

# Zion Mennonite Church Newsletter

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

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

Pastor Corben Weaver Boshart 419.906.4729

Child's World Preschool: 419-445-6034

Pastor Sue Short 419.346.7827

Project Hope: 419-445-0728

## March 13, 2022

### Zion Activities this week

#### Sunday, March 13 ~ *Daylight Savings*

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

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

#### Monday, March 14

10:00 am ~ Staff

11:00 am ~ Congregational Caregivers (310)

#### Tuesday, March 15

9:30 am ~ FH Reserved

10:00 am ~ Zoom Bible Study

6:00 pm ~ Church Council (Fellowship Hall)

#### Wednesday, March 16

7:00 pm ~ CHAOS

7:00 pm ~ Celtic Prayer Service (Sanctuary)

#### Thursday, March 17

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer

10:00 am ~ MiST

7:00 pm ~ AA

#### Friday, March 18

7:00 pm ~ Hesston Bel Canto Concert

8-10 pm ~ FH reserved

#### Saturday, March 19

2:30 pm ~ FH Reserved for wedding reception

#### Sunday, March 20

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

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

### Office News

~ Sue will be taking 2 classes this semester, with both of them requiring sessions on Zoom each week (Tuesday mornings and Tuesday afternoons). She will not be in the office on Tuesdays.

### Happy Birthday:

March 13 - Larry Wyse

March 14 - Robert Frey, Greg Nafziger

March 16 - Barb Short

March 18 - Brent Gingerich

March 19 - Judith Short

### Happy Anniversary:

March 19 - Eric & Kellie Creighton (17)

### Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey

Welcome & Announcements ~ Jackie Lehman

Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey

Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Jackie Lehman

Opening Song ~ Anita Roth

“Jesus Calls Us To Meet Him” (STJ 3)

Scripture ~ Luke 13:31-35

Children's Time ~ Karen Rodriguez

Offertory Prayer ~ Jackie Lehman

Scripture ~ Genesis 15:1-12

Sermon ~ Corben Weaver Boshart

Communion

Song of Response ~ “Welcome, Holy Spirit”

Prayer for the Church and World ~ Mike Zimmerman

Congregational Song ~ Anita Roth

“My Life Flows On” (HWB 580)

Benediction ~ Corben Weaver Boshart

Sending Song ~ Anita Roth

“We Are People Of God's Peace” (HWB 407)



*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.*

## Upcoming Worship

**Lent 2022: "Seeking God's Ways"** - This season, our Lent worship resources center on a focal text from Isaiah 55:8, *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord."* Lent is a time to repent, which means to turn away from our ways and recommit ourselves to the ways of God, as revealed in Jesus. How might we be called to greater faithfulness as we seek God's ways? What might it mean for us to follow God's ways, rather than our own?

**Sunday, March 13:** *"From Fear to Compassion"* - Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Luke 13:31-35; Philippians 3:17-4:1

**Sunday, March 20:** *"From Earning to Receiving"* - Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; Luke 13:1-9; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

**Sunday, March 27:** *"From Exceptionalism to Inclusion"* - Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

## Thank You

Thanks to Arlene Short for her interest in having Zion participate in the community meals at St John's in Some Fashion again. While we don't have the volunteers to host meals at this point, they would welcome us providing a meal occasionally; they are even happy to provide the setup, serving and clean up crews. Arlene and a few others prepared and transported a meal March 2nd. It was greatly appreciated.  
~ MiST Team

Dear friends at Zion Mennonite, On behalf of Ohio Conference, we want to express our deepest gratitude for your warm hospitality in hosting our Annual Conference Assembly and Missional Conference this year. Many of you were involved and we want to extend a huge THANK YOU to each and every one of you that had a part in making the weekend such a positive experience. Everyone involved did a fabulous job and capably handled all the logistics and many details with grace. The evaluations reflected great appreciation for your kind hospitality and the weekend wouldn't have been possible without the help of so many of you. Thanks so much for your willingness to serve. May you be richly blessed!  
~ Sincerely, Judy King for the Ohio Conference staff and Leadership Team

Dearest Zion Family: Caleb, Joshua, Bekah, and I thank you with all hearts and minds for the outpouring of love and support we've received since coming to Zion twenty-two years ago. You've walked alongside us through the good times and the difficult times. As you know, the past five years have been especially challenging since Chris' diagnosis of that nasty, rare tumor called chordoma. You've spoken prayers to our amazing God on our behalf. You've responded to the nudgings to visit, send cards and messages, provide good food, patiently listened, and give thoughtful gifts. Chris and I often marveled how God goes before us, filling our every need through medical professionals and therapists for our mental health, and the many skilled and meaningful kindnesses given us through our Brothers and Sisters in Christ and community. Please continue to honor Chris by sharing stories and savoring pie together.  
~ With love and respect, in gratitude, Holly, for the Liechty Family

Thank you to each one who so generously helped with the community meal on Tuesday evening. Your support and donations were very much appreciated. God's blessings to all of you.  
~ Thanks again, Arlene Short

## New Announcements

**The flowers on the organ** this morning are in memory of Doris Nafziger, who passed away ten years ago on March 10th, 2012. It is shared by her children.

**We give thanks** for the long and faithful life of Fern Schrock who turned 101 on March 1. We solicit prayers for comfort and peace for her at this difficult time in her life.

**MiST will be hosting a second Building Bridges** event the evening of March 22nd at Zion. This is to bring folks with differing views to the table to accomplish LISTENING to each other with respect and no judgment. Our hope is to continue hosting these events perhaps monthly, with various groups of people, to begin to break down polarized walls in our community. Hopefully people will be inspired and moved to continue this open sharing beyond the events. This is a nationwide effort taking root in many communities. We on MiST believe this can help our nation heal, one conversation at a time. If you're interested in participating some time, not necessarily this one (we will keep the groups to no more than 12), please let one of us know. Lori, Duane Wyse, LouAnn Kanagy, Cara or Frank Ulrich, Ilse Goertz. [There will be no 'listening gallery' this time]

## New Announcements (continued)

**Community Meals:** Might we consider providing a meal, say, every other month? Is anyone interested and willing to step into this? They're serving between 55 - 90 each week. Please contact any of the MiST (Lori Bontrager, Duane Wyse, LouAnn Kanagy, Cara or Frank Ulrich, Ilse Goertz). Thank you! Lori

**Women & Girl's Retreat:** Amigo Centre is hosting a women and girls retreat March 18-20 with a theme of God Brings Peace in the Storm. See the bulletin board across from the bathrooms for more information, or contact Mandy Yoder at 269.651.2811.

**Little Eden Youth Camps:** Sign up today for one of Little Eden's summer youth camps! Located in beautiful NW Michigan, *Junior High Youth Camp* is June 12-17, and *Boys & Girls Camp and High School Camp* is June 19-24. Brochures are located on the bulletin board across from the bathrooms or can be downloaded at [www.littleeden.org](http://www.littleeden.org). Contact Kathi (KJ) Oom at [operations@littleeden.org](mailto:operations@littleeden.org) or 231.889.4294 for questions.

**Virtual Visit - War and Peace: MCC's peacebuilding work and response to conflict:** In this special live session, MCC staff and alumni will share stories about what peacebuilding work looks like in the midst of conflict in Ukraine, Colombia and DPRK (North Korea). They'll explore questions like: What does peace look like in the middle of war? And, how do we embody a peace perspective? Join the live virtual visit on Wednesday, March 16 at 8 p.m. EST / 7 p.m. CST. For more information and registration, visit [mcc.org/webinars](http://mcc.org/webinars).

## Library Reviews

**The Beginning by Beverly Lewis:** Suzie Mast's Amish life in Lancaster Co has been shaped by events beyond her control. With the tragic death of her Dat and close in age brother casting long shadows. Now 22, Suzie remains unmarried despite her longtime affection for friend Olie Yoder.

**Forgiving Paris by Karen Kingsbury:** In Indiana, Ashley Baxter Blake and her husband are about to take an anniversary trip to Paris, where a French gallery will show her paintings. But Ashley is hesitant. More than two decades ago, she made her most grievous mistake in Paris. She has never forgiven herself for what happened to her and she still harbors secrets that she's afraid will come to light. Just before the trip Ashley gets a call from her niece. Jesse explains that her boyfriend's mother Alice remembers working at a bakery with an American named Ashley. "Could that be you?" When Alice and Ashley meet, a flood of memories comes for both women, taking Ashley back to a reckless affair and an unexpected pregnancy and Alice to the night she nearly ended it all. Can this reunion bring healing and closure? Maybe it is finally time for Ashley to forgive herself...and Paris.

## Don't Forget

**Upcoming Choir Concerts at Zion:** Coming up in March, we have the opportunity to enjoy two choirs who are traveling through our area. On **Friday, March 18th, in the sanctuary at 7:00pm**, we will be welcoming **Hesston's Bel Canto Choir**. On **Thursday, March 31st, also in the sanctuary at 7:00pm**, we'll welcome **Bethany Christian High School's select choir**. The Bel Canto choir has arranged to stay elsewhere, but we will need to provide housing for the 11 students and several accompanying adults in Bethany Christian High School's choir after the concert. All of the participants in both choirs are fully vaccinated. Bethany Christian High School requests that their students stay overnight in homes in which the household is also vaccinated. **Contact the church office if you would be interested in housing students, and the number you can host.**

**Family Meal:** Mark your calendar — Wednesday, March 30 at 5:30 for the family meal. Then at 6:30, let's have fun with our pastors, Sue and Corben. Plan to be there.

**Meals for Ed & Elaine:** If you can help support Elaine and Ed Swartzbaugh by taking them a meal there is a schedule set up on the Take Them a Meal website. Go to Take Them a Meal it will ask for the last name and the password is 8397. You can also contact Carol Short at 419-445-9216.

**Congregational Caregivers** will meet Monday, March 14 at 11:00 am in the Builder's classroom.

**Respond to the crisis in Ukraine:** MCC will be responding to the crisis in Ukraine through its local partners. Russian military forces have invaded the country with missiles striking major cities and casualties continuing to grow. Your prayers and donations will help partners scale up their work providing relief and trauma healing for vulnerable and displaced people. "Ukraine is experiencing major upheaval, but our partners have supplies ready to help vulnerable and displaced people," says Rebecca Hessenauer, MCC representative for Ukraine. Donate today at [mcc.org/ukraine](http://mcc.org/ukraine).

# Spiritual Leadership Team Minutes

February 2022

**Devotion:** In honor of our fellow elder, Chris, whom we deeply miss, and in keeping with Valentine's Day, Sue brought chocolate chip cookies and wrapped chocolates. Sue opened using "The Romero Prayer" as her devotional, which reminds us to not take ourselves or our work too seriously. God is the one who is at work, and who does "far more than we can ask or imagine."

**Review and Reflection:** We spent time going over old business and discerning what we need to address in this fiscal year. We discussed the final plans for the Missional Conference and Annual Conference Assembly taking place at Zion in March, offering to contact Rachel Short to see if we could be of any assistance with this.

**New Business:** We want to plan to offer the congregation space for discussion. The delegates will need to sort through and process the information, and listen to the Spirit, on the resolutions coming up at the MCUSA special delegate session at the end of May. The Spiritual Leadership Team will meet together with our delegates ahead of this to support them. Following the delegate session in May, Ohio Conference will spend significant time, at least a year or more, in discernment and review. Zion will have opportunities during this time for discernment as a part of this process.

**Pastoral Concerns:** were discussed and were light.

Respectfully Submitted: Suz Wirick