

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

April 30, 2023

Zion Activities this Week

Sunday, April 30

8:30 am ~ Sojourners
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School
11:30 am ~ Life Planning/Exploring
Baptism class
7:00 pm ~ Choir Concert

Tuesday, May 2

10:00 am ~ Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday, May 3

6:00 pm ~ ZOW, CHAOS, & MYF

Thursday, May 4

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

Sunday, May 7 ~ *CHAOS Sunday*

8:30 am ~ Sojourners
9:00 am ~ Choir
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School (Young Adults meet)
~ Denver Beck will be sharing
11:45 am ~ MYF Taco Fundraiser

Office News

~ Dan is working from Goshen this week. He is available on his cell or by email whether in Archbold or Goshen.

Happy Birthday:

May 2 - Lisa Nofziger, Duane Short

May 3 - Tom Short

May 5 ~ Jordan Rodriguez

Happy Anniversary

May 6 - Galen & Sherri Plank (34)

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Bonnie Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Karen Rodriguez
Interlude ~ Bonnie Stuckey
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Karen Rodriguez
Hymns ~ Julia Richer
"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" (HWB 589)
"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" (HWB 355)
Offering/Offertory ~ Karen/Bonnie
Scripture ~ John 10:1-14
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
"Gentle Shepherd, Come And Lead Us" (HWB 352)
Children's Moment ~ Karen Rodriguez
Sermon ~ Suz Wirick
Song of Response ~ Julia Richer
"Reckless Love"
Prayer for Church & World ~ Barb Yoder
Benediction ~ Suz Wirick
Sending Song ~ Julia Richer
"The King Of Love My Shepherd Is" (HWB 170)

Upcoming Sunday Events

~ April 30: Zion Choir concert @ 7:00pm

~ May 7th: CHAOS Sunday (6th-8th grade youth) & MYF Taco Bar fundraiser (for lunch)

~ May 7th: Denver Beck will be sharing during the Sunday School hour about participating in the Climate Ride across the US

~ May 14th: Graduation Sunday (celebrating our high school seniors)



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.

Living the Resurrection Worship Series

For our worship series from Easter to Pentecost, we'll explore this idea of living as Resurrection people.

Through resurrection, God has begun something in human history. Easter worship celebrates what God accomplished in Jesus. The invitation is to pay attention to how the resurrection is working in the world and in us. Two over-arching questions will guide Zion's regular worship services through the end of May:

- ~ Toward what am I being drawn?
- ~ What am I resisting?

Do not move too quickly to judge yourself. Do not jump into action. Rather, observe what energizes or drains you. The scriptures and sermons each week will offer a different lens through which to consider these questions. We hope that every week you will take SOME time to reflect and become aware of resurrection.

Thank you

Thank you for your prayers and cards after having a total hip replacement. The healing continues. ~ Roger Crossgrove

New Announcements

Update from Corben & Mara: "Dear Zion, I would like to share with you all that I have accepted a Bible teaching position at Hillcrest Academy (formerly Iowa Mennonite School). I'm excited for this opportunity! I'll be leaving my current position to begin this role in August. I am very thankful for your prayers and the supportive role you all have played in my teaching journey. On another note, Mara and I also plan to move to a new home in nearby Sharon Center in June. We miss you all and think of you often! Blessings to our beloved House of Peace, Corben and Mara."

The Archbold Fish Pantry is looking for a new coordinator. Please see the bulletin board for more information about what the position is about or contact the church office!

Shalom Golf Scramble: The 19th annual golf scramble is scheduled for Saturday May 20th. To register go online at www.shalomworks.org, email info@shalomworks.org, or call 419-445-1552. **Registration deadline is May 15th.** See the bulletin board for more information or pick up a registration form on the table across from the mailboxes.

Denver Beck will be sharing his experience about Climate Ride across the US he has been participating in after becoming a student at Goshen College during the Sunday school hour on May 7th.

REACH Up Fundraiser is being held at Mancino's on May 20th. Volunteers are needed to help serve and clean tables. 3 people for the lunch hour (11:30-1:30) and 4 people for the supper hour (5-7:30) are needed. If you are interested in helping, please contact Shirley G. at 419-446-2348. Otherwise, come on out and eat some food to help support the cause.

Thank you for making the 2023 Ohio MCC Comforter Bash a great success! We surpassed our goal and knotted a total of 220 comforters thanks to the help of 240 volunteers on Friday and 135 volunteers on Saturday. MCC is grateful for your part in providing warmth and hope to people around the world. Save the date for next year's event on March 8-9, 2024, at a new location at Fairlawn Mennonite Church in Apple Creek.

Don't Forget

MYF is having a fundraiser to provide funds for MYF activities this year. One of our upcoming events we are excited about is Mennonite Youth Convention in Kansas City. **We will be providing lunch for the congregation on May 7th** after Sunday school. A free will donation will be accepted. The lunch will consist of a Taco Bar. Save the date in your calendars now. Please take note of our signs around the church made by our very own creative MYF.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! The **Junior Choral Society** (JCS) will be giving their last concert of the season on **Sunday, April 30 @ 7:00 pm** at Central Mennonite Church, Archbold. Come hear this energetic group of 4th-8th grade children sing a variety of music they have worked hard to present this season! Refreshments & fellowship to follow the concert. Thank you for supporting the musical arts for the young people in our community!

On the Level Announcement: The April edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: learn why some volunteers feel driven to be a part of the RV (recreational vehicle) program; search and rescue volunteers in Arkansas help bring closure to a grieving family; and volunteers in Florida deliver hope just in time for Easter. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/3USbIhq>

MDS RV program a good fit for retired Ohio couple

Ned and Mary Gisel serving in Grand Isle, La.

When Ned and Mary Gisel of Archbold, Ohio retired a few years ago, they wondered what they would do next. Then they discovered the Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) Recreational Vehicle (RV) program.

“We bought a camper because we thought we might like RVing,” said Ned, 70, of their 35-foot Jayco Eagle trailer.

The couple, members of the Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold, thought about doing MDS service. When they heard about the RV program, it thought it would be a good fit.

“We like it,” said Ned, who worked for a natural gas pipeline company before retirement in 2018. “It suits us at this stage in our lives.”

This is their second time doing the RV program—the first time was in 2021 in Texas. “We get to meet new people and learn new things and see new places,” he said, noting they are serving for a month in Grand Isle.

For Mary, 69, who worked at various jobs before retiring including in a library and running a family-owned shoe store, it’s the camaraderie of the program that keeps her coming back.

“I like to meet new people and learn new skills,” she said, noting that neither of them are “really handy people.”

She also likes the end result when someone has a fixed-up home. “That’s special,” she said. “It’s great to help somebody.” Added Ned: “That’s why we do it, to get people back home.”

The Gisels were in Grand Isle, Louisiana for the month of February, helping people impacted by Hurricane Ida in 2021. The storm swept across the barrier island, causing widespread damage.

The things they like about the RV program include the more relaxed pace—volunteers work four days a week, six hours a day, and mostly do light repairs—and how they can “sleep in our own bed at night,” Mary said.

The program also accommodates people with health conditions, like Mary, who had a stroke a year ago. “I might be a bit slower but that’s OK,” she said. “People here are so understanding and everyone is so supportive.”

The couple also likes the family feel of the project. “I love the camaraderie,” said Mary. “It developed in a really quick time.” She attributes this to their faith and similar values. “It makes it easy to make friends,” she said.

Seeing other parts of the country and getting to know a new area well is also a bonus, as is being in a warmer climate in winter. They also like they can take their dog, Sander, along with them. “He’s a Shih tzu, a rescue,” she said. “He travels with us, wherever we go. Through the RV program, we don’t have to kennel him.”

“I’d encourage anyone interested in RVing to consider it,” said Ned. “It’s a great way to spend your retirement years.”

The MDS RV program is designed for older adults who want to serve in the southern U.S. during the winter. More laid-back in nature than traditional projects, volunteers work four days a week, six hours a day, usually on lighter repair projects. The term of service is one month or more. Hookups are provided in local campgrounds.

For more information about the MDS RV program, visit <https://mds.org/rv-volunteer>
John Longhurst, MDS Canada Communications

**Article came from the MDS website

SLT announcement about extending Dan's time

Dan Miller began here at Zion on May 1, 2022. When the Spiritual Leadership Team began talking with Dan, he shared with us that he doesn't go to a congregation for less than one year, and generally doesn't stay longer than two years. The second year gets negotiated in three-month chunks. This gives all parties greater ability to adjust to progress in the pastoral search process, or when the work we want to do together is complete.

After evaluating the work we have done together in the last year, and hearing Dan's reflections about the year, SLT and Dan have extended our time together for the next three months. That takes us to the end of July. SLT will continue to monitor what is happening with the pastoral search process and in congregational life, and discuss possible further extensions as the time comes.

Comments and questions can be shared with any elder - Lonnie Short, Barb Yoder, Greg Nofziger, Mike Zimmerman, or Suz Wirick.

THE LAST PAGE...

...but never the last word

With this Sunday we are halfway through our resurrection celebration, which lasts thru May 28. I hope it is fruitful to have reflection time each week. I suppose it might also be challenging? The next two weeks in May will be opportunities to hear from CHAOS youth and then graduating seniors. We can celebrate the youth here at Zion.

As I mentioned in last week's sermon, celebrating resurrection can become a burden, if we have to **look** great, do great things, be inspiring. (Does living in a small, highly related community make it easier or harder to avoid the appearances trap?)

In her book, *Meditations for Christians Who Try to Be Perfect*, Joan C. Webb reflects on her journey through burnout:

Years ago after I asked God to fill my cup, it seemed instead he ate my lunch. . . . I wondered where God was and why he let it happen.

Now as I reflect back, I wonder if he could not fill my cup because I already had it full with my personal agenda. I wanted to accomplish great things for God, but I had my own ideas. Perhaps he was waiting for me to empty the unusable contents so he could pour in his plan.

When we admit our need and ask God for help, it is like emptying our life cups. Emptiness, though uncomfortable, is a necessary prerequisite to filling.

Our overflowing cups yield anxiety. God's portion produces security. He draws healthy working and serving boundaries for us. And though not guaranteed earthly perfection, we are assured of a "delightful inheritance."

As we live into the resurrection, let's keep noting where we are drawn and what we resist!

Dan