

# 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 17, 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 17**

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

### **Monday, November 18**

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting (office)

### **Tuesday, November 19**

7:00 pm ~ Bible Study: Rev. 15-16 (310)

### **Wednesday, November 20**

5:30 pm ~ ZOW (kitchen) (preschool-5th)

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

7:00 pm ~ MYF (high school)

### **Thursday, November 21**

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)

### **Sunday, November 24**

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

## Order of Service

**Prelude** ~ Karen Stuckey

**Welcome & Announcements** ~ Keith Lehman

**Interlude** ~ Karen Stuckey

**Call to Worship & Prayer** ~ Keith Lehman

**Hymns** ~ Eric Lehman

“Sing A New World Into Being” (VT 809)

“Soon And Very Soon” (VT 669)

**Offering/Offertory** ~ Keith/Karen

**Scripture** ~ Revelation 21:1-14; 22-27

**Hymn** ~ Eric Lehman

“New Earth, Heavens New” (VT 377)

**Sermon** ~ John David Thacker

**Hymn** ~ Eric Lehman

“From North and South, from East and West” (VT 460)

**Prayer for Church & World**

**Sending Hymn** ~ Eric Lehman

“Come, We That Love The Lord” (VT 31)

**Benediction** ~ John David Thacker

## Nursery Workers

**November 17:** Deb Zimmerman & Grace Hastings

**November 24:** Eric & Marcia Lehman

## Happy Birthday

**November 18** ~ Larry Short

**November 19** ~ Verlan Klinger

**November 22** ~ Virginia Doehrmann

## Happy Anniversary

**November 17** ~ John & Karmin Brooks (12 years)

**November 19** ~ Clint & Suz Wirick (36 years)

**November 23** ~ Tim & Sherry Wagler (39 years)

## Attendance & Offering

**November 10:** 118 ~ \$3,916



*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 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?

## Upcoming Worship

**November 24:** Read Philippians chapter 4. (focus will be on verses 4-13)

- ◆ What does it mean to 'rejoice' or 'not to be anxious' in the face of struggle? Is it more than just pasting a smile on our face?
- ◆ What word of hope does this text offer as we anticipate Thanksgiving and the beginning of the Advent season?

**Special Guest Sunday, December 1st:** MCC Great Lakes reached out to the pastors about an opportunity to invite Pastor Victor Dogos to Zion. Pastor Dogos is from Chad, and will be traveling around our area for a short time. He is the 2023 recipient of the Michael J. Sharp Peace Award. His work centers on empowering multiple faith denominations and tribal leaders to live together in peace. We are excited that his schedule allows him to be here on a Sunday morning, and for the opportunity to learn from his stories. Pastor Dogos will offer a mission moment during worship on December 1st, and will also speak during the Sunday School for those who would like to hear more about his experiences.

## Midweek Service & Class Info

**Tuesdays at 7 PM:** There will be a Bible Study on Revelation. We will be studying chapters 15-16 this week. This series will run through the end of the year.

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

## Prayers for the Global Church

**Mennonite Education Agency:**

**Bluffton (Ohio) University:** Please pray for Bluffton University's campus community, as we move forward in our five-year strategic plan, with attention on academic success, wellbeing, emotional intelligence, social justice and advocacy.

**Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa:** Pray for our student athletes, as they begin the basketball season. During the long winter season, as they practice, compete and travel, pray for the health and well-being of our teams and coaches, for spectators coming onto our campus, and for our fans.

**Hesston (Kansas) College:** Please pray for our Masterworks Concert, happening this Saturday evening at Hesston Mennonite Church. Bless our fine arts faculty, music students and guest musicians, as they prepare. May their gifts and talents bring joy to the audience and glory to the Lord.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Freddy Barrón and Margrit Kipfer Barrón, who are serving with Mennonite Mission Network in Bolivia, request prayer for all regions around the world experiencing a lack of rainfall that is leading to devastating wildfires. Pray specifically for Chiquitania, near Santa Cruz, Bolivia, where fires are wiping out the world's largest remaining area of healthy dry forest ecosystems.

## 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 10<sup>th</sup>:** 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/](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

## New Announcements

**The Stewardship Team** is taking grant requests for the Zion endowment fund. Applications can be found on the table across from the mailboxes. They can be turned into the office or to Dan Ruth's box. Deadline for the applications is January 1, 2024. Please contact stewardship team with any questions. ~ Stewardship Team: Dan Ruth, Cal Britsch, Crystal Rodriguez & Lynn Roth.

**A note from Black Swamp Benefit, Inc.** The last annual Black Swamp Benefit, supporting the global work of MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) and the local work of Sunshine, Inc. was held in 2019. It is with great joy that we have been able to work alongside each of the organizations over the many years....working toward the goal of supporting each financially and bringing awareness to our community of their good works and what they do for those they serve. Your individual and church involvement were greatly appreciated! You volunteered your time and talents to the event. You donated and purchased auction and food items each year. This year any remaining event items were disposed of through donations to other non-profit organizations or by sale. Recently final checks were given. With your help, we raised and donated, after expenses, over \$2,308,616 for both organizations since 2002! THANK YOU! TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

## 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.

**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.



## 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](https://FULTONCOUNTYCHRISTMASCHEER.ORG) OR BY SENDING A CHECK TO: CHEER, PEG HINES 209 BURKE ST., ARCHBOLD, OH 43502.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!