

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (including 1 visitor): 89
Offering: Deacons' Fund \$386

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Food & Thought meets @ J&R Janzen's NOON, Mar. 18
Women in Mission meet 1-4 P.M., Mar. 19
Zion serves at **New Hope Shelter** during wk of Mar. 21-27

Wed. Evening Activities Mar. 21
(Yoga / Supper / Children's activities / Adult Bible study are over for the spring; and *no* Adult Choir practice this week)
6:30-c.7:15 P.M. **Chime Choir** practice
7:15 P.M. **Education Board** meets

Greeters: Grant and Allie Klingenberg family Next Sun.
Musicians: Carol / Carol / Carol / Adult Choir Next Sun.
Offering: Mennonite Church USA Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Adult Choir warms-up c.10:30 A.M., Mar. 25
Palm Sunday evening service w Grace Hill @ GH 7 P.M., Mar. 25
Adult Choir and **Chime Choir** practices Mar. 28
Maundy Thur. service w GH @ Zion; + communion 7 P.M., Mar. 29
Easter Sunday breakfast; then SS & worship 8:45 A.M., Apr. 1
Outreach Board meets 6 P.M., Apr. 4
Deacons meet 9 A.M., Apr. 6
Governing Council meets 7 P.M., Apr. 9

Pray This Week for...

- Elda Hiebert, who celebrated her birthday yesterday (Mar. 17).
- Delila Wedel, scheduled for knee surgery this coming Wed.
- our co-pastor, Ray Reimer; it was announced this week that he has assumed the role of moderator of Western District Conference early, due to the resignation of the prior moderator.
- Dan and Kathryn Smith Derksen of Mennonite Mission Network, who request prayer for the water shortage in Cape Town, South Africa. May just ways of distribution be implemented to defuse the tension over scarce resources.

Zion Mennonite Church

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March 18, 2018: The Fifth Sunday of Lent
Sunday School at 9:45 A.M. Worship at 10:45 A.M.

*Gathering Hymn "Come to me, come to us" SS #60
Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Prelude Alyssa Klingenberg
Call to Worship

Leader: I see you, familiar faces, visitors, and guests.
What brings you here?

People: We want to see Jesus.

Leader: I see you, all who are here for the first time,
and all who have returned. What brings you here?

People: We want to see Jesus.

Leader: I see you and know that each one of you
has been invited by God to this house of worship.
Thank you for coming. Open your eyes and your hearts,
for together we are here with Jesus. Praise the Lord.

Children's Time
Epistle Reading *Hebrews 5:5-10*

* Hymn "O God, who gives us life" HWB #483

Gospel Reading *John 12:20-33*

Sermon "Easter chickens and holy priests" Ray Reimer

* Response Hymn "Lift high the cross" HWB #321

Offering *Western District Conference – Church Plant support*
Offertory Eva Rutschman

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns

Confession (*in unison*):

Beloved Protector and Teacher, we need guidance,
and sometimes we remember to ask for it.
But even as we reach for your hand,
we rush off in our own direction.
We barely listen to the rules we break.
We like to remind ourselves, wherever we are,
that you are with us.
We forget the proper response:
that to serve you, we must follow you.
We put conditions on your love,
because we don't want to go
to the uncomfortable places
where we see ourselves in the other.
Forgive us.
Hold us close and teach us again to truly live as you love.

Gathered Prayer

Ray Reimer

* Sending Hymn "Take my life"

HWB #389

Benediction

Postlude

**Please stand if you are able*

Greeters: Lillian Wedel

Musician: Karen Andres

Worship Leaders: John and Reinhild Janzen

Co-Pastors: Ray Reimer (316-217-2012) and Rosie Epp (316-217-7338)

Pastors Ray and Rosie's Schedules: 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, Rosie, Reinhold and Deanna will attend an Everence Stewardship Leaders Appreciation dinner Mon. evening; Ray's pastor cluster meets Tue. afternoon; and Ray will represent WDC at a retirement reception for longtime Business Manager Phyllis Regier on Wed. morning.

Congregational Announcements

Mar. 19, 1-4 P.M.: **Women in Mission** will meet to tie an MCC quilt. Offering: MCC. Refreshments: Bring a snack of your choice.

Feb. 28-Mar. 31: During Lent the Outreach Board encourages the congregation to **donate supplies** for the New Hope Shelter in Newton; a list is available under the bulletin board.

Zion will participate in **serving at New Hope Shelter** later this month; we are only needing meals on Mar. 21-24. See June Entz.

Mar. 25, 7 P.M.: On Palm Sunday we recall the words of Matthew 21:5, "Look, your King comes to you." We pleased to invite our friends from Zion Menn. Ch. for a **Palm Sunday evening worship service** at Grace Hill Menn. Ch. Together we shall recall the extraordinary coming of our King Jesus Christ. A time of refreshments will follow the service.

Mar. 29, 7 P.M.: All are invited to a **Maundy Thursday worship service** in the Taizé style. The Grace Hill congregation has been invited to join us. We will celebrate communion together.

Apr. 1: Our **Easter celebration** will begin by enjoying breakfast together at 8:45 A.M. After Sunday School, we will rejoice in Christ's resurrection during worship, with much music, parent-child dedication, membership reception, etc.

Other Organizations

Mar. 18-19: The Mennonite churches of Beatrice, NE will host "Faith, Hope, and the Mission of Rural and Small Town Churches," a WDC **Year of Evangelism event**. Brad Roth, pastor at West Zion, Moundridge, KS and author of *God's Country: Faith, Hope, and the Future of the Rural Church* will be the speaker. More info at: <http://mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism/>.

Mar. 22: Bill Reynolds, CASA staff member will present "**Darkness to Light Training**" as one of the 2018 spring child protection/sexual abuse prevention workshops at the MCC Center in North Newton. Survivor stories and expert insight in child protection will be presented. This training may be of particular interest to youth organizations, parents, educators, childcare providers and those working with children in faith communities. Cost: \$20. To register call (316) 587-7244 or email <kathywiens59@gmail.com>.

Mar. 25, 3 P.M.: Jim Hoy, professor of English and director of the Center for Great Plains Studies at Emporia State Un., will present “**Kansas Legends and Folktales**” in Krehbiel Auditorium in at Bethel College. This program is being held in conjunction with the Kauffman Museum special exhibit “The Chisholm Trail: Driving the American West” (available for viewing through Apr. 1), with a reception and free admission during the closing reception on Mar. 25 from 1:30–5 P.M. (extended museum hours). Stop by the museum before or after Jim Hoy’s presentation to see the exhibit and have a cowboy cookie.

Mar. 30, 7 P.M.: The Newton Ministerial Alliance’s **community Good Friday Service** is hosted by Trinity Heights Un. Methodist Ch. (1200 Boyd, Newton) this year. We all welcome.

Apr. 5, NOON–1 P.M.: **Lunch & Learn with Joanna Shenk!** Join us at the North Newton MCC center to hear Joanna share about her new book, “The Movement Makes Us Human: An Interview with Dr. Vincent Harding on Mennonites, Vietnam and MLK.” Lunch provided by Mojo’s Coffee Bar. *Please RSVP for lunch by Apr. 3.* Questions or RSVP: <patsydirksen@mcc.org> or 316.283.2720.

Apr. 23-25: Camp Mennoscah’s **Retirees Retreat** invites retirees and interested persons of all ages for several days of renewal. Speakers will share about Vietnam, teen prison ministry, storm chasing and more! Coffee breaks will give you a chance to discuss further and enjoy a good chat. Contact Camp Mennoscah for a brochure or find it online at campmennoscah.org!

Thank You...

...to all who helped with the **Zion work day** on Sat., Mar. 10. Many areas of our church facilities are looking spiffier!

“As MCC Sale reps, we want to thank the congregation for the great turnout we had at the **Fellowship Meal** for MCC last Sunday. We raised a little over \$2,000. A special thanks to Steph Entz for cooking a delicious meal with the help of her family. Thanks be to God for the opportunities we have to offer our gifts.” –David and Karen Andres