

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

March 8, 2026

Zion Activities this Week

Sunday, March 8 ~ Daylight Savings (ahead one hour)

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Sunday School (310)

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School

Monday, March 9

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting

11:00 am ~ Congregational Caregivers (310)

12:00 pm ~ Red Cross Blood Drive (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, March 10

7:00 pm ~ Church Council (310) (no Paul class)

Wednesday, March 11

9:00 am ~ Mennonite Women (Fellowship hall)

6:00 pm ~ SLT (MYF room)

7:00 pm ~ MYF (high school)

Thursday, March 12

6:30 am ~ Men's prayer

7:00 pm ~ AA

Saturday, March 14

9:00 am ~ Church Reserved

Sunday, March 15

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Sunday School (310)

9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)

10:45 am ~ Sunday School (no pre-k through 12)

Praise

~ We thank God for making peace with us.

Happy Birthday

March 9 ~ Bailey Short-Dickmann

March 10 ~ Phil Nofziger, Reid Pennington

March 11 ~ Ginny Liechty

March 12 ~ Sophie Wyse

March 13 ~ Larry Wyse

March 14 ~ Greg Nafziger

Nursery Workers

March 8: Greg Nofziger & Sam Hastings

March 15: Elaine Short & Carol Short

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Welcome & Announcements ~ Tom Stuckey

Interlude ~ Recording ~ "Wade In The Water"

Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Tom Stuckey

Hymns ~ Anita Roth

"What Is This Place" (VT 22)

"My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less" (VT 621)

Offering/Offertory ~ Tom/Bonnie & Julia Richer

Spiritual Story

Hymn ~ Anita Roth

"Wade In The Water" (VT 454)

Prayer Of Confession ~ Tom Stuckey

Words Of Assurance ~ Tom Stuckey

Scripture ~ Romans 5:1-11

Sermon ~ John David Thacker

Communion ~ Music by Abby Pennington & Joe Graber

Prayer for Church & World ~ Sue Short

Sending Hymn ~ Anita Roth

"Go Now In Peace" (VT 835)

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

The Journey of Lent: Everything in the Christian life can be thought of as a journey. Lent especially focuses on the journey of Jesus toward the cross. We also journey toward the cross with Jesus, understanding that we are travelling toward freedom and resurrection. During our worship this Lent, we'll be singing and learning about an African-American spiritual each week. You may be surprised to see how many familiar songs in our hymnals are spirituals!

"African-American Christians found great comfort and encouragement in believing that this life was only a journey, a 'passing through' to a better place...As they passed through the bitter trials of this earth, their desire was that they not walk alone, but that Jesus walk with them. Knowing that Jesus, who had already passed through the fiery trials and come out triumphant on the other side, was walking beside them gave them courage to go on."
– Gwendolin Warren

Sunday, March 8th - Lent 3: *The Journey of Lent: "Wade In The Water"* (Romans 5:1-11)

Sunday, March 15th - Lent 4: *The Journey of Lent: "We Shall Walk Through The Valley."* (Ephesians 5:8-14)

Sunday, March 22nd - Lent 5: *The Journey of Lent: "Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child."* (John 11:1-27)

Sunday, March 29th - Lent 6 - Palm Sunday: *The Journey of Lent: "Were You There."* (Philippians 2:5-11)

Lenten Devotionals 2026

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

READ: Romans 5:1-11

The best hope for peace this world has is Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Jesus came to reconcile the world to God. Jesus came to reconcile Jew and Gentile. I still have hope that Jesus can reconcile Christian to Christian.

God wants peace for this world. God longs to be reconciled with us. So God sent a peacemaker to offer forgiveness, to assure us of God's love, and to pass on to us his ministry of reconciliation. The work of God in our lives brings people together; it does not drive them apart.

We are reconciled in Jesus the Christ. There is no other foundation for Christian kinship. Our theology will not unite us—our human understanding is too limited. Our practices will not unite us—we are too inconsistent. But if Jesus can reconcile us to God, then Jesus can reconcile us to one another.

Jesus taught and embodied what is necessary for peace: forgiveness, humility, compassion. While we were sinful, foolish, imperfect, stubborn beings, Christ gave his life for us. If we demand perfection from others as a condition of fellowship, we are not following the example of Jesus. We are averting our eyes from the scandal and weakness of the cross and trusting instead in our own strength.

"God's love has been poured into our hearts." Let us love one another.

- John David

New Announcements

Join the Mennonite Women on **Wednesday, March 11** at Zion Mennonite as we gather, quilt, knot, commune, enjoy each other and complete sewing tasks to share with people who need love and warmth across the world. **We are there from 9-2. Come when you can and leave when you must.** Lunch will be provided and a devotional will be shared by Janice Nafziger. It's really important to come together, especially as our world is in turmoil. We need each other for support!

Church School Day Sunday, April 12 - Rev. Dr. Shannon Dycus, President of Eastern Mennonite University, will visit & share the morning message. After worship we'll have a session in the fellowship hall for all interested to explain Zion's student aid program, hear additional input from President Dycus and a current Zion student, & give opportunity to pledge financial support toward the program. Next school year Zion will have seven or more students at our Mennonite schools. We have a fundraising goal of \$108,000 for the year. Those unable to attend on April 12th may make pledges by contacting Phil Bontrager (pabontrager@gmail.com or cell 419-966-3127).
-College Financial Aid Committee

Don't Forget

The Builders Sunday school class: Noon luncheon at Fairlawn chapel on Monday, March 16th. The menu will be lasagna, salad, green beans, chocolate pie and garlic bread. Cost is \$10 payable on the day of the event. **Please RSVP to Elaine Schnitkey at 419-445-4851 as soon as possible.** There will be a program following the lunch.

Zion will be hosting an upcoming Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, March 9 from 12pm to 6pm. To register, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or go online to redcrossblood.org and use keyword ZIONMENN.