



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

July 2018, Volume XX Issue 7

WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY AT 8:30, 9:45 AND 11:00 AM

**"Making, Maturing,  
Mobilizing Disciples  
for Christ"**

Rev. Dr. Angela Marlowe and Rev. Jonathan Marlowe: Co-Senior Pastors  
Rev. Tony Moreau: Associate Pastor

- Church Office 704-892-8566
  - Fax 704-892-3143
- Youth House 704-892-7825
- Sonshine Preschool 704-892-0654
  - [www.mtzionumc.net](http://www.mtzionumc.net)

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A River Runs Through It - Jonathan's Journals

Well, I suppose the most interesting thing I could say about myself is that I am baptized. On a Spring morning in 1969, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Charleston, SC, someone took me in his arms, sprinkled water on my head, invoked the holy and blessed name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and claimed my life for the living God. Of course, I had no idea what was happening to me at the time. But that doesn't really matter. God did.

I didn't know how those baptismal promises would be fulfilled in my life. One day, I would understand that my Father was a United Methodist pastor, and my Mother was an English teacher (later a school librarian). I didn't know how their baptismal promises would shape me as a Christian, growing up with a love for God and the church, and also a love of books and learning. I didn't know how the congregations that formed me growing up in South Carolina would love, nurture, and shape me, but they did. The seeds of it were all right there, right there in my baptism.



Recent photo from our daughter Elizabeth's wedding.  
Her husband is John, and we claim him, too!

I didn't know how God was leading me when I went to college at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. I didn't know how (as a freshman going into the Wesley Fellowship group on the day that I moved in) I would meet a vivacious, intelligent, beautiful young woman named Angela, who is now one of your pastors. I didn't know that during the summer of 1990 I would go to Grand Rapids, MI and work at the United Methodist Community House with inner city kids. I didn't know that during that summer I would feel an unmistakable call to ordained ministry, which I had been ignoring because I didn't want to be too much like my Dad. I didn't know that my baptism would be unfolding in all these ways, but God did.

I didn't know that I would fall head-over-heels for that young woman named Angela, and that one day she would become the Associate Pastor at some church called Mt. Zion. I was so crazy about her that (even as a student at Duke Divinity School) I followed her on weekends to the town of Cornelius, and married her in that church. A couple of years later, we would have our first child (Elizabeth) baptized in that church. I didn't know that the God who had claimed me in my baptism was preparing me for a moment like July 8, 2018, the first Sunday I walk humbly into that church as one of its pastors.

I didn't know that after we were married, God would keep on working on me for the next 25 years in various churches. Angela and I would have one other child (Rachel), and we would do our best to balance being parents and pastors, but most of all children of God. I didn't know how gracious God would be to me, allowing me to be a pastor to such kind and loving people over the years, including most recently two churches (one African-American and one white), who taught me that racial reconciliation and cooperation were possible, and indeed they were part of the baptismal call of God all along. No, I didn't know that God's baptismal plan for me would unfold in this way.

But here's one thing I do know: if you've been baptized at any age, then God has claimed your life, too. I would love to hear the stories of how the waters of baptism have been running through your life. May we together discover and celebrate the adventure of having our sins drowned in the water, and being raised into new life in Jesus Christ.

Peace

Jonathan

# MT. ZION FAMILY CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS!

## WELCOME

Sunday, July 22nd (following the 11 AM Service)

From Staff Parish Relations Committee

Please join us in welcoming our new Co-Senior Pastors,

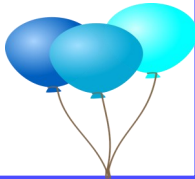
Rev. Dr. Angela Marlowe and Rev. Jonathan Marlowe

Light Refreshments will be served.



### June Birth

Arie Alan Moceri was born on June 8, 2018. Arie is the son of Andrew and Tiffany Moceri and the brother of Oliver and Quinn.



CONGRATULATIONS!



THE SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION IS EXTENDED TO the family of Doris Lundy on her death on June 7th and Larry Peretti and family on the passing of his wife, Anne Peretti, on June 9th.

### **SPECIAL GIFTS WERE GIVEN...IN MEMORY OF**

Nancy Little a gift was given to the cemetery fund. **IN MEMORY OF** Anne Peretti a gift was given to the budget.

Dear friends,

I want to thank everyone who helped in moving me. I am so grateful. I pray this will be the last move for a long time. I know all of you were busy and had a lot to do but again I thank each and every one of you.

Your friend in Christ,  
Judy Aho

Dear Mt. Zion United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your generous donations to help us serve in community and bring clean water to people in need! With your support, we are hopeful that we might be able to end the Global Water Crisis and provide a future for more kids like Notamin Kristin.

Recently, Wine to Water volunteers met Notamin Kristin at her school, Peace & Joy, in Uganda. Notamin said, "I and my brother got cholera after drinking dirty water. Before we had stomach aches and every where was painning me because of the dirty water. Ever since we got jerry cans that have filters we have safe water and we cannot get diseases."

Notamin and her brother's life has changed because of the generosity of supporters like you. Collectively, we can make a difference, and provide a brighter future for more children around the world. Together we can find purpose through the gift of clean water, and we are so grateful for your contribution.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to bring clean water to those in need.

Thank you,  
Wine to Water



# HAPPENINGS AROUND MOUNT ZION

## ADULT TRAVEL MINISTRIES

Here are two photos of the recent OD Travelers on their trip to Sims Barbecue in Granite Falls, NC. We had a wonderful meal followed by an excellent band along with clogging entertainment. We really had a lot of fun square dancing and line dancing to the band's music. A great evening out!



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

**Mt. Zion will be participating in the Lake Norman Faith Coalition home build again this year.**

We only have 3 Saturdays to work this year and we only need a few folks each day.

Project location: 310 Clover Street, Mooresville

Workday Schedule: 7:45 to 1: 00 PM

7/28 Sheath Roof, Attic, Deck, Blue Board 7 volunteers needed

9/8 Flooring - Laminate 6 volunteers needed

9/29 Interior Hardware 5 volunteers needed

**If interested please contact Rick Carter at:**

**[CCarter502@aol.com](mailto:CCarter502@aol.com), Home 704-948-1642, Cell 704-770-6145**

Youth Volunteers – Construction – Age Guidelines-Ages 12-13 – landscaping (must be accompanied by an adult), Ages 14-15 cleaning, painting, landscaping and installing soil-retention fencing (accompanied by an adult only). Ages 16-17: most construction tasks, climbing ladders or operating power tools. Ages 18+ all construction tasks

How to register as a volunteer... Please visit our website [www.ourtownshabitat.org](http://www.ourtownshabitat.org) and at top of page select volunteer. On volunteer page select sign up today (Volunteer Up).

**The senior campus committee met early in June and will not meet in July due to the holiday. The committee is always aware that the need may arise for a called meeting. We continue to make progress with the developer. We stand by our commitment to share information with you as soon as the information is solid. Be in prayer as we continue to move forward.**

**Thank you**

**Sr. Campus Committee**



## JUNE 24TH SERVICE AT MT. ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Reminiscent of a tent revival, hundreds gathered on the front lawn of Mt. Zion on June 24th for a Spirit filled "UNITED" 10 AM worship led by the laity. A wide variety of music from children, youth and adults lifted joyful praise to the Lord for the blessings that He has poured out on our church and community. The wonderful message, delivered by Shawna Sherrill, centered on Christ's love for us and His command that we love one another, even as He has loved us. She reminded us that it is through this expression of love for one another that we "re-member" as the body of Christ, we forgive one another, and we grow as the body of Christ.



We would like to thank all of those who helped plan and serve at this special event, and a big thank-you to the prayerful generosity of so many who donated the cost of the tent, the bounce houses, the fried chicken, the snow cone truck, games and all the wonderful drinks, side dishes and waters. This event could not have been this successful nor special without everyone's prayers and generosity.

While this special 10 AM service on the front lawn had a Homecoming-like feel to it, please be reminded that we will still hold Homecoming this Fall. Stay tuned for more details!

Thank you!

The Growth & Vitality Team





## MUSIC NOTES FROM SHELLEY:

### 5th Sunday Night Sing-Spiration on July 29th here at Mount Zion UMC!

Mount Zion will be hosting this month's Sing-Spiration @ 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary on July 29th. First Baptist of Cornelius, Union Bethel AME Zion and Bethel Presbyterian will be joining us for this event. PLEASE mark your calendars to attend. It will be a service of singing, as each church will present two anthems, and we will also sing a few congregational hymns. Following the sharing of music, we will move to the Family Life Center to get acquainted with some of our community folks and share in a short reception. If you attend and are willing, please bring a finger food dish (sweet or salty) to share during the reception. This is a wonderful way to fellowship with our area churches, and we plan to rotate churches in hosting the event every 5th Sunday. Different churches will be involved each time, and we hope to reach as many churches as possible during the upcoming months.

Thank you all for supporting our music ministry!

### CHANCEL CHOIR REMINDER:

No Thursday evening rehearsals, but we **ARE** singing on Sundays in the loft. Anyone who is interested in singing with us this summer is very welcome to join us in the choir room on Sunday mornings at 10:40 a.m. to rehearse the Introit and Anthem for the 11:00 service. We will not be wearing robes again until mid-August.

So, if you are curious about singing in the Adult Choir, now is the time to give us a try! We are called to **"Make a Joyful Noise!"**



### TESTIFY YOUTH CHOIR



Testify Youth Choir just returned from their mission trip in Louisville, Kentucky. While there, they performed and participated in hands-on-ministry as they served in boys and girls clubs, churches, communities in need and with Celebrate Recovery! These kids were the hands and feet of Christ as they loved on and spread the word of God's love through music and service to all they came in contact with.



### APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT (ASP)

Mt. Zion Youth and Adult Leaders had a fantastic week on ASP in Nicholas County, West Virginia. We had three groups at three different houses. Group one removed existing underpinning, framed and installed new skirting around most of the home. Group two worked on replacing the subfloor for a bathroom and installed new flooring.

Group three also worked on replacing bathroom subfloor as well as working on plumbing and removing old insulation so that it can be replaced in the future. We are very proud of the dedication and hard work our youth put into the week of work they had in front of them.



On a side note, Mt. Zion was recognized by Appalachia Service Project for 30 years of Service.

**Vacation Bible School: July 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Please register participants and volunteers at:**

**[vbspro.events/p/mtzionvbs2018](http://vbspro.events/p/mtzionvbs2018)**

#### CHILDRENS CORNER



The first Mid Week at the Mt. in June was a lot of fun!

Thanks to all that came and helped with it!



Music and Art Camp with Ms. Shelley was so much FUN!!



**VBS Decorating and Clean Up Help Needed:** VBS is in need of help decorating on Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am and Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm in the FLC. We will need help with clean up the morning of Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup> in the FLC. Please email Stacey Mercuri if you are able to assist at [smercuri@mtzionumc.net](mailto:smercuri@mtzionumc.net).

**Mid Week at the Mt.:** July 25<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Ages 3 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Please register at: [vbspro.events/p/midweek2](http://vbspro.events/p/midweek2)

**M.O.M.S. Meeting (Mothers Offering Mutual Support) will take place on Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> in the Parlor at 7:00 PM. All moms are invited!**

The staff and children at Sonshine Preschool are excited Pastor Jonathan and Pastor Angela are here!! WE look forward to loving on them!

“Jesus said, Let the little children come to Me, for to such belongs the kingdom of Heaven.”



**FUEL**

#### Summer Outings

**July 18– Pelican’s Snowcone Outing. Meet at church at 7 PM.**

**August 1st– Gathering at Robbins Park– 6 to 8 PM. Kickball, ultimate Frisbee and hang out time.**

**Hope you can join Us!**

#### July Gathering:

**Ice Cream Social on Front Lawn**

**July 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM**

Please join us for fun and fellowship for all ages as we celebrate Mt. Zion!

These awesome events are sponsored by the Nurture Committee.

# The Gathering

*Fun, food and fellowship for all ages!*

**Matthew 18:20**  
*For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.*

**June 20<sup>th</sup> - Movie Night**  
**July 25<sup>th</sup> - Ice Cream Social**  
**August 15<sup>th</sup> - Game Night**  
**September 23<sup>rd</sup> - Homecoming**  
**“Celebrate Mt. Zion”**



MT. ZION UMC UNAUDITED

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

01/01/2018-6/30/2018

2018 General Fund Budget: \$1,262,630

Budget Gifts: \$483,979

THANK YOU!

Budget Expenses: \$529,853

General Fund Cash on Hand: \$114,295

Capital Fund Gifts Received: \$3,109

Capital Fund Expenses: \$0

Capital Funds Cash on Hand: \$18,762

Funds Received for Helping Hands  
(Pastor's Discretionary Fund) \$2,069

Please contact Patti Loner if you have  
questions.

Please note: These figures are based on  
funds received at time of publication. The  
monthly Treasurer's Report may be differ-  
ent due to funds postmarked by the end  
of the month but not received until after  
publication.

Church Phone: 704-892-8566

Fax: 704-892-3143

Youth House: 704-892-7825

Sonshine Preschool: 704-892-0654

Reminder:

Please send any articles you would like  
to have included in the newsletter to  
the church by August

1st. They may be  
emailed to  
kfellows@mtzionumc.net



JUNE 2018 ATTENDANCE

June 3: 8:30: 104; 9:45: 65;  
11:00: 122= 291

June 10: 8:30: 86; 9:45: 106;  
11:00: 174= 366

June 17: 8:30: 141; 9:45: 84;  
11:00: 156 = 381

June 24 = One 10 am service= 292



2018 ALTAR FLOWERS - Would you like to honor  
someone dear, a special occasion or a group of peo-  
ple? 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. 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 re-  
member someone special.

Dates available: 2 arrangements are available unless noted otherwise.

July 29 August 5 September 2—1 set September 16-1 set

September 23 October 7-1 set October 14-1set November 4

November 11-1set December 16 December 23 December 30

Your Name\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #\_\_\_\_\_Date(s) Requested\_\_\_\_\_

Number of arrangements (1 or 2)

Wording for bulletin\_\_\_\_\_

Staff

Co-Senior Pastors:

Rev. Dr. Angela Marlowe  
amarlowe@mtzionumc.net  
Rev. Jonathan Marlowe  
jmarlowe@mtzionumc.net

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Tony Moreau  
tmoreau@mtzionumc.net

Director of Music Ministries:

Shelley Little  
slittle@mtzionumc.net

Assistant Director of Music Ministries:

Melanie Kalkan  
mkalkan@mtzionumc.net

Director of Christian Education:

Ashley Sherman  
asherman@mtzionumc.net

Associate Director Christian Education:

Stacey Mercuri  
smmercuri@mtzionumc.net

Interim Director of Youth:

Conor Mooney  
cmooney@mtzionumc.net

Financial Officer/ Office Manager:

Patti Loner  
ploner@mtzionumc.net

Communications:

Kelly Fellows  
kfellows@mtzionumc.net

Administrative Assistant:

Mary Ellen Westmoreland  
mwestmoreland@mtzionumc.net

Part Time Assistant:

Ginny Wilkins  
gwilkins@mtzionumc.net

Preschool Director:

Patti Goforth  
sonshinepre@mtzionumc.net

Non-Profit Org.

US Postage

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Cornelius, NC



We're On The Web!  
[www.mtzionumc.net](http://www.mtzionumc.net)

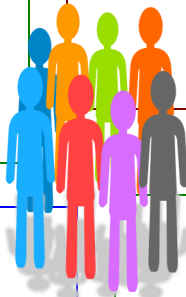
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 Sonshine Preschool: 704-892-0654  
 Fax: 704-892-3143  
 E-mail: [ploner@mtzionumc.net](mailto:ploner@mtzionumc.net)

***"MAKING, MATURING, MOBILIZING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST"***

**MEN OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME** to attend a **MEN'S COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST** now meeting on every other Wednesday, 7 am at Bethel Presbyterian Church: 19920 Bethel Church Road, Cornelius, NC 28031. Breakfast will be provided. Dates for July are July 11th and July 25th.

**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** small group! Our group meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Galway Hooker Restaurant in Cornelius. We meet at 7:00 pm for fellowship and a devotional program. Please contact us at [mzwoz1@gmail.com](mailto:mzwoz1@gmail.com) if you would like more information and to get the monthly meeting reminders. We look forward to seeing you the first Tuesday of each month!

**NEW BEGINNINGS...** 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! **TO RECEIVE OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Barbara Broadway: email: [bbroadway47@gmail.com](mailto:bbroadway47@gmail.com) 704-996-7000 or  
 Shirley Ranson:  
 email: [Shirley@ransonteam.com](mailto:Shirley@ransonteam.com) 704-904-0973

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!