

For the Record

Attendance February 18, 2024:

In person: 46
Zoom: 14 devices (est. 18 people)

General Offering received:

February 4	\$3,255
February 11	\$2,635
<u>February 18</u>	<u>\$8,351</u>
Month to date	\$ 14,241
Total monthly requirement	\$15,933

Nurturing Church Family

Birthdays This Week:

Ruth Steffen

Anniversaries this Week:

none this week

Help "Pack the Backpacks" by

March 10. Church at the Park needs basic supplies for people as they move off the streets into micro shelters. Our church help support this effort by filling 37 backpacks with toiletries and other requested items mostly purchased with donated funds. You can help in these ways:

- Donate to the "Help for Homeless" fund on our SMC website, or by marking your donation at church.
- Donate these food items: snacks (granola bars, juice boxes, crackers, etc.) and microwaveable foods that don't need refrigeration (ravioli, instant mac & cheese, cup of noodles, etc.) Place food items in the tub in the foyer by March 10.
- Volunteer to "Pack the Backpacks" after church on March 10.

Thank you for being a caring community.

Lenten Meditation Retreat "Wrestling with God"

Albany Mennonite Church on Saturday March 9th from 1-4 pm

Led by Juel Russell - joint retreat with AMC

We will be reading Genesis 32: 22-32 and contemplating its relevance in our lives. We will spend much of our time with opportunities to journal, meditate, and create.

Coming Up

This Week: February 25 - March 2, 2024

TODAY	noon	Potluck
Wed	8:00 am	Women's Breakfast
Wed	9:30 am	Quilting/MCC Projects in Fellowship Hall
Thurs	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study (Zoom)
Fri	6:00 pm	Community Center Family Night

Sunday, March 2 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

9:30 am Sunday School for children, youth and adults

10:45 am Worship Service, message by Jordan Penner from MCC

Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday, including 9 am Easter Breakfast

Full calendar of events at www.salemmennonitechurch.org



Salem Mennonite Church

Interim Pastor: **Marlene Bogard**, pastor@salemmennonitechurch.org

1045 Candlewood Drive NE, Salem OR 97303

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Education Hour: Sundays at 9:30 am • Worship: Sundays at 10:45 am

Salem Mennonite invites all to join us for worship and fellowship. Our prayer is that everyone who enters here may be received as Christ. We celebrate the image of God in all people and publicly affirm that persons of every gender identity and sexual orientation are welcome to participate in our life and ministry.

Mission Statement: Salem Mennonite Church commits to hear and live God's call to be followers of Jesus Christ and to grow as a worshipping community of faith and reconciliation, where peace, joy and healing are experienced in the church and shared with others.

Salem Mennonite Church Worship Service

February 25, 2024

Christ Among Us, Showing us Faith

We Gather

Prelude -Leah and Bryan Anderson
Hymn -Jeff Aeschliman
Call to Worship and Invocation -Sarah Acosta

Responsive Reading: *based on Psalm 22:23-31*

One: Come, you who seek God, proclaim God's glory!

Many: All you descendants of Jacob and Rachel,

One: Come.

Many: All who are isolated and feel alone,

One: Come.

Many: All who are hungry,

One: Come.

Many: All who wander,

One: Come.

All: Come, you who seek God, proclaim God's glory, and walk in faith.

Hymns -Jeff Aeschliman

We Confess

Prayer of Confession -Sarah Acosta
Assurance of Pardon

Ushers today: Mitchell Daily & Mallory Turner **Sound/Zoom Tech:** Ryan Nisly

Nursery Volunteer Today: Karen Perez

Responsive Prayer

Leader: Trustworthy God, we want to live with faith, yet we worry there will not be enough. We want to believe in your promises, yet we lose hope. We want to follow you, but sometimes the road is too hard.

People: We confess before you our unbelief, our worry, our hopelessness.

Leader: Shape us into a people who will live in faith. Strengthen us so we can deny ourselves, take up your cross, and follow you..

People: In your grace, Lord, give us faith to believe that you will call into existence the things that do not exist. Amen.

Hymn **Hymn Sheet** "O, The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" -Jeff Aeschliman

We Hear God's Word

Message for Children **VT 511** "Come on Children" -Lori Christy
Scripture Mark 4:30-41
Message *We Are All Seeds and Light* -Marlene Bogard
Hymn of Response

We Respond

Offering /My Coins Count -Leah and Bryan Anderson
Birthday Blessing (**HWB 422**) -Joseph Penner and Dillon Newswanger
Sharing and Prayer Ending with Lord's Prayer (VT 989A) -Joseph Penner

We Go Forth

Closing Hymn
Sending Words

Visual Symbol this Week: Take up your cross. We each need to look within ourselves to see where we have allowed hatred and violence to enter in. Gazing at the image of the crucified Jesus will hopefully soften our hearts toward all suffering. When we can grasp God's unending love for us, we can grow in faith and let go of the things that hinder us. By doing so, we gain compassion for ourselves and all others who suffer. This week's symbol is a cross, to remind us that to follow Jesus, we must take up our crosses daily.

Mark 4:30-41 (NRSV)

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

³⁰ He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

The Use of Parables

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Jesus Stills a Storm

³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷ A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸ But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion, and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹ And waking up, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Be silent! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰ He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” ⁴¹ And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”