

IN TOUCH...

May 2019 , Volume XXI Issue 5 "Making, Maturing, Mobilizing Disciples

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

The Newsletter of the Mt. Zion Family

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

• Church Office 704-892-8566

for Christ"

- Fax 704-892-3143
- Youth House 704-892-7825
- Sonshine Preschool 704-892-0654
- https://www.ustream.tv/recorded/119563661

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Dear Mt. Zion Family,

Thank you for allowing me to serve you these past four years.

Soon after I learned I was being appointed to Mt. Zion, I began to pray. The first request I had was that God would give me a deep love, for you the people called Mt. Zion. God grants prayers that are in line with Christ's ministry and I was blessed with a deep and abiding love for you. You have honored me by allowing me to participate in some of the most important moments in your lives. Births, baptisms and confirmations, as well as weddings, hospitalizations, and the funerals of your loved ones. You invited me into your homes, we have drank coffee, and we have enjoyed meals together. We have laughed, cried and praised God. Along the way it is my hope that I have been a reflection of Christ to you, that my teaching has reached your heart and that my ministry amongst and beside you has been meaningful.



But there is an end to everything, to good things as well, and the time is drawing near for me to say farewell. Beginning in July I will be appointed to serve the people of Asbury United Methodist Church in Huntersville. I ask that you begin praying for me, my family, and the people of Asbury as we make this transition.

One of my mentors refers to the time that clergy serve churches as seasons. "We are called to serve for a season," is a common reminder. As a Methodist pastor I have committed to the itinerancy, to going where God calls and the bishop and his cabinet sends. Please know that I was not without say in this move. After conversations with Staff Parish members, our incredible Senior Pastors, and our District Superintendent, I felt that God was calling me elsewhere. Friends, please know that the SPRC and the Marlowe's were open to my continuing to serve here. I asked to be considered for a new appointment.

The past year has been wonderful. Jonathan and Angela have been great to serve alongside. They welcomed my input and encouraged me to make full use of my gifts in ministry. Most importantly, they have fallen in love with you. As I prepare to walk beside the people of Asbury, I leave knowing that you have two amazing Christian leaders serving as your Senior Pastors. I have no doubt that God has also prepared a great person to come alongside of you as the associate pastor of this amazing church. I also am excited for Rev. Lauren Hill as she gets to experience your amazing love and you get to benefit from her amazing Spiritual Gifts.

My final Sunday with you will be June 16th and I will have the great privilege of sharing the message with you on that day. The following Sunday, Angela, Jonathan and I will be away at Annual Conference, and the following Sunday I will be in Yellowstone National Park with my family.

My beloved, thank you for all you have meant to Erin, Alex, Zach, and myself the past four years. We will always love you and hold you fondly in our hearts. 'May the Lord bless and protect you; may the Lord's face radiate with joy because of you; may he be gracious to you, show you his favor, and give you his peace.'

In Christ, Rev. Tony Moreau

UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES

May 12 - Mother's Day

The Children will present their spring musical - "Who, What, When, Where, Why" as part of the 11 am worship service.

June 2 - Graduate Recognition Sunday - 9:45 am and 11 am worship services.

June 9 - Testify & Confirmation Sunday

9:45 am - Testify will present their Spring Concert as part of worship.

11 am - Confirmation Sunday

ANNOUNCING

Mt. Zion's new associate pastor, as of July 1, will be Rev. Lauren Hill. Pastor Lauren has been pastor of New Union United Methodist Church in Asheboro, NC since 2014. She is a 2006 graduate of Pfeiffer University, and a 2009 graduate of Hood Theological Seminary. Pastor Lauren is an elder in full connection in the Western NC Conference of the United Methodist Church. We are excited to have Pastor Lauren join our church staff. Her gifts and passion for ministry will be a great asset for our staff and church community.





SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AT MOUNT ZION

We invite you to enrich your Christian education, spiritual journey, and friendships through active participation in a Mt. Zion Sunday School class. A wide variety of groups gather to learn, grow, and even gather outside of Sunday mornings for social and service events. Invest in a Sunday morning class and discover Christian community that can bring lifelong relationships.

Meet from 9:45 to 10:40 AM on the 2nd Floor of the Education Building (located behind the Sanctuary Building)

- * F.W. KIKER CLASS (Rm # 203) Women's class of 70-90+ ages. Bible Study using Methodist Quarterly. Set teachers lecture and discussion.
- * DON BRIDGER CLASS (Rm # 204) 40-80+ ages, singles/ couples. Bible Study using Methodist Quarterly. Set teachers lecture and discussion. (Large Classroom setting)
- * SONSEEKERS CLASS (Rm # 205) 30-50+ ages, singles/couples. Bible study and current issues. Members facilitate. Life & faith issues.
- * WOODY WASHAM, SR., FRIENDSHIP CLASS (Rm # 207) 40-60+ ages, singles/couples. Bible Study & current issues using various media. Members facilitate.
- * GEORGE KELLY CLASS (Rm # 208) 40-60+ ages. Bible Study using Methodist Quarterly. Set teacher rotation. (Small group setting)
- JOURNEY CLASS (Room 209) 20's to 40's ages, singles & couples. Bible study & topical studies. Members facilitate. Discussion format.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS (FUEL)



UPCOMING DATES

May 5 - NO FUEL Confirmation Retreat Weekend

May 12 - NO FUEL Mother's Day

<u>May 19</u> - BIGGER OR BETTER <u>4:30 - 7:30 PM</u>

Bigger or Better is a team building activity in which teams compete by trading ordinary objects. The winner is the team that ends up with the biggest and best items when the time expires. Join us as we exchange things with all kinds of people in our quest to discover something BIGGER or BETTER!

<u>May 26</u> - NO FUEL Memorial Day Weekend

GOD BLESS! HOWARD



A GLORIOUS EASTER SEASON





CHILDREN'S CORNER



Children's Ministries May Announcements



The Early 2019 Sessions of Kids Club @ the Mount/Music with Ms. Shelley had a lot of fun learning Bible Stories, Lent Lessons, and practicing for the Musical. "Who, What, When, Where and Why: Discovering a Relationship with Jesus" will be performed during the 11 o'clock service on Sunday, May 12th, Mother's Day. Kids Club and Music will start













The Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt was a blast! A big thank you to the Nurture Committee for providing lunch, the volunteers who helped set up, clean up and attend to the activities during the hunt, and the congregation that helped fill eggs and sent in

donations. There were a little over 1,600 eggs hid and found!



Vacation Bible School: Our VBS is next month! This very special event needs more volunteers to be another success. If you feel called to be a leader, assistant or help in any

way during the week of June $24^{th} - 27^{th}$ from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. please sign up at <u>vbspro.events/p/mtzvbs19</u>. Participants can be registered at the same link. If you have any questions, please contact Stacey Mercuri at 704-491-6585.

Summer Sunday School Opportunity: We are putting together a Summer Sunday School team for our Children's Ministry. If you have interest in helping assist with our children's Sunday School class **once** (or more!) over the summer please contact Stacey Mercuri at <u>smercuri@mtzionumc.net</u>.

Children's Ministry Council: We value your input and involvement with our very special ministry and would like to bring back the Children's Ministry Council. If you would like to be a part of this team that would help focus on the mission of making disciples of the children of our church and all children we reach in the broader community, while strengthening our own faith through our ministry, please contact the church office.

Current 4th – 6th Graders "Ignite" Sunday School Class: Beginning the first Sunday this May, there is a <u>NEW</u> Sunday School class starting for current 4th – 6th Graders on May 5th at 9:45 AM. They will meet in the Youth Room in the Family Life Center (FLC). "Ignite" will be a fresh, biblically based lesson that will examine and utilize the latest movies, music and current events from a Christian perspective. Once participants come to two Sundays, they will be given an "Ignite" T-Shirt.

M.O.M.S. (Moms Offering Mutual Support) Meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 21st at 7:00 PM at Duckworth's. **All** moms are invited!

Upcoming Dates:May 5th
May 8th
May 12th
May 21st
June 17th-20th
June 24th-27thCurrent 4th – 6th Grade "Ignite" Sunday School Class meets in Youth Room at 9:45 AM in FLC
Dress Rehearsal for the Musical at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary
Children's Musical during the 11 o'clock Service
MOMS Meeting 7:00 PM at Duckworth's Restaurant in Huntersville
Music & Art Camp (currently full but there is a waiting list)
Vacation Bible School 6-8 PM (Register at: vbspro.events/p/mtzvbs19)

MUSIC NEWS FROM SHELLEY

Happy Spring, Everyone!

We have a lot going on in the music department this month, so please mark your calendars: Ĵ

🕽 Mav 1st-June 1st are the dates for our next Babygarten session. We meet on Wednesday and Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM in room 201 of the Education Building. Babygarten caters to newborns thru two years of age, and the class includes socialization through singing, reading, occasional crafts, and play time. It is also a wonderful time for the parents/guardians to spend time together and get acquainted.

The children, who have been participating in the Wednesday night Mid-Week music rehearsals, will present the musical, "Who, What, When, Where, Why" during the 11:00 AM service on May 12th. Happy ממממ Mother's Day! We will have a DRESS REHEARSAL FOR THE MUSICAL ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 8th, IN THE SANCTUARY FROM 6:30 PM-7:00 PM.

The Hand Bells will ring for us during the 8:30 and 11:00 services on May 19th. This is such a dedicated Ď group of folks, and it has been a joy working with them. After they share with us on the 19th, we will not Ĵ meet for rehearsals again until the fall session starts.

Looking ahead: The Chancel Choir will sing through June 16th, which is Father's Day. Our rehearsals will resume on August 15th to start singing rehearsed anthems again for the congregation on August 2 18th. During the break from Thursday evening rehearsals, this is a wonderful opportunity for ANYONE Ĵ who would like to join us in the choir room @ 10:40 AM on Sunday mornings to quickly rehearse a Who would like to join us in the choir room @ 10:40 AM on Sunday mornings to quickly rehearse a VERY well known hymn, which we will sing during the service. WE WILL NOT WEAR ROBES during these two months. If you have no experience singing in a choir, but you enjoy music and like to sing, a consider coming to join us for the summer! Who knows? You may like it enough to continue singing with us and joining us officially in August!

T "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything" - Plato Blessings,

Shelley

SONSHINE PRESCHOOL NEWS

Thank you for making our Sonshine Preschool families and staff feel welcomed and loved on Preschool Sunday! We enjoyed worshipping with you!

Our Mission for May will be the Back Pack Ministry of Ada Jenkins. We hope to fill our red wagon with single serve breakfast items, canned meats, and rice/pasta/potatoes.

It's that time of year during preschool that is bittersweet. Our Four Year Old Graduation will be held Wednesday, May 22, 7:00pm, FLC. Come join the children as they sing and say good bye to their preschool years. It has been an honor and pleasure to watch these sweet children grow in God's love.



Sonshine Preschool is excited to have our first ever summer camp, "Under the Big Top", June 3 – 6! Children must have been 2, 3 or 4 by <u>August 31, 2018</u> to attend. Cost is \$130.00 for the week. We have a few spots left. If you know of someone who may be interested in sending their preschooler to summer camp, please have them contact the preschool office – (704)-892-0654 or sonshinepre@mtzionumc.net.

Sonshine Preschool is still growing. God is GREAT! We have a few spots available in our three year old classes for the 2019 – 2020 preschool year. If you know of anyone looking for a great preschool where young children play, learn and grow in God's love, please tell them to contact the preschool office.

Sonshine Preschool Preciousness:

After Spring Break, all the smiling children (and smiling parents) were coming in, one little boy was fist bumping all the children, turned and said I missed all my friends! Thank you God for sweet friends!

"God made the summer." Psalm 74:17 May Favorite Bible Words





God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27

HIS MINISTRY NEWS

Our programs in need of volunteers include:

 Each of our monthly Just As I Am programs is centered around a theme. We share a devotion, worship music, pizza and a dessert, crafts, games, dancing, and enjoy fellowship with each other. We are always looking for volunteers to lead (or participate in) all of these areas. Programs run September – April. Contact: <u>His@mtzionumc.net</u> *His* special needs ministry is complete for this season and we would like to thank all of the volunteers, supporters, and participants for making it <u>wonderful</u>! Soon, work will begin for our next year - September 2019 – April 2020. We welcome all volunteers - we need you now more than ever! Several of our "key" volunteers are leaving the area and we need person(s) to fill their shoes! This ministry is volunteer led and we hope you will prayerfully consider becoming a part of this fun-filled program. A simple e-mail with your contact information will allow us to contact you.

- Agape Sunday School always welcomes individuals with a heart for teaching or serving as a buddy. Sunday School is offered all year. Contact: <u>Smercuri@mtzionumc.net</u>.
- Our Winter Ball event can use whatever talent or gift you are willing to share! We need greeters, volunteers, escorts, food and beverage servers, florists, photographers, hairdressers, nail and make up experts, shoe shine experts, etc. and supplies for all of the above and more. This event involved over 200 individuals this year and it was a wonderful night for everyone! Contact: <u>His@mtzionumc.net</u>















ADULT TRAVEL MINISTRIES

The Oberammergau Passion Play, Switzerland and Bavarian Germany, August 7 - 15, 2020

Once every ten years, some 2,000 local residents of the little Bavarian village of Oberammergau join forces to perform the Passion Play, a dramatic re-creation of Jesus Christ's last days on Earth. First produced nearly four centuries ago, Germany's world-famous Passion Play has become a beloved highlight of every decade... and being there in person to see it unfold in 2020 will be an experience you'll remember for a lifetime! In addition, we will be visiting the Black Forest area of Germany and picturesque places and towns in the Swiss Alps on this 9 day trip which includes air and 13 meals. Cost is \$5,749 pp and deposit is \$750. Land only is \$3,999. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. For a full brochure or any questions, please contact Dora Dalmas at 704-737-4859 or at <u>dalmas2@mi-connection.com</u>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

9:45 Worship @ The Mount makes a difference in people's lives each Sunday. Join our volunteer Audio-Video team and be a part of the incredible work God is doing during our 9:45 worship service. We invite you to make use of your skills and talents at creating PowerPoint or Keynote presentations to reach our visual learners. Do you need to have some activity during worship? Then run our projection! We are looking to put together a team of people to rotate on Sundays during the month. Contact Pastor Tony if this sounds like a ministry you can get excited about. Call or text 828-447-8992 or email Tony at tmoreau@mtzionumc.net

GRADUATE SUNDAY

GRADUATION SUNDAY IS JUNE 2ND—You and your family are invited to Graduate Recognition Sunday at Mt. Zion UMC on June 2nd, 2019. During this time, we will recognize high school graduates - Class of 2019, and also college students from December 2018, or May 2019.

Graduates may attend either the 9:45 service in the Family Life Center or the 11:00 service in the Sanctuary and are encouraged to wear cap and gowns.

As a part of this celebration we would like to put together a bulletin with information about each graduate. We have designed a Google sheet that individuals can use to enter the information we need. Even if you are unable to attend a worship service on June 2nd, we would still like to include your name and information in the special bulletin. Please copy and open the file below and enter your information as soon as possible. The deadline for all information is May 15th.

https://tinyurl.com/yxm7qnt6

If you have any difficulties with the link or entering your information, please contact Kelly Fellows – <u>kfellows@mtzionumc.net.</u>

Also included on the spreadsheet is a place to let us know if you would be willing to assist in serving communion on Graduation Sunday.

We will take a group picture of all graduates that attend on the steps of the Sanctuary at 10:50 between the two worship services.

ALTAR FLOWERS

2019 ALTAR FLOWERS

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 contact the church office for available dates and reservations.

Your Name_____

Phone #_

Date Requested____

Number of arrangements (1 or 2) _____

Wording for bulletin: _____

Dates available are: May 19, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, July 14, 28 (1 Set), August 4, 18, 25 (1 set), September 1, 8 (1 set), 15, 22, 29, October 13, 20 (1 set), November 3 (1 set), 10, 17 (1 set), 24, December 1, 8, 22, and 29th

SENIOR CAMPUS UPDATE

Senior Campus Committee and NC Homes LLC is continuing to work to bring Housing as well as the Senior Ministry Center to our Mt. Zion UMC as well as the community!

As progress is made we will keep you all up to date. At this point we are working on a model home as well as dealing with Mecklenburg County.

Please stay in prayer for this wonderful ministry!

Senior Campus Committee

AUTUMN CARE WORSHIP

WORSHIP LED BY MT. ZION AT AUTUMN CARE

Every Sunday morning at 10:00, worship services are conducted by Mt. Zion members at Autumn Care -- the skilled care nursing facility on the Mt. Zion Senior Campus. Autumn Care is a skilled care facility for long term/short term care. Our services each Sunday are part of our mission to reach out to seniors in our church and community. This is a way to bring worship to those who are unable to get out to attend this church or their home church.

May Presenters: 5—Richard Little 12—Rev. Rob Spach 19—Rev. Arnie Corriher 26—David Hodson Music by Anna Akins

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

APRIL BAPTISM

Lyra Aruna Soni was baptized on April 28, 2019. She is the daughter of Kristen and Ketan Soni, sister of Raina, and granddaughter of Sandy and Rich Moore.



THE SYMPATHY OF THE **CONGREGATION**

is extended to James Thompson and family on the death of his Father, Haskell Thompson, on March 19, 2019, to LaVon Sigmon and family on the passing of her husband, Rev. Dr. Tom Sigmon, former Pastor of Mt. Zion UMC (1979-1981) on April 5, 2019, to the family of Jerry Bustard on his passing on April 13, 2019, to Lysa Deaton-Smith and family on the death of her husband, Alex Smith, on April 26th, and to Gayle Casavecchia and family on the death of her mother, Virginia Farris, on April 26th.



APRIL BIRTH

Caleb James Thompson was born on April 29, 2019. He is the son of Spencer and Jennifer Thompson and the grandson of James and Torrie Thompson. Congratulations!

SPECIAL GIFTS WERE GIVEN ...

IN HONOR OF staff at Sonshine Preschool a gift was given to Sonshine Preschool. IN HONOR OF Torrie Thompson a gift was given to the Budget. IN HONOR OF Wendell Fox a gift was given to the Budget. IN MEMORY OF Don Everhart a gift was given to the Budget. IN MEMORY **OF** Mary Jones a gift was given to the Budget. IN MEMORY OF Welbern Clegg Brown, Jr. a gift was given to the Budget. IN MEMORY OF Buddy Caldwell a gift was given to the Music Fund. IN MEMORY **OF** Jerry Bustard a gift was given to the Music Fund. IN MEMORY OF Alex Smith a gift was given to the Capital Fund.

A HUGE THANK YOU

Our congregation was asked to provide 100 Easter baskets for the kids at Ada Jenkins and then later asked if we would be willing to increase this to 145. After asking for you to step up we were able to deliver 156 baskets. It was wonderful to watch some of the fami-

lies receiving the baskets and their excitement!

Thanks, Tom Russell



Staff

Co-Senior Pastors:

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

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Tony Moreau tmoreau@mtzionumc.net

Director of Music Ministries: Shelley Little

slittle@mtzionumc.net

Assistant Dir. of Music Ministries: Melanie Kalkan

mkalkan@mtzionumc.net **Coordinator of Children's Ministries:**

> Stacey Mercuri smercuri@mtzionumc.net

Director of Youth Ministries:

Howard Harris

hharris@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

Assistant Preschool Director:

Cathy Wiese sonshinepre@mtzionumc.net

APRIL ATTENDANCE

Date	8:30	9:45	11:00	Total
4/7	86	90	193	369
4/14	86	103	209	398
4/21	268	210	396	874
4/28	98	84	335	517

Maundy Thursday	108
Good Friday	110
Sunrise Service	159

Wednesday Night Worship

4/3	44
4/10	35
4/24	18

Autumn Care Attendance

4/7	24
4/14	26
4/21	33
4/28	53

FINANCIAL UPDATE

March Financial Report

Thank you for supporting the mission and ministries of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church.

Our 2019 approved budget total is \$1,174,805

Total budget income in March – \$129,522 March expenses - \$96,139

Year-to-Date budget income - \$327,959 Year-to-Date expenses - \$259,326

Difference \$68,633

Total designated fund balance is \$205,855 This includes:

Capital Fund - \$9,399

Helping Hands Fund - \$23,749

Please contact Patti Loner (ploner@mtzionumc.net) if you have questions.

Deep



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

19600 Zion Avenue Cornelius, North Carolina 28031

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

"MAKING, MATURING, MOBILIZING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST"

Please send any articles you would like to have included in the June newsletter to the church by May 25th.

They may be emailed to kfellows@mtzionumc.net

Thank you!!

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 <u>mzwoz1@gmail.com</u> 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! MEN OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME to attend a MEN'S COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST meeting on Wednesdays at 7 AM at IHOP in Huntersville.

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 NEWSLET-TER OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE INFOR-MATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Barbara Broadway: email: <u>bbroadway47@gmail.com</u> 704-996-7000 or Shirley Ranson: email: <u>shirley@ransontaam.com</u>

email: <u>shirley@ransonteam.com</u> 704-904-0973

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org. US Postage PAID Permit No. 2 Cornelius, NC

YOU ARE INVITED....SEWIN' LOVE (FORMERLY DRESS A GIRL) MEETS THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAYS OF EACH MONTH in the Youth Room at 6:30 PM. Everyone is Welcome! We will teach. No experience necessary! Bringing your own sewing machine is welcome but not necessary. You may contact Jennifer Hall at imartinhall@hotmail.com or

Robin Lambert at <u>rllambert96@gmail.com.</u>

MOMS – Mothers Offering Mutual Support meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month @ Duckworth's Restaurant in Huntersville... a new location.... All moms are invited!

(Note new location)

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!

