

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with 2 visitors; & 6x2 Twitchers):	c.84
Offering: Western District Conference	\$290
December receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$11,350 needed)	\$6,325

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet	9:45 A.M., Dec. 26
Worship; also live-streamed	10:45 A.M., Dec. 26
No Wed. evening activities this week	Dec. 29

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Accompanist/Vocalist: Bonnie Brewer	Next Sun.
Children's Time: Bonnie Brewer	Next Sun.
Offering: Local Fund	Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Epiphany communion during worship	10:45 A.M., Jan. 2
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
Wed. evening activities resume (except Bible study)	Jan. 12
Wed. evening Adult Bible Study resumes	7:30 P.M., Jan. 19

Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- two of our senior members with birthdays this Thur. (Jan. 30): Ed Andres (turning 96), and Edna Stucky (turning 93). Edna's family has requested a card shower for her (8115 NE 12th St., Newton, KS 67114), or call with greetings (316-799-2410).
- Bruce Janzen, Lisa Scott and siblings, grieving the death of their aunt Elizabeth (Claassen) Goering on Dec. 23 at age 101.
- pastors, chaplains and other ministers in WDC, that they would experience God's renewed strength and hope for ministry in the New Year.
- Linda Beachy, who is in the middle of her year-long SOOP assignment at the Navajo Brethren in Christ Mission in Bloomfield, NM, serving via Mennonite Mission Network.

Zion Mennonite Church

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*December 26, 2021: The First Sunday of Christmastide:
"Dare to Imagine God's Robe!"*

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

Gathering Song "Good Christian friends, rejoice" VT #261
Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Prelude(s) Renee
Candle-lighting Litany

Leader: We light the Christ candle and we welcome new life.

**People: Hurry, hurry, sing the glory! Imagine that...
we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.**

Song "He came down" VT #239

Children's Time Ann Schowengerdt
Song "Hark! the herald angels sing" VT #247

Scripture(s) *1 Samuel 2.18-20, 26; Luke 2.41-52*
Sermon "Robed in God's favor" Ray Reimer
Confession and Assurance

**All: God, we bring our brokenness to you—our bodies,
minds, relationships. We trust you, the source of
wholeness and miracles, to take our fragments, jagged
edges, and pain. Bring healing and forgiveness in ways
we cannot imagine. Restore the joy of our salvation as
only you can do.**

Leader: (*Words of Assurance, from Voices Together #909*):
God forgives you. Forgive others. Forgive yourself.
(*silence*) Be at peace.

Response Song "I was there to hear your borning cry" SJ #89

Offering *Mennonite Mission Network*
Offertory Emma

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns

Prayer

Ray Reimer

Sending Song “Angels we have heard on high” VT #249

Benediction

Worship Leader: Deanna Entz Accompanist: Carol 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.

Jan. 2, 10:45 A.M.: Our worship service on this Sunday we celebrate Epiphany will include **communion**. Those joining worship via live-stream are encouraged to gather elements (bread, juice) beforehand.

Jan. 5, 7 P.M.: The second winter **congregational meeting** is scheduled to discuss reports and projects; the meeting will be held in person in the sanctuary (no live-streaming). Reports are being e-mailed to members with e-mail along with this bulletin (please print off your copy or bring to the meeting on a device), and surface mailed or put in church mailboxes of those without e-mail.

An *additional agenda item* will affirm Zion delegates to a special assembly of Mennonite Church USA on May 27-30, 2022 in person in Kansas City to consider “retiring” membership guidelines. Zion is eligible to have 2 delegates (a pastor usually serves as at least 1 of these); if you are interested in serving as a delegate, please inform Becky Nickel prior to the Jan. 5 meeting.

Jan. 19, 7:30 P.M.: Wed. evening **Adult Bible Study** will resume after Christmas break. Following along with sermons through winter and Lent, we will study the gospel of Luke.

Several members at a distance, in care homes or homebound have sent **cards or Christmas greetings**; posted on the bulletin board.

Thank You!

...for your thoughts and prayers, cards and gift card. My shoulder is healing slowly. –Thurman Entz

Dear Zion Church family– Words can’t express the gratitude I feel for all of you. You have been so supportive of Doug and I over the past 11 years. Thanks for everything. Love, Margaret Brewer.

Other Organizations

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=anNDNWIBRkRkRmVNOFRkKHUwOU9tQT09>>.

Learn, Pray, Join: Cost of Poverty. Sometimes, the people we least want to interact with are the ones who have the opportunity to most impact our lives. For Danilo Sanchez, co-pastor of Ripple Menn. Ch. in Allentown, PA, Wendy was this person. Read his blog, “Practicing the presence-ministry of Jesus,” to learn about how he was able to build a relationship with Wendy, through his church and community center, that changed both of their lives forever. <mennoniteusa.org/presence-ministry>.

Opening: Eden Menn. Ch., of Moundridge, KS, is seeking a caring, well-organized person to fill the role of Church Office Secretary. This person will need to be a good communicator with strong computer skills. The salaried position assumes 25 hours per week, the majority of that time in the office on weekday mornings. Find the application at: <<https://forms.gle/bhPx3gxxe8B7E3at7>>. Questions? Call Pastors Derek King or Dianne Schmidt at 620-345-8320.