

Sunday, December 24, 2017

9:30 AM: Sunday School **10:30 AM:** Worship Service
Worship Leader: Pastor Brad **Accompanist:** Carla Stucky
Greeter: Frances Neufeld **Scripture:** Tracy Duffman
Message: Pastor Brad **Candlelighter:** Elijah Roth
Ushers: Clark Graber, Dave Wedel, Carl Duffman, Frances Neufeld
6:00 PM: Christmas Eve Service, "What Child is This?"

Coming Events

Today: Game night in WZ basement, 6-8 PM
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve service 6:00 PM "What Child is This?"
Dec. 26-Jan. 1: Pastor Brad out to Illinois (Pastor Eric Buller preaches on Dec. 31)
Jan. 14: Missionaries Wayne & Jeannie Larson will bring the message, potluck meal and Annual Meeting
Jan. 19: Year of Evangelism at Alexanderwohl, 7-9 PM
Jan. 20: Year of Evangelism at Alexanderwohl, 9 AM-3 PM
Jan. 21: Marvin Lorenzana brings the message
Feb. 4: Mennonite Education Sunday at 1st Mennonite Church
Feb. 15: Over 70 Dinner 5:30-6:30 PM

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

Pastor Brad Roth

Pastor's Office hours: 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

Secretary Carla Stucky's hours: Thurs. 9-11, 1-4 PM

Church: 620-345-8143

Carla's cell: 620-386-0414

Church's email: secretary@westzionmc.org

Website: www.westzionmc.org

West Zion Announcements

Please have all bulletin announcements to the office by Thur. noon.

Check the bulletin board for more announcements.

1. Hey kids--today is the third Sunday of Advent! Can you find the three 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.

2. Eden is leading a Longest Night service on Dec. 21 at 7 PM. Christmas is typically a season of hope and joy, yet as the nights get longer and the realities of loss set in, it can be an especially difficult time of year for many of us. On December 21, the longest night of the year, there will be an opportunity to name the darkness in our lives while clinging to the hope of Christ's light to come. We will light candles to remember those things and people we have lost, while we trust that God will comfort His people. The brief service will be hosted at Eden Mennonite Church at 7 PM.

3. Each week through the season of Advent, you will find daily prayer requests for mission in the bulletin or bulletin insert. Consider placing the list in your Bible, on your fridge, or wherever you will see it throughout the week and be prompted to pray.

4. A thank-you card from Episcopal Migration Ministries is on the bulletin board thanking the congregation for items collected to help refugees settling in Wichita.

5. A Christmas card from Marv and Jeannie Zehr, former West Zion pastor, is on the bulletin board in the foyer.

6. Join us tonight for a game night from 6:00-8:00 PM in the West Zion basement.

7. What's Christmas all about? Join us on Christmas Eve, Dec.24 at 6:00 PM for a candlelit service of scripture and song entitled "What Child Is This?" Come fill this special time of the year with sacred meaning.

8. *Year of Evangelism Kick Off: Anabaptist Witness* has a host of great workshop leaders who will offer practical ideas to take home to your church and neighborhood. Here are just a few: James Krabill,

Joe Sawatzky, Brad Roth, Byron Pellecer, Kathy Neufeld Dunn, and keynote speakers Heidi Roland Unruh and Marvin Lorenzana. Learn more at mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism. This will be held at Alexanderwohl Mennonite in Goessel, January 19-20, 2018. Cost is \$25 for four or more registrants, but Mission Team is covering the cost for all who would like to attend. Talk to Pastor Brad or Carl Duffman if you are interested.

General Announcements

9. Kauffman Museum at Bethel College is open regular hours through the holidays: Tues.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. 1:30-4:30 p.m. (closed Mondays). Visit "Voices of Conscience: Peace Witness in the Great War," extended through Jan. 21, 2018, and the newest special exhibit, "Chisholm Trail: Driving the American West," opening Dec. 19 through April 1, 2018, as well as the permanent exhibits "Of Land and People" and "Mennonite Immigrant Furniture." See www.bethelks.edu/kauffman/ or the Kauffman Museum Facebook page for more information.

10. Looking for a unique gift idea? Give a book to the WDC Resource Library in honor of your loved one this Christmas! A book given in their name can enrich the faith of individuals all over the conference. The library's wish list can be found at Faith & Life Bookstore in Newton or on their website at www.faithandlifebookstore.net (when ordering online, make "store pick up" to avoid paying shipping).

11. Come help us celebrate the one year anniversary of Masemo and Salima and family arriving in Hesston - after fleeing from the Democratic Republic of Congo. The celebration will take place this afternoon from 3:00 - 4:30 with a short program beginning at 3:30 PM. When they were able to come here, Masemo and Salima made a commitment to do what they can to help persons still caught in the struggle and violence in DRC and in Kenya. Each month they send back money to help more than 30 children attend school, who would not otherwise be able to do so. They are also sending money to help in the building of a church. If anyone wants to make a gift to help with these projects, cash or check donations will be collected at the celebration today (Sorry, at this point gifts are non-deductible as they do not yet have a 501c3 designation).

We wish a “**Happy Birthday**” to:

December 17: Brad Roth

December 20: Brandie Foster

December 22: Carla Stucky

December 23: Connie Kaufman, Mindy Hill

Daily Prayer

December 17 - The Service Adventure unit in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is made up of Kristin Jantzen, Judith Penner, Marie Saleh, Jon Voth, and leaders Bob and Sondra Tolle. Pray for grace and wisdom as they work in educational settings and for Habitat for Humanity.
December 18 - Mark and Mary Hurst serve as resource people and pastors with the Anabaptist Association of Australia and New Zealand. Pray for them as they build relationships with people seeking God and a way of living that centers on Jesus’ justice and shalom.
December 19 - In recent months, 39 people have started the application process to serve with Mission Network. Pray that God will bless these individuals as they take a leap of faith into a more serious commitment to follow where Jesus is calling them.
December 20 - Jae Young Lee and Karen Spicher started building peace in South Korea 10 years ago. Pray for their ministries, so needed in the current posturing toward war. Jae Young directs the Korea Peacebuilding Institute and provides leadership to the Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute, where Karen serves as the communications coordinator.
December 21 - On this shortest day of the year, pray for Disa and Tom Rutschman who teach in public schools north of the Arctic Circle in Sweden. Ask God’s light to shine in the darkness and bring hope to the Rutschman family, their students, and their community.
December 22 - In this season when we give gifts in recognition of God’s greatest gift who opened the way for our salvation, pray that people would give generously to help alleviate the suffering in Democratic Republic of Congo, where Mennonite brothers and sisters are starving and without shelter.
December 23 - Pray for the 53 Evangelical Mennonite Church of Argentina congregations and their 31 missionary church plants throughout the country. May God provide all that is needed so their zeal for introducing people to Jesus may be fruitful.

Prayer Concerns

Chase Galle family (son of Jack and Belinda Galle), whose child was recently still-born

Jan Dyck’s grandson Brett, looking for a job

Maddy and Landon (who come to MYM), after their mother died.

Prayer Requests from Mennonite Mission Network

Mennonite Mission Network’s Youth Venture program invites teens and young adults (ages 16-22) to participate in a short-term learning and service experience during the summer of 2018. Pray for open hearts in those whom God is calling to Benin, Ecuador, Japan, Peru or Spain.

Prayer Requests from Western District Conference

As we anticipate the giving of Christmas gifts, let us thank God for the many different multicultural expressions and gifts in WDC congregations.

Mission Mosaic in the pew: Brad & Brenna Steury Graber, Paris France and Linda Oyer, Coye-La-Foret, France on page 33

Attendance for Sunday School: 17

Attendance for Worship: 54