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Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving

August 3, 2014

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship: Isaiah 55: 1-7, MSG

L: Hey there! All who are thirsty, come to the water!

P: Are we penniless?

L: Come anyway – buy and eat! Come, buy your drinks, buy wine and milk. Buy without money – everything's free!

P: Why do we spend our money on junk food, our hard-earned cash on cotton candy?

L: Listen to me, listen well: Eat only the best, fill yourself with only the finest. Pay attention now, come close now, listen carefully to my lifegiving, life-nourishing words. I'm making a lasting covenant commitment with you, the same that I made with David: sure, solid, enduring love. I set him up as a witness to the nations, made him a prince and leader of the nations, and now I'm doing it to you:

P: We'll summon nations we've never heard of. And nations who've never heard of us will come running to us because of God, our God, because the Holy One of Israel has honored us.

L: Seek God while He's here to be found, pray to Him while He's close at hand. Let the wicked abandon their way of life and the evil their way of thinking.

P: Let them come back to God, who is merciful, ALL: come back to our God, who is lavish with forgiveness.

Opening Prayer

Hymn: STJ no. 45, In the Morning When I Rise

Children's Time: Not Safe, but Good

Sharing Time
Congregational Prayer
Lord's Prayer (debts & debtors)

Worship Music:

Time of Offering Offertory Invitation Sharing Our Gifts Offering Prayer

Scripture Reading: Genesis 32: 22-31 (Pew Bible p. 18)

Silent Meditation

Hymn: HWB no. 503 vs. 1-3 & 8-9, Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

Message: Jacob/Israel: A Dramatic Reflection

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

Benediction: Romans 8: 35 & 37-39, MSG

L: Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins lists in Scripture.

P: None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us.

L: I'm absolutely convinced that nothing — nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable — **All: absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love**

because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us.

Musical Response

Postlude

Worship Assistants: Amy Hofer Vetch & Nanette Hofer (piano), worship music arranged by Jonathan & Angie Mendel, and Todd Jones (worship leader 1, children's time & message), & Jill Hofer (worship leader 2)

PRAYER CONCERNS/PRAISES

- Carol Detweiler (undergoing treatments)
- **From CPMC:** Pray for the Iglesia Menonita Hispana Assembly meeting in Aurora, Oregon, next weekend and especially for those participants from Central Plains.
- **From MMN:** Last week, Muslims around the world finished celebrating Ramadan, their holiest month of the year. Mennonite Mission Network personnel in Muslim contexts find that this is a time of increased spiritual openness. Today, pray that Muslims would encounter Jesus in life-giving ways.

TODAY:

Greeters: LeRoy & Kathy Pullman

Coffee Time: Rodney & Amanda Mettler

MW August project: School Kits - see *Connection!* for details **Children's Sun. School project:** Swan Lake Christian Camp

11:10am: "First Things" Bible Study

NEXT SUNDAY:

Greeters: Ian Hofer & Todd Koerner

Piano: Charlene Friesen **Music:** Steve Mendel

Annual S.S. mtg.: following worship service

Coffee Time: Stan & Jill Hofer

7:30pm: Movie on Main Street (Freeman)

THIS WEEK:

Thur.: Children's S.S. Teachers mtg. North Church

Fri.: Men's Group, 9am (parsonage)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug. 17: Youth Sunday & Scholarship Fundraiser Luncheon

Aug. 19: 9:15am, Pastor-Peer (Sioux Falls)

Aug. 21: First Day of School

Aug. 31: 2:30pm, Worship (Oakview Terrace)

Sep. 7: Sunday School Teacher & Staff Dedication

Oct. 18-19: Harvest Mission Fest

Nov. 10-11: MCC Meat Canning @John Deere in Freeman

Please send **bulletin announcements** to hutterthal@goldenwest.net or give to Edie. **Deadline is Thursday noon**.

"**First Things**" Bible Study Offered: The Deacons invite you to participate in a special study of Creation and "First Things" throughout the month of August. The study will include a DVD presentation during the Sunday School hour (starting promptly *today* at 11:10am in the sanctuary) followed by a simple fellowship meal and discussion in the Fellowship Hall. Fifth Grade through Adults will find this to be an intriguing study covering "Dinosaurs and Dragons," "The Mystery of Ancient Man," "The Relevance of Creation," "Global Flood," and "Biblical Authority."

Children's SS Teachers take note - An area introduction to the new children's Shine curriculum published by MennoMedia and that we will be using this next year will be Thursday evening, August 7 at 7:00pm at the North Church. Please plan to attend, see the new material and learn how to best use it.

The **Leadership Selection Committee** is bringing the following ballot to the annual S.S. mtg. on **Sun.**, **Aug. 10**, following the worship service. Assistant Adult S.S. Superintendent Larry Tschetter

Assistant Children's S.S. Superintendent Becky McCune

Secretary/Treasurer Phil Thomas

Elected Member Delmer Hofer

Vacation Bible School Pastor Todd

(not elected, for information only) Brandy Friesen

Paige Zachariasen

Shalom Readers - This is a reminder that our Shalom program for this year will be ending shortly. Please turn in your reading record and projects on 2 of the books to the library or in Charlene Friesen's mailbox **by August 17**. "Jesus is the Path to Peace"

The **Trustees** are happy to announce that the painting and carpet project is now complete. Donations are still needed to cover the expenses. Thank you to all who have worked with this project and donated toward it.

Movie on Main Street: The Jackson Lee Vetch Memorial Fund Board would like to invite you to a special, free showing of the film "Heaven is for Real" on August 10 on Main Street in Freeman, SD. The festivities will begin at 7:30pm with a presentation of the

"Home Town Hero" Award at 8:00pm and the movie presentation at approximately 8:45pm. Please keep your eye to the Freeman Courier for more details!

Et Cetera Shoppe could use the **large zippered plastic bags** that double, queen and king-sized bedding comes in. We have plenty of the smaller sizes that come from individual blankets, twin sheets, curtain valances, etc., but are looking for larger sizes, for packaging bedding. If you have any stashed away that you're tired of storing, we'd love to take them off your hands! Thanks!

Would your family be open to provide a family relationship and setting for a young person who is far from their home and country? **Freeman Academy** is **looking for a couple of Host Families** to provide a family-type relationship with one of our International Students on a limited basis (or a long-term basis if you choose). This can be a wonderful opportunity for your family to learn about another culture, connect with the world in a more intimate way, and be a blessing to a student far from home. If you are interested please contact Nanette Hofer, Director of International Enrollment at Freeman Academy; 605-925-4237 Ext. 225 or E-mail: nhofer@freemancademy.org Thank you for considering serving in this way!

The **dormitory at Freeman Academy** is in need of an **8 qt. Kitchen Aid mixer**. If anyone would like to support our International Students in this way, it would be greatly appreciated! Call Nanette Hofer (605) 925-4237 ext. 225, if you can help. Thank you!