

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



What is good about “Good Friday”?

(paraphrased from the Anderson District News, April 2010)

Although common among English– and Dutch-speaking people, “Good Friday” is not a universal name for the Friday before Easter. The liturgical title for the day in the Western church was “Friday of Preparation” since at the time Jews used the word *paraskeue* (getting ready) for Friday, meaning the “day of preparation”. Other names for the day are “Holy Friday” among the Latin nations, “Great Friday” among Slavic peoples, “Friday of Mourning” in Germany, and “Long Friday” in Norway. “Good Friday is a day that proclaims God’s purpose of loving and redeeming the world through the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is a day that is good because God was drawing the world to God’s self in Christ. As seen in John’s gospel, particularly, God was in control. God was not making the best of a bad situation, but was working out God’s intention for the world... winning salvation for all people. We call it “good” because we look backward at the crucifixion through the lens of Easter!”



**Pastor's
Corner**

After an unusually cold winter, I am certainly ready for the coming of spring and warmer weather. Springtime in the Carolinas always seems to renew my faith in the providence of God as I begin to see new growth in the flowers and trees and hear the birds begin to sing a new song.

That excitement over the change in nature also reaffirms my faith as we begin the 40 day journey we refer to as Lent. The Lenten season in the church calendar is a period of spiritual and religious preparation observed often through the disciplines of prayer, penitence, and self-denial. This spiritual journey leads us up to Easter Sunday as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and reflect upon what this monumental event means to us as His followers.

Most of us will observe Lent in one of two ways. One way we do so is to give up a favorite food or activity like chocolate or a TV show. Another way is to take on an activity or practice such as reading a devotional or volunteering for charity work. Which-

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

ever way we may chose to observe the Lenten season, it is an opportunity to focus and reflect upon our humanity, sinfulness, and the amazing grace of God.

In Christ,

Kurt

**Joint Ash Wednesday And
Maundy Thursday Services**

Please plan on attending our **joint Ash Wednesday Service** with Central United Methodist Church on **Wednesday, March 9, at 6:00 p.m.** here at **Mt. Zion**.

The joint **Maundy Thursday Service** will be Thursday, **April 21st, 6 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church** located at 722 W. Main Street (= Hwy. 93 about a block from downtown headed toward Clemson).

Luke 22:19

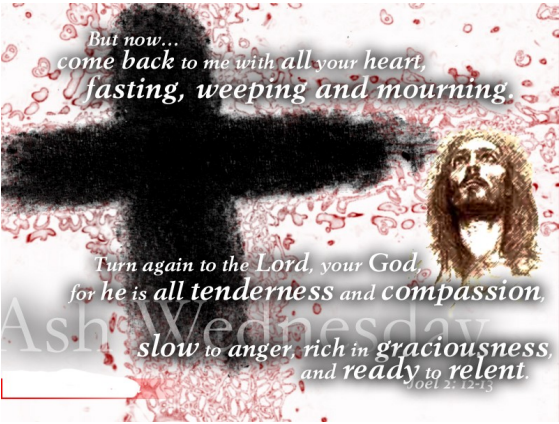


This year's UMW **Spiritual Growth Retreat** at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center at Lake Junaluska, N.C., has the theme "Worshiping God in the Midst Of It All". Session I is **April 29-30** and Session II (a repeat of I) is **April 30-May 1**. This year's leader is Angella Current Felder, author of Breaking Barriers: An African American Family and the Methodist Story. Reservation forms have arrived. Call the church office or Sharon Miller (654-1151) if you need a copy and/or more information.

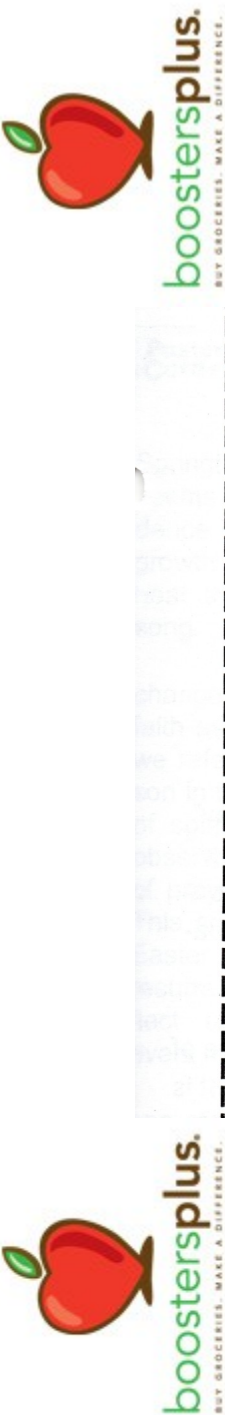
A number of Mt. Zion ladies attended the presentation by **Sue Carter Stout** on **Saturday, March 5**, at **10:00 a.m.** Her topic was **Kairos Outside**. She explained the ministry and ways to participate in the week-end event. The next Kairos Outside begins the evening of April 1st at the Wesleyan Camp at Table Rock. If you were unable to attend the meeting Saturday and would like to sign up to be a Day Angel, pray or just want more information, contact Sharon Miller at 654-1151 or miller2@earthlink.net. Thanks to everyone who brought or sent the many agape items for the ministry, contributed "green" agape (\$101.00) and/or honored us with your presence. P.S. Sue's next book , Prosperity, is at the publisher and the 3rd in the series, Mount Pleasant, is on the way.

The Eloise Gaines Circle

The Eloise Gaines Circle met in January and February with five members and several visitors. Each month the members bring food items for the church panty and collect pennies for a general fund. Greeting cards are signed and mailed to all the church shut-ins. On March 1st, pledges for missions were made. The Circle meets the first Tuesday of each month in the downstairs meeting room. We welcome new members and visitors to join in for fellowship and prayer. Elizabeth Fiinley



If someone should ask us to name an evening service held yearly at Mount Zion, many would recall the well-loved Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve. What about other evening gatherings? Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a time of penitence for Christians. Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper before the Crucifixion. (cont'd p. 3)



We are participating in BI-LO's boostersplus fund-raising program this year. We can earn money for PREVENT CHILD ABUSE PICKENS CO by simply shopping at any BI-LO with our BONUSCARD. Just give one of the enrollment cards below to the cashier along with your BONUSCARD to be scanned within your grocery order. This one-time scan will enroll you for PREVENT CHILD ABUSE PICKENS CO until May 31 and we will receive one percent of your purchases. Give the extra enrollment cards to family and friends so they can help us raise money as well.

1. Give this enrollment card to the cashier with your BONUSCARD one time during the program term.
2. One percent of your purchases will be donated to your designated group through May 31.
3. Call 800-768-4438 if you have any questions.

PREVENT CHILD ABUSE PICKENS CO

0 000007 500992

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(A message from: **Press for Prevention, First Quarter 2011**)

The Parenting Place is a non-profit organization that has been serving Pickens County since 1991. We are affiliated with **Prevent Child Abuse South Carolina** and **Prevent Child Abuse America**. Our physical location is **The Parenting Place, 1899 Gentry Memorial Highway, Easley, SC.**

Mission:

To promote positive parenting and child health and development, thereby preventing child abuse and other poor childhood outcomes, and to stabilize the lives of the victims through support and services.



We work to help prevent child abuse. Our solutions focus on the families of children and the pressures surrounding them. We also focus on community outreach, ensuring that everyone understands their role in the protection of children.

Our programs and services help connect families to the resources they need and get communities involved. As a result, our programs:

- Boost parent's confidence
- Educate young mothers
- Reduce stress and isolation
- Educate the community

We all have them, I'm sure—a Bi-Lo Bonus Card. It's a way to save a little at the register and then receive money off your gas purchase at a Shell or Sphinx station. You can do your part to support Prevent Child Abuse by simply adding Prevent Child Abuse to your Bi-Lo card (see insert on the next page). It is really simple. You take the insert in this newsletter to Bi-Lo on your next shopping trip and at the register ask them to add Prevent Child Abuse to your Bi-Lo Bonus Card. Then, every time you shop, 1% of your purchases will be donated to Prevent Child Abuse!

We are also looking for volunteers. We are looking for:

- * Newsletter writers / Contributors
- * Website Designers
- * Clothing Closet Organizers
- * Poker Pro's (for the Ride)
- * Event Planners who are also Football Fans (for Cheer for Children)

For more information, check out our new website address at
www.theparentingplacepca.org.

Church observances of both holy days usually take place around twilight. Both occasions point us toward Easter Sunday and the triumphant celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

For several years, Mount Zion has joined with Central United Methodist Church to hold Ash Wednesday and Holy Thursday services-on at each church. A fair number of our parishioners usually attend when Pastor Kurt McPherson preaches at Central UMC. Last year when Pastor Calvin Smith brought his Central flock to this church, the worshippers included a good showing of our guests, the Mount Zion choir and musicians (presenting special music), and only about four others from our own church.

In March and April, the two churches plan once again to hold joint services on Ash Wednesday (at Mount Zion UMC, March 9, 6 p.m.) and Holy Thursday (at Central UMC, April 21, 6 p.m.). If you feel moved to observe these two holy days in the spirit of preparation for Easter and if you feel moved to share Christian fellowship with our neighboring United Methodists, won't you please gather for these special times of worship. Your presence is very important.

Myra Armistead, Chair

Worship Committee



Daylight Savings Time!

Don't forget Daylight Savings Time starts Sunday, March 13. Since it's Spring, we'll be "springing" ahead by advancing our clocks by one hour.



The family of Selma Agnes Morgan Bray. Before she was unable to attend, Agnes was a member of the Dolly Brock Circle and Adult Sunday School Class at Mt. Zion.

Lillie McPherson and family in the death of her grandmother, Carol Pursley.

Randy Martin and family in the death of his mother, Juanita Whitt Martin.



The Grief Support Group meets at Mt. Zion on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Please see Dr. David Connor or the pastor for more information (639-2101).



✓ **BIRTHDAYS in March:**

Karen Martin (5)
Gail Wingard (7)
Neil Smith (8)
Matthew Watkins (8)
John Reeves (11)
Steve Meisbauer (16)
Betty Walters (17)
Mike Ferguson (18)
Ramsey Clayton (24)
Sadie Atkinson (25)
Allison Wingard (25)
Loralee Mullinax (25)
Scott Smith (28)
Elizabeth Finley (28)

✓ **BIRTHDAYS in April:**

Ronald Nonnenberg (1)
Miriam Coffman (21)
Wayne Coffman (25)
Myra Armistead (29)
Jan Miller (30)

Bible Study

Currently meeting at 10 AM in the dining room, every other Friday. Contact John Youngblood at 639-8102 for more information.



✓ **ANNIVERSARIES in March:**

John & Kristine Reeves (8)
Kurt & Lillie McPherson (8)
Trent & Ginger Allen (13)
Ronald & Eileen Nonnenberg (21)
David & Cherylene Amidon (27)
Scott & Karen Smith (30)

✓ **ANNIVERSARIES in April:**

Al & Susan Cumbie (7)
John & Sheila Malmgren (8)

God Bless You on your special days!

Please call the church office (639-2101) with additions and/or corrections.



***Flower
Calendar***



The **Flower Calendar** is located upstairs (entering through the left door) at the back of the church between the water fountain and the Youth Sunday School Class. The other calendar is the birthday calendar (entering through the right door)

Just as a reminder, flowers for the first Sunday of the month should be **white for Communion Sunday**.

In observance of Lent, **no flowers** will be used for the following Sundays: **March 13, 20, 27 and April 3 and April 10.**

A sign-up sheet will be in the bulletin soon for the Easter Lilies. **Easter is April 24 this year.**



Our food pantry here at Mt. Zion is running low on laundry detergent, dishwashing detergent and canned meats. Help us replenish our shelves with your donations.

Mt. Zion and Lawrence Chapel will be collecting food for Clemson Community Care in May.

Sunday, March 13th—Covered Dish Luncheon following the worship service.

**Saturday, March 26th—100 Year Family Reunion of the Old Pendleton District.
10:00 AM-5:00 PM**

Held for the second year at the Southern Wesleyan University Dining Commons, this event is sponsored by the Birchwood Center for Arts and Folk-life. Free and open to the public, if you are interested in genealogy of local families who have been in this area for at least one hundred years (Mt. Zion has a number of them), you will definitely want to attend. For more information, visit <http://birchwoodcenter.org> or call 864-898-0840.

Saturday, April 23rd—Central Railroad Festival. 10AM-7PM.

This event will take place in downtown Central, is free and open to the public. Although there will be entertainment, food, music, arts and crafts vendors and rides for children, the festival's main feature is the Central Railway Museum. Located at 108 Werner Street, the museum is the former home of the late B. E. Allen family. Mrs. Allen is the name sake of Mt. Zion's Mattie May Morgan

Allen Circle and author of the books, Central, Yesterday and Today, 1873-1973 and The Story of Mount Zion Methodist Church, Central, S.C. 1830-1967.

The museum has O, S and Standard gauge model train layouts. The Standard layout is the **ONLY** operational Standard gauge layout in a public museum in the United States!

The Central History Museum will also be open during the Festival and one of its rooms is designated the "railroad room". Included there, is a model of how downtown Central looked in the 1930's. This museum is the former home of Mt. Zion members, the late Jephtha Morgan family.