

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

November 3, 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, November 3 ~ Daylight Savings Ends

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School
11:30 am ~ Sojourners Lunch

Monday, November 4

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting

Tuesday, November 5

9:00 am ~ Sanctuary open for Election day prayer
7:00 pm ~ Bible Study: Rev. 13-14 (310)
7:00 pm ~ Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, November 6

10:00 am ~ AAMA at Zion
6:00 pm ~ ZOW (Preschool-5th)
7:00 pm ~ CHAOS (6th-8th)
7:00 pm ~ MYF (high school)

Thursday, November 7

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

Sunday, November 10

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)
9:00 am ~ Choir
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School
7:00 pm ~ Choir Hymn Sing

Nursery Workers

November 3: Duane & Cecilia Wyse
November 10: Brad & Rachel Short

Happy Birthday

November 3 ~ Marcia Lehman
November 4 ~ Stan Short
November 7 ~ Steve Hastings
November 8 ~ Rachel Short

Happy Anniversary

November 9 ~ Ronald & Marlene Nofziger (67 years)

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Sue Short
Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Sue Short
Hymns ~ Julia Richer
 "Holy Spirit, Come With Power" (VT 57)
 "Santo" (VT 136)
Offering/Offertory ~ Sue/Karen
Mission Moment ~ Bill & Carol Schumacher
Prayer for Schumachers
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
 "Move In Our Midst" (VT 827)
Scripture ~ Revelation 13:1-4
Sermon ~ John David Thacker
Hymn ~ Julia Richer
 "My Hope Is Built" (VT 621)
All Saints Day Remembrance ~ Sue Short
Prayer for Church & World ~ Barb Yoder
Sending Song ~ Julia Richer
 "All Will Be Well" (VT 586)
Benediction ~ John David Thacker

Attendance & Offering

October 27: 105 ~ \$1,865



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.

Revelation Worship Series

November 3: Read Revelation 12-14 (sermon: Revelation 13:1-4)

- ◆ Compare with other birth stories and wilderness stories in the Bible. (Genesis 21, 1 Kings 17, Luke 2, Exodus 16)
- ◆ How can empires be like beasts?

November 10: Read Revelation 15-19 (sermon: Revelation 19:11-16)

- ◆ Where is the sword of the White Rider? What is the most effective weapon against evil?
- ◆ Describe the battle in 19:19-20.

November 17: Read Revelation 20-22 (sermon: Revelation 21:1-8)

- ◆ What does the description of the city of God teach us about God's desires for us?
- ◆ How does this book give us hope?

Special guests this Sunday, November 3rd: We have the unique opportunity to learn more about the arsenic poisoning crisis in Bangladesh, called one of the worst in the world. Bill and Carole Schumacher, from Sharon Mennonite Church (Plain City, OH), assist an organization called the *Society of International Mission (SIM) Bangladesh* in their efforts to educate, treat symptoms, and prevent arsenic poisoning from wells. Bill and Carole were one of the mission speakers at Ohio Conference Annual Assembly 2023, and often visit churches to talk about their experiences. The Schumachers are excited to share with us about their recent trip to Bangladesh to see the progress of the program. **They'll offer a short introduction to their work as a "mission moment" during worship, and also invite anyone who is interested in learning more to join them during the Sunday School hour.**

Midweek Service & Class Info

Tuesdays at 7 PM: There will be a Bible Study on Revelation. We will be studying chapters 13-14 this week. This series will run through the end of the year.

On **Thursdays at 7 PM:** 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.

Election Day Prayer

As election day draws near, the potential for anxiety can rise. One of our motivations, as your pastors, for tackling the Revelation worship series this fall was to offer a solid theological foundation for this season in our country. Since ancient times, human rulers and human kingdoms have come and gone. As citizens of the eternal Kingdom that Jesus embodied, our only allegiance belongs to the One on the Throne and to the Lamb. No political party, candidate, or ballot issue is worthy of our unquestioned loyalty or deserves our worship. So then, how can we respond in healthy ways to the tension we feel, or that we see around us? As the old hymn suggests, our most important response is to "Take it to the Lord in prayer." **The sanctuary will be open on election day, Tuesday, November 5th, from 9:00am-7:00pm. If you'd like a quiet place to reflect and pray, you are welcome to come and go as you wish. The entrance near the office will be open all day.** Whether you choose to come to the sanctuary, or prefer to remain at home, we invite you to consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for peace in your reaction to the outcome.
- Pray for peace and safety for all people.
- Pray for eyes to see the image of God in those who think or vote differently. (and those who choose not to vote).
- Pray against violence in the hours, days, and weeks to come.
- Pray for discernment and strength to live like Jesus, as you center your life around him.
- Praise God for hope! Jesus has already overcome, and walks with us and empowers us in the midst of our struggles.

Hurricane Relief

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is encouraging monetary donations as an effective way to ensure that needed supplies reach victims of Hurricane Helene and Milton. MDS is already present on location and partnering with homeowners long-term to clean up and rebuild. Donate online at this link: <https://mds.org/donate-usa/>

Pastoral Review

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. The PCRC has conferred with the Interim Conference Minister, Dan Miller, to look over the survey before releasing it to the congregation to be completed. The PCRC will also ask the pastors to fill out a form about themselves, which will be compared to the congregation's feedback. Both John David and Sue were asked if there was anything they would like to see added to the survey before the final draft is completed.

The review process timeline will be as follows:

- **November 10th:** Surveys are available for completion and will close on December 10th.
- **December/ January:** PCRC will compile and evaluate the responses to the survey.
- **January/ February:** PCRC will review a summary of the evaluation and responses with Pastors and Elders
- **February/March:** PCRC will provide the Congregation with a summary of results.

Electronic survey responses are encouraged via Google Docs and a link will be provided. Paper surveys will be available on the table across the mailboxes, and PCRC members would also be willing to have face-to-face sit-downs to receive direct input from congregants and a sign-up sheet will be available for those on the table.

If you have questions or need clarification, please feel free to contact one of the PCRC members: Micah Frankenfield, Bonnie Stuckey, Rachel Short and Larry Short

Prayers for the Global Church

Mennonite Education Agency:

Bluffton (Ohio) University: Please pray for the Bluffton and Findlay community members, as they prepare for the 130th and 131st performances of Handel's Messiah next month.

Goshen (Indiana) College: Pray for Goshen College student musicians, as they hold concerts and recitals this month.

Mennonite Mission Network: Join MMN in praying that this Tuesday's elections in the United States will take place without violence and that the leaders who are elected will lead the country in ways of justice and peace.



We would love to add your individual/family picture to the church family bulletin board!

Please put a 4x6 (or smaller) print in Rachel (Brad) Short's mailbox. You are also welcome to turn in an updated picture if you want a current picture swapped out.

Questions?

Contact Rachel at 419-572-9922 or rmshort67@gmail.com.



Christmas Cheer



TREE TAGS FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH OFFICE BEGINNING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH THROUGH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH. A TABLE WILL BE SET UP OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR DONATED ITEMS.

1,200 FULTON COUNTY FAMILIES WILL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PERSONALIZED SHOPPING EXPERIENCE IN THE JUNIOR FAIR BUILDING IN WAUSEON. FAMILIES MAY SHOP FOR ANYTHING FROM CANNED GOODS AND DETERGENTS TO HATS, GLOVES, TOWELS, AND MORE.

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION, YOU MAY DO SO ONLINE THROUGH CHRISTMAS CHEER'S WEBSITE

FULTONCOUNTYCHRISTMASCHEER.ORG OR BY SENDING A CHECK TO: CHEER, PEG HINES 209 BURKE ST., ARCHBOLD, OH 43502.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

New Announcements

We are in the process of finalizing the formation of small groups in the congregation. If you would like to be part of a small group, please let Carol Short, Glora Belle Yoder or Karen Ruth know in the next few weeks. The groups are projected to begin meeting in January with a commitment of one year.

Mennonite Arts Weekend: Early-bird registration is open for the 2025 Mennonite Arts Weekend in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 7-9. This weekend celebrates the creativity and discipline of Anabaptist Mennonite artists. Find the list of presenters, registration and location information at <https://mennoniteartsweekend.org>

MCC Borderlands Peace Camp, Jan. 19-25, 2025: Young adults, ages 18-30, are invited to join MCC in El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico in January! This MCC Peace Camp will explore topics of peace and justice through the lens of migration, including the Biblical mandate of hospitality. Find out more and register by January 5 at mcc.org/borderlands-peace-camp.

Serving And Learning Together (SALT) applications now open for 2025! Each year, MCC offers 80+ unique opportunities to serve with our local partners working for relief, development and peace around the world. Explore the numerous possibilities that match your passions, skills, and experience. If you're between the ages of 18-30, the SALT program might be the epic adventure you've been waiting for. Check it out at mcc.org/salt!

Northern Indiana MCC Comforter Bash: Join us on November 8 and 9 for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Comforter Bash in Goshen. People of all ages are invited to knot comforters at Pleasant View Church (58529 County Road 23). For more information about the event visit mcc.org/northern-in-comforter-bash or contact LaVera Schlabach (574.538.9629) or MCC Great Lakes (GreatLakes@mcc.org or 574.534.4071). A handmade comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten.

Dates: Friday, November 8 (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.); Saturday, November 9 (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Volunteers are especially needed on Saturday! Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day on Saturday. Must be present to win.

Location: Pleasant View Church - 58529 County Road 23, Goshen, IN 46528

Don't Forget

Fundraising Benefit: Esther Boylan will be holding an Enchilada Dinner Fundraiser, to help with family medical expenses, on Friday, November 15th at Zion Mennonite Church. Dinner includes 2 beef enchiladas, rice and beans with a side of mild salsa for \$7 a plate. Carryout only from 11:30 am-1 pm and 3-6pm. Call ahead to pre-order more than 5 plates. See the bulletin boards for more information.

The November 2024 Mennonite Mission Network PRAYER VINE is now available for download. <https://assets.mennonites.org/Downloads/PV.DL.2024.11.pdf>

Exploring Baptism: We would like to offer an upcoming *Exploring Baptism* class for any high school student or adult who is interested. Through readings, spiritual practices, and group discussion, we'll explore what it means to follow Jesus, and to engage with the ongoing story of God at work in us and in our world. Participation in the class does not *require* baptism. We are committed, initially, to meeting together to learn more. Each class member will be asked at the conclusion to decide whether they are ready to commit themselves to be baptized. See Sue or John David if you'd like to join the class.

Honey for Hurricane Relief: There will be honey at church on Sunday for a freewill donation to MCC or MDS's work of hurricane relief. If you have any questions, please contact Larry Wyse.