

# Zion Mennonite Church

Zion Mennonite Church covenants to grow together as a Christ-centered community, extending our Anabaptist branch into our world, bearing the lasting fruit of discipleship, and planting the seeds for God's reign through hospitality, service, and reconciliation with God and others.

December 13, 2015



Welcome  
Announcements  
Call to Worship  
Songs  
Candle Lighting and Prayer  
Offering/Offertory  
Children's Story  
Scripture Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-20  
Message  
Gospel Reading: Matthew 25: 1-13  
Response Song  
Sharing and Prayer  
Sending Song  
Benediction

*After the service, an Elder will be available at the front of the sanctuary for sharing and prayer. Today's Elder is David Gingerich.*

Worship Leader: Kiara Yoder  
Song Leader: Tom Gingerich  
Children's Story: Wanda Rohrer-Heyerly

If you are visiting, we invite you to complete a Welcome card and drop it in the offering basket.

**This Morning:**  
9:00am Coffee Time  
9:30am Sunday School for all ages  
10:45am Worship Service  
**This Afternoon/Evening**  
5:00pm Second Sunday  
5:45pm MYF—Your Life in 10 minutes (meet at church to carpool)  
**This Week:**  
Thursday 9:00am Quilting  
Saturday 7:00pm Sing Your Own Messiah

## **Worship Schedule:**

December 20: Children's Christmas Program,  
"A Capital C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S"

December 27: Jana will be preaching "Gloria in excelsis Deo"  
Luke 2:1-14

The Gifts Discernment Committee is seeking additional responses to our **time and talents survey**. If you have not completed the survey, there will be printed forms to complete on the table in the foyer. You may also complete the form online at: <http://goo.gl/forms/iFEjgL94s9>.

We are compiling a **congregational (Zion) history** list of persons who have served in alternative military service. CPS, 1-W, and all who served in Voluntary Service with Mennonite Organizations, MCC, Mission Board, COM, and Mission Network. A supplemental list is also requested for those who have served with other service organizations. All we need is name and year(s) of service and organization. Please send to Pat at [wphershberger@gmail.com](mailto:wphershberger@gmail.com) or to Jodi in the church office.

*Thank you to Wendy Roth for opening her beautiful home to our Prime Timers group for the annual Senior Christmas Tea held this past Wednesday. Over 40 seniors enjoyed food and fellowship. Thank you, also, to all those who helped prepare and serve the wonderful festive treats!*



## Sing Your Own Messiah

**Saturday, December 19 at 7:00pm**

Everyone is welcome to either sing along or just listen and enjoy. Refreshments will follow. (Please bring a prepared finger food to share with guests.)

## Children's Program

**Sunday, December 20**

The Primary Sunday School department will share "A Capital Christmas", a short program of readings and single verses of traditional songs, during the morning service.

## MYF and Jr. Hi Caroling at HOPE Village

**Sunday, December 20, 5:45-7:15pm**

Meet at the church at 5:45pm to carpool. Adults and families are invited to join the group as well.

## Christmas Eve Service at Canby Pioneer Chapel

Pacific Covenant Mennonite Church hopes you will join us for our annual service on Thursday, December 24, at 6:00 p.m. It is great opportunity to hear the Christmas story and sing some of your favorite carols. The Pioneer Chapel is located at 486 NW 3rd Ave in Canby. If you have questions, please contact Karie Smucker at 503-459-3181 or [kmsmucker@gmail.com](mailto:kmsmucker@gmail.com).



## Western Mennonite School

### Upcoming Events:

Dec. 10 | Grandparents Day

Dec. 14 | High School Choirs at the Capitol -- 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 15 | Middle School Christmas Concert -- 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 17 | High School Christmas Concert -- 7:00 p.m.

They're still rolling out of the oven....

## ROLLS for REFUGEES

This Christmas Season, mother/daughter bakers Sheryl Russell and Brittany Turco are baking Homemade Frosted Cinnamon Rolls to raise money for Syrian and Iraqi refugees

living in the Middle East. Price is \$10 minimum donation per pan (4 large rolls). An order sheet can be found on the bulletin board at the back of the church. To order online, please see our website: [RollsForRefugees.com](http://RollsForRefugees.com). Orders placed by this Monday will be delivered at Zion on Sunday, Dec 20th.

Funds raised will be donated to faith groups, MCC, The Refuge Initiative, and also PreEmptive Love Coalition, amazing NGO's working on the ground in the region to provide food, shelter, medical care and love to a displaced and persecuted people - half of whom are children. For more information about the lifesaving work these groups and others

are doing, please see our website, above. You may also contact Sheryl in person or via her email: [sherylrussell@gmail.com](mailto:sherylrussell@gmail.com)



December 13, 2015  
Zephaniah 3:14-20  
*"Fear, and Fear Not"*

## Candle Lighting Litany

You, whose almighty power shines forth in a dark stable,  
Whose grandeur and glory we see in helpless infancy,  
Have long journeyed to us,  
Through our prayers and your promises to your people in exile.  
With shepherds we worship at the altar of your humility,  
Where you share our need and our fragility.  
What tribute can we bring, but what you brought to us?  
Hearts and voices worshiping with the angels,  
Hearth and hands ready and open,  
Tender toward all seeking shelter  
In our waystations of refuge  
Where we await your return,  
To make heaven and earth one,  
As you became One with us.



1. What makes Zephaniah revolutionary?
2. What are the three images of God in his last prophecy?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
3. How did Jesus match these three images?
4. What do these images of God call forth from us?
5. What should we fear most?

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**Please keep in your prayers:**

- Our Christmas season ministries of witness, worship and hospitality, especially next Saturday's Sing Your Own Messiah, and next Sunday morning's Children's Christmas Program.
- All the college students and those in service and ministry assignments among us who will be traveling and spending time at home during the Christmas/New Year season.
- Give thanks and pray for the families who will host international students at our Mennonite seminaries, colleges, universities and high schools during the Christmas season break. May their hospitality be enriching both for guests and hosts (Mennonite Education Agency)
- French Mennonites in Paris, France, pray "that Muslims in France will know that Christians love them," They also request prayers for the 10 young adults recently baptized there, for their relationships with people of other religious communities, and for jobs, as unemployment in France is 30% (Mennonite Mission Network).

A prayer to carry through the week: *"Grant us, O Lord, to love not only those who love us, but those who hate us or injure us, that we may imitate You..."* John Henry Newman, 19th C. England

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**Nursery:**

This week: Wendy Roth, Jaclyn Roth  
Next Week: Kristin Amstutz, Nancy Beachy

**Last Sunday**

Attendance: 179  
Offering: \$24,435

**Budget Report:** There are three Sundays prior to year end.  
A total of \$50,331.52 is needed to meet budget.

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Church Staff:

Mathew Swora, Lead Pastor: zionpastor\_ms@canby.com  
Jana Gingerich, Associate/Youth Pastor: zionyouth@canby.com  
Jodi Hansen, Office Administrator: zionmc@canby.com  
Elders: Ken Beachy, David Gingerich, Karen Kropf, Lynn Miller

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