

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with 5 visitor): c. 80

Offering:

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet 9:45 A.M., Nov. 26

Worship 10:45 A.M., Nov. 26

Wednesday Evening Activities

Meal: Deanna/Carol 6:00 P.M., Nov. 29

Adult Bible Study 6:30 P.M., Nov. 29

Christmas Eve Practice 6:30 P.M., Nov. 29

Choir 7:25 P.M., Nov. 29

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship Leader: Steph Entz & Family Next Sun.

Accompanist /Vocalist/Prelude: Brett/Emma & Renee Next Sun.

Children’s Time: ??? Next Sun.

Offering: Local Fund Next Sun.

AV: Matt Regier Next Sun.

Greeters: Lisa Scott Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Christmas Caroling in Peabody 5 P.M., December 2

HS Youth Fundraiser Breakfast 8:37 AM, December 3

Congregational Meeting following worship, December 10

Council Meeting 7:00 P.M., December 11

Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- God’s guidance in how to pray. Lord, give us the power of Your grace so that we may hear Your divine instructions. Remove any barriers that keep us from drawing near to You. Open our hearts and clear our vision so that we may follow Your path.
- those who grieve. Heal us, God. Lift our heads and walk us through this dark season into Your light and life. Comfort us as only You can. You know the depth of our sorrow and how many tears we've cried.
- God’s blessings and hearts of gratitude.

Zion Mennonite Church

P.O. Box 68, Elbing, KS 67041 (316) 799-2071

zionelbing@gmail.com www.zionmenno.org

November 26, 2023

Worship in the sanctuary at 10:45 A.M.; also live-streamed

Gathering “Come Sing to the Lord” VT#113

Welcome, Introductions, Greeting One Another

Announcements Matt Regier

Prelude Anna & Milo Klingenberg

Prayers for Peace with Candle Lighting Pastor Micah

Call to Worship

Song “For the Fruit if all Creation” VT#124

Offering *Zion Scholarship Fund*
(Offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary – youth bring forward for prayer)

Children’s Time Matt Regier

Song “Nothing is Lost on the Breath of God” VT#653

Scripture *Deuteronomy 8:7-18*

Sermon “The Stories that Shape Us” Pastor Micah

Response Song “We Sing to You, Oh God” VT#80

Sharing of Our Life Together
Prayer Pastor Micah

Sending Song “You Shall Go Out with Joy” VT#847 x2

Benediction Pastor Micah

Worship Leader: Matt Regier Music: Carol/Margaret

Sermon: Pastor Micah AV: Andrew Wedel

Greeters: Lillian Wedel

Our worship is live-streamed and recorded. To access go to:
<https://www.zionmenno.org/watch-live.html> OR
<https://www.youtube.com/@zionmennonitechurch-elbing5666/streams>
Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #737503-A. All rights reserved.

Pastor's Schedule: Pastor Micah's office hours and contact information:

Office Hours

Tuesday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Wednesday: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Thursday: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Contact Information

Cell #: (540) 810-5087 (call or text)

Email: zionelbing@gmail.com

Office Administrators: All bulletin items, notes/information to be sent out to the congregation through email need to be sent to:
office.zionelbing@gmail.com

Congregational Announcements

SEEKING ADVENT HELPERS & DECORATIONS – If you or your family are interested in helping during the worship services throughout the Advent season, please see Pastor Micah. Also, if you have music related ornaments to decorate for Advent, please put your name on them and bring them to church. For questions about decorations, see Margaret Brewer.

Please **SUBMIT YOUR 2023 BOARD OR COMMITTEE REPORT** for the Zion 2023 Report Book to Becky Nickel by Dec.15 in either a Word or Google document to her email: bnickel77@gmail.com.

Please join us for a **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST** Sunday, December 3rd at 8:37 AM. We will be raising money for a summer service project.

CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE will take place Wednesday, November 29th, December 6th & 13th. All Christmas Eve participants will meet to practice in the sanctuary at 6:30 P.M. All youth need to bring their folders to practice. The Faith Formation class will still be meeting with Pastor Micah 11/29, but will join for Christmas Eve practice Dec. 6 & 13. Thank you for your help in making this service a blessing!

PARENTS -- do you want to Christmas shop without the kids, or just have a night out with other grownups? Alyssa K and Lisa Scott will provide free babysitting for children 10 and younger on Friday, Dec 1, from 5:30 to 9:30ish, at the church. Sign up on the bulletin board.

LOVE SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS? December 2, 2023 at 5 P.M. we will be singing in Peabody, KS as they light the town with Christmas cheer. Choir member or not, you are welcome to sing. Have a family member or friend who enjoys sharing their voice? Invite them too! Those singing need to meet at the Santa Fe Park in Peabody at 4:45 P.M. Bring your Hymnal of Worship book. *If you are able, please come to choir practice Wednesday, November 29th at 7:25 P.M. to go over the songs we will be singing. ALL ages are welcome!*

WINTER SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTER begins December 3rd and runs through February 25th. Youth Sunday School teachers are:

Early Youth Education – Lillian Wedel
Younger Elementary – Steph Entz
Older Elementary – Gary & Sharon Wedel
Junior High – Mike & Lisa Scott
High School – Bonnie Brewer

KANSAS MENNONITE RELIEF SALE (KMRS) will be held April 12-13, 2024. Kathy Preheim has KMRS bucks available to purchase. They would make great stocking stuffers. If you would like to embroider tea towels for the KMRS, talk to Kara Klingenberg. Start collecting your coins for My Coins Count for the KMRS. We will begin setting up a display to gather them starting in January.

Other Organizations

McPherson Brass Band, under the direction of Jerry Toews, will present a concert to benefit Peabody's Sunflower Theatre on Sun., Dec. 3, at 3:00 PM, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 212 Division St., Peabody. Concert and dessert by donation.

Mennonite Church USA has launched “**Learn, Pray, Join: End Gun Violence**,” an initiative to bring awareness to the complex issue that intersects with poverty, racism, discrimination, criminal justice, education and the environment. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/educate-topic-lpj Visit the initiative page here: mennoniteusa.org/lpj-end-gun-violence

MCC responding to the Palestine and Israel conflict - As conflict has escalated in the region, MCC laments the violence and mourns all lives lost in Palestine and Israel. MCC remains committed to a just peace for all, and we invite you to join us in praying for an end to the violence. MCC is planning an emergency response that will focus on the humanitarian needs in Gaza, given the vulnerability of the population and lack of resources available to families. We are also planning to offer trauma healing support and housing reconstruction. Donate online at mcc.org/Palestine-Israel or call 1-888-563-4676.

Grief Share offers a safe, welcoming support group to help you discover relief, comfort, and peace of mind in loss. Manhattan Mennonite Church will host an online Grief Share group beginning November 1, 6:30-8pm, and continuing every Wednesday night through January 31. This group meets intentionally through the holidays because grief can be especially difficult in these seasons. A zoom link and a workbook will be available to those who register. More information here: <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/175924>

SAVE THE DATE – The MCC Comforter Blitz will be March 4-6 in Yoder, Kansas.

Open to new participants: Healing & Hope, a confidential group of women supporting each other after experiencing betrayal trauma (a spouse or partner's use of pornography, affair, or sexual addiction). Bimonthly meetings are held via Zoom. This group is hosted by First Mennonite Church of Newton and facilitated by Audrey Ratzlaff, M.Div. Contact Audrey at aaratzlaff@yahoo.com or 316-619-4580 for more information.

Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology: October 25 – December 12. Explore the birth and development of the Anabaptist movements in the 16th century in this six-week online AMBS short course taught by Jamie Pitts, PhD. You'll be challenged to draw connections between the 16th century and your own life or ministry. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by Oct. 4 to save \$50; final registration deadline is Oct. 18. ams.edu/online-short-courses

***Schweitzers and Friends*. An opportunity for the theatrically inclined!** One of the events celebrating 150 years since ancestors came to the U.S. in 1874 is a musical drama to be given on Saturday and Sunday, March 23 and 24, 2024, by *Schweitzers and Friends*. The first informational meeting will be Sunday, November 12, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. in the Eden Mennonite Church, rural Moundridge, 401 18th Ave. Interested in being part of a drama depicting a history of Anabaptist Mennonites? There are parts for children and adults, as well as a choir. Rehearsals will begin the last week of January and be held twice a week (the evening that works best and Sunday afternoons). Questions: contact Jenny Schrag by text or phone 620-747-9158.

Get busy giving on Giving Tuesday at an Evening of Service at MCC! Nov. 28 from 6:30-8 p.m. at MCC in North Newton, KS. Bring *new dark colored* hand towels with you to pack hygiene kits (the more towels you bring, the more kits we can pack!). MCC partner Offender Victim Ministries will be here with supplies to write holiday greetings to prisoners, we'll have comforters to tie and delicious snacks to enjoy. What a great way to give on Giving Tuesday! We'll have snacks for you to enjoy – bring your family and friends! No RSVP necessary. For more information visit <http://www.mcc.org/evening-service>.

All bakers and craft makers are invited to make items for **Five Places of Christmas** on Saturday, December 2, at Goerz House, Bethel College. Bethel College Women's Association will again be selling baked goods, candy, craft items and poinsettias. Your home-baked cookies, zwiebach, cinnamon rolls, peppernuts and poppyseed rolls are always great sellers. This year we are especially asking for homemade candies such as peanut clusters, peanut butter balls, peanut brittle or fudge. Please bring your items to Goerz House on Friday, December 1, from 1:00-4:00 pm or on Saturday from 9:00-10:00 am.

MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton critically low on inventory: An MCC kit cannot be distributed until each item for the kit is assembled, but some supplies in the Material Resources Center are so low that kits cannot be processed for shipping. You can help by filling the following needs: *new* infant onesies and sleepers (6-12 month sizes); *new* bath towels (dark colored, light to medium weight); *new* hand towels (dark colored). Locally, MCC distributes prisoner care and returning citizen care kits, for those kits we currently need: men's shirts (sizes XL, 2XL, 3XL -- any color) and men's underwear (sizes 2XL, 3XL -- any color). Buy online and ship it to MCC or bring items to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions are always welcome, please contact brociamueller@mcc.org or 316.283.2720. A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at mcc.org/kits.

Footsteps of Paul in Greece + 3-Night Cruise May 27 – June 6, 2024. Led by Pastor Weldon Martens, Grace Hill Mennonite Church; Whitewater, KS. This is a 11-Day Tour & Cruise to Athens, Thessalonica, Philippi, Corinth, Crete, Patmos, Ephesus, Mykonos & Santorini. Cost: \$3,219 + flights. Registration: Due by January 18, 2024. Contact Pastor Weldon Martens at: weldon.martens@gmail.com / 402-202-9276. Complete tour information & registration at www.tourwithweldon.com