

Zion Mennonite Church Newsletter

Phone: 419-445-3796 ~ E-mail: church.zionmc@gmail.com ~ www.zionmennonitechurch.com
300 Short Buehrer Road Archbold, OH 43502 ~ Church office hours: Monday– Friday 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Pastor Sue Short 419-346-7827
Pastor John David Thacker 419-572-0340
Child's World Preschool: 419-445-6034
LAMP: 419-445-0728

October 6, 2024

Elder Co-Chair Greg Nofziger 419-583-6769
Elder Co-Chair Suz Wirick 419-966-2266
Elder Barb Yoder 567-694-3112
Elder Chris Richer 517-320-0429

Zion Activities this Week

Sunday, October 6 ~ World Communion

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School (all ages)
2:00 pm ~ Steven Ringenberg Visitation

Monday, October 7

11:00 am ~ Steven Ringenberg's Service

Tuesday, October 8

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting
7:00 pm ~ Church Council

Wednesday, October 9

9:00 am ~ Mennonite Women
7:00 pm ~ CHAOS
7:00 pm ~ MYF

Thursday, October 10

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer
7:00 pm ~ Contemplative Worship (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 pm ~ Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

Sunday, October 13

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School (all ages)



Attendance & Offering

September 29: 100 ~ \$7,590

Nursery Workers

September 29: Josiah & Lydia Dahl

October 6: Chris Richer & Creighton Aeschliman

Happy Birthday

October 6 ~ Kelvin Friesen, Bonnie Stuckey

October 8 ~ Daniel Hastings, Mary Oesch

October 9 ~ Mark Frey

October 11 ~ Julia Nafziger

Office News

Annual Reports are due. If you were the chair of a committee please turn your report ASAP!!

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Welcome & Announcements ~ Barb Yoder

Interlude ~ Bonnie Stuckey

Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Barb Yoder

Hymns of Praise ~ Eric Lehman

“Here In This Place” (VT 10)

“Crown Him With Many Crowns” (VT 408)

Offering/Offertory ~ Barb/Bonnie

Hymn ~ Eric Lehman

“From North and South, From East and West” (VT 460)

Children's Story ~ Cheryl Britsch

Scripture ~ John 6:35-58

Sermon ~ John David Thacker

Hymn ~ Eric Lehman

“I Am The Bread Of Life” (VT 480)

Communion

Prayer for Church & World ~ Suz Wirick

Closing Song ~ Eric Lehman

“God Loves All His Many People” (VT 767)

Benediction ~ John David Thacker

By God's Grace, Zion Mennonite Church will be a House of Peace where all people are invited to share Christ's love with each other and the world.

Upcoming Worship

Revelation Series

In preparation for our series on the book of Revelation, which begins next Sunday (10/13), we invite you to read Revelation 1-3.

1. What are some common symbols used to communicate values and ideals in North American politics and culture?
2. What would Jesus say to the Church at Archbold today?

Midweek Service & Class Info

Tuesdays at 7 PM: No Bible study this week due to Council meeting.

On **Thursdays at 7 PM:** This fall, John David will be leading a service of prayer and silence and scripture on Thursday evenings. Quiet yourself and be refreshed during this time of contemplative worship.

Prayers for the Global Church

Mennonite Education Agency:

Goshen (Ind.) College: Today, we pray as the Goshen College community celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day, exploring our past, present, and future together on this good earth.

Hesston (Kan.) College: Pray for students at Hesston College, especially first-year students, as they prepare for midterm exams. Pray that they may have confidence in the face of possible test anxieties and that the knowledge they have gained stays fresh in their minds.

Mennonite Mission Network: Yesterday, students at the Mennonite Evangelical Theological Center of Asunción (CEMTA), in Paraguay, concluded a two-day spiritual retreat. Pray for the retreatants as they incorporate what they experienced into their daily lives. C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz, of Mennonite Mission Network, have led these annual retreats for 13 years. Praise God that CEMTA sees the value of these retreats and includes them as part of the students' first year of studies.

Ukrainian Families' Update

Both the Hlushko and Skopych families have applied and been approved for the offered 2 year extension in their program. Both families are doing well. Bogdan Hlushko is in 6th grade. His brother Emmanuel is going to be turning one soon and is happy and healthy. Maxsim Skopych is in 7th grade and sister Veronika started kindergarten this year. All children are enrolled at Archbold Schools. Please pray that these families continue to do well and that their family members back in Ukraine continue to stay safe.

New Announcements

Mennonite Women will meet October 9 from 9 am until 3 pm. Marcia Lehman will lead the meditation, a noon meal will be provided. Visitors are very welcome.

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) volunteers are in western North Carolina responding to the impacts of Hurricane Helene with equipment to move debris, mud, and downed trees. MDS is accepting donations for the recovery effort. **Please pray** for the people impacted by the hurricane and the volunteers as they respond. Visit [MDS.org](https://www.mds.org) to see the latest volunteer needs or to make a donation. Check donations can be mailed to Mennonite Disaster Service, 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543. Write "Hurricane Helene" on the memo line.

1 Voice will be doing a hymn sing at the Old Union Church in Pettisville on October 13 at 6:30. These hymn sings have been such a blessing to our community and we want to invite anyone who wants to come worship our Lord with these timeless songs! The address for the church is 262 Chestnut St., Pettisville, OH 43553. Parking at the school and a half of block walk to the church. Shuttles will be available for those who need it.

Responding to the crisis in Lebanon and Gaza: Up to a million people in Lebanon have been displaced in the last few days due to increasing military attacks. And the grave humanitarian crisis in Gaza continues. You can donate and **provide relief today**. MCC continues to respond to the needs of displaced people in Lebanon and Gaza. MCC is providing relief to recently displaced people in Lebanon with food, hygiene, bedding and psychosocial support. Please pray for an end to the violence and for a just peace in Israel and Palestine. Donate online at mcc.org/palestine-israel

Book Nook

New Books: *Revelation for the Rest of Us* by Scot McKnight; **for lighter reading:** *A Lineage of Grace* (5 stories of Biblical Women) by Francine Rivers; *A Run at Love* by Toni Shiloh; *Her Secret* by Shelley Shepard Gray; *A Choice Considered* by Tracie Peterson

Donated books: *An Amish Quilting Bee* by Fuller Gray Clipston; *The Secret Ingredient* by Nancy Naigle; *Apple of His Eye* by Kelly Caldwell.

Don't Forget

The congregational meeting is scheduled for October 20th during the Sunday School hour. Annual Reports from Mission Teams are due ASAP.

St. John Lutheran Church is hosting their annual Country Corner Craft show on Saturday, November 2 from 9 am – 3 pm. See the bulletin board for more information.

Spiritual Leadership Team minutes

September 17, 2024

The September SLT meeting was held at Mom's Diner. We had a meal together as a farewell to Mike Zimmerman, as this was the last meeting of his term on the SLT.

Opening

Our opening focused on chapter 3 of *Divine Gravity* by Meghan Good, and was led by John David. The "rediscovery" Good names as the theme of this chapter is "A Christian is one who acknowledges Jesus as Lord and follows him in life and death." It is easier to say "Jesus saves" than "Jesus is Lord," because admitting he is Lord requires something of us. If Jesus is Lord, we should consider ourselves his subjects and live lives of obedience and devotion.

Congregational life

John David reports that he has been able to keep up with day to day tasks in Sue's absence. The Congregational Caregivers have been very helpful, and there hasn't been an overwhelming number of pastoral care issues. Rachel Ringenberg Miller will be preaching on September 22. The contemplative worship services on Thursday night have begun, and the book study of Revelation will begin today.

A new pastors' orientation will be held by the Ohio Conference on September 23 and John David will be attending. Our congregational delegates to Ohio Conference will be attending the fall Ohio Conference regional delegate cluster, and have worked out plans for attendance. Sue will be able to attend online as she ends her sabbatical.

By the time of the next SLT meeting, Sue will have returned from her sabbatical. At that time we can evaluate how things are progressing as she returns, and what guidelines around her part time work may need to be established.

The team working on small group formation continues to look through names, and check in with people who had indicated interest.

The SLT report for the annual business meeting needs to be written. Mike volunteered to do that as his last official duty as head elder.

Pastoral reviews

Micah Frankenfield joined the portion of the meeting in which the pastoral review process was discussed. He shared that the Pastor Congregation Relations Committee (PCRC) is patterning the upcoming pastoral review after the review document that was used in 2020, along with some updates. They will ask a conference pastor to look over the survey before releasing it to the congregation to be completed. They will be offering electronic, paper, or face-to-face methods to receive input from congregants. The PCRC will also ask the pastors to fill out a form about themselves, which will be compared to the congregation's feedback. After listening to Micah's explanation of the survey and plans for reviewing the results, the consensus among the elders was that the questions and format seem helpful. Both John David and Sue will be asked if there is anything they would like to see added to the survey before the final draft is completed.

Congregational Concerns were discussed.

The next SLT meeting will be Monday, October 14, at 5:30. Sue will lead the opening, using chapter 4 of *Divine Gravity*.