

WORD

B I B L E

D I S P L A Y

For those who thirst after God, reading and meditating upon Scripture is often a daily drink of cool refreshing water. The Bibles to which we turn to therefore become treasured, meaningful items. This Lenten season features a sanctuary display of Bibles on loan from individuals of the Hutterthal community. Do you have a Bible that has special meaning to you?

a family heirloom Bible? a Bible commemorating a special event in your life? the Bible of a parent or grandparent who has passed on? If you wish to have a Bible included in the display, please speak to Pastor Todd or Michelle L Hofer. A time of sharing around the Bible display is being planned.



Memorizing Scripture is one of the many ways to experience the presence and comfort of God with us. During this Lenten season, you and your children are encouraged to work at memorizing Colossians 1:15-23:

Age 4 years and under - Colossians 1:15

Age 5-7 - Colossians 1:15-18

Age 8-11 - Colossians 1:15-20

Age 12 and up - Colossians 1:15-23

Pastor Todd's children's moments explore a key word each Sunday from this great

hymn written by the apostle Paul. Let us encourage one another, children and adults, to hide this passage in our hearts. May you be blessed in your meditation upon the glorious expression of God's salvation and "continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast,...not moved away from the hope of the gospel."

WORD

H I D D E N

I N O U R H E A R T S

Das 1. Kapitel.

Das ewige Wort Gottes ist Fleisch geworden. Zeugnis des Lebens von dem Vater Gottes. Welche Sünden Sühn.

1. Im Anfang war das Wort, und das Wort war bei Gott, und Gott war das Wort.

2. Dasselbe war im Anfang bei Gott.

3. Alle Dinge sind durch dasselbe gemacht, und ohne dasselbe ist nichts gemacht, was gemacht ist.

4. In ihm war das Leben, und das Leben war das Licht der Menschen.

5. Und das Licht scheint in der Finsternis, und die Finsternis hat's nicht begriffen.

6. Es ward ein Mensch, von Gott gesandt, der hieß Johannes.

7. Dieser kam zum Zeugnis, daß er von dem Licht zeugte, auf daß sie alle durch ihn glaubten.

8. Er war nicht das Licht, sondern daß er zeugte von dem Licht.

9. Das war das wahre Licht, welches alle Menschen erleuchtet, die in diese Welt kommen.

10. Es war in der Welt, und die Welt ist durch dasselbe gemacht; und die Welt kannte es nicht.

11. Er kam in sein Eigentum; und die Seinen nahmen ihn nicht auf.

12. Wie viele ihn aber aufnahmen, denen gab er Macht, Gottes Kinder zu werden, die an seinen Namen glauben;

13. welche nicht von dem Willen noch von dem Willen eines Mannes, sondern von Gott geboren sind.

14. Und das Wort ward Fleisch und wahrte unter uns, und wir sahen seine Herrlichkeit, eine Herr-

16. Und von seiner Gnade wir alle genommen Gnade.

17. Denn das Gescheh ist gegeben; die Gnade und Wahrheit durch Jesus Christus dem

18. Niemand hat Gott jege eingekorene Sohn, der in Schoß ist, der hat es uns v

19. Und dies ist das Zei Johannes, da die Juden von Jerusalem Priester und Le sie ihn fragten: Wer bist du

20. Und er bekannte und nicht; und er bekannte: Ich Christus.

21. Und sie fragten ihn: Bist du Christus? Er sprach: nicht. -- Bist du der Prop er antwortete: Nein!

22. Da sprachen sie zu ihm: du denn? daß wir Antwo denen, die uns gesandt habi sagst du von dir selbst?

23. Er sprach: Ich bin ein eines Predigers in der Wilt den Weg des Herrn! wie der Jesaja gesagt hat.

24. Und die gesandt waren, von den Phariseern.

25. Und sie fragten ihn und zu ihm: Warum taufft du du nicht Christus bist noch der Prophet?

26. Johannes antwortete i sprach: Ich taufe mit Wasser; ist müßen unter euch getrete nicht kennet.

27. Der ist's, der nach mir wird, welcher vor mir gewes ich nicht wert bin, daß ich sei räumen außse.

28. Ich hab zu Bethsa mit Jordan, wo Joham

29. Es and Tages seh nes, zum ihm kom sprich: Sieh, das ist Gotte wete, der Welt Sünde u

30. Dieser ist's, von dem hat: Das Wort kommt en

WORD AMONG US



Hutterthal
Mennonite
Church

Christ-centered—Living, Relating, Serving

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT March 30, 2014

Prelude

Were you there and Amazing grace

O sacred head now wounded and When I survey the wondrous Cross

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

L: God, our gentle Shepherd, You have chosen us by name.

P: Lead us, Your children, by the still waters.

L: God, our gentle Shepherd, Your rod and staff bring comfort.

P: Guide us, Your people, through the darkest valleys.

L: God, our gentle Shepherd, You have prepared a great table.

ALL: Restore us, Your church, with goodness and mercy.

Hymn: HWB no. 355,

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Scripture Reading:

1 Samuel 16: 1-13 (Pew Bible p. 155)

Silent Reflection

Time of Confession

L: We walk in the vale of death's shadow,

P: our deeds are unjust and bear no fruit.

L: Our disobediences are secret, hidden from sight.

**P: Darkness lies over Your land, O God, and Your people
stumble.**

L: Our hearts are beating, but only for ourselves.

**P: We have pity only for those who have less. We have only
resentment for those who have more.**

**ALL: We cannot spare compassion for those with whom we
disagree.**

L: Our eyes are open, Lord, but we cannot see.

**P: We are blind to the neighbor beside us and unwilling to
look on those who are different from us.**

ALL: We have refused to lift our gaze beyond the ground at

our feet.

L: We anoint the unworthy.

P: We put our hope in the surface of things.

L: We doubt and question those who speak truth.

P: We blame others for what we cannot see.

L: Lord, hear our prayer.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

L: The Lord is our shepherd,

ALL: we shall not want.

L: In grass meadows, the Lord makes us lie down, by quiet waters guides us.

ALL: Our life the Lord brings back.

L: The Lord leads us on pathways of justice.

ALL: Though we walk in the vale of death's shadow, we fear no harm, for You are with us.

L: Your rod and Your staff – it is they that console us.

ALL: You set out a table before us in the face of our foes. You moisten our heads with oil, our cup overflows.

Theme Song: STJ no. 100,

Here I Am

Children's Time:

Peace

Sharing Time

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

Hymn: STJ no. 95,

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Scripture Reading:

John 9: 1-41 (Pew Bible p. 566)

Brief Reflections

Prayer

Message:

Blind

Witnessing

Time of Offering

Offertory Invitation

Sharing Our Gifts

Beneath the cross of Jesus

Offering Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 143, vs. 1, 2 ,3 and 6

Amazing Grace

Benediction:

L: We've encountered the God who makes the blind to see.

P: Let us go then as witnesses to this God who has opened our eyes.

L: In the week ahead, may we look out and see where God is moving and declare the vision with integrity and power.

ALL: Amen.

Musical Response

Worship Participants: Michelle Hofer (bulletin cover art), Norma Hofer (organ), Todd Jones (worship leader, children's time & message), Amy Hofer Vetch (song leader), & Todd Koerner (witnessing)

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.

• **PRAYER CONCERNS/PRAISES**

- **Haley Jade Preheim (daughter of Derrick & Jessica born on March 25)**
- **Sam & Christy Hofer family (son Sean died on March 25)**
- **Family of LaVonne Hofer (died March 23, 2014)**
- **Amos Decker's mother**
- **Carol Detweiler (recovering from surgery)**
- **Dorothy Haas (daughter of Moses Glanzer)**
- **Heather VanMeveren (wife of Pastor Shane at Bethany Mennonite)**
- **From CPMC:** The Ecuador Partnership invites you to pray for Mennonite brothers and sisters in Venezuela who are experiencing high inflation and insecurities about the safety of their families due to the political situation there.
- **MMN:** Mennonite Mission Network requests prayers of protection for members of the Colombia Mennonite Church as they engage in human rights ministry and provide support for displaced people

TODAY:

Greeters: Delmer & Shirley Hofer

Coffee Time: Ray & Joyce Hofer

MW Mar. project: Hygiene Kits and or Soap - see *Connection!* for details
Children's Sun. School project: MMN N. Ireland Peacemaking

NEXT SUNDAY:

Greeters: Ray & Joyce Hofer

Piano: Elvera Deckert

Coffee Time: Dave & Brandy Friesen

2:00pm: Baby shower for Michelle Neuharth

THIS WEEK

Wed.: Freeman Network for Justice & Peace, 12pm @ Public Library

Thurs.: Freeman Ministerial, 10am (North Church)

Worship, 7pm (Salem Home)

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr. 7: Mennonite Women Work Night

April 11: Men's Group, 10am (Parsonage)

Apr. 11-14: Hosting Eastern Mennonite High School students

Apr. 13-16: Holy Week Services, 7pm (Bethany Mennonite)

Apr. 17: Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion, 7pm

Prayers for Healing and Hope: Throughout the season of Lent, Pastor Todd and the Deacons will be available at the front of the sanctuary following worship for prayer. Anyone desiring special prayer and/or anointing are encouraged to come forward.

You are invited to help celebrate **Adeline Friesen's 90th birthday** today with birthday cake during coffee time.

Hutterthal ladies are invited to a **baby shower** in honor of Eric and Michelle Neuharth and their anticipated new baby on **Sunday, April 6, at 2:00 p.m.** If you wish to participate in a group gift, contributions may be given to Charlene Friesen or Kim Jones. They are registered at Target.

We still need **housing for 2 people** from Eastern Mennonite High School for April 11-14. **Please contact Edie if you are able to host.**

MW Worknight is approaching and we are requesting that, if you have sewn **comforter tops to be tied** that evening, you contact Sherryl, Barbie or Edie **by March 30**. Also, we are looking for a good number of people to bring sewing machines to work night. We'll be starting at 4:00pm but come

when you can. A soup supper will be provided. We hope to see many of you on April 7 for a time of work and fellowship.

South Church is hosting another **freezer meal assembly opportunity** on Saturday, **April 5 at 9 a.m.** Recipes include Santa Fe Chicken, Crockpot Fajitas, Pork Chop Marinade, Cheesy Potatoes+, Pulled Pork and Egg Bake. To participate, contact Vernetta Waltner at waltners@hotmail.com or 925-7620 for more details. Deadline to register is **March 30.**

S.D. Mennonite Disaster Service unit annual mtg: Bethesda Mennonite Church, rural Marion, Sun., April 6, at 2 pm. Duane Deckert, pastor of the Minot MB Church, will share what MDS work has meant to the community. Region III Coordinators and the Region III and IV Disaster Response Coordinator will also be attending the program. The business meeting will follow the program. Everyone is invited to attend

The **Search Committee**, appointed by the Board of Directors of Freeman Academy, will begin the interview process to select a candidate for the Principal/Chief Administrator position and requests your prayers and counsel as we undertake this journey. Committee members include Polly Waltner, Myles Brockmueller, Sharon Waltner, and Krista Graber, chair.

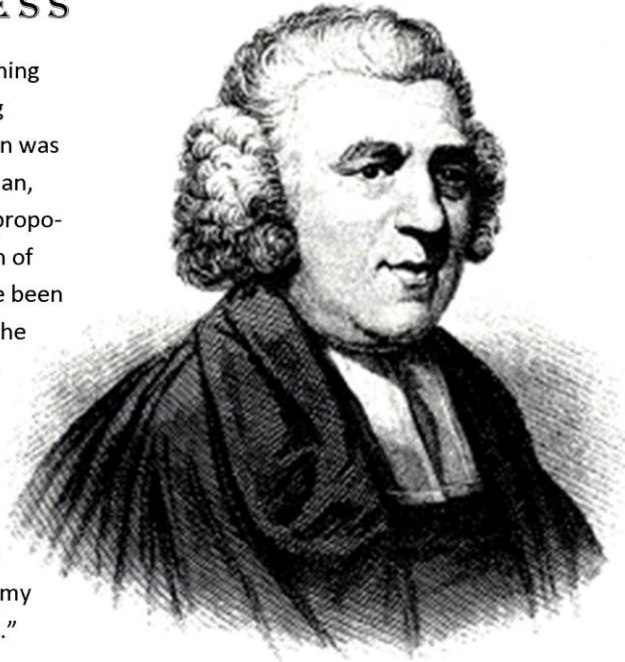
MCC Central States is currently recruiting for a "**Young Adult Program Coordinator**" position. This is a **full-time position**, working with the young adult programs for Central States, as well as leadership development. The location is open within the Central States region, with a preference for an urban setting. Persons who are interested can send a letter of intent and resume to Melissa Waltner (melissawaltner@mcc.org). You can view the job description at <http://serve.mcc.org/positions/young-adult-program-coordinator-cs>.

SCROLL DOWN

WORD IN WITNESS

John Newton (1725-1807)

Best known for penning the hymn, "Amazing Grace", John Newton was an Anglican clergyman, hymn-writer and a proponent of the abolition of slavery. Having once been a sailor involved in the slave trade, in 1788 Newton wrote a pamphlet on the subject confessing, "...I was once an active instrument in a business at which my heart now shudders."



CLOUD OF WITNESSES P R O J E C T

Having launched our church website, www.hmcfreeman.org, last summer, we are excited to introduce a new ministry focus for Hutterthal. Called the "Cloud of Witnesses Project," we are seeking to create an online archive of faith statements of the members and friends of Hutterthal

Mennonite Church. We ask that you prayerfully consider recording your story to be a part of this online witness opportunity. Visit the Leadership page now to read the statements of our Pastor and Deacons. More information will be coming soon.

SCROLL DOWN

JOHN 9:1-41

Now as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. ²And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. ⁴I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. ⁷And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

⁸Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?"

⁹Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him."

He said, "I am *he*."

¹⁰Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?"

¹¹He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight."

¹²Then they said to him, "Where is He?"

He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

¹⁶Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath."

Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.

¹⁷They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?"

He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. ¹⁹And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

²⁰His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was

WORD IN SCRIPTURE

born blind; ²¹but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself."

²²His parents said these things because they feared the Jews,

for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner."

²⁵He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see."

²⁶Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"

²⁷He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?"

²⁸Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. ²⁹We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from."

³⁰The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! ³¹Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. ³²Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. ³³If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."

³⁴They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.

True Vision and True Blindness

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"

³⁶He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

³⁷And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."

³⁸Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

³⁹And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."

⁴⁰Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?"

⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains."