

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with 1 visitor; & 11x2 Twitchers):	c.90
Offering: Nov. 27: <i>The Corinthian Plan – Access</i>	\$200
Nov. 20: <i>Camp Mennoscah</i>	\$788
Nov. receipts for Local Fund (\$11,350 needed)	\$8,710

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet	9:45 A.M., Dec. 4
Worship	10:45 A.M., Dec. 4
Wed. evening activities	Dec. 7
5:45-6:30 P.M.	Supper
6:30-7:20 P.M.	Children’s Activities; Adult Bible Study
7:25-8:00 P.M.	Choir

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship Leader(s): Steph Entz & family	Next Sun.
Accompanist / Vocalist(s): Carol K. / Margaret B. (prelude: students)	Next Sun.
Children’s Time: Bonnie Brewer	Next Sun.
Offering: Area food banks in Peabody and Whitewater	Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Congregational mtg for budget & elections	c.11:45 A.M., Dec. 11
Material for 2022 Annual Report due to Becky Nickel	Dec. 11
Deacons meet (in person, if status low; otherwise Zoom)	9 A.M., Dec. 12
Gov. Council meets (in person, if status low; or Zoom)	7 P.M., Dec. 12
Christmas Enactment program	7 P.M., Dec. 24
No in-person worship , but a virtual service will be shared	Dec. 25
Congregational mtg for reports & projects	7 P.M., Jan. 4, 2023

Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- thanks for God’s gifts of wisdom, vision and hope for WDC congregations navigating transitions and other discernment processes.
- Cassidy Bush, Anna Lubbers, Rachel Miller and Eli Reimer, who make up Mennonite Mission Network’s San Francisco (CA) Mennonite Voluntary Service unit. Pray for them as they join First Menn. Ch. of San Francisco in ministries that work toward reducing poverty and homelessness and promoting social justice, education, and health.

Zion Mennonite Church

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

December 4, 2022: Second Sunday of Advent

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

Prepare the way of the Lord

Reflection: What do you need to clean or discard as you prepare for this different kind of king?

Gathering Song	“Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah”	VT #95
Prelude		Milo K.
Welcome, Introductions, Announcements		
Interlude(s)		Kate K. and Maya K.

Call to Worship

Leader: A branch shall come forth from the stump of Jesse;
its root shall bear fruit.

People: May we be ready, O Lord, ready to be fruit bearers of your harvest, bringing forth the fruit of dwelling, longing, unity, and peace.

L: Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

P: Renew our spirit, stand as a banner before us, bright as morning glory.

L: Prepare the way for new life that emerges in and through you, life that ripples out to your people, into all nations.

All: In you there is glorious rest.

Offering	<i>Local Fund</i>	
Offertory		Caleb K.

Advent Candle Lighting

Leader: John the Baptist proclaimed,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

People: Prepare the way of the Lord, make God’s paths straight.

Song "O come, o come, Immanuel" VT #210, vss. 1, 6

L: As we prepare, we light this candle as a sign of peace.

P: Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

Children's Time Kristy Andres

Song "Come, thou long expected Jesus" VT #218

Scripture(s) *Isaiah 11.1-10; Matthew 3.1-12*

Sermon "Crossing borders" Ray Reimer

Response Song "Steal away" HWB #612

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns

Prayer Karen Andres

Sending Song "Siyahamba (We are marching)" VT #793

Benediction and Postlude

Worship Leader(s): Steph Entz & family

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

Zion members and friends are encouraged to collect **items for area Food Pantries** during Nov. and Dec. 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. 13 and Dec. 11).

Dec. 11: 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.

Dec. 11, c.11:45 A.M.: Our **first winter congregational meeting** is scheduled for this Sunday, immediately after worship, to consider the 2023 budget and elections, and hear a report on pastoral transition options. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary, but also be live-streamed.

Dec. 11, 3-5 P.M.: Pastor Ray and Rosie invite the Zion congregation to a **come-and-go Christmas open house** at their home (5 Jasper Court, North Newton, KS 67117; from the light at 24th & Main, go 3 blocks west on 24th to Regal Crescent, 1 block north to Jasper Court, then northeast to the end of the court). Please join us to enjoy some warm fellowship and some goodies!

Dec. 24, 7 P.M.: **Christmas Enactment:** All (children, youth, adults) are invited to put on a costume and join in the reenactment of the Christmas story at Zion on Christmas Eve. Be a part of the story by borrowing (Zion has a few) or making a costume as a stable animal, shepherd, sheep, angel, or wise person. On Christmas Eve don your costume and join us for an evening celebrating the birth of Jesus. If you have questions talk to Rosie Epp or Deana Entz. (At its Nov. meeting, the Governing Council determined the Christmas Eve offering would be monetary donations for MCC kits.)

Dec. 25, etc.: Both Spiritual Life Board and Governing Council have discussed **Sunday worship during the upcoming holiday season**. This year we will have no in-person worship on Dec. 25; the pastors will post online a pre-recorded service which families are encouraged to watch on that day at a time convenient to them. We will plan to worship in-person on Jan. 1, but delay our Epiphany communion observance until Jan. 8.

Jan., 2023: Kara Klingenberg will again **serve in the Dominican Republic**. This year, Derek and Makayla will join her! Derek and Makayla will be helping in small villages with a mobile doctor's office; Kara will again be in surgery. Since our bags are nearly full already, donations for surgical supplies are especially appreciated. Contact Kara if you'd like to help or have questions!

Other Organizations

Dec. 2-4: Experience the quiet beauty of Kansas at **Prairie Lights** at Dyck Arboretum of the Plains: native grasses shifting in the wind, lights reflecting in the pond and leafless trees lit like living sculptures. Observing tens of thousands of twinkle lights adorning the arboretum and illuminating the grounds is a great way to kick off the Christmas season and find renewed appreciation for the prairie landscape. Tickets available at <dyckarboretum.org>.

Dec. 4, 3 P.M. (prelude begins at 2:45 P.M.): The **Newton Treble Clef Annual Vespers** will be held at First Presbyterian Church (900 Columbus, Newton). The prelude will feature Vada Snider, flute; and Karen Loucks, piano. The program will include the prelude; Treble Clef Chorus; Hearts 4 Him men's ensemble; Josue Coy Dick, violin solo; and the Prairie Bronze Handbell Ensemble. A freewill offering will be taken for the scholarship fund that will be awarded to high school seniors who are pursuing a music major.

Dec. 4, 7 P.M.: Emmaus Church invites the community to join them for an **evening of music and drama** to usher in the Advent season. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service.

Dec. 5: SafeHope is taking donations now through the date noted for its 2022 **Holiday Boutique**, which allows families impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, and mass violence to pick out gifts from the new items you donate. Please consider bringing kitchen items, toys & games, movies & music, gift cards, towels, arts & crafts, small appliances, room décor, etc. to 215 S. Pine, Suite 103, Newton, KS 67114. Questions? Call (316) 283-0350.

Dec. 6, 6:30 P.M.: Everence will hold an **informative Medicare webinar**. Topics will include, when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare does (and doesn't) cover, Medicare Parts A, B, C and D plus budgeting for health care costs in retirement. There will also be time for your questions. Information will be presented by staff from the Everence offices in Central Kansas. To register contact Everence at <central.kansas@everence.com>, 316-283-3800, or 877-467-7294. Attendance recommended for those approaching retirement or those ready to sign up for Medicare.

Dec. 6, 7 P.M.: Bethel College **Steel Drum Ensemble concert**, directed by Brad Shores, in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center (note changed location from previous announcement).

Dec. 6, 7 P.M.: Sunflower Performing Arts presents "**Calmus: Christmas A Cappella**" at Hesston Menn. Ch., featuring Christmas songs from around the world. The ensemble performs more than 50 concerts a year and will collaborate with Bel Canto Singers on two selections. What a great way to get into the holiday spirit! More info and tickets at <sunflowerarts.org>.

Dec. 7, 11 A.M.: **Singalong** to Christmas portions of Handel's *Messiah*, with chamber orchestra and soloists, at Bethel College Menn. Ch.; scores provided (or bring your own).

Dec. 9, 8 P.M.: Bethel College **Christmas Gala Jazz**, directed by Joel Boettger, in Krehbiel Auditorium, Luyken Fine Arts Center.

Dec. 10, 9 A.M.–NOON: **Free community flu vaccine clinic** (via Health Ministries Clinic) at Whitewater Comm. Ch. (703 E Central St., Whitewater). More details posted.

Dec. 11, 11:15 A.M.: Koinonia Indian Menn. Ch. invites WDC members and friends to a **celebration of Rev. Susan Peak Hart's anniversary as pastor** at the church (10348 Airport Rd., Clinton, OK) during the Sunday worship service.

Dec. 11, 4 P.M.: Come enjoy a concert at Dyck Arboretum featuring **John Fullbright**. This performance is part of the Prairie Window Concert Series. Crust and Crumb will be there serving savory and sweet treats at intermission. Purchase tickets at <dyckarboretum.org>.

Dec. 11, 7 P.M.: Everyone is invited to enjoy the **McPherson Community Brass Choir** at Alexanderwohl Menn. Ch. (1304 K-15 Hwy, Goessel, KS). A free will offering will support local ministries.

Dec. 11, 8 P.M.: 37th annual **Lighting of the Green** on the Bethel College campus.

Dec. 18, 3 P.M.: Central KS Master Chorale, Joel Garber, cond., presents **Christmas with the Chorale** at Hesston Menn. Ch.