

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with 2 visitors; & 12 x2 Twitchers): c.80
Offering: Local Fund ...
Sept. receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$11,350 needed) \$...

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet 9:45 A.M., Sept. 11
(Adult classes invited to sanctuary for MMN presentation)
Worship; also live-streamed 10:45 A.M., Sept. 11
Safe Sanctuaries training for SS/Wed. teachers 6 P.M., Sept. 11
Deacons meet (in person, if status low; otherwise Zoom) 9 A.M., Sept. 12
Gov. Council meets (in person, if status low; or Zoom) 7 P.M., Sept. 12
Education Board meets (via Zoom) 7 P.M., Sept. 14

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Mowing Church / Parsonage: Russell & Reynold Entz Before next Sun.
Mowing Cemetery: Josh & David Andres Before next Sun.
Worship Leader(s): Lois Friesen Next Sun.
Accompanist / Vocalist(s): Carol / Margaret (prelude: Makayla K.) Next Sun.
Children's Time: Brett Klingenberg Next Sun.
Offering: Western District Conference Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Pastor Ray **on vacation** in CO Sept. 19-28
Mark Jantzen, **guest speaker** 10:45 A.M., Sept. 25
World Communion Sunday Oct. 2
Spiritual Life Board meets (via Zoom) 7 P.M., Oct. 17

Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- the family of Dave Stevens, and Hope Menn. Ch. (Wichita) as they mourn the unexpected death of their pastor; a memorial service was held yesterday (Sept. 10) at the church.
- interim and transitional pastors in Western District Conference, as they give leadership to congregations in times of change and new vision for the future.
- La Casa Grande (The Large House), a Christian community for children in Benin who have nowhere else to go, partnering with Mennonite Mission Network. Pray for the children and teachers as they return to classes at Les Leaders (The Leaders).

Zion Mennonite Church

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

September 11, 2022: Christian Formation Sunday

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

Gathering Song "I come with joy" VT #478
Welcome, Introductions, Announcements
Prelude Kate K.

Call to Worship adapted from VT #955
Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, and create a community of learning.

People: Help us grow in wisdom and understanding.

L: Thank you for those among us willing to teach about your presence in the world more clearly.

P: Form us as doers of justice and lovers of mercy,

L: as we walk humbly with you and one another.

All: Help us accept our identity as beloved sons and daughters of God.

Offering *Mennonite College(s) (donor specification)*

Children's Time: Bible presentations
Children's Caring Quilt dedication
Liturgical Dance

Scripture *Luke 2:41-52*
Sermon "The dawning of an identity" Karen Andres
Recognition of Sunday School teachers
Response Song "Be a sower" VT #789

Work of the Church: MMN Mission Moments

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns: Prayer Ray Reimer

Sending Song "Move in our midst" VT #827
Benediction and Postlude

Worship Leader: Lois Friesen Accompanist / Vocalist(s): Brett 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

Sunday School teachers for children's and youth classes for the fall quarter:

Pre-K & 1st: Halie Duerksen
2nd-4th Grades: Lindsey & Matt Regier
5th-7th Grades: Allie Klingenberg
9th Grade: Pastor Karen

Sept. 11, 6 P.M.: **Safe Sanctuaries training** for all those involved in teaching or working with children, outside at church. Desserts will be provided.

Sept. 11: Mike Sherrill, Executive Director of **Mennonite Mission Network**, and Karen Horsman, MMN's Director of Development, will join us. Adult SS classes are invited to gather at 9:45 A.M. in the sanctuary for a presentation / discussion; Mike and Karen will also offer a brief "Mission Moment" during worship.

The Education Board is looking for **two teachers for Wednesday night programming**, starting the first Wednesday of October. This will be for the younger children, divided into two groups. If you are interested in helping out, contact Pastor Karen or a member of the Education Board.

Other Organizations

Sept. 17, 6 P.M.: The **Ball Brothers Quartet** will appear in concert at Emmaus Church. No tickets necessary; freewill offering will be taken. Further details posted. (*Note corrected date*).

Sept. 11, 2 P.M.: **KIPCOR Film Series** begins, with *Generation 9/11*, in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Filmmaker Liz Mermin's documentary follows the stories of young adults growing up in the United States post-9/11, and explores how these Gen Zers engage with themes of justice, violence, grief, empowerment, joy and life in America (among others). Audience discussion follows the film screening. A freewill offering will be taken to support KIPCOR and the film series.

Sept. 11, 3 P.M.: Sunflower Performing Arts presents: **Sunflower Soirée**, Hesston Menn. Ch. You are invited to our season opening event that is free of charge and will present local/regional artists: Carren Moham, soprano; Mei Li, piano; The Salina Symphony Brass Quintet, The Brain Flowers, and Outside the Bach(s). Light refreshments to follow. More info at <sunflowerarts.org>.

Sept. 14: Everence® Financial will host a free, 4-part webinar series starting on the date noted: ***Managing your finances—faithfully!*** In this series, you'll hear important information on topics like, Women and Money, Stewardship Investing, Financial Planning and Retirement Income. The webinars will be presented by Everence professionals and there will be plenty time for your questions. To register, or for more info, visit <www.everence.com/national>.

Sept. 15, 5-6 P.M. or Oct. 20, 5-6 P.M. (*note updated time for Oct. meeting*): **Newton Et Cetera Shop** invites you to become a volunteer! Help us to share God's love with all creation by volunteering in clothing, clerking, recycling, linens, housewares or one of our other departments. If you'd like to join us, please stop by, call us at 316.283.9461, or attend one of our upcoming volunteer orientations (noted above) to tell us what interests you. We hope to hear from you soon!

Sept. 16, 7 P.M.: Bethel College **guest recital**, Administration Building chapel, by pianist Spencer Myer, who recently joined the faculty of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. This is part of the Kansas Music Teachers Association annual conference being held on the Bethel campus Sept. 16-17.

Sept. 16-17: All interested are invited to attend the **MDS Region 3 Annual Meeting**, which in occur in hybrid fashion: in-person at Mountain View Menn. Ch., Kalispell, MT; or virtual at <<https://tinyurl.com/2022Region3>>. Further details posted. Pre-register at <<https://tinyurl.com/2022preregistration>>.

Sept. 18, 3 P.M.: “**Decommissioned Missile Silo Sites**: Reminders of Our Past and Future,” a program by Nate Hofer, Overland Park, Kan., at Kauffman Museum. Following the museum’s brief annual business meeting, Hofer, a “Peace Photo Award” winner, will discuss making photographs of decommissioned nuclear missile silos. The project included finding and traveling to the sites, talking with landowners and considering why he takes the photos and whether he considers himself a legitimate photographer. Hofer’s exhibit of photos, “One and a Half Acres: Images from America’s Decommissioned Missile Silos,” is currently on display in Bethel College’s Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center, Mon.-Fri., 9 A.M.-5 P.M., Sun 2-4 P.M., through Sept. 22.

Sept. 18: **Camp Mennoscah Annual Meeting** and Dedication of the renovated Campfire Amphitheater! Join us for an evening of song, popcorn, and generic pop, as well as updates on the year. Time is yet TBD. (It’s like a mini-Camp Sing; bring your friends!)

Sept. 19, 7 P.M.: Bethel College **Wind Ensemble concert**, directed by Joel Boettger, Krehbiel Auditorium..

Sept. 25, 9:30 A.M.: First Menn. Ch. (McPherson) is celebrating its **75th anniversary** on Sunday morning at the church.

Sept. 25: Everyone is invited to the Grace Hill Menn. Ch. **Community Hog Roast**. Food will be served from 5-7 P.M., entertainment until 8 P.M. Enjoy an evening of good food, outdoor fellowship, and music by The Flannelbacks. A free will donation will be accepted to support area food banks. Please bring a lawn chair. The event will take place, rain or shine!

Oct. 16-17: Well-known Reformation scholar Brad Gregory from the University of Notre Dame will give the annual **Menno Simons Lectures** at Bethel College. Save the date!

Sept. 28: Hesston College **TheatreFest**, in the Keim Center: High School students are invited to spend the morning in acting and tech-based workshops followed by a matinee of *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*. Register by *Sept. 10* at <hesston.edu/theatrefest>.

Sept. 27, 6:30 P.M.: The **Gospel Echoes Teams** will be holding their annual prison ministry banquet at the Journey@Yoder Activity Center; the evening will include a home-style dinner, music, and a prison ministry program. For complimentary tickets contact Dale & Miriam Lehman at (620) 694-9823. Details posted.

Sept. 29 / Oct. 2: Hesston College **Fall Play**: *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, in the Black Box Theater, Keim Center. Middle-aged siblings Vanya and Sonia share a home in Bucks Co., Pa., where they bicker and complain about their lives. Old resentments flare up when their movie-star sister and her young boyfriend show up to sell the family home in this hilarious weekend reunion. Intended for high school age and older. \$10 per adults/seniors and \$5 for students. More info at <hesston.edu/theatre>.

Oct. 6-9: Bethel College’s **Fall Festival**, with most activities on Sat., Oct. 8. Features include music, food, class reunions, football, the play *Quiet in the Land* by Anne Chislett, and the STEM Symposium honoring Prof. Emeritus of Psychology Paul Lewis. See <<https://www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/fall-festival>> for the complete schedule.

Oct. 7-8: Bethel College Women’s Association will appreciate **donations of homemade baked goods** for Market-in-the-Round at Fall Festival. Zwieback, cinnamon rolls, fruit pies, and poppyseed roll are especially needed. Please bring to Room 141 in Luyken Fine Arts Center from 2-5 P.M. on Fri., Oct 7, or 7-9 A.M. on Sat., Oct 8. Email <bcwa@bethelks.edu> with questions.

Oct. 28-30: **Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat** at Camp Mennoscah! Crafters and scrapbookers are all invited to come for a weekend of creativity and friends. Lodging will be in the Retreat Center and cropping/crafting will be in the Main Camp dining hall. Space heaters will be available for both areas since the repairs for the furnaces will not be completed.

Christian Educators Litany of Commitment

from the Christian Education Department of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

Leader: From the moment of our creation God has loved us and called us to be disciples.

All: *We thank you, God, for calling us to grow and serve as Christian disciples.*

L: Through the care of families, the love of Christ, and the nurture of the Christian community, we are shaped and strengthened.

All: *We thank you, God, for equipping us to grow and serve as Christian disciples.*

L: As Christ's disciples, we are sent forth to proclaim our faith.

All: *We thank you, God, for sending us to serve.*

L: Led by those who were called forth to lead and teach and model the faith, we follow their example and witness.

All: *We thank you, God, for providing the gifts of leading, teaching, and learning.*

L: Teachers and leaders, you have heard God's call. Will you let your light shine before others so they see your good works?

Teachers: With God as our helper, we will.

All: *With God's help we will support and encourage one another. We dedicate ourselves to growing and serving. We thank you, God, for claiming us and blessing us with so many gifts. As we use these gifts, may our service reflect your abiding presence and the light of faith we bear together, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Litany for Bible Presentation

Leader: Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

All: *Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?*

L: See the children before us.
See the children among us. Here is the truth:
we must be like these children.

**All: *Our children are curious.
Our children wonder.
Our children ask questions.***

L: Our children are innocent.
Our children are simple.
Our children are humble.

**All: *Our children love to play.
Our children love to explore.
Our children love to learn.***

L: Here is the truth: we must be like these children.
If we are like them, the question,
"Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
doesn't matter because in the kingdom,
if we are all like children, we are all the greatest.

**All: *We shall embrace these children of our congregation.
We shall teach these children of our congregation.
We shall love these children of our congregation.***

L: We shall learn from these children of our congregation.
In the name of Jesus, we shall receive them,
and through them we receive him. Amen.