

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

January 18, 2026

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

Zion Activities this Week

Sunday, January 18

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

Monday, January 19 ~ *Office Closed*

Tuesday, January 20

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting
5:00 pm ~ PCRC (room 310)
6:30 pm ~ Host Ohio Mennonite Cluster (delegates)

Wednesday, January 21

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

Thursday, January 22

6:30 am ~ Men's prayer
7:00 pm ~ AA

Sunday, January 25

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

Office News

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 19th, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



Happy Birthday

January 22 ~ Robert Grieser

Nursery Workers

January 18: Maggie Short & Rachel Short

January 25: Chris Richer & Creighton Aeschliman

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Welcome & Announcements ~ Brad Short

Interlude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Brad Short

Hymns ~ Anita Roth

“We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer” (VT 34)

“We Are People Of God’s Peace” (VT 797)

Offering/Offertory ~ Brad/Bonnie

Poem ~ Karen Ruth

“Jacob and Esau: The Embrace” by Cheryl Denise

Hymn ~ Anita Roth

“Far, Far Away” (VT 300)

Scripture ~ Genesis 33:1-11

Sermon ~ John David Thacker

Confession ~ VT 890

Hymn ~ Anita Roth

“Lord Listen To Your Children” (VT 682)

Prayer for Church & World ~ Sue Short

Sending Hymn ~ Anita Roth

“To God Be The Glory” (VT 84)

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

For two Sundays in January and two Sunday in February, we'll be using scripture, themes, and resources from a book called, *Drawing Near: A Devotional Journey with Art, Poetry, and Reflection*. This book uses the beautiful artwork from the new Anabaptist Community Bible, along with poetry by Anabaptist writers to accompany the scripture.

Sunday, January 18: "Esau Forgives Jacob" (Genesis 33:1-11)

Sunday, January 25: Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday - Sibonokuhle Ncube preaching

Thank You

On Wednesday, January 7, a Comforter Bash was held at Zion Mennonite Church. We were very encouraged that numerous churches attended and helped knot 54 comforters to be sent all around the world to share God's love with people who need warmth. We appreciate everyone who attended. People of all ages shared a common goal. Not only were many comforters completed, but lots of new relationships were started to be a part of coming together to help others. **THANK YOU!**
~ Mennonite Women of PEACE Mennonite Fellowship and Zion Mennonite Church

Thank you so much for your support during thai time. We value being part of this community and appreciate everything you've done.
~ Love, The Baer Family (Adele-grandaughter)

Prayers for the Global Church

Mennonite Education Agency:

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Pray and thank God for Bethel College graduate and professional musician Roz McCommon as she leads students and community members in a musical celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 19.

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia: EMU hosts its annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and Learning on Jan. 19. Pray that our students are able to commemorate, reflect, serve and take inspiration from the peace leader during the full day of events.

Mennonite Mission Network: Praise God that after nearly a year of chemo treatments, Caleb Schrock-Hurst is cancer free! Caleb and Stephanie plan to move to Taiwan early this year to serve with Mennonite Christian Hospital in Hualien.



We Need Your Pictures!

Do you have an updated family or individual picture from the holidays? We would love to add it to the Church Family Bulletin Board in the fellowship hall.

If you have never turned in a picture, even better! We want to add YOU to the display.

Please turn in a 4"x6" (or smaller) print to Rachel & Brad Short's mailbox.

Questions? Please contact Rachel:
Send an email to rmshort67@gmail.com
or call 419-572-9922

New Announcements

Need something to look forward to this January? Fellowship has you covered! Join your church community for family meal on January 28 at 5:30.

Life and Letters of Paul: John David will be teaching a class on (most) Tuesday evenings on the Life and Letters of Paul. The apostle Paul was one of the most influential figures in the early church and the most prolific writer in the New Testament; his letters shaped Christian theology. Learn about his life, the churches he was writing to, and how we read and understand him today. **The class will meet at 7pm on Tuesdays, beginning February 17th, in Room 310.**

Cleveland Celtic Ensemble at St. Martin's: St. Martin's Lutheran Church continues its 2025–2026 Concert Series with a performance by the Cleveland Celtic Ensemble on Sunday, February 8 at 3:00 p.m. (203 S. Defiance Street, Archbold). Admission is free, and all are welcome.

Celebrating 50 years of *More-with-Less*! Herald Press and Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) invite you to share stories of food, joy, and resilience to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the *More-with-Less* cookbook. This beloved cookbook's call to thrift, Christian compassion and abundant living is just as urgent and relevant today as it was in 1976. Go to <https://bit.ly/MoreWithLess50> to learn more and to submit stories, blessings or ideas for simple approaches to sharing food and fellowship. Please share your story by Feb. 15 for a chance to be featured in the 50th anniversary edition or additional digital resources—and receive a chocolate oatmeal cake recipe as thanks!

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes is seeking a Donor Relations Associate: This full-time position contributes to the overall fundraising efforts of MCC by serving as a major gift officer in the Great Lakes region. The Donor Relations Associate will be the face of MCC to many of our top donors and constituent groups, with a strong focus on personal contacts with major donors. The position is eligible for remote, hybrid or in-office work location within the Great Lakes region. For more information and to apply by January 30, visit mcc.org/gl-dr-associate

Just Peace Pilgrimages: Embark on a life-changing journey to Calais, France and interact with various organizations that are doing justice and relief work among the migrant population there. Thousands of hopeful people travel there and attempt to cross the English Channel for a better future in the United Kingdom. Dates: April 6-18, 2026; Registration Deadline: February 15, 2026; Contact Stephanie Weaver at StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net or visit MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace to learn more!

Don't Forget

The Worship Team has planned a song leading workshop in the sanctuary on Sunday, January 18, following the morning service. If you have ever considered or might consider leading singing, come to this workshop and learn how to do it. Anyone is welcome!

2027 Israel Trip with Pastor Ryan Harker: You are invited to join experienced biblical tour guide Pastor Ryan Harker (of West Clinton Church in Pettisville, OH) on a 9-day pilgrimage to Israel. The dates for the tour are **January 10-19, 2027**. Offered in conjunction with Friendship Tours, the trip includes 4 days in **Galilee** and 5 days in and around **Jerusalem**. We will sail on the Sea of Galilee, visit Capernaum, Nazareth, Megiddo, the Jordan River, Old Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Masada, the Dead Sea, and much more! You may explore the [trip itinerary](#) on the Friendship Tours [website](#). The total cost for the trip is **\$4,085**, and that includes everything except lunches and souvenirs. For more information, contact Pastor Ryan (pastor.ryan@westclinton.church) or attend the **first informational meeting on Thursday, March 19th @ 7:00 pm at West Clinton** (18029 Co Rd C, Wauseon, OH 43567). See the bulletin board across from the bathrooms for additional information.

Service Adventure: Can a gap year change your life? Only if you're up for adventure! Service Adventure applications are now open for the 2026-27 term. Service Adventure is a 10-month volunteer experience for young adults ages 17-20. Live in community with peers and unit leaders, serve with local nonprofit agencies, and grow in your faith with a supporting church congregation! Learn more and apply at MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure.

Archbold Backpack Buddies is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization here in Archbold that helps 49 kids just in the Elementary School alone and are hoping to expand this into the middle school in the next school year. They collect food and personal care items to send home with children in need. See the bulletin boards for items collected and places to drop your donations.