

Sunday, December 17, 2017

9:30 AM: Sunday School **10:30 AM:** Worship Service
Worship Leader: Connie Kaufman **Accompanist:** Donna Stucky
Greeters: Clark & Connie Graber **Special Music:** Children's Choir
Scripture: Bonnie Kaufman **Candle Lighter:** Lexi Heslop
Message: Pastor Brad
Ushers: Mel Becker, Norman Funk, Vicky Kessler

Coming Events

Dec. 13: Children's Choir 6:30, no Chancel Choir practice until
 January 24
Dec. 17: 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

Sec. Hours: Thurs. 9-11, 1-4 PM

Church: 620-345-8143

Carla Stucky'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 second 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 7pm.

3. Next week, December 17, the children's choir led by Ellen Kaufman and Carla Stucky will be singing. We expect families of the children to join us that day. Consider moving forward from your usual spot in the pews so that we can comfortably welcome additional people.

4. 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.

5. Join us on December 17 for a game night from 6:00-8:00 PM in the West Zion basement.

6. Invite family and friends to our Christmas Eve service at 6:00 PM on December 24 entitled "What Child is This?"

7. Churches helping churches plan how to be missional in your own communities along with the counsel of a missional coach; it's the Western District Conference "Creative Strategizing Jam" at Year of Evangelism Kick Off: Anabaptist Witness, January 19-20, 2018. Learn more at mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism. This will be held at Alexanderwohl Mennonite in Goessel. 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.

8. Minutes and an Income/Expense Statement from the Associated Ministries of Moundridge can be found on the foyer bulletin board.

General Announcements

9. The group Family and Friends will be presenting Christmas programs this season. On Tuesday, December 12 at 7 PM they will be at Schowalter Villa in the Chapel. On Thursday, December 14 at 7 PM the program will be at Pine Village in the Wellness Center. Family and Friends members are Doug Huxman, Jan Gilmore, Steve and Amy Sherbenou, accompanied by Donna Stucky.

10. Tonight at 6:30 PM, Alexanderwohl Mennonite near Goessel will host the McPherson Community Brass Choir along with the Goessel High School Elbiata singers. All are welcome to attend. A free will offering will be received to support the Goessel Ministerial Alliance.

11. The Bethel College Alumni Choir will perform a short Christmas concert at 3 PM today at Trinity Heights United Methodist Church in Newton; a punch and cookie reception follows.

12. The 32nd annual Lighting of the Green at Bethel College will take place tonight at 8 PM on the Bethel College campus.

13. 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).

14. Join us on Sunday, December 17, 3:00-4:30 PM at Whitestone Mennonite in Hesston to celebrate one year in the US for Masemo and Salema and their family, refugees from Congo. Hear about their journey so far and celebrate the renewed hope they have for the future.

15. Pray for the Executive Director Search Committee as they continue to discern the leadership needs and evaluate candidates for the next executive director of Mennonite Church USA. The committee has received denomination-wide survey feedback and is giving careful consideration to those who have been nominated.

We wish a **“Happy Birthday”** to:

December 10: Lois Thiessen

December 12: Dennis Kaufman

December 13: Mateo Roth, David Schmidt, Jim Miller

December 14: Aaron Fast

December 15: James B. Schmidt

Daily Prayer

December 10 - Our own West Zion congregation as we serve God's kingdom in Moundridge and beyond!
December 11 - Congolese refugee families who have settled in Hesston.
December 12 - God to open a door for you to share your hope in Jesus.
December 13 - Our hearts to grow in love and service for our neighborhoods.
December 14 - God to spark a heart for prayer among us.
December 15 - The Holy Spirit to give us eyes for mission in our neighborhood.
December 16 - Our congregation to be a spiritual refuge for new people.

Prayer Concerns

Give thanks for Jr.'s two new great-granddaughters!

Mary Graber, recovering at home after having a pacemaker put in.

Larry and Karen, traveling in Europe.

Carolyn's father, recovering at home after a blood issue.

Glenda Golden, recovering after a fall

Prayer Requests from Mennonite Mission Network

Join Mennonite Mission Network in praising God for the recording of the entire New Testament in the Toba-Qom language, and for the 33 readers from eight denominations and 12 communities in the Argentine Chaco who volunteered to make this possible. Pray that God's word will find open hearts when it is aired on the radio.

Prayer Requests from Western District Conference

As we prepare a place for the Christ-child in this Advent season, let us pray for WDC congregations undergoing construction projects to better serve their communities and members.

Mission Mosaic in the pew: Wally & Susan Fahrer in West Sussex, England; Neal & Janie Blough in Paris, France on page 32

Attendance for Worship: 61