

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.



Welcome

**Salina
Mennonite
Church**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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

salinamennonite@hotmail.com
www.salinamennonite.org

July 23, 2023

Seeking Peace Together

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Prelude

Call to Worship (adapted from Colossians 3:12-15)

Leader: We gather as God's people,

People: holy and beloved.

Leader: When so many are indifferent,

People: we gather with compassion.

Leader: When so many are cruel,

People: we gather with kindness.

Leader: When so many boast,

People: we gather with humility.

Leader: When so many seek vengeance,

People: we gather with meekness.

Leader: When so many rush and hurry,

People: we gather with patience.

Leader: We gather together as God's holy and beloved people.

People: Let us bear with one another and forgive one another.

Leader: Even as Jesus bears with us.

People: Even as Jesus forgives us.

Leader: Above all, let us clothe ourselves with love,

People: which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

ALL: As we worship together, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Hymn | <i>Jesus Calls Us</i> | Voices Together 30 |
| Storytelling | <i>Jacob and Esau (from Genesis 25, 27, 32, 33)</i> | |
| Hymn | <i>How Can I Say</i> | Voices Together 388 |
| Sermon | <i>Finding Peace through Forgiveness</i> | |
| Scripture | <i>Genesis 33:1-17</i> | |
| Hymn | <i>There's a Wideness in God's Mercy</i> | Voices Together 156 |
| Community Life – Sharing & Prayer | | |
| Music | <i>My Jesus, I Love Thee</i> | |
| Community Life – Announcements | | |
| Hymn | <i>Will You Let Me Be Your Servant</i> | Voices Together 778 |
| The Lord's Prayer | | |
| Benediction | <i>(adapted from Colossians 3:12-15)</i> | |

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

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| Tuesday | July 25 | Church Board at Vera Zerger’s Home | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday | July 26 | Service Hour at the Church | 7:00 pm |
| Sunday | July 30 | Sunday Worship | 10:00 am |
| Wednesday | August 2 | Worship Committee | 7:00 pm |

Pastor Christina’s Office Hours

9:00-12:00 Tuesday – Friday (hours vary) Available most of the time by text, phone, or email

Worship Totals

| 2023 | Attendance | | Unified Budget | Other | Total |
|------|------------------------------------|--|----------------|-------|----------|
| 7/16 | Zoom 2 In-Person 27 Total 29 | | \$175.00 | | \$175.00 |

Local Announcements

It’s time for the MCC School Kit Challenge! Help them meet their goal of gathering 10,000 school kits in the month of August. By donating items like notebooks and pencils, you can help kids in places like Syria, Ukraine and South Sudan who have been forced to flee their homes or struggle to afford basic school supplies. Join this effort to share a tangible message of God’s love with children around the world. We will assemble our kits on August 27. Learn more about this challenge and download a free activity resource at mcc.org/school-kit-challenge.

Contents (NEW items only)

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small **all metal** pencil sharpener, one or two holes. (We have 48 of these.)

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, and Karla Funk, Amazon.com.

Conferencewide Announcements & Prayer Requests

Western District Conference: Pray that children and their care-givers may grow in faith and joy as they attend summer Story Day activities at the WDC Resource Library on August 3.

Plowing with Horses: The rain came Saturday evening July 15 and turned the field to mud, so there was no plowing. But the Ag Committee decided to have Plowing with Horses and Vintage Tractors on Saturday, July 29, 2023, just west of Moundridge Museum, 8:30-2:00. Concessions by Gospel Mennonite. Their homemade ice cream makes a trip to Moundridge double worthwhile. Come and see.

WDC Annual Assembly: Our theme is Holy (Wholly) Listening. We will focus on careful listening to God and each other, especially when we start from different perspectives. Speakers will include Jes Stoltzfus Buller with MCC and Nathan Koontz, as well as the testimonies of some of our WDC ministers who have spoken up and listened for ways to act in justice and hope for all God's people. Pastor Christina Litwiller and Pete Smucker are the delegates from our congregation. Others are welcome to participate in worship and faith formation. Register here: <https://mennowdc.org/2023-wdc-assembly-registration/>

Colorado Peaches are coming! The Palisade peaches on the Western Slope are supposed to be a good crop this year thanks to the moisture during the winter and spring. Please email patsydirksen@mcc.org to place your peach order from July 24-August 5. Two sizes are available: 10 lbs. for \$30 and 18 lbs. for \$41. Checks should be made payable to Beth-El Mennonite Church with "Peaches" in the memo **line** and payment (cash/check only) is due by August 5 to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th St.). Peaches will be available for pickup from the MCC Material Resources Center on Monday, August 21. This is a fundraiser for the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale held in Rocky Ford, Colorado October 20-21.

WDC Facility Update: At a special meeting on May 31, 2023, the WDC Executive Board approved sale of the 2500 Place building in North Newton where WDC's offices, Resource Library and meeting space are located, with plans for WDC to lease space in the building going forward. Closing for the sale of the building took place on July 12, 2023. Click here for more information: [Facility-Update-from-WDC-Executive-Board-7-12-23.pdf \(mennowdc.org\)](#).

Resources for pastors and church leaders: Ways of doing ministry and being church continue to change. Learn about the new realities and put that knowledge into action through the current season of webinars from Vibrant Faith. Topics of recorded webinars include helping parents maximize their faith influence with their kids, increasing engagement in congregations, leading faithful innovation, and adapting to the new normal post-covid. Additional live webinars will be available this fall. For more details, go to: <https://vibrantfaith.org/masterclasses/>. The WDC Resource Commission has paid for a season pass. To access these resources at no cost to you, email Michelle at wdc@mennowdc.org.

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

In August, AMBS is launching a new Practical Leadership Training program to help pastors, lay leaders, community leaders and leaders of nonprofit organizations increase their capacity to provide effective Anabaptist leadership in a variety of settings. The modules grew out of a listening process in which church leaders shared that they needed practical leadership skills to meet challenges resulting from the pandemic, polarization, shifting church commitments and an unpredictable future. In response, AMBS designed a program consisting of modules focusing on four areas: administration, leadership, contextual engagement and well-being. For more information visit: <https://www.ambs.edu/practical-leadership-training/>. If you want a taste of "Practical Leadership Training," join Luis Tapia Rubio and Michael Danner at WDC Annual Assembly, Saturday, August 12, 3:15-4:15 at Tabor Mennonite Church or online for the introductory workshop, "Healthy Church Board Governing Principles." It's a hybrid workshop! Learn more about WDC Annual Assembly at <https://mennowdc.org/2023-wdc-annual-assembly/>.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN rejoices with the Mennonite Church in Burkina Faso for the peacebuilding ministries of Calixte Bananzaro and Siaka Traoré, who helped negotiate an agreement through which Mennonites will provide care for internally displaced people and provide trauma healing, instead of paying war taxes. Pray for an end to violence.

Mennonite Church USA: On Sunday, May 21, 2023, more than 260 people – including members of at least six local Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) congregations – gathered for a Gun Violence Awareness Day witness walk in Lansdale, Pennsylvania. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/protest-gun-violence.

Mennonite Church USA: The international fellow at Mennonite Central Committee’s National Peace and Justice Ministries, Anthony Khair, has lived next to a wall for a lot of his life. “Being from Palestine, I am often seen as being from ‘the other side of the wall,’” he writes. Read his Menno Snapshots blog, “Both sides of the wall: the good side and the bad side,” here: mennoniteusa.org/both-sides-of-the-wall.

Mennonite Church USA: In celebration of Bike to Work Day, Joel Miller, pastor of Columbus (Ohio) Mennonite Church, an MC USA congregation, wrote a poem about his experience riding his bike to work in the morning. Read the full poem here: mennoniteusa.org/bike-church-poem

#BeTransformed: Jewel Gingerich Longenecker, dean of Lifelong Learning and co-director of the Doctor of Ministry in Leadership program at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, shares about her transformative experience applying for a position through the Spirit-led nudging of a mentor. Read her story here: mennoniteusa.org/transformed-by-mentoring.

Mennonite World Conference: Pray for Lewin Mennonite Bible Church who had to stop conducting their worship services at a member’s home because the rent was raised to a very high price that the congregation cannot afford to pay.

—submitted by Eladio Mondez, Philippines

Mennonite World Conference: We pray for the Mennonite church in Janga, Pernambuco, Brazil. An apartment building collapsed 7 July 2023 close to the church. Several adults and children who frequented the church’s services and outreach programs died. Pastor Valdemir Bento welcomes all prayers.

Mennonite World Conference: Praise God that we can meet together as national churches to worship, fellowship and discern. We pray for the following national churches who are holding their annual general conference:

- BIC Zimbabwe: 28-30 August 2023 at Mtshabezi Mission
- BIC Mozambique: 27-30 July 2023 in Beira.
- BIC Malawi: 10-13 August 2023