

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

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

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

Elder Lonnie Short 419-583-9567
Elder Greg Nofziger 419-583-6769
Elder Mike Zimmerman 419-966-7363
Elder Suz Wirick 419-966-2266
Elder Barb Yoder 567-694-3112

November 27, 2022

Zion Activities this Week

Sunday, November 27 ~ *Advent I*

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Sunday School
9:00 am ~ Choir
9:30 am ~ Worship
10:45 am ~ Sunday School (see below)

Monday, November 28

9:30 am ~ Staff Meeting

Tuesday, November 29

10:00 am ~ Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday, November 30

7:00 pm ~ CHAOS
7:00 pm ~ MYF

Thursday, December 1

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer
7:00 pm ~ Choir
7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

Sunday, December 4 ~ *Advent II*

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Sunday School
9:30 am ~ Worship
10:45 am ~ Sunday School
12:00 pm ~ Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Reserved

Sunday School Today

MYF & Sojourners will be meeting.
Disciples and CHAOS, check with your teacher.
NO class for primary or Builders.

Happy Anniversary

November 30 ~ Steve & Karen Ringenberg (48)
December 1 ~ Neil & Kathy Nofziger (43)

Happy Birthday:

November 28 - Sam Hastings
November 29 - Kathy Nofziger
December 1 - Martha Yoder
December 2 - Bonnie (Everett) Short
December 3 - Keith Lehman

Office News

~ Dan is available on his cell phone. He will be in the office Monday, Tuesday and Friday.
~ Rejoices have been placed in your mailbox.



Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Karen Ruth
Choir
"The Glory Of The Father"
"Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light"
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Karen Ruth
Advent Candle Lighting ~ Lincoln Aeschliman, Sam Hastings
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
"O Come, O Come, Immanuel" (HWB 172)
Scripture ~ Psalm 122
Offering/Offertory ~ Karen Ruth/Karen Stuckey
Children's Time ~ Teresa Aeschliman
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
"My Soul Proclaims With Wonder" (HWB 181)
Scripture ~ Isaiah 2:1-5
Sermon ~ Sue Short
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
"Comfort, Comfort, O My People" (HWB 176)
Prayer for Church & World ~ Barb Yoder
Benediction ~ Sue Short
Sending Song ~ Julia Richer
"Let The Heavens Be Glad" (HWB 187)

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.

Dwelling in the Word Weekly Schedule

Mon, November 28: John 13-14

Tues, November 29: John 15-16

Wed, November 30: John 17-18

Thurs, December 1: John 19-20

Fri, December 2: John 21

Sat, December 3: Free day

“Restoration is Near” - Advent 2022

Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved. (Psalm 80:3)

We tend to think of Advent as a season of waiting, which it is. However, the word itself means “coming,” making Advent an active season, rather than a passive one in this waiting. The primary action is through God emptying Himself and being born in human likeness. The humans also have their share of action in the stories surrounding Jesus’ birth: hearing and responding to angel visits, going to Bethlehem to see what has taken place, and in a pilgrimage from the east to pay him honor. We are active in our time too: longing, seeking, and reconciling. Restoration is a process of renewal. It brings back to newness what has been broken, damaged, or worn, similar to an old piece of furniture that is brought back to life again in the hands of a skilled woodworker. Restoration can happen in our bodies as we heal from an injury. Restoration can happen in relationships between people, and between people and their God. In this season of Advent, we cry out for restoration, together with all of creation. Our world longs for restoration and God acts to bring it about.

Advent 1: Sunday, November 27th - “Watch: The day is almost here.”

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44.

Advent 2: Sunday, December 4th - “Prepare the way of the Lord.”

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

Advent 3, Sunday, December 11th - “Tell what you hear and see.”

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11.

Advent 4, Sunday, December 18th - “Do not be afraid.”

Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

Thank You

We would to express our sincere gratitude for the generous support our church family provided for the Enchilada Dinner fundraiser on November 4th, as well as your prayers and encouragement for the ongoing health struggles Pete continues to face. Due to the overwhelming support we sold out of food not only once, but three times as she had to make a second batch Friday and more to fill remaining pre-orders on Saturday. We could not ask for a better church family to carry us through tough times. Pete continues to struggle with extreme tiredness and "just not feeling right", and will be undergoing additional tests over the coming weeks, so your continued prayers are appreciated.

- Pete, Crystal, Jordan and Kaylee Rodriguez

New Announcements

Watch for an email next week from the Spiritual Leadership Team (SLT), with the Congregational and Pastoral Priorities form attached. Instructions and deadline information will be included in the email.

The Stewardship Team is taking grant requests for the Zion endowment fund. Forms can be turned into the office or to Dan Ruth's box. Deadline for the applications is January 1, 2023. ~ Stewardship Team: Dan Ruth, Crystal Rodriguez, Larry Short, and Phil (Lynette) Bontrager

Zion Student Aid Information Session Sun. Dec. 11 – Please plan to join us for an information session on Zion's student aid program in the MYF room Sunday, Dec. 11 during Sunday School. We'll cover the program's history, eligible institutions, policy, etc. and have plenty of time for questions and answers. This session is for anyone interested in Mennonite higher education but especially our junior high and high school students and parents. ~ College Financial Aid Committee

Mennonite World Conference is hiring in North America for a Development Executive. See <https://mwc-cmm.org/mwcdevexec> for the job posting.

REMINDER: Mennonite Arts Weekend **early bird registration ends Nov. 30, 2022!** Come celebrate artists at Mennonite Arts Weekend on Feb. 3-5, 2023. There will be presentations, workshops, children's activities, and a concert by Girl Named Tom. Go to <https://mennoniteartsweekend.org/2023maw/> for the list of presenters and registration, location, and lodging information.

Don't Forget

Book release and signing! *What To Do When God Shows Up* is a story of faith, helping young readers recognize God in moments big and little, happy and sad, because God is always present and always wants what is best for us. This book is written by Teresa Aeschliman and illustrated by Barbara Johnson, both previous attendees of Zion. This book is available for purchase for \$18 at the signing on November 26th, from 2-5 pm at the Gathering Room at Heritage Inn in Archbold. Teresa will also be with us on Sunday, November 27th and will have copies of her book available.

The Formation Ministry Team is looking for volunteers to help staff the nursery on Sunday mornings. This could be two adults or an MYF youth and an adult (advocate or parent/grandparent). If you would be willing to help please contact Bethany in the church office or Carol Short by phone/text 419-572-9855 or email carol-short@rtexpress.net. Thank you for helping to show care for our families with young children.

Refugee Update: The joint group from Zion and Central also known as the Refugee Support Team (RST) has worked through Welsome.us to find a match for a family. We have made contact with a family and they are working to make their way to the U.S. Igor works in tech, Karina is a stay-at-home mom, and their son Bogdan is 10 years old. They are Christians. They speak limited English. They fled their home in Luhansk in eastern Ukraine. This area is currently occupied by Russia. They traveled to far western Ukraine and had been living in a temporary shelter in a Baptist church in Chernivtsi. They recently traveled to Romania and applied as refugees with the Romanian government. They will live in a basement apartment at Jen (Sauder) Nichols. They could arrive within the next few weeks! Sponsored refugees need full assistance until paperwork goes through. This can take one to three months. Once paperwork is processed, they are able to apply for work and receive benefits such as SNAP. The goal is for the family to become independent. **We will need folks to help with meals, clothing, transportation to appointments, groceries or trips to grocery stores, and hospitality.** Please sign up on the lists on the table across from the coffee bar. Thanks for considering ways that you can help.

Join us as we help Fairlawn "Light Up the Night" Dec. 11th. Flickering for Fairlawn is a luminary event that will raise funds to assist in the purchase of a new nurse call system for the Care Center and also remember all those that need our help as they age. Each kit has 10 luminaries. Order forms can be found on the Fairlawn Facebook page. This is the one and only fundraiser of the year for Fairlawn (in place of the annual spring auction). Let's show how much we care.

Opportunities to Give for the Christmas Season



Christmas Cheer Tags

Tree Tags for Cheer will be available on the Christmas tree outside of the church office beginning Sunday, November 6th through Sunday, December 4th. Grab as many tags with specific needs from Cheer off the tree as you wish to purchase, then return your items to the church. A table will be set up outside the church office for donated items. Missions in Service Team (MiST) will deliver all donated items to Fulton County Christmas Cheer.

With the help of our donations along with other area donors, 1,200 Fulton County families will be invited to participate in the personalized shopping experience in the Junior Fair building in Wauseon. Families may shop for anything from canned goods and detergents to hats, gloves, towels, and more.

If you wish to make a monetary donation, you may do so online through Christmas Cheer's website fultoncountychristmascheer.org or by sending a check to: Cheer, Peg Hines 209 Burke St., Archbold, OH 43502

Let's continue to show our support for an organization who has helped unite the entire county in serving those in need for the last 40 years. Thank you for your support!

Adriel: Angel Tree Project It's almost that time of year again! As we look forward to the approaching holiday season, you can Be the One to bring 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 a Christmas gift from their wishlist in time for the holiday. Visit <https://Adriel.networkforgood.com/projects/172319-adriel-christmas-angel-tree-2022> 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!*

Sunshine: The Christmas Wish List for Sunshine Community residents has been posted on the bulletin boards at both entrances. New and unwrapped gifts from the list should be placed in the containers provided at each door. **The gifts we've collected are to be delivered to Sunshine by December 6.** Sorry about the late notice but the list was only recently received. See David Kanagy if you have questions.

MCC: This Christmas choose gifts that give comfort and joy to those who need it most. A gift of hope changes lives in so many ways. Give the gift of a backpack full of school supplies (\$14.00) or invest in women by providing a sewing machine (\$150.00) for start-up businesses. Perhaps you can provide blankets, clothing, and other infant items. A gift of \$20.00 will give mothers and babies around the world hope, as well as practical help. This Christmas season, MCC invites you to participate and choose a gift from one of the MCC Christmas giving projects. Choose from projects online at <https://mcc.org/christmas#!> or request a printed booklet by calling 888-563-4676.

Request a free, downloadable resource that helps families to talk with children about generosity and MCC Christmas giving. The resource includes printable pages with activities, a story, a craft to make and gift ideas at mcc.org/free-resource-learning-about-generosity-mcc