

West Zion Mennonite Church

10:30 AM: Morning Worship

Vol. LVIII December 3, 2023 No. 49

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prelude Donna Stucky
Lighting of the Christ candle

Welcome Connie Kaufman
 The Lord be with you / **and also with you.**

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship Family & Friends
 "Come and Worship!" arr. Marty Parks
 "Celtic Advent Carol" by D. Angerman & Michael

Advent Candle Lighting and Reading Berna & Jennifer Suarez

**Celebrating in song words on screen
 O come, O come Immanuel HWB 172
 "Emmanuel" (2 times)

Special Music Family & Friends

Message "Expecting the Miracle" Luke 2:25-38 Steve Sherbenou

Offering (*Offering will be received in the basket on the back table*)

Song for Meditation Family & Friends

Sharing of Joys and Concerns (*Raise your hand, and we'll bring the mic to you*)

Prayers of the People

**Sending Song *Come, thou long-expected Jesus HWB 178*

**Benediction Steve Sherbenou

**Postlude

**please stand if you are able

Greeter(s):

Welcome and thank you to Steve Sherbenou for agreeing to fill the pulpit in December! Steve Sherbenou is a life-long Kansas resident. He grew up in Chanute then moved to Wichita where he worked at Cessna Aircraft for 33 years. Steve was called into ministry in 2002, first at the Viola First Baptist Church, then Goddard First Baptist. He and his wife Amy (who grew up at West Zion) met at Cessna and have been married for 27 years. They both love camping and making music together.

Welcome also to Family & Friends! Members are Doug Huxman, Steve & Amy Sherbenou, Rosemary Hayes, Jan Gilmore, and Donna Stucky.

CCLI # 9106321

Stream CCLI #20084674

OneLicense #A-738752

Livestream can be found on our West Zion Youtube page

Second Sunday of Advent, December 10, 2023

9:30 AM: Sunday School **10:30 AM:** Worship Service
Message: Steve Sherbenou **Scripture:** Zettie Wedel
Worship Leader: Vicky Kessler **Accompanist:** Donna Stucky
Greeter(s): Dan Pohl

Coming Events

Dec. 4: Yoga 4-5 PM
Dec. 6: Christian Homemakers meet at Sharon Gehring 6 PM
Dec. 9: Fellowship & Prayer 9 AM
Dec. 10: Steve Sherbenou preaches
Dec. 11: Yoga 4-5 PM
Dec. 17: Steve Sherbenou preaches
Dec. 20: Church Council 7 PM
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve service

Our Mission: God calls us into community to worship God and follow Jesus through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Secretary Carla Stucky
Office Hours: Thursdays 9-11:30 AM, 1-4 PM
Cell: 620-386-0414
Email: secretary@westzionmc.org

Church: 620-345-8143
Church website: www.westzionmc.org

West Zion Announcements

Please have bulletin announcements to the office by Thursday noon.

1. **White Christmas Offering:** This year's White Christmas Offering will be a towel drive for MCC. MCC is in desperate need of hand towels for their Hygiene Kits and bath towels for their Relief Kits. During the four Sundays of Advent we will be collecting the following items: **Hand towels-** (medium weight, dark or bright colors preferred); approx. 40 cm x 65 cm (16 in x 26 in) and **Bath towels-** (medium weight, dark or bright colors preferred); approximately 70 cm x 125 cm (28 in x 50 in). If you would like CDT to purchase towels for MCC, please make out a check for West Zion with **White Christmas offering** in the memo. Our goal is to collect 100 towels. Can you help us reach our goal?

2. Christmas season can be a time when we **miss our loved ones** a little more than usual. We would like to honor those who have died in a December 24 bulletin insert. The poinsettias up front represent the many beautiful memories and love they brought into our lives. Please send Carla the name(s) of who you would like listed by December 17. "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." – Winnie the Pooh

3. **Moundridge Angel Trees:** The Associated Ministries of Moundridge is seeking your help to provide gifts for families who are struggling this Christmas. An Angel Tree is located in our foyer. **NOTE:** There is a new way of buying for a family. Please scan the QR code on the angel to go to a website and pick the family you would like to help. Once you've signed up, an email will be sent with the wish list for that family. Please return all gifts WRAPPED and LABELED with the family code written on each gift to either the Moundridge Police Station (225 S Christian) or Moundridge EMS (225 N Wedel) any time (24/7). **The deadline for receiving gifts is December 8.** Call Austin Regier at 316-218-7763 or email director@stepmc.org for questions or help with sign up.

4. **Thank You** to the West Zion church family for all your care and concern, visits, phone calls, texts, cards, and gifts of food during my recent surgery. What a wonderful feeling it is to be a part of such a caring church family. May God Bless You All! - Sandy & Royce Jantz

5. **Musical group Family & Friends** will present a program of Christmas selections at the Wellness Center at Pine Village on Thursday, December 7 at 7 PM. All are invited!

6. **Christian Homemakers** are meeting for a Christmas gathering Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 6:00 PM at Sharon Gehring's home. Bring some goodies for snacks and an idea to share with the group of one of your memorable Christmas traditions or memory of a meaningful item in your family like a recipe or ornament.

7. All are invited to **Fellowship & Prayer** on Dec. 9 at 9:00 am in the Prayer Corner to spend time in prayer for West Zion and other requests.

8. **December reading plan:** Carl and Tracy Duffman invite you to join them in reading one chapter of Luke every day of December (Luke has 24 chapters). On Christmas Day, you will know the story of Jesus and why we believe in Him!

9. **Christmas Gala Jazz:** Daniel Kaufman will be playing with the Bethel College jazz band on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 7:30 pm at the Krehbiel Auditorium in the Luyken Fine Arts Center. Music by Ellington, Mingus, and more will be featured.

10. Carla will begin putting together schedules for the **greeters and scripture readers**. If you are interested in being removed from these lists OR being added, there is still time to let Carla know since she hasn't even thought about starting this yet!

11. **Thank you** to the many people who keep our church and yard looking so nice. From taking care of the snow removal, to leaf removal, to a beautiful lawn, to the various maintenance issues that are quickly resolved without most people even knowing about them. It is much appreciated!

General Announcements

12. **Cradles to Crayons** is trying to raise 15% of capital funds so they can apply for a grant that would pay the 85%. It is a very fast turn around so funds are needed quickly but, it is a fantastic opportunity for Cradle to Crayons, businesses, and families in the area. A flyer with more information is on the foyer board. Thank you for your support!

13. **Bethel, Hesston, and Tabor College** events can be found on the foyer bulletin board.

BUDGET SUMMARY	This Year	Last Year
Regular collections – this week	\$ 750.00	\$ 3,442.00
Regular collections – year to date	\$107,948.83	\$136,880.93
Budget	\$163,155.00	\$157,300.00
Expended to date	\$103,224.57	\$132,220.35
Cash balance	\$ 10,438.42	\$ 5,193.98

West Zion Prayers

Those dealing with health issues and recovering from surgery
 Search for a new pastor, interim pastor, pulpit supply, Deacon
 Geneva Wedel for medication to work and strength

Prayer Request from Western District Conference

Give thanks for the WDC Resource Library’s creative resources and ideas for Advent and Christmas, and pray for congregational leaders who plan worship and special activities during this season.

Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network

Pray for the participants in Mennonite Mission Network’s Tucson, Arizona, Mennonite Voluntary Service unit — Nely Cotuc, Hannah Nuest, Ally Weaver, Magdalena Wenger and Deborah Yoder — as they help extend the ministries of their host congregation, Shalom Mennonite Fellowship, through welcoming immigrants, promoting literacy and working to protect the environment.

Mission Mosaic Prayer

Cade Fisher, Andrea Troyer, Michaela Esau, Jessie Landis serving MVS in Arizona



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