

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

November 10, 2024

Elder Co-Chair Greg Nofziger 419-583-6769

Elder Co-Chair Suz Wirick 419-966-2266

Elder Barb Yoder 567-694-3112

Elder Chris Richer 517-320-0429

Zion Activities this Week

Sunday, November 10

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)

9:00 am ~ Choir

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

7:00 pm ~ Choir/JCS Hymn Sing & Concert

Monday, November 11

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting (office)

11:00 am ~ Congregational Caregivers (310)

5:30 pm ~ SLT Meeting (MYF room)

Tuesday, November 12

8:30 am ~ Kitchen reserved

7:00 pm ~ Church Council (310)

Wednesday, November 13

9:00 am ~ Mennonite Women

5:30 pm ~ Church Family Meal

7:00 pm ~ CHAOS (6th-8th)

7:00 pm ~ MYF (high school)

Thursday, November 14

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer (310)

7:00 pm ~ Contemplative Worship (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm ~ Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

Friday, November 15

11:00 am ~ Enchilada Fundraiser (Carryout)

Sunday, November 17

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

Nursery Workers

November 10: Brad & Rachel Short

November 17: Deb Zimmerman & Grace Hastings

Happy Birthday

November 10 ~ Clementine Brooks

November 10 ~ Karen Ruth

November 10 ~ Karen Stuckey

November 13 ~ Lincoln Aeschliman

Happy Anniversary

November 16 ~ Ed & Elaine Swartzbaugh (28 years)

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Welcome & Announcements ~ Holly Liechty

Interlude ~ Choir

"Praise The Lord" (G.F. Handel)

Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Holly Liechty

Choir

"Babylon Is Falling" (W.E. Chute)

Hymn ~ Julia Richer

"The Word Of God Is Solid Ground" (VT 399)

Offering/Offertory ~ Holly/Bonnie

Scripture ~ Revelation 19:11-16

Hymns ~ Julia Richer & Joe Graber

"Open The Eyes Of My Heart" (VT 401)

"My Soul Cries Out" (VT 412)

Sermon ~ John David Thacker

Communion

Prayer for Church & World ~ Sue Short

Hymn ~ Julia Richer

"All Will Be Well" (VT 586)

Benediction ~ John David Thacker

Attendance & Offering

November 3: 118 ~ \$5,146



*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.*

Revelation Worship Series

November 10: Read Revelation 15-19 (sermon: Revelation 19:11-16)

- ◆ Where is the sword of the White Rider? What is the most effective weapon against evil?
- ◆ Describe the battle in 19:19-20.

November 17: Read Revelation 20-22 (sermon: Revelation 21:1-8)

- ◆ What does the description of the city of God teach us about God's desires for us?
- ◆ How does this book give us hope?

Midweek Service & Class Info

Tuesdays at 7 PM: There will be **no** Bible study on Tuesday, November 12th.

On **Thursdays at 7 PM:** Join us for a contemplative service of prayer and silence and scripture.

Pastoral Review

The Pastor Congregation Relations Committee (PCRC) is patterning the upcoming pastoral review after the review document that was used in 2020, along with some updates. The PCRC has conferred with the Interim Conference Minister, Dan Miller, to look over the survey before releasing it to the congregation to be completed. The PCRC also asked the pastors to fill out a form about themselves, which will be compared to the congregation's feedback.

The review process timeline will be as follows:

- **November 10th:** Surveys are available for completion and will close on December 10th.
- **December/ January:** PCRC will compile and evaluate the responses to the survey.
- **January/ February:** PCRC will review a summary of the evaluation and responses with Pastors and Elders
- **February/March:** PCRC will provide the Congregation with a summary of results.

Electronic survey responses are encouraged via Google Docs and a link will be provided. Paper surveys are available on the table across the mailboxes, and PCRC members would also be willing to have face-to-face sit-downs to receive direct input from congregants and a sign-up sheet is available for those on the table.

If you have questions or need clarification, please feel free to contact one of the PCRC members: Micah Frankenfield, Bonnie Stuckey, Rachel Short and Larry Short

Mark Nafziger's Nepal Trip

A little over two years ago I was honored and humbled to be invited to be a part of an exhibit at the embassy through the U.S. State Department's Arts in Embassies program. https://art.state.gov/personnel/mark_nafziger/

The Museum of Modern Art first envisioned this global visual arts program in 1953, and President John F. Kennedy formalized it at the U.S. Department of State in 1963. Today, Art in Embassies is an official visual arts office within the U.S. Department of State, engaging over 20,000 participants globally, including artists, museums, galleries, universities, and private collectors. It encompasses over 200 venues in 189 countries. <https://art.state.gov/about/>

Growing out of this exhibit has arisen an invitation to be an Arts Envoy.

The Arts Envoy Program engages American artists and arts professionals in cultural exchange programs and shares the best of the U.S. arts community with the world to foster cross-cultural understanding and collaboration, to demonstrate shared values and aspirations. American arts professionals -- including performing artists, visual artists, poets, playwrights, chefs, dancers, theatrical and film directors, curators, and others -- travel overseas to conduct workshops, give performances, and mentor young people. U.S. artists also engage online through virtual programs that often allow for greater reach and longer-term connections. Programs connect with international publics seeking to interact and connect with American arts professionals. <https://exchanges.state.gov/us/program/arts-envoy>

Joyce and I will be traveling to Nepal on November 14th and returning December 2. Please keep us in your prayers.

Mark Nafziger

Spiritual Leadership Team

October 14, 2024

Pastor Evaluations: Greg opened the meeting by inviting Micah Frankenfield to update us on the progress Pastor Congregation Relations Committee (PCRC) is making on the plans to begin pastor evaluations. Micah had shared the current evaluation plans with interim Conference Minister, Dan Miller, and relayed to the SLT information from his response. Another item of discussion in relation to the pastor evaluations had to do with ways to inform the congregation of the process for completing the evaluation.

The PCRC will meet within the next 10 days and get specific dates on the process, and will make a verbal announcement this coming Sunday. (which was October 20)

Devotion: Our devotion was led by Sue, and centered on chapter four of the book *Divine Gravity* by Meghan Good. This chapter addresses the question of why people don't go to church. The author asks us to consider how we could continue to evolve how we worship together to fit the needs of this time and place, but emphasizes that the church cannot continue to carry out God's purpose if the followers of Jesus each go their own way and abandon the idea of a community working together with one purpose.

Sue's Sabbatical: The topic from *Divine Gravity* was a good lead into Sue sharing about her sabbatical. She detailed for us the things she appreciated having the chance to do, and what she also learned about boundaries through this experience. The final element of her sabbatical discussed was her time visiting other churches.

Congregational Annual Meeting: It was decided that Greg would read the SLT report at the Congregational Annual Meeting on October 20, 2024. He will make sure to acknowledge Mike's time on SLT. Reviewing previous discussions, we learned that there are still some funds left from memorial donations. There is also money available for use in the aid fund and the compassion fund.

Pastoral Concerns were discussed.

Next meeting: The next SLT meeting will be on November 11, at 5:30. Suz will lead the opening using chapter 5 of *Divine Gravity* as the center of the conversation.



We would love to add your individual/family picture to the church family bulletin board!

Please put a 4x6 (or smaller) print in Rachel (Brad) Short's mailbox. You are also welcome to turn in an updated picture if you want a current picture swapped out.

Questions?

Contact Rachel at 419-572-9922 or rmshort67@gmail.com.



Christmas Cheer



TREE TAGS FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH OFFICE BEGINNING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH THROUGH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH. A TABLE WILL BE SET UP OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR DONATED ITEMS.

1,200 FULTON COUNTY FAMILIES WILL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PERSONALIZED SHOPPING EXPERIENCE IN THE JUNIOR FAIR BUILDING IN WAUSEON. FAMILIES MAY SHOP FOR ANYTHING FROM CANNED GOODS AND DETERGENTS TO HATS, GLOVES, TOWELS, AND MORE.

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION, YOU MAY DO SO ONLINE THROUGH CHRISTMAS CHEER'S WEBSITE

FULTONCOUNTYCHRISTMASCHEER.ORG OR BY SENDING A CHECK TO: CHEER, PEG HINES 209 BURKE ST., ARCHBOLD, OH 43502.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Book Nook

New Book *When Faith Is Forbidden* by Todd Nettleton, is a donated book about the sufferings that Christians go through in countries like China, Nepal, North Korea and Turkey.

New Announcements

Church Family Meal will be Wednesday evening at 5:30pm. It will be a soup and pie meal: chicken and rice, chili and vegetarian butternut squash soup. Come and fellowship with your Zion family.

"**Come join the Zion and PEACE Mennonite Women** on Wed., November 13 from 9 am to 3 pm. Share your God given abilities with those around the world in need by quilting, knotting, tying, sewing and fellowshiping with others. Lunch is provided and Cheryl Britsch will do a devotional. YOU are welcome!"

Don't Forget

We are in the process of finalizing the formation of small groups in the congregation. If you would like to be part of a small group, please let Carol Short, Glora Belle Yoder or Karen Ruth know in the next few weeks. The groups are projected to begin meeting in January with a commitment of one year.

Mennonite Arts Weekend: Early-bird registration is open for the 2025 Mennonite Arts Weekend in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 7-9. This weekend celebrates the creativity and discipline of Anabaptist Mennonite artists. Find the list of presenters, registration and location information at <https://mennoniteartsweekend.org>

MCC Borderlands Peace Camp, Jan. 19-25, 2025: Young adults, ages 18-30, are invited to join MCC in El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico in January! This MCC Peace Camp will explore topics of peace and justice through the lens of migration, including the Biblical mandate of hospitality. Find out more and register by January 5 at mcc.org/borderlands-peace-camp.

Serving And Learning Together (SALT) applications now open for 2025! Each year, MCC offers 80+ unique opportunities to serve with our local partners working for relief, development and peace around the world. Explore the numerous possibilities that match your passions, skills, and experience. If you're between the ages of 18-30, the SALT program might be the epic adventure you've been waiting for. Check it out at mcc.org/salt!

Northern Indiana MCC Comforter Bash: Join us on November 8 and 9 for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Comforter Bash in Goshen. People of all ages are invited to knot comforters at Pleasant View Church (58529 County Road 23). For more information about the event visit mcc.org/northern-in-comforter-bash or contact LaVera Schlabach (574.538.9629) or MCC Great Lakes (GreatLakes@mcc.org or 574.534.4071). A handmade comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten.

Dates: Friday, November 8 (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.); Saturday, November 9 (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Volunteers are especially needed on Saturday! Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day on Saturday. Must be present to win.

Location: Pleasant View Church - 58529 County Road 23, Goshen, IN 46528

Fundraising Benefit: Esther Boylan will be holding an Enchilada Dinner Fundraiser to help with family medical expenses, on **Friday, November 15th at Zion Mennonite Church**. Dinner includes 2 beef enchiladas, rice and beans with a side of mild salsa for \$7 a plate. **Carryout only from 11:30 am-1 pm and 3-6pm**. Call ahead to pre-order more than 5 plates. See the bulletin boards for more information.

Exploring Baptism: We would like to offer an upcoming *Exploring Baptism* class for any high school student or adult who is interested. Through readings, spiritual practices, and group discussion, we'll explore what it means to follow Jesus, and to engage with the ongoing story of God at work in us and in our world. Participation in the class does not *require* baptism. We are committed, initially, to meeting together to learn more. Each class member will be asked at the conclusion to decide whether they are ready to commit themselves to be baptized. See Sue or John David if you'd like to join the class.

Honey for Hurricane Relief: There will be honey at church on Sunday for a freewill donation to MCC or MDS's work of hurricane relief. If you have any questions, please contact Larry Wyse.