

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

March 23, 2025

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, March 23

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School
11:45 am ~ Kitchen, Gym, Fellowship Hall Reserved

Monday, March 24

9:00 am ~ Staff Meeting

Tuesday, March 25

7:00 pm ~ Anabaptist History & Theology class (310/zoom)

Wednesday, March 26

5:30 pm ~ Church Family Meal
7:00 pm ~ Life Planning

Thursday, March 27

6:30 am ~ Men's Prayer
5:00 pm ~ Gifts Discernment (310)
7:00 pm ~ Choir Practice
7:00 pm ~ AA (310)

Sunday, March 30

8:30 am ~ Sojourners Class (310)
9:30 am ~ Worship (sanctuary & zoom)
10:45 am ~ Sunday School
10:45 am ~ Exploring Baptism class (office)

Office News

Sue will be out of town on Tuesday, March 25th and Wednesday, March 26th.



Nursery Workers

March 23: Lonnie & Carol Short
March 30: Joyce Nafziger, Naomi Richer

Happy Birthday

March 23 ~ Greg Nofziger
March 29 ~ Sarah Berry

Happy Anniversary

March 23 ~ Nathan & Bailey Short-Dickmann (6 years)
March 27 ~ John & Cathi Baer (61 years)

Attendance & Offering

March 16: 83 ~ \$6,395

Order of Service

Prelude ~ Karen Stuckey
Welcome & Announcements ~ Sue Short
Interlude ~ Karen Stuckey
Call to Worship & Prayer ~ Sue Short
Hymns ~ Cheryl Britsch
 "Come, Let Us All Unite To Sing" (VT 7)
 "We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer" (VT 34)
Offering/Offertory ~ Sue/Karen
Prayer of Confession ~ Sue Short
Words of Assurance ~ Sue Short
Passing of the Peace ~ Sue Short
Reader's Theater
Scripture ~ Matthew 6:5-13
Hymn ~ Cheryl Britsch
 "Our Father Who Art In Heaven" (HWB 351)
Sermon ~ John David Thacker
Hymn ~ Cheryl Britsch
 "Bread Of Life" (handout)
Prayer for Church & World ~ John David Thacker
Sending Hymn ~ Cheryl Britsch
 "All Praise To Thee, My God" (VT 505)
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



Lent 2025 - "Bread of Life: Gather. Savor. Share"

The world feels heavy—divided and uncertain. Hearts ache, minds seek peace, and souls hunger for hope. Amid injustice and tragedies, we remember we must first gather around the table for strength so we can respond with love and grace. This Lent, let us gather together to break bread, savor the divine generosity of God, and rise to share with the world out of the abundance we have received from the Bread of Life. The table is open. Come, be renewed.

Lent 3 - Sunday, March 23rd: "Bread for Each Day" - Matthew 6:9-13 (Lord's Prayer)

Lent 4 - Sunday, March 30th: "Bread for Sharing" - Luke 14:7-14 (Parable of the Great Banquet)

Lent 5 - Sunday, April 6th: "Bread for Community" - Luke 19:1-10 (Dinner with Zacchaeus)

Lent 6 - Sunday, April 13th: "Bread for the Road" - John 12:12-16; Luke 19:28-40 (Triumphal Entry)

Anabaptist History and Theology Class

As part of Zion's commemoration of 500 years of Anabaptism, John David is teaching a series of weekly classes on Anabaptist history and theology on most **Tuesdays at 7 PM** in Room 310. The class will be available on Zoom at: <http://tiny.cc/zionclass>. They will be uploaded to Vimeo at: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/11544458>

Book Nook

New books: *Katy: The Little Rose From Ukraine* by Joan and Lisa Mueller, written for ages 8-12. A German Russian family seek a new home in the United States. *Kernels Of Hope: Little Mary's Journey To Canada* by Tina Fehr, written for ages 6 and up. Story of Russian Mennonites migration to Manitoba, Canada. Main character wants to take her cloth doll on her journey to their new home.

Prayers for the Global Church

Mennonite Education Agency:

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa: Pray for all our students March 24-28, as they participate in our Service and Learning Term (SALT) program.

Bluffton (Ohio) University: This week is the spring semester's Spiritual Life Week at Bluffton University. Please pray for our speaker, Rev. Dr. Maxwell Kennel. Please pray for our students, as they contemplate the theme "Faith and Memory in Challenging Times" and the Scripture Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia: Friday, EMU Theater is holding the premiere of its spring production of "On the Breath of God: The Life of Maria Skobtsova." Please pray for the entire cast and crew, that we may work together with unity, creativity and joy.

Mennonite Mission Network: Lane Miller, one of Mennonite Mission Network's regional directors for Africa and Europe, is in Europe this month to improve his French language skills. Pray for him as he also visits partner institution LCC International University and Robin Gingerich, who has served with Mission Network at LCC in Lithuania since 2001.

Thank You

Words fail to express our gratitude to our wonderful church family that we are blessed to be a part of for the love, support, and prayers during the time of Walt's illness and passing. Walt is truly missed but it is comforting to know his days of pain and worry are gone and he is at peace. You are cherished friends and we thank you for everything!

~ Sincerely, Darlene Polasek and family

Thank you for your prayers and cards as I recover from my surgery. ~ Roger Crossgrove



New Announcements

Wednesday the 26th is Church Family Meal at Zion from 5:30 to 6:30. We will be having a potato bar with apple crisp for dessert. Come and eat together with your church family and invite a friend to join us for dinner.

Gospel of John Reading: Our Lenten Gospel of John Read-Thru will begin on Monday, March 31st. One chapter a day will get you to the end of John on Easter. If you've done this before, try switching things up this year: Use a different Bible translation; Read it aloud by yourself or with someone else; Listen online or use a Bible app, etc... If you fall behind, begin again and keep going! It's more important to finish John, even if it's after Easter by the time you complete it. The point is to experience this gospel as it was intended - as a whole unit, rather than random stories.

Our congregation supports the work of Mennonite Mission Network workers Matthew and Toni Krabill. If you would like to learn more about their work in Ghana and West Africa, you are invited to join them in a Zoom call on Tue, April 8, at 8 PM EDT. Link: tiny.cc/krabill

On the Level announcement: Our March edition of *On the Level* is now available. In this edition, mourning the passing of Lowell Detweiler, an update on the MDS response to the LA Wildfires, and volunteers build a fire resilient home in British Columbia. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/4bYaXeY>

You are warmly invited to attend "Praiseworthy!" a concert of hymns and classical works reflecting the incomparable love of Jesus. Duo pianists Kristi Gautsche and Debbi Wyse (Julia Richer's mother) will perform, along with narrator Ned Wyse. Performances will be at College Baptist Church, Hillsdale (Michigan), on Friday, April 4th at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 6th at 3 p.m. Free Admission! Mark your calendar!

Don't Forget

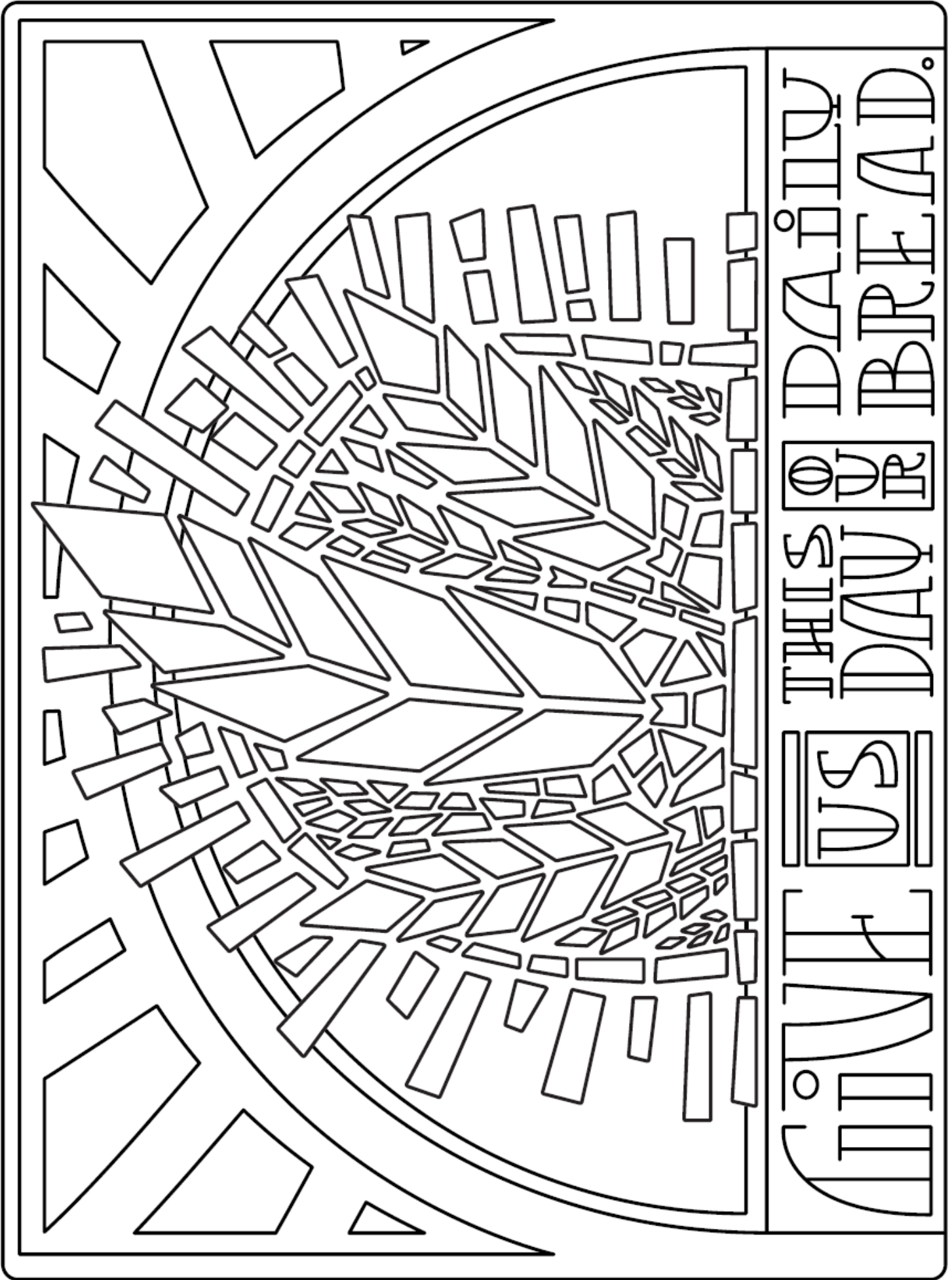
Missing book: If you happened to have borrowed *A Collection of Historic Barns* by Beth Gorczyca, please return it to the library at your earliest convenience. Thanks!

A copy of the Bangladesh arsenic February '25 newsletter is posted on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes.

New addresses!! Doug & Ilse Meyer would like to share their new address of 890 NW 2ND Ave., Canby, OR. 97013
Charlene Beck has moved to assisted living: 500 Haven Drive, Apt. 206, Archbold, OH 43502

Pictures from service experiences are still welcome. Send them by text or email to Barb Yoder.

GOT MAIL? Come join us in room 310 during the Sunday school hour as we discuss Paul's letter to the Corinthians, the book of 1 Corinthians. The discussion will be led by Don Oesch.



GIVE US
THIS DAY
OUR DAILY
BREAD.