

Welcome Our Visitors

**We are excited that you have joined us for worship.
We pray that God will bless you and unite us in praise.
Please fill out the visitor's card located in the pew
pocket and place it in the offering plate.**

Restrooms: The restrooms are located through the doors to the left and right of the choir loft.

Hearing assistance devices are available. Just ask an usher.

Nursery is provided downstairs (use the right door by the organ) during Sunday School and Worship for ages birth to five years.

Weekly Growth in Grace

Sunday School starts at 9:45 a.m. One adult class is located through the door to the right of the choir loft. Turn right, go down the hall, second door on the left. The other is downstairs in the room next to the kitchen. K-2nd grade children meet downstairs in the back room to the left off the social hall. 3rd-5th grade children meet in the room to the right off the social hall.

UM Youth Fellowship, ages 12-18, meet Sunday nights from 5:30-7:30 at Lawrence Chapel UMC fellowship hall.

Choir Practice is Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the choir room.

Bible Study meets Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the parsonage, 203 Joseph Street, Central.

Prayer List



David Amidon, David Bullock, Family of Sybil Funchess, Sybil Miller, Darryl Guffey, The Family of J.M. Slaton, Rebecca Carson, Charlie Glover, Terry Handegan, Maude Todd, Carrie Bolt, Grace Shirley, Gerry Smith, Dillon Lollis, Debi Culler, Elizabeth Martel, Neil Florio,

Anne Lewis, Nancy Wilkinson, John Marshall, Kay Barrett, Kristen Wilcox, Amy Hunter, Tommy Barker, Les Neville, Jim Cunningham, Brian Hansen, Mary Lee Finley, Jennifer Grannan. Gary Arney,

Homebound: Bill Clayton, Bobby Garrett, Golda Noblitt, Robert Arrowwood, and Frances Reid

Missionaries: Kat Laun

Active military service: John Holmes – Ft. Bliss; Alex Martin – Virginia; Amanda Chivers Nebraska; Chris Trumbower, Josh Trumbower – Ft. Hood; Derek McDonald, Jordon Cox – Kuwait; Travis Wilbanks – England; John Youngblood, Jr. – Alaska; Wayne Smith

Please leave a message in the offering plate for those that need to be added or removed from the prayer list.

Phone directories can be found on the credenza at the back of the church.

Contact Information

For Church Staff and Volunteers
Office: 864-639-2101

mtzion@nctv.com
P.O. Box 186 Central, SC 29630

Pastor Gene Aiken
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Office hours: Mon. – Thurs. 9-12

Visit us at www.MtZionCentral.org



www.facebook.com/Mt.ZionCentral



Mount Zion United Methodist Church



**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 23, 2017**

**Rev. Gene Aiken, Pastor
Mrs. Lynn Martin, Lay Leader
Mr. Malek McDuffie, Choir Director
Mr. Jack Russell, Pianist**

*"Those who trust in the Lord are like Mt. Zion which
cannot be shaken but endures forever."
Psalm 125:1*

Order of Worship

*The congregation is invited to stand as you are able.

~ GATHERING ~

MUSIC FOR GATHERING AND ENTRY OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

OPENING PRAYER

*SONG OF PRAISE.....“O Jesus, I have Promised”.....Hymnal 396

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, your creatures cry, creation groans, but we turn away; we surround ourselves with noise. We are quick to excuse ourselves from responsibility: we are young; we are old; we are tired; we are busy. It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference. Life-giving God, wash us clean. Restore our imaginations and our hearts. Let your courage and compassion flow through our veins until we love with abandon and our hands reach out in blessing, for the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*GATHERING SONG.....“Sanctuary”TFWS

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and Holy, tried and true
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you.

~WORD AND RESPONSE~

RESPONSIVE READING.....Psalm 139:1-12,23-24.....Hymnal 854

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....Apostle’s Creed.....Hymnal 881
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I

believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE.....*Children May Come to the Altar*

LORD’S PRAYER.....Hymnal 895
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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

* HYMN..... “I Surrender All”.....Hymnal 354

~ THANKSGIVING ~

OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*SERMON READING.....Joshua 2:1-18NRSV 195

SERMON “Rahab”

~ SENDING ~

* CLOSING HYMN.. “He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”...Hymnal 128
(All are invited to come forward for prayer and discipleship commitment.)

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

* CARRYING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD AND POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Altar Flowers are given to The Glory of God by Ashley & Drew Gelder.

We will be collecting school supplies for Central Elementary again this year as we get ready for the school year. You can bring supplies and place them in the back of the sanctuary. We will collect supplies through Sunday August 13th.

On Sunday August 13th we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks for all of our children. We invite all of the children to bring their backpacks to church that morning as we will have a blessing over them. Also that morning we are going to recognize all of those who work in the schools and have a blessing for them as well.

Due to an increasing need for food by our clients, Clemson Community Care has a shortage of several items on our pantry shelves. We are completely out of several foods. We would really appreciate any donations of the following items: canned pasta, canned vegetables (with the exception of green beans) milk, flour, cornmeal, dry pasta, spaghetti, juice, canned beans, crackers, tomato sauce and paste. Thanks so much for your continued support!

Articles for the Newsletter, “The Grapevine” are due July, 30th Please email your articles to the Church at mtzion@nctv.com with newsletter in the subject line, or put in the newsletter mailbox in the church office.

Report of Finance

Contributions	June	YTD
Less: Operating Expenses	9,352.00	76,797.00
Net Contributions in Excess of Operating Expenses	(10,969.00)	(75,950.00)
	(1,617.00)	847.00
Budgeted Monthly Expenses	15,049.00	90,294.00
Actual Monthly Expenses	(10,969.00)	(75,950.00)
Under (Over) Monthly Budgeted Amount	4,080.00	14,344.00

