

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

August 13, 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, August 13

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School

Monday, August 14

11:00 am ~ Congregational Caregivers

Wednesday, August 16

9:00 am ~ Quilting (room 303)

Thursday, August 17

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

Friday, August 18 ~ *Office closed*

Sunday, August 20

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School

Office News

~ Sue and Stan will be on vacation from Saturday, August 12th - Tuesday, August 15th.

~Dan and Sue will be out of the office on Wednesday, August 16th to attend the August Conference pastors' gathering.

Happy Anniversary

August 13 - Don & Mary Oesch (61)
August 15 - Mike & Deb Zimmerman (31)
August 17 - Kerry & MaryBeth Beck (32)
August 18 - Jim & Darlene King (44)

Happy Birthday:

August 13 ~ Suz Wirick
August 14 ~ Jerry Andres
August 18 ~ Allen Liechty, Elijah Zimmerman, Fred Baer
August 19 ~ Helen Weldy

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Mark Nafziger
Interlude
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Mark Nafziger
Songs from the Campfire ~ Cheryl Britsch
Children's Campfire Stories ~ Mark Nafziger
Offering/Offertory ~ Karen/Mark
Songs from the Campfire ~ Cheryl Britsch
"God is so Good He Cares for Me"
Prayer for Church & World ~ Dan Miller
Stories by the Campfire Barb Yoder and Dan Miller
Benediction ~ Dan Miller
Songs from the Campfire ~ Cheryl Britsch



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

- **Sunday, August 13th - Sunday, September 3rd** : *"Welcome to the Campfire!"* Our usual August 'Front Porch' with a new twist! You are invited to dress casually and comfortably. Come hear stories from one another about faith, seeing God in creation, camping, and life.



New Announcements

The total of the July 30 "My Coins Count" offering to support MCC clean water projects was one glow-in-the-dark star, two dozen red or green small cellophane circles, numerous coins from Canada, Mexico and the European Union, and \$1,126.37 in US currency.

2023-24 Life Planning will kick off in September this year, rather than August. Meet at 7:00 on September 27. Youth and mentors should communicate with Julia Richer if they're unable to attend. Mentors are encouraged to connect with their youth before this time, as well.

Thank you for your prayers for my procedure, which was a cochlear implant. I'm grateful for all of your prayers -Arlene Short

School Kits

From August until September 10th, Mennonite Women will collect supplies for school kits. Items can be left on the table near the church office.

- 4 spiral or perforated-page notebooks (8x10x10.5/70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality, must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 2 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- **Mennonite women will supply the metal pencil sharpeners for the school kits**

More details can be found at mcc.org. Monetary donations are also welcome.

Prayers for the Global Church

Mennonite Education Agency:

Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.: On this first day of the 2023-24 school year at Bethel College, pray for the campus community, especially for new students (first-year and transfer) as they begin this chapter of their lives.

Goshen (Ind.) College: Pray for Goshen College employees who are gathering today for their annual all-employee retreat.

Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, Va.: Please pray for students, especially our new students and families, as classes and activities begin. Pray that each student will find a place of belonging within the EMS family.

Mennonite Mission Network: Everett and Miriam Ramer are serving with Mennonite Mission Network's SOOP program in Quebec, Canada, for more than two months. Pray for them as they work at Maison de l'Amitié (Friendship House) in Montréal and Camp Péniel, which offers a Jesus-centered experience for children and youth.

Don't Forget

Builders class will meet for breakfast at the Essen Haus on August 15 at 9:30 am.

37th CPC Steps for Life Walkathon, 5K & Family Fun Day: Walkathon, 5K run, and 1 Mile Fun Run: 8:00 am – 10:00 am Sat., Sept 16, 2023 (MacDonald-Ruff Ice Arena, 601 Townline Road, Bryan) Sign up at <https://cpcnwo.org/events/37th-annual-walkathon-and-5k/> To receive a walkathon packet to help record donations, call 419-636-5692. If you have any questions about the event, please let us know. Thank you for your kindness.

Teachers & Helpers needed: There is a sign up sheet on the table across from the mailboxes with opportunities to teach and help with children and youth this fall during Sunday School or on Wednesday evenings.

Picture Wall: As we look forward to John David Thacker coming to Zion, now is a great time to get new or updated photos on the church family picture bulletin board located in the fellowship hall. Anyone is welcome to submit a picture and room will be made for all pictures. John David can use this as a tool for getting to know our church family and it can also help others as well! Please put your 4x6 (or smaller) pictures in Rachel (Brad) Short's mailbox. If you have questions, Rachel can be contacted at 419-572-9922 or rmshort67@gmail.com. Thank you!

THE LAST PAGE...

...but never the last word

I've come to believe that congregations have personalities that endure across time. As individuals come and go, the personality remains consistent. I hypothesize that in a deep way, the congregational personality is part of what attracts new people.

I did a transition time in a congregation where some very exciting and innovative things had happened 125 years earlier, and there was a lot of satisfaction in telling those stories. I think story-telling helps us understand where we come from and launch into the future. And I wondered how we know when story-telling becomes unhelpful. Here's what I came up with: "worshiping our history" enshrines the founders or a time in history and separates them from us, and "honoring our history" helps us live in ways that engage the current reality. Honoring embodies the best characteristics of those who came before.

How do those ideas of worshiping and honoring history strike you?

Take Sunday School, for example. Originally, Sunday School was a way to teach people to read, which was a big social need. Students received a pencil, which was important in school. Sunday School was also an outreach effort. How might churches today honor that history of addressing both spiritual and social needs? Do we worship Sunday School, or do we honor those who innovated Sunday School?

As Zion seeks to be a House of Peace (which I think connects deeply with Zion's origins), I give thanks for innovative ideas that are being imagined up to invite all people to share Christ's love with each other and the world.

What ideas do you have or hear from others?

~ Dan