



IN TOUCH. . . The Newsletter of the Mt. Zion Family

June 2017 Volume XIX Issue 6

WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY AT 8:30, 9:45 and
11:00 AM & WEDNESDAYS AT 6:40 PM

**“Making, Maturing, Mobilizing
Disciples for Christ”**

Dr. Mary John Dye; Senior Pastor, Rev. Joel Simpson and
Rev. Tony Moreau; Associate Pastors

- Church Office 704-892-8566
 - Fax 704-892-3143
- Youth House 704-892-7825
- Sonshine Preschool 704-892-0654
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- <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/84673593>

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**In
this
issue**

Dear friends at Mt. Zion,

Youth, children and music are going to be especially high moments for Mt. Zion this month! That is something everyone in the church can celebrate!

June 4 is one of the highest moments when our confirmation class joins the church. These wonderful, lively and engaged young people have been meeting with their mentors since last fall. They have learned what it means to be a United Methodist Christian. They are making a profession of faith that they feel in their hearts and a decision they have carefully considered. Every year, we plan for it to be a high moment in their lives that they will remember the rest of their lives. Matt Sherrill, our exceptional youth director coordinates confirmation with all the pastors sharing in the teaching. Thanks to mentors Jeff Sarver, Ella Taylor, Tony and Gigi Williams.

June 11, Mt. Zion's Testify Youth Choir will be singing at the 9:45 worship service and giving a concert that night at 7:00 in the Family Life Center. Please make every effort to come and see the wonderful talent of our young people under the direction of Melanie Kalkan. They will be going on their summer tour beginning June 14. I urge you to pray for them every day.

Bible School begins Monday night, June 12. It is filled to capacity! We are also thrilled to have 50 adults who have committed to serve as leaders and helpers for Bible School. That means over 150 people will be touched by Mt. Zion's 2017 Bible School experience. Pray for Bible School and everyone is welcome to come the final night (Thursday) to see the fruit of what the children have learned in their closing.

Our youth leave for their annual Appalachia Service Project trip on Sunday, June 18. Pray for them as they serve Christ with their hands and their hearts. You will be able to hear for yourself how these young people have grown in Christ as, freshly back from their mission trip, they lead all 3 worship services on Sunday, June 25.

Monday, June 19 begins Music Camp! It is filled to capacity! Shelley Little will be leading her first music camp – continuing one of the highlights of our music program.

That means that every Sunday and almost every day of the month of June, Mt. Zion will be sponsoring special memory-making experiences for children and youth. If you have a child or grandchild in the children's program, confirmation or youth group, you get to see and hear first hand about the great discipleship our church offers to and through our youth and children. If you don't know any of the young people involved, you have the joy of knowing that your financial gifts to the church make these opportunities possible. We are richly blessed with the gift of children, remarkable young people, staff and adults who lead them. It is the financial gifts from all of us that make these programs possible. Together, we are bringing the love of Christ to life. We are teaching our youth how to witness for Jesus in song and in service. What a joy to see such marvelous experiences unfold. Everyone at the church should be grateful to be part of great disciple-making events. Keep the church, staff and leaders for all these events in your prayers and in your hearts. Our Mt. Zion Month of June is off to a busy and blessed start. With prayers and joy, *Mary John*

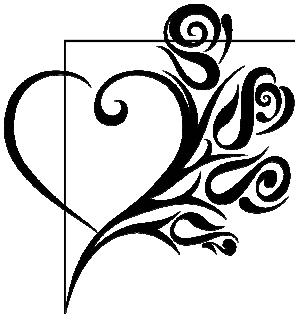
MT. ZION FAMILY CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS!

THE SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION IS EXTENDED TO Sheldon Olson and Gail McAlister Olson and family on the death of their daughter, Mary Laura Olson, on May 7, the family of Wes Southern, who passed away on May 8, to Jan Jenkins and family on the death of her father, Donald L. Fisher, on May 9, to Kay Cooke and family on the death of her husband, Kenneth Cooke, on May 11.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 ★ Please join us on June 25th to cele- ★
 ★ brate Katy Hollingsworth's ★
 ★ 90th birthday ★
 ★ in the Family Life Center ★
 ★ 12:30 to 3 pm. ★
 ★ If you can attend, RSVP to Becky ★
 ★ Hollingsworth ★
 ★ at (980) 297-6872 ★
 ★ or Becky.hollingsworth@yahoo.com ★
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



PRAYER CONCERNS: Judy Aho, Sandy Archer, Billie Bost, Gail Brackett, Dixie Cashion, Mack Cashion, Ruby Cook, Dot Fidler, Lagette Goodrum, Lilyan Hunter, Jim Jackson, Faye Long, Avery Masters, Cathy McAlister, Stephen McMakin, Martha Miller, Sandy Moore, Nancy Neal, Lisa Oxidine, Phyllis Sherrill, Alina Sossamon, Elizabeth Westmoreland, Rodney Whisnant, Todd Wissinger



SPECIAL GIFTS WERE GIVEN... IN HONOR OF Becky Metzger, a gift was given to the Preschool Fund; **...IN MEMORY OF** Kenneth Cooke, gifts were given to the Budget, gifts were given to the Cemetery Fund and gifts were

given to the Capital Fund; **IN MEMORY OF** Shirley Goforth, gifts were given to the Budget, a gift was given to the Capital Fund and a gift was given to ASP; **IN MEMORY OF** Anne Cutler, a gift was given to the Budget; **IN MEMORY OF** Wes Southern, gifts were given to the Budget, gifts were given to the Youth Fund and a gift was given to the Capital Fund; **IN MEMORY OF** Pat Little on her May 15 birthday, a gift was given to the Budget; **IN MEMORY OF** Mary Laura Olson, a gift was given to the Cemetery Fund and a gift was given to ASP; **IN MEMORY OF** Claudia Bost on her May 16 birthday, a gift was given to the Music Fund.

Dear Friends at Mt. Zion, thank you so very much for your cards and calls. It feels good to be remembered by you. I miss my life there with Don so very much. We were so blessed. I especially want to thank the precious little preschoolers of Sonshine Preschool and the special people who work with them for their cards. They always cheer me.

Thank you Mt. Zion office staff for all you do and for your words of comfort in your cards for so many years. Also, the Don Bridger Sunday School Class cards have been a special blessing to me. Thank you very much for all you do.

I wish for you many of God's blessings. Kay Sims

Children's Ministry News

Please join us in welcoming Maya Duncan as the new Director of Sonshine Preschool.

Maya grew up in Rockland, NY. She attended Virginia Tech and obtained a BA in Elementary Education. She has 20 years' experience in teaching, 5 years in middle school and 15 years in preschool.

She became a member of Mt. Zion in the summer of 2016 and is co-facilitator of the DivorceCare group with her husband Don.

Maya has two older children, Alyssa and Brandon. She and Don reside in Huntersville.



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **June 12-15** [VBS](#)
- **June 19- June 23** [Elementary & Preschool Music and Arts Camp](#)
- **August 18th** [Summer Sleepover](#)
- **August 27th** [Promotion Sunday and Teacher Training](#)

From the Director of Music...

Greetings, church family! I am loving my new role as your music director, and now that I have been in the position for almost 6 months, I want to express some of my praises and concerns...

I have definitely filled a void by getting more involved with a church music program. This was an answer to prayer for me, and I feel like I am doing what God has called me to do. We have a wonderful group of dedicated folks involved with our music on a weekly basis, in the praise and traditional services. I thank those of you (who organize/sing/accompany/provide sound) for serving our loving Lord in that way...

A huge concern of mine is that, with a church the size of Mount Zion, I am confident that there are folks in our church family who are not utilizing their musical talents. I hear great singers from the piano as I accompany the services at 8:30

and 11:00. So, I KNOW you are out there!!!

That being said, please know that the Praise Team is in need of singers/instrumentalists for the 9:45 services on Sunday mornings under Melanie Kalkan's direction, and the Chancel Choir has lots of room in the loft for more singers at the 11:00 services.

SO much goes on behind the scenes at any church. The services do not just happen. I realize it is a commitment, and we all have schedules every day. But Melanie and I would love to see our groups expand in number and maybe in the future be able to alternate singers with so many on board!!!

I am just asking for you to pray for the music program, and if you are interested in joining us at all, we would love to have you. Please email me with any questions...

Blessing to you all, Shelley



Mt. Zion Backpack Ministries

The Backpack Ministry is wrapping up their 3rd year partnering with J.V. Washam Elementary in Cornelius. We ended this year providing weekend meals for 20 children at this local school...and it couldn't have been accomplished without the amazing people at Mt.

Zion!! Thanks to all those that were weekly sponsors for these children, for those that donated much needed food supplies, for those that helped pack extra bags, for those that helped with school deliveries and also to those generous souls that made financial contributions. We couldn't be more grateful for the community effort that made this ministry possible. Because of your kindness, these children and their families have witnessed the light of Christ in their world! Thank you, thank you!

This year's honoree is a little different from those in the past years. This person has never been nominated to serve on the Administrative Board, Trustees, Finance or Staff Parish Relations Committees. And believe it or not, she has never taught a Sunday School class on a regular basis. However, I expect this person has taught every Sunday School class here. So I guess you are asking what in the world did this person do for the Homecoming Committee to select her?

From the nursery to youth to adulthood, she continues to teach our children and adults. This is due to her obvious love of Jesus Christ and the love of her church. Always with a smile on her face, she has been there for our children. Whether it was Sunday School, UMYF, Elementary summer camp, Jr. & Sr. High groups, trips to the beach, Camp Tekoa, Vacation Bible School or any activity or event that involves her kids, she was always there to encourage them with her love. She has attended more weddings for her Mt. Zion kids than I believe Woody Washam has played for. She has also attended more showers, birthdays and graduations than most of us. But if it was something for one of her Mt. Zion kids, she was always there.

When she retired from Mt. Zion over 4 years ago, you would have thought she was done. No, not the case. She is still working just as hard. She is the lead person for the Adopt a College Kid Program and the Rise Against Hunger Project. You see her around the church helping with Bible School, the Veterans Lunch and helping with the serving line for the café at the Christmas Bazaar.

These are only a few things that she has done but most of all we are so thankful that she chose Mt. Zion as her church home and the Mt. Zion kids to share her love of Jesus Christ. If you ask any adult today that grew up at Mt. Zion what's one thing that you remember as a child growing up in this church, her name is one of the first mentioned and along with that name comes many stories about her and the friendships that grew from learning from her. It was my great honor to award the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award to Sherry Washam. Jan Horton on behalf of the Homecoming Committee (May 28)



REMINDER: Please send any articles you would like to have included in the next issue of the newsletter to the church by July 1.

**MT. ZION UMC UNAUDITED
FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

1/1/17 - 5/31/17

2017 General Fund Budget: \$1,331,720

Budget Gifts: \$ 420,150

THANK YOU!

Budget Expenses: \$ 411,160

General Fund Cash On Hand: \$159,240

Capital Fund Gifts Received: \$4,200

Capital Fund Expenses: \$3,458

Capital Fund Cash On Hand: \$12,044

Funds Received for Helping Hands
(Pastor's Discretionary Fund) \$ 1,617

Please contact Margaret Langston if you
have questions.



**2017 ALTAR
FLOWERS**

Would you like to honor someone dear, a special occasion or a group of people? Maybe you would like to remember a loved one in a very special way. Church Altar Flowers offer a way to express your love and gratitude. Flowers may be purchased for \$100.00 for two arrangements or \$50.00 for one. On your designated Sunday, you may take the flowers to someone of your choice after the 11:00 service. A special notation of your gift will be made in the bulletin. Please complete the form below and place it in the offering plate on Sunday or mail it to the church office. The church office will bill you for the flowers requested. We want to continue placing live flowers in the Sanctuary for worship, but need your help. Thank you for using this as a way to honor or remember someone special.

Your Name _____

Phone # _____

Date(s) Requested _____

Number of arrangements (1 or 2) ____

Wording for bulletin:

The dates available are:

June 11 September 3 (1 set)

July 2 September 17

July 9 (1 set) October 1 (1 set)

July 23 (1 set) October 22 (1 set)

July 30 (1 set) October 29 (1 set)

August 6 (1 set) November 5

August 13 November 12

August 20 (1 set) December 3

December 17

MAY 2017 ATTENDANCE:

May 7: 8:30: 108; 9:45: 83; 11:
189

= 380

May 14: 8:30: 103; 9:45: 128; 11:
204 = 435

May 21: 8:30: 94; 9:45: 105; 11:
210 = 409

May 28: 8:30: 75; 9:45: 106; 11:
223 = 404

Staff

Senior Pastor: Dr. Mary John Dye

mdye@mtzionumc.net

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jsimpson@mtzionumc.net

Rev. Tony Moreau

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Custodian:

Donnelly Sherrill (pt security)

Preschool Director: Maya Duncan

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Youth House: 704-892-7825

Sonshine Preschool: 704-892-0654

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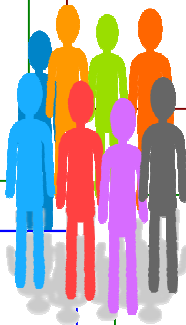
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"MAKING, MATURING, MOBILIZING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST"

MEN OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME to attend a weekly **MEN'S COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST** now meeting on Wednesdays, 7 am at Bethel Presbyterian Church: 19920 Bethel Church Road, Cornelius, NC 28031. Breakfast will be provided.

MOMS – Mothers Offering Mutual Support meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the church Parlor at 7:00 pm. Young moms from pregnancy through preschool age children are welcome.



All women of the church and community are invited to join the **WOMEN OF ZION** on the first Tuesday of each month (location to be determined). We meet at 7:00 pm for fellowship and a devotional program. Please contact us at mzwoz1@gmail.com if you have questions or need more information. We look forward to seeing you the first Tuesday of each month! To receive meeting reminders, text the message @womenofz to 81010.

NEW BEGINNINGS meets the **3rd Monday of each month** at Duckworth's in Cornelius at 11:45 am. We currently have 92 members of widows and widowers.

We bowl, go to movies, take tours and just have friendship with others that have lost a spouse.

We have something going on all the time!

Contacts: Barbara Broadway:
 email: bbroadway47@gmail.com 704-996-7000 or Shirley Ranson:
 email: Shirley@ransonteam.com 704-904-0973

YOU ARE INVITED...DRESS A GIRL MEETS THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH in the youth room at 6:30.

Everyone is welcome!! We will teach. **No experience necessary.** Bringing your own sewing machine is welcome, but not necessary. Also, we are seeking missionaries to take our dresses around the world. You may contact Robin Lambert for information. rllambert96@gmail.com.



The ladies of the **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** invite you to join them on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 to knit/crochet prayer shawls and baby blankets. No matter what your skill level may be, there is a place for you. If you are interested in learning how to knit, they can help with that, as well. (Yarn is provided.) They meet in the church Parlor (located on the upper level of the Family Life Center) and hope to see you soon!