjens

**MCC and MCUSA are partnering** in a new webinar series, *Beyond incarceration: A hard look at dismantling the prison system and building healthy communities*. Join us to learn about the ways the faith community is actively understanding and working against these complex systems of confinement. The webinars will take place on Feb. 7, Feb. 21, March 7, and March 21 at 6:30 p.m. CST/5:30 p.m. MST. They will be followed by learning tour opportunities in different parts of the U.S. Registration link: [mcc.org/beyond-incarceration-webinars](https://mcc.org/beyond-incarceration-webinars)

## **SCHMECKFEST NOTES**

**Cheese Pocket Making Days Planned for Schmeckfest:** Cheese pockets for the 2023 Schmeckfest Country Kitchen will be made on Friday afternoon and Saturday, February 17 & 18 and February 24 & 25, in the Pioneer Hall Dining Room. Plans are to begin at 3:30 p.m. on Fridays and at 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays. Please bring a sack lunch on Saturdays. Join the volunteer crew for a great time of work and fellowship and learn how this ethnic favorite is made. Watch the *Courier* or Freeman Academy websites for weather cancellation.

**FA Noodle Making Days Planned:** Join the volunteer crew to make noodles for the 2023 Schmeckfest meal and Country Kitchen on Saturday, February 11 in the Pioneer Hall dining room. Plans are to begin at 9:00 a.m. Snow date is Monday, February 13. A great time of work and fellowship for folks of all ages! A pizza lunch will be provided. Watch the *Courier* or Freeman Academy websites for weather cancellation.

**With Schmeckfest fast approaching,** we are asking for volunteers to help in the kitchen and/or bring food for the meal. There are sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall for this March 24-25 event. If you have questions, please contact Carolyn Preheim or Debra Schmeichel. Thank you!

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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  
Gene Miller, Interim Pastor, 330-749-1290  
Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331

## Prayer List for February

St. Ephrem, a saint in the Eastern Orthodox church in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, wrote a prayer for Lent that is still used today in Eastern Orthodox churches in worship and encouraged for private use at home. The four sins are counterbalanced by four virtues and the prayer ends by requesting healing in his vision and thought life. We commend this simple but profound prayer for use this year during Lent.

***O Lord and master of my life,  
take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle  
talk,  
but give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love  
to thy servant.  
Yes, O Lord and king, grant me to see my own sins  
And not to judge my brother  
For blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages.  
Amen.***

People at prayer this month were Dennis and Shirley, Gregg, Duane, Vernetta, Janver, and Lois. We offer the following thanksgivings and requests for you to pray with us.

O Lord, we give thanks  
for your healing touch in all of us, and especially for Paul, Janver, Lyle, and Don;  
for the financial generosity to our congregation, Swan Lake, and Central Plains in  
a recent estate gift;  
for the ministry of clergy across our nation, and especially in communities where  
mass shootings have taken place;  
for the ministry of Randall Koehler at Hutterthal and we give thanks for his  
ordination this month;  
for the return of the Ross-Richers to Ecuador;  
for the ministry of Pastor Gene and Pastor Bob among us;  
for the organizations that allow our congregation to join others in big and ongoing  
projects--MDS, MCC, schools, Central Plains, Swan Lake and Crooked Creek  
Camps;  
For the leadership of our congregation and all who participate in committees, and  
especially for the  
worship ministry of our congregation; we give thanks for all those who work  
to give our hour of worship every week its focus and power.

Mindful of your great love for us, we pray for many needs in this hurting world:  
For strength and clarity for all those working on Schmeckfest: Deb, Elizabeth,  
Vernetta, Kris, Brad, and Duane;  
For teachers across our land, but especially for Freeman Academy, Freeman High  
School and Oyate Concern;  
For other congregations in Central Plains, and especially for Bethesda in  
Henderson and for Ron Goertzen who is returning to Congo to encourage  
work he started there and for Bethel Church in Mountain Lake also needing a  
pastor;  
For our own congregation's unity of purpose, vision, and future. Lord, what are  
we to let go? And what should we be doing to insure a good future for this  
congregation?  
For the community of Red Lake, MN where many houses suffered hail damage  
last year and where MDS may be sending volunteers;  
For clarity in decisions needing to be made by the Ross-Richers for the Ecuador  
ministry;  
For comfort for the family in Memphis who lost a son to police violence last  
month;  
For peace in the Ukraine.