



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.

Lent 4
March 19, 2023

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

salinamennonite@hotmail.com
www.salinamennonite.org

Welcome

Prelude *The Lord's My Shepherd*

arr. Cindy Berry

Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 23

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd.

People: We shall not want.

Leader: God makes us lie down in green pastures.

People: We shall not want.

Leader: God leads us beside quiet waters.

People: We shall not want.

**ALL: Restore us through your Holy Spirit,
the love of Jesus Christ, and the comfort of your presence.**

Hymn *The Lord's My Shepherd*

Voices Together 660

Scripture *Ephesians 5:8-14*

Confession

Leader: Lord, we long for light, but all is darkness, and we walk in deep shadows.

We have driven back justice.

Truth has stumbled in the streets and thick darkness is over the people.

We confess our sinful deeds. We confess to the Lord ...

(silent prayer)

Leader: As everything exposed to the light becomes visible, we walk from darkness into light.

ALL: Open our eyes, Jesus, that our lives may radiate your glory. Amen.

Hymn *Longing for Light, vv. 1, 2, 5*

Voices Together 715

Scripture *John 9:1-41*

Storytelling

Hymn *Here in This Place*

Voices Together 10

Sermon *New Eyes*

Gary Thomson

Hymn *Open My Eyes (Abre mis ojos)*

Voices Together 732

Show and Tell/Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Interlude *This Little Light of Mine*

arr. Calvin Taylor

Announcements

Hymn *This Little Light of Mine*

Songsheet

Benediction

Leader: Go forth and shine, for the Light has come,

People: and the glory of the Lord rises upon us.

Leader: Surely goodness and love will follow us all the days of our lives,

ALL: and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Join Third Sunday Potluck in the fellowship room after worship.
Celebrate Wayne Waltner's and Mike Mattson's birthdays.**

Christian Education

For Children – *Your Kingdom Come: Lent and Easter*

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

For Adults – 9:00 a.m. Sunday

- Bible Study – *Our Journey with Jesus* – In the basement
- Bible Study – Reading the worship scripture – In the fellowship room

Upcoming Events

Monday	Mar. 20	Social Committee	7:00 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 22	Anabaptist Bible Study on Zoom	7:00 pm
Sunday	Mar. 26	Worship	10:00 am
Tuesday	Mar. 28	Church Board at Vera Zerger’s Home	7:00 pm
Thursday	Mar. 30	Worship Committee	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
3/12	Zoom 5 In-Person 29 Total 34		\$2,160.00	MCC \$1,000.00	\$3,160.00

Local Announcements

Kansas Interfaith Action (KIFA) is returning to Salina to host a public meeting on Sunday, March 26, at Redeemer Lutheran Church at 4 pm. Connect with KIFA to discuss the legislative session, their small cities project, and opportunities for engagement in Saline County.

Kansas Mennonite Men’s Chorus: KMMC is a large, all-volunteer male choir. Tom Claassen is singing with the group. Their 2023 concerts are Sunday, April 16, 2023, 7:00 PM. Tabor College, Hillsboro and Sunday, April 23, 2023, 7:00 PM. Memorial Hall, Bethel College, North Newton. The concerts are free to attend. You are welcome to contribute to charity any amount, or no amount, as you choose.

Salina Spring Spruce-up is Saturday, April 29, 2023. See the flyer on the back table for details.

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

Pray with Apache Stronghold: The [Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery](#) invites our community to join in prayer for Indigenous land justice with the [Apache Stronghold](#) on March 19th. On March 21st, a federal appeals court will hear a pivotal case about Apache religious freedom that centers around a proposed copper mine, which would destroy the Western Apache sacred site of Oak Flat, *Chi’chil Bildagoteel*. MC USA and Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference signed onto an amicus brief (a letter to the court) in support of the Apache Stronghold, along with other religious groups. The Apache Stronghold are rallying all people of faith and conscience under the call of “One Drum, One Prayer, One Circle,” to seek unity in protection of Earth and in resistance to ongoing colonization. They will be dedicating March 19th to prayer before their court case and ask us to join them.

Western District Conference: Pray for wisdom for the WDC Gifts Discernment Committee as they seek suggestions and God’s guidance for nominations for elected leadership roles in WDC.

Everence® announces March Medicare workshop date: Everence will hold its popular Medicare workshop at its office in North Newton on Thursday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m. Topics will include, when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare covers, plus an explanation of Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D. The in-person workshop will be held at the Everence office: 3179 N. Main St. Suite 1B, North Newton. Those interested in attending should contact the Everence office at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or central.kansas@everence.com.

Heritage Dinner Fundraiser: The Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum’s Heritage Dinner Fundraiser is on Friday, March 31, at 6:30 pm at Tabor Mennonite Church. Click [Brityne-Rucker-Poster-v3.pdf \(mennowdc.org\)](#) for ticket information.

Trinity Mennonite Church, Hillsboro, KS is ending its time as a congregation. They have given their building to the Hillsboro Community Childcare Center, a much-needed ministry in the community. Their last service will be April 9, Easter Sunday, at 10:30 am following a sunrise service at the actual time of sunrise and a 9:30 brunch. Guests and former members of Trinity are welcome to attend.

The WDC Resource Library is looking for wrapping paper donations to be used in the summer reading program. Any holiday, any style—we’d be happy to use up some “vintage” odds and ends from your house. Email Jennie at crlib@mennowdc.org if you have some to donate.

Dismantling racism in WDC: The WDC Executive Board is working on next steps following an anti-racism audit of WDC’s organizational culture and leadership structure <https://mennowdc.org/wdc-anti-racism-report-announcement-summary/>. If you – or another WDC member you know of – has interest, training or gifts to share in dismantling racism and nurturing intercultural competency, and would like to participate in WDC’s ongoing work in this area, the Board invites you to contact WDC at 316-283-6300 or wdc@mennowdc.org. The Board will consider these suggestions as it discerns leadership and specific ways to implement the commitment stated in the WDC Constitution: WDC “seeks to foster a biblical, multicultural vision of the missional church by being inclusive of, walking with and learning from many cultural and racial/ethnic groups. Desiring to follow the way of Jesus, we seek to dismantle racism and prejudice in our congregations, conference, institutions, and communities.”

Churchwide Announcements & Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN requests prayer for Elena and Freddy Satalaya and their toddler, Matías as they transition, after five years of ministry in Peru, to Santa Cruz, Bolivia, where they are serving with Bolivia Mennonite Church. Pray for them as they engage in discipleship training and leadership training.

Mennonite Church USA: MC USA hired Warren Yoder as the director of constituent engagement. In this new position, Yoder will help the denomination connect more fully with its member churches, organizations and individuals. Read more about his work here: mennoniteusa.org/news/director-of-constituent-engagement

Menno Snapshots: The word “home” is something that Christians talk about frequently. But what happens when someone is experiencing physical homelessness? Kyle Nye, author of “Grace Can Lead Us Home: A Christian Call to End Homelessness,” the current CommonRead selection for the denomination, discusses topics around how Christians can respond to this call: mennoniteusa.org/grace-can-lead-us-home

MennoCon23: MC USA will host a webinar for more information about what to expect during MennoCon23 on March 30, 2023 at 7 pm ET/4 pm CT. Stay up to date on the latest convention news by subscribing to Peace Mail, the denomination's only news source here: mennoniteusa.org/peacemail

MennoCon23: Interested in volunteering at MennoCon23, Kansas City, Mo., July 3-6? Mennonite Church USA is seeking volunteers for special events, children's and junior youth programming, and more! Fill out a form here: mennoniteusa.org/forms/mennocon-volunteer-interest

Mennonite Church USA is seeking nominees for its 2023 #BringthePeace awards. The annual award is given to two honorees: a legacy peacemaker in recognition of their life's work and a young peacemaker (age 16-25), who can help inspire other young leaders. Submit your recommendations for nominees by completing this form by April 14: mennoniteusa.org/btp-nomination

Mennonite World Conference: Pray for Anabaptist Mennonites around the world.