

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (including no visitors):	87
Offering: Area Food Banks	\$1,372
Dec. receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$12,284 needed)	\$13,561

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Zion serves at New Hope Shelter	during wk of Dec. 11-17
Deacons, pastors and children visit senior members	P.M., Dec. 15
Chime Choir practice	6:30 P.M., Dec. 16
Wed. evening activities this week	Dec. 18
5:45-6:30 P.M.	Supper
6:30-? P.M.	Ch. Eve program practice, Adult Choir practice
7:15-8:00 P.M.	No Adult Bible Study this week

Activity leaders / meal: (Christmas program practice) / Bonnie	This Wed.
Greeter(s): Virgil & Nadine	Next Sun.
Worship Leader(s): Margaret Brewer	Next Sun.
Musician(s): Carol / Carol / Carol	Next Sun.
Offering: SafeHope / Prairie View chaplaincy program	Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Christmas Eve program	7 P.M., Dec. 24
Epiphany communion ; “field trips” in P.M.	Jan. 5, 2020
Zion cong. mtg. for reports & projects	7 P.M., Jan. 8
Governing Council meets following cong. mtg.	Jan. 8
Deacons meet	9 A.M., Jan. 14
Regular Wed. evening activities resume	Jan. 15

Pray This Week for...

- Elda Hiebert at ComfortCare, in some decline these weeks.
- thanks for the generosity of WDC congregations and donors, and pray for financial contributions to support this year’s budget goals and ministry priorities.
- Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for DOOR’s leadership development program, Discern, that works with local youth of color to help them expand their leadership skills through mentorship and workshops engaging justice issues. Pray for resources to broaden the current three-month program to nine months.

Zion Mennonite Church

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December 15, 2019: The Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday School at 9:45 A.M. Worship at 10:45 A.M.

* Gathering Hymn	“Hark, the glad sound”	HWB #184
Welcome, Introductions, Announcements		
Prelude	“We three kings”	Drew Entz

Call to Worship From *Leader* (Winter, 2019)

Leader: Oh God, my God, I cry out to you.

People: Asking, when will I start rejoicing that you are coming? Will I trust your faithfulness to your creation?

L: Can I be patient enough to trust in your time, instead of my own?

All: God, what am I waiting for?

Special Music	“The earliest Christmas morn”	Adult Choir
	–Jay Althouse	

Children’s Time	Jeanne Schmidt
Lighting the Advent Wreath	Jeremy and Steph Entz family

* Hymn	“Healer of our every ill”	HWB #377
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Scripture Reading *Matthew 11:2-11*

Responsive Reading *based on Isa. 35:1-10* From *Leader* (Winter, 2019)

Leader: The Lord our God will come and save us.

People: We will let go of our fears.

L: God will strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees.

P: We will find our strength in the Lord.

L: The redeemed shall walk in the way of the Lord.

All: We shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God!

Sermon	"Questions about Jesus"	Rosie Epp
* Response Hymn	"O how shall I receive thee"	HWB #182
Offering	<i>New Hope Shelter</i>	
Offertory	"Silent night"	Anna Klingenberg
Sharing Celebrations and Concerns: Prayer		Ray Reimer
* Sending Song	"To us a child of hope is born"	HWB #189
* Benediction and Postlude		

Worship Leader(s): Ralph & Jeanne Schmidt Musician(s): Kristyn Wedel
Greeter(s): Gary & Sharon Wedel Adult Choir Director: Kelsey Huxman
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 weekdays—Ray on Mon. & Fri. mornings by about 9 A.M., Rosie on Tue. mornings & Wed. afternoons; they'll be visiting some afternoons. This week Ray's pastor cluster meets Mon. P.M.; he leads a WDC Executive Comm. mtg. Tue. P.M.

Congregational Announcements

Donations are requested for Kara Klingenberg's upcoming medical mission project to the Dominican Republic. Examples include medical supplies, unexpired medications, or hygiene items. List of specific needs can be found on the bulletin board. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated and will be used for prescription medications and specialty supplies for surgery. Thanks for your support!

Jan. 8, 2020: The Zion January **congregational meeting for reports and projects** will be held. Supper will be served beginning at 5:45 P.M. The boards will meet at 6:15, with the meeting following at 7, and a brief council meeting after that.

Feb. 9: Save the date! Leadership at Zion and Grace Hill congregations have invited Patty Shelly, retiring Bible professor at Bethel College, to offer **winter Bible lectures/presentations** to our congregations gathering jointly for several sessions this Sun. (and perhaps Mon. evening; place and exact times yet to be

determined), focusing on the Abraham/Sarah/Hagar stories, with their implications for Christian/Jewish/Muslim dialogue.

Other Organizations

Dec. 15, 7 P.M.: First Menn. Ch. (Newton) and community singers present **Handel's Messiah**, with an 80-voice choir, orchestra and soloists (Holly Swartzendruber, Monica Schmidt Spicer, Matthew Schloneger, and Christopher Kliever); directed by Matthew Graber. The performance is open to the public.

Dec. 16-21: Here are several opportunities for you to **serve with MDS in Eureka!** 8 to 10 Volunteers are needed for each of these times: Dec. 16-20, window and door replacement; Dec. 21, Sat. workday. Transportation, lodging and meals are all provided; call, text or email 316-217-4570 or <Jordanmiller795@gmail.com>.

Dec. 16, 11 A.M.: You are invited to join MC USA staff for "**Coffee and Conversation**" in the Newton offices (718 N Main St.) to hear from Mennonite Mission Network International Service Worker, Deb Byler, share about the ministries in which she is involved with Kekchi Menn. women in Guatemala. See: <<https://www.mennonitemission.net/news/Spiritual-direction-in-Kekchi-context-brings-mutual-growth>>.

Dec. 17, 7 P.M.: All are invited to join residents of Wheat State Manor at their **annual Christmas Party**. Tom Scott (chaplain, Phoenix Hospice, Wichita) will speak; refreshments.

Dec. 18, 7 P.M.: All are invited to a **Wissmann Family Christmas Concert**—featuring 1 family of 9 musicians and 15 instruments—at Emmaus Menn. Ch.

Dec. 21-22, 5-7 P.M.: Everyone is invited to come to a come-and-go **Night in the Barn** at Papa's Pumpkin Patch (372 70th, Newton KS 67114). Interact with the characters, sounds, lights, and animals of this timeless tale and enjoy this walking tour with family and friends. A suggested donation of \$5/person includes a hot drink and a snack. Presented by Tabor Menn. Ch. Youth, with part of the proceeds going to the Tabor Menn. Youth Fellowship. Call 620-367-2721 with questions.