

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with no visitors; & 9x2 Twitchers): c.80
Offering: Camp Mennoedah \$358
November receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$11,132 needed) \$7,959.69

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet 9:45 A.M., Nov. 28
Worship; also live-streamed 10:45 A.M., Nov. 28
Spiritual Life Board meets (via Zoom) 7 P.M., Nov. 30
Visitation for D.Brewer @ Petersen's (Newton) 5-7 P.M., Dec. 1
No Wed. evening activities, in view of quarantining & visitation
Committal for D.Brewer @ Whitewater Center 9:30 A.M., Dec. 2
Memorial service for D.Brewer @ Grace Hill MC 11 A.M., Dec. 2

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Accompanist: Karen A (also, Donovan, Maya, Lauren, Wyatt) Next Sun.
Children's Time: Ann Schowengert Next Sun.
Offering: Local Fund Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Cong. mtg. for budget & elections c.11:45 A.M., Dec. 12
Deacons meet (via Zoom) 9 A.M., Dec. 13
Governing Council meets (via Zoom) 7 P.M., Dec. 13
Material for 2021 **Annual Report due** to Becky Nickel Dec. 15
Christmas Eve program **practice(s)** Dec. 15 & 22
Likely Zion outing to **view Christmas lights** in Wichita Dec. 19
Zion's **Christmas Eve program** 7 P.M., Dec. 24

Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- the Brewer family and others who grieve in these days.
- those recovering and quarantining from COVID.
- pastors, musicians, worship leaders and teachers who guide WDC congregations in celebrating the Advent and Christmas season.
- Alfonsina and José Oyanguren, who have walked alongside Toba-Qom churches in the Argentine Chaco since 2004, via a partnership that includes the Argentina Menn. Ch., Mennonite Mission Network and congregations in OH.

Zion Mennonite Church

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*November 28, 2021: The First Sunday of Advent:
"Dare to Imagine God's Goodness!"*

Worship in the sanctuary at 10:45 A.M.; also live-streamed

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Candle-lighting Litany

Leader: We light a candle of hope...
And we imagine:

People: God's righteousness, God's steadfast love, God's justice.

L: We light the candle to see God's goodness in us, among us.

P: Imagine that... we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.

Hymn "Come, thou long-expected Jesus" VT #218

Children's Time Sharon Wedel
Hymn "He came down" VT #239

Scripture(s) *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

Sermon "The Days Are Surely Coming" Karen Andres
Confession and Assurance

Leader: A friend once said children grow taller at night—while at rest—bones quietly stretch, and bit by bit their bodies grow. Trees grow silently, too—from deep inside—energy is released. Branches reach for the light. People can grow silently, too.

People: We confess that all too often we stifle the growth God inspires deep inside of us, preferring the immediate, the good enough, the comfortable.

L: In Advent—O God—cause us to get up on our tiptoes, lean forward, and extend our gaze.

P: Surely God, who caused the righteous Branch to spring up, will enliven our imaginations in this season of hope.
(*silence*)

L: (Assurance:) The kingdom of God is near. Listen—can you hear it? Look—can you see it? Our God says, “Surely the days are coming—they are already here!”

Response Song “It came upon a midnight clear” VT #248, vss. 1,2,5

Offering *The Corinthian Plan: Access & Sharing Fund*

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns: Prayer Ray Reimer

Sending Song “To us a child of hope is born” VT #259

Benediction

Worship Leader: Allie Klingenberg Accompanist(s)/vocalist(s): Josh & Kristy Andres
Pastor Ray Reimer (316-217-2012) Assoc. Pastor Karen Andres (316-799-2857)

(Our worship is live-streamed 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: Ray is usually at the church office from about 9 A.M.–NOON on Mon. and Fri.; Karen on Tue. and Thur. afternoons from about 1–4 P.M.

Congregational Announcements

MCC Kit Collection: Items and money for Hygiene Kits and other MCC material resources are being collected during Nov. and Dec. Please place items in box under bulletin board in lobby, or money to purchase same in box at the back of the sanctuary. On Dec. 8, mentors and mentees will assemble them. New items only, please:

- 1 adult-size toothbrush (in manufacturer’s packaging)
- 1 large bar bath soap (leave in wrapper)
- 1 nail clipper (good quality)
- 1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colors; approx. 16 in x 26 in)
- 1 wide-toothed comb (6–8 in)

The Friday e-mail this week includes an **Advent at Home** attachment you’re encouraged to utilize over the next weeks; it coordinates with our Sunday worship focus.

Zion members and friends are encouraged to collect **items for area Food Pantries** during November. Bring non-perishable foods such as rice, beans, pasta, sauce, mac and cheese, peanut butter, cereal, soup, canned vegetables or fruit (remember—nothing expired!). Monetary donations are also welcome (dedicated offerings occur on Nov. 14 and Dec. 12).

beginning Nov. 28: Sunday School classes, winter quarter:

PreK & Kindergarten (Ben & Halie): church basement room, across from bathrooms

Elementary (1st-3rd) (Karen, Dec.; Mark & Clint, Jan./Feb.): church basement room, far south

Intermediate (4th-6th) (Ann): church basement room, “sewing room”

8th graders (Cassie): church basement, stage

Adult SS classes may choose a room upstairs in the parsonage, the elevator room in church basement, or church library. The young parents’ class will resume in the back of the sanctuary.

Nov. 30: All Zion **expenses for the 2021 fiscal year** should be submitted to our treasurer, Daryl Regier, by this date.

Dec. 2, 11 A.M.: **Doug Brewer’s memorial service** will be held at Grace Hill Menn. Ch., hosted by Zion. It will be live-streamed at <https://youtu.be/_vYHmD8QW50>. Zion members are also welcome to attend the committal service at 9:30 A.M. at Whitewater Center cemetery (rural Burns, on Timber Rd).

Dec. 12, c.11:45 A.M.: Our **first winter congregational meeting** is scheduled for this Sunday, immediately after worship, to consider the 2022 budget and elections. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary, but also be live-streamed.

Dec. 15: Reports for the Zion Menn. Ch. **Annual Report Book** are due *by this date*. Please e-mail them to Becky Nickel, at <bnickel77@gmail.com>, preferably as a MSWord attachment. Questions? Please contact Becky.

The Outreach Board will sponsor a **trip to view Christmas lights** in Wichita, probably on Dec. 19.

Other Organizations

Dec. 4: Bethel College Women's Association will again be selling baked goods, craft items, and poinsettias for **5 Places of Christmas** at Goerz House on the Bethel College campus. All bakers and craft makers are invited to make items; Christmas candy, zwieback, peppernuts, poppyseed rolls and cinnamon rolls are always great sellers. Please bring your items to Goerz House on Fri., Dec. 3, from 1:30-4:30 P.M. or Sat., Dec. 4 from 7-9 A.M.

The actual open houses at Kauffman Museum, Goerz House, Warkentin House, Harvey County Historical Museum and Carriage Factory Gallery will be open from 10 A.M.-4 P.M. on Dec. 4. Please plan to wear a face covering indoors and follow all COVID-19 protocols requested by the venue.

Dec. 4, 7 P.M.: You're invited to a theatre and music performance that explores what coming "**Home for Christmas**" means for a diversity of people and cultures, presented by Hesston College theatre and music at Hesston Menn. Ch. All performers fully vaccinated for COVID-19 will perform without masks; audience members are required to wear masks. No tickets are required, but a free-will offering will be accepted following the performance. Program and livestream available <at www.hesston.edu/music>.

Dec. 7, 7 P.M.: Bethel College's **Steel Drum Band** will present its holiday concert in Krehbiel Auditorium. Bethel's current COVID-19 protocols require physical distancing to the extent possible and mask-wearing indoors with groups of 10 or more.

Dec. 7, 7:30 P.M.: Returning to Hesston College after ten years, **Canadian Brass** will perform as part of the 2021-22 Sunflower Performing Arts series at Hesston Menn. Ch. Audience members will be required to wear a mask, according to current Hesston College guidelines. For more info or to purchase tickets, call 620-327-8158 or click <sunflowerarts.org>.

Dec. 8, 11 A.M.: **Singalong to Christmas portions of Handel's *Messiah*** returns in-person in Memorial Hall, with chamber orchestra, soloists and student conductors. Scores provided. Bethel's current COVID-19 protocols pertain.