

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

March 5, 2023

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

Zion Activities this week

Sunday, March 5

8:30 am ~ Sojourners
9:00 am ~ Choir
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School (Young Adults will meet)
11:45 am ~ Baptism lunch/class (MYF room)

Monday, March 6

9:30 am ~ Staff

Tuesday, March 7

10:00 am ~ Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday, March 8

9:00 am ~ Mennonite Women
7:00 pm ~ CHAOS (6th-8th)
7:00 pm ~ MYF (high school)

Thursday, March 9

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

Sunday, March 12 ~ Daylight Savings

8:30 am ~ Sojourners
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School (Chaos will meet but MYF and primary will not)

Happy Birthday:

March 6 - Barnaby Wyse
March 7 - Hannah Short
March 9 - Bailey Short-Dickmann
March 10 - Phil Nofziger, Reid Pennington
March 11 - Ilse Goertz, Ginny Liechty

Office News

~ Dan and Sue will be at Ohio Conference Annual Assembly on Friday and Saturday (March 3-4). They will return Saturday evening. In the event of a pastoral care emergency while they are gone, please contact Elder chair Lonnie Short (419-583-9567).

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Bonnie Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Karen Ruth
Choir "Create In Me A Clean Heart"
"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Karen Ruth
Hymn ~ Eric Lehman
"This Is My Fathers World" (HWB 154)
Offering/Offertory ~ Karen/Bonnie
Scripture ~ John 3:1-17
Confession & Prayer ~ Karen Ruth
Hymn ~ Eric Lehman
"Breathe On Me Breath Of God" (HWB 356)
Sermon ~ Mark Nafziger & Karen Ruth
Hymn ~ Eric Lehman
"New Earth, Heavens New" (HWB 299)
Prayer for Church & World ~ Dan Miller
Benediction ~ Mark Nafziger
Sending Hymn ~ Eric Lehman
"Move In Our Midst" (HWB 418)



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 2 - Sunday, March 5 - *"Shaped by New Birth"* (Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-4, 13-17; John 3:1-17)

Lent 3 - Sunday, March 12 - *"Shaped through Thirst"* (Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42)

Lent 4 - Sunday, March 19 - *"Called to the Light"* (1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41)

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)

February Refugee Support Team Update

The **Glushko** family continues to adjust to so many new things. Igor started working at Nofziger Door. He has his driving permit and is trying to get driving experience. If you are willing to assist him, please let us know!

The **Skopych** family, Andrii, Iryna, Maksim (11), and Veronika (4), arrived on February 14. They live in a home in Wauseon. Maksim is in the process of enrolling in school at Wauseon.

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

Thank you to everyone who has helped with money and time!

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.

Update from Krabills

Dear Pastors Dan and Sue, and Zion family,

Matthew and I returned to Paris last month after two wonderful months in the US. We spent two busy but good months preaching and speaking at eight churches in seven cities. It was a great time connecting with churches, family, and friends including our visit to Zion in November.

Another highlight was hearing from several churches about the transitions they have been through during and after the pandemic and how they are working to serve their local communities in new and creative ways. We were encouraged by great conversations during Sunday School and shared meals with pastors, elders, Mission Commissions, and congregations.

Thank you for your financial support of our work with the Paris Mennonite Center. We deeply appreciate your partnership. A primary area of our work in the next two years will be dedicated to launching a Master's in Conflict Transformation that will be housed at an interdenominational university in Ivory Coast. The target populations for this degree are Christian leaders (pastors, teachers, and laypersons) who seek to impact and transform their communities. This means that persons who receive this training will be able to form others in their villages, towns, and cities across their respective regions.

Our peacebuilding work with churches and seminaries would not be possible without your prayers, encouragement, and financial support. Thank you for partnering with us.

Grace and peace,
Toni (and Matthew)

THE LAST PAGE...

...but never the last word

The six Sundays of Lent and the seven Sundays of Easter strike me as good complements for one another.

Lent is a time of confessing sins. We recognize our human limitations and self-centered actions. While we are made in the image of God, we don't always successfully reflect that image to the world around us. Such acknowledgements help us know that evil is not so far from us. We do not save ourselves, and seeing this again, we get ready to celebrate resurrection when Easter arrives.

Easter is a time of celebrating the salvation freely given to us through Jesus' life, death and resurrection. We don't accomplish or earn salvation, but receive it from a loving and generous God. During the Easter season we confess our faith in Christ rather than confessing our sins.

Together, these two emphases create a complementary rhythm of reflecting on the way we live and then reflecting on the grace we receive. Almost like breathing.

Most people find one side of this rhythm is easier for them. I have a natural inclination toward the Lent side. There are several reasons for this, one of which is that I grew up an oldest child, raised to be responsible. Easter gives me a chance to challenge myself as to whether I can celebrate for seven Sundays!

Which side of this rhythm is easier for you? If you aren't sure, it might be interesting to watch yourself throughout Lent and Easter and see which comes more easily.

Dan

Thank you

Thank you for the many cards, phone calls, gifts of food, and ongoing support given to our family during the recent weeks and throughout the last year. We are grateful for the love and kindness expressed in so many ways. ~ Charlene Beck & Family

I would like to thank the congregation for their prayers during my surgery. ~ Frank Ulrich

New Announcements

Mennonite Women will meet Wednesday, March 8, at 9:00 am. Helen Weldy will share the meditation, a noon meal will be provided.

Congregational Caregivers will meet Monday, March 13 at 11:00 am in room 310.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner 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.

Don't Forget

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!

Request for Help Event Planning: Nancy Roynon Beck would like to invite anyone who is interested to help her plan a "Raw Tools" event for NW Ohio, at or near Central Mennonite. Nancy writes: "Wayne Short and I have been teaching the *Fear Not* curriculum which was created by Jes Buller of MCC and Mike Martin of Raw Tools. With gun violence on the rise, and the information we have encountered in the class, it seems imperative that we assist with healing wounds created by this violence. I have spoken with Mike Martin, Jess Buller, and Shalom here in Archbold, and they are all willing to help. Now, I would like to find a few others to be able to put together an event similar to the one Toledo Mennonite hosted several years ago." Raw Tools has a "Swords to Plowshares" program which receives weapons confiscated from violent crimes, or donations of guns from individuals, and melts them down into gardening tools, jewelry, and other gift items. Learn more at their website: <https://rawtools.org/> Contact Nancy if you are interested in joining the planning group for this event. 419-446-2967 or nancyroynon@gmail.com