



## 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.*

*We hold that every person is created in God's image. We embrace differences in race, gender, sexual orientation, ability or status.*

**February 5, 2023**

Christina Litwiller, Pastor  
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### Welcome/Lighting the Peace Lamp

**Prelude** *Jesus Loves Me*

arr. Martha Mier

### Gathering Prayer

Voices Together 861

*Leader: Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation.*

*In Jesus, you place the gospel in the center of this sacred circle through with all creation is related.*

*You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life.*

**ALL:** *Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your Spirit, for you are God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Hymn** *We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer*

Voices Together 34

### Storytelling

**Hymn** *Like a Rock*

Voices Together 63

**Scripture** *Matthew 7:1-12, 24-29*

**Hymn** *Ask the Complicated Questions*

Voices Together 440

**Sermon** *Simple Rules for Behavior*

**Hymn** *Together*

Voices Together 389

### Show and Tell/Joys and Concerns

### Congregational Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

**Offering Hymn** *In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified*

Voices Together 754

### Announcements

**Hymn** *My Hope Is Built*

Voices Together 621

**Benediction** *Numbers 6:24-26*

Voices Together 826

*May God bless you and keep you.*

*May the very face of God shine on you and be gracious to you.*

*May God's presence embrace you and give you peace.*

## Christian Education

For Children – *The Upside-Down Kingdom: The Kingdom Is Near*

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday – In the basement
- Activities to do at home

For Adults – 9:00 a.m. Sunday

- Bible Study – *God's Plan for Freedom and Justice* – In the basement
- Bible Study – Reading the worship scripture – In the fellowship room

## Upcoming Events

Sunday	Feb. 12	Worship	10:00 am
Sunday	Feb. 12	Super Bowl Party at Newcomers' Home	5:00 pm
Sunday	Feb. 19	Third Sunday Potluck	11:15 am
Thursday	Feb. 23	Church Board at Vera Zerger's Home	7:00 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 1	Worship Committee @ Lois Newcomers' Home	7:00 pm

### Pastor Christina's Office Hours

9:00-12:00 Tuesday – Friday      This schedule may vary. Check first before stopping by.  
Available most of the time by text, phone, or email

### Worship Totals

2023	Attendance		Unified Budget	Other	Total
1/29	Zoom 15 In-Person 20 Total 35		\$125.00	SouperBowl of Hope \$55.00 Special Needs Fund \$48.22	\$228.22

### Local Announcements

**Anabaptist Community Bible:** Would you like to participate in creating a Bible to be published in 2025 as part of the Anabaptism at Five Hundred Project? Kathy Neufeld Dunn has volunteered to facilitate a Zoom Bible study group. The group will meet 4 times to read and study 3 biblical passages. Each participant will be expected to spend some preparation time ahead of each meeting. Let Pastor Christina know by February 12 if you are interested. Meeting dates/times will be based on participants' availability. One option is Wednesday evenings 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, and 3/22 over Zoom, 7-8 pm.

**Super Bowl Party:** Sunday, February 12, at Lynn and Lois Newcomer's home. Come any time after 5:00 pm. Pizza provided. Additional food is welcomed but not required. If you prefer not to watch football, bring games to play.

**Congregational Meetings:** Mark your calendar now to attend our quarterly meetings on March 5, June 4, September 10, and December 3.

**SouperBowl of Hope:** Next Sunday, February 12, is the deadline for donating to the Souperbowl of Hope. This year's goal is 57,000 cans of soup to be distributed between the Salina Food Bank, Salvation Army, Rescue Mission, Ashby House, and DVACK. \$30 will buy 60 cans of soup.

**My Coins Count:** We are collecting money to be given to MCC for service projects around the world. Place your loose change and paper money in the container on the back table.

### Conferencewide Announcements & Prayer Requests

**Western District Conference:** Pray for God's guidance and blessing for WDC youth and their sponsors, pastors and families, in their journey of growing faith and discipleship.

**MCC Central States annual meeting,** March 4 from 1-3 p.m. at MCC in North Newton. This is primarily an in-person event, but if you would like to join via Zoom email [tinaschrag@mcc.org](mailto:tinaschrag@mcc.org).

**Camp Mennoscah:** Summer youth camp registration is open. The summer theme is FruitFULL Faith. Get ready to learn and sing about the Fruit of the Spirit this summer – it's not a coconut! Click here to register: [Sign-in | Camp Mennoscah \(campbrainregistration.com\)](http://campbrainregistration.com). Follow this link for more camp announcements: [Camp Mennoscah Announcements - Western District Conference \(mennowdc.org\)](http://mennowdc.org).

**Men and Boys Retreat, March 31-April 2:** Come to Camp Mennoscah for this long-standing, guys-only retreat! Enjoy time fishing, canoeing, worshiping, sitting by the fire, or visiting with friends in fellowship. The official beginning to the weekend is Saturday morning, but many arrive on Friday. There will be a worship service on Sunday morning. Meals can be purchased for Saturday night, Sunday morning and lunch. No pre-registration. Registration and payment will take place upon arrival. For more information contact Kevin Neufeld at 316-322-5515, or follow this link: [Camp Mennoscah - Men and Boys Retreat](#).

**MCC is seeking a Donor Relations Associate:** This role is responsible for assisting in the implementation of the donor relations strategy for MCC Central States by stewarding major donors involving face-to-face contact to meet the budgeted income goals and generate the necessary resources to accomplish the mission of MCC. This is a full-time position; office location is flexible. Apply online by February 24 at [mcc.org/donor-relations-associate](http://mcc.org/donor-relations-associate). For more information contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or [amberfalcon@mcc.org](mailto:amberfalcon@mcc.org).

## **Churchwide Announcements & Prayer Requests**

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Today, Hope for the Future's three-day conference concludes in Atlanta, Georgia. MMN requests prayer for the Mennonite Black, Indigenous and People of Color leaders, as they return to their congregations and communities, strengthened by worship and fellowship. Pray also for White allies to work toward God's justice.

**Mennonite Church USA:** February is Black History Month. Be sure to check out Mennonite Church USA's timeline honoring "Black History in the Mennonite Church." [mennoniteusa.org/resource/black-history](http://mennoniteusa.org/resource/black-history)

**Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Central Committee** are partnering in a new, four-part webinar series on mass incarceration, beginning Feb. 7 at 7:30 ET/4:30 PT. Join us to learn about the ways the faith community is actively understanding and working against these complex systems of confinement. Learn more and register here: [mcc.org/beyond-incarceration-webinars](http://mcc.org/beyond-incarceration-webinars)

**#MennoCon23:** Registration for MennoCon23 will open on March 1. MennoCon23 will be held in Kansas City, Mo., July 3-6, immediately followed by the MC USA Delegate Assembly and the new Youth and Young Adult Climate Summit.

**Mennonite World Conference:** Keep praying for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

As the Russian attacks on the Ukrainian energy infrastructure continue, the lack of power becomes life threatening in winter.

Pastors continue their relief work and often travel to the war-ravaged cities to aid suffering people even as missile attacks continue.

The church in Molochansk asks for help and prayer for the elderly. For many years, they cared for seniors in a church building converted to a nursing home. This nursing home has been confiscated by the Russian army and the residents evicted. The church cares for them in private homes now, but nursing is difficult and very expensive under war circumstances.

Pray for those who serve as chaplains in the army. They serve in an environment where hate of the enemy is cultivated, where enemy soldiers are dehumanized. May they find the courage, strength and wisdom to resist these forces of hate and dehumanization. May they bring healing to the many traumatized by this war.