

# 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 John David Thacker 419-572-0340  
Child's World Preschool: 419-445-6034  
LAMP: 419-445-0728

**February 18, 2024**

Elder Chair Mike Zimmerman 419-966-7363  
Elder Greg Nofziger 419-583-6769  
Elder Suz Wirick 419-966-2266  
Elder Barb Yoder 567-694-3112

## Zion Activities this Week

### **Sunday, February 18**

8:30 am ~ Sojourners  
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)  
10:45 am ~ Sunday School

### **Monday, February 19**

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting

### **Tuesday, February 20**

7:00 pm ~ Spiritual Practices: *"The Lord's Prayer"*

### **Wednesday, February 21**

5:30 pm ~ Church Family Meal  
6:00 pm ~ ZOW  
7:00 pm ~ CHAOS  
7:00 pm ~ MYF

### **Thursday, February 22**

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer  
7:00 pm ~ Scripture & Theology Class: *"The History of Israel: The Exodus to the Monarchy"*  
7:00 pm ~ Choir Practice  
7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

### **Sunday, February 25**

8:30 am ~ Sojourners  
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)  
10:45 am ~ Sunday School

## Nursery Workers

February 18: Hastings Family  
February 25: Joe Graber, Ben Wheeler

## Happy Birthday

February 19 ~ Judith Short  
February 22 ~ Deb Nofziger  
February 23 ~ Charlene Beck, John Betts

## Happy Anniversary

February 24 ~ Walt & Darlene Polasek (56)

## Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey  
Welcome & Announcements ~ Mark Nafziger  
Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey  
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Mark Nafziger  
Hymn ~ Anita Roth  
"Brethren, We Have Met To Worship" (HWB 8)  
Offering/Offertory ~ Mark/Karen  
Children's Time ~ Sue Short  
Hymn ~ Anita Roth  
"Lord, Listen To Your Children" (HWB 353)  
Prayer of Confession  
Words of Assurance  
Scripture ~ Mark 1:1-15  
Sermon ~ John David Thacker  
Sharing Our Stories ~ David Kanagy  
Hymn ~ Anita Roth  
"Guide My Feet" (vs 1-2)  
Prayer for Church & World ~ Mike Zimmerman  
Sending Hymn ~ Anita Roth  
"To God Be The Glory" (HWB 102)  
Benediction ~ John David Thacker



## Attendance & Offering

February 11: 135  
January offering was \$22,404.

*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

**Lent 2024 (begins February 18th) - "Christ Among Us":** This year's Lenten texts focus on covenants. They point to God's history of reaching out to continue in relationship with God's people. Time and time again, humanity fails to follow these covenants, yet God's mercy and grace remain. Christ is among us, reminding us of who we are - God's beloved.

**Sunday, Feb 18 - Lent 1: "Christ Among Us, Repent and Believe"**

(Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; Mark 1:9-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22.)

**Sunday, Feb 25 - Lent 2: "Christ Among Us, Showing Us Faith"**

(Genesis 17:1-17; Psalm 22:23-31; Mark 8:31-38; Romans 4:13-25)

**Sunday, March 3 - Lent 3: "Christ Among Us, Showing Us Justice"**

(Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; John 2:13-22; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

**Sunday, March 10 - Lent 4: "Christ Among Us, the Way of Mercy"**

(Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22; John 3:14-21; Ephesians 2:1-10)

**Sunday, March 17 - Lent 5: "Christ Among Us, the New Covenant"**

(Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 119:9-16; John 12:20-33; Hebrews 5:5-10)

**Sunday, March 24 - Lent 6, PALM SUNDAY: "Christ Among Us, the Way of a Servant"**

(Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11/John 12:12-16; Philippians 2:5-11)

## Prayers for the Global Church

**Mennonite Education Agency:**

Hesston (Kan.) College: Pray for all those participating in the Little Lark Dance Clinic at Hesston College this weekend. May they have fun together and gain new skills.

Bluffton (Ohio) University: Candidates for the President of Bluffton University Student Senate will debate one another today during Forum. Please pray for our student leaders this week as they help guide Bluffton University into the future.

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.: We pray for all the students currently rehearsing for the high school musical production: Fiddler on the Roof, March 1-3.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Tomorrow, members of the Community of Anabaptist Theological Institutions will gather for a four-day meeting in Mexico. Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the leaders of Anabaptist seminaries in Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico and the United States, as they collaborate to expand Spanish-language opportunities for church leadership development.

**Ohio Conference** asks you to join in prayer for Meghan Larissa Good, who will be speaking throughout the upcoming Annual Conference Assembly on March 1-2 at Sharon Mennonite Church in Plain City. Pray for clarity during her final preparations and as she delivers her messages to the gathered body. May the Spirit guide her words and open the hearts of those present to learn from what she has to bring.

## Ongoing Classes

**From January through May, John David will be offering two evening classes a week.** Tuesday nights will focus on exploring and practicing spiritual disciplines together.

Thursday evenings will be a teaching time on topics such as Scripture and theology. Thursday, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall: John David will start a three-week series on the history of Israel from the Exodus to the time of Jesus. This week's class will focus on the Exodus to the start of the Monarchy.

## Thank You

Thank you, CHAOS youth, for the plates of Valentine's Day cookies!

They were a wonderful surprise and were delicious!!!!

- Bethany, Sue, and John David



**Last Sunday, February 11th**, special guest Bradley Kauffman debuted his arrangement of "Be Thou My Vision," sung by the Zion choir. This arrangement was commissioned in memory of Dale Weldy.

## **Book Nook**

Here are a list of books that have been donated to the Library.

- "*Lets Make a Memory*" by Gaither & Dobson: Great ideas for building family traditions.
- "*Anabaptist Vision*" by H.S. Bender
- "*Reflections on PAX after 50 Years*" by Ed Ray Kauffman & Al Keim
- "*Eastern Mennonite University—History*" by Donald B. Kraybill
- "*Politics of Jesus*" by John H. Yoder: *theology*
- "*God Calling*" edited by A.S. Russell: *devotional*
- "*Gospel of Christmas Reflections for Advent*" by Patty Kirk
- "*Holy Bible—Sourceview Experiencing the Drama of God's Story*" New Living Testament
- "*The Hidden Jesus—The New Life*" Biography by David Spoto

Fiction

- "*Tobias of the Amish*" by Ervin R. Stutzman
- "*Out of the Ashes*" by Tracie Peterson

## **New Announcements**

**Our children's time focus during Lent is on prayer.** Please join the children and youth and add your Lenten prayers to the prayer tree in the narthex.

**Last chance to bring in your batteries!** We will be mailing the battery box back soon. If you have used batteries you would like to recycle, please bring them to the office by February 26th.

## **Don't Forget**

**Anabaptist World magazine** subscriptions are once again being renewed. If you are receiving it and would like to renew it for another year, or if you would like to start receiving it, please contact Bethany in the church office ([church.zionmc@gmail.com](mailto:church.zionmc@gmail.com), 419.445.3796) by February 20th.. Cost for the subscription will be \$39.

**Mennonite Central Committee is looking ahead to summer 2024**, when we invite young adults of color from across the U.S. to participate in Summer Service. This grant program lets the next generation of peacemakers gain spiritual direction, work experience and extra income while serving their churches or communities for 10 weeks. In turn, host churches benefit from fresh perspectives, seasonal assistance and the time-tested joy that comes with mentoring tomorrow's leaders. MCC covers 75% of costs associated with the program. We invite you to work with interested young adults to create a role that aligns church and community needs with their unique talents, goals and interests. Learn more and apply at [mcc.org/summerservice](http://mcc.org/summerservice). Or email Brooke Strayer at [BrookeStrayer@mcc.org](mailto:BrookeStrayer@mcc.org).

**Everence offers college scholarship opportunities for you or your children.** Eligible students can be chosen to receive scholarships of \$3,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000 for the coming academic year. Applications are accepted through Feb. 28. Visit [everence.com/college-scholarships](http://everence.com/college-scholarships) to download the application.

**Save the date!** **MEN'S BREAKFAST** at 9 am on March 9th in the Fellowship Hall at Zion. The even is free and guests are welcome. Please sign up across from the mailboxes.