

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 31, 2017

Prelude
Welcome
Call to Worship
Old Testament Scripture: Isaiah 61:6-11
Lighting of Advent Candle: *STJ 13 My soul is filled with joy*
Singing: *HWB 206 Infant holy, infant lowly*
HWB 212 O come all ye faithful
Offering
 Offertory: Three Polish Christmas carols
Children's Story
New Testament Scripture Reading: Luke 2:22-40
Message
Response Song: *HWB 210 Good Christian friends, rejoice*
Confession
Words of Assurance
Pastoral Prayer
Benediction



Worship Leader: Ken Kauffman
Song Leader: Jana Gingerich
Children's Story: Karl Birky

9:00am
9:30am
9:45am
10:45am

This Morning:
Coffee Time
Sunday School For All Ages
Prayer Team meets (upstairs)
Worship Service

8:00pm-midnight

This Afternoon/Evening
New Year's Eve party

Monday
Tuesday

This Week:
New Year's Day
Church Office Closed

Wednesday 12:15pm
Thursday 9:00am

Prayer Meeting at Zion
Quilting

Worship Schedule:

January 7: Epiphany Sunday. Mathew will be preaching "Bearing Treasures" Matthew 2:1-12

January 14: (for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observance)
Mathew will be preaching "On the Need for 'Creative Maladjustment'", Romans 12:1-3



Everyone is invited to come to a New Year's Eve party at Zion TONIGHT from 8:00pm to midnight Bring snacks to eat and table games to play. Basketball, volleyball, and ping pong will also be available activities. There will also be an opportunity to help string MCC kit bags. We will welcome in the new year with a short service right before midnight. If you have any questions, contact Stan or Vonnie Oyer.

With a service of Communion next Sunday we will celebrate the New Year and Epiphany, the first presentation of Christ to the nations. Please prepare, in your relationship with God and with others, for sharing the Lord's Table, as you best know how. During the service, we will also be commissioning the MCC Relief kits and commissioning Jana Gingerich for her sabbatical, beginning that day, and the celebration of 14 years of youth ministry with Zion Mennonite Church. **Following the service there will be a potluck meal and further celebration of her and Craig's ministry to Zion's youth.**

Dinners for Eight. If you would like to participate in the January, February and March round of Dinners for Eight, a sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN-UP!

Tuesday morning Bible study is on recess until January 9. A new study begins on Hebrews "Jesus, the Pioneer and Author of our Faith." The study booklet is written by N.T. Wright, an Anglican New Testament scholar, well known in both the United Kingdom and the U.S. Anyone is welcome to join! Contact Pat Hershberger for more information.

The Youth Ministry Visioning Task Group invites parents, youth, and all others who are interested to a **meeting on Sunday, January 7 at 4:00pm** in the Skylight Room to discuss the visioning process and to prepare for youth activities for the upcoming year. Your input is valued and appreciated. Please come and participate in the meeting!

Mark your calendars for the annual Zion Adult Retreat. It will be held January 26—28 at Drift Creek Camp. The speaker will be Ray Keen from The Canby Center. More information will be coming soon from the planning committee, Luke and Kelsey Sommer and Stan and Vonnie Oyer.

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society is hosting it's annual meeting on Saturday, January 20 at noon here at Zion. The program is "Conscience Over Convenience" and is centered around the stories of the Civilian Public Service program during World War II. Panel members include Margaret Shetler, Earl Kenagy, and Ruth Goertzen. Lunch is \$20/person. Please RSVP to Gloria Nussbaum by Friday, January 13 at 503-645-0616 or real2reel@teleport.com.

Call to Worship

Leader: Yes! We will give thanks and rejoice!

All: We will praise the Lord from the heavens, from the heights, and with the angels!

Leader: We praise the Lord with the sun and moon!

We praise the Creator of the shining stars!

All: Fire and hail! Snow and frost! Mountains and hills! Fruit trees and cedars!

Leader: Young men and women alike!

Children and aged ones too!

Let us praise the name of the Lord.

All: Praise the Lord!

Leader: Yes! Let all things be new.

Confession

O God, the waiting is over, the time has come: you dwell among us!

We marvel at the mystery of your birth.

We are filled and guided by the Spirit as you open our eyes, our hearts, and our arms to receive you.

Yes, we say, and yet we confess that instead of being drawn beyond our knowing, into the call of your infinite light, we examine your coming within the boundaries of our understanding.

We confess that instead of marveling at the vastness of your mercy, instead of rejoicing with Simeon and Anna, instead of allowing your spirit to move within and among us, we resist the mystery of your presence.

We confess our struggle to step forth with vulnerability, honesty, courage, dreams, hope, and celebration emanating from the depth of our hearts.

Forgive us.

Words of Assurance

Oh God, Emmanuel, in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us. You have given us life, and we are restored.

Please keep in your prayers:

- Students, friends and family members who have traveled and are spending time among us for the season, that God might bless them with rest, refreshment during this time, and with safety during their return to places of work or study.
- The struggle for justice for all people, on this 154th anniversary of when the Emancipation Proclamation became law in the U.S.A., at midnight on Jan. 1, 1863, known also in many African-American communities, as “Watch Night” (Mennonite Mission Network)
- May God fill SeBAH (Seminario Biblico Anabautista Hispano) students with wisdom and blessings. May God help them to devote themselves to their studies and guide them through this learning process (Mennonite Education Agency)

A prayer to carry through the week: *“May we like Anna find our home in your presence, and like Simeon recognize Jesus as the Christ, so that, in joy and thanksgiving at becoming your children, we may join with all creation to sing your praise.”*
From Revised Common Scripture Lectionary

Budget Report: Total Annual Budget is \$333,494. Total giving year-to-date is \$330,578 for a budget deficit of \$2,916.

Nursery:

This week: Emma Gingerich, Elizabeth Masingila
Next Week: Kelsey Sommer, Luanne Berkey

Last Sunday:

Attendance: 192
Offering: \$28,264

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: Pat Hershberger, Karen Amstutz, Lynn Miller
Ken Kauffman, Cynthia Hockman-Chupp

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