

# West Zion Mennonite Church

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

Vol. LIII                      December 2, 2018                      No. 46

## \*\*\*ADVENT 1\*\*\*

*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: *Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths (Psalm 25:4).*

Prelude    Donna Stucky  
Lighting of the Christ candle

Welcome    Pastor Brad Roth  
The Lord be with you / **and also with you.**

Announcements

Call to Worship, Psalm 25

Handwritten musical notation for Psalm 25:1. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style. Above the staff, the following chords are written: F, Gm7, Bb, Gm7/A1, Gm, F/C, C7, Fsus, F. Below the staff, the lyrics are written: "I lift up my soul to You, O Lord. O - my God, in You I trust."

Greeting in Christ's peace

Children's time and lighting the Advent candle (kids come forward)  
*This week's prayer focus is the mission of Mt. Hope Sanctuary.*

**\*\*Celebrating in song**                      (words on screen)                      Praise Team  
Emmanuel  
Emmanuel (Hallowed Ground)  
Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Scripture                      Luke 21:25-36 (*The Message*)                      Geneva Wedel

Message                      "Stay Focused!"                      Pastor Brad

**Response** (on screen, from STS 125)

Bible Presentation

Sharing from Mt. Hope Sanctuary - Kendra Kuchta

Offering

Sharing of Joys and Concerns  
Prayers of the People

**\*\*Sending Song**                      O come, O come, Immanuel                      HWB 172

**\*\*Benediction**

**\*\*Postlude**

**\*\*please stand if able**

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

Greeter(s): Norman Funk

Ushers: Mel Becker, Norman Funk, Vicky Kessler

## Sermon Notes

Stay Focused!  
Luke 21:25-36

Theme - Advent is a time to renew our focus on Christ.

Key Verse - (Luke 21:34 - *The Message*) But be on your guard. Don't let the sharp edge of your expectation get dulled by parties and drinking and shopping.

## Notes

### A Prayer

God our hope, guide us through the tumult of our times to your everlasting kingdom.

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

## **Sunday, December 9, 2018**

**9:30 AM:** Sunday School      **10:30 AM:** Worship Service  
**Message:** Pastor Brad Roth      **Scripture:** Wynona Becker  
**Worship Leader:** Vicky Kessler      **Accompanist:** Donna Stucky  
**Greeter(s):** Royce & Sandy Jantz      **Music:** Chancel Choir  
**Ushers:** Clark Graber, Dave Wedel, Carl Duffman  
Special offering for our missionary partners, the Larsons

### **Coming Events**

Dec. 5: Children's Choir practice 6:30-7 in Fellowship Hall,  
Choir 7:00 PM  
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. 24: Christmas Eve service  
Jan. 13: Annual meeting and meal  
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](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@westzionmc.org)

Website: [www.westzionmc.org](http://www.westzionmc.org)

## West Zion Announcements

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

1. A **Children's Choir** will meet to practice on Wednesdays, Dec. 5 and Dec. 12 from 6:30-7 PM. All children pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> are invited. The Choir will sing at Sunday worship on December 16.
2. **SPACE** will meet Saturday, Dec. 8 at Carla Stucky's house 413 Park Lane at 9 AM for a simple breakfast, fellowship and prayer. All women are invited!
3. A **community women's Bible Study** led by Karen Brunk will be held in the West Zion conference room on Monday evenings 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. **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](http://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.
7. 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

8. 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. 30<sup>th</sup> in North Newton.
9. The Neuf 9K and 2 mile run will be held at Bethel College on January 12 to honor the memory of Russ Neufeld, a former MC USA and Hesston College employee. The race will start at 10 a.m. outside of Mojo's Coffee Shop and raises fund for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and the Russ Neufeld memorial scholarship at Hesston College. Register at [www.runtheneuf.neuf.ca](http://www.runtheneuf.neuf.ca).
10. Hesston College Performing Arts will celebrate the Christmas season with "Peace on Earth," a music and theatre performance at 7 p.m., Dec. 8, at Hesston Mennonite Church. The concert is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be collected for MCC hygiene kits.
11. 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 KIPCOR's North Newton office. Lead instructor is Sharon Kniss, KIPCOR director of education and training. Cost is \$300 per person, or \$250 with a non-refundable deposit of \$75 made by Dec. 12. For congregations who send three or more people, the cost is \$200 per person with a \$225 deposit made by Dec. 12. Please register soon. Online registration is at [kipcor.org](http://kipcor.org) (Managing Differences within Faith Communities link), or call 316-284-5217.
12. Join the community in a prayer vigil and informational meeting about the Central American Caravan Sunday, Dec. 2 8-9 PM at Hesston College, Bontrager Worship Center in the basement of Keim Center. We will pray in a variety of ways....with song, movement, drawing, writing and lighting candles.
13. Bethel College events: Wed., Dec. 5 – Annual sing-along to Christmas portions of Handel's *Messiah*, with Bethel College instrumentalists, soloists and student conductors, 11 a.m., *Bethel College Mennonite Church*; scores provided;

Thurs., Dec. 6 – Closing reception for Stephanie Lanter, “Terms,” 6-8 p.m., *Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College* and Bethel College Steel Drum Band concert, 7 p.m., *Memorial Hall*  
Fri., Dec. 7 – Christmas Gala jazz concert with Bethel College Jazz Ensembles I & II, 8 p.m., *Krehbiel Auditorium*  
Sun., Dec. 9 – 33rd annual Lighting of the Green 8 p.m.

During the season of Advent (beginning Dec. 2), we’ll be collecting for our annual White Christmas Project. This year, we’re gathering items in support of the Mt. Hope Sanctuary in McPherson, a Christian organization that provides transitional housing, life-changing programming, and support services to single mothers and children. Items we’ll be collecting are listed below, and CDT will place a board in the foyer starting in December. Director Julie Holloway will join us on Dec. 2 to share about the work of Mt. Hope Sanctuary. You can also learn more at: <http://www.mthopesanctuary.org/>.

Current needs of Mt. Hope Sanctuary (collection beginning Dec.2)

- *Paper Towels*
- *Ice Melt*
- *Hair Conditioner*
- *Swiffer duster refills*
- *100 watt LED Outdoor Floodlight Bulbs*
- *Toilet Paper*
- *Laundry Detergent*
- *Baby friendly laundry detergent*
- *Coffee Beans*
- *13 gallon tall kitchen trash bags*
- *30 gallon outdoor trash bags*
- *Automatic Dishwasher Soap*
- *Ziplock type Freezer Bags (Quart and Gallon) (does not need to be brand name)*
- *Dryer Sheets*

**Prayers for Joys and Concerns**

Lorene and Marlene’s niece Melissa and family

**Prayer Request from Western District Conference**

Pray for WDC’s Ministerial Leadership Commission as they support credentialed ministers and offer leadership training and resources.

**Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network**

Praise God for Linda Oyer, who retired this year after three decades of service in France through MMN. Pray for a smooth transition as she moves to the United States and speaks in churches.

Advent Prayer Focus

**Pray for the Mt. Hope Sanctuary, McPherson**, our White Christmas Project, and for Julie Holloway, the Executive Director. Mt. Hope Sanctuary is a Christian ministry providing transitional housing, life-changing programs and support services to single women and their children. Women live free of charge in Mt. Hope Sanctuary where they master the skills they need to eventually live on their own. The home is staffed 24/7 to support the needs of residents.



We wish a “**Happy Birthday**” to:  
 December 5: Dorothy Toews, Jeff Becker

We wish a “**Happy Anniversary**” to:  
 December 6: Phil & Lorene Lohrenz

**YTD COMPARISON 11/25/2018**

YTD Giving - Budget	\$	<u>131,181.47</u>
ANNUAL BUDGET	\$	158,987.00
Less: expended to date		(137,900.95)
Less: cash balance		<u>(10,311.39)</u>
Receipts needed to meet budget		10,774.66
Avg. offering needed per Sunday to meet budget	\$	2,155.00

\*Assumes we spend our entire budget and have an ending cash balance of \$5000