

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

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

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

November 23, 2025

Zion Activities this week

Sunday, November 23

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

Monday, November 24

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting

Wednesday, November 26

7:00 pm ~ Thanksgiving Eve Service (sanctuary)

Thursday, November 27 ~ *Happy Thanksgiving!*

Church Reserved for the day
7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

Sunday, November 30

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

Happy Birthday

November 26 ~ Michelle Wyse
November 28 ~ Sam Hastings
November 29 ~ Kathy Nofziger

Happy Anniversary

November 23 ~ Tim & Sherry Wagler (40 years)

Nursery Workers

November 23: Greg Nofziger & Sam Hastings
November 30: Lonnie & Carol Short

Office News

The church office will be closed Thursday (11/27) and Friday (11/28).

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Jackie Lehman
Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Jackie Lehman
Hymns ~ Julia Richer
“Come, Ye Thankful People” (VT 123)
“Sing To The God Of Harvest” (VT 122)
Scripture ~ Psalm 36:5-10
Welcoming Joe & Karen Graber
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
“God Of Grace And God Of Glory” (VT 716)
Offering/Offertory ~ Jackie/Karen
Scripture ~ 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Sermon ~ John David Thacker
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
“God, Whose Giving” (VT 745)
Prayer for Church & World ~ Chris Richer
Sending Hymn ~ Julia Richer
“For The Fruit Of All Creation” (VT 124)
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

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 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 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.

Advent Gospel of Luke Read Thru: You are invited to join in our annual reading of Luke's gospel. Beginning Monday, December 1st, read one chapter each day, and on Christmas Eve you will have read Luke in its entirety. If you've done this in previous years, try mixing it up this time - listen to an audio Bible on Biblegateway.com, use a Bible app, read from a different Bible translation, read aloud with a family member or friend, etc... If you get behind, jump back in and keep going! The goal is to encounter Luke's gospel as a single unit. It's ok if it takes extra time to complete it.



Advent 2025 Worship: The Mystery of the Incarnation: As we look forward to the Second Coming of Christ, we remember the first coming of Jesus. This year during Advent, we want to focus on the mystery and gift of the Incarnation, a time when heaven and earth intersected. We look forward to a second Incarnation when Christ will bring shalom to all people. We will follow the lectionary texts with John 1 as an underlying text.

Sunday, Nov 30th - Advent 1: "He Came Down That We Might Have HOPE" (Romans 13:11-14)

Sunday, Dec 7th - Advent 2: "He Came Down That We Might Have PEACE" (Isaiah 11:1-10)

Sunday, Dec 14th - Advent 3: "He Came Down That We Might Have JOY" (Psalm 146:5-10; Luke 1:39-56)

Wednesday, Dec 17th - Longest Night Service @ 7:00pm

Sunday, Dec 21st - Advent 4: "He Came Down That We Might Have LOVE." (Matthew 1:18-25)

Wednesday, Dec 24th - Christmas Eve Service @ 7:00pm

Sunday, Dec 28th - Christmas Sunday (Matthew 2:13-23)



Book Nook

Faith In Full Color by Jeanne Jantzi is 77 richly illustrated stories that present a wide-ranging portrait of Anabaptism at the five-century mark. It celebrates but doesn't idealize the Anabaptist family. Along with the Anabaptist Community Bible, it's a gem in Menno Media's Anabaptism at 500 project.

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.

New Announcements

Dave Boshart, president of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, **will be joining the Sojourners/Builders Sunday School class today, November 23, at 8:30 via Zoom.** You are welcome to come to hear updates and information about AMBS.

Our preschoolers are having so much fun with all of the excitement that this time of year brings. As you do your black Friday shopping and think about year-end giving, we ask that you consider Child's World Preschool by shopping Mrs. King's Amazon Wishlist. While our tuition and supply fees help cover our basic expenses, it does not leave much wiggle room for new supplies, manipulatives, toys, etc. We appreciate your consideration and wish you the best this holiday season! Link to our class wishlist - https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2P343447RPKZO?ref=wl_share ~The CWP Board

***On the Level* announcement:** Our November edition of *On the Level* is now available. In this edition, Executive Director Kevin King shares a new version of 1 Corinthians 13, a new bridge brings hope to a grieving father, and meet a man who is both a disaster survivor and an MDS volunteer. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/3Li3eN>

Just Peace Pilgrimage: 2026 Your congregation, Sunday school class and other groups are invited to **join Mennonite Mission Network in a seven-day Civil Rights or Christ at the Borders Just Peace Pilgrimage** to explore how God is weaving justice and reconciliation in U.S. and other communities. Engage firsthand with people, churches, and organizations who share how they pursue peace. Through group reflection, prayer, and worship, process these experiences and connect them to your faith; then return home as "changed people" who can inspire and lead change in your own community. For more information about a pilgrimage for your group, contact Stephanie Weaver, StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net. www.mennonitemission.net/JustPeace

Support hope for migrating people Mennonite Mission Network invites **prayer and urgently needed financial support for Joseph and Rachel Givens**, who serve with the Maria Skobtsova Housing Association in Calais, France. Their ministry offers vital shelter and care to migrating people seeking refuge as they journey to England. Visit MennoniteMission.net/Givens and click "Give Now." For more information about their immigration ministry, contact Elizabeth Eby, ElizabethE@MMNWorld.net.

LAMP has partnered with Global Giving for Giving Tuesday. Every donation received will be matched by Global Giving. See the bulletin board for more information about donating (QR code available).

Don't Forget

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Meal train for Dahl's: Here is a link for a meal train we are arranging for the Dahl Family as they welcome baby Charlotte into their home. Click the [link](#) for more detail and to sign up. Meals begin December 2 and continue on December 4, 9 and 11.

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

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).