



CONNECT

UPWARD • ONWARD • OUTWARD

Fall 2022





*Mount Zion's vision is to become
a passionate body of disciples
being transformed by Christ,
growing through biblical teaching,
and sharing the Good News
to the ends of the earth.*

*Mount Zion's mission is calling people
Upward, Onward, and Outward.*

For us to achieve both the vision
and mission of Mount Zion, we need
to connect with God, each other,
and our community.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

MOUNT ZION WEBSITE

Go to: mountzion-umc.org

- Worship Times
- Upcoming Events
- Ministries
- Livestream
- Past Sermons
- Prayer Requests
- Online Giving

Visit us on Social Media



MountZionUMC



Mountzionumc

CONNECT WEEKLY

A weekly email that previews what is happening at Mount Zion.

MYMOUNTZION

MyMountZion is our online directory, email, giving, registration, and church calendar site. This site is open to all Mount Zion attendees. To register for an account, follow the link that can be found on our church website at mountzion-umc.org, under resources. The email and password that you register with, will be the same that you use for the App version of this site: ACS Church Life (details below).

ACS CHURCH LIFE APP

ACS Church Life is the “MyMountZion” for your mobile device. This has the same features as the online version, but is more convenient, as it can be used on your phone.

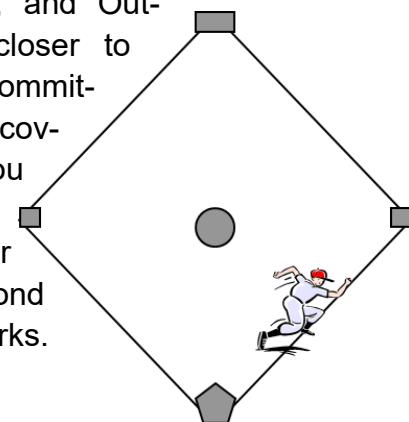
NEXT STEPS

FIRST STEP

Are you new, or have you been attending Mount Zion, and are interested in finding out more about us? If so, then our First Step gathering is a great place to answer any questions and get information about Mount Zion, including: a tour of our campus and information on the Connect Group opportunities that are available. Our First Step gathering is led by our Connection Ministries Coordinator, Donna Rex. This is a very informal casual time to get a better glimpse of who we are at Mount Zion. We hope you can join us for our next gathering on Sunday, November 6th, at 11 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

DISCOVERING

I want to encourage you to play ball in 2022. I am not talking about signing up to play on a church team. I am referring to Mount Zion's series of Discovery Classes. The four classes offer a kind of "home run" in discipleship. Each class is a stand-alone 2-3 hour event, taught by Pastor Leonard focusing on a deeper/higher level of spiritual commitment. Our mission of "Calling People Upward, Onward, and Outward" involves drawing people closer to Christ through a series of spiritual commitments. The starting point is the Discovering Mount Zion Class, but once you have taken that, you can take any of the others in whatever order works for you. The baseball diamond on the right demonstrates how it works.



NEXT STEPS

1ST BASE • DISCOVERING MOUNT ZION

Goal: That I will commit myself to Christ and to the Mount Zion Church family. **Upcoming Class Dates are: Sunday, September 11th, and Sunday, November 20th at 12:15-3:30 PM;** Fellowship Hall (Lunch and Childcare provided).

2ND BASE • DISCOVERING SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Goal: That I will begin, and continue, the basic habits every Christian needs in order to grow to spiritual maturity. *Watch for new dates for this class in 2023!*



3RD BASE • DISCOVERING MY MINISTRY

Goal: That I will discover my unique design for ministry and commit to develop and deploy my gifts and abilities in serving God and others through my church family. The next class is: Monday, September 19th; 6:30-9 PM.

HOME • DISCOVERING MY MISSION

Goal: That I will be willing, and able, to share the good news about Jesus Christ in a way that people can understand and that the Holy Spirit can use. The next class is: Monday, November 7th; 6:30-9 PM.

**Registration will be available, closer to the date of the classes, at: mountzion-umc.org/upcoming-events.*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

CARE MINISTRY

As Christians we are a part of a greater family of believers. We are called to offer compassion, empathy, and love to others. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus is seen multiple times healing bodies, minds, and spirits. He understood the depths of suffering and its stranglehold on the lives of people. Jesus extended understanding and empathy. As a part of the body of Mount Zion, this too is our task. Mount Zion's **Care Ministry** is designed to connect the church family to one another as we journey together through life. We pray that people find hope and companionship through Care Ministry.

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PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer is an expression of our relationship with God. Our prayers, both individually and as a church family, open us up to the guidance, wisdom, and power of the Holy Spirit as we seek God's heart and will. Mount Zion has a Prayer Room located off of the Chapel that is open 24 hours daily for anyone needing a quiet spot to meet with God. Join us for a prayer group that meets every Wednesday, 8-8:45 AM, in Room 103.

CHURCH LENDING LIBRARY

Located in the Prayer Room is a valuable resource of books that are available for borrowing: Prayer Books, Devotionals, and Studies.

BIBLE CART

Located in the Fellowship Hall are free Bibles for those who are in need of one. Children's, Youth, and Study Bibles are just a few of the choices available. Bible Cart Ministry is supplied by Steve Sorrell.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We encourage you to consider joining an Adult Sunday School class; below are the current classes being offered. Contact the leaders directly through the ACS Church Life APP, or contact Donna Rex at: donna@mountzion-umc.org. Also, if you are a Mount Zion member who is interested in beginning a new class, contact Donna Rex.

GOOD SAMARITAN'S CLASS

Sundays 9:30 AM • Fellowship Hall

Contact Les Brown for details.

BIBLE SEEKERS (Women's Class)

Sundays 9:30 AM • Room 103

Contact Alma Black for details.

FISHERS OF MEN (Men's Class)

Sundays 9:30 AM • Room 105

Contact Dean Crow for details.

SHARE AND CARE CLASS

Sundays 9:30 AM • Room 104

Contact Julia Dupree for details.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Sundays 11 AM • Room 103

Contact Bill Cordray for details.



CONNECT GROUPS

What are Connect Groups?

A Connect Group is a small group, that is usually 8 to 12 people, who come together and meet regularly with similar interests. A variety of interest based groups for children, youth, and adults are offered three times a year; Fall, Spring, and Summer. Fall Connect Groups are listed below; you may contact each leader directly. Contact information is also available in the ACS Church Life APP. *If you don't have access to the APP, contact Donna Rex at: donna@mountzion-umc.org for further details.*

CHILDREN'S HAND CHIMES

The children will learn Christmas music to play and present at the Christmas Eve service December 24th at 4 PM. Group led by Jenni Ackerman, jenni@mountzion-umc.org. Meets: Weekly 9/19—12/19, Mondays 4:15—5 PM; Sanctuary; FREE

STICK MINISTRY

Stick ministry is a dramatic art form that uses sticks and additional items such as props, fabrics as well as using gestures and sign language to interpret and bring to life lyrics of Christian music. Group led by Jenni Ackerman; jenni@mountzion-umc.org. Meets: Mondays 9/19—12/10, 5:15-6:15 PM - Sanctuary; FREE

YOUTH PRAISE BAND

This group will be for youth currently playing an instrument who are interested in learning to play as a part of a worship band. Group led by Dave Cowell; dlcowell@nc.rr.com. Meets: Mondays 6:30-8 PM starting on 9/19; Sanctuary. FREE

CONNECT GROUPS

THE GREATEST LIE

There is one lie that is bigger than all the rest. Have you fallen for it? In his book, "The Greatest Lie", Dr. Michael Youssef urges readers to discover the truth and live forever. Jesus made it clear when He said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Group led by Elaine Heintzelman. dexchines@gmail.com. Meets: Weekly starting on 9/19; Mondays 5:45-7:00 PM; Room 103; FREE

UKULELE ENSEMBLE

This group will meet monthly. We will work to improve our skills and learn some new songs. We will also seek out opportunities to perform both in church and in the community. Prayer requests and celebrations will be shared. Group led by Alan Eatmon; alan_e27603@yahoo.com. Meets: 9/19, 10/17, 11/21 at 7 PM; Room 202; *Attendees need a ukulele. They also need to have taken the Beginner Ukulele class or already be able to play the ukulele relatively well.*



HOW TO SEARCH YOUR FAMILY TREE

This group will meet to discuss how to research your ancestors. This group is led by Ann King; bgking54@gmail.com. Meets bi-monthly on Mondays, 9/19, 10/3, 10/17, 11/7, 11/21, 12/5 at 7 PM. Office Conference Room; FREE. Participants are asked to bring any family information they have, plus a pencil, notebook and Bible.

CONNECT GROUPS

EXPERIENCING GOD

Would you like to hear God speak? Would you like to know God's will for your life? Would you like to experience his presence and power daily? This 12-week Bible study focuses on knowing God intimately, recognizing his voice, understanding his will, and doing it. It will involve weekly video lessons and discussion, as well as personal study in between. Materials developed by Henry Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, and Claude King. Group led by Jo Anne Myers; jlmyers40@gmail.com; Tuesday's at 3PM, 9/20 - 12/6 Room 103—Cost \$20 for the Book.

SHIRLEY MCLAURIN MEMORIAL CARD CLUB

All women are invited to join as we gather for fellowship and card playing. Hand & Foot is the game, it is a form of Canasta. Group led by Carole Hartley; chart1@intrstar.net; Meets: Bi-weekly starting 9/21-12/14, Wednesday 1:30—4:30 PM; Fellowship Hall FREE

HOPE AWAYS

How to be a force for life in a culture of suicide.

This four session group will utilize video teaching from Matthew Sleath to learn how faith in Christ can help people overcome depression and prevent suicide. We all know people struggling with these issues, and we are often at a loss to help. Participants will gain practical resources for reaching out and saving lives. Group led by Pastor Leonard Rex, leonard@mountzion-umc.org. Meets: Wednesday 9/21, 10/5, 11/2, and 11/16, 7-8 PM; Parsonage; FREE

CONNECT GROUPS

SENIOR FIT CLASS

Seniors join together for low impact chair exercises. Group led by Diane Shannon. Bake5017@yahoo.com. Meets: Thursdays; 1-2 PM; starting 9/22-12/15; Fellowship Hall; FREE. *Some standing required, wear comfy clothes and sneakers.*

CREATIVE CHRISTIANS

Crafty, artsy souls who gather to share in Christian fellowship. Bring a project and a snack to share. Come for part, or all, of the evening. Group led by Carolyn Brown; usborne4you@nc.rr.com; and Sarah Lee. Meets: 2nd Friday of the month; 6-10 PM; 9/16, 10/14, 11/11 & 12/9; Room 103; FREE. *Group is for 13 and up.*



FINDERS SEEKERS MYSTERY DINNER CLUB

Finders Seekers is an immersive, adventure-mystery game that transports players to different locales each month to take on a case to solve.

Each month, we will each bring items to complete our dinner menu. Group led by Tim & Jenni Ackerman. Meets: 9/23, 10/28, 11/18 at 7 PM. Fellowship Hall; Adults only.

LADIES BUNCO GROUP

Bunco is a fast paced dice game played in rounds that gets everyone involved at the same time! It only takes minutes to learn! We will have fellowship, devotion, prayer. Bring a snack to share. Group led by Sheila Brookover, sbrook467@gmail.com; Meets: 9/16, 10/14, 11/11, & 12/16; from 7-9 PM; Fellowship Hall; Cost of \$5 a month for prizes.

CONNECT GROUPS

MOUNT ZION MEN

Join us as we gather monthly, on Sunday mornings, for a time of fellowship, breakfast, and devotion. Periodically, there will be opportunities for service in our community that takes place on different days of the week. We hope you'll join us! Open to all men. Group led by Bill Cordray and Bob Kisner. Meets: 2nd Sunday of the month; at 7 AM; 9/11, 10/9, 11/13, & 12/11; Fellowship Hall; Breakfast provided each month. *Suggested* monthly donation of \$5; used for community outreach projects.



SATURDAY SOCIALS

A group that meets once a month to have lunch and fellowship! Group led by Diane Shannon. Bake5017@yahoo.com. Meets: Monthly 9/24, 10/22, 11/26 at 11:30 AM - 3 PM; ; Fellowship Hall; Participants are asked to bring a dish to share each month, also attendees can make donations towards table décor.

YOU ARE CAPTIVATING

This study will reveal how God created you to be as a woman and why your heart longs to be captivating. Come to learn how God created you with fellowship and sisterhood! This group is for young adult women and will be led by Amber Rex; amber-beall2011@yahoo.com. Meets virtually on Saturday evenings, 9/24—12/10 from 7-8 PM. A book is needed for this group.

SERVE

The Bible teaches that every Christian is called to Christian service, regardless of his or her vocation. We practice the truth that every believer is a minister, by encouraging every member to find a place of service and ministry. Our church leadership is made up of paid-staff and volunteer committees and teams, working together to fulfill the ministries of God's kingdom. Although church membership is required for leadership positions, we encourage everyone to find a place to serve. You can contact the chair of any of the teams listed below to find out more about helping in these areas of ministry. **Contact information for Chairs listed, is available in the ACS Church Life APP.**

A/V TECH MINISTRY

This team uses technology, and equipment, to enhance the worship experience for those in-person and online. Volunteer positions needed: Sound Tech, Slide Tech, and Livestream Tech.

Chair: Tim Ackerman, A/V Ministries Coordinator

MUSIC MINISTRY

You'll find a variety of musical expressions from contemporary to classical, all focused on magnifying Jesus Christ. There are opportunities to be involved in the Music Ministry at Mount Zion, including: choir, cantatas, E519, and special music. **Julie An, Director of Music Ministry, and Erin Nenni, E519 Leader**

MISSIONS MINISTRY

Outreach is our faithful response to God's grace. We serve by working together with partners, locally and globally, building relationships, directing our efforts to spread the gospel, helping the poor, and providing practical assistance in the name of Jesus Christ. **Chair: Roger Locklear**

SERVE

NEXT GENERATIONS MINISTRY

The Next Generations Ministry plans and implements on-going ministries and special events that fulfill the mission of Mount Zion for children and youth, ages birth-18. It serves as a liaison with organizations, persons, and resources in and beyond the local church that relate to ministry with children and youth, and promotes continuing training for ministry leaders. Volunteers are needed for Sunday School, Elevate Kids, and Elevate Youth on Wednesday nights.

Chair: Jenni Ackerman, Next Generations Minister

SAFE SANCTUARY/SECURITY MINISTRY

The Safe Sanctuaries and Security Team reviews, maintains, and implements Safe Sanctuary policy for the protection of all involved in ministry at Mount Zion. Volunteers are needed to help with church security on Sunday mornings, and Wednesday evenings. **Chair: Les Brown**

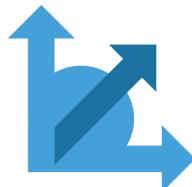
SPORTS MINISTRY

Mount Zion Sports Ministries exists to glorify God by using sports to teach life principles and biblical truths that point athletes to his Son, Jesus Christ. **Chair: Myrtle Earley**

YARD MINISTRY

The Yard Team oversees the physical needs of the church, cemetery, and parsonage lawns and landscape. Volunteers are always needed. **Chair: Randy Earley**

SERVE



OUTWARD

Other ways to connect at Mount Zion is through our new partnership with Community of Hope, located in Garner.

We encourage you to learn more about this local ministry on their website at: communityofhopeministries.org

The following are ways to serve with others at Mount Zion through one of five ministries at Community of Hope:

CARPENTER'S HAND

Home repairs are provided to “at-risk” citizens in the Garner area. Widows, single mothers, senior citizens, and those with disabilities are eligible to benefit. The services include: minor home repairs, lawn maintenance, and other household needs. **Contact: Bill Cordray for details.**

FOOD PANTRY

Currently, we are looking for individuals that are interested in helping with the Community of Hope’s Food Pantry pick-up at our new Food Lion on HWY 50. **Contact: Janice Krakowsky for details.**

SERVE

AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Community of Hope Ministries offers a tutoring-based After School Program for 1st-5th grade students who are below grade level in math and reading and come from families who have financial challenges to provide for tutoring. We partner with eight Garner area schools to identify students for our program. **Contact: Jenni Ackerman for details.**

CAMP GOOD HOPE

Camp Good Hope is a Christian Day Camp with field trips, swimming, science experiments, crafts, sports, and more pack each “themed” week. Daily Bible devotion and music are offered each camp day – building faith and character in each camper, as well as a hot lunch and two snacks each day. Camp Good Hope is now also available as a track-out camp throughout the school year. **Contact: Jenni Ackerman for details.**

GARDEN OF HOPE

Community of Hope has an on-site garden where it grows fresh produce to give out through their food pantry. Each year their garden produces thousands of pounds of fresh produce. **Contact: Janice Krakowsky for details.**

UPWARD, ONWARD, AND OUTWARD

