

*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.*



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**July 16, 2023**

## Seeking Peace Together

### Lighting the Peace Lamp

|  |   |                     |
|--|---|---------------------|
| <b>Prelude</b>                               | <i>Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah</i>                               | arr. Cindy Berry    |
| <b>Call to Worship</b>                       |   | Handout             |
| <b>Hymn</b>                                  | <i>We Sing to You, O God</i>  | Voices Together 80  |
| <b>Scripture</b>                             | <i>Psalms 139:1-12; 23-24</i>                                       |                     |
| <b>Storytelling</b>                          |   |                     |
| <b>Hymn</b>                                  | <i>I Sought the Lord</i>  | Voices Together 161 |
| <b>Scripture</b>                             | <i>Genesis 21:1-21</i>  |                     |
| <b>Sermon</b>                                | <i>The Mystery Between Us: God Creates, God Relates, God Visits</i> | Susan Jantzen       |
| <b>Hymn</b>                                  | <i>Everlasting God</i>  | Voices Together 630 |
| <b>Community Life – Sharing &amp; Prayer</b> |   |                     |
| <b>Interlude</b>                             | <i>Amazing Grace</i>  | arr. Jack Schrader  |
| <b>Community Life – Announcements</b>        |   |                     |
| <b>Hymn</b>                                  | <i>New Earth, Heavens New</i>                                       | Voices Together 377 |
| <b>The Lord's Prayer</b>                     |   |                     |
| <b>Benediction</b>                           |   | Handout             |

**We extend welcome and gratitude to our guest speaker.** Susan Jantzen has recently retired from her work of pastoral ministry and interim pastoral ministry. She lives with Jim in Newton. They have two adult sons. In her message worshippers will be invited to some observations about the Genesis passage.

**Please join us for Third Sunday Potluck in the fellowship room after worship.**

### Christian Education

For Children – *Seeking Peace Together*

- Activities to do at home
- Intergenerational class Sunday morning in fellowship room

For Adults – 9:00 a.m. Sunday

- Bible Study – *Reading Scripture with Discernment* – In the basement
- Intergenerational Class – *Seeking Peace Together* – In the fellowship room

## Upcoming Events

|           |          |                                    |          |
|-----------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| Wednesday | July 19  | Service Hour at the Church         | 7:00 pm  |
| Sunday    | July 23  | Sunday Worship                     | 10:00 am |
| Tuesday   | July 25  | Church Board at Vera Zerger's Home | 7:00 pm  |
| Wednesday | August 2 | Worship Committee                  | 7:00 pm  |

## Pastor Christina's Office Hours

Out of the office July 3-8      Available some of the time by text, phone, or email

## Worship Totals

| 2023 | Attendance                         |  | Unified Budget               | Other | Total       |
|------|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------|-------------|
| 7/9  | Zoom 8<br>In-Person 19<br>Total 27 |  | Rent \$200.00<br>\$11,620.00 |       | \$11,820.00 |

## Local Announcements

**School Supplies:** Stock up on notebooks, pencils, pens, erasers, and colored pencils. We are participating in the MCC School Kit Challenge. Notebooks and pencils are treasures for families around the world who have been forced to flee their homes or struggle to afford basic school supplies. Without these items, many kids in places like Syria, Ukraine and South Sudan can't get the education they desperately need. MCC's School Kit Challenge is 10,000 school kits to help 10,000 kids during the month of August. We will assemble them on August 27. To learn more, visit [mcc.org/school-kit-challenge](http://mcc.org/school-kit-challenge).

Back to School: Remember our teachers and students as they anticipate going back to school. You can check out wish lists on Amazon for Tasha Gleysteen, [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), and Karla Funk, [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

## Conferencewide Announcements & Prayer Requests

**Western District Conference:** Pray for WDC congregations that are supporting refugees and asylum seekers, as they join God's work of justice and care for all people.

**WDC Annual Assembly:** Registration for the WDC Annual Assembly, August 11-13, at Tabor Mennonite Church is now open. Pastor Christina Litwiller and Pete Smucker are the delegates from our congregation. Others are welcome to participate in worship and faith formation. For more info, visit: <https://mennowdc.org/2023-wdc-annual-assembly/>.

**Save the Date!** The Womens & Girls Retreat will be September 9 & 10 at Camp Mennoscah sponsored by Western District Women in Mission. The theme this year is "Women Talking, Listening and Creating." Come for a time of friendship, fellowship, and storytelling in a variety of forms with Tammy Duvanel Unruh, Wendy Funk Schrag and others. Watch for more details in the coming weeks! Follow on Facebook: Western District Women in Mission.

## Churchwide Announcements & Prayer Requests

**Mennonite Mission Network:** MMN requests prayer for the Youth Venture teams that are spending two weeks in Benin and Indonesia. Pray for the seven participants at each location, their group leaders and their hosts. Pray that this experience will help build the global body of Christ.

**Mennonite Church USA:** "Conectados," which translates to "Connected," was the name given to the Iglesia Menonita Hispana (Hispanic Mennonite Church – IMH) Conference. The gathering took place on May 5-6, 2023, at Iglesia Sonido de Alabanza (Sound of Praise Church) in Cicero, Illinois. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/imh-conference](http://mennoniteusa.org/news/imh-conference).

**#BeTransformed:** Robert Brenneman, director of criminal justice and restorative justice and professor of sociology at Goshen (Indiana) College and a seminar leader at MennoCon23, shares about the impact Mennonite congregations have in urban Central America. Read his blog here: [mennoniteusa.org/gang-violence-global-church](https://mennoniteusa.org/gang-violence-global-church).

**Menno Snapshots:** “Nonviolence is central to the story of Jesus and his teaching about loving enemies, and it is also visible in surprising ways in the secular world, when we have eyes to see it,” writes J. Denny Weaver, a member of Madison (Wisconsin) Mennonite Church, in his Menno Snapshots blog. Read it here: [mennoniteusa.org/grain-of-the-universe](https://mennoniteusa.org/grain-of-the-universe).

**Menno Snapshots:** In recognition of National Gun Violence Awareness Day, June 3, Krista Dutt, Mennonite Central Committee Chicago (Illinois) program coordinator, discusses her work in the areas of gun violence prevention and mass incarceration. Read more about her work here: [mennoniteusa.org/creative-efforts-reduce-violence](https://mennoniteusa.org/creative-efforts-reduce-violence).

**Mennonite World Conference:** We pray against the violence and the disappearance of primarily women. We pray that the political parties in Mexico act truthfully. —*submitted by Ofelia García Hernández*

**Mennonite World Conference:** Creator God, you hung the skies, filled the seas, gathered the dry land and filled the earth with all living things. May we show respect in our ways of living for all that you have created. On this earth, our common home, may we show hospitality to our neighbors, human, animal, vegetable or mineral.

Prayer for upcoming general elections

- Zimbabwe, July 2023
- Myanmar, August 2023
- Argentina, October 2023 (presidential)
- Philippines, October 2023
- Ukraine, October (parliamentary)
- Democratic Republic of the Congo, December 2023
- Indonesia (2024)

We come before the throne of grace, asking God to guide both the voters and those seeking political office. May they aspire to act on values of equality, compassion and integrity. May their hearts and minds be attuned to wise counsel. May they turn away from temptations to corruption or exploitation. May they act with justice. Lord, you said where two or three gather in your name, you are here among us (Matthew 18:20). Hear our prayer.