

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (including 1 visitors): 80
Offering: Nov. 19: Camp Mennoscah \$541
Nov. 26: Mennonite Mission Network \$...

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Zion **cong. mtg.** for budget & elections c.11:45 A.M., Dec. 3
Deacons, pastors and children **visit senior members** P.M., Dec. 3
WIM Christmas Dinner @ MCC Center/NNewton 6 P.M., Dec. 4
Deacons meet at R&R's 7 P.M., Dec. 5
Wed. Evening Activities Dec. 6

5:45-6:30 P.M. Supper
6:30-7:15 P.M. Children's Activities, Adult Choir practice
7:15-8:15 P.M. Adult Bible Study

Wed. eve children's activities: Christmas program practice This Wed.
Greeters: Ralph and Jeanne Schmidt Next Sun.
Worship leader coordinator: June Entz Next Sun.
Musicians: Students / Students / Carol Next Sun.
Offering: Zion Scholarship Fund Next Sun.

Pray This Week for...

- Elda Hiebert, unable to worship with us regularly.
- the Wilmer Wedel family, reflecting this week on the anniversary of his death in 2016.
- Western District Conference's Hispanic pastors in Dallas, TX, as they gather this week for a Christmas dinner
- Asher and Lindsey Fast, serving through Mennonite Mission Network and Virginia Mennonite Missions, who are helping to build the after-school program at the Mother Theresa Resource Centre in Botswana. Pray for wisdom and energy, and healing for Lindsey's back and neck.

Adults and children interested in **helping to pack the MCC Relief kits** Zion has gathered meet at the Newton McDonald's for lunch at 12:15 on Dec 20 if you wish. We'll gather at the Newton MCC center at 1 P.M. to pack our relief kits. There'll be jobs for all ages.

Zion Mennonite Church

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

December 3, 2017: The First Sunday of Advent

"Yes! Let it be!"

Sunday School at 9:45 A.M. Worship at 10:45 A.M.

Pre-Service Music "Good King Wenceslas" Drew Entz
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Eva Rutschman
*Gathering Hymn "I will come to you in the silence" SS #49
Welcome, Introductions, Announcements
Prelude (on organ) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Makayla Klingenberg
Call to Worship

Leader: Awake! The invitation to carry light
comes from the God of trembling mountains
and shaking foundations.

People: O God, your expectations terrify us.

How can our small selves hold your blazing presence?

(Pause for silence)

L: Quiet our questioning souls.

All: Lead us beyond our resistance. Let it be.

Lighting of Advent Candle "Yes, let it be" Wes & Bonnie Brewer family

Special Music "Give me Jesus" Adult Choir
—traditional spiritual; setting by Douglas E. Wagner

Advent Skit "Advent 1: Let it be..." Klingenberg family

Children's Time "Journey to Bethlehem" Bonnie Brewer

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 64:1-9

*Hymn "O come, O come, Emmanuel" HWB #172

New Testament Reading Mark 13:32-37

Sermon "Staying awake through the long watch" Ray Reimer

*Response Hymn "Beauty for brokenness" SS #115

Offering *Local Fund*
Offertory “Away in a Manger” Emma Entz

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns

Confession (in unison):

O God of power and might,
we want you to tear open the heavens and come down,
yet we tremble and quake at the thought.

We confess that even though we know your light,
we do not like the dark, empty void
where your Spirit hovers over the waters.

We shake like leaves in the wind,
fearful of what you might ask,
afraid to trust you completely.

Caught up in the swirling of our world
we struggle to “let it be.”

Forgive us, O God.

Prayer Rosie Epp

*Sending Hymn “Praise the One who breaks the darkness” SS #1

*Benediction

Postlude

**Please stand if you are able*

Greeters: Joe and Lois Friesen Worship Leader coord.: Bonnie Brewer
Musician: Karen Andres Adult Choir Director: Casey Guthals
Co-Pastors: Ray Reimer (316-217-2012) and Rosie Epp (316-217-7338)

Pastors Ray and Rosie’s Schedules/Contacts: One of them is at the church office several weekday mornings by about 9 A.M., Ray on Mon. & Fri., Rosie on Tue. & Wed. (all day); they’ll be visiting some afternoons. This week Ray has a WDC search comm. mtg. Wed. morning.

Congregational Announcements

Through Dec. 13: **Food for area food banks** is being collected at Zion. Bring non-perishable, non-expired items such as rice, beans pasta, sauce, mac & cheese, peanut butter, cereal, soup, etc.; place food items in the grocery cart in the foyer. As you shop for the holidays get a little extra. Monetary donations are also welcome.

Dec. 3: Children’s teachers for the **new quarter in Sunday School** will be: 4th grade, Sharon Wedel; 1st and 2nd grade, Kyle Rutschman; Kindergarten, Bonnie Brewer; 3-yr-olds, Kristy Andres.

Dec. 17, 2-4 P.M.: Pastors Ray and Rosie invite the Zion congregation to a **come-and-go Christmas open house** at their new home (5 Jasper Ct, N. Newton, KS 67117; from the light at 24th & Main, go 3 blocks W on 24th to Regal Crescent, 1 block N to Jasper Court, then NE to the end of the court). Please ensure our neighbors can access their drives; we encourage those who are able to park at the end of the court (or even on Regal Crescent), leaving the spaces nearer our house for those less mobile. Note there are at least 4 steps to any floor, and we don’t yet have railings installed. We may not be completely settled, but look forward to some warm fellowship and a few goodies nonetheless.

Other Organizations

Nov. 24–Dec. 17: **Ten Thousand Village / Fair Trade International Gift Festival** is coming to Newton at the Mezzanine above Prairie Harvest (601 N Main). It will be open on Nov. 24–25, Dec. 1–3, 8–10, 15–17. Hours on Fri.’s and Sat.’s: 10 A.M.–5 P.M. Hours on Sun’s: 1–4 P.M.

Dec. 2–9: If you can help with the **remodeling of the Camp Mennoscah kitchen**, please contact 316-284-3890 (call or text), jdyoder@cox.net, or the camp at office@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290. Include name, address, phone, and e-mail address.

Dec. 3, 3 P.M.: **Treble Clef annual Vespers service**, at Trinity Heights Un. Methodist Ch. (1200 Boyd Ave, Newton). Treble Clef Chorus, the Hearts 4 Him Men’s Ensemble, Newton Community Children’s Choir, and Sue Swender playing bells together with Joan Wulf on piano/organ. A freewill offering will be taken for the Treble Clef Scholarship Fund. All are invited.

Dec. 3, 6:30 P.M.: The Mennonite Worship and Song Committee, working under the name Resonate Team, has invited regional congregations to a “**Great Day of Singing**” at Bethel College Menn. Ch. (North Newton), led by project director and general editor Bradley Kauffman.

Dec. 3, 7 P.M.: Bethel College Steel Drum Band and Steel Paradise **Christmas concert** in Memorial Hall. (*Note corrected time*).

Dec. 4, 6:30 P.M.: Everence® Financial seminar (at 3179 N Main St, NNewton): **Retirement income strategy** will help you think through your retirement income and expenses, discuss risks that can impact your savings, and strategies to help your income last throughout retirement. To reserve your spot, contact (316) 283-3800, (877) 467-7294 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

Dec. 6, 11 A.M.: Annual **sing-along to Christmas portions of Handel's Messiah**, with Bethel College instrumentalists, soloists and student conductors, at Bethel College Menn. Ch.; scores provided.

Dec. 7: Closing day for “Jerry Holsopple—7x7 Laments: For an Age of Sexualized Power” in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center; hours: weekdays 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

Dec. 8, 8 P.M.: **Christmas Gala jazz concert** with Bethel College Jazz Ensembles I & II in Krehbiel Auditorium in Fine Arts Center.

Dec. 9, 2 P.M.: **Dedication** of the Shari Flaming Center for the Arts at Tabor College.

Dec. 9, 7 P.M.: The Hesston College Music Dept. invites you to their **annual Masterworks Concert**, *Light Eternal*, at Hesston Menn. Ch. Morten Lauridsen's “Lux Aeterna” (Light Eternal) is featured. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, and can be purchased at the door, in advance at the Hesston College Bookstore in person or by calling 620-327-8104. For more info contact 620-327-8143 or <russell.adrian@hesston.edu> or <www.hesston.edu/lighteternal>.

Dec. 10, 6:30 P.M.: **Brass Christmas:** Come join us at Alexanderwohl Menn. Ch. for an evening filled with Christmas music! The evening will feature the McPherson Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews along with the Elbiata Singers from Goessel High School under the direction of Andrew Voth. A freewill offering will be received to support the ministries of the Goessel Ministerial Alliance. We hope to see you there!

Dec. 10, 7 P.M.: Tabor College Arts Dept. presents **Handel's Messiah** in Richert Auditorium, Shari Flaming Center for the Arts.

Dec. 10, 8 P.M.: 32nd **Lighting of the Green** at Bethel College.

Dec. 14, 5-7 P.M.: You're invited to the annual come-and-go **MCC Christmas Soiree** at the MCC Center in North Newton (121 E. 30th St.) to enjoy food, drinks and great conversation. At 6 P.M. we'll hear about MCC's work with refugees in Jordan. Bring your family and friends! Contact patsydirksen@mcc.org with questions.

Dec. 16, 2:30 P.M.: The **Christmas gathering** of all Camp Mennoscah volunteers from any and all years at the Retreat Center for conversation, games (indoor or outdoor), and cookies! There will also be an optional white elephant gift exchange. Questions? Email <olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org> or call 620-297-3290.

New music supports Syrian refugees through MCC! The *Midnight Hymn Sing* is a collection of hymns performed and reimagined by a new generation of Mennonites from San Francisco. The *Midnight Hymn Sing* was made to call us all to come back around the piano, and to find something that speaks to our hearts in the 21st century. CD's are available at MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th) for a suggested donation of \$15/CD with all money going to support MCC's work with Syrian refugees. The album is also available on Amazon and iTunes. Contact patsydirksen@mcc.org or tinaschrag@mcc.org or 316-283-2720 with questions or to get your CD!!

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Governing Council meets	7 P.M., Dec. 11
Material for 2017 Zion Annual Report due to Allie K.	Dec. 17
Co-pastors' Open House (5 Jasper Ct, NNewton)	2-4 P.M., Dec. 17
No SS, but light refreshments, fellowship	10:00 A.M., Dec. 24
Zion worship service	10:45 A.M., Dec. 24
Zion Christmas Eve program	7 P.M., Sun., Dec. 24
(No Wednesday evening meal and activities)	P.M., Dec. 27
Zion cong. mtg. for reports & projects	7 P.M., Jan. 3, 2018
Zion serves at New Hope Shelter	during wk of Jan. 10-16, 2018