

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 4, 2026

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

Zion Activities this week

Sunday, January 4

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Sunday School (310)
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School (no primary-high school)

Monday, January 5

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting

Wednesday, January 7

10:00 am ~ AAMA (pastors off campus)
2:00 pm ~ Comforter Bash
7:00 pm ~ MYF (high school)

Thursday, January 8

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

Sunday, January 11

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

Happy Birthday

January 4 ~ Gus Legato

Nursery Workers

January 4: Deb Zimmerman & Grace Hastings
January 11: Sarah Frankenfield & Reiss Creighton

Office News

The church office will be closed for the holidays on Thursday (1/1) and Friday (1/2).

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Nichole Aeschliman
Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey and Bonnie Stuckey
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Nichole Aeschliman
Hymn ~ Mark Nafziger
 "In The Beginning" (VT 270)
Children's Time ~ Bonnie Stuckey
Hymn ~ Mark Nafziger
 "We Three Kings Of Orient Are" (screen)
Offering/Offertory ~ Nichole/Karen & Bonnie
Hymn ~ Mark Nafziger
 "As With Gladness" (VT 277)
Scripture ~ Ephesians 3:1-12
Sermon ~ John David Thacker
Hymn ~ Mark Nafziger
 "Arise, Your Light Is Come!" (VT 273)
Prayer for Church & World ~ Suz Wirick
Sending Hymn ~ Mark Nafziger
 "O Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem" (VT 275)
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.*

Thank You

Thank you to Zion Church, both members and pastors. I am grateful for your words of support and all your prayers. I am grateful to God for my life and for all of you. I am beginning to mend and looking forward to joining you at church soon. - Elizabeth Miller

Special thanks to everyone who helped out with Advent and Christmas services. Thanks to Kellie Creighton, Nicole Aeschliman, Mark and Joyce Nafziger for the beautiful decorations. Thanks to Kiersten Payne for writing the candle lighting liturgies. Thanks to Lynn Roth for the videos during the offering. Thanks to all who played and directed music. Thanks to Gwen Stamm for the projected artwork. Thanks for your willingness to be involved. - Karen Ruth, *Worship Team Chair*

A BIG 'Thank You' to Larry and Elaine Short and Duane Wyse for delivering our donated items to Fulton County Christmas Cheer, as well as to Larry and Elaine for also delivering the gifts to the Martin Luther King Jr. Kitchen for the Poor. The Kitchen for the Poor was incredibly thankful for all the gifts that were delivered. The Mission in Service Team is grateful for the overwhelming support from the congregation each year for these projects. Thank you for your generosity! - Stan Short, *Mission in Service chair*

New Announcements

Attention Builders Sunday School Class: Save the date January 26th for a noon luncheon at the Fairlawn chapel. Menu will include lasagna, chocolate pie, and other goodies. Respond to Elaine Schnitkey 419-445-4851 by January 12th. Cost is \$10 per person payable on the day of the meal.

Mennonite Voluntary Service: Live out your faith through service! Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) is now accepting applications for the 2026-27 term. This one-year volunteer experience is open to individuals age 20+, with the option to extend placements for an additional one to two years. Serve with organizations addressing critical community needs, such as health, education, immigration and more. You won't do it alone, though! By living with peers in a unit house and growing with a local faith community, MVSers join in the global movement to work for peace and a more just world. Ready to jump in? Go to MennoniteMission.net/MVS to learn more and apply.

Don't Forget

The Prknovi family and Krabills have updated newsletters on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes.

Just Peace Pilgrimage Calais, France: Walk with migrants, listen to their stories, and serve alongside organizations bringing hope at the edge of Europe. April 6–18, 2026: This 13-day pilgrimage will forever change how you see borders, justice, and the gospel call to welcome the stranger. Registration deadline: February 15, 2026. Only a few spots remain! Contact Stephanie Weaver at StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net or visit www.mennonitemission.net/JustPeace

MCC Comforter Bash 2026 - Come to Zion Mennonite Church on January 7 from 2-8pm. All are welcome. A meal will be provided for a donation. Come have fun providing warmth around the world with comforters. Contact Chris Wyse for questions or to volunteer at 419-516-4164.

Mennonite College Student Aid: As our students return home for Christmas break, and prepare for the upcoming spring semester at our Mennonite colleges in the coming weeks, we welcome your contributions to Zion's student aid fund, either as fulfillment of an existing pledge or as a new contribution. Your support of this important ministry of Zion is much appreciated. Our five students this semester are Kate Roth and Keegan & Quinn Wyse at Goshen College, and Ella Richer and Sarah Wheeler at Eastern Mennonite University. Thank you for your support of our students! ~College Financial Aid Committee

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.