

West Zion Mennonite Church

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

Vol. LIII December 16, 2018 No. 49

ADVENT 3

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: *The LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation (Isaiah 12:1).*

Prelude Carla Stucky
**Entrance Hymn *Come, thou long-expected Jesus* HWB 178

Lighting of the Christ candle

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

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship *Rejoice!* Children's Choir

Call to Worship, Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely God is my sal-va-tion; I will trust, and will not be a-fraid

Greeting in Christ's peace

Children's time and lighting the Advent candle (kids come forward)
This week's prayer focus is Pastor Felix and our sister church in San Juan de Cotabambas, Peru.

**Celebrating in song The angel Gabriel HWB 180

Scripture Luke 3:7-18 Curtis Guhr

Message "A Step toward God" Pastor Brad

Song of Response *Comfort, comfort, O my people* HWB 176

Offering

Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

**Sending Song *O Little Town of Bethlehem* HWB 191

**Benediction

**Postlude

****please stand if able**

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

Greeter(s): Clark & Connie Graber
Ushers: Mel Becker, Norman Funk, Vicky Kessler

Sermon Notes

A Step toward God
Luke 3:7-18

Theme

Where do you need to move toward God?

Key Verse

(Luke 3:8a) Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.

Notes

A Prayer

God who calls us to repentance and heals the broken-hearted, have mercy on your people during this season of Advent.

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

Sunday, December 23, 2018

9:30 AM: Sunday School **10:30 AM:** Worship Service
Message: Pastor Brad Roth **Scripture:** Daniel Kaufman
Worship Leader: Pastor Brad **Accompanist:** Donna Stucky
Greeter(s): Bob & Sharon Gehring **Music:** Chancel Choir
Ushers: Clark Graber, Dave Wedel, Carl Duffman

Coming Events

Dec. 19: Christmas Eve practice 6:30-7:45, Choir 7:45 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 Conference 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. 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 how each “friendly beast” brought a gift to baby Jesus, along with beautiful Christmas music from youth and adults. **Invite a friend or neighbor!**
2. The current **yearbook addresses** can be found in foyer. Please check your information (and family members who no longer attend) and make changes as needed, thanks.
3. **You’re invited to support the Camp Mennoscah Fund!** Council has established the Camp Mennoscah Fund as a way to give scholarships for kids to go to camp. Christian Discipleship Team offers a scholarship of ½ of enrollment for West Zion kids. Sometimes, families need a little extra help. The Camp Mennoscah Fund will cover the difference.
4. The **Red Cross Bloodmobile** will be at The Wellness Center at Pine Village on 12/21/18 from noon until 6:00 p.m. Blood supplies are quite low so please consider giving the gift of life. For appointments please visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: Moundridge or call 1-800-733-2767.
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 back of the sanctuary. 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. **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.

8. 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

9. Come support Offender/Victim Ministries (OVM) at Mojo's December Community Soup Night! Bring your bowl to Mojo's Coffee Bar on Thursday, December 20 from 5-6:30 for homemade soup and live music by Ellie Bradley and Kate Szambecki. All proceeds will go towards OVM. For more information about the work OVM does in this community, visit offendervictimministries.org.
10. 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, and new skills to help build up communities. These gifts fit easily under the tree and 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.
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 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.

Prayers for Joys and Concerns

Lorene Lohrenz, Marlene Wiens, and family at the passing of their niece Melissa

Richard and Glenda Golden's granddaughter.

Donna Stucky, that after her recent scans and tests, everything seems to be fine. (Thanks to everyone for their prayers!)

Prayer Request from Western District Conference

Pray for WDC chaplains and pastors who offer caring ministry to those seeking healing, hope and comfort.

Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network

MMN requests prayer for Mark and Mary Hurst as they prepare to move to a new area west of Sydney. Pray for them as they settle in and continue their ministry of teaching, peacemaking and hospitality with the Anabaptist Association of Australia and New Zealand.

Advent Prayer Focus

Pray for our sister church in San Juan de Cotabambas, Peru, and for pastor Felix as he continues to reach out and lead Bible studies and worship in nearby mountain communities.



We wish a “**Happy Birthday**” to:

December 17: Brad Roth

December 20: Brandie Foster

December 22: Carla Stucky