

# 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 25, 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 25

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

### Monday, February 26

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting

### Tuesday, February 27

7:00 pm ~ Goshen college "Voices Of Earth" Concert

### Wednesday, February 28

6:30 pm ~ Worship Team

### Thursday, February 29

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

### Friday, March 1—Saturday, March 2

Ohio Conference ACA at Sharon Mennonite Church

### Sunday, March 3

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

## Nursery Workers

February 25: Joe Graber, Ben Wheeler  
March 3: Rachel Aeschliman, Ella Richer

## Happy Birthday

February 25 ~ Kate Roth  
February 26 ~ Kerry Beck, Randy Stuckey  
February 27 ~ Chad Aeschliman  
March 1 ~ Joyce Nafziger, Ronald Nofziger  
March 2 ~ Clint Wirick

## Attendance & Offering

February 18th: 85  
January offering was \$22,404.

## Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey  
Welcome & Announcements ~ Karen Ruth  
Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey  
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Karen Ruth  
Hymn ~ Cheryl Britsch  
"Come And Fill Our Hearts" (STJ 59)  
Offering/Offertory ~ Karen/Karen  
Children's Time ~ Karen Ruth  
Hymn ~ Cheryl Britsch  
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (HWB 327)  
Prayer of Confession  
Song of Assurance  
Scripture ~ Mark 8:31-38  
Sermon ~ John David Thacker  
Hymn of Response ~ Cheryl Britsch  
"We Walk By Faith" (HWB 570)  
Sharing Our Stories ~ John David Thacker  
Hymn ~ Cheryl Britsch  
"Guide My Feet" (vs 1,3)  
Prayer for Church & World ~ Sue Short  
Sending Song ~ Cheryl Britsch  
"When We Walk With The Lord" (HWB 544)  
Benediction ~ John David Thacker



*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 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 involved in the spring musical at Hesston College in the coming days. Pray nerves are kept to a minimum, excitement fills their experience, and the audience enjoys the talents shared.

Bluffton (Ohio) University: Please pray for our student artists at Bluffton whose work will be featured in both senior exhibits and the annual juried student exhibit this semester. Please pray for inspiration and resilience for their artistic endeavors and aspirations.

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.: Admissions season is in full swing. Applications are open for new students to join EMS for the 2024/25 school year.

Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.: Pray for the Bethel College nursing faculty and academic dean as they host the periodic program accreditation visit.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** requests prayer for Jae Young Lee, Karen Spicher and their children, who live and work for peace from their home in the Peace Building in South Korea. Pray for them and all the ministries housed in the Peace Building — restorative justice programs, Grace and Peace Mennonite Church and Circle Café & Bakery.

**Ohio Conference** invites you to cover its upcoming Annual Conference Assembly on March 1-2 in prayer. Please pray for everyone involved, including Dan Miller, Interim Conference Minister; Ken Sims, Moderator; Paula Snyder Belousek, Assistant Moderator; Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi, Conference Consultant; and Meghan Larissa Good, guest speaker. Pray for the Spirit to be present as delegates discern, worship, learn and fellowship together.

## 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 continue 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 Monarchy.

## Thank You

Thank you to the CHAOS students and Duane & Cecilia Wyse, for the great job helping at the Family meal on Wednesday night. We appreciate you so much and your willingness to help out serving and cleaning up afterward.

- The Fellowship Commission

## 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

**On the Level announcement:** The February edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Kevin King shares his insights on Jesus passion for sharing meals, learn how MDS volunteers are finding additional work along the Texas border, and find out why one woman says MDS is the light of Canada. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/49pNHoc>

**Annual Conference Assembly preview:** Next weekend, Friday, March 1st and Saturday, March 2nd, pastors and delegates from around Ohio Conference will gather at Sharon Mennonite Church (Plain City, OH) for Annual Conference Assembly 2024. John David Thacker, Sue Short, and Barb Yoder will be serving as delegates from Zion. For the past two years, the Conference Leadership Team, pastors, and delegates have been providing feedback toward an overhaul of the Conference's structure. This is a healthy practice that organizations do periodically to ensure that their structure fits the current needs of the organization. Zion had a period of discernment and restructuring several years ago along similar lines. This year's voting will be whether or not to approve these strategic restructuring changes, and the subsequent wording to the constitution which would reflect these changes. Some of the proposed changes include items such as reducing the number of required meetings for volunteer leaders, merging committees which are working toward similar goals, and restructuring some paid leadership roles. Additionally, Tony Doehrmann recently announced his retirement from serving as Regional Pastor, and some of these staffing changes reflect a shift in the work that he had previously done. There are a few paper copies of the documents on the table across from the mailboxes. You may also contact the church office to have copies emailed to you.

**Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes is seeking a Church and Community Liaison.** This role will be responsible for establishing and maintaining relationships with congregations and constituent groups in the Great Lakes region. This includes speaking in churches, representing MCC in various settings and promoting and encouraging the utilization of MCC programs, resources and materials. This position may be remote or hybrid in the Great Lakes region where MCC U.S. is a registered employer. For more information and to apply by March 10, visit [mcc.org/gl-church-community](http://mcc.org/gl-church-community).

**Blood drive at RUIHLEY PARK:** If you are able, come give blood at the Red Cross blood drive March 5th from 11am until 5pm. To make an appointment, please call 1.800.733.2767 or go online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code: RUIHLEYPARK. See the bulletin boards for more information.

## Don't Forget

**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.

**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, or contact the office