

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (including 1 visitor): c.64

Offering: *Western District Conference* \$...

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

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship includes **farewell for Rosie Epp** 9 A.M., June 28
Adult **SS classes meet**, if they choose 10 A.M., June 28

Greeter(s): Ann Schowengerdt

Keyboardist(s): Carol Klingenberg

Vocalist(s): ...

Offering: Local Fund

Mowing church & parsonage: Thurman Entz

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Before next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Worship includes **installation of Karen Andres** July 5

Worship includes **meditation by Kathy Neufeld Dunn** July 5

Governing Council meets 7 P.M., July 13

Deacons meet 9 A.M., July 14

Zion **swim / picnic** @ East Lake c.4–6:30 P.M., July 26

Pray This Week for...

- Martha Wedel, whose heart stent procedure went well last Tue.; by that evening she was back in her apartment at Kansas Christian Home.
- those related to our congregation experiencing transition at present: Rosie Epp and Mark Unruh retiring, and Brett Klingenberg resigning from his pastoral position in Beatrice and relocating to the Elbing area to join the family farming operation.
- the WDC Annual Assembly planning team, as they prepare creative ways for WDC members to meet, learn and worship together on the weekend of Aug. 1.
- the Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Colombia, which is developing new courses and study plans to prepare young church leaders and to encourage established pastors in their roles. Pray for Bekah York, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, as she prepares to teach some of these courses.

Zion Mennonite Church

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June 28, 2020

Worship (on the parsonage lawn) at 9 A.M.

Gathering Song “Holy God, we praise thy name” HWB #121

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather as many individuals,

People: yet we are one body.

L: We come from many places,

P: yet we come to one place.

L: We gather as God’s many children,

P: yet we are one church.

All: We are one body, in this place, as God’s church.

Alleluia!

Children’s Time Rosie Epp

Scripture Reading *Philippians 4:4-8*

Sermon “A new chapter” Rosie Epp

* Response Song “Lord Jesus, you will be my song” SJ #14

Offering Dedication: *Mennonite Mission Network*

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns

Prayer Ray Reimer

Litany of Blessing and Release *insert*

* Sending Song “The Lord lift you up” SJ #73

Benediction

Greeter(s): Keith & Dianne Wiebe

Vocalist(s): Ray Reimer & Rosie Epp

Keyboardist(s): Karen Andres

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—Ray on Mon. & Fri. by about 9 A.M., Rosie on Tue.; they'll be visiting some afternoons.

Congregational Announcements

June 28-?: As determined by the congregation last Sunday, **worship will begin at 9 A.M.** on Sunday mornings for the foreseeable future, as we continue to meet on the parsonage lawn.

July 12, 6-9 P.M.: Our choir director, Kelsey Huxman, will be having a **graduation party**, at which her senior recital will also be shown (for those who haven't seen it yet). Address: 426 N Jaax Ct, Wichita, KS 67235. Choir members—or other interested members—are invited; they'll be lots of food!

July 26: The Outreach Board is planning a **congregational swim / picnic** at Harvey County East Lake, at the beach near the west end of the dam. Arrive at 4 P.M. (or whenever you desire) for “socially-distanced swimming” and / or fellowship; we'll plan on eating around 5:30 P.M. To try to promote safe hygiene we won't have a potluck; bring your own sack lunch / family picnic meal. No shelter house is being reserved. If a pavilion is open, we'll utilize that; otherwise, we'll find some shade under a tree. Bring your swim suits and towels, lawn chairs or blankets, sunscreen, insect repellent, etc.

Sunday School: as communicated previously, children's classes are cancelled until further notice (there may be brief activities for preschoolers during the sermon, beginning July 1). See the next resources. Adult classes may determine their own preference (to meet in person before or after worship, via Zoom, etc.).

Nurture / Faith Formation resources (most Menno Media digital resources are no longer “free”). However, the following items are still available:

- Supplement to the *Adult Bible Study* for this week:...
- “Faith Talk” note accompanying the *Shine* curriculum:

The book of Jonah: “The story of Jonah” Here are some ways to nurture faith at home based on this week's story. (1) Read Jonah 1:11–16. How would you describe the sailors? (2) Tell about a time you felt scared. (3) Listen to Louis Armstrong sing “Jonah and the Whale” on YouTube. Did*

*you know? A whale shark can grow to 50 ft / 15 m long and weigh as much as 40 U.S. tons / 36.3 metric tons. **Prayer for the week:** God, thank you for being with us no matter where we go or what we do. Amen. *Preschool children have a “For families” page in the Early Childhood leaflet for the story “Queen Esther.”*

Other Organizations

Since the June bake sale fundraiser at **Wheat State Manor** was cancelled, additional donations are requested from individuals and groups. (Governing Council is directing our Aug. 16 “open offering” to Wheat State).

The **Western District Conference office** has re-opened; visitor protocols include wearing a mask and social distancing. Though the Resource Library remains closed, but they offer resources by reservation and pickup. See <<https://mennowdc.org/library/>>.

MCC in North Newton is *now open* on a limited basis Mon.-Fri., 8 A.M. to 12 P.M. and 1 to 5 P.M., but there are several COVID-19 protocols in place when you visit MCC. Please take your time, read the posted signs and follow the directions to the best of your ability. Masks are required and some are available, if needed. The material resources center and warehouse are *not* open to volunteer groups at this time, except for a handful of essential volunteers. Material resource donations *are* being accepted in the 24-hour donation room on the northeast side of the building for contactless drop-offs. If you need to meet with a staff person, please call the office and set up an appointment with that person at 316.283.2720 or email <centralstates@mcc.org>.

July 6-10: Everence is calling this “**Youth Savings Week**,” and will deposit an additional \$5 if a youth makes a deposit of \$15 or more into a new or existing savings account at Everence Federal Credit Union this week; the interest rate on such accounts is currently 4.00% APY. Contact Everence for more details.

Recently, various WDC churches have experienced **scam/ fraudulent e-mails or phone calls** appearing to request emergency financial support (for pastors or others) via gift cards, etc.; be alert that Zion's pastors will never request this of you.

Litany of Blessing and Release

Adapted from WW2, #303

Rosie: We have laughed and cried, worshipped and prayed together.

Leader: Together we have hoped, dreamed, worked and eaten.

People: Now it is time to say goodbye.

R: Parting is bittersweet. Memories flood our minds and hearts.

P: We say goodbye with gratitude and sadness mixed together.

L: In saying goodbye to Rosie we release her from responsibilities as co-pastor of Zion Mennonite Church.

P: With God's help, we release Rosie from her responsibilities as our co-pastor.

R: After 43 years of ministry I relinquish my pastoral role, to look forward to retirement.

P: With God's help we will keep on living out God's vision for us.

L: May we all trust God with our future.

P: With God's help, we will continue to worship, pray and serve God.

R: Thank you for allowing me to minister in your midst. I now bless and release this congregation from loyalty to me as co-pastor. May God be with you as you journey on.

P: God, you have been our refuge and strength through the years. Give us a strong sense of your presence in this time of transition.

Help us to form a new and different relationship with Rosie. As we release Rosie from ministry in our congregation, we ask God's blessing on her as she enters retirement. Grant us peace.