

West Zion Mennonite Church

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

Vol. LVI December 5, 2021 No. 49

2nd Sunday of Advent

Words for silent meditation: *My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior (Luke 1:46-47).*

Prelude Donna Stucky
Lighting of the Christ candle

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

Announcements

Lighting of the Advent candle

Call to Worship, Luke 1:46b-55
Antiphon on the screen

****Celebrating in song**

*O Come All Ye Faithful HWB 212
What a Beautiful Name*

**Children's Church (4-yrs old to 4th grade) & Nursery (ages 1-3)
offered at this time.**

Scripture Luke 1:39-45 Harvey Thiessen

Message "My Lord" (What a Beautiful Name) Pastor Brad

Offering (*Offering will be received in the basket on the back table.*)
White Christmas offering

Song for Meditation

Sharing of Joys and Concerns (*During this time, we will not be passing the mic. Please communicate joys and concerns to Pastor Brad ahead of time. You can text them to: 620-386-4838 or if you're watching online, write in Facebook comment bar.*)

Prayers of the People

Hanging of Advent ornament

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

****Benediction**

****Postlude** (*Please exit back-to-front and practice social distancing. We encourage you to go outside and spread out if you would like to connect and chat.*)

Greeter(s): Jan Dyck

Sermon Notes

My Lord
Luke 1:39-45

Theme

When God our Lord comes to us, we're called to respond with joy and belief.

Key Verse

(Luke 1:45) Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!

Notes

A Question

Does Advent bring joy to your heart? Does it inspire you to believe in Jesus more deeply? Why or why not?

**Services are livestreamed on the West Zion Facebook page
Sermons are online @ westzionmc.org**

Streaming license # 20084674
OneLicense #A-738752

3rd Sunday of Advent, December 12, 2021

10:00 AM: Prayer Lab in Conf. Rm **10:30 AM:** Worship Service
Message: Pastor Brad **Accompanist:** Donna Stucky
Worship Leader: Pastor Brad **Scripture:** Carl Duffman
Greeter(s): Norman Funk

Coming Events

Today: Christian Homemakers meet at 6:00 at Sharon Gehring's

Dec. 8: Children's Choir practice 6:30-7 PM
Adult Discussion Series 7-8 PM

Dec. 15: Children's Choir practice 6:30-7 PM
Adult Discussion Series 7-8 PM
Church Council 8 PM

Dec. 22: Children's Choir practice 6:30-7 PM
Adult Discussion Series 7-8 PM

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve service

Jan. 15: Name change informational & storytelling meeting 7 PM

Jan. 23: Noon meal, Annual meeting, and vote on name change

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 Cell: 620-386-4838
Pastor Brad's email: bradroth@westzionmc.org

Secretary Carla Stucky's hours:

Thursdays 1:00-4:00 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. This year the annual **White Christmas Project** will be collecting relief bucket items for Haiti through MCC (Mennonite Central Committee). Check the foyer display for a list of items that go in the buckets. You can also donate (just write check to West Zion and mark "relief kits" in memo). The White Christmas Project will run throughout Advent and wrap up on Christmas Eve.
2. It is time to make **changes in our yearbook** for the 2022 printing in February. Current yearbook addresses are on a table in the foyer. Please make any changes with the red pen provided. Check family member information as well, thanks!
3. **We're assembling a children's choir for Christmas!** Practices are Wednesdays 6:30-7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall during Advent (December 8, 15, 22). The choir will perform at our Christmas Eve service. Children's choir is aimed at kids 4-years-old to 4th grade.
4. Check out the **Angel Tree** in our foyer. Angel Tree is a local program run by Angela Azzarito that connects those in need with folks who can help. There are options to buy presents for adults and children, as well as to help cover back-tuition at the daycare. Further instructions can be found on each angel. For those interested, you are invited to come help wrap the presents on Dec. 15 from 6:30-7:30 pm at Eden Mennonite (401 18th Ave).
5. You are invited to join Carl Duffman in **Advent reading** for the month of December. Beginning with December 1, read one chapter of Luke each day through December 24 (24 chapters). On Christmas Day, you will know why we celebrate the reason for the season!
6. Our **missionary partners** from the Arabian Gulf, the Larsons, have sent a Christmas letter with prayer requests. This can be found on the bulletin board.
7. **Who is this child born of Mary?** Each week during Advent, Pastor Brad will lead us in a teaching series called "What a Beautiful Name." We'll deepen our understanding of four names of Jesus: Word, My Lord, Immanuel, and Jesus. Also, join us for a "What a Beautiful Name" adult discussion series on Wednesday nights @ 7:00

PM! (12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22). It's a chance to explore further what was taught in the sermon. Led by Ellen Kaufman.

8. Carla Stucky will be working on the **2022 Greeters List** in the next few weeks. Greeters generally meet at the church at 10:15 to greet familiar faces and those who might be new to the church. You are assigned to greet 3-4 times a year. If you aren't on the list but would like to be OR if you would like to be taken off the list, let Carla know.
9. **Christian Homemakers** will again collect **used greeting cards** for the St. Jude Children's Project. Put the entire card into the box on the foyer shelf.
10. Christian Homemakers will meet tonight at 6:00 PM at Sharon Gehring's home for a **Christmas gathering with finger foods** (1901 Iris Village). All women of the church are welcome to come for fellowship.

General Announcements

11. The **Moundridge Community Blood Drive** is scheduled for December 17, 2021 starting at 12:00 noon until 6:00 p.m. at The West Zion Mennonite Church. Please enter through the west doors. For an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org and use "Moundridge" for the sponsor code. Thanks for your support and if you have any questions, call Denise at 620-386-0112 or email hdstucky@mtelco.net.
12. **The MCC Comforter Blitz Committee is looking for additional committee members!** Would you be interested in assisting the making of comforters for Mennonite Central Committee, and helping to plan the annual three-day comforter making event in Yoder, Kansas? If so, we would love your skills and your voice! If interested, please reach out to Committee Chair, Kara Klingenberg at k.klingenberg@hotmail.com or call her at 620-983-9003 for more information. We are currently looking for a treasurer, advertising help, and anyone else who is interested in helping.
13. The **McPherson Community Brass Choir** under the direction of Jerry Toews will give their Christmas Brass Concert Sunday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 PM in the Goessel HS gym. This event is sponsored by the Goessel Ministerial Alliance. Note the location change accommodating for social distancing. Come and enjoy a festive brass Christmas concert!

14. **Bethel College events:** *Bethel's COVID-19 protocols require physical distancing to the extent possible and mask-wearing indoors with groups of 10 or more.*

Tues., Dec. 7 – Bethel College Steel Drum Band concert, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.

Weds., Dec. 8 – Singalong to Christmas portions of Handel's Messiah returns in-person, 11 a.m., Memorial Hall, with chamber orchestra, soloists and student conductors. Scores provided.

Fri., Dec. 10 – Christmas Gala Jazz concert, 8 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.

Sun., Dec. 12 – Lighting of the Green returns in-person this year; 8 p.m. on the Bethel College campus.

Name Change Process

The Name Change Committee (NCC) presented a proposal to Council on 10/27/21 to change the name of our church to "Eastside Fellowship." Council approved moving forward with this proposed name. NCC has put the name change proposal along with answers to frequently asked questions in your church mailboxes. An informational and storytelling meeting will be held on Saturday, January 15 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. The vote to change our name will take place on Sunday, January 23 at the Annual Meeting. Continue to pray for this process, the NCC Committee and our congregation.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	This Year	Last Year
Regular collections – this week	\$ 4,450.00	\$ 1,724.00
Regular collections – year to date	\$136,840.93	\$116,854.80
Budget	\$165,158.00	\$163,471.00
Less: expended to date	(136,311.30)	(140,706.42)
Less: cash balance	(9,054.79)	(5,504.11)
Receipts needed to meet budget	\$ 19,791.91	\$ 17,260.47
Avg. offering per Sunday needed		
to meet budget	\$ 4,948	\$ 4,315

West Zion Prayers

Ruby, recovering after hip surgery.

Prayer Request from Western District Conference

Pray for the WDC Church Planting Commission, as they envision new initiatives and partnerships for church planting in the coming year.

Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network

Delicia Bravo Aguilar and Peter Wigginton of MMN request prayer for the churches in Ecuador that have suffered the loss of many leaders and members, due to COVID-19. While they continue to lament their losses, pray for their strength and resilience, as new leaders come forward to continue the reconciling mission of Christ.

Mosaic Directory in pews

La Casa Grande in Benin, home for orphans, pg 12

ADVENT PRAYER FOCUS

Each week, Mission Team is highlighting a different part of our church's mission for prayer. Children will be making an ornament that reflects the prayer focus during Children's Church and hanging it on the tree at the end of service.

Pray for our congregation's name change and visioning process. West Zion has played a vital role in Moundridge for the past 130 years! In this next chapter, let's work to lower barriers and connect in our changing community to bring people to Christ.



We wish a **"Happy Birthday"** to:
December 5: Dorothy Toews

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