

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with visitor):

c.

Offering: Camp Mennoscah: \$525;

11/26/23 Zion Scholarship \$0 (snow cancellation)

Local Fund giving in November \$15,313; giving for year \$136,331

- Thank you for your generous giving throughout this past fiscal year! We came very close to meeting our budget goal and your support made that possible.

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Sr. High Youth Fundraiser Breakfast 8:37 A.M., Dec. 3

SS classes meet 9:45 A.M., Dec. 3

Worship 10:45 A.M., Dec. 3

Wednesday Evening Activities

Meal: Kara Klingenberg 6:00 P.M., Dec. 6

Adult Bible Study 6:30 P.M., Dec. 6

Christmas Eve Practice 6:30 P.M., Dec. 6

Choir 7:25 P.M., Dec. 6

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship Leader: Steph Entz & Family Next Sun.

Accompanist /Vocalist/Prelude: Karen/Bonnie/Donovan, Next Sun.
Gracia, Jeremiah, Cohen & Asher

Children's Time: Bonnie Brewer Next Sun.

Offering: Area Food Banks Next Sun.

AV: Wesley Brewer Next Sun.

Greeters: Grant & Allie Klingenberg Family Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Congregational Meeting following worship, December 10

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

Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- one another. May we find ways forward that are creative, that meet people and families where they are, and which leave behind anything holding us back. May we remember that Jesus is the same, yesterday, today, and forever – even as our world changes.
- trust in waiting. God does not leave us alone during our waiting, He is still active in our world and still sends help in our times of need.

Zion Mennonite Church

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

zionelbing@gmail.com www.zionmenno.org

December 3, 2023

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

Pre-Service Music Kate & Maya Klingenberg

Gathering “Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee” VT#215

Welcome, Introductions, Greeting One Another

Announcements Steph Entz & Family

Prelude Milo & Anna Klingenberg

Call to Worship Steph Entz & Family

Lighting of the Advent Candles and Peace Lamp

Song “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” VT#218

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

Children's Time Brett Klingenberg

Song “Where is this Stupendous Stranger” HWB#200

Scripture *Isaiah 64:1-9*
Mark 13:24-27 & 32-37

Sermon “How Will We Know...How Long?” Pastor Micah

Response Song “Beauty for Brokenness” VT#712 (vs. 1, 3, 5)

Sharing of Our Life Together

Prayer Pastor Micah

Sending Song “God Be With You...” VT#840

Benediction Pastor Micah

Micah: Together we wait.

People: How long must we wait?

Micah: No one knows when the time will come. So, go!
Keep alert, strengthened by God's faithfulness to you.

Worship Leader: Steph Entz & Family
Sermon: Pastor Micah
Greeters: Lillian Wedel

Music: Brett Klingenberg
AV: Matt Regier

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 needs to be sent to:

office.zionelbing@gmail.com

Congregational Announcements

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

CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE will take place in the sanctuary Wednesday, December 6th & 13th at 6:30 P.M. and during the Sunday School hour December 24th. All youth need to bring their folders to practice. Thank you for your help in making this service a blessing!

NOTE - The November 19th letter in mailboxes was intended to name the pain and unresolved conflict in our church family and to own our negligence in ensuring policies were in place to guide youth ministry. The Education Board was not consulted in the writing of the letter as it was intended to come from only the Trustees. We apologize for any distress our inaccurate wording caused.
~Annette, Becky and Josh

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.

THANK YOU everyone for supporting the Junior High Youth Group at our fundraiser last month. We raised \$3,274, which should be enough to get us to Snow Camp, and back home!

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.

Melva Kauffman Lecture Series: Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery This year the Melva Kauffman Lecture Series is pleased to host Mark Charles who will present on the topic of Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery. Charles is the son of an American woman (of Dutch heritage) and a Navajo man. He teaches with insight into the complexities of American history regarding race, culture and faith in order to help forge a path of healing and conciliation for the nation. The public is invited to hear his presentation at Hesston Mennonite Church Sunday, January 21, 2024, at 7 p.m.

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. amb.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.

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.