

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with 0 visitors)	c. 59
Christmas Eve attendance (32x2 YouTube)	c.174
Offering: MMN	\$750
Christmas Eve Offering: IRC	\$1,650
Local Fund for December - \$9,440 (Need approx \$11,500 per month)	

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet	9:45 A.M., Dec, 31
Worship	10:45 A.M., Dec. 31
Boards meet	6:00ish P.M., Jan. 3
Congregational Meeting	7:00 P.M., Jan. 3

Wednesday Evening Activities

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No Wednesday Night Activities
 Regularly scheduled activities will commence January 10th

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Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship Leader: Wes & Bonnie Brewer Family	Next Sun.
Accompanist /Vocalist/Prelude: Kristyn/Bonnie	Next Sun.
Children’s Time: Kristy Andres	Next Sun.
Offering: Local Fund	Next Sun.
AV: Wes Brewer	Next Sun.
Greeters: Lillian Wedel	Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Snow Camp Parent Meeting	6:30 P.M., January 10
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Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- The New Year: O God of steadfast love, trusting You, we devote our hearts to learning and our lives to walking. Teach us truth, that we may walk with courage. Teach us mercy, that we may walk with humility. Teach us forgiveness, that we may walk with compassion. Teach us grace, that we may walk with strength. Teach us wonder, that we may walk with praise. Teach us goodness, that we may walk with those in need. Learning from You, may we walk well.

Zion Mennonite Church

P.O. Box 68, Elbing, KS 67041 (316) 799-2071
 zionelbing@gmail.com www.zionmenno.org

December 31, 2023

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

Gathering	“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”	VT#247
Welcome, Introductions, Greeting One Another		
Announcements	Wes & Bonnie Brewer Family	
Prelude	Lauren, Alyssa, & Makayla Klingenberg	
Call to Worship	Wes & Bonnie Brewer Family	
Lighting of the Advent Candles and Peace Lamp		

Leader: Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God, saying, “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

High voices: At that moment, Anna, a widow who worshiped at the temple with fasting and prayer night and day,

Low voices: began to praise God and to speak about the child to everyone who was looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Leader: The child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

People: Our long wait is finally over!
(Light the advent candle and the Peace lamp)

All: Together we rejoice.

Song	“To Us a Child of Hope is Born”	VT#259
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Offering *Safe Hope*
(Offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary – youth bring forward for prayer)

Children’s Time	Sharon Wedel
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Song "With Mary Sing Magnificat" VT#208
Scripture Luke 2:22-40
Sermon "How will we know...who knows?" Pastor Micah
Response Song "Love Has Come" VT#258
Sharing of Our Life Together
Prayer Pastor Micah
Sending Song "Joy to the World" VT#240
Benediction Pastor Micah

Micah: Together we rejoice!
People: Our waiting is over!
Micah: We've seen the One, the light to all peoples, who grew in strength and is filled with wisdom. The favor of God is upon him! Go! Rejoice! God is here!

Worship Leader: Wes & Bonnie Brewer Family Music: Carol/Margaret
Sermon: Pastor Micah AV: Wes Brewer
Greeters: Matt & Lindsey Regier Family

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:

<u>Office Hours</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Tuesday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Cell #: (540) 810-5087 (call or text)
Wednesday: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Email: zionelbing@gmail.com
Thursday: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	

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

THE EDUCATION COMMISSION will meet on January 3 at 6:10 P.M. in the Elevator room.

Thanks to all who helped with the Christmas Eve service.
Thanks to: Lois, Margaret, and Peggy for decorating; Wes for acquiring the tree and wreath; Joe and Lois for the photos; Ann for coordinating and leading the Bell Choir; the Bell Choir; Choir; Carol for accompanying all the hymns and the play; Kristy for assisting the youth to learn music; Bonnie for leading music, Andrew for the AV support; Kathy Preheim family for coordinating the goodie bags; Russell and June Family for organizing the oranges; all the youth and children who learned lines and music or read scripture; All the peppernut bakers; Bonnie and Wes for constructing the bulletin. We have a talented group of folks and I appreciate you. Thanks! Steph Entz

DAVID AND ELENA WIEBE have a new address:
300 E 11th Street Newton, KS 67114.

AGENDA FOR JANUARY 3rd CONGREGATIONAL MEETING includes approval of Agenda, approval of December Minutes, report from auditors, 2023 Annual Report with questions and discussion, report from Pastoral Search Committee, Peacebuilding Team consideration, and an announcement by Wes Brewer. Additional items may be added by contacting Becky Nickel or Mark Unruh.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help the residents play Bingo on Friday, January 5th at Wheatstate Manor at 3-4 P.M. Please talk to or e-mail Lois, if you can help. Thank you!

JUNIOR HIGH SNOW CAMP PARENT MEETING will be held January 10th at 6:30 P.M. Parents and youth will meet with sponsors in the parsonage basement to learn more about this event.

The **SOUTH FURNACE ROOM** needs to be cleaned up. There are various items which require disposal. Please feel free to go and look through the room, and you're invited to take old hymnals. Note: following February 1st, the furnace room will be emptied of all remaining items.

Other Organizations

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.

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>

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.

MCC responding to the Palestine and Israel conflict - MCC laments the violence and mourns all lives lost in Palestine and Israel. MCC remains committed to a just peace for all, and 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.