

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

March 24, 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, March 24

8:30 am ~ Sojourners (310)
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School

Monday, March 25

9:00 am ~ Holy Week open prayer (sanctuary)
9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting (office)
5:00 pm ~ Holy Week open prayer (sanctuary)

Tuesday, March 26

9:00 am ~ Holy Week open prayer (sanctuary)
5:00 pm ~ Holy Week open prayer (sanctuary)

Wednesday, March 27

9:00 am ~ Holy Week open prayer (sanctuary)
5:00 pm ~ Holy Week open prayer (sanctuary)
7:00 pm ~ CHAOS (6th-8th)
7:00 pm ~ MYF Life Planning (high school)

Thursday, March 28

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer (fellowship hall)
9:00 am ~ Holy Week open prayer (sanctuary)
6:00 pm ~ Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

Friday, March 29

9:00 am ~ Holy Week open prayer (sanctuary)
7:00 pm ~ Good Friday Service

Sunday, March 31 ~ *Easter*

8:30 am ~ Easter potluck breakfast
9:00 am ~ Easter Hymn sing
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ No Sunday School

Nursery Workers

March 24: Eric & Marcia Lehman
March 31: Elaine Short, Carol Short

Happy Birthday & Anniversary

March 29 ~ Sarah Berry
March 27 ~ John & Cathi Baer (60 years)

Attendance & Offering

March 17th: 85
February offering was \$22,987.

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Karen Ruth
Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Karen Ruth
Hymns ~ Julia Richer
 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" (VT 313)
 "Ride On, Ride On In Majesty" (VT 316)
Offering/Offertory ~ Karen/Karen
Children's Time ~ Bonnie Stuckey
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
 "Revelation Song" (VT 415)
Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance ~ Karen Ruth
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
 "What Wondrous Love Is This" (VT 564)
Scripture ~ Mark 11:1-11
Sermon ~ John David Thacker
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
 "All Glory, Laud, And Honor" (VT 315)
Sharing Our Stories ~ Don Oesch
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
 "Guide My Feet" (vs 1,3)
Prayer for Church & World ~ Suz Wirick
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
 "My Soul Cries Out" (VT 412)
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

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)

Thursday, March 28th: Maundy Thursday Service - 6:00pm soup supper, foot/handwashing, communion, worship.

Friday, March 29th: Good Friday Service - 7:00pm worship

Sunday, March 31st - Easter Sunday:

(8:30am Easter breakfast (finger foods) potluck; 9:00am Hymn Sing; 9:30am worship.)

Drop-In Prayer and Spiritual Practices: Monday (3/25) - Friday (3/29) in the sanctuary: Morning times are from 9:00-11:00am each day during Holy Week. Drop by the sanctuary at any point during this time. Stay for a few minutes, or for a longer period. This is unstructured time - there will be prayer and scripture guides, coloring pages, journaling paper, objects to hold, etc... on a table at the back of the sanctuary. Take what interests you as you enter, and leave reusable items on the table as you exit. Evening times are from 5:00-7:00pm on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings. (Thursday and Friday evenings are the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services)

Prayers for the Global Church

Mennonite Education Agency:

Goshen (Ind.) College: Pray for Goshen College senior artists and musicians as they display their hard work through exhibits and recitals near the end of the month.

Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, Va.: Heading into the Easter Holiday, we pray for God's grace, comfort, strength, and renewal.

Bluffton (Ohio) University: On March 26, Sarah Augustine, executive director of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, is providing Bluffton's annual Keeney Peace Lecture, "So We and Our Children May Live." Please pray for the campus community as we consider and learn about ecological solutions beyond the economic and cultural systems responsible for our current climate crisis.

Mennonite Mission Network: Praise God for the 75 years of healing ministry by dedicated personnel at Mennonite Christian Hospital in Hualien, Taiwan, the largest Mennonite hospital in the world. Join Mennonite Mission Network in praying for Dr. Jacob Chang and the hospital staff as the services they offer grow to meet the needs of the populations they serve; the elderly, mothers and children and those with special needs.

Weeknight Classes

Tuesday, Spiritual Practices: We will not meet at 7PM. We invite you to drop-in for open prayer in the sanctuary from 5-7 PM.

Thursday, Bible and Theology: We will not meet; the Maundy Thursday service will be at 6 PM.

New Addresses

Robert Grieser has moved to apartment 235 at Fairlawn.

Doug & Ruth (Grieser) Shoemaker have moved to 302 DeGroff Ave., Archbold.

Church School Sunday

Church School Day- Sunday, April 28 - Michael Danner, Executive Director of Mennonite Education Agency & Associate Executive Director of Church Vitality for MCUSA, will visit & share the morning message. After worship we'll have a session in the fellowship hall for all interested to explain Zion's student aid program, hear additional input from Michael as well as Zion's Elijah Zimmerman (a current student at Bluffton University) & give opportunity to pledge financial support toward the program.

Next school year Zion will have six students at the Mennonite schools. We have a fundraising goal of \$93,000 for the year. Those unable to attend on April 28th may make confidential pledges at any time via the secure electronic link below, or by contacting Phil Bontrager (pabontrager@gmail.com or cell 419-966-3127). Link to electronic pledge form: Zion College Financial Aid Pledge
~ College Financial Aid Committee

New Announcements

CPC Women's Health Resource 38th Annual Spring Benefit & Silent Auction will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at the Archbold Evangelical Church (705 Lafayette St, Archbold, OH 43502). The doors open at 5:30pm with dinner being served at 6:00pm and the program starting at 7:00pm. The suggested donation is \$10 per adult and those under 18 are free. We prefer that you register at cpcnwo.org/events/benefit or call 419.636.5692.

St. Martin's Concert Series is proud to present Found Sounds on April 7 @ 3pm. This versatile group of musicians from NE Ohio specializes in various percussion music from around the world. This performance will feature the national instrument of Trinidad and Tobago, the steelpan. Made up of alumni from the acclaimed University of Akron Steel Drum Band, Found Sounds will transport you to the Caribbean with instrumental reggae, calypso, and soca music with many familiar pop tunes! For more information visit: <https://the-welcome-place.org/about/worship-and-music/st-martins-2023-2024-concert-series/>

On the Level announcement: The March edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Kevin King explores where we would see Jesus in disaster responses, get the latest on the damage left by the Midwest tornadoes, and learn how a remote electrician is adding a spark to an MDS project. Plus, check out the volunteer opportunities for this summer and fall. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/4adqsxS>

Join MCC Great Lakes for the Dismukes Project Learning Tour on August 14-17: This learning tour provides a unique experience to learn more about Black history and experiences in the coalfields of Appalachia, while also learning the incredible story of Dr. Henry Dodford Dismukes, an African American physician in the early 1900's. Participants will visit various sites connected with Dr. Dismukes, hear from local speakers, learn about MCC's work to preserve Black history in the area and attend a gala on Dr. Dismukes Day. Learn more and register at mcc.org/dismukes-learning-tour

MCC's Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP) home repair program is seeking summer staff in Kimball, West Virginia or Elkhorn City, Kentucky. These three-month positions for Job Site Coordinators and Meals Coordinators will allow you to explore new cultures, develop skills, build friendships and live out your faith. Applicants should be at least 19 years old, but the roles are not limited to young adults. An hourly wage plus room and board are provided. For more information and to apply, visit mcc.org/swap-summer-meals or mcc.org/swap-summer-job-site. Or contact the MCC Appalachia SWAP office at (606) 634-4418 or AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org.

Thank You

Adriel is so grateful to have received the endowment fund grant! We are eager to begin ordering the items for the foster parent tool kits. We are hopeful this will be a powerful resource for those beginning, as well as those already providing foster care. Thank you for your support and caring for the foster care community. Jenn Butler, Vice President of Adriel Development.

Sue's seminary update

Thank you so much for your prayers and words of encouragement for my senior interview last Monday! During the interview process, I was first required to offer a 20 minute presentation. Afterward, the panel questioned me about what I presented, as well as questioned me about the papers that I had submitted, and my journey through seminary. I was quite nervous ahead of the interview because I knew they could literally ask me anything from the past 6 years of work! I am happy to report that the process all went very well, and I am approved for graduation at the end of April!

For the rest of this semester, I have one final paper left to complete, several more weeks of class, and several more weeks of my internship placement at the hospice in-patient center in Defiance. Graduation weekend is Friday, April 26th - Saturday, April 27th. The weekend includes the Dean's Luncheon, official photos, and the Commissioning Service on Friday, as well as graduation rehearsal, more photos, and the Commencement Ceremony on Saturday. The Friday Commissioning Service and the Saturday Commencement Ceremony will also be available to watch live online. If you are interested in watching either of these, I can provide the links when they are available.

During the months of May, June, and July, I'll be finishing up a course that I began last summer. At the end of July, then, I'll be totally and completely done with my Master of Divinity degree program. It's challenging to get all of the course requirements completed by graduation, especially since some of them are not offered each year. Many students end up "graduating," and then finishing up a summer class, or even a summer class and a fall class, in good faith. I know some of my fellow graduates will also be continuing their work for a time beyond graduation weekend.

I am so deeply grateful for all of your support. I brag about all of you often, telling my professors and classmates what a wonderful congregation I serve. Thank you for accompanying me on this journey!