

West Zion Mennonite Church

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

Vol. LIII December 9, 2018 No. 48

ADVENT 2

During the prelude we invite you to prepare your heart for worship by meditating on the words for silent meditation which are taken from the psalm for the day.

Words for Silent Meditation: *Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. (Luke 1:68-79)*

Prelude Donna Stucky
Lighting of the Christ candle

Welcome Vicky Kessler
The Lord be with you / **and also with you.**

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship Chancel Choir
Let all mortal flesh keep silence (HWB 463)

Call to Worship, Luke 1:68-79



Greeting in Christ's peace

Children's time and lighting the Advent candle (kids come forward)
This week's prayer focus is our mission partners, Wayne and Jeannie Larson.

**Celebrating in song

God is here among us HWB 16
O Savior, rend the heavens HWB 175

Scripture Philipians 1:3-11 Wynona Becker

Special Music *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* Chancel Choir

Message "A Good Work in You" Pastor Brad

Song of Response *Bless'd be the God of Israel* HWB 174

Offering

Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

**Sending Song *Holy Child within the manger* STS 28

**Benediction

**Postlude

****please stand if able**

Songbooks in pews: HWB-blue, STS-purple spiral, STJ-green spiral, S&R-green hardbound

Greeter(s): Royce and Sandy Jantz
Ushers: Clark Graber, Dave Wedel, Carl Duffman

Sermon Notes

A Good Work in You, Philipians 1:3-11

Theme - How can you cooperate with God's grace in your life?

Key Verse - Philipians 1:6 (NRSV) I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

Notes

A Prayer

God who never forgets your people, open us to your redemptive work of love.

*Sermons are online @ westzionmc.org
Find us on Facebook!*

Sunday, December 16, 2018

9:30 AM: Sunday School **10:30 AM:** Worship Service
Message: Pastor Brad Roth **Scripture:** Curtis Guhr
Worship Leader: Pastor Brad **Accompanist:** Carla Stucky
Greeter(s): Clark & Connie Graber **Music:** Youth Choir
Ushers: Mel Becker, Norman Funk, Vicky Kessler

Coming Events

Dec. 9: Christian Homemaker Christmas gathering
Dec. 12: Children's Choir practice 6:30-7, Choir 7:00,
Church Council 8:00 PM
Dec. 16: Children's Choir sings during morning worship
Dec. 19: Christmas Eve practice 6:30-8, Choir 8 pm
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve service
6 PM Prelude by Donna Stucky
6:30 PM Program begins
Dec. 30: Pastor Brad out, James Wenger preaching
Jan. 7: Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM in conf. rm
Jan. 13: Annual meeting and meal
Jan. 14-16: Pastor Brad out to Eastern Mennonite Seminary
Jan. 16: MYM and meals begin

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.

1. Today as we remember our **mission partners** the Larsons in prayer, we are also receiving an offering in support of their work. Write "Larsons" in the memo line of your check if you would like to contribute.

2. We are **deeply grateful** to our West Zion church family for the gifts and support you showed us at the baby shower Saturday night. We're looking forward to welcoming Baby Boy Roth #3! - Brad, Lici, Mateo, and Elijah

3. All are invited to come celebrate **Christmas Eve** together at West Zion on Monday, December 24. A prelude by Donna Stucky will begin at 6:00 PM and a 6:30 PM program will follow. Hear beautiful Christmas music from youth and adults, and storytelling from "the friendly beasts!"

4. **Relief bucket report:** Thanks to everyone who donated to the relief bucket project for MCC. \$375 was donated and items were purchased with that money. Those items and all the items donated amounted to approx. 30 buckets. Christian Homemakers filled 68 buckets at the MCC Center Nov 26th with the items we took and additional items at the MCC center. The Center was very happy for the many items as they mentioned there is a great need with the many disasters this year. Thanks again to everyone!

5. During the season of Advent, we'll be collecting for our annual **White Christmas Project**, Mt. Hope Sanctuary in McPherson, a Christian organization that provides transitional housing, life-changing programming, and support services to single mothers and children. A list of items needed is in the foyer. You can bring items forward during the offering or leave in the foyer. You can learn more about Mt. Hope at: <http://www.mthopesanctuary.org/>.

6. A **community women's Bible Study** led by Karen Brunk will be held in the West Zion conference room on Monday evenings at 6:30 PM beginning January 7. The book Uninvited: Living Loved when you feel Less Than, Left Out, and Lonely by Lisa Terkeust will be studied. Carla Stucky will be ordering books so if you are interested in one, let Carla know by December 16.

7. The **Family & Friends Quartet** will be performing a Christmas concert at Pine Village on Tuesday, December 11 at 7 PM. All are welcome to attend! Quartet members are Amy & Steve Sherbenou, Jan Gilmore and Doug Huxman, accompanied by Donna Stucky.

8. A **West Zion greeters list** will be put together in the next few weeks. Greeters are needed each Sunday to greet at the front door before Sunday School and church. If you no longer wish to greet, or if you are interested in becoming a greeter, see Carla Stucky.

9. **Cradle to Crayons** provides loving childcare for the community and is developing a fresh supply of Christian resources to aid in its ministry. If you would like to give, go to www.amazon.com and hover over the Account & Lists icon. Click on "Find a List or Registry" and search for Cradle to Crayons. You will find a wish list of quality faith-based toys and books to choose from for our local childcare center.

10. This holiday season the Associated Ministries of Moundridge will again be **selling coffee grown in Honduras** by the family of Moundridge native Julia Niehage Williams. This specialty, organic coffee is available in 1 lb. bags of either whole bean or ground. The coffee sales will support the work of the Associated Ministries of Moundridge. Order forms are available in the foyer through December.

General Announcements

11. This Christmas, consider giving alternative gifts through Mennonite Central Committee! With 25 ways to give, you can find something for everyone in your family! Give chickens, provide hope, education, tools and new skills to help build up communities. These are gifts that easily fit under the tree and can fit within any budget, but have the power to bring joy for years to come! Visit mcc.org/christmas or call our office for details, 316.283.2720.

12. Kauffman Museum is open through the holidays (closed Mondays, plus Tues., Christmas Day, and Tues., New Year's Day): hours 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays, Sat.-Sun., 1:30-4:30 p.m. Visit the current special exhibit "Better Choose Me: Collecting and Creating with Tobacco Fabric Novelties, 1880-1920," featuring the collection of the late Ethel Ewert Abrahams. See www.bethelks.edu/kauffman/ or the Kauffman Museum Facebook page for more information.

13. You're invited to the annual MCC Christmas Soiree at MCC in North Newton on December 13 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Join us for this holiday party to enjoy festive food and fellowship! We'll pause at 6 p.m. to hear from International Volunteer Exchange Participants share about their current work and Christmas traditions from their home countries. MCC is located at 121 E. 30th in North Newton.

14. Looking for that next great adventure? MCC SALT positions now available! Serving and Learning Together (SALT) is a year-long, cross-cultural service experience. Through SALT, Christian young adults from Canada and the U.S. serve internationally in a wide variety of positions in fields like education, agriculture, health care, information technology, peace and more! Start now at salt.mcc.org. Deadline to sign up is Feb. 15!

15. Bethel College's peacebuilding institute, KIPCOR, is offering their semi-regular training course "Managing Differences within Faith Communities". The two-day course runs Jan. 3-4, 2019, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., at the North Newton office. Cost is \$300 per person, or \$250 with a non-refundable deposit of \$75 made by Dec. 12. Please register soon. Online registration is at kipcor.org (Managing Differences within Faith Communities link), or call 316-284-5217.

TREASURER'S REPORT		12/2/2018
YTD Giving – Budget	\$	133,925.47
ANNUAL BUDGET	\$	158,987.00
Less: expended to date		(139,503.26)
Less: cash balance		(11,454.14)
Receipts needed to meet budget	\$	8,029.60
Avg. offering needed per Sunday to meet budget	\$	* 2,007.00
*Assumes we spend our entire budget and have an ending cash balance of \$5,000		

Prayers for Joys and Concerns

Lorene Lohrenz and Marlene Wien's niece Melissa and family

Sharon Gehring's aunt and her husband, Merlin Birkey, as they deal with Merlin's recent cancer diagnosis

Bob and Sharon Gehring, traveling to IL

Gerry Major and family at the passing of Gerry's brother Alf in PA.

Roseanne Hayes, after the passing of two cousins

Prayer Request from Western District Conference

Give thanks for volunteers who share their time and energy to support the work of WDC.

Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network

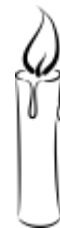
MMN's Service Adventure unit in Mississippi, includes Gabe Graham, Alexa Rathscheck, Jakob Seiferth, and leaders Cynthia and Roger Neufeld Smith. Pray for them as they worship with the Open Door Mennonite congregation.

Advent Prayer Focus

Pray for the Wayne and Jeannie Larson, our mission partners connecting in the Middle East.

Mission Partners' Prayer Requests:

- Leina, as she continues to serve as Gulf director for Middle East Media
- A safe haven for new Christians in the country of Georgia
- Lamza's willingness to lead facebook ministry
- Office space and an administrative assistant for Wayne
- Teaching position for Jeannie



We wish a "**Happy Birthday**" to:

December 10: Lois Thiessen

December 13: Mateo Roth, David Schmidt, Jim Miller

December 14: Aaron Fast

December 15: James B. Schmidt