

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with no visitors; & 19x2 Twitchers): c.80

Offering: Local Fund \$2,125.50

Mar. receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$11,132 needed) \$2,125.50

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Adult **SS classes meet**, as they choose 9 A.M., etc., Mar. 14

Children's **SS classes meet** (via Zoom) 10:25 A.M., Mar. 14

Spiritual Life Board meets (via Zoom) 7 P.M., Mar. 15

Wed. evening activities Mar. 17

Chime ensemble #2 practices @ Zion 6:00 P.M.

Choir ensemble #2 practices @ Zion 6:30 P.M.

Middle school youth group (various locales) 6:30 P.M.

Adult Bible study (via Zoom) 7:30 P.M.

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Accompanist: Josh Andres (Lois Friesen, prelude) Next Sun.

Vocalist(s): Josh and Kristy Andres Next Sun.

Children's Time: Ann Schowengerdt Next Sun.

Offering: Western District Conference – Church Plant support Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Education Board meets (via Zoom) 7 P.M., Mar. 22

Special **cong. mtg.** re pastoral team recall app.11:45 A.M., Mar. 28

Maundy Thursday service (in-person & Twitch) 7 P.M., Apr. 1

Deacons meet (via Zoom) 9 A.M., Apr. 12

Governing Council meets (via Zoom) 7 P.M., Apr. 12

Pray This Week for...

- Andrew and April Wedel, celebrating the birth of daughter Alivia Rain Wedel on Mar. 9; the rosebud in worship honors her.
- Silas Stucky, unable to worship with us regularly.
- the WDC Executive Board as they meet this week, and give leadership and oversight for conference vision and priorities.
- Mennonite Education Agency, as they search for a new director.
- the two-day virtual meeting of Mennonite Voluntary Service staff and local unit leadership, which begins this Friday. Pray for them as they discuss opportunities for the future of the program, share best practices, and build relationships.

Zion Mennonite Church

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

zionelbing@gmail.com www.zionmenno.org

March 14, 2021: The Fourth Sunday of Lent

(Worship is mainly virtual; open to limited in-person presence)

Virtual Worship at 10:45 A.M.

Gathering Song "O healing river" VT #706

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements Karen Andres

Prelude Kristyn Esau

Call to Worship from Winter 2020 *Leader*

One: The wilderness is without and within. It too is part of God's path, though we fear wild, barren places, as did the people of old.

Many: When the people became impatient, asking, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness?" God answered by bringing healing.

O: In our barren places, God calls us to wholeness, even when we cannot see beyond the danger, isolation, and need.

M: We forget that God is already at work in these difficult, painful places.

O: Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Chosen One be lifted up, that whoever believes may have eternal life.

M: For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

All: We call out to you, as you call us to deeper healing.

Children's Time Bonnie Brewer

Song "When pain or sorrow / hold on" VT #612

Scripture Reading *selections from Romans 13*

Meditation "Lovely government" Ray Reimer

Response Song “I want to walk as a child of the light” SJ #95

Work of the Church: summary of reviews Ann Schowengerdt
Offering *Deacons’ Fund*

Sharing

Family Videos

Celebrations and Concerns

Prayer (beginning with confession) Karen Andres

One: Deep calls to deep.

Many: We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

O: We confess how the wilderness has revealed our need,
uncovering our impatience, lifting up our pain.

We confess how the wilderness has revealed your truth.

We are created for good works. We can turn and live.

(Silence. Or name forces that keep us from deep relationship.)

Deep calls to deep. You call to us from the depth of your love.

M: Calling us to deep healing. We come to you, God.

Sending Song “Calm me, Lord” VT #680
Benediction

Vocalist: Bonnie Brewer Accompanist: Kristyn Esau
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 wks. Permission to stream the music in this
service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #737503-A. All rights reserved)

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

The Facilities Committee is setting up this year’s **schedule for mowing the church and parsonage lawns and the cemetery**. If you were on last year’s schedule, we will assume you are willing to continue for this year unless we hear from you. Also, we would appreciate any more volunteers who would like to be added to the schedule. Please contact David Andres: (316) 799-2857.

Wednesday evening adult Bible study focuses on Paul’s epistle to the Romans. Sermons through the winter / early spring will have similar focus, with sequential passages—so plan to participate in both for the full experience! Zoom mtg ID 845 1009 6000, passcode 726775, or:
<<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84510096000?pwd=MFpzQ3BPSDBpMFNqMnAzREhZRkZuZz09>>.

Mar. 28, app.11:45 A.M.: A **special congregational meeting** has been called for this date/time. The main agenda will be the motion: “That Zion Mennonite Church recall the pastoral team of Ray Reimer (2/3 FTE) and Karen Andres (1/3 FTE) to an additional term of three years of service, beginning July 1, 2021.” Instructions regarding the meeting/voting (in person/virtual) are being circulated separately.

Apr. 1, 7 P.M.: A hybrid **Maundy Thursday service** is being planned; communion will be celebrated (those joining virtually are encouraged to gather elements—juice and bread—ahead of time).

Nurture / Faith Formation resources:

- Supplement to the *Adult Bible Study* for week: *attached*.

Other Organizations

Mar. 17, 6 P.M. (CT): Join Mennonite Church USA’s Iris de León-Hartshorn and Frank Scofield of Pasadena Menn. Ch. as they interview author Felipe Hinojosa about his new book, *Apostles of Change*, in a **webinar**, sharing stories about how Latino activists transformed churches into staging grounds for protests against urban renewal and displacement. Register *by Mar. 16* at <<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/webinar-hinojosa>>.

What does the word “Lord” mean to you? Is it a title? A synonym for God? Is it gendered? Is it oppressive? Read how decisions about the word “Lord” were made in the new hymnal in Sarah Kathleen Johnson’s blog, “Lord as a metaphor for God in the *Voices Together* hymnal.” <<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/lord-voices-together>>.

Mar. 20: Camp MennoScah's **Youth Volunteer Day** is full of service projects, worship, lunch and socially-distanced fellowship! Masks are required. Register online, e-mail <office@campmennoscah.org> or call 620-297-3290.

Mar. 21, 7 P.M.: You're invited to join a virtual event sponsored by WDC and the Beatrice Menn. churches, featuring Natalie Frisk (curriculum pastor at The Meeting House Ch. [Toronto, Canada]). On the date/time noted a live/interactive Zoom discussion with Natalie will address "**Jesus Centered Parenting: Q & A**"; other pre-recorded sessions include "Kids in the Kingdom"; "Anchors and Waves: Living the Life as a Disciple While Discipling Your Kid," and "Journeying on Sacred Pathways: How is Your Kid Wired?" For info, e-mail <pastor@summitstreetchurch.com>.

Mar. 25, 7 P.M.: Networking meeting hosted by WDC's **Immigration Task Force**. Connect with other churches re their advocacy. Hear from MCC's National Advocacy Director Tammy Alexander. What is your church doing or what do you hope to do? Contact <wdc@mennowdc.org> for the Zoom link.

Mar. 25, 7 P.M.: The WDC Resource Library will host a **Zoom discussion** of Michele Hershberger's book *Why Did Jesus Die and What Difference Does it Make?* Contact <crlib@mennowdc.org> to borrow a copy of the book or to register for the discussion.

Mar. 27, 9 A.M–3 P.M.: **Christian Ladies Retreat** at Federated Church (Whitewater); \$30/person; registrations *due Mar. 20*. More info at <alago0615@gmail.com> or (316) 799-9131.

Mar. 30, 7 P.M.: Dyck Arboretum's **Conservation Stewardship in the Flint Hills** (online lecture); register at dyckarboretum.org

Apr. 8, 7 P.M.: Women and girls are invited to the WDC **Women in Mission 2021 Spring Soiree**. In lieu of attending our annual Spring Supper, gather with us for a virtual night of worship, music and a reflection on "Faith in Turbulent Times" by special guest speaker and freelance minister, Georgia Metz, M. Div. Music will be provided by Erin Regier Graber and Addie Regier Kauffman. E-mail <WDWM2021SpringSoiree@gmail.com> to register *by Apr. 5*. A zoom link will be sent to registrants prior to the event.