

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 186  
310 Church Street  
Central, South Carolina 29630  
Address Correction Requested



## The Grapevine

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church

*"I am the vine, you are the branches  
Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit."*

*John 15:5*

### Pastor Jim's W.I.R.E.D. Thoughts

Someone mentioned to me the other day that, in writing this, I might want to share about why I do some of the things I do when I preach, kind of my philosophy on what makes me "me" as a preacher and worship leader. I thought that was a good idea, until I sat down and began to try to articulate the "whys" to such things. I wasn't sure just how many things might be involved! But let me address a couple.

#### **Why do I wear an ivory robe instead of a black one?**

Truth is, I'm not a robe wearer in general. Robes make me feel uncomfortable. If you haven't noticed, I tend to trip over them. But the robe I wear is called an alb, and it has its connection to the kind of robes that monks wore. Monks wore plain and simple robes so as not to draw attention to themselves. It was an expression of being a servant to the people. And I like that; I want to be a servant of Christ to people. Other robes, for me – and this is just my personal opinion – that have designs and colors and are ornate in style have a way of setting the wearer apart from others. That makes me uncomfortable. Plus, those robes tend to be heavy and hot, and I don't like to be hot! I admit that I am more comfortable in casual clothes or jeans than a suit or a fancy robe, which is why my wife often steps in and makes clothing choice suggestions for me!

#### **Why do I come down to the floor and preach instead of staying behind the pulpit?**

I like to move. I'm preaching God's truths and I get excited about what God wants us to discover and learn. I also like being on the same level as the congregation. I am part of this congregation, exercising my gifts amongst you, not above you. Plus, it allows me the opportunity to engage people on a more personal level, more conversational than lecture. At least, that is what I strive for.

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trouble loneliness  
money  
**and the HITS**  
**KEEP ON COMING**  
September 8-November 24  
Sundays at 11am  
doubt stress depression  
hurtful words anger

## Welcome New Members

**Mt. Zion extends a cordial welcome to our newest members, Dot Johnston and Joe Dyar.**



It is really "Welcome Back" to Dorothy Dyar Johnston and Joe Dyar since they were members of Mount Zion while growing up in Central. Joe's class of 1955 was the last class to graduate from Central High School when Daniel High School was built. Both he and Dot most recently lived many years in Liberty, SC, and now they have both moved back to Central.



Their membership was moved from the First Baptist Church in Liberty where Dot served as secretary for twenty-seven years. Joe was the owner of and pharmacist at Community Drug Store from 1974-1991 when he sold it to Revco. He worked awhile for Revco and although now retired, is still working on a part-time basis. He enjoys fishing from his boat in the local lakes.

Dot married her late husband, Ben, at Mount Zion on March 1, 1953. She is the mother of a son and daughter, and has two granddaughters. Her daughter is Mt. Zion member, Sherrie Youngblood, and she was mother-in-law to the late John Youngblood .



**Our sympathy and prayers to the families of long-time Mt. Zion members:**

**Elizabeth Guerrant "Betty" Walters**

**John Carl Youngblood, Sr.**

**and to Mary Nichols and Van Mullinax and their families, in the death of their brother-in-law, Ray Watson.**

## Mark Your Calendars

**Eloise Gaines Circle: Tuesday, September 3 at 10:30 a.m. (Church)**

**Men's Breakfast: Sunday, September 8 at 8:30 a.m. (Church)**

**Dolly Brock Circle: Monday, September 9 at 2:30 p.m. (Church)**

**Share Groups:** Pastor Jim and Heather will be hosting "Share Groups" during the months of **September and October**. The purpose is to get better acquainted and to share hopes and **dreams for the future** and **thanksgiving for what God has done for Mt. Zion**. **A sign-up sheet is at the back of the church**. Everyone is invited to be a part of this time of sharing so pick a day and join us at the parsonage.

**Tailgate at the Parsonage** The entire church is invited to come join the fun at the parsonage on **Sunday, October 6th at 5PM**. As usual, the church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, "fixins", and drinks. Please bring a chair and your favorite tailgate side or dessert. Remember to wear your team's colors to show your support. Hope to see you there.

**Save the date:** This year's **Charge Conference** at Mt. Zion will be **Thursday, November 7th, at 7p.m.**

**\*\*\* Clemson Community Care is in need of juice, canned meats, spaghetti sauce, canned mixed vegetables, pork and beans, canned fruit and canned potatoes.** You may bring donations to church and leave on the back pew or in the kitchen .

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## **What is Good News Club?**

After school Good News Clubs are Bible classes children may attend once a week during after school hours. This club includes songs, scripture memory , a mission's story, review games and other activities focused on the Bible lesson.

What can you do to help? Donate items, help make snacks, sit with children during lessons, listen to verses and/or help with dismissal.

If you are able to help at Central Elementary School, contact Lucy Arthur at 864-506-0293 or email [rcarthur@bellsouth.net](mailto:rcarthur@bellsouth.net) . If you are interested in helping at another school, she can help you with that also. Kristine Reeves

## "And the Hits Keep Coming"—Sermon series starting September 8th

It has been said that life is music, which may explain why so many of us have special songs and playlists that speak to specific times in our lives. Life is music is all well and good when our "music" is filled with melody, harmony and the right notes. But what happens when the music gets out of key, goes flat or too hard to sing? We all face times when certain situations hit us, knocking us for a loop, and we find life difficult to deal with - situations like a lack of money or time, loneliness, worry and stress, broken relationships, depression and so forth. The flat notes play out in our lives and we don't like the song being played. In our message series, "And The Hits Keep On Coming," starting on **Sunday, September 8 at 11am, and running through November 24th**, we will be looking at how we can sing a new song in the midst of the sour notes that come our way.

Tentative schedule of message series:

9/8 - **Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen** - *why do bad things happen*

9/15 - **f I Were a Rich Man** - *material concerns and greed*

9/22 - **One (Is the Loneliest Number)** - *loneliness*

10/ 6 - Special speaker - *Amy Evans bringing message*

10/ 6 - **Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For** - *doubt*

10/13 - **Don't Worry, Be Happy** - *worry and stress*

10/20 - **Do You Really Want to Hurt Me** - *hurtful words*

10/27 - **Stormy Monday** - *depression*

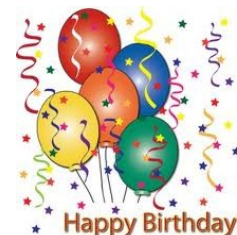
11/ 3 - **When Anger Shows** - *anger*

11/10 - **How Can You Mend a Broken Heart** - *broken relationships*

11/17 - **I Feel Good** - *self esteem, self-worth*

11/24 - **Blessings** - *finding the blessings in difficult times*

## Birthdays



**September:** Ed Martin (1), Drew Gelder (3), Dick Singleton (10), Sharon Miller (14), Terri Lee (15), Sara Kelly (19), Bonnie Littrell (20), Kathy Still (20) Chelcee Coffman (22), Ginger Mullinax (23), Allison Mullinax (24)

**October:** Glenn Abbott (1), Jonathan Sarasua (1), James Sarasua (2), Lane Miller (4), Jeremy Allen (8), Ron Goldstein (11), Van Mullinax (14), David Connor (15), Jane Jones (19), Catherine Carson (26), Haley Lee (28), Frances Reid (31)



## Anniversaries

**September:** Henry & Peggy Bodie (22)

**October:** None

## Spread the WORD!

- Mt. Zion has a **NEW** web address: **MtZionCentral.org**
- We're on **FACEBOOK!** Find us at:

**www.Facebook.com/MtZionCentral**  
(You don't need to be a member to view our page!)







## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Mt. Zion has set a goal of 100 boxes for Operation Christmas Child this year. The green and red boxes are on the back pew. Grab one or two to help us reach our goal! **The National Collection Week will be Nov. 18-25 this year. We will "dedicate" our boxes on Sunday, Nov. 17th.** Sharon Chandler

- The annual Anderson District workshop for church leaders will be held at Trinity UMC in Anderson on **Sunday November 3rd, 3:00-5:30p.m.** "Nuts and Bolts of Leadership" will have information and instruction for all positions in our church structure. Even if you have been holding the same position, there are many new ideas and ways to perform your duties that will help bring accomplishment to your church work. Preregistration is necessary so let Pastor Jim know which workshop you would like to attend.
- Allan Bomar recently gave the **Church Library** over 80 books that once belonged to several members of the Bomar family. Some are volumes Allan had selected for his mother, Lois. Most of the books are presently displayed on the fourth shelf of the first book case and on the third shelf of the second case. (You will see the signs.) One notable donation, *The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*, along with several Bible editions have been added to the top shelf of case number one. We sincerely thank Allan for this gift. The varied works should appeal to many interests. To borrow a book, please use a checkout sheet on one of the clipboards. Myra Armistead

### Contact Information

#### Pastor, Jim Elder:

Church—864-639-2101  
Mobile— 803-372-9754  
Parsonage-864-952-5026

#### Choir Director, Amy Evans:

Call the church and leave message  
or call her home 864-616-7302

**Church E-Mail: [mtzion@nctv.com](mailto:mtzion@nctv.com)**

### Financial Report for Mt. Zion

First six months (ending 6/30/13) for the  
General Fund:

**Budget \$82,282**

**Actual Income \$89,155**

**Actual Expenses \$84,977**

Other funded expenses (paving, Epworth,  
flowers, love offering, pastoral moving)  
totaled an additional \$8,267. Charles Baker

### W.I.R.E.D. Thoughts....Continued from page 1

Something else you should know: I am your pastor. I know that you know that already but what you might not know is that I am not your minister. Well, I am but not in the way you might think. You see, you are also a minister. We have been called to be ministers to those around us, to share Christ with others, to "minister" to the hurting and doubting and broken. We are all called to go into the world and make disciples of all people. We have been commanded to go and do unto others as Christ has done unto us – be servants and share God's love.

I'm excited to be here. I'm still learning, still working on people's names, still discovering all that Central and, more importantly, Mt. Zion has to offer. I believe this church has a lot to offer our community. I look forward to seeing what God is going to do with the ministers of Mt. Zion!

Oh, and if you don't know or remember what W.I.R.E.D. stands for, it stands for what I believe the church must do in order to fulfill our purpose, which is to glorify God. We do it through Worship, Instruction in God's Word, Relationship building, Expressing our faith, and Demonstrative service. *Pastor Jim*

### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was held June 23-26 cooperatively with Lawrence Chapel UMC with ages 4 through 6th grade in attendance. Children experienced God through storytelling, music, classroom activities, and crafts. We were so grateful that Amy Evans assisted with the music every evening which involved the opening and closing activities. Special thanks also goes to Kris Bowman, Katie Ferguson, and Paige Evatt for presenting the Bible Story to the entire group. The chosen Bible Stories centered around the aspects of being a good neighbor. To add to this theme, each night the children "visited" another country to learn about their customs, culture and heritage.

Our children and youth collected money for a VBS mission project in Hatii at the Ecole Bernaco School. The school has 142 males and 130 female students in grades preschool through 6th grade. Through the generous giving of both churches, we raised enough money to buy 500 books for the students. Thank you for supporting our children and this special mission project.

Elizabeth Bowman, Elizabeth Finley, and Libba Carson assisted with the nightly meal. The children had a busy and fun time and we greatly appreciate all the help that was given. Libba Carson