

**Sunday
April 27, 2025**

Prayer Time 9:15 Am
Sunday School 9:30 Am
Fellowship Time 10:15 Am
Worship Service 10:45 Am

Prelude	Mary Ann Gross
Welcome	Pastor Stuart J. Curry
*Worship In Song	<i>Since Jesus Came Into My Heart</i>
Praying for Our Farmers	Pastor Stuart J. Curry
Giving Of Our Gifts	<i>Mary Ann Gross</i>
	Faith in Action
Worship In Song	<i>Let The Lower Lights Be Burning</i>
	Pastor San Interview
*Worship In Song	<i>We've A Story To Tell The Nations</i>
Children's Moment	Caroline Curry
*Worship In Song	<i>Because He Lives</i>
Message	Pastor Stuart J. Curry
	<i>RE:ignite</i>
Benediction	Pastor Stuart J. Curry

*stand if comfortable

SERVING THIS WEEK
Greeter: Harlan Gross
Music Leader: June Pullman
Piano: Mary Ann Gross
Organist:

Ushers: Doug, Stuart W, Todd
Fellowship Time: June Pullman
Flowers: Flower Committee

SERVING NEXT WEEK
Greeter: JoJae Glanzer
Music Leader: Karol Hofer
Piano: Skyla Dowden
Organist: Mary Ann Gross
Scripture Reading: Teddy Curry
Ushers: Cameron, JoJae, Korey
Fellowship Time: CE Committee
Flowers: Scott & Rhonda Glanzer

Stewardship Information - April 20, 2025

Sunday School 18, Worship Service 50, Givings - \$1,996



Salem Mennonite Brethren Church

P.O. Box 119
Freeman, SD 57029

Pastor Stuart Curry
26929 US Hwy 81
Dolton, SD 57319
360-228-5120
pastorstuartj@gmail.com

Our Mission
*To worship and proclaim Christ.
To edify, encourage, and minister to all people*



THIS WEEK'S JOY

Joy #1:

Joy #2:

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray For: Those Who Are Unable To Worship With Us:
Carol Minor, Derek Letcher, Dona Wall, Georgia Gross, and
Marilyn Duerksen

Church Leadership Of The Week: Ushers

Sunday School Class Of The Week: All Teachers

School Of The Week: Canistota

Birthday To Celebrate: Lizzy Curry - May 1
Doug Gilbert - May 1
Harlan Gross - May 2

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, April 29

7:30 PM Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, April 30

7:00 PM MBY

Thursday, May 1

9:00 AM National Day Of Prayer

WOMEN MINISTRIES PROJECT: FREEMAN WRAP

Final Sunday to Give! Women Ministries is supporting Bethany WRAP, a local resource for Freeman families who welcome foster children into their homes. Foster placements often happen quickly, and families may not have the essentials. Your monetary donations help provide items like clothing, diapers, and school supplies. Thank you for showing love in a practical way! Donations can be placed in the container on the back table or given directly to Judy.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Bridgewater will be hosting the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 1st, 2025. All area churches and community members are welcome to attend. The service will begin at 9:00 a.m., followed by refreshments and fellowship. The theme is "May the God of Hope fill you with all the joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit". The offering will be given to the Learning Bridge Day Care, located in Bridgewater.

PASTOR SANG HLEI CEU

My name is Pastor Sang Hlei Ceu, serving with the Mennonite Brethren Church in the northern part of Myanmar. I was born into a Christian family in Hriphi Village, completed my B.Th in Myanmar, and my B.D. and MDiv degrees in India. After completing my studies, I returned to Myanmar to serve the Lord full-time.

The Mennonite Brethren Church of Myanmar was founded in 2015 by Rev. Biak Thawng and Rev. Lul Mang with a small group of believers. From the beginning, we have been committed to sharing the Gospel in a country where the majority of people are Buddhist. Despite many challenges — including political unrest, COVID-19, poverty, and persecution — we continue to trust God to build His church.

Following the military coup in 2021, many people fled Myanmar, and our church faced severe trials. Yet by God's grace, I remained and continued to minister to the people, sharing the Gospel in villages, among the displaced, and among those who are addicted, hurting, or forgotten.

In addition to pastoring, I founded New Hope Education School to provide education for displaced and orphaned children who cannot afford private schooling. Currently, we are serving 48 children, including 42 internally displaced and 6 children with disabilities. We begin every school day with the Lord's Prayer and Bible teaching, alongside a full academic curriculum.

Our goals are: To offer education to displaced and needy children without discrimination. To help children grow in knowledge, character, and faith. To prepare young people for future mission work in Myanmar.

We began this ministry with empty hands but strong faith in God's provision. We humbly ask for your prayers — and if the Lord leads, your support — as we continue to serve Christ in these challenging times.

Thank you for standing with us.

In Christ's service,
Pastor Sang Hlei Ceu
Mennonite Brethren Church of Myanmar

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ,

My name is Pastor Sang Hlei Ceu, and I am currently serving at the Mennonite Brethren Church in the northern part of Myanmar. I was born into a Christian family and raised in Hriphi Village. For my education, I attended high school in Thlantlang. From a young age, I had a deep desire to study God's Word, which led me to complete a Bachelor of Theology (B.Th) in Myanmar, followed by a Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.) and a Master of Divinity (M.Div.) in India. Today, I am settled in the city of Kalaymyo, a growing city with a population of around 450,000.

The Mennonite Brethren Church of Myanmar was founded in November 2015 by Rev. Biak Thawng and Rev. Lul Mang (who has since gone to be with the Lord). The church began with just two congregations and a few faithful members. In March 2017, Rev. Gundepogu Ross and Rev. Dasari Purushtham from India visited Myanmar and prayed for the church members, encouraging us in our work.

After completing my theological studies in 2015, I returned to Myanmar. Upon reading the Mennonite Brethren Confession of Faith, I was deeply moved and convicted, leading me to join the Mennonite Brethren Church. A year later, I was accepted as a church pastor and officially began my ministry on February 25, 2018, working alongside Rev. Biak Thawng and Rev. Lul Mang. At that time, we had very few resources and no salaries, but we were fueled by a big vision: to share the Gospel and plant churches among the many unreached people in our predominantly Buddhist nation.

In 2019, we suffered a great loss when Rev. Lul Mang passed away while faithfully serving the Lord. Although it was a painful time for us, God strengthened us to continue His work. Despite many challenges, including sickness among our members and financial hardship, we continued to rent a house for our church and press on in faith. The COVID-19 pandemic brought additional struggles, but again, God provided and strengthened us to persevere.

In February 2021, Myanmar faced a military coup that led to widespread violence and unrest. Many civilians fled the country to seek safety abroad. Rev. Biak Thawng also fled to India and, sadly, lost contact with us. Many of our church members were scattered and joined other churches. It was a discouraging season, but I continued to pray and trust God for the re-establishment of the Mennonite Brethren Church of Myanmar.

With the Lord's help, I have resumed Gospel outreach, witnessing to Buddhists, drug-addicted individuals, alcoholics, and nominal Christians. Together with an elder, we have traveled to villages to share the Good News. Through many hardships, God has brought new believers to join our fellowship.

Another great need in our community has been education. Due to the ongoing civil conflict, most public schools have been closed, and only expensive private schools remain open, inaccessible to most families. In response, I began gathering children—many of whom are fatherless, motherless, or displaced—and teaching them English, Bible verses, and Bible stories. As the number of children grew, we moved our classes into our rented church house.

By God's grace, these humble beginnings eventually developed into **New Hope Education School**, a registered middle school in Kalaymyo. Today, New Hope serves 42 internally displaced children and 6 children with disabilities, many of whom carry the deep scars of the ongoing violence. In a time when everything is uncertain in Myanmar, New Hope provides not just education but hope for a better future.

Each school day begins with the Lord's Prayer. Our curriculum covers all standard subjects taught in government schools, along with Bible teaching. We also hold a Friday gathering for worship and Bible study.

The goals of New Hope Education School are:

- To provide educational opportunities for internally displaced and disabled children.
- To offer equal education to all children without discrimination.
- To help children grow not only in knowledge but also in moral character.
- To care for and nurture orphans and needy children.
- To equip young people with good education and strong faith, preparing them to serve as missionaries in the remote areas of Myanmar.

We started this work with nothing but faith in God. Even today, we have no external support—only the grace and provision of the Lord. Sometimes we struggle with the basics: broken benches, a lack of chalk or markers, and the weight of family responsibilities. Yet my wife and I remain steadfast in our calling, trusting that God will supply all we need to accomplish His purpose.

Dear Pastor Stuart and members of Salem Mennonite Brethren Church, we humbly ask for your prayers and support. Please remember us before the Lord, that His work in Myanmar may continue and bear much fruit.

May God bless you richly.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Sang Hlei Ceu