

## West Zion Mennonite Church

9:30 am: Sunday School                      10:30 am: Morning Worship

Vol. LI                      December 4, 2016                      No 49

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Advent 2

Words for silent meditation: *A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. (Isaiah 11:1)*

Prelude                      Donna Stucky

Lighting of the Christ Candle                      Banky Hayes

Welcome    The Lord be with you / **and also with you.**    Duane Becker

Announcements

Call to Worship, Isaiah 11:1-10 (on screen)

Greeting in Christ's peace

Lighting the Advent candle (kids come forward)

### **\*\*Celebrating in Song**

Emmanuel                      (on screen)  
Helpless and hungry/What Child is this  
Go Tell it on the Mountain  
Hark! The herald angels sing

Scripture                      Matthew 3:1-12                      Pastor Brad  
Pg 957

*Children dismissed to Little Flock* (for ages toddler - 1st grade)

Message                      "Wheat on the winnowing fork"                      Pastor Brad

**Song of Response**    Oh, how shall I receive thee                      HWB 182

Offering

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

**\*\* Sending Song**                      Let our gladness have no end                      HWB 198

**\*\*Benediction**

**\*\*Postlude**

Greeters: Becky & Dan Pohl

Ushers: Mel Becker, Norman Funk, Vicky Kessler

## Sermon Notes

Wheat on the winnowing fork

Matthew 3:1-12

### Theme

Prepare your life for Jesus' coming.

### Key Verse

(Matt. 3:12) His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

### Notes

### A Prayer

Lord who in your justice winnows us, have mercy on us.

*Sermons are online @ westzionmc.org*

Find us on Facebook!

## Mission Mosaic

Linda Gabino, Sanitiago, Dominican Republic Gamaliel & Amanda  
Falla Armenia, Colombia Pg 39

Attendance: Sunday School: 20      Worship Service:77

### Sunday, December 11, 2016

**9:30 am:** Sunday School      **10:30 am:** Worship Service  
**Candle Lighter:** Lexi Heslop      **Scripture:** Lici Roth  
**Worship Leader:** Pastor Brad      **Accompanist:** Donna Stucky  
**Message:** Pastor Brad      **Music:** Chancel Choir  
**Greeters:** Randy Kessler & Aline Bachman  
**Ushers:** Clark Graber, Dave Wedel, Carl Duffman

### Coming Events

**Today:** 2-5 PM Christmas Open House at the Pohl's, 224 S.  
Wedel  
Dec. 7: 4:30 PM Deacons, 7 PM Chancel Choir  
Dec. 14: 7 PM Chancel Choir  
Dec. 21: 7 PM Chancel Choir  
Dec. 20: Preschool Christmas Program 6:30 PM  
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service 5:30 prelude, 6 PM Worship  
Dec. 25: No Sunday School, Worship at 10:30 AM

**Our Mission :** God calls us into community to worship God and follow Jesus through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

<p>Pastor Brad Roth <b>Pastor's Office hours:</b> Tues. and Wed. 10 am -12:30 pm Thurs. 1-4 pm Pastor's Cell: 620-386-4838 Pastor Brad's email:bradroth@westzionmc.org <b>Sec. hours:</b> Tues. &amp; Wed. 2:30-3:30 PM, Thurs. 2:30-5:30 PM Church: 620-345-8143 Becky's cell: 620-345-6696 Church's email: secretary@westzionmc.org Website: www.westzionmc.org</p>
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## West Zion Announcements

Please have all bulletin announcements to the office by Thur. noon.  
Check the bulletin board for more announcements.

1. Thank you everyone for the prayers, cards, gifts, and food after my surgery. Pastor Brad and Lici's visits were special, blessing to you  
With much love. Dorothy Toews
2. College / Service Connection Letters - Please remember to pull an address for one of our students off the bulletin board in the foyer. Write them a note of encouragement, or share your favorite verse, just to let them know we are thinking of them. Please see Connie Kaufman if you have questions.
3. Council meeting is **Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7PM** at Kirk & Carla's since the Preschool Christmas program is at the church.
4. Hey kids, Can you find the two wise men hidden somewhere in the church as they're journeying to Bethlehem? Look for them in a different place each week as we get closer to Christmas.
5. Gift Discernment Surveys have been placed in your box. Please take the time to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to use your gifts in the church in 2017.
6. All women are invited to come to the next SPACE gathering at Geneva Wedel's place (1712 Magnolia at Pine Village) on Sat., Dec. 10 at 9AM. Breakfast will be served and childcare provided if needed. Come enjoy fellowship and prayer time together. Call Carla at [620-386-0414](tel:620-386-0414) if you need child care or have questions.
7. We will not hold Sunday School on Christmas morning, Dec.25. Worship will start at 10:30 AM as usual.
8. Pastor Brad will take a sabbatical in 2017, July 2 - September 5 (10 Sundays). Part of that time will be spent at home. He is also planning a retreat at the Benedictine Center in Schuyler, NE and family trips to Boston and Peru.
9. Council recently approved starting a Sabbatical Fund with a goal of \$5,215. The church will use 70% of the money for a supply pastor, and Pastor Brad will use 30% for sabbatical-related expenses. If you'd like to donate, make your checks out to West Zion and write "Sabbatical Fund" on the memo line.

10. Together with the money raised from extra BBQ meat on Come and See Sunday, \$985 was raised for the Larsons. Mission Team is supplementing an additional \$515 to send total support to the Larsons of \$1500. If you still want to donate, mark "Larsons" on the check memo line.

11. Refugee housing need: We anticipate receiving a new refugee family of six (mother, father, three boys and one girl) by mid-December, and need to find a three bedroom apartment or house in Hesston for them to move in to. More information will be coming regarding the family, but for now, please contact a member of the Refugee Resettlement Steering Committee with any housing leads.

## General Announcements

12. Best Choice Labels for Camp Mennoscah! The grocery stores in Harvey County and surrounding areas are beginning to carry Best Choice items. Collect the UPC code off Best Choice items and give them to Camp Mennoscah. We receive a \$30 check for every 1000 labels we send in. For more information contact us at [office@campmennoscah.org](mailto:office@campmennoscah.org) or 620-297-3290. at <http://campmennoscah.org/how-to-help/donate/>
13. Mental health is one of the most misunderstood health problems facing Americans today. Come, join Prairie View CEO Jessie Kaye and Moundridge Police Department Officer Patrick Lambert and take a step towards understanding its true impact. In addition to learning about mental health stigma we will learn best practices around intervening in crisis. Check out the poster in the foyer for more info.
14. Hesston College has several students from other countries who need a place to stay when the dorms are closed for Christmas break. This is a fun way to get to know international student(s) who are part of the Hesston College family and share your holiday traditions with them. Host families are needed from Dec.16 through Jan. 10. Even if your family is only available part of the time, you may still be able to help. Questions or are interested in being a host family contact Carlota Ponds, Director of International Student Services, at [620-327-8210](tel:620-327-8210) or [carlota.ponds@hesston.edu](mailto:carlota.ponds@hesston.edu).
15. The Third Annual Ten Thousand Villages Fair Trade International Gift Festival is Sat. Dec. 9-10, from 10 AM to 6 PM at the Western District Conference Office Complex 2500 North Main Street, North Newton, Kansas.

16. Join MCC for a delicious and fun holiday celebration on Thurs. Dec. 15 from 5-7PM at the MCC Center in North Newton (121 E. 30th). At 6PM we will hear from MCC International Volunteer Exchange Participants about the work they are doing in Kansas and hear about Christmas traditions from their home countries of Laos and Egypt. Good food, live music and great fellowship, everyone is welcome to join in the fun!

17. Jacob Miller, a senior at Bethel College, has the following request: "I am the food planning coordinator for the Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship (ICPF) Peace Conference that will meet at Bethel Feb. 10-12, 2017. Would members of your congregation be willing to donate snacks or breakfast items to supplement our conference's food needs? Anyone interested should contact me (jacobmiller@bethelks.edu or 785-477-1820), or the conference coordinator, Sharon Kniss (skniss@bethelks.edu), at any time with questions or for more information."

18. Prairie View has scheduled a free McPherson Caregiver Support Group. Times and dates are listed on the poster on the bulletin board.

19. The Moundridge Community Blood Drive is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 9, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Pine Village Wellness Center. **Note Time Change.** To schedule an appointment visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call [1-800-733-2767](tel:1-800-733-2767).

20. The McPherson Community Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews will give a CHRISTMAS BRASS CONCERT in the Historic Alexanderwohl Church Sun., Dec 11 at 7 PM. Alexanderwohl is located 1 mile north of Goessel on K-15 hiway.

21. The fourth concert of the Prairie Window Concert Series is Sun., Dec. 4 at 4 PM at the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston. It features classically-trained folk/newgrass trio, Harpeth Rising. Join us for an evening of great music and good food in a prairie garden setting.

Tickets: \$20 adults/\$10 kids, plus tax. Arboretum members receive a 10% discount. Purchase tickets online or call [620-327-8127](tel:620-327-8127) to reserve your seats.

22. The Kidron Bethel Parkinson's Support Group meets Dec. 6 at 2 PM in Menno Hall. Hannah McBeth, Director of Dining Services at Kidron Bethel, will share nutrition information as it relates to Parkinson's Disease.

~ Wish "Happy Birthday" to~  
December 5: Jeff Becker & Dorothy Toews  
December 10: Lois Thiessen

~Wish "Happy Anniversary" to~  
December 6: Phil & Lorene Lohrenz

### **Joys and Concerns**

Sherry Wedel, needing strength as she recovers at home from illness.

Clark Graber, recovering at home after back surgery.

Doris Loganbill, recovering in the hospital after a heart attack.

#### **Mission Partner Prayer Requests:**

God speaks directly to the young Gulf lady who kept Wayne's Bible.

God's will be done for a "youth innovation project" allowing them into 10x's as many schools, for the hiring process of 3 to 4 local people, and with finances.

Wisdom for Wayne as he considers a new expanded leadership position in the organization.

Sustenance for Wayne and Jeannie as they are apart—Wayne in the Arab Peninsula and Jeannie in Denver.

Wisdom and safety for Pastor Salem as he answers "Which is correct our religion or Jesus?" for a local leading Gulf Sheikh and businessman.

#### **Prayer Requests from Mennonite Mission Network**

MMN requests prayer for the Colorado Springs Service Adventure unit as participants work alongside Beth-El Mennonite Church to live out an Anabaptist perspective in a community with a large military population. Pray for David Borbely, Nora Charles, Marle Moellenbruck and Kate Unruh, and leaders Daniel and Meg Smeltzer Miller.

#### **Prayer Requests from Western District Conference**

Pray for the WDC Church Planting Commission meeting this week, as they seek God's leading in supporting new and emerging congregations in WDC.

