

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (including 3 visitors): 74

Offering: New Hope Shelter \$896

Dec. receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$12,284 needed) \$14,176.76

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Christmas Eve program 7 P.M., Dec. 24

No Wed. evening activities this week

Activity leaders / meal: *None this week*

Greeter(s): Kristyn Wedel

Worship Leader(s): Margaret Brewer

Musician(s): Carol / Carol / Carol

Offering: Mennonite Church USA

This Wed.

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

No Wed. evening activities on New Years' Day Jan. 1, 2020

Epiphany **communion**; "field trips" in P.M. Jan. 5

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's family as they grieve her death on Dec. 13.
- families gathering over holidays; may they be stressfree.
- New Hope Shelter, the focus of our offering last week; a report on the periodic service of our team is posted on the board.
- thanksgiving for the many ways Western District Conference congregations embody the presence of Christ through ministries of hospitality, worship, compassion and justice.
- peace in Burkina Faso, as requested by Mennonite Mission Network. When armed protest groups ambush symbols of Western opulence and colonialism, like hotels and gold mines, civilians get caught in the crossfire. May the Mennonite Church in Burkina Faso live the way of the Prince of Peace through word and deed.

Zion Mennonite Church

P.O. Box 68, Elbing, KS 67041 (316) 799-2071

zionelbing@gmail.com www.zionmenno.org

December 22, 2019: The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday School at 9:45 A.M. Worship at 10:45 A.M.

* Gathering Hymn "Oh, beautiful star of Bethlehem" SS #32

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Prelude "God rest ye merry gentlemen" Makayla Klingenberg

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

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

**People: Asking, will I be saved to your goodness, forgiven
of the brokenness I have made, certain that I am called
to you?**

L: Will I follow the child you sent to lead me?

Will I no longer be afraid, but be restored?

All: God, what I am waiting for?

Children's Time Margaret Brewer

Lighting the Advent Wreath Josh and Kristy Andres family

* Hymn "Where is this stupendous stranger?" HWB #200

Scripture Readings *Isa. 7:10-16; Matt. 1:18-25*

Responsive Reading *based on Ps. 80* From *Leader* (Winter, 2019)

Leader: Stir up your might, and come and save us!

**People: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

L: Let your hand be upon us and make us strong.

**People: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

L: Give us life, and we will call on your name.

**All: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Sermon "Entertaining angels unaware" Ray Reimer
 * Response Hymn "O come, O come, Immanuel" HWB #172

Offering *SafeHope / Prairie View chaplaincy program*
 Offertory "Carol of the bells" Abi Entz

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns
 Prayer, beginning with unison confession Rosie Epp

**God, we tire of waiting.
 We tire of scandal. We tire of bad news.
 We tire of requests for time, money, and soul.
 We tire of these because we frequently consider ourselves
 more righteous than we ought.
 Forgive us our stingy impatience, and grant us your
 generous Spirit.**

* Sending Song "O come, all ye faithful" HWB #212

Benediction

Postlude "Good king Wenceslas" Audra Entz

Worship Leader(s): Margaret Brewer Musician(s): Carol Klingenberg
 Greeter(s): Virgil and Nadine Epp
 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. This week they'll spend some extra time with family.

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 needs can be found on the bulletin board. Monetary donations are appreciated, to 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. 22, 4 P.M.: The family band **Five Times Harder** will present a Christmas concert at First Menn. Ch. (302 S Ash, Hillsboro KS). Their concerts feature an entertaining blend of voices and instruments, in bluegrass, folk, jazz, and classical styles. There is no admission fee; a freewill offering will be collected to benefit the ongoing work of Mennonite Central Committee.

Dec. 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.

Jan. 24-25, 2020: WDC Women in Mission in cooperation with Everence Financial will host a two-day conference "**Let's Talk...Women, Money & Faith**" at Tabor Menn. Ch. (rural Newton). Featured speakers, Teresa Boshart Yoder and Rhoda Blough, from Everence Financial will address money and faith topics for women of all ages and stages of life. Download registrations at <mennowdc.org/lets-talk-women-money-faith/>.

Camp Mennoscah is looking for **summer staff for 2020**. We need lifeguards, office assistants, music and crafts leaders, a naturalist and grounds/maintenance. Further info is available online or contact <olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org> or 620-297-3290. Apply for a position online at <campmennoscah.org> under Summer Youth Camps.

Opening: The Dietary Department at Wheat State Manor (Whitewater) has openings for a dietary aide (1st shift; 6 A.M.-1:30 P.M.; we can work with your schedule) and a cook (2nd shift; 1:30 P.M.-8 P.M.). Please apply at <Wheatstatemanor.org/careers/>, and click on the “Online Employment Applications” button.

2020 is your year to go on an MCC Learning Tour! Travel to Haiti Mar. 21-28 to learn about causes of Haiti’s reality and see MCC projects in person. Join MCC Bolivia in celebrating 60 years with two learning tours; May 2-9 will focus on eastern Bolivia and Oct. 10-17 will focus on western Bolivia. Finally, you’re welcome to travel to Nicaragua, July 20-30, focusing on MCC work both there and in Costa Rica. Contact <jordanpenner@mcc.org> and check <mcc.org/events> for more details.

Jan. 31-Feb. 1: Boots, Buckets and Barrows: In partnership with Mennonite Disaster Service, Ted & Co. presents the original play “The Jesus Stories: Faith, Forks & Fettuccine,” including a unique auction of buckets filled with baked goods and home items, along with “flash auctions” to fund the resources MDS needs to help rebuild communities ravaged by natural disaster. All proceeds benefit MDS: admission is free—but please come prepared to bid! Fri., Jan. 31, 7 P.M. at Hesston (KS) Menn. Ch. and Sat., Feb. 1, 7 P.M. at Journey Menn. Ch., South Hutchinson, KS. Sponsored by Kansas MDS Unit, Hesston College Disaster Management Program, and Journey Mennonite South Hutchinson.

WDC and South Central Conference have been approved for a Leadership Transformation Grant from the Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) in Wichita, KS, covering registration costs for WDC and SCC members to attend **adaptive leadership training programs** in 2020 (see <<http://www.kansasleadershipcenter.org>> for details). WDC encourages leaders of youth ministries, young adults, and WDC committee members to apply, as well as any other interested WDC congregational members and leaders. 2020 programs are already filling up, so submit an application to WDC as soon as possible if you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity. Questions? Contact Heidi Regier Kreider, Conference Minister at <heidirk@mennowdc.org> or 316-283-6300.