

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with no visitors; & 35x2 Twitchers): c.78

Offering: Camp Mennoscah \$530

Nov. receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$12,284 needed) \$7,156.18

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Adult **SS classes meet**, if they choose 9 A.M., etc., Nov. 22

Children's **SS classes meet** via Zoom 10:25 A.M., Nov. 22

[No Youth group & ensemble practice this week]

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Greeter(s): [greeting is discontinued]

Accompanist: Josh Andres (Annette Voth, gathering)

Vocalist(s): Josh and Kristy Andres

Children's Time: Rosie Epp

Offering: Mennonite Central Committee

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Zion serves (with others) at **New Hope Shelter** Nov. 25-Dec. 1

Spiritual Life Board meets via Zoom 7 P.M., Dec. 1

Cong. mtg. via Zoom for budget & elections c.11:45 A.M., Dec. 13

Material for 2020 **Annual Report due** to Becky Nickel Dec. 13

Governing Council meets via Zoom 1 P.M., Dec. 13

Deacons meet via Zoom 9 A.M., Dec. 14

Zion **Christmas Cheer trips** 6-8 P.M., Dec. 20

Cong. mtg. via Zoom for reports & projects 7 P.M., Jan. 6, 2022

Pray This Week for...

- the Preheim family; thankfully, Kathy was released from Newton Medical Center late Thur. after a challenging week, but will need more recovery at home. Randy tested positive for COVID earlier in the week, but has had only moderate symptoms.
- Martha Wedel, celebrating her 88th birthday this Sat. (Nov. 28).
- Roseann Penner Kaufman, ordained as Minister of Music and Worship at our sister WDC congregation, Rainbow Menn. Ch. (Kansas City, KS), this last Thur. afternoon at 4 P.M.
- thanksgiving to God for the good gifts that sustain us even in difficult times. MMN reminds us that in many North Am. Indigenous cultures, every day is Thanksgiving Day.

Zion Mennonite Church

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

zionelbing@gmail.com www.zionmenno.org

November 22, 2020

(As of Nov. 22, services are closed to most in-person attendance)

Virtual Worship at 10:45 A.M.

Gathering Song "Bless'd be the God of Israel" HWB #174

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Prelude "Swing low, sweet chariot" Abi Entz

Call to Worship (unison) Adapted from Carol Penner, *Leading in Worship*

And now we come to worship.

And now we are gathered as one.

And now we turn our hearts.

And now we bless the God of all,

who everywhere works great wonders.

Great God, we long for your deliverance

from this world's sorrows and troubles:

in your mercy give us gladness and peace. Amen.

Hymn "For the fruit of all creation" HWB #90

Prayer of Thanksgiving Adapted from David Currie, *Come, Let Us Worship*

O God, presider over the affairs of persons and of nations,

move us to thanksgiving not because of what we have,

but because of whose we are;

not because of present blessing,

but because of your continuing providence;

not because of the moment,

but because of the eternity of salvation.

Let our thanksgiving be expressed

not in feasting, but in sharing;

not in passive enjoyment, but in participatory service;

not in an annual act, but in daily attitude.

Yes, we give thanks to you, O God; for you are good.

Your love is higher than the heavens;

your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
Our future is in your hands, Lord;
when you are near, nothing can shake us.
So we offer our thanksgiving: for your love, for life, for all.

Children's Time	Lillian Wedel
Scripture Reading	<i>Numbers 6.22-27</i>
Message	"Abounding with blessings" Ray Reimer
Response Song	"God, whose farm is all creation" HWB #391
Offering	<i>The Corinthian Plan – Access</i>
Sharing Celebrations and Concerns	
Prayer	Karen Andres
Sending Song	"Sent forth by God's blessing" HWB #478
Benediction	

Accompanist: Karen Andres Vocalist: Margaret Brewer
Pastor: Ray Reimer (316-217-2012) Assoc. Pastor Karen Andres (316-799-2857)

(Our worship is livestreamed and recorded at <twitch.tv/zionmennonite>;
recorded services are available for 2 weeks).

Pastors Ray and Karen's Schedules: One of them is at the church office several weekday mornings by about 9 A.M.—Ray on Mon. & Fri., Karen on Tue. & Thur.; calls (and occasional visits) some afternoons.

Congregational Announcements

Anabaptist World: Although this new denominational periodical (merging *The Mennonite* and the *Mennonite World Review*) only began several months ago, the subscription cycle is the end of the year, so we need to update records again—and are aware there may be some glitches. If there is anyone who had requested to receive it and has *not* been receiving it (or now wishes to start receiving it), please contact Jeanne Schmidt by Nov. 22. Conversely, if there is anyone receiving it who does *not desire* it, please contact Jeanne; her contact info: <rcjmschmidt@gmail.com> or 316-799-2276.

The winter issue (Dec. / Feb.) of the **Rejoice! devotional** is now available on the table under the church mailboxes.

Online donation option: As noted during last Sunday's announcements, we now have an option for online giving to Zion; check our webpage at <<https://www.zionmenno.org/>> (the top menu bar now includes a "donate" link). We will also attempt to include links in the weekly e-mail. This is via PayPal, with which many are familiar. *Note carefully:* your donation will go to the offering you designate in the "Add a note" section; if there's no note, the contribution will go to Zion's local fund. Be aware there is approximately a 3% transaction fee with online giving.

Another possibility that those who usually write a weekly check might consider is providing a monthly check, noting in the memo line how you desire the contribution to be distributed.

Many thanks to all; you have continued with strong support for Zion (and other benevolences) through this unusual year!

Women in Mission are ending year 2020 with a project of **MCC's returning citizen care kits** that will help the women at our discipleship houses who are leaving incarceration with nothing but \$40.00. We welcome the help of the congregation-at-large for this project. Money can be sent by Nov. 28 to WIM to treasurer, Nadine Epp, PO Box 40, Elbing, KS 67041. Thanks!

Contact info update: The landline phone noted in the Zion directory for Randy and Kathy Preheim is no longer active; their cellphones are: Randy, (620) 386-0796; Kathy, (620) 386-0778.

Lois Friesen is willing to provide **greenery sprays / arrangements to decorate graves** at the Zion Cemetery during the holiday season; if interested, contact her at (620) 752-3369.

Dec. 13, c.11:45 A.M.: The first winter Zion **congregational meeting** has been scheduled. Agenda includes approval of the budget, affirmation of the slate, a presentation regarding the sanctuary screen project. This will primarily be a virtual meeting via Zoom. We are still planning how those without online access will participate, how voting occurs, etc.; watch for further details!

Dec. 13: Reports for the Zion Menn. Ch. **Annual Report Book** are due *by this Sunday*. Please e-mail them to Becky Nickel, at <bnickel77@gmail.com>, preferably as a MSWord attachment. Questions? Please contact Becky.

Other Organizations

Nov. 24, 7 P.M.: Join Jason Kauffman, Mennonite Church USA director of Archives and Records Management for a **webinar on Mennonite relief workers serving during World War I and the influenza pandemic.** The webinar is part of “The Anabaptist Story Lives On,” a multi-week, virtual museum and archive tour through TourMagination. Register at: <<https://bit.ly/2G5etK5>>.

Dec. 1: “Giving Tuesday” is coming up, and various entities are encouraging your support: WDC at <<https://mennowdc.org/>>, <MennoniteMission.net/Donate>, etc.

Before Dec. 5: Baked goods sign-up: A call-out for local (Newton, KS area) bakers to support Bethel College via the BC Women’s Association (BCWA), for the event on this date. Sign-up at the link noted. Thanks for your continued support!
<<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BABAF2EA4FDCF8-baked>>.

Dec. 5, 10 A.M.–NOON: **Order Christmas goodies and gifts** at Bethel College Women’s Association online market. Find hand-made crafts, and one-of-a-kind items, and fresh homemade treats including peppernuts, zwieback, cinnamon rolls, poppyseed rolls, and candies at <bcwamarketonline.com>. Place your order *by Dec. 1*, and pick up at Bethel College Menn. Ch. south entrance on the date / time noted. This event is part of the annual Five Places of Christmas, sponsored by Newton Chamber of Commerce, and all proceeds will support Bethel College.

Dec. 12, 2:30 P.M.: The Camp Mennoscah **Christmas Gathering** is being planned as an outdoor event on the date / time noted. *Registration required*—call (620) 297-3290! Plans may change depending on coronavirus case rates. Bring your mask!

Opening: Mennonite Disaster Service (Region 3) is seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant. Full job description available at <mds.mennonite.net/about-us/employment>; resumé may be sent to <jobs@mds.mennonite.net>. Review of application begins immediately, continuing until the position is filled.

Dec. 11, 4-6 P.M.: **Have yourself a honkin’ good holiday** at MCC in North Newton! This drive-thru event on the date / time noted is a unique way to safely enjoy some delicious Christmas cheer while supporting the worldwide work of Mennonite Central Committee. Each charcuterie box is composed of seasonal artisan meats and cheeses, olives, fruit, mixed nuts and seasonal treats with crackers served on the side. Take a moment and treat yourself this holiday season! A box serves two generous appetizer portions. RSVP at <centralstates@mcc.org> *by 5 P.M. on Dec. 4* to reserve your box—and share the Christmas joy by ordering extra boxes to deliver to family and friends! Suggested donation per box is \$25. Find more info and photos at <mcc.org/honkin-holiday>.

Dec. 13, 4-6 P.M. CST: **Voices Together Launch Event**—this celebration will take place via Zoom. It will include a time to worship with new songs and resources, hear stories, and offer blessings for *Voices Together* and all who receive it. After this time of worship there will be an overview of the process of creating *Voices Together* and a time for questions with committee members. This event is free but registration is required to receive the Zoom link: <http://voicestogetherhymnal.org/digital-launch-registration/?utm_source=Robly.com&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Staying+Connected+%2B+Staying+Safe+with+Menno+Media&utm_content=cd1b6fb24a476abde7659ebba1e3833b>.

MCC asks for support for Central American hurricane recovery. Not one, but 2 hurricanes within 2 weeks have caused extensive flooding in Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua, destroying crops and forcing people from their homes. MCC is working with churches and community organization to provide emergency food, hygiene supplies and cleanup support. Join us as we help these communities recover. You can donate online at <mcc.org/eta-iota-relief>, by phone at (888) 563-4676, or by mail at MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.

Camp Mennoscah is a wonderful place with a variety of facilities for family gatherings of whatever size! Or maybe you only need a space during the day for walking the trails or playing disc golf. There is plenty of outdoor space! Contact us at 620-297-3290 or <office@campmennoscah.org> to reserve.