

# 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  
Pastor John David Thacker

Elder Suz Wirick  
Elder Barb Yoder  
Elder Chris Richer  
Elder Max Aeschliman

LAMP: 419-445-0728  
Child's World Preschool: 419-445-6034

**November 16, 2025**

## Zion Activities this week

### Sunday, November 16

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

### Monday, November 17

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, November 19

6:00 pm ~ ZOW (preschool-6th)  
7:00 pm ~ MYF (high school)

### Thursday, November 20

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer  
10:00 am ~ Pastor Peer (off campus)  
7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

### Sunday, November 23

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

## Order of Service

Prelude ~ 1 AD  
Welcome & Announcements ~ Elaine Short  
Interlude ~ 1 AD  
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Elaine Short  
Hymns ~ 1 AD  
    "God Is Here Among Us" (VT 62)  
    "Just A Closer Walk With Thee" (VT 743)  
Scripture ~ Psalm 98  
Offering/Offertory ~ Elaine/1 AD  
Scripture ~ Matthew 6:19-23  
Sermon ~ John David Thacker  
Hymn ~ 1 AD  
    "Be Thou My Vision" (VT 549)  
Prayer for Church & World ~ Suz Wirick  
Sending Hymn ~ 1 AD  
    "Shalom Chaverim" (VT 842)  
Benediction ~ John David Thacker

## Happy Birthday

November 18 ~ Larry Short  
November 19 ~ Verlan Klinger  
November 22 ~ Virginia Doehrmann

## Happy Anniversary

November 16 ~ Ed & Elaine Swartzbaugh (29 years)  
November 17 ~ John & Karmin Brooks (13 years)

## Nursery Workers

November 16: Eric Creighton & Lincoln Aeschliman  
November 23: Greg Nofziger & Sam Hastings



**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

**November Worship:** Our theme this month is called *Whole Life Stewardship*. When we hear the words "giving" or "stewardship," we typically think of monetary gifts or tithes. While these are very important, Jesus invites us to follow him as Lord of every part of our lives. What might it look like to steward and tithe other parts of our lives as sacrificial acts of worship beyond Sunday morning?

**Nov 16:** *Stewarding our Attention* - Matthew 6:19-23

**Nov 23:** *Thanks and Gratitude Sunday* - 2 Cor 9:6-15

**Wed Nov 26: Thanksgiving Eve Service at Zion @ 7:00pm in the sanctuary with our friends from St Martin's Lutheran Church.** It is our turn this year to host the 20th annual joint worship service! Come enjoy a wonderful evening of worship, with fellowship and refreshments afterward.

**Advent Wreath/Candles and Nativity photos wanted:** The season of Advent is coming soon! Beginning Sunday, November 30th, which is the first Sunday of Advent, we'd like to show photos of your Advent wreaths and nativity sets. Like we did in August with photos of your garden, we'll put the photos we receive on slides to be shown during the offering. For those who haven't gotten their Christmas items out yet, photos of Advent wreaths/candles and nativity sets from previous years are welcome! **Please email photos to the church office:** [church.zionmc@gmail.com](mailto:church.zionmc@gmail.com) If you have photos on your phone and need help getting them off, bring your phone to the office and we'll try to assist you.

## New Announcements

**PORCHES & PEWS HOLIDAY TOUR** | *Saturday, Dec. 6* | 5–8 p.m. | Experience the charm of the season as you tour nine beautifully decorated homes and churches across Ridgeville Corners. Enjoy festive décor, warm hospitality, and a sweet treat at each stop. Some locations are walkable, while others are just a short drive — a wonderful way to enjoy the sights and spirit of Christmas in our community. Please note: The Porches & Pews Holiday Tour is the **only ticketed** portion of the Christmas in Ridgeville weekend. All other festivities — including Santa, the Live Nativity, ice skating, food trucks, and live music — are open to everyone! See the bulletin boards for more information.

**Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is hiring a full-time Director of Project Operations** to provide strategic leadership for the Field Operations teams and projects. The Director will ensure operational excellence through overseeing the planning, coordination, and evaluation of disaster response and rebuilding initiatives. As a key member of the MDS Leadership Team, the Director of Project Operations will also contribute to organizational strategy, growth initiatives, and long-term planning. The ideal candidate will demonstrate a deep passion for the mission and vision of Mennonite Disaster Service, along with genuine enthusiasm for strengthening partnerships and building relationships both externally and within the MDS community. Please submit resume and cover letter to North Group at (<https://northgroupconsultants.com/jobs/#jobs>).

**MCC is seeking a Church Relations and Program Engagement Coordinator:** The Church Relations and Program Engagement Coordinator strengthens connections with Anabaptist congregations across the Great Lakes region—especially churches of color, multicultural and marginalized congregations—while maintaining existing relationships. This full-time role fosters trust, builds partnerships and engages churches in MCC's mission through relationship-building, communication and collaboration. The coordinator will work closely with the Great Lakes Church Engagement and Community Outreach Coordinator. The coordinator tracks outreach trends, supports engagement activities and events, writes donor thank-you notes, and contributes to storytelling efforts. Regular regional travel, including occasional overnight stays, is required. **For more information click here:** [mccglobal.my.site.com/MCCJobs/s/vacancy-details?vacancyId=a2SIV000002MMLh2AO](https://mccglobal.my.site.com/MCCJobs/s/vacancy-details?vacancyId=a2SIV000002MMLh2AO)

## Thank You

Mennonite Women would like to send a special thank you to Carolyn Snyder for donating pieced quilt tops. You can see them on display in the coffee bar area. We will quilt them and decide where to donate them. Check out her perfect piecing. Carolyn has a gift from God, we are grateful for her generosity.

# ★ Christmas Cheer ★

TREE TAGS FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH OFFICE BEGINNING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH THROUGH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH. 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](http://FULTONCOUNTYCHRISTMASCHEER.ORG) OR BY SENDING A CHECK TO: CHEER, PEG HINES 209 BURKE ST., ARCHBOLD, OH 43502.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

## Book Nook

*Making It Plain* by Drew G.I. Hart is a book about why we need Anabaptism and the black church. Combining autobiographical narrative, history and theology, Hart makes his case for an Anabaptist faith. He explains why Anabaptism and the black church are needed to break away from the historic intertwining of Christianity, colonialism and empire. In *Anabaptist World Magazine* (November 2025 issue) there is a column written by Drew Hart on page 42.

## Don't Forget

**Barnabas Circle** is a companions in grief meeting the first Thursday of the month at West Clinton from 6-8 pm. This is a group for those walking through recent grief. They provide meals, fellowship, and a compassionate listen space. Please RSVP (for food numbers) at 419.445.1195 or [office@westclinton.church](mailto:office@westclinton.church). See the bulletin board for more information.

**Ready for a life-changing gap year?** Dive into **Service Adventure, a 10-month volunteer journey ages 17-20, now accepting applications for the term starting August 2026.** Live in community with peers and unit leaders, serve with local nonprofits and deepen in your faith alongside a supportive church congregation. Embrace adventure, grow in purpose and make a difference. Apply at [MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure](http://MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure).

**Anabaptist World had a mix up** and some folks received more than one issue. If this happened to you, please let Bethany in the office (or *Anabaptist World*) know. Feel free to share your extra copy with a friend!

**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, 2026. Please contact the Stewardship Team with any questions: Dan Ruth, Cal Britsch, Karin Legato & Lynn Roth.

**The Resettlement Support Team is looking for folks to help with transportation for our Ukrainian families.** We especially need those who have some availability during weekdays. A recent doctor's appointment had to be rescheduled because we couldn't find anyone to drive them. Our plan is that when a transportation need arises, volunteers will receive a text message describing the need as far in advance as possible. If you're available and willing to help during a requested time, we'll put you in touch with the person to be picked up. If not, no worries and no obligation! We hope to have enough people so that any individual volunteer only provides assistance occasionally. If you can help, please see a member of the RST team (Larry Wyse, Elizabeth Miller, Jana Wheeler, Karmin Brooks, or Stan Short).