

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 Sue Short 419-346-7827
Pastor Dan Miller 574-238-1883

August 14, 2022

Child's World Preschool: 419-445-6034
Project Hope: 419-445-0728

Zion Activities this Week

Sunday, August 14

- 8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class
- 9:30 am ~ Worship (in-person & Zoom)
- 10:45 am ~ Sunday School
- 4:00 pm ~ Young Families (Corey & Rachel's pond)

Tuesday, August 16

- 6:00 pm ~ Church Council
- 6:00 pm ~ Preschool Board mtg (basement)

Wednesday, August 17

- 6:30 pm ~ MYF Kickoff (Corey & Rachel's pond)

Thursday, August 18

- 7:30 am ~ Men's Prayer (fellowship hall)
- 9:30 am ~ Staff mtg (office)
- 6:30 pm ~ Worship Team mtg (fellowship hall)
- 7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

Sunday, August 21 ~ Bridge Sunday

- 8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class
- 9:00 am ~ Cinnamon Rolls served!
- 9:30 am ~ Worship/Conversation (fellowship hall & Zoom)
- 10:45 am ~ Sunday School for preschool - 8th grade
- 12:00 pm ~ Celebration Lunch provided in fellowship hall



Communion: This Sunday, Duane Sauder joins Dan Miller for conversation on the **front porch**. At the end of their conversation they will transition into communion, a ritual that has been important for Duane over the years. They will invite groups of 6-8 to gather around tables in the front.

Happy Birthday:

- August 14 - Jerry Andres
- August 18 - Fred Baer, Allen Liechty, Elijah Zimmerman
- August 19 - Helen Weldy
- August 20 - Karen Short

Happy Anniversary:

- August 15 ~ Mike & Deb Zimmerman (30)
- August 17 - Kerry & Mary Beth Beck (31)
- August 18 ~ Jim & Darlene King (43)

Office News

- ~ Dan will be in the office Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday this week.
- ~ Sue and Stan will be on vacation Friday, August 12 through Monday, August 15.

Order of Service

- Prelude** ~ Bonnie Stuckey
- Welcome & Announcements** ~ Mark Nafziger
- Interlude** ~ Bonnie Stuckey
- Call to Worship & Prayer** ~ Mark Nafziger
- Opening Hymns** ~ Cheryl Britsch
 - "The Love Of God" (MH 538)
 - "He Leadeth Me" (MH 543)
- Offering/Offertory** ~ Bonnie/Mark
- Prayer for the Church and World** ~ Lonnie Short
- Congregational Hymn** ~ Cheryl Britsch
 - "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" (HWB 229)
- Scripture** ~ Jeremiah 7:23 / **Song** "Obey My Voice"
- Front Porch Conversation**
 - ~ Dan Miller, with Duane Sauder
- Communion around the tables**
- Benediction** ~ Dan Miller
- Sending Hymn** ~ Cheryl Britsch
 - "Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us" (HWB 352)

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

August Worship: During August, we'll return to our Front Porch to hear faith stories from one another, and reflect on ways in which God has been present during times of change and transition. You are invited to dress casually for worship, bring your coffee, and embrace these last few weeks of summer. The Spiritual Leadership Team (SLT) is planning a worship and dialog Sunday for August 21. See below for more details. You won't want to miss out!

****This Sunday, August 14, we will celebrate Back to School Sunday for students and teachers returning to the classroom this fall.** Students and teachers who have bookbags or backpacks are welcome to bring them to worship.**

Upcoming Fall 'Bridge Sundays'

The first 'Bridge Sunday' is coming on August 21, and the morning will begin with warm cinnamon rolls. August's focus will be heritage. Heritage includes a group's God-given personality and how the group faces into events. Reflection on where a group has come from brings awareness of these characteristics, and sheds light on how the group is likely to face events going forward. Lunch will be a charcuterie board or table.

The goals for this fall series of monthly Bridge Sundays are to:

- accomplish some significant work,
- have fun, and
- set up a pastoral search committee for a successful search.

Everyone's participation and perspective is valuable!

Please note, the September Bridge Sunday has switched from the 18th to the 25th.

Dwelling in the Word

Bible Reading Schedule for the coming week: If you've started our read through the New Testament, keep going! If not, we encourage you to jump on in! See the newsletter for this week's reading schedule. If you find it difficult to read, or regularly spend time driving, or just prefer to listen, feel welcome to use an audio Bible version of these chapters each day.

Mon, August 15: Acts 25-26

Tues, August 16: Acts 27-28

Wed, August 17: Matt 1-2

Thurs, August 18: Matt 3-4

Fri, August 19: Matt 5-6

Sat, August 20: Matt 7-8

Thank You

"Thanks to everyone who donated blood, brought food, and helped with the blood drive on Monday! 22 units were collected, which are going to help so many people.!" - Ella Richer

Choir is Returning! The Zion Choir is planning to begin rehearsing in late September on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30. Anyone with questions is welcome to talk with any of the choir committee members, Kevin Sauder, Karen Ruth, Cheryl Britsch, and Bonnie Stuckey, or director, Duane Beck (419-551-7143, dbeck@pettisvilleschools.org). The choir typically sings once a month at the beginning of the Sunday morning worship service. They also sing a Christmas and a spring program. The choir welcomes new members, whether they attend Zion or another church.

Continuing Community Meal: Pastor Erich is assessing how much support he has for continuing the community meals this fall/next year. An average of 60-90 have been coming consistently. Zion has committed to providing 4 meals in the coming year, and transporting the food to St. Johns. Please let me know if you're interested and able to do a meal, or get a group together to do one or two. Thank you! Lori Bontrager for MiST 419.966.0275

New Announcements

The next Zion Young Families gathering will be on **Sunday Aug 14 at 4pm** at Rachel Aeschliman and Corey Roth's pond. There will be a picnic style supper around 5:30. Feel free to bring food to share and yard games. The address is 2823 County Road 24, Archbold. Rachel can be reached at 419-906-7459, if you have questions or want to know more.

Attention MYF! Our MYF Kickoff will be held at Corey Roth and Rachel Aeschliman's cabin. Their address is 2823 County Road 24, Archbold. Please meet at their cabin on **Wednesday, August 17, beginning at 6:30 p.m.** Come for a night of fellowship, eating, games and swimming. We are looking forward to seeing you!
- Barnaby, Michelle, Greg, and Jodi.

Shalom is looking for an advocate from the church to represent Shalom to the congregation. This is a program Shalom had before and is now looking to reinstate. The advocate would meet 2-3 times a year and be responsible for getting information out to the congregation about things happening with Shalom. If you are interested in this, please let the office know.

Have you ever dreamed of walking where Jesus walked? Of seeing where Jesus died? Of sailing the Sea of Galilee like Jesus and His disciples? Now you have the opportunity! **In partnership with Friendship Tours (friendshiptours.com), Pastor Ryan Harker (West Clinton Mennonite) will be leading a group on a 10-day tour of Israel on April 18-27, 2023.** On this extraordinary journey you'll visit the region of Galilee. After a stop in Nazareth and Cana, we'll sail on a boat ride as the disciples did on the Sea of Galilee, visit Caesarea Philippi and Capernaum, stand on the Mount of Beatitudes and imagine listening to Jesus give the Sermon on the Mount. We'll then travel to the Jordan River, where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. We'll then spend several days experiencing the Old City of Jerusalem. We'll also visit Masada, the Dead Sea, Qumran, and Megiddo. Join us on an experience of a lifetime! **Informational meeting August 18th at 7pm.**

Student Aid Contributions – Zion's students at our Mennonite colleges & universities will begin the fall semester shortly, and we'll be sending Zion's student aid contribution for each soon. Your contributions are encouraged and greatly appreciated at this time (you may mark your envelope "Student Aid"). Our four students are Meleah Plank and Quinn Wyse at Goshen College, and Eli Grieser and Elijah Zimmerman at Bluffton University. If you have questions, please contact Phil Bontrager, Chair, College Financial Aid Committee at 419-966-3127.

Don't Forget

The Affirmation Slate prepared by Gifts Discernment for the up-coming terms for members of Zion's Ministry Teams is attached to this week's Newsletter. Please respond by completing an on-line response (a link to the form is included in the electronic copy distributed with this newsletter) **OR** by completing a paper copy of the form and placing it in the designated box across from the mailboxes. Please respond by Sunday, August 14. Thank you! -- Gifts Discernment

Project Respect's 12th Annual Golf Outing will be held Aug. 20 at 8:00a.m. at Eagle Rock Golf Club in Defiance. In-person registration begins at 7:00a.m. The cost is \$320 per team of 4 players or \$80 per individual. Registration includes 18 holes, golf cart, and lunch. To register as a team or as an individual, visit the events tab at <https://projectrespectnwo.org/> or call 419-636-5692. Business sponsorship opportunities are also available. Proceeds from the event help fund positive character education in our local communities. Project Respect is the educational program of CPC Women's Health Resource.

Crusade the musical: is a modern day musical based out of Nashville. It is called The Crusade. It is about the life of Billy Graham and the events and relationships that helped shape his faith as he became one of the most iconic evangelists in the world. Coming to NWO/MI this fall. The musical will be at Pettisville Missionary Church on Sept 24 and Sept 25. www.crusadethemusical.com

Back to School Prayer Walk: The Archbold Area Ministerial Association is again sponsoring Prayer Walks through our local schools to pray for the students, teachers, administrators, and staff as they prepare for a new school year. We encourage you to bring your families and be a part of this meaningful event! **Archbold School: Wednesday, August 17 at 7pm. Meet in the High School Parking Lot. (Pastor Jason Sharp leading)**

Ongoing Opportunities to Give

During August, Mennonite Women are **supporting the request by MCC for two kits currently in short supply: relief kits and school kits**. Itemized lists necessary for each kit are listed below. Copies of the items needed are also on the table outside the church office, or can be found online at www.mcc.org. Bring any items you wish to contribute in a bag or box and they will be packaged and delivered to a MCC pick up location. Items for MCC kits can be placed on the table immediately outside the church office.

Relief Kits: provide needed supplies for a family of four, and are given to those whose lives have been disrupted by disaster or crisis. Please purchase NEW items only: (4) large bars of bath soap, left in wrapper; (1-2) shampoo, totaling no more than 20 oz, and placed in resealable plastic bag; (4) bars of laundry soap (such as Fels Naptha, Sunlight, or Zote brands); (4) adult-sized toothbrushes in packaging; (4) new bath towels, medium weight, in dark/bright colors, approx 29x60 inches; (2) wide-toothed combs, 6-8 inch size; (1) nail clipper, good quality; (1) box of adhesive bandages, minimum 40 count, assorted sizes; sanitary pads, THIN, 1-2 packages, minimum 28 pads total.

School Kits: (4) spiral or perforated-page notebooks (8x10 - 70 sheets); (8) new unsharpened pencils; (1) ruler, flat, good quality, must have 30 cm. Inch markings optional; (2) new black or blue ballpoint pens; MW will provide the all-metal pencil sharpeners that are to be included in these kits.

MCC in need of material resources: MCC is resuming shipments of material resources to Ukraine. Five containers of emergency supplies are being shipped to Ukraine in the next few months with more planned for later in the year. With this increase in demand for supplies for Ukraine and other countries around the world, MCC's inventory of material resources is getting low. ***We need comforters and relief, hygiene, school, dignity, infant care and sewing kits, as well as soap and towels.*** Your donations will provide relief and a tangible sign of hope to people in Ukraine and other difficult situations around the world. Go to mcc.org/kits for information on needed supplies and drop-off locations.

Update from the FISH Food Pantry: It's been a while since I have updated you on the happenings at the Archbold Fish Pantry. I need to start off by saying that we have been very blessed the past few years, even throughout the pandemic, with incredible volunteers and a very generous community. So many have stepped up their financial contributions and canned good donations to help Archbold Fish provide for the needs of local families.

The majority of the clients that now come to the pantry for food are people on fixed incomes - the elderly and disabled, which is a change since 2020. We still provide home deliveries when needed. There are about 50 households coming to the pantry each month for food assistance. The increased cost of food and gas, as well as employees off work for health-related issues, have greatly affected the number of households asking us for assistance with rent and utility bills.

Because of the supply shortage, all pantries are struggling to get product for their shelves. For years, we had been getting food, including frozen meat and fresh produce, from the Toledo Food Bank. Unfortunately, the Food Bank is unable to hire enough drivers to collect product from Walmart, Kroger, and Meijer, so pantries like ours are unable to get those items to distribute to our clients. The Archbold Fish Pantry purchased gift cards to Archbold Super Valu and handed them out to the clients who came to the pantry in May. We are doing this again in August for those who want to get meat or fresh produce.

We were very excited to be able to purchase our building from the Farmers and Merchants State Bank last year, and we are now moving forward to make several much-needed improvements to the facility. A few items on the to-do list include energy efficient windows, an automatic sliding front door, siding, and insulation. The work will begin sometime this fall and shouldn't interfere with our regular food distribution.

Thank you for taking your turn to collect canned goods for the pantry, and thank you for your financial support as well. We truly appreciate your partnering with us as we serve those in need in our community.

Sincerely,

Lynn Lehman
Archbold Fish Pantry Coordinator