

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 Suz Wirick 419-966-2266

Elder Barb Yoder 567-694-3112

Elder Mike Zimmerman 419-966-7363

February 12, 2023

Zion Activities this week

Sunday, February 12

8:30 am ~ Sojourners

9:00 am ~ Choir

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

Monday, February 13

9:00 am ~ Staff (zoom)

11:00 am ~ Congregational Caregivers

5:00 pm ~ SLT (zoom)

Tuesday, February 14

10:00 am ~ Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday, February 15

9:00 am ~ Pastor Peer

6:00 pm ~ ZOW

7:00 pm ~ CHAOS

7:00 pm ~ MYF Life Planning

Thursday, February 16

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer

7:00 pm ~ Choir Practice

7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

Sunday, February 19

8:30 am ~ Sojourners

9:00 am ~ Choir

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Congregational Meeting

Happy Birthday:

February 12 - Bill Beck, Lori Bontrager,
Ellie Grieser, Ron Lantz

February 14 - Judy Beck, Neil Nofziger

February 16 - Mary Beth Beck

Happy Anniversary

February 14 -

Artie & Kathy Short (34)

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Welcome & Announcements ~ Larry Wyse

Choir "In Meeting We Are Blessed"

"Spirit Of Holiness, Descend"

Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Larry Wyse

Hymns ~ Julia Richer

"Come, Gracious Spirit" (HWB 303)

"God Of Our Strength" (HWB 36)

Offering/Offertory ~ Larry/Bonnie

Scripture ~ Ephesians 4:7-16

Sermon ~ Dan Miller

Communion

Hymn of Response ~ Julia Richer

"There Are Many Gifts" (HWB 304)

Prayer for Church & World ~ Greg Nofziger

Sending Hymn ~ Julia Richer

"Lead Me, Guide Me" (HWB 553)

Benediction ~ Dan Miller



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 Series

Signs of life: Clues for a future church

Jan 15-Feb 19, 2023

It's easy to blame church problems on COVID. But many trends were impacting Christian churches a long time before the pandemic. Historian and theologian Phyllis Tickle describes it as "Every five hundred years, the Church cleans out its attic and has a giant rummage sale." Methods and programs that once nurtured faith in congregations no longer connected with many people, forms of worship seemed hollow, structures that once supported vital activities now suffocated people's souls. There were similar trends with Sunday night, prayer night, Sunday School, vacation bible school. Christian education taught guidelines but did not form believers who look like Jesus. Then COVID came and sped up the decline. Where is the Jesus movement heading? In this series we look at signs of life for clues and a church of the future.

February 12 - Leadership Leaders are important for a group to thrive. Yet we hear of highly influential and successful leaders crossing sexual and financial boundaries. Something about that doesn't seem right. What characteristics of leaders are life-giving and what characteristics cause problems?

February 19 - Structure Post-world war II gave rise to churches organized like institutions with administrative structures and significant overhead costs. Such maximalist structures drain vital energy away from congregational endeavors. What clues can we find for workable structures?

February 22 - Ash Wednesday (Church Family Meal, followed by a short observance with ashes as we begin the season of Lent.)

Library News

Multiple books from the Believers Church Bible Commentary series have been added to complete the series. *We note that Genesis and Matthew are part of our collection but have not been returned for some time.

Two colorful books for children addressing the issue of diversity are; "Mixed: A Colorful Story" discusses color, tolerance and embracing differences, and "Solve", which inspires children to see their own unique beauty.

February Refugee Support Team Update

The **Glushko** family is doing well. Bogdan (10) started school at Archbold a week ago. They have received their Social Security cards. Igor starts working at Nofziger Door on Wednesday, February 15. He will need transportation to work each morning until he gets his driver's license.

We are sponsoring a second Ukrainian family so that the two families can help and support each other as they adjust to living in a new land. The **Skopych** family, Andrii, Iryna, Maksim (11), and Veronika (4), will arrive on February 14. The home they will live in is in Wauseon. We are hoping to enroll Maksim in Archbold school if transportation can be arranged. Use of the house in Wauseon is being donated for the next several months.

Andrii is a truck driver. He has an international license but will need to be licensed in Ohio. We are trying to find work for him.

A special separate offering on February 19 is being planned to help support the refugee work. Details will follow.

Members of the RST group are Lori Bontrager, Karmin Brooks, Elizabeth Miller, Stan Short, Jana Wheeler, and Larry Wyse from Zion and Bill Holdsworth, Dave Elkins, Kelsey King, Laura Nafziger, Jenny Nichols, Ami Richer, and Steve Sauder from Central Mennonite.

New Announcements

Congregational Caregivers will meet February 13 at 11:00 am in room 310.

Baptism Class beginning soon! Anyone high school age or older who is interested in exploring baptism, and learning more about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, is encouraged to contact Sue Short by the end of this week. Meeting dates/times will be determined soon, based on the schedules of those in the class.

Eastern Mennonite Chamber Singers in Concert and Hosts Needed: Come enjoy an evening of music as this group of talented vocalists stops at Zion on their spring break tour. The concert will be held on Thursday, March 9th at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. **We are also looking for persons to provide overnight housing** for groups of either two or three students. Please contact Bethany in the church office if you are willing to host.

THE LAST PAGE...

...but never the last word

Last week Sue said this in her sermon:

It is unclear what may happen to the institution of the church. But if you think about the church as the followers of Jesus who embody the gospel, **that church** will continue on, just as it has done for the past 2000 years.

I appreciate those words and I share the sentiment! We organize because we can accomplish more together than we can alone. Yet every human organization shares the same brokenness and limitations common in this fallen world. And the Spirit of God continues calling and empowering us toward the reconciliation of all things with God. For now, we must confess both the promise and the peril of power.

I am grateful that God remains consistently committed to redeeming us, freeing us from the “sin that clings so closely” (Hebrew 12:1). So we keep confessing Jesus and inviting each one to follow. Ten years ago I heard Mike Breen say something that has really stuck with me, “If you make disciples you always get the church. But if you make a church you rarely get disciples.”

I pray that we continue to grow as disciples (followers) of Jesus.

Dan Miller

New Announcements cont..

Mennonite Central Committee is accepting donations to support people affected by the Feb. 6 earthquake in Türkiye and Syria. MCC is working with long-term partners in Aleppo and surrounding areas to provide emergency food, shelter, hygiene, sanitation supplies and trauma counseling. In a country already vulnerable from years of conflict, this was a devastating blow. You can share God’s love and compassion with our global neighbors by providing a gift online at mcc.org/earthquake, by calling (888) 563-4676 or by sending a check earmarked for “Syria and Türkiye earthquake” to MCC, PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.

Put your faith in action by volunteering with SWAP this summer! MCC’s SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People) home repair program provides short-term service and learning opportunities for churches, school and university groups, families, other groups and individuals. Now is the time to make your summer plans and sign up! More information and registration at swap.mcc.org or (606) 634-4418.

Don’t Forget

Announcement from Fellowship: Ready to make connections with others around the dinner table? Fellowship is planning a “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” meal this spring. Be thinking about your willingness to host and the number of guests you can accommodate. We encourage all to participate. Sign up sheets for both hosts and guests will be coming.

Zion is responsible for two more community meals this year. Would your small group or Sunday School class take on one. Contact someone from Mission in Service for details and available dates! Thanks!

Thank you to everyone who donated their clean gallon jugs! We have reached our collection goal thanks to your help. Join The Archbold Community Garden on Saturday, February 25 from 10am-12pm where we will be learning how to use these gallon jugs to winter sow seeds for spring. To register, or for more information, visit www.archboldcommunitygarden.org.

MCC Great Lakes is seeking a Program Director: This role is responsible for the direction and oversight of MCC Great Lakes programs and church engagement. This position is expected to connect with constituent churches, groups, and partner organizations to work together and advance the mission of MCC. The full-time position will preferably be located at one of the main Great Lakes offices, but the location is flexible within the region where MCC is an authorized employer. Bilingual fluency in Spanish and English is preferred. Apply online by March 3 at mcc.org/gl-program-director. For more information, contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or AmberFalcon@mcc.org.

MCC is seeking a Project Coordinator for the Dismukes Project in Kimball, West Virginia: MCC continues to work to uncover the forgotten history and honor the legacy of Dr. Henry Dodford Dismukes, an African American physician and surgeon in Appalachia in the 1930s. This full-time role is great for someone looking to put their innovation, creativity, and resourcefulness to use by collaborating with the local community and SWAP staff to build the program from the ground up. Apply online by April 6 at mcc.org/dismukes-project-coordinator. For more information, contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or AmberFalcon@mcc.org.

Do you have a new individual or family photo you would like to be added to our "Church Family" bulletin board in the fellowship hall? Please email a digital copy of your picture to Rachel Short at rshort67@gmail.com. If you would prefer to provide a print, you can put it in Rachel's (Brad) mailbox at church. **We would LOVE to add many more pictures to what we already have up!**