Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with no visitors; & 20x2 Twitchers)	: c.78
Offering : Area food banks in Peabody and Whitewater	\$447.11
December receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$11,350 needed)	\$3,325

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet	9:45 A.M., Dec. 19
Worship; also live-streamed	10:45 A.M., Dec. 19
Zion outing to Illuminations at Botanica (Wic	hita) 6 P.M., Dec. 19
Wed. evening activities	Dec. 22
Christmas Eve practice (Children, Youth & Choir)	6:15 P.M?
No Adult Bible Study this week	
Zion's Christmas Eve program	7 P.M., Dec. 24
Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Ch	urch
Accompanist: Carol Klingenberg (also, Emma, Renee)	Next Sun.
Children's Time: Ann Schowengerdt	Next Sun.
Offering: Mennonite Mission Network	Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

No Wed. evening activities	Dec. 29
Cong. mtg. for reports & projects	7 P.M., Jan. 5
Deacons meet (via Zoom)	9 A.M., Jan. 10
Governing Council meets (via Zoom)	7 P.M., Jan. 10
Spiritual Life Board meets (via Zoom)	7 P.M., Jan. 11

Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- Elda Hiebert's family and friends, as they reflected this last week on the anniversary of her death in 2019.
- WDC congregations as a visible expression of God's presence in local communities, now in this Christmas season and throughout the year.
- Matthew and Toni Krabill, of Mennonite Mission Network, who are serving as co-directors for the Paris Menn. Center in France. Pray for their health, creativity and joy, as they welcome researchers, share Anabaptist resources and develop online classes for French-speaking theology students throughout the world.

Zion Mennonite Church

P.O. Box 68, Elbing, KS 67041 (316) 799-2071 zionelbing@gmail.com www.zionmenno.org

December 19, 2021: The Fourth Sunday of Advent: "Dare to Imagine God's Face"

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

Pre-Service Music: Kate K, Maya K, Cohen A

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Prelude(s) Eva R

Candle-lighting Litany

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

People: the lowly lifted, fear met with love.

L: We light the candle and pray for God's face to shine on us, to save us, restore us.

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

Song "He came down" VT #239

Children's Time Kristy Andres
Song "What child is this" VT #267

Scripture(s) *Luke 1:36-55*

Sermon "The song of embrace" Karen Andres

Confession and Assurance

Leader: We notice, O God, that when you feed people, everyone has enough.

People: We notice that in our world, when we feed people, some have more than enough, and many are still hungry.

- L: Teach us to love.
- P: We notice, O God, that in your social, economic, racial, and gender orders, no one is greater, and no one is left behind.
- L: We notice that in our world there are many ladders, and many are climbing.

P: Re-orientate us to your vision of equality.

L: God of mercy, lower us, raise us, empty us, and fill us. Like an empty manger, we want to be ready to receive Emmanuel.

(Words of Assurance [adapted from Luke 1:46-49]):

All: Our souls magnify the Lord, our spirits rejoice in God our Savior. God has looked with favor on our lowliness. The Mighty One has done great things for us, and holy is God's name.

Response Song "With Mary sing Magnificat" VT #208

Offering Western District Conference
Offertory Makayla K

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns
Prayer Ray Reimer

Sending Song "O come, all ye faithful" VT #241

Benediction

Worship Leader: Allie Klingenberg
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

Contributions for **Hygiene Kits** will continue to be accepted throughout Dec.

<u>Dec. 19, 6 P.M.</u>: The Outreach Board is sponsoring a **trip to Illuminations** at Botanica in Wichita. Tickets have been purchased for children. Adults should acquire theirs via:

https://embed.showclix.com/event/illuminations-

botanicaWPil2ZT#updated>. Don't delay, as this date/time slot is likely to fill up. No tickets will be available at the gate.

Other Organizations

<u>Dec. 19, 4 P.M.</u>: **Hopeful Blues**, an eclectic instrumental group, will host **Doxology Ensemble**, a 12-voice male acappella ensemble from the Anabaptist community near Hutchinson, to present a concert of sacred music at Hope Menn. Ch. (868 N Maize Road, Wichita), joining two unique ensembles for an afternoon of Christmas music. Admission is free, donations are welcomed.

Dec. 20-22, 10 A.M.-3 P.M.: Bethel College's Advancement and Development staff invites you to an **open house** at their new offices in the Leisy House (303 E 24th St, North Newton) for refreshments and conversation. Year-end donations can be made during the open house.

The Dec. edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: MDS responds to the deadly tornadoes in the Midwest and parts of the South, MDS Canada needs volunteers to help survivors recover from extensive flooding in British Columbia, and you can learn more about our Annual Celebration in Sarasota, FL in Jan. Read more at https://conta.cc/3GORUmS.

Jan. 16, 2022, 2 P.M.: The Kansas MDS Unit invites you to attend its **annual meeting** at Tabor Menn. Ch. (891 Chisholm Trail, Newton). Agenda: We will be sharing and celebrating about the work of MDS, and voting on some Unit Bylaw revisions. For a copy of the revisions contact <cleohkoop@gmail.com>. No need to register. This will be a hybrid event, in person as well as virtual on Zoom. This remote link to join the Zoom meeting will become active 30 minutes before the meeting: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83355094919?pwd=anNDNWIBRkJrWmVNOFRKbHUwOU9tQT09>.

Mennonite Church USA awarded three **Thrive Church Planting Grants** this year, to Community of Hope in Bellingham, WA, Summit Street Church in Beatrice, NE, and Wild Church in Fresno, CA. Read about the grant and these church plants at: <mennoniteusa.org/thrive-three-awards>.