



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

May 2017 Volume XIX Issue 5

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
 - www.mtzionumc.net
- <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/84673593>

The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church requires that every pastor be appointed for one year at a time. The Western North Carolina Cabinet has reappointed Dr. Mary John Dye, Rev. Tony Moreau and Rev. Joel Simpson to serve our congregation here at Mt. Zion for another year effective July 1st, 2017.

Mt. Zion UMC Staff Parish Relations Committee

To the saints of Christ at Mt. Zion,

There is so much to celebrate about Mt. Zion's 190 year heritage! At the end of May, we will celebrate this anniversary year at Homecoming (May 28) with the Historian for the Western North Carolina Conference preaching at the 11:00 service. A special drama of Mt. Zion history will be featured in the 9:45 service, communion at 8:30 and dinner on the grounds after our worship services.

From what I know of the vision and the dedication that has been handed down through the years, those saints would be proud of the many ways that Mt. Zion makes a difference for Christ in the lives of people today. Our excellent music program, our engaging and creative children's ministries and Sonshine Preschool, our discipleship-oriented youth ministry, our in-depth confirmation classes, active Scouting program, Sunday School classes, Bible studies, mission outreach, fellowship, welcome and worship (3 Sunday services and Wednesday nights). Mt. Zion blesses the very youngest, the oldest and all those in between.

The scope of ministry is exactly what has fueled the longtime vision and need for new facilities. Even the newest attendees can see the challenges that long-time members deal with every time they come to church – the sprawled-out layout of the campus requiring lots of walking, the lack of accessibility and adequate, easy-to-find handicapped bathrooms, the need for education space, gathering space, safety issues as well as constant repairs necessary in the buildings we have..... The list of needs goes on and on.

Long before I was appointed to this church, the leaders of Mt. Zion came together under the leadership of my predecessor, Rev. Mike Bailey. These remarkable leaders were studying, planning, listening, dreaming, praying and researching the increasingly critical needs of the church. Through my years here, it has been an inspiration to watch their diligent, careful work. They set principles and stuck to them. They carefully investigated every conceivable option for costs, benefits and impact on church life. They secured architects and gathered people from all areas of church life to talk about the needs, the dreams and the limitations they deal with. The plan the Building Committee is now offering is the fruit of years of work. It is a plan that will benefit literally every aspect of life at Mt. Zion. Because there is a wide variety of important and pressing needs, new facilities will also require everyone's support.

Please begin now with prayer. Pray with thanks for all the faithfulness that makes this church what it is. Pray for all the ministries that press our need for new facilities. Pray for every step of the decision-making ahead. Pray for God to speak to you about your part in making the dream a reality.

What a thrilling time in the history of Mt. Zion. Someday, people will be looking back on the history we are making. I am grateful to be part of such vision and dedication, *Mary John*



On Wednesday, May 3 there will be a **night of music and prayer in the Sanctuary from 7:00-7:30 pm**. Other nights of music and prayer will be **June 7, July 5, and August 2**. For more information check the website or contact Pastor Joel at jsimpson@mtzionumc.net or 704-892-8566.



3rd Sunday Food & Fellowship will meet on May 21st at Mac's Speed Shop in Cornelius at 19601 Liverpool Parkway. We will meet after the 11:00 service between 12:15-12:30. Hope to see you there. It's a good way to meet fellow church members. The group is listed under Mt. Zion UMC (and Molly Merrell).



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MT. ZION FAMILY CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS!



April Birth: Liam Michael Hartshorne was born April 18. He is the son of Mike & Andrea Hartshorne and the brother of Emersyn.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

JOINING IN APRIL...

(Pictures not available)

Angie Gibson 18822 Peninsula Cove Lane Cornelius 28031 704-614-7382

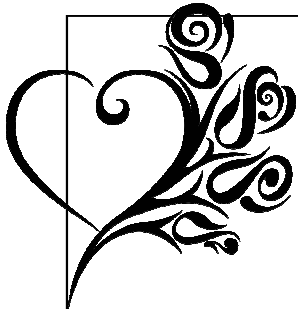
Arnie & Debbie Corriher 14332 Laurel Tree Lane Huntersville 28078

THE SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION IS EXTENDED TO

Lacey Goforth and family on the death of his wife, Shirley Goforth, on April 10, to Bobbie Brown and family on the death of her husband, W.C. Brown, on April 18, to Yvonne Hauser and family on the death of her mother, Anne Cutler, on April 21, to Sharon Washam and family on the death of her father, Bobby Hobson, on April 22, to Faye Cavin and family on the death of her brother, Greg Kiser, on April 23 and to Denise Sennett and family on the death of her husband, Kevin Sennett on May 1.



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, Marge McConnell, Stephen McMakin, Martha Miller, Sandy Moore, Nancy Neal, Lisa Oxidine, Brian Polly, Phyllis Sherrill, Alina Sossamon, Wes Southern, Elizabeth Westmoreland, Rodney Whisnant, Todd Wissinger



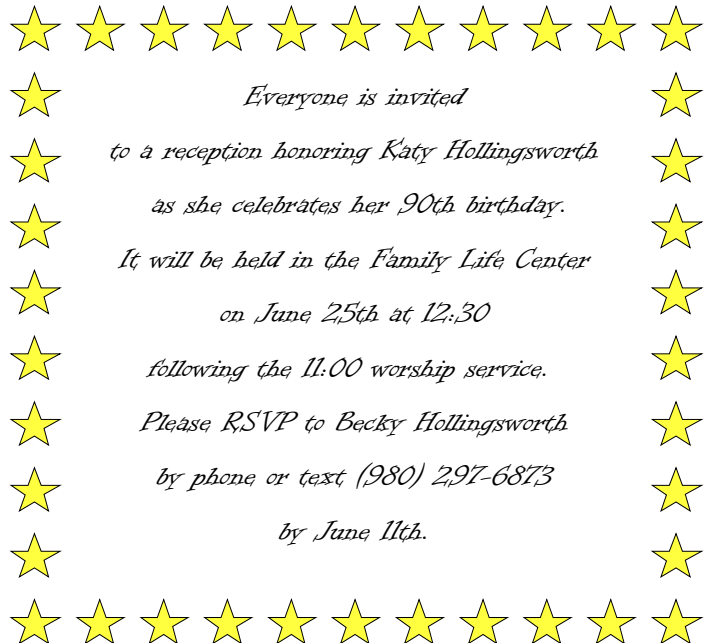
SPECIAL GIFTS WERE GIVEN... IN HONOR OF

Shelley Little, a gift was given to the Music Fund;

...**IN MEMORY OF** Will Young, gifts were given to the Budget and a gift was given to the Music Fund;

IN MEMORY OF Shirley

Goforth, gifts were given to the Budget; **IN MEMORY OF** Mabel H. Washam, a gift was given to the Budget; **IN MEMORY OF** W.C. Brown, gifts were given to the Budget; **IN MEMORY OF** Pat Little, a gift was given to ASP (Appalachia Service Project); **IN MEMORY OF** Rev. Phil Gibbs, a gift was given to ASP (Appalachia Service Project).



Children's Ministry News

Vacation Bible School



REGISTER online at <https://vbspro.events/p/2ec128>

June 12th - June 15th

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Ages: 3 years-old (must be 3 by 5/31/17) through Rising 5th Graders

*Register children participants and volunteers at the same link above. Volunteers are needed for Crew Leaders & Assistants, Station Leaders, Shepherds, Decoration Team, Welcome Committee (1st two nights only), Snack Team, and Youth Helpers. Each volunteer will receive a Maker Fun Factory Staff T-Shirt! Dinner will be served for Volunteers and their family each night at 6 pm!



- A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the **Community Easter Egg Hunt** a great success!!!!
- **May 24th** Sonshine Preschool Graduation
- **June 19 - June 23** **Elementary & Preschool Music and Arts Camp** <https://vbspro.events/p/events/d66767>
- **August 18th** **Summer Sleepover**

GUATEMALA 2018 Youth Mission Trip INTEREST MEETING

Sunday, May 21st at 3:30 pm in the Youth Room (classroom 4 of the Family Life Center) we will have our interest meeting to share about our hopes to serve in Guatemala in the summer of 2018. This trip will be for high school students, but we will also take some college students and adults as leaders. This will be a work mission trip. It will be hot and we will be working long days for 1 week. Trip costs will depend on the amount of money we can raise between now and then. If this peaks your interest enough, please come join us for the meeting. Or if you have other questions, please contact **Matt Sherrill** at 704-892-7825 or email msherrill@mtzionumc.net



From the Music Director:

BABYGARTEN is gearing up again! This is a wonderful educational curriculum for caregivers and their newborns to 2 year olds to interact through music, rhymes, reading, developmental activities and free play. The class is offered twice a week at no charge, on Wednesdays and Saturdays @ 10:00 a.m. upstairs in the Education Building, and this next session will begin on Wednesday, May 17th. Please email Shelley for registration, and include which day you prefer (Wednesday or Saturday). slittle@mtzionumc.net

SINGERS NEEDED! Are you interested in joining the Adult Choir or the Praise Team? Shelley and Melanie are on the hunt for new members to help lead music in the worship services. Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings @ 7:00 for both groups. The Praise Team meets in the Family Life Center, and the Chancel Choir meets downstairs in the Sanctuary Building. Contact Shelley (slittle@mtzionumc.net) or Melanie (melaniekalkan@mgd.k12.nc.us) for more information, and come find your place in a choir!

A CELEBRATION OF MT. ZION – HOMECOMING - MAY 28 - Please join the entire church as we celebrate Mt. Zion's **past, present and future** during the 190th Homecoming Anniversary. At the 11 am service, the colorful Kirk'n of the Tartans will be featured. Presentation of the annual Towel & Basin Award (forms available) and the Lifetime Achievement will also take place. All members are encouraged to pack a picnic basket and gather together as a congregation at noon on the front lawn for a family dinner on the grounds and activities. All paper products, utensils, ice and drinks will be provided. There is something for everyone. There will be a History Tent where you can learn about both the church and community's historic past. This is a special time for all of our membership to join together to reflect on the **past**, celebrate the **present** with friends and family, and plan for our **future**. Please join us for fun, food, and fellowship whether you have been a member all of your life or have joined Mt. Zion in 2017!



SEND A KID TO CAMP: Last year, Mt. Zion was contacted by the Davidson United Methodist Church to assist with their efforts to provide the opportunity for low income children to attend summer day camp at the Lake Norman YMCA. Through that partnership, we were able to help 33 children attend camp, free of charge. This year, the Y is hoping to offer scholarships to 45 children who have applied for this program. The value of camp

goes far beyond swimming in Lake Norman each day (which is AWESOME!). It provides safe child care for parents who may have to choose between leaving their kid alone during the day while they work, or quitting their job. It provides a guaranteed lunch, which may not be guaranteed when they aren't in school. Finally, it provides a sense of inclusion for the children, who just want to be kids! If you would like to help "Send a Kid to Camp", please feel free to donate through the church with "Send a Kid to Camp" in the memo line. Thank you, Christa Johnson, Outreach Committee



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

**MT. ZION UMC UNAUDITED
FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

1/1/17 - 4/30/17

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

Budget Gifts: \$ 332,327

THANK YOU!

Budget Expenses: \$ 323,560

General Fund Cash On Hand: \$158,516

Capital Fund Gifts Received: \$3,620

Capital Fund Expenses: \$0

Capital Fund Cash On Hand: \$14,922

Funds Received for Helping Hands
(Pastor's Discretionary Fund) \$ 1,513

Please contact Margaret Langston if you
have questions.

APRIL 2017 ATTENDANCE:

April 2: 8:30: 109; 9:45: 95; 11: 231
= 435

April 5: 42

April 9: 8:30: 115 9:45: 113; 11: 235
= 463

April 13: 77

April 14: 79

April 16: 7: 135; 8:30: 272; 9:45:
172; 11: 342 = 921

April 23: 8:30: 109; 9:45: 88; 11: 193
= 390

April 30: 8:30: 100; 9:45: 105; 11:
167 = 372



**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:

May 7 (1 set) September 3 (1 set)

May 28 September 17

June 11 October 1 (1 set)

July 2 October 22 (1 set)

July 23 (1 set) October 29 (1 set)

July 30 November 5

August 6 November 12

August 13 December 3

August 20 (1 set) December 17

December 24

Staff

Senior Pastor: Dr. Mary John Dye

mdye@mtzionumc.net

Associate Pastors:

Rev. Joel Simpson

jsimpson@mtzionumc.net

Rev. Tony Moreau

tmoreau@mtzionumc.net

Director of Music Ministries:

Shelley Little

slittle@mtzionumc.net

Assistant Director

Melanie Kalkan

mkalkan@mtzionumc.net

Director of Christian Education:

Crystal Parrish

cparrish@mtzionumc.net

Associate Director Christian Ed

Kim Webb

kwebb@mtzionumc.net

Director of Youth: Matt Sherrill

msherrill@mtzionumc.net

Office Manager/Treasurer:

Margaret Langston

mlangston@mtzionumc.net

Administrative Assistant:

Mary Ellen Westmoreland

mwestmoreland@mtzionumc.net

Part Time Assistant: Ginny Wilkins

gwilkins@mtzionumc.net

Custodian:

Donnelly Sherrill (pt security)

Preschool Director: Becky Metzger

sonshinepre@bellsouth.net

Church Phone: 704-892-8566

Fax: 704-892-3143

Youth House: 704-892-7825

Sonshine Preschool: 704-892-0654

Non-Profit Org.

US Postage

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Cornelius, NC



We're On The Web!
www.mtzionumc.net

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 Cornelius, North Carolina 28031

Tel: 704-892-8566
 Youth House: 704-892-7825
 Sonshine Preschool: 704-892-0654
 Fax: 704-892-3143
 E-mail: mlangston@mtzionumc.net

"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!