

Last Week at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship attendance (with no visitors; & 10x2 Twitchers): c.85

Offering: *Wheat State Manor* \$201.28

Jan. receipts-to-date for Local Fund (\$11,600 needed / month) \$4,100

This Week at Zion Mennonite Church

SS classes meet 9:45 A.M., Jan. 15

Worship 10:45 A.M., Jan. 15

Wed. evening activities Jan. 18

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

Jr. Youth Group at RMMC's Snow Camp Jan. 20-22

Next Sunday at Zion Mennonite Church

Worship Leader(s): Matt Regier Next Sun.

Accompanist / Vocalist(s): Carol K. / Bonnie B. (prelude: Carol K.) Next Sun.

Children's Time: Bonnie Brewer Next Sun.

Offering: Mennonite Central Committee – Sale expenses Next Sun.

Calendar of Upcoming Zion Events

Parsonage open house A.M., Jan. 29

Education Board meets via Zoom (pending)

Jr. Youth Group at Hesston's Know Jesus Feb. 4-5

Zion's MCC meal (more info TBA) Feb. 12

Deacons meet (in person, if status low; otherwise Zoom) 9 A.M., Feb. 13

Gov. Council meets (in person, if status low; or Zoom) 7 P.M., Feb. 13

Sr. Youth Group at RMMC's Snow Camp Feb. 17-19

Norm Tillotson, guest speaker, representing Wheat State Feb. 19

Pray and Give Thanks This Week for...

- the WDC Gifts Discernment Committee as it begins work to prepare nominations of conference leaders for election at WDC annual assembly in 2023.
- Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer and son, who are renewing relationships in Ecuador. Due to complications from the pandemic, deaths of loved ones and illness, the Ross Richers had not been able to return to Ecuador for more than two years. Pray that God's Spirit will guide and bless their ministry as they serve with Mennonite Mission Network.

Zion Mennonite Church

P.O. Box 68, Elbing, KS 67041 (316) 799-2071

zionelbing@gmail.com www.zionmenno.org

January 15, 2023

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

Gathering Song "Let us build a house" VT #36, vss. 1, 3, 5

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Prelude Carol Klingenberg

Call to Worship Adapted from UMC's Discipleship Ministries re Ps 46

Leader: The earth shakes, the mountains quake—tempting our hearts to fear.

People: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

L: Rivers overflow their banks—too far away to quench the wildfires, yet we remember,...

P: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

L: When our children are away from home and out of our sight, we take comfort in knowing...

P: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

L: Whether we have reached the end of our days or the end of our diagnoses, we rest in the truth that...

P: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

All: God, you alone are our refuge; you alone are our strength. We look to you in every time; times of ease, and times of trouble. Amen.

Offering *Western District Conference*

Children's Time Karen Andres
Song "How can we be silent" VT #790

Scripture(s)	<i>Psalm 46: 1-3, 8-11</i>	
Sermon	“Unceasing peace”	Ray Reimer
Response Song	“Let there be light”	VT #714
Sharing Celebrations and Concerns		
Prayer		Karen Andres
Sending Song	“The Lord lift you up”	VT #832
Benediction and Postlude		

Worship Leader(s): Matt Regier
 Accompanist(s) / vocalist(s): Josh and 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 7 days. 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

A new sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board for **Wed. meals through winter / spring of 2023**; please consider volunteering to prepare one of these well-appreciated suppers!

Jan. 29, A.M.: The Junior and Senior High Youth Groups and sponsors invite you to an **Open House at the parsonage** on this date, to appreciate the various improvements and redecorations accomplished in recent months; you’re welcome to stop by between Sunday school and worship or after the worship service.

As part of the upcoming pastoral transition, Zion members are encouraged to complete a **Congregational and Pastoral Priorities checklist**, which the yet-to-be-named Search Committee will utilize. Paper copies are available under the mailboxes, or download at <<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Congregational-and-Pastoral-Priorities-2020.pdf>>. Please complete *before Feb. 1*, and place in Josh Andres’s mailbox.

FYI: Zion’s official “**membership book**” (dating back to the founding of the congregation, listing vital statistics for members and identifying aspects of family lineage) had not been regularly updated since the early 2000s; there’s good reason to update it before the pastoral transition. Brett Klingenberg volunteered to take this on as a project, and thus is contacting some individuals requesting bits of data. Thank you, Brett, for your efforts!

The Education Board is **seeking teachers** for 2 classes (Pre-K and Jr. High) in the spring quarter (Mar.–May). If you want to do alternate teaching with a spouse or friend, that would be great too. Please contact an Education Board member (Bonnie, Clint, Lois, Lillian, Jeanne, Pastor Karen) if you are interested.

The “**Anabaptist Bible**” **500 years anniversary project** is happening in the first half of this year. Two Zion Sunday school classes (meeting in the parsonage and in the library) have been accepted as part of the network of 500 study groups in North America. They’ll be reading, discussing, and interpreting three Bible passages each. The library class invites other Zion members to join it for a special session on each scripture passage in Feb. (Ex 29-30), Mar. (Mk 6.7-29), and Apr. (Prov 5.15-23). For details, talk to John Janzen or consult: <<https://anabaptismat500.com>>.

Other Organizations

Jan. 14, 9 A.M. (CST): The WDC Task Force on Israel-Palestine and MennoPIN invite you to a 1-hour **Zoom meeting with the YMCA in Gaza**, focusing on the work the YMCA is doing to support families suffering from the on-going Israeli blockade. It will also feature the relationship that has developed between Fellowship of Hope Menn. Ch. (Elkhart, IN) and the YMCA in Gaza as part of the Gaza Twinning Initiative, hoping to create relationships between Mennonite Churches and the people of Gaza and increase awareness of their on-going suffering. Suhell Tarazi and Hani Farah, members of the Greek Orthodox Church in Gaza, will speak on behalf of Gaza YMCA and David Janzen, Fellowship of Hope Mennonite. You may join via this link: <<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86324229910?pwd=emszSIJRQkpwNnVJU0laQnZlekVpdz09>>.

The **Strong Couples Project**—a collaborative effort between the Un. of Illinois Extension and Kansas State Un. Research and Extension—is designed to provide you with free, scientifically proven online help for your relationship. So whether you are seeking a premarital curriculum, wanting to build greater intimacy and connection, communicate more effectively, or protect your marriage from divorce, help is just a click away. To learn more, visit <https://publish.illinois.edu/strongcouples/nationwide/> or speak with Bonnie Brewer.

Jan. 15, 4 P.M.: Join the Dyck Arboretum to hear **Lindsay Lou**. She is a singer, songwriter, musician, and performer who demands the listener's attention. Crust & Crumb will serve sweet and savory treats during intermission. Learn more at dyckarboretum.org/events.

Jan. 16, 2 P.M.: The public is invited to **an afternoon of storytelling and learning** with members of Newton's Black community at the Harvey County Historical Museum & Archives (203 N. Main St., Newton). Co-sponsored by the Harvey County Historical Society and Newton Community for Racial Justice.

Jan. 16, 7 P.M.: Bethel College celebration of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, featuring Dr. Marché Fleming-Randle, **"Together We Can Be the Dream,"** in Memorial Hall.

Jan. 18, 7-7:45 P.M. (CST): Thinking about seminary? Or do you know someone who might be? Join us online for a **Seminary Preview Webinar** and get a glimpse of what Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary has to offer—whether you want to study at a distance or on our campus in Elkhart, IN. Areas of study at AMBS include pastoral ministry, chaplaincy, Christian formation, peacebuilding, Anabaptist theology, environmental sustainability leadership and more. Register online (no cost) at: ambs.edu/preview.

Opening: Mennonite Disaster Service is searching for a Regional Operations Coordinator who will oversee all MDS project operations in Region 3 (Plains states, west of Mississippi), and facilitate volunteer engagement in the investigation and development of projects. Find more at www.mds.org/employment/.

Jan. 21, 9 A.M.-2 P.M.: Trinity Menn. Ch. (Hillsboro) is planning to end its time as a congregation, donating their building at 211 S. Elm to the Hillsboro Community Childcare Center. A **church "close out sale"** (garage sale) will be at the church on the date / time noted with craft items, toys, Christmas decorations, artificial 6-foot trees, artificial flower bouquets, candles, vases, hymn books, ping pong table, fuss ball game, treadmill, costumes, etc. All purchases are by donation to the Childcare Center.

Jan. 22, 4 P.M.: Bethel College Music Department **Honors Recital**, in the Administration Building chapel, featuring freshman, sophomore and junior vocal and instrumental students who performed exceptionally during the fall 2022 semester.

Jan. 23, 6:30 P.M.: Join the Dyck Arboretum via Zoom to participate in their **Nature Book Club**. Books this month will be *How the Penguins Saved Veronica* by Hazel Prior and *Horizon* by Barry Lopez. Learn more at dyckarboretum.org/events.

Jan. 28, NOON-4 P.M.: Kauffman Museum annual Kansas Day event, **"Kansans Create!"**, in the museum parking lot and grounds, featuring local artists and artisans, a community art project, food trucks and much more. For more information, see the Kauffman Museum Facebook page or kauffmanmuseum.org.

Jan. 29, 4 P.M.: Join the Dyck Arboretum to hear **The Barefoot Movement**—an acclaimed Americana group that has carved out a space in the acoustic scene. Crust & Crumb will serve treats during intermission. Learn more at dyckarboretum.org/events.

Wanted: cars, trucks, motorcycles, RVs, campers, tractors, modern farm equipment, etc. for the Kansas MCC Sale. Items you no longer need can help feed and clothe thousands in desperate living conditions. All donations are tax deductible. Call Jerry Toews for info: 620-367-8257. Help make a difference!

Feb. 4, 1-5:30 P.M.: **Volunteers are solicited** to serve as leaders during a Numana meal-packaging event, part of the *Know Jesus* retreat; the time span noted includes a time of training, helping with set up and then facilitating the food packaging. High school students and all ages of adults are invited to participate! E-mail melissahlandis@gmail.com if you'd like to volunteer.