

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (including 4 visitors): 84
Offering: Zion Scholarship Fund \$904.75

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

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
Lunch for kit packers @ Newton McDonalds 12:15 P.M., Dec. 20
Pack relief kits @ MCC offices (NNewton) 1 P.M., Dec. 20
Wed. Evening Activities Dec. 20

5:45-6:30 P.M. Supper

6:30-7:15 P.M. Children and Adult Choir practice
for Christmas program (*no Bible study*)

Christmas program/party @ Wheat State Manor 7 P.M., Dec. 20

Wed. eve children's activities: all	This Wed.
Greeters: Reynold and Deanna Entz	Next Sun.
Worship leader coordinator: Allie Klingenberg	Next Sun.
Musician: Carol / Carol / Carol	Next Sun.
Offering: Mennonite Church USA	Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

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., Dec. 24
(<i>No Wednesday evening</i> meal and activities)	P.M., Dec. 27
Wed. night supper resumes	5:45 P.M., Jan. 3, 2018
Zion Boards meet to reorganize	6:15 P.M., Jan. 3
Zion cong. mtg. for reports & projects	7 P.M., Jan. 3
Governing Council briefly meets after cong. mtg.	c.8 P.M., Jan. 3
Epiphany communion observance	10:45 A.M., Jan. 7
Pastors and deacons take communion field trips	P.M., Jan. 7
<i>Resume</i> regular Wed. evening meal and activities	Jan. 10
Zion serves at New Hope Shelter	during wk of Jan. 10-16
Zion game night	4 P.M., Jan. 14
WDC "Year of Evangelism" kick-off event	Jan. 20
Co-pastors on vacation	Feb. 12-21
First Sunday in Lent	Feb. 18
Guest speaker: Jim Juhnke	Feb. 18

Zion Mennonite Church

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December 17, 2017: The Third Sunday of Advent

"Let it be whole"

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

*Gathering Hymn "To us a Child of hope is born" HWB #189

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: Yes! The invitation to carry light
comes from the God of restoration.

**People: O God, you amaze us with your promise
to build up the ancient ruins.**

**You say you will replace the ashes of the past
with garlands of beauty.**

Your bold vision dazzles our doubting souls.

(pause for silence)

L: Quiet our questions.

**All: Lead us beyond our fears,
and guide us on the path to peace.**

L: Let it be whole.

Lighting of Advent Candle Derek and Kara Klingenberg family

Special Music "Silent, Starry Night" Adult Choir
—Anna Laura Page

Advent Skit Matt Wedel and Abi Entz

Children's Time "Journey to Bethlehem" June Entz

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11* Jeremy Entz

*Hymn "My soul is filled with joy" SJ #13

New Testament Reading *Luke 1:46b-55* Jeremy Entz

Sermon	“Mary’s Key”	Ray Reimer
*Response Hymn	“God has chosen me”	SS #114
Offering	<i>New Hope Shelter</i>	
Offertory		
Dedication of MCC relief supplies		
Sharing Celebrations and Concerns		
Confession (in unison):		
O God of peace, your justice wells up like a spring, bringing dreams, laughter, and wholeness to the world.		
We confess we so often stifle your Spirit.		
We are afraid to claim that you anointed us to carry your upside-down vision into our broken world, where the lowly are trampled upon, the hungry go away empty, the rich increase in power and might.		
We confess that we lack the courage to build up and repair what we have broken, imprisoned, and oppressed.		
Forgive us when we do not catch your vision.		
Lead us beyond our fears, and guide us on the path to peace.		
Prayer		Rosie Epp
*Sending Hymn	“Come, Light of the world”	SS #3
*Benediction		
Postlude		

**Please stand if you are able*

Greeters: David and Karen Andres Worship Leader coord.: Steph Entz
 Musician: Kristyn Wedel 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 committee mtg. Mon. PM and a WDC Exec. Comm. mtg. Thur. PM.

Congregational Announcements

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.

Dec. 20: 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.

Jan. 5: Kara Klingenberg will again travel to the Dominican Republic for a **medical mission trip** and you can help! Donations like unexpired medications and medical supplies, adult and children’s vitamins, hygiene items, small toys, empty prescription bottles, and new flip flops needed. Monetary donations will be used to order specialty supplies like sutures and other surgical instruments and prescription medicines; checks may be written to Zion (via Daryl Regier) to qualify for tax exemption. Thank you!

Other Organizations

Through 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. 17, 4 P.M.: Free admission to the Music on Site presentation of “**Amahl and The Night Visitors**” at several locations (see bulletin board) this next week, the nearest being Bethel College Menn. Ch. (Casey Guthals has a role, and is production asst.).

New Hope Shelter is looking for “**Secret Santas**” to help make wishes come true for residents. Wishes will be distributed on Dec. 18, with presents to be delivered by 5 P.M. on Dec. 23 (and SS’s invited to the residents’ party on Dec. 24 at 6 P.M.). If interested, contact <james@newshope-shelter.org> or call 316-283-7711.

Jan. 19-20, 2018: **Year of Evangelism Kick Off**: Anabaptist Witness has two terrific speakers planned. Fri. evening missional author, Heidi Roland Unruh, will share insights and Sat. morning Mennonite Mission Network Director of Discipleship Initiatives, Marvin Lorenzana, offers challenge and encouragement. Register now at: <http://mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism/>

SafeHope (the Newton area safe house) is looking for volunteers to help prepare and serve a meal at their Thursday night support group. If interested, please call (316) 308-1800, or e-mail <volunteer@safehope.net>. More details posted.

Thank You...

...to the first and second graders for visiting me at Kidron-Bethel and for the Christmas treats. —Doris Regier
[various of our other “elders” expressed similar sentiments!]

Pray This Week for...

- Lavern Wedel, recovering at home after another hospitalization last weekend for an infection.
- the 40 Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA) volunteer tutors who serve at study centers across the country, training new leaders for the Hispanic churches of Mennonite Church USA. May God grant them wisdom, patience and energy.
- Mennonite Mission Network’s Youth Venture program, which invites teens and young adults (ages 16-22) to participate in a short-term learning and service experience during the summer of 2018. Pray for open hearts in those whom God is calling to Benin, Ecuador, Japan, Peru or Spain.