

# 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 20, 2015



"...AND A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM," said the prophet Isaiah (Is. 11:6), or in our case today, Zion's children and youth (age 2 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade), plus their teachers and leaders, especially Chris Keady, as they lead us in worship, sharing and celebrating the Christmas story through "A Capital C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S." Please sing the Christmas carols along with them when so invited.

Welcome  
Announcements  
Call to Worship  
Advent Candle Lighting  
Singing  
Offering  
"A Capital C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S"

The Primary Sunday School program will be sharing the Christmas message this morning.

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 Lynn Miller.*

Worship Leader: Mathew/Jana  
Song Leader: Charlie Gingerich

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**  
5:45pm MYF/Jr. Hi Caroling at Hope Village (meet at church to carpool)  
**This Week:**  
Tuesday 6:30pm Elder's Meeting  
Thursday Office Closed  
Friday Office Closed



## **Worship Schedule:**

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

January 3: Epiphany Sunday. Mathew will be preaching.  
Matthew 2: 1-18.

*Pastor Mathew and Becky Swora will be out of town visiting family from Wednesday, December 23, through Wednesday, December 30.*

## **MYF and Jr. Hi Caroling at HOPE Village TONIGHT, 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).

Serenity Coulombe will be hosting a book study at her house beginning January 15 and will meet from 9:30-11:30am. It will be every Friday for approximately 9 weeks. The book is titled "Gift From The Sea" by Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

"While on vacation on Florida's Captiva Island in the early 1950s, Lindbergh wrote this essay-style work taking shells on the beach for inspiration, and reflecting on the lives of Americans, particularly American women, in the mid-twentieth century. She shares her meditations on youth and age; love and marriage; peace, solitude and contentment during her visit. Sometimes classified as inspirational literature, the book presages many of the themes in that genre of popular literature: simplicity, solitude and caring for the soul."

Please contact Serenity if you plan to join. [serenity@sterling.net](mailto:serenity@sterling.net) or 503-803-7823

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>.

**LIKE THE MAGI FROM THE EAST, "WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM"** bearing gifts for "the least of these," Christ's brethren, refugees displaced by conflict in the Middle East (as was Jesus). Any offerings you might wish to make to the work of Mennonite Central Committee to house, feed and help them in temporary lodging in countries closest to their former homes, we will collect and commission on Epiphany Sunday, January 3, 2016. Checks can be written to Zion Mennonite Church with "MCC Syrian Refugee Work" in the memo line. There will also be a service of communion to celebrate Christ's communion and solidarity with us, and ours with each other, that same Sunday.



Orders will be ready for pick-up after the service this morning. If you would like your donation to be tax deductible, make your check payable to Mennonite Central Committee. Thank you for your giving hearts!

## Dinners for 8

If you would like to participate in the January, February, and March round of Dinners for 8, please sign up during the month of December. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Contact Vonnie Oyer or Sheryl Mast if you have any questions.

**INTERESTED IN A SERVICE/LEARNING TRIP TO NW MEXICO?** Or just to know more about the partnership between regional district conference churches and Mennonites in NW Mexico? Then come to an informational meeting at Portland Mennonite Church on Friday morning, 10 AM -January 8. Please let Pastor Mathew Swora know if you are interested and wish to go along.

Mark Your Calendar! Zion's Adult Retreat at Drift Creek Camp is coming January 22, 23, and 24. Bob Buxman will be guest speaker. Look for more information coming soon!

Rod Hollinger-Janzen, Executive Coordinator for Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission writes, "**Thank you...Zion Mennonite** as a congregation for your support for the young women's seminar in Burkina Faso... which eases the financial crunch and makes possible some things that otherwise could not happen...but it's not only or even the money that communicates; it is also the realization that they are being accompanied, that another church is interested in the work being done, and aware of the challenges in doing it. That kind of spiritual encouragement has also been communicated here, and it is significant." Zion's Vacation Bible School raised money last summer for that seminar.

---

**Please keep in your prayers:**

- Phyllis Adams, Chris and Toby Keady, and other members of Orville Adams' family, for comfort and peace following Orville's death this past Wednesday, December 16.
- All of Zion's members, attendees, family members and friends who will be traveling here, or from here, this holiday season, such as college students.
- Give thanks, with Martine Audeoud, French mission worker in Ivory Coast, for recent peaceful elections in that country. Join her in praying for peace and reconciliation among ethnic and religious groups after years of civil war there (MMN)
- Bluffton College (Ohio) students who are completing student teaching or internship requirements, that they might have renewed energy and peace of mind as they wrap things up (Mennonite Education Agency)
- CIHAN, or Concilio de Iglesias Hispanas Anabautistas del Noroeste, the network of Spanish-speaking member churches of the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference, as they and their member churches discern their relationship to MCUSA and the PNMC.

A prayer to carry through the week: *"Behold, I am the Lord's servant; may it be to me as You have said."* Mary of Nazareth, Luke 1:38

---

**Nursery:**

This week: Kristen Amstutz, Nancy Beachy  
Next Week: Karen Tro, Luanne Berkey

**Last Sunday**

Attendance: 170  
Offering: \$12,996.85

**Budget Report:** There is one Sunday prior to year end. A total of \$37,334.67 is needed to meet budget.

---

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

6124 S. WHISKEY HILL RD, HUBBARD, OR 97032 † 503-651-2274  
OFFICE HOURS: TUES-FRI 9 A.M. TO NOON  
ZIONMENNONITEOREGON.ORG