

Zion Mennonite Church Newsletter

By God's Grace, Zion Mennonite Church will be a House of Peace where all people are invited to share Christ's love with each other and the world.

Phone: 419-445-3796 ~ E-mail: church.zionmc@gmail.com ~ www.zionmennonitechurch.com
300 Short Buehrer Road Archbold, OH 43502 ~ Church office hours: Monday– Friday 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Pastor Corben Weaver Boshart 419.906.4729

Pastor Sue Short 419.346.7827

Elders: Lonnie Short 419-583-9567; Chris Liechty 419-572-1009; Greg Nofziger 419-583-6769
Mike Zimmerman 419-966-7363; Suz Wirick 419-966-2266

Project Hope: 419-445-0728

November 28, 2021

Child's World Preschool: 419-445-6034

Zion Activities this Week

Sunday, November 28

9:30am ~ Worship (in-person & Zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

Tuesday, November 30

8:30 am ~ Staff

Wednesday, December 1

10:00 am ~ Bible Study (Zoom)

10:00 am ~ Host AAMA (Room 310)

7:00 pm ~ ZOW Christmas Party (preschool-6)

7:00 pm ~ CHAOS (7-8)

7:00 pm ~ MYF (high school)

Thursday, December 2

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer

7:00 pm ~ AA

Sunday, December 5

9:30am ~ Worship (in-person & Zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Welcome & Announcements ~ Abby Pennington

Interlude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Call to Worship ~ Abby Pennington

Opening Prayer ~ Abby Pennington

Advent Candle Lighting ~

Creighton Aeschliman & Naomi Richer

Recorded Song

Video Children's Time ~

Karen Rodriguez, Meleah Plank

Scripture ~ Psalm 25:1-10

Offering ~ Abby Pennington/Bonnie Stuckey

Scripture ~ Psalm 25:11-22

Sermon ~ Sue Short

Confession & Assurance ~ Abby Pennington

Prayer for the Church and World ~ Sue Short

Hymns ~ Julia Richer

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (HWB 172)

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" (HWB 178)

Benediction ~ Lincoln Aeschliman & Sue Short

Sending Song ~ Julia Richer

Office News

~ Corben will be out of the office Wednesday, November 24th, through Sunday, November 28th.

~ Rejoice has been placed in your mailbox.

Happy Birthday:

November 28 - Sam Hastings

November 29 - Kathy Nofziger

December 1 - Martha Yoder

December 2 - Bonnie (Everett) Short

December 3 - Keith Lehman

December 4 - Tony Sauder

Happy Anniversary:

November 30 - Steven & Karen Ringenberg (47)

December 1 - Neil & Kathy Nofziger (42)



Upcoming Worship

Advent 2021 - "Dare to Imagine": This season, we'll shift our attention to the natural world, particularly the wonder of the heavens, as we anticipate the birth of Jesus. The writers of this year's materials describe their theme in this way: "So much [in our lives] has been put on hold or turned upside down that we need to listen and respond to God's presence with new ears and renewed hearts and minds. As we anticipate a new year ahead, let's dare to imagine our path ahead toward God's good dream for our world."

Advent I - November 28th: *"Dare to Imagine God's Goodness"* Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

Spiritual Leadership Team (SLT)

November 2021 minutes

Greg opened our meeting with prayer.

Update on Ohio Conference October "Cluster Meeting": Sue and Corben filled us in a bit about this meeting that was held at Lockport Mennonite Church, since not all of the SLT were at the meeting. At the meeting, conference delegates heard about proposed changes to Mennonite Church USA's conference membership guidelines. The possible changes raise questions about Ohio Conference's membership in the denomination. Zion's delegates and pastors would like some time to compile this information and review it with the Spiritual Leadership team in December.

Review of Zion's Sunday November 14th Congregational Listening Meeting: The elders agreed it went well and were pleased the congregants came with questions and concerns. The Spiritual Leadership Team will process the results from the meeting and present them to the congregation at a later date.

Review of Zion's Policy on the Prayer for the Church and the World: The question came up again about using full names while praying aloud during worship. We worked on a statement together on our conversation about it for the newsletter.

Membership and Baptism: We continue to discern just what membership means to Zion's congregation, recognizing it can mean different things to different people. We are also aware that the question of baptism and membership has been a difficult one in the life of our congregation in past years. Out of a desire for clarity, we have created documents to guide the Spiritual Leadership Team when requests for membership are received. We collectively agree it is important we get something in place in the near future and plan to share them with the congregation in the weeks to come.

Pastoral Concerns: were light at this time.

~ Submitted by Suz Wirick

Prayer during Worship

When Covid first hit, we began to offer worship via Zoom, and also began posting our services online for the first time. This opened up questions and discussions about privacy, since anyone outside of Zion would now have access to worship services. One way that we initially responded to this was to use first names only during the prayer time in worship. Today, we recognize the ways in which online access has shifted from a Covid necessity, to a way of connecting with folks that will likely continue into the future. As such, we have been thinking about how to accommodate those who would find it helpful, and far less confusing, if full names were mentioned during prayer. Going forward, the Spiritual Leadership Team (SLT) would like to propose that when prayer requests are given to the office, the pastors, or the elders, our default understanding is that the full name will be used during the prayer in worship. In order to be sensitive to concerns about privacy, you may request that only a first name be mentioned aloud during the prayer, if preferred. We will continue to print full names in the prayer requests in the newsletter, as we have been doing. If you have counsel to share regarding this, please contact one of the pastors or the elders.

Don't Forget

Give gifts of comfort and joy with MCC! Delight your loved ones and share God's love with our global neighbors this Christmas. Choose from unique gifts such as goats, clean water, fruit trees, books and many more. Give at mcc.org/delight or call 888.563.4676.

Join Fairlawn as we celebrate the joy of Christmas and honor those we love. Purchase a Luminary Kit to place outside your home on December 12th. Flickering For Fairlawn is a way show you holiday spirit and to support the important work of caring for the elderly. For more information visit www.fairlawnarchbold.com Order forms are available on the table across from the mailboxes.

Send a message to your youth group and Sunday School Classes—this would be a great service project... Fairlawn needs volunteers to help set up luminaries around Fairlawn. I am looking for 20-25 people to help. They will need to put the sand and candles in the bags, place them along the road and then come back through to light them. It is definitely something individuals or families can help do. Volunteers can contact Mari Yoder at myoder@fairlawnarchbold.com or call 567.444.5086. Fairlawn staff will pick up all the bags on Monday morning. **Set up will begin at 3pm Sunday, December 12th and with enough help all the candles should be lit by 5:30!**

Giving Tuesday

This year is an exciting year for Giving Tuesday, as **Childs World Preschool & Project Hope were chosen as Difference Makers**. By attending the event, and making a donation there, you are allowing your donation to go further due to a match that Everence secured for the event. There are still seats available if you wish to attend!! For more information or to register online for the November 30th event, go to <https://www.everence.com/landing-pages/core-market/michiana/givingtuesday419>. Even if you do not plan to attend, you can still give financial support by giving directly to the nonprofit, or by contacting Everence.

Ways to give this Holiday Season

***Christmas Cheer:** Christmas Cheer will continue their outreach this year. Once again, we will have our tree by the **West** door, decorated with tags - tags for specific foods, gifts, and even for cash which is always welcome to increase the buying power Cheer has when buying in bulk. Pick off as many tags as you wish and bring back what you've chosen by **December 5th**.

***Sunshine 2021 Christmas Wish List:** The list has been posted on bulletin boards and baskets placed near the **north and west doors** to receive your donated gifts. Residents of Sunshine Communities vary in ages and needs. Or, you may also make a direct financial donation to *Sunshine Communities - Holiday Gift Fund* at 7223 Maumee Western Rd., Maumee, OH 43537. **Any new, unwrapped gifts donated here will be delivered to Sunshine on December 10.** Thank you for giving this year.

***MLK Kitchen for the Poor** will accept gifts under the big tree near the (un)coffee bar. Gifts are to be for newborns thru 8th grade; please leave them unwrapped. Monetary donations are welcome as well for the Center to buy the gifts. **Deadline for bringing gifts is December 15th.**

***Adriel:** It's almost that time of year again! As we look forward to the holiday season, Adriel needs your help in bringing the Christmas spirit to our foster families. **Each \$25 donation will sponsor a Christmas gift** for an Adriel foster youth or Bridges young adult. Please help us reach our \$5000 goal to assure that each Adriel foster child and Bridges young adult receive their Christmas gift in time for the holiday. **2021 marks Adriel's 125 year anniversary caring for children. Consider supporting gifts for 5 children with a \$125 dollar donation in celebration of our anniversary.** Visit <https://Adriel.networkforgood.com/projects/142000-adriel-christmas-angel-tree-2021> to make an online donation or mail a check with the memo "Angel Tree" to PO Box 188 West Liberty, OH 43357. As always, thank you for your continued support of our organization and generosity toward the children and families we serve!

*A big thank you for helping touch the lives of people in our area for the holidays.
~ Missions in Service Team (MiST)*