

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 Chair 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

March 26, 2023

Zion Activities this week

Sunday, March 26

8:30 am ~ Sojourners

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

11:45 am ~ Exploring Baptism

Monday, March 27

9:30 am ~ Staff (zoom)

Tuesday, March 28

10:00 am ~ Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday, March 29

1:30 pm ~ Missional Discipleship Facilitators Meeting

6:00 pm ~ ZOW

7:00 pm ~ CHAOS

7:00 pm ~ MYF

Thursday, March 30

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer

7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

7:00 pm ~ Financial Aid Meeting

Sunday, April 2 ~ *Palm Sunday*

8:30 am ~ Sojourners

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

11:45 am ~ Exploring Baptism

Gospel Of John Read Thru

Sun (March 26) - Chapter 7

Mon (March 27) - Chapter 8

Tues (March 28) - Chapter 9

Wed (March 29) - Chapter 10

Thurs (March 30) - Chapter 11

Fri (March 31) - Chapter 12

Sat (April 1) - Chapter 13

Sun (April 2) - Chapter 14

**Even if you haven't started yet you can jump in at any time!

Happy Birthday:

March 29 - Sarah Berry

April 2 - Darlene Polasek

Happy Anniversary

March 27 - John & Cathi Baer (59)

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey

Welcome & Announcements ~ Eric & Marcia Lehman

Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey

Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Eric & Marcia Lehman

Hymns ~ Cheryl Britsch

“I Sing The Mighty Power Of God” (HWB 46)

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

Offering/Offertory ~ Eric & Marcia/Karen

Confession & Prayer ~ Eric & Marcia Lehman

Scripture ~ John 11:1-27

Children's Time ~ Cheryl Britsch

Hymn ~ Cheryl Britsch

“Holy Spirit, Come With Power” (HWB 57)

Sermon ~ Sue Short

Response

Prayer for Church & World ~ Suz Wirick

Benediction ~ Sue Short

Sending Hymn ~ Cheryl Britsch

[vs 1] “O God, Who Gives Us Life” (HWB 483)



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.

Lent Worship Series 2023

Created in the Image of God - Shaped by Jesus

Lent is a fitting season of the church year to focus our attention on some foundational questions - What does it mean to be images of the God who created us? What does it mean to be called by Jesus, and shaped by Jesus as we follow? What is the Spirit's role within us and among us?

Lent 5 - Sunday, March 26 - "*Called to Life*" (Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45)

Lent 6 - Palm Sunday, April 2 - "*Called to Worship*" (Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 21:1-11)

Thursday, April 6 - Maundy Thursday Service @ 6:00pm. Join us in the fellowship hall for worship interspersed with a simple soup supper, communion, foot/hand washing, and a closing prayer in the 'Garden of Gethsemane.' If you will be joining us on Zoom, we'll use the usual Sunday worship Zoom link. We invite you to eat your dinner at home along with us.

Friday, April 7th - Good Friday Service @ 7:00pm. Join us in the sanctuary for a short observance as we hear stories from the perspectives of those involved in the arrest, trial, death, and burial of Jesus. If you'll be joining us on Zoom, we'll use the usual Sunday worship Zoom link.

Sunday, April 9th - Easter Celebration. "Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! Allelujah!" On Resurrection morning, we invite you to bring a finger food to share for a light breakfast in the fellowship hall, starting at 8:30am. Hymn Sing at 9:00am. Worship at 9:30am in the sanctuary.

Thank you

Thank you so much for welcoming us so warmly on our Chamber Singers spring break tour last week! It was so lovely to share our music with you all. I know it is an extra thing to add to your list of things to work on, so I'm very grateful that you decided to help us in this way.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed the tour, and it is in large part due to meeting so many wonderful people along the way. I hope our paths cross again in the future!

Thanks again!

Peace,
Benjamin Bergey
Assistant Professor of Music, Eastern Mennonite University

Thanks so much to the CHAOS group and Duane and Cecilia for your help cleaning up after family meal. It was very much appreciated. ~ Fellowship Committee

New Announcements

The CHAOS youth would like to share "energy bites" with the congregation after the worship service that they made this past week. There are 4 different flavors. All of them are gluten free. The "chocolate bites" recipe is nut free. They hope you enjoy this healthy snack.

Missional Discipleship Group Facilitators - Wednesday, March 29 @ 1:30. We'll meet in the landing at the top of the steps near the sanctuary entrance.

On the Level Announcement: The March edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Executive Director Kevin King shares his experiences of working on an MDS project in Dulac, Louisiana; a home dedication in Kentucky provides visible reminders that God cares; and MDS Canada returns to Cape Breton to repair damage from Hurricane Fiona.

Work done during the last two Bridge Sundays in October and November shaped what went into the Congregational Information Form, and helped to set up the congregation for a successful pastoral search. Copies of the Summaries of the Congregational Information Form are available in the office. In addition, there are now summaries of the last two Bridge Sundays for anyone who would like to see them.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

A sign up sheets are on the table across from the mailboxes. There are 2 separate sign up sheets...one for if you are willing to host and one for being a guest! Dinner will take place on April 23.

THE LAST PAGE...

...but never the last word

Fasting from food or technology or whatever, interrupts our normal routine and reminds us of our intention to reflect on our need and prepare for Easter. The practice of giving up something for Lent has existed for a long time. I am fascinated when modern research "discovers" wisdom of an old practice, and I recently heard something about this.

It turns out that denying ourselves a simple pleasure can increase our feelings of happiness. Not that deprivation makes us happy. In this case, what was originally a pleasure becomes common, assumed, expected. That piece of chocolate. That special dessert. That perfect steak. They become common everyday expectations. Ordinary. No longer noteworthy.

Denying ourselves that experience for a time interrupts a usual pattern. When we break the fast, that treat it is again a pleasure. We think about it and again appreciate it in a renewed way.

In what ways have you experienced that renewed pleasure?

Seems to parallel fasting during Lent as preparation for joyfully celebrating the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

(This research was shared on the *Hidden Brain* podcast, in their series titled "Happiness 2.0" which I listened to on trip between Archbold and Goshen.)

Dan

