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Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving

June 19, 2016

"Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditation. Give heed to the voice of my cry, my King and my God, for to You will pray."

Psalm 5: 1-2, NKJV

Prelude

Lighting of the Peace Lamp

Call to Worship:

L: As one may we aim to please God and not others,

P: for God is the One who loves and forgives us.

L: As one, may we live into the fullness of our faith,

P: doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with your God.

L: As one, may we be strengthened to turn away from the ways of the world,

P: to turn to God and know the vastness of His loves and forgiveness toward us.

L: By the power of the Holy Spirit, as one may we join our hearts in this time of worship.

P: As one, we join together with our Creator, who loves and redeems us.

ALL: As one, we release ourselves to God!

Welcome

Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 22, Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

Scripture Reading: Silent Meditation

Luke 7: 36-50 (Pew Bible p.545)

Children's Time:

The Empty Cookie Jar

Worship Music: STJ no. 49,

Rain Down

Time of Offering Offertory Invitation Offertory Music Offertory Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 516,

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

Message:

Forgiven Much

Hymn: HWB no. 326,

O Love of God

Sharing Time

Congregational Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Hymn: HWB no. 641,

O Day of Rest and Gladness

Benediction

Musical Response

Postlude

Worship Participants: Paige Zachariasen, accompanist; Todd Koerner, worship leader & children's time; Amy Hofer Vetch, worship music accompanist; and Shane VanMeveren, message

PRAYER CONCERNS

- Ashland Christian Fellowship (Partnership Opportunity)
- **Michelle Hofer** (Celtic Pilgrimage June 6-27)
- Frank Wiebe (undergoing chemo)
- Additional Prayers

TODAY

Greeters: Larry & Nicolle Timmerman

9:30am: Worship Service **Coffee Time:** Leroy Hofer

MW June Project: Cash for *The Banquet* in Yankton

Children's S.S. Spring Project: Swan Lake Christian Camp

NEXT SUNDAY: June 26

Greeters: Todd Koerner & Ian Hofer

Accompanist: Edie Tschetter & the Koerner Family

Coffee Time: Brandon & Kylea Waltner

Worship Music: Amos & Kathryn Kleinsasser

"Discernment Gathering" (during the Sunday School Hour)

THIS WEEK

Wed, 12:00 pm: Connection Deadline

Thurs, 8:00pm: Church Board

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 3: Discernment Gathering during Sunday School Hour

Jul 7: The Banquet (Yankton, SD)

July 10: Potluck Following Worship

July 11: 7:00pm Prayer Shawl

July 24: Discernment Gathering during Sunday School Hour

Aug. 7: Congregational Meeting following worship

Community events: The Freeman Academy Studio Subscription Series invites you to join us for the final event of the season, *this evening*, June 19th at 7:00 pm. Michael Graber, violin, Freeman Academy alum, shares a variety of music ranging from classical to folk. Mr. Graber will be accompanied by Dr. Anne Waltner. The recital will take place at the Salem-Zion (North) Mennonite Church. Tickets, which include a dessert reception, can be purchased at the door: single event admission \$15/adult and \$8/student (K-12). For further information, see the Freeman Courier or contact Amy Hofer Vetch at 605-925-4237 Ext. 240 or by email ahofer@freemanacademy.org.

SD MCC Relief Sale, July 23:

• The **3rd Annual Bike Ride/Race** for MCC will take place on July 23, 2016 at 8:00

- am starting at Freeman Academy parking lot. Registration forms are available on the table in the foyer, the website://sdmccreliefsale.weebly.com/bike-riderace.html or by email to SDMCCReliefSale@gmail.com. The deadline to receive a t-shirt is June 30!
- If at all possible, please bring your **donations** of baked goods, auction items, crafts, etc., from 7:00-9:00pm on Friday, July 22.
- There is still time to plan and gather items for a theme basket.
- Check with your church representative about **volunteer opportunities**. Many hands make light work. If your church does not have a Sale Rep, contact Edie Tschetter at 925-7009 to volunteer.
- The **deadline for auction items registration is June 30**. Forms are available in outside the former MCC office.

Discerning God's Will Together:

- 1. The Deacons will be offering "Discernment Gatherings" in regard to the partnership opportunity with Ashland Christian Fellowship (Ashland, MT). These informal conversations will include times of prayer as well as the sharing of questions, concerns, and blessings. The conversations will be held in the Sunday School room directly across from the I-G Class and will be offered during the Sunday Schools hour on **June 26**, **July 3**, **July 17**, **& July 24**. The Deacons ask that you consider joining (at least) one of the conversations (participating in all is not expected or necessary). Further, we *strongly* encourage you to speak and pray together over this matter.
- 2. "Agreeing and Disagreeing in Love:" At the biennial gathering in Kansas City last summer, MCUSA asked that local congregations consider adopting this as a way to help us be the Church together at the local, conference, and national level. As we continue to walk together, seeking to be faithful in the midst of cultural change and trying to discern together through the crossroads of questions, concerns, and blessings that we come too, the time seems ripe for us to work at this. So, please, carefully read the document, pray over and through it, share thoughts together regarding what it might mean for us to adopt it, and take the opportunity at one of the "Discernment Gatherings" to speak on this matter. Let us be the Church together.
- 3. A **congregational meeting** will be held on **August 7** in regard to both adopting "Agreeing and Disagreeing in Love" and the invitation we have received to partner with Ashland Christian Fellowship. We will be voting in regard to each item and we need to hear from you. How is God's Spirit moving in regard to these things? How would Christ have us move in response to the denominations recommendation and the Ashland Christian Fellowship invitation?

On July 10, we will be celebrating **Communion at HMC**. Communion is celebrated as an "open table" in which all who have a saving relationship with Christ are invited to participate in the sharing of the bread and the cup. In conjunction with Communion, you are invited to consider donating toward the Benevolent Fund that morning. **The Benevolent Fund** is a confidential fund overseen by the Deacons. The funds are used to assist members who are struggling financially. If you or someone you know if struggling financially, please contact Monica Hofer, Monica Clem or Todd Koerner who can confidentially assist you. Thank you!

A **potluck meal** will be offered for lunch on Sunday, July 10 following Sunday School. All are encouraged to attend. This meal is a simple celebration of the truth that we are one in Christ, called to share together in fellowship and blessed to sit at table as the family of God. Come and join us!

On July 7, we will, once again, be serving at **The Banquet in Yankton** for the evening meal. We encourage you to consider participating in this ministry by: 1) volunteering to help serve; 2) volunteering needed food items; and/or 3) making a financial contribution to this ministry. Stay tuned for more information in next Sunday's bulletin! A sign-up sheet for those who would like to serve is available in the foyer.