

# 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.

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March 26, 2017

## *Fourth Sunday of Lent* **The Road to Resurrection**

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 23

Songs: HWB 521 Come Thou Fount

God Whose Grace Redeems Our Story (insert)

HWB 401 This Little Light of Mine

Confession of Sin

Words of Assurance: I John 1:8-9

Affirmation of Faith: Hebrews 12:1-3

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

Children's Story

Scripture Reading: John 9

Message: "The Road to Resurrection: From Light to More Light"

Response Song: STJ Longing for Light

Offering

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Worship Leader: Kiara Yoder  
Song Leader: Jana Gingerich  
Children's Story: Jana Gingerich

### **This Morning:**

9:00am

Coffee Time

9:30am

Sunday School for all ages

9:45am

Prayer Team meets (upstairs)

10:45am

Worship Service

### **This Afternoon/Evening**

5:00-7:00pm

MYF/Jr. Hi Volleyball and Pizza (Gym)

### **This Week:**

Tuesday 10:00am

Bible Study—Library

Wednesday 12:15pm

Prayer Meeting at Zion

Thursday 9:00am

Quilting

### **Worship Schedule:**

April 2: Fifth Sunday of Lent: Mathew will be preaching.

Romans 8:6-11 "A Life and Death Matter"

April 9: Palm Sunday. Guest Speaker Dr. Alex Awad

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During the Sunday School hour this morning, there will be an opportunity to meet and further discuss the Deep Faith Conference and lifelong faith formation. A group will gather in the upstairs classroom (first on the left) for those interested. All other regular Sunday School classes will meet at regular time and places.

**We are to be honored with a visit from Dr. Alex Awad** on Sunday, April 9, when he will share during worship, to combined Sunday School classes, during a potluck lunch, and again more informally in the evening during Second Sunday. Dr. Awad is Professor Emeritus and former president of Bethlehem Bible College in the West Bank of Palestine, and has often related to Mennonite workers in Israel/Palestine and the Middle East. He brings a fresh voice to an ancient conflict, one resonant with faithfulness to Jesus Christ and Christ's compassion for all.

Got News? The next edition of ***News for the Pews*** will be out on April 2. If you would like to share something with the congregation in the church newsletter, please submit information to the church office no later than Monday, March 27.

**The Primary Sunday School Department**, with approval from the Christian Education Commission, has purchased age appropriate Bibles for each of the children enrolled in Sunday School. This is in response to the faith formation conference that several people attended last fall. The bibles, for 3<sup>rd</sup>— 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, are on a table in the hall by the gym. *We would like to welcome and encourage adults to stop by and mark in each Bible a verse or verses that you would like to pass along to them. Please also note your name next to the verse you marked.* This is one way of encouraging our youth and passing on our faith. The Bibles will be presented to the students next Sunday, April 2. If you have any questions, contact Stacy Berkey or Karen Kropf, Primary Sunday School superintendents.

### JUBILEE FOOD PANTRY

Collection day for the food pantry will be Sunday, April 2. You may leave donated items in the barrel in the foyer. All items are appreciated, but especially canned meat (chicken, tuna, etc); canned tomatoes, corn, and fruit; baking supplies (flour, sugar, oil, vinegar, etc); boxed cereal, boxed macaroni and cheese; and diapers.

Also, if you are interested in providing a meal on Food Pantry Day for the Coulombe family and volunteers (8-10 people) on Tuesday, March 21, please contact Serenity.



*McKenzie Rose Martin was born at 12:52 pm on March 20th. She weighed 8lbs and was 9 3/4 inches long. Krista, Geoff, and McKenzie are doing great. Grandma and Grandpa Gerald and Sheryl Mast are feeling so blessed for a healthy baby and safe delivery. Grandma, especially, is super excited to be spending a few days with the new family.*

*Peregrin Blue Brenneman Reeder was born March 4th, weighing 6lb, 11oz and 19 1/2 inches long. Her parents, Robbie and Nicole, and grandparents Tom and Dorothy Brenneman and Ken and Becky Reeder are blessed by her joining the family.*

*Congratulations!*

### Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 13 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary, which will include foot-washing.



### Good Friday Services

Community-wide Good Friday service Friday, April 14 at 5PM and again at 7PM, at Canby Alliance Church, 900 N. Juniper Avenue, Canby.

### Easter Breakfast and Easter Service

Sunday, April 16

Easter breakfast will be served from 8:30-9:15am.

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board; please RSVP (suggested donation of \$2.00 per person).

Menu: Little Smokies, Deviled Eggs, Cinnamon Rolls, Fruit Salad, juice and coffee/tea.

**What's happening on the border? What's it like for some of our friends and neighbors** who have fled poverty or violence, seeking refuge or asylum here? Consider joining a Borderlands Tour sponsored by Mennonite Central Committee. One is planned for May 25-29, others may occur later in 2017. Pastor Mathew Swora, and Don and Kelly Yoder will go on one such tour April 24-28. For more information, check out the MCC website, at [mcc.org](http://mcc.org), or call the West Coast MCC office at 559-638-6911.

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



## “THE ROAD TO RESURRECTION”

### Suggested Readings and Reflections for Lent, Week 4

March 20-24

- Ezekiel 37:1-14  
*When have you ever lost hope and then had it returned to you?*
- Psalm 130  
*When have you ever had to wait for the Lord “in the depths” of guilt, or confusion, grief, fear, or loss? What brought you “out of the depths?”*
- Romans 8: 6-11  
*What impact does the presence of God’s Spirit have in you and your life? What changes do you sense the Holy Spirit is prompting in you and your life?*
- John 11: 1-45  
*When have the actions, or inaction, of God made as little sense to you as they did to the disciples and to Martha (verses 8 and 21)? What differences does the hope of resurrection, like that of Lazarus, make in your life?*

### Suggested Lenten Activities from Mennonite Mission Network: ([mennonitemission.net/resources/faith/lent-2017](http://mennonitemission.net/resources/faith/lent-2017))

- **Monday, March 27:** This week, don’t use lights after 9 p.m. For every day you save electricity, put a dollar in your “mission jar” to donate at the end of Lent.
- **Tuesday, March 28:** Look at a child’s class photo and ask about some of the children. What are the good things about each one? What do they do well? What are the things they struggle with?
- **Wednesday, March 29:** Think of someone at work or church who has opinions different from yours. Invite them to supper. Get to know them and find out what you have in common.
- **Thursday, March 30:** Find out what you can about a church of a different denomination or culture and make plans to worship there some Sunday (but not all of us on the same Sunday)
- **Friday, March 31:** Make a meal from a different country, and pray for the people of that country
- **Saturday, April 1:** Ask your children or grandchildren to choose some of their toys to take to a local thrift shop, and so share with children who have none.
- **Sunday, April 2:** Unplug; it’s a day of rest.



**To Prepare for Dr. Alex Awad's visit with us on Sunday, April 9,  
here are some books recommended for your reading on the  
Israeli – Palestinian Relationship/Conflict**

Zion Church Library:

Rethinking Holy Land, a Study in Salvation Geography

By Marlin Jeschke \*Pat also has a copy (very marked)

I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey on the Road to Peace &  
Human Dignity

By Izzeldin Abuelaish

Woodburn Public Library:

Blood Brothers by Elias Chacour \* Mathew will loan his copy

We Belong to the Land by Elias Chacour

Israeli Pacifist, the life of Joseph Abileah, by Anthony Bing

The Israeli by Frank Epp

The Land of Revelation by Roy Kreider

Cain's Fields by Matt Rees

Zion Chronicles Series, 4 Book fiction series by Bodine Thoene

Ken Kauffman's books to loan:

Longitudes and Attitudes by Thomas Friedman

From Beirut to Jerusalem by Thomas Friedman

The Lexus and the Olive Tree by Thomas Friedman

Jerusalem, One City Three Faiths by Karen Armstrong

Authors to search out:

Elias Chacour

Amos Oz

Art Gish, Christian Peacemaker Team member

[http://www.goodreads.com/list/  
show/22061.Books\\_on\\_the\\_Israel\\_Palestine\\_Conflict](http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/22061.Books_on_the_Israel_Palestine_Conflict)

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**Please keep in your prayers:**

- Teachers, students, and families during spring break, that they may enjoy a break from schedules and routines and experience rest and renewal.
- Those close to our congregation who are homebound or unable to attend worship services, such as Vernon Gahler, Carmen Yoder, Judy Hall, Luella Hostetler, Maggie Butler, Richard Berkey, Sue Roth, Jim Graber and others.
- MWC Deacons Commission secretary Henk Stenvers, visited Anabaptist churches in Ecuador in January 2017, and calls for prayer for Ecuador, because of the 7.8-magnitude earthquake that shook the country in April 2016, killing hundreds and injuring thousands; pray for the congregations who are bringing material aid and trauma healing strategies to people affected by the disaster. Pray also for members of the Mennonite Church of Ecuador who lost homes and family in the disaster (Mennonite World Conference)
- Jae Young Lee and Karen Spicher, who work with Anabaptist programs in South Korea, such as the Korea Peacebuilding Institute, and Conexus, an educational ministry (MMN)

**A prayer to carry through the week:** *“O thou, great Chief, light a candle in my heart, that I may see what is therein, and sweep away the rubbish from thy dwelling place.”* (prayer of an African schoolgirl.)

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**Nursery:**

This week: Chris Keady, Phyllis Adams  
Next Week: Jennifer and Emma Gingerich

**Last Sunday:**

Attendance: 199  
Offering: \$2580.10  
Bolivia: \$4,598  
Immigration Fund: \$200

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**Church Staff:**

Mathew Swora, Lead Pastor: zionpastor\_ms@canby.com  
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Jodi Hansen, Office Administrator: zionmc@canby.com  
Elders: Pat Hershberger, Karen Amstutz, Lynn Miller  
Ken Kauffman, Cynthia Hockman-Chupp

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