

This Week at Mount Zion

Today: (11/28)

8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship Services

Coffee & Fellowship for Everyone--FH

Sunday School

No Children's Musical Practice

No Inspiration Station

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

No Handbells

Hanging of the Greens Service

5:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Monday: (11/29)

7:00 p.m.

Youth Council--Share & Care

7:00 p.m.

Cub Scouts

Tuesday: (11/30)

10:00 a.m.

Exercise--Narthex

7:00 p.m.

Alleluia Choir--Sanctuary

7:00 p.m.

Trustees--Share & Care

7:00 p.m.

Cub & Boy Scouts

Wednesday: (12/1)

7:00 a.m.

Prayer Meeting--FH

10:00 a.m.

Exercise --Narthex

6:30 p.m.

Prayer Meeting--Parlor

7:00 p.m.

Venture Crew--FH

7:00 p.m.

Adult Choir--Chapel

Thursday: (12/2)

7:00 p.m.

Exercise--Narthex

7:00 p.m.

Parsonage Team--Share & Care

Friday: (11/3)

10:00 a.m.

Exercise--Narthex

5:00 p.m.

Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner--FH

Saturday: (11/4)

8:30 a.m.

Cantata Practice--Sanctuary

6:00 p.m.

Good Sam's Christmas Party--FH

Sunday: (11/5)

8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Communion

9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship Services

10:00 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship for Everyone--FH

4:00 p.m.

Sunday School

4:15 p.m.

Children's Musical Practice--Sanctuary

5:00 p.m.

God and Family--upstairs classroom

5:00 p.m.

Inspiration Station--Chapel

6:00 p.m.

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Handbells--Sanctuary



Leonard Rex, Lead Pastor
Carley Scheitrum, Associate/Youth Pastor
Kim B. Stephenson, Children's Pastor
Nancy Rivers, Choir Director
Elaine Heintzelman, Organist
Marilyn Johnson & Sally Shelp, Office Staff

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Worship Service: 8:30 a.m.
Coffee & Fellowship For Everyone: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
Inspiration Station: 5:00 p.m.

Welcome!

If this is your first visit, please stop by
the guest assistance table. You are
always welcome at Mount Zion.

*Making disciples of Jesus Christ for
the transformation of the world.*

**Order of Worship
November 28, 2010
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

Welcome

Opening Hymn.....UMH 196

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

***Opening Prayer**

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Offering of God’s Tithes and Our Gifts

***Offertory**

***Doxology:**UMH 95 (tune of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men.
CCLI#1330814

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Anthem.....Adult Choir

“Speak His Name”

Children’s Time/Lighting of the Advent Wreath

(Children 4 through 8 years old may leave for Children’s Church at this time.)

Announcements

Missions Moment: Angel Tree

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses.
As we forgive those who trespass against us.

Mount Zion's Sanctuary will be filled with beautiful poinsettias again this Christmas. The poinsettias can be purchased in honor or in memory of a loved one. You can take them home on Christmas Eve, after the service you attend.



The cost is \$9 and the last day purchase is today, November 28. A listing of those for whom poinsettias have been given will be available in the Narthex beginning next Sunday, December 5th.

- Please fill out a form for EACH poinsettia ordered.
- You can make your check payable to Mount Zion UMC and note "poinsettias" on the memo line and place it in the offering plate.
- You can write one check for all of your poinsettias ordered
- Extra forms are located in the narthex

Please mark if it is in Memory or in Honor.

Given in Memory or Honor

of: _____

Given by: _____

Climbing Guide

Suggestions for going further with today's theme at home.



Thinking about the Theme

- Think/Tell about a surprise you have experienced recently.

Getting into God's Word

- Read Luke 1:5-25.
- What stands out to you about Zechariah and Elizabeth from verses 5-7?
- What feelings do you think this couple faced in light of their long infertility and seemingly unheard prayers?
- What was Zechariah's reaction to Gabriel's appearance (verse 12)? To his message (verse 18)?
- How would you describe Gabriel's demeanor in verses 19-20?
- How would the birth of John impact/change Zechariah and Elizabeth's life?

Getting God's Word into Our Lives

- For what have you been praying so long that you hardly expect God to do anything?
- When was the last time you doubted God? What caused you to doubt?
- What (short of the appearance of an angel) would strengthen your faith and make your praying more confident?

Praying about It

- Tell God you love him and want your life to be motivated by that love.
- Invite the Holy Spirit to be intimately involved in your most mundane activities.
- Ask him to train you to wield this supernatural weapon of prayer wisely.
- Ask God to do something big—something only he can do.

Doing Something to Make It Stick

- Keep a prayer journal documenting requests and answers with dates and details.
- Every time you see a depiction of an angel this week, repeat the phrase, "Your prayer has been heard" and believe it.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn of Preparation.....TFWS 2088

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

Sermon.....Leonard Rex

“Your Prayer Has Been Heard”

***Closing Hymn**.....UMH 240

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

***Dismissal with Blessing**

***Trinity Chime Benediction**

Postlude

*Indicates congregation standing (those who are able).

We publish our current, complete prayer list in our newsletter each month. Every Sunday new prayer requests are put in the bulletin so that you can add them to your list. If you would like to add someone to our prayer list or make a confidential prayer request, you can fill out a blue prayer card. If there is anyone who can be taken off our current prayer list, please fill out a card, call or email the office.

Prayer list: Hilary Aycock, mother of Max Ann Keller, John Utley, Odell Penny, Roy Raynor, Janet Tart, a boy named Trent

Worship Assistants

Counters: Bob Kisner, Mike Stewart...(8:30) Martha Eatmon, George Ross....(11:00)

Acolytes: Brendan Boyd.....(8:30)

Brittany Moore, Nicole Johnson, Wade Eatmon, Wilson Johnson....(11:00)

Greeters: John Boyd Family.....(8:30) Open.....(11:00)

For up-to-date information on Mount Zion's activities, or to check availability for meetings & events log on to our website: www.mountzion-umc.org



Follow us on Facebook at: facebook.com/MountZionUMC

Family Advent Devotion booklet with stickers and scenery sheets are located in the Narthex. Advent begins today.



Listen to the Angels

“Your Prayer Has Been Heard”

Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.”—Luke 1:11-13 (NIV)

Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.”

The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.”—Luke 1:18-20 (NIV)

- Zechariah’s faith had become so routine and predictable that he couldn’t imagine God _____ his every-day existence in a supernatural way.

A few things we can do to make ourselves more ready for God’s involvement:

- 1) Focus on _____ I am serving God rather than how, when, or where.

Don’t burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant.—Romans 12:11 (Message)

Winter Small Group Schedule:

- December 15th-Leadership Forms are due.
- December 15th-Small Group Information Forms are due--forms will be available in the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall.
- December 19th-Winter Small Group Catalogs will be available
- January 2nd-Rally Day will be held in the Fellowship Hall during CAFÉ and after the 11 am Worship Service.
- January 9th-Small Groups will begin this week.

John & Jennifer Boyd invite adults not already attending a **Sunday School Class** and anyone else interested to their **new class** which meets in an upstairs classroom in the education building. If you have questions, contact Jennifer Boyd at 894-1963.

Everyone is invited to **meet for prayer** every Wednesday at the church. The morning group meets at 7 am in the Fellowship Hall and the evening group meets at 6:30 pm in the Parlor (the room on your right as you enter the Sanctuary).

Greeters, Acolytes and Projection volunteers are needed each Sunday at the 8:30 and 11:00 am Worship Services. Greeters welcome everyone to Mount Zion and direct visitors to the Guest Table. Acolytes are needed each Sunday and are a special part of each service. You can sign up for Greeters and Acolytes on the left shelf in the Narthex. Projection volunteers are vital to our worship service and training is available to anyone who is interested. You can sign up in the Sound Room. Thank you to those that have been volunteering and we ask others to consider signing up for these ministry opportunities.

The following Christmas events/parties are listed below, please contact your leader/ teacher for detailed information:

December 4th	Good Samaritan's Sunday School Class
December 12th	United Methodist Youth Fellowship
December 14th	Morning Glory Women's Circle
December 17th	All high school graduates up to age 22 and current college students
December 19th	Share & Care Sunday School Class

Today is **United Methodist Student Day**, which is a Churchwide Conference special collection, which provides college scholarships and loans to deserving United Methodist students. Envelopes are located in the Narthex. Please make your check out to Mount Zion UMC and in the memo, note "United Methodist Student Day".

Our mission focus for December is Raleigh Rescue Mission. An **Angel Tree** is located in the Narthex to provide new gifts for poor and homeless men, women & children in our area. If you decide to take an angel, please read the following guidelines carefully:

- Purchase new the item that is listed on your angel tag(s). Please note the gender and the size requested, and please limit your expense on each item to \$30 - \$35 (unless otherwise noted).
- Please buy only what is listed on the angel tag (NO additional items).
- Please place your gift in a Christmas gift bag. (Do not wrap)
- Attach only the lower portion of the angel tag to your gift bag, and please make sure the name and code written on the tag are clearly visible.
- Please place gifts under the Angel Tree in the Narthex by Sunday, December 12.

The children will not practice for their **Christmas musical** program, today. They will practice in the Sanctuary on December 5th and 12th at 4 pm, and on the 18th at 10 am. Children in kindergarten thru 5th grade are invited to participate. The Children's Christmas musical program, "*Shepherds Sheep and a Savior*" will be at the 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services, on Sunday, December 19th. After the 11 am service lunch will be provided for the children in the musical and their families in the Fellowship Hall.

All senior citizens are invited to the **Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner**, on Friday, December 3rd, at 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by the Stevens/Lane Women's Circle. If you would like to help, or need a ride, please contact Amanda Carroll at 772-8965 or Kim Carroll at 779-3693.

Mount Zion's Christmas Cantata and Drama "O Holy Night" will be held on Saturday, December 11th, at 6:30 pm, in the Sanctuary, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Small Group Leader Training will be held on Saturday, December 11th, at 10 am for anyone interested in leading a small group. To sign-up, please contact the Church Office by Thursday, December 9th.

- Don't discount the _____ workings of God in "ordinary" life.

Keep on loving each other as brothers and sisters. Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!—Hebrews 13:1-2 (NLT)

- Pray with _____ faith.

"Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."—Mark 11:22-24 (NIV)

The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with. Elijah, for instance, human just like us, prayed hard that it wouldn't rain, and it didn't—not a drop for thee and a half years. Then he prayed that it would rain, and it did.—James 5:16-18 (Message)

Next Sunday: "The Lord Is with You"

Advent Service



A Hanging of the Greens Service Today, November 28th 7 pm in the Sanctuary

The service will focus around understanding the symbolism of the Christmas décor and its relationship to the coming of the Christ-child.

There will be no Inspiration Station today.

Christmas Services



Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve:

- 4 pm Family interactive Service-Sanctuary
- 8 pm Candlelight Communion Service-Sanctuary
- 10 pm Candlelight Communion Service-Sanctuary

Sunday, December 26th

- 5 pm Birthday Party for Jesus at Inspiration Station-Chapel

Hope Walk 2010

Benjamin, 18

*Caring for two siblings
ages 12 and 8*



Orphaned at age 11, Benjamin struggled for years to care for his younger siblings. He survived by begging and working as a farm laborer, earning the equivalent of less than 70 cents per day. His family would have at most one meal a day, and often less. The children dropped out of school and had no access to medical care.

Benjamin joined ZOE's Orphan Empowerment Project just this year, but already he runs a small bakery, selling 80 loaves of bread per day. He has also rented a tea crop that will yield additional income at the end of the year. Benjamin is proudly providing for his family—and his siblings have returned to school.

ZOE Ministry is a non-profit organization based in the NC Annual Conference that reaches out to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS in Africa. ZOE's Orphan Empowerment Project equips orphans with the training and tools they need to move from poverty and dependency to dignity and self-sufficiency within 2-3 years.

Training includes:

- New Farming Techniques
- Animal Husbandry
- Income-Generating Activities
- Health and Hygiene Education
- HIV/AIDS Prevention
- The Good News of Jesus Christ

ZOE Ministry
Empowering Orphans in Africa

www.zoeministry.org