



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

28103 443rd Ave
Freeman, SD 57029-5840

(605) 925-4553
southchurch@goldenwest.net
southchurchsd.org

May 30, 2021

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 Prelude on “Bunessan” (Gaelic Melody) – arr. L. Smith
Chorale Prelude on “Wer nur den Lieben Gott laesst waltnen” – J.S. Bach

Choral Call to Worship “Ye Followers of the lamb” – arr. Ferguson

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Welcome & Greeting One Another

Opening Hymn “Fairest Lord Jesus” – HWB #117

II. HEARING GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading **Hebrews 1:1-14, Psalm 103:19-22**

Sermon: “Angels Among Us”

Anthem “For He Shall Give His Angels” - Mendelssohn

III. RESPONDING TO JESUS CHRIST

Announcements & Offerings

- Today’s **Worship offering** is for Swan Lake Christian Camp
- Today’s **Sunday school offering** is for Bethany Food Pantry
- **Children’s Offering** is for Oyate Concern Christian School

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

IV. SENT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Sending Hymn

“All Glory, Laud and Honor” – HWB #237

Spoken Benediction

Postlude

“Sing Praise to God” – HWB #59

Worship Leader: Lee Brockmueller; **Speaker:** Pastor Bob; **Musicians:** Sharon Waltner (organ), Bluffton University Camerata Singers concert at South Church, March 3, 2015. Brittney Ries Kempf from our church was a member of the choir.

THE CHURCH AT WORK

TODAY

We welcome all who are worshipping with us this morning!

THIS WEEK

Mon. (31st) - Fri. (4th) – Vacation Bible School

Tues. (1st), 8:00 a.m. – PCRT Meeting at 617 S. Wipf St. in Freeman

Wed (2nd) – Monthly Day of Prayer & Fasting, **8:00 p.m.** – Prayer Meeting

- <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

Thurs. (3rd), 8:00 p.m. – Trustee Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY, June 6

Speaker: Pastor Bob; **Worship Leader:** Crystal Nelson; **Musicians:** Heather Haggerty (organ)

Worship Offering: SD MCC Relief Sale

Sunday School Offering: Camper Scholarships

Children’s Offering: Oyate Concern School

COMING EVENTS

June 12 – Fellowship Hall Reserved

June 17 – Deacon Board Meeting

June 18 & 19 – CPMC Annual Meeting (Zoom)

June 18 & 19 – Church Reserved for Jaime Tschetter Wedding

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS AND NOTES

Vacation Bible School begins tomorrow and runs through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. each day. We're looking forward to a great week! **Please send your child with their Bible, a sack lunch and a mask** - and be aware that, unfortunately, we no longer have enough supplies ordered to accommodate unexpected drop-in kids. Thank you for understanding and for supporting everyone involved this year! Parents and caregivers, we encourage you to check in with your child every day and ask a few questions, including, "What did you learn about Jesus' power in our lives today?" "What was today's Bible story, and how did it show Jesus' power helping someone?" and "What was today's Bible memory verse?" Our offerings for the week will go towards The Worm Project. The Worm Project is a mission of Franconia Mennonite Conference and Eastern Mennonite Conferences of MCUSA, and provides de-worming medicine to treat children infected with parasitic worms in the most impoverished countries around the world. Roughly one-quarter of the world's children are at risk of parasitic worms, which cause both physical and cognitive impairment due to malnutrition. Each de-worming tablet costs roughly 2 cents and treats one child for six months - so let's see how far we can make our pennies go this week!!

The Department of Christian Formation is once again offering a camp scholarship for any of our church youth attending Swan Lake Christian Camp this summer. The scholarship amount is half of the camp fee. If you have any questions, please contact Cindi Mutchelknaus, Department of Christian Formation Treasurer.

Central Plains Annual Meeting isn't just for delegates and pastors (although if you are a delegate or pastor and haven't registered – register now!) All are invited to learn, fellowship, worship and discern together! Worship services will be available for streaming (for free!), but to participate in the fellowship and discernment of delegate sessions or workshops, you'll need to register at www.centralplainsmc.org/annual-meeting-2021

Women's Retreat is currently scheduled for September 18-19, 2021 at Swan Lake Christian Camp. Would you consider attending this year? Leadership is gathering comments regarding whether we should continue as is tradition, consider alternatives, or cancel for the year. Currently, no programming is planned. Please send comments, suggestions, or to volunteer as an organizer to Charity Ortman at charityjb@gmail.com, 925-7468, or text (574) 238-0692.

COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

Please join us for the annual meeting of Salem Mennonite Home on Tuesday, June 8 at 7:00 p.m. We will be meeting at the Prairie Arboretum Visitors Center. The evening will include a financial report and future plans. Weather permitting, we will meet outdoors under the pergola. Masks are encouraged if we meet indoors.

Registration forms for the SD MCC Relief Sale Bike Race/Ride are available on the narthex table. You may also download the form at <https://sdmccreliefsale.weebly.com/bike-riderace.html>

Thanks to our financial director, the Et Cetera Shoppe has received grant monies that will allow us to give the retail area of the store a major facelift! We are seeking volunteers to assist with this project. We need painters, furniture movers, organizers, and handy-men-and-women of all kinds. We're looking to get the work done approximately between June 8 and 25. If you are a supporter of the shop, would you give us one day (or even half a day) of your time?? It will be fun! If you would be willing to help with this exciting project, even for a short time, PLEASE let Kris Carlson or Anita Eisenbeis know. You can also call the shop at 925-7098 or email us at etcttv@gwtc.net.

SAVE THOSE COINS - The SD MCC Relief Sale will again be receiving coins through the My Coins Count project at the Relief Sale on July 10 at the Arboretum. This year features WATER AT SCHOOL in Nicaragua. Join MCC to provide clean water at rural schools in the Bluefields area of Nicaragua where students don't have a safe water supply. Your coins will help construct new wells at some schools and repair existing water systems at others. With these improvements, students will have the water they need to drink and wash their hands. The wells will also benefit families who live near the schools, improving the health of whole communities!

\$25 helps to repair a school water system

\$130 provides a carbon water filter for one school

\$1,400 is the average cost of one complete well for a school in Nicaragua

Let's see how many schools we can help secure clean water!

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am (in person & Zoom) No Sunday School at this time

Office Hours – Wednesday - Friday 9:30-12:30; bulletin deadline – 9:30 a.m. Friday

Amy Waltner, Administrative Assistant (southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-4553

David Erdman, Interim Pastor 605 350-7231

Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331



The Department of Christian Formation welcomes all children, youth and adults back to in-person Sunday school classes next Sunday, June 6!

Classes will be held upstairs for pre-K, K-2, 4-8 and high school ages. Meeting rooms for the children will remain the same as they were prior to Covid.

Individual adult classes will reorganize on their own, finding a meeting space and teachers. Materials for the adults are available on the narthex table for the new quarter.

Teachers and substitutes are still needed for ALL children's class. At this time there is only one teacher for the high school class and two for grades 4-8! Do you feel called to work with children? Would you be willing to give your time and take a month to teach? Maybe split a month with another teacher? We can make a schedule that will work for you!

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or talk to Superintendent Kathy Kleinsasser to volunteer.

Salem Mennonite,

Here are the stats from the recent survey responses:

Total responses 68

1. Church attendance: 51 attending, 15 not attending
2. What would make attendance possible: self-motivation, need transportation, various vaccination requirements were expressed, herd immunity, less rules
3. Live special music: 60/yes, 8/no
4. Congregational singing: 18/with masks, 37/without masks, 4/either way, 2/not at all
5. Sunday school in person: 52/yes, 9/no, 1/maybe

Thanks to those who took the time to fill out the survey. I appreciated those who shared comments on their feelings, thoughts, and suggestions. As I read the responses, I was reminded that although our belief in God unites us, our individual personalities and ideas are varied.

As part of the church council, I have wrestled with my personal thoughts while hearing & listening to others' attitudes and responses to this pandemic. Without having any historical examples or experience with this type of widespread illness certainly made it difficult to feel like we were making the best decisions for our church family.

One word kept coming up in my mind – GRACE. What is your understanding of that word? Grace wasn't a commonly used word in my life experiences until recently, within the past 10-15 years. Of course, we have heard of "God's Grace", the all-encompassing love and understanding that God can give. But I never considered my personal opportunities for offering grace to others that offended me or thought differently than I did.

As we deal with COVID as a church, a community, and at a personal level, my hope is that we all learn to give GRACE to others that choose to respond differently than we do – to co-workers, to church family, to church and school leadership, and to family members.

Vernetta Waltner-Vice Moderator

May 28, 2021

Salem Mennonite

In light of recent survey responses as well as recent CDC recommendations, Church Council is making the following changes to our guidelines.

- **Masks:** Masks are optional for those who are fully vaccinated. If you are not vaccinated, we continue to strongly recommend wearing masks while in the church building for the caring and safety of yourself and others. It is also strongly recommended that all who are eligible should get vaccinated unless you have been advised otherwise by your healthcare provider. These guidelines are consistent with recent CDC recommendations. They will not be monitored and implementation will be on the honor system.
- **Seating:** Seating restrictions will be removed in the center section and balcony. Distanced seating with every other pew roped off will continue for now in the North and South sections.
- **Singing and Special Music:** Hymn singing and live special music will begin starting June 6. Hymn singing will begin with singing our last hymn together. This will be adjusted to include more hymns in time assuming there are no changes with infection rates. The Music Committee will begin arranging live special music through the summer as they usually do.
- **Sunday School** is already planned to begin June 6. You are welcome to hold in person committee meetings and similar activities following the guidelines above.

Thank you for your patience and grace throughout this time and as we move ahead. We look forward to having fewer guidelines in the near future if area trends continue in the current pattern.

Paul Balzer-Moderator on behalf of Church Council