

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with no visitors; & 13x2 Twitchers):	c.52
Dec. 24 Eve (with many visitors; & 11x2 Twitchers):	c.137
Offering: Mennonite Mission Network	\$80
Dec. 24 Eve (for International Rescue Committee)	\$1,000
December receipts for Local Fund (\$11,350 needed)	\$11,475

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet	9:45 A.M., Jan. 2
Worship (with communion); also live-streamed	10:45 A.M., Jan. 2
No regular Wed. evening activities this week	Jan. 5
Cong. mtg. for reports & projects	7 P.M., Jan. 5

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Accompanist/Vocalist: Karen Andres (prelude: SODZ)	Next Sun.
Children's Time: Lois Friesen	Next Sun.
Offering: Wheat State Manor	Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

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...

- Edna Stucky, back home after treatment for a mild stroke a week ago; she has minimal after-effects.
- those awaiting medical tests, procedures to be scheduled, etc.
- all making resolutions for a new year... hopefully a better year!
- WDC staff in the coming year, as they work to support ministers and church leaders, equip congregations with resources, and encourage church planting initiatives and partnerships.
- Mennonite Mission Network, hold their personnel and partners in your prayers, as we join to share the light and love of Jesus in our neighborhoods and around the world.

Zion Mennonite Church

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

January 2, 2022: Epiphany Sunday
“Dare to Imagine God’s Dance!”

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

Gathering Song “We Three Kings” (arr. Edna Andres) Men’s Ensemble
Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Call to Worship from the *Leader*

Leader: Come and join in a holy dance—a dance God has been imagining since the beginning.

People: We come, weeping.

L: Join in God’s comforting dance.

P: We come with nothing.

L: Join in God’s dance of abundance.

P: We come, feeling disconnected.

L: Join in God’s intimate dance.

P: We come, although we do not know how to dance.

L: Will we dare to learn the moves? Do we dare step onto the dance floor?

P: We will join in God’s daring dance.

Song “O Beautiful Star” VT #275

Candle-lighting Litany

Leader: We light the Christ candle to honor Jesus and listen as all creation joins in praise.

People: Imagine that... we are God’s wonders, blessed wonders.

Children’s Time Bonnie Brewer

Scripture(s) *Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:1-18*

Sermon “Blessed with a Better Dance Partner” Ray Reimer
Confession and Assurance

Leader: Let us confess God’s greatness with an attitude of
childlike, awestruck wonder.

**All: Twinkle, twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high, like a diamond in the sky.
God of the vast heavens, expansive oceans, majestic
mountains, and rolling prairies, forgive us for our need
to conquer and control.
Cause us to look up, reach out, and follow...
For you, O God of infinite imagination, will lead us.**

L: From all the fullness of God, the world has received grace
upon grace.

The young rejoice in the dance. The old shall be merry.
Surely, the true Light has come into the world. Amen.

Response Song “Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom” VT #196

Offering *Local Fund*

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns

Prayer Karen Andres

Song “What Child Is This / Helpless and Hungry” VT #267-268

Communion

Preparation for Communion VT #937

Words of Institution

Sharing supper with the Lord... and each other

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sending Song “New Earth, Heavens New” VT #377

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Leader: Lillian Wedel

Vocalist: Bonnie Brewer

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. Ray has a significant
medical appointment Tue. morning, and may attend a gathering of
Wheat State Manor board members and pastors Thur. evening.

Congregational Announcements

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). Corrected 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 have been surface mailed to 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.

Thank you!... to all who helped behind the scenes to decorate and
prepare for a joyous Advent/Christmas season. Decorations
throughout the church were arranged by Ann, Lois, Peggy and
Don; the Christmas tree put up by Mike and Mark (with children
providing the decorations); Kathy assembled the Christmas Eve
gift bags, with assistance from June and Russ on the oranges and
Annette, Gladys, Laura, Reinhild and Janice Kauder on pepper-
nuts. We’re also grateful to Annette, Carol, June, Laura, and Rein-
hild for baking cakes for Wheat State Manor during the season.