

Pastor Todd Jones

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Christ-centered—Living, Relating, Serving

February 16, 2014

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Based on Isaiah 40: 21-31

L: Have you not seen? Have you not heard?

P: God is present with us.

L: Have you not seen? Have you not heard?

P: God is declaring His message among us - through us.

L: Have you not seen? Have you not heard?

P: God is revealing His glory in us. We are His salt and light.

L: Have you not seen? Have you not heard?

ALL: God is setting our feet on the way of love.

L: May we wait upon the Lord and find our strength renewed.

P: Through the power of the Spirit, we shall mount up with wings like eagles!

L: May we run and not be weary; may we walk and not faint.

Opening Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 44, When in Our Music God is Glorified

Children's Time: A Great Strength

Sharing Time

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Moment-in-Mission: Gideons International

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-27 (Pew Bible p. 606)

Silent Meditation

 Time of Offering Offertory Invitation Sharing Our Gifts Offertory Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 501, Come Down, O Love Divine

Message: The Way of Love

Hymn: STJ no. 14, Lord Jesus, You Shall be My Song

Benediction

Musical Response

Postlude

Worship Participants: Amy Hofer Vetch (piano), Todd Jones (worship leader, children's time & message), worship music arranged by Paul & Priscilla Hofer, & Bob Perry (moment-in-mission)

PRAYER CONCERNS/PRAISES

- From CPMC: Pray for the Pastoral Leadership Committee as they prepare to meet in Des Moines in two weeks.
- From MMN: Last month, Deb and Wes Bergen arrived on the campus of the Good News Theological College and Seminary in Accra, Ghana, for a two-year assignment with MMN. Pray that their ministry will bless students and colleagues, even as they are blessed through joining Christ's body in West Africa.

We respectfully request that the *designated pews* remain open for families with young children and those with physical needs. We also request that the *crying room* remain available for infants and nursing mothers.

A *Handicap Accessible Bathroom* is located in the basement.

TODAY

Greeters: Glennis Hofer & Monica Clem **Coffee Time**: Chad & Rebecca Hofer

MW Feb. project: Cash for Swan Lake Christian Camp Children's Sun. School project: Freeman Food Pantry

NEXT SUNDAY

Greeters: Marj Hofer & Adeline Friesen

Organ: Edie Tschetter

Worship Music: Ray & Joyce Hofer Coffee Time: John & Monica Clem

6:30pm: Valentine's Banquet

THIS WEEK

Tuesday: Pastor-Peer, 9am (Sioux Falls)

Worship Committee, 6:30pm

Wednesday: Soup & Fellowship, 6:30pm

Kid's Club, 7pm

Midweek Bible Study, 7pm

Thursday: Church Board, 7:00pm

Friday: Men's Group, 10am (Parsonage)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar. 1: Youth Bowling (Yankton)

Mar. 4: Mission & Outreach Meeting, 7:00pm

Mar. 5: Ash Wednesday

Bob Perry, a representative from **Gideons International** will be sharing a moment-in-mission this morning. In celebration of this, we will receive a special offering for the continuing work of the Gideons. Those who would like to participate in this ministry may place their offering in the basket in the church foyer following worship.

Connection! deadline: Wed. noon, Feb. 19. Give all info to Edie and church news to Twyla.

The **Everence Sharing Fund** provided \$1,592.56 in matching funds to support special needs in Hutterthal Church in 2013. John Clem serves as the Everence advocate for our congregation. Please contact him if you have any questions about the fund, or for more information.

Appreciation dinner and annual mtg. of the Swan Lake Christian Camp Association: at the camp on **March 1.** All are invited to attend. Tours of the new, under construction, retreat center begin at 5:30 pm followed by the meal 6:00. RSVP to Judi at 605-326-5690 or **campoffice@myslcc.com**. Check out the SLCC newsletter at www.myslcc.com.

SCHMECKFEST:

- **1. Cheese pocket making: Feb. 18** beginning at 9:00am in Pioneer Hall. Snow date: Feb. 25. Questions? call June Pullman at 825-4277.
- 2. Knepf making: Fri., Mar. 7, 4:00–8:00pm and Sat., Mar. 8, 9:00am– 3:00pm. All ages are WELCOME. Total knepf needed: 96

gallons. Lunch will be provided. Contact Vernetta Waltner

3. Kuchen making: Are you willing to host a **kuchen baking** session at the F.A. dining hall? The following dates are available: Feb. 26 (weekdays) or Mar. 15 (Sat.). If you would be willing to organize a group of persons to bake 25 or more kuchen, contact Vernetta Waltner for information on quantity recipes and to reserve a date at 321-7351 or waltners@hotmail.com.

Summer is just around the corner! Calling all young adults (ages 14-20)! Join **Youth Venture** this summer to serve and learn with Mennonite youth from 8+ countries in Ft. Myers, Florida and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. MennoniteMission.net/Serve

All are invited, **Sat.**, **Mar. 1 at 10am** to Hope Mennonite Church 868 N. Maize Rd., Wichita, KS to join the MCC Central States staff and board of directors for: **Building Beloved Community: MCC Central States and the Work of Decolonization.** Join us as Program Coordinators working in Louisiana, South Dakota, New Mexico and Texas reflect on the work of decolonization and racial justice as crucial aspects of MCC's commitment to peace and the building of beloved community. Lunch will follow to allow for further conversation. Please RSVP for this event to Tina Schrag at tinaschrag@mcc.org or by calling 316-283-2720 by Monday, Feb. 24.

Midweek Bible Study Memory Verse for Week Five: "By helping each other with your troubles, you truly obey the law of Christ." (Galatians 6: 2, NCV)

"The Way of Love"
February 16, 2014

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-27 (Pew Bible p. 605)

Mark 1: 38b – "Let us go ... that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth." (NKJV)

Mark 1: 15b – "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (NKJV)

- **1 Corinthians 15: 58b** "... steadfast and immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that [our] labor is not in vain in the Lord." (NKJV)
- **2 Corinthians 5: 20a** "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us." (ESV)

Ephesians 4: 14-16 – "No prolonged infancies among us, please. We'll not tolerate babes in the woods, small children who are an easy mark for impostors. God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth ... tell it in love - like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love." (MSG)

Romans 12: 1-2 - "So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life - your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walkingaround life - and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him. Don't become so welladjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you." (MSG) Galatians 5: 6 - "For in Christ, neither our most conscientious religion nor disregard of religion amounts to anything. What matters is something far

more interior: faith expressed in love." (MSG)

- **1 Corinthians 13: 13b** "... the greatest of these is love." (NKJV)
- **1 John 4: 8b** "... for God is love" (NKJV)

____! (1 Cor. 9: 16-23) The way of love is ______

1 Corinthians 8: 11-13 - "Christ gave up His life.... Wouldn't you at least be willing to give up going to dinner for [a weaker person] - because, as you say, it doesn't really make any difference? But it does make a difference if you hurt your friend terribly, risking his eternal ruin! When you hurt your friend, you hurt Christ. A free meal here and there isn't worth it at the cost of even one of these 'weak ones.' So, never go to these idol-tainted meals if there's any chance it will trip up one of your brothers or sisters." (MSG)

Luke 9: 23b - "Anyone who wants to follow Me must put aside his own desires and conveniences and carry his cross with him every day and keep close to Me!" (LB)

The way of love is_____! (1 Cor. 9: 24-27)

- **2 Timothy 1: 7** "... the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." (NIV)
- 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 "Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance." (NLT)