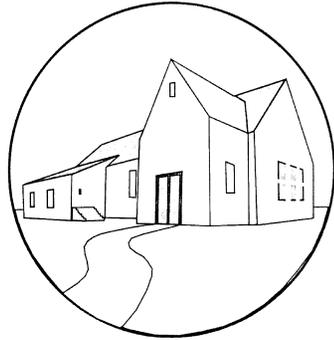


Salina Mennonite Church

A Congregation of Mennonite Church USA

Salina Mennonite Church is a Christian community seeking to share God's love through celebration, nurture, service, and peacemaking.

May 3, 2020



At Home Worship Practicing Faith

Focus statement: *Spiritual practices focus our vision so that the rest of life can come into perspective.*

Gathering

Hymn *Jesus, Be the Center* Sing the Story 31
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EG-11kK-BpU>

Opening Prayer

Leader: We have come to worship you, O God;

ALL: Gather us in.

Leader: Some of us come full of happiness;

ALL: Gather us in.

Leader: Some of us come a little sore from what life brings;

ALL: Gather us in.

Leader: Some of us come indifferent or confused;

ALL: Gather us in.

Leader: We honor you – who forms us and calls us each by name.
You are our God, known yet unknown,
present here yet everywhere now and forever.
You have made us distinctly unique
and yet part of your people world-wide.

ALL: Gather us in.

Leader: to your fierce love, your tender care, your abundant grace.

ALL: Amen.

From *Words for Worship 2*, edited by Diane Zaerr Brenneman,
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Hymn *Lord, I Am Fondly, Earnestly* Hymnal 514
A Cappella https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gjC_6LVDFc
Trio <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=veLB1amUZmU>

Hearing God's Word

Storytelling *Say Hello, Sophie* by Rosemary Wells
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mzPiRqjBb-U&t=23s>

Sophie had to practice saying hello. Think of some things you need to practice. With practice, some things that were hard become a natural part of who we are. It's like that when we follow Jesus. We "practice" following Jesus with things like prayer, sharing, and loving our neighbors. As we spend time with Jesus, living like Jesus becomes more and more a natural part of who we are.

Scripture *O God, I Seek You* Psalm 63
Seek First God's Kingdom Matthew 6:19-33
Matthew 6 Dramatized <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMa6L7iB8YU>

Hymn *Seek Ye First the Kingdom* Hymnal 324
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsBpM9IcBts>

Sermon *Practicing Faith*

Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* Sing the Journey 95
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QISk0oYYpuk>

Responding

Name your Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

If you are able, mail your financial contributions to the church. Also consider supporting local and global organizations who are helping those in particular need right now. Some ideas are in the announcements.

Hymn *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* Sing the Journey 106
A Cappella <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JbBFgrG1poE>
Instrumental <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZmPhd2k1nhA>

Benediction

*Go with God, striving for God's kingdom,
and you will find it is among you.*

Salina Mennonite Church
Christina Litwiller, Pastor
600 State Street, Salina, KS 67401
785-825-2663

Email: salinamennonite@hotmail.com
Website: www.salinamennonite.org

Pastor Christina's Schedule

Office Hours: 9:00-12:00 Tuesday – Friday

I continue to work in the office during my usual office hours.

I welcome your calls, emails, and texts even if not during office hours.

Upcoming Events

May 5	Church Board	7:00 pm
May 6	Worship Committee via Zoom	4:45 pm
May 7	Sharing and Prayer via Zoom	7:00 pm
May 10	Worship via Zoom	10:00 am

Churchwide Prayer Requests

World Wide: Pray for all Mennonite related organizations as they continue ministry and service while adapting to all the changes the COVID-19 pandemic brings.

Western District Conference: Pray for generous contributions to be given to the WDC Hope Fund, to enable support for congregations facing financial hardship due to the impact of coronavirus.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN administrators request prayer for wisdom in continuing God's ministries of healing and hope in ways that do not expose personnel and partners to undue risks of exposure to COVID-19. All travel and in-person public gatherings have been canceled or postponed. Ministry continues through online connections.

Mennonite Education Agency: Pray for Bluffton (Ohio) University graduates who were scheduled to celebrate commencement today (postponed). We encourage you to pray Philippians 4:4-7 on their behalf: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Announcements

Thursday Sharing & Prayer: Join us every Thursday evening via Zoom for a time of scripture reading, sharing, and prayer. The Zoom link remains the same each week. You will also receive it via email.

Project Salina 2020: Let's continue our long tradition of support.

- *We are collecting donations through May 31. Write checks to Salina Mennonite Church. Send them to the church.*
- Project Salina Inc. collects non-perishable food items and cash from local businesses from May 1 – May 31 each calendar year. Each participating business is assigned a food item to gather during the 31 day collection period. The collections are then aggregated and allocated to the five local food agency beneficiaries (The Emergency Aid Food Bank, The Salvation Army, The Salina Rescue Mission, The Ashby House, and the Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas – DVACK) based on demand.
- Project Salina Inc. was founded in 1990. The five benefiting agencies depend on the local businesses to keep their shelves full. The first year of Project Salina, there were a total of 23 businesses that participated in Project Salina. It has grown to over 200 businesses participating.
- Participants are encouraged to collect monetary donations:
 - Project Salina can purchase in bulk and is tax exempt, making your dollar go even further.
 - Monetary donations make it possible to purchase food throughout the year reducing the amount of storage space required and allowing agencies to reduce waste by being conscientious of expiration dates.
 - Social distancing makes collection of food difficult.
- Find more information at www.projectsalina.com.

The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Virtual Run/Walk for Relief raised over \$28,000, almost the same amount raised last year.

Congratulations to Lori Schmidt for being recognized for going the extra mile by raising more than \$400. Thanks also to those who sponsored her. You may still support the sale in these ways:

- Send checks to Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale, Tim Miller, Treasurer, 4805 Broadacres Rd., Hutchinson, KS 67501 or donate online at <https://kansas.mccsale.org/>
- Collect your change to add to the My Coins Count Jar when we're able to gather in person for worship again.
- Purchase one of the cars, tractors, and other vehicles that were scheduled to be auctioned. Details at KMRS website.

From the Church Board: The Corinthian Plan (TCP), health insurance provider for our pastor, has granted a premium holiday in May. TCP invites congregations to donate what they normally pay in a premium to some other cause. The board decided to give \$500 to WDC Hope Fund and \$500 to The Corinthian Plan Premium Assistance Fund. Both funds were established to assist pastors and congregations who are facing financial difficulties due to the pandemic.

Western District Conference invites contributions to the new WDC Hope Fund, established to receive contributions and offer grants to WDC congregations most impacted by the coronavirus. Give online at [Hope Fund](#) or send a check designated “Hope Fund” to WDC at PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117.

#BringThePeace: Mennonite Church USA has released a statement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that denounces anti-Asian racism and provides tips and resources for helping us recognize and counter racism in our community. Read more at: <http://mennoniteusa.org/statement-anti-asian-racism-covid-19/>

Learn, Pray, Join: Interested in serving God through creation care? Discover how a small congregation strengthened its ties with each other and its community through earth-friendly spiritual practices in “Taftsville Chapel: A sustainable model for creation care.” <http://mennoniteusa.org/news/taftsville/>

Menno Shapshots: Struggling with the “new normal” of working from home? Michael Danner, associate executive director of Mennonite Church USA, offers helpful advice and scheduling techniques in his blog, “**Tips on working from home.**” <http://mennoniteusa.org/work-from-home>

Are you searching for hope? Let Mennonite Mission Network help. Like @MennoniteMissionNet on Facebook to catch the Hope Series. See their Facebook banner for the streaming schedule.

In case you’ve been wondering.....

Worship Totals for March

2020	Attendance		Unified Budget	Other	Offering Total
3/1	27		\$4220.00		\$4220.00
3/8	21		Rent \$200.00 \$701.00		\$901.00
3/15	19		\$600.00		\$600.00
3/22	Via Zoom 15		\$0		\$0
3/29	Via Zoom 31		\$0		\$0
Totals			\$5721.00		\$5721.00

Worship Totals for April

2020	Attendance		Unified Budget	Other	Offering Total
4/5	Via Zoom 31		Rent \$100.00 \$950.00		\$1050.00
4/12	Via Zoom 41		\$3500.00		\$3500.00
4/19	Via Zoom 37		\$550.00		\$550.00
4/26	Via Zoom 39		\$0		\$0
Totals			\$5100.00		\$5100.00

(Attendance numbers via Zoom are estimates based on the number of devices connected and assumptions about who is listening in.)