



# 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*

As I am writing this we are in the midst of a presidential election. I have not lived through many of them, but of the ones I remember this one seems to have brought out more disrespect on both sides than usual. For those of you looking for me to guide you on who to vote for, I do not think that is what a pastor is for. We are also watching protests in Charlotte and Tulsa. These are not the first riots or protests we have seen. I understand how someone can see these things and say that America is going down a bad road.

I have read many things written by people much smarter than me. I have read things from Republicans and Democrats. I have read things in support of the protests and against them. I am not sure I have any answers for what is going on or how to fix it. I am not sure that there is an answer or a remedy that will make everything better instantly. The one thing that I am looking for in all of this is love. Some may find this naïve but let me tell you why I am looking for love.

"He (Jesus) replied, *You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.* All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands."- **Matthew 22:37-40**

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**The Christmas Season** is almost upon us. The choir at Mt Zion United Methodist Church will combine with the choir at Lawrence Chapel United Methodist church to perform "Christmas Canticles" by Benjamin Harlan as our Cantata Musical. This fresh and singable arrangement captures the spirit of Christmas music in all of its variety, from joyous to the gentle. Both choirs are excited to be working together to deliver such a powerful story, the birth of our Savior. Susan Cumbie, choir director at Lawrence Chapel and Malek McDuffie will work together as directors to perform this piece with the choirs. The choirs are already working hard and will be continuously working until the time comes.

"Christmas Canticles" will be performed by the combined choirs at Lawrence Chapel on **December 4 at 10:30 a.m.** and at **Mt. Zion on December 11 at 11:00 a.m.**

And also I am very happy to have Rebecca Pape back with us as our Pianist we are very excited to work with you again.

**Malek,**



**The Trustees** want to build a wheelchair accessible restroom upstairs. The cost to construct this will be more than the balance remaining in the McAlister Fund (\$13,408.21). We will be getting quotes for the cost of construction and will provide additional information as it is available. Anyone may make a donation to the McAlister Fund to go toward the restroom construction. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to the McAlister Fund.

Submitted by:  
Jerry Chandler  
Trustee Chairperson



# **Those Who Serve**

## **Nursery**

### **October**

2nd - Elizabeth Bowman/Catherine Ferguson

9th - Jane Jones/ Janet Crenshaw

16th - Ginger/ Isaiah Mullinax

23rd - Libba Carson/Randy Martin

30th - Karen Smith/Cindy Owens

### **November**

6th - Heather/Benji Cumbie

13th - Jan Miller/ Vickie Miesbauer

20th - Ashley/Drew Gelder

27th - Sharon Chandler/ Terri Lee



## **Children's Sunday School Teachers**

**October** - Drew and Ashley Gelder & Gene Aiken and Randy Martin

**November** - Karen Smith and Cindy Owens & Ginger and Trent Allen

## **Scripture Readers**

**October** - 2nd Lynn Martin, 9th Benji Cumbie -16th BJ Skelton-23rd Sharon Chandler– 30th John Reeves

**November** - 6th Elizabeth Finley– 13th Serena Miles– 20th Lynn Martin– 27th Benji Cumbie

**Welcome new members:** **Katie Aiken** and daughters, **Ann Michelle** and **Lily**, arrived at Mt. Zion a year ago with Pastor Gene and were welcomed in the May-June 2015 newsletter. Katie is originally from New Orleans, LA and is now working for Pickens County Adult Education. They have joined Mt. Zion by transfer of their membership from Bethel United Methodist Church in Jackson, SC.



It was almost 46 years to the day that **Doug and Johnnie Walker** said “I do” again at the altar of Mt. Zion. This time it was part of their vows as they transferred their membership from Lyttleton Street United Methodist Church in Camden to Mt. Zion. After 45 years in Camden, SC, they returned to the Upstate. Johnnie grew up in Mt. Zion and there is some question as to whose blood is the most orange, hers or her brother’s, Al Cumbie. Doug is originally from Kershaw, SC. He retired from Management Operations with UTI Worldwide and enjoys golf. Johnnie was a speech pathologist. They have two daughters/son-in-laws and five grandchildren... who all love Clemson football!!

**Martha and Cecil Rowland** live in Central. They got married in this church, . Martha formerly Martha Mullinax, is the sister of Mary Nichols and sister in law of Ginger Mullinax . They have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. Martha works at Brookdale Senior Living and Cecil works at Oconee Nuclear Station. They are transferring their membership from Trinity Wesleyan Church in Central, SC.

*Welcome*



**Loretta Rae Todd**, daughter of Haley Lee and Steven Todd, Grandparents are Terri and Steve Lee, great-grand mother, Rae Romberg.



**Anna Elizabeth Ray**, daughter of Joey and Ashley Ray, sister of Taylor and granddaughter of Scott and Karen Smith.



Proverbs 22:6 (New Living Translation)  
Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.

## **Birthdays**

October 4 Lane Miller, 8 Jeremy Allen, 13 Lynn Cureton, 19 Jane Jones, 26 Catherine Carson, 28 Haley Lee, 31 Frances Reid

November 2 Elaine Bullock, 2 Katie Aiken, 4 Joe Dyar, 7 Dean Finley, 13 Chris O'Dell, 14 Kristine Reeves, 15 Mary Handegan, 16 Carlisle Jones, 23 Pam Baker, 29 Charlie Six, 30 Frances Snipes

## **Anniversaries**



October none

November 10 Steve and Terri Lee, 19 Wes and Shirley Witcher, 27 Ed and Karen Martin

**Welcome Mt. Zion's Secretary Jennie Brown**

If you have called the church office in the last few weeks, you have already been greeted by the soft-spoken voice of our new secretary, Jennie Brown.

Born and raised in Chicago, IL Jennie moved to South Carolina with her family in 2001. She is currently working online with Ashford University majoring in Criminal Justice, specializing in forensic science. Jennie



lives in Clemson with her two daughters, Maiesiah 13, Micahya 12 and her 8 year old son Preston. They attend Crosspoint Baptist Church in Clemson. She enjoys music and golf... If she can find any free time! **Jennie hours are 9-1:00, Mondays-Thursdays.**



## **The Church Calendar**

The following take place at the church unless otherwise indicated. In some cases more details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter and/or will be forthcoming in a church bulletin. Events take place at the church unless otherwise indicated. Note that information for each Sunday's bulletin is due by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday before. Email the church at: [mtzion@nctv.com](mailto:mtzion@nctv.com) with "bulletin" on the subject line.



**October 9 - Kathy Jones, Children's Ministry Consultant, will present ideas on Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm**

**October 16, 23 - We will have a Short term four week Bible Study on the book Luke, this study will meet Sunday Afternoons at 4:00pm (and on the 30th at 4:30pm) the study is part of Gene's ordination process. We would like as many As possible to come. If you plan on being there please let Pastor Gene know So he can make sure to have enough materials.**

**Sunday October, 23 - Trip to Denver Downs (See page 10)**

**October, 30– Church Council meeting at 3:00pm**



**Nov 6 - We will have a Short term four week Bible Study on the Book of Luke, this study will meet Sunday Afternoons at 4:00pm, the study Is part of Gene's Ordination process, we will like as many possible to come. If you plan on being there please let Pastor Gene know so that he can make Sure to have enough materials.**

**November 13 - Charge conference at St. Mark's UMC. Six churches will be Worshipping together and splitting off into separate rooms for their charge Conference meetings.**

**Sunday, November 20 -Bonfire -Hayride at Scott and Karen Smith's (pg 10)**

## Eloise Gaines & Dolly Brock Circles to Meet Monthly on 1st Wednesday

The Eloise Gaines and Dolly Brock Circles met together on **Wednesday, September 7th**, for their first meeting of the 2016-2017 calendar



year. They are going to lead the Operation Christmas Child mission again this year with the assembly of the shoeboxes at their next meeting on October 5. Boxes will be placed at the back of the sanctuary for easy access. The congregation will be invited to participate with the boxes being due on Sunday, November 13. At their meeting on Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, they will have a fun-filled packing party to fill up their contribution of 50 shoeboxes. All ladies are invited to help us with this project.

The September joint meeting guest speaker was Hannah Reeves who has a Master's Degree in Linguistics. She is a missionary working with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Their mission is to bring the Bible in print to the 1,800 dialects that have no Bible. For more information you may visit their website at [www.wycliffe.org](http://www.wycliffe.org).

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Anderson District United Methodist Women will be held on **Saturday, October 1, 2016**, at St. Luke UMC in Walhalla. The registration fee is \$5.00. Pre-registration needs to be completed by September 23. Registration at the event will be from 9:00-9:45 a.m. with the worship service starting at 10:00 a.m. The theme this year is "Blessed to Be a Blessing". Contact Elizabeth Finley or Sharon Chandler to carpool.





## Operation Christmas Child Shares the Good News of Jesus Christ



Whether the shoeboxes are delivered by a man leading a camel in Mongolia or by boys riding elephants in Zimbabwe, the ultimate goal is to bring joy to the children of the world who do not know about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As shoebox gifts are distributed, local pastors or church leaders present the Gospel in a fun way designed for kids while family and friends listen in. Along with their shoebox gift, children also receive The Greatest Gift, a colorful presentation of the Gospel in their own language.

Our collection date this year is **Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**. The ladies of the UMW will be assembling the boxes on October 5<sup>th</sup> for placement on the pews at the back of the church. Look for them and pick up as many as you are able to prepare!

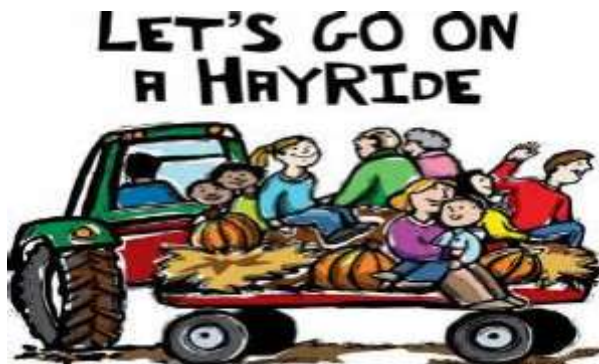


**The 14th Annual Ministers' Cook-Off** will be Thursday November 3 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Clemson UMC. This annual event benefits Safe Harbor. Safe Harbor is a non-profit agency that provides services to victims of domestic violence and to their children. Last year this event raised over \$10,000 for Safe Harbor. Our very own Pastor Gene and the Beverly Smith Guild won two prizes for their entry. We encourage you to come out and support this very deserving cause. Come get some good food and support your church and this cause!



**Trip to Denver Downs** we will be visiting Denver Downs on Sunday October 23. A Lunch for our Children and Adults participating will be provided Immediately following the worship service. After lunch, we will go to the corn maze and all the other fun, fall activities that Denver Downs offers.

**Bon Fire and Hayride** We will have our annual Bonfire and Hayride at the home of Scott and Karen Smith on Sunday, November 20 at 5pm. Come Join us for all the fun as well as pizza and S'mores.



“I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other.”- **John 13:34-35**

“Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other.” –**Romans 12:9-10**

I think what we are missing is finding ways to love each other. I have my own ideas as to how this happens, but we all need to figure out how to do this together. Loving one another does not mean that we need to all agree on everything. Loving one another does not mean that we just go with what the other person says. Loving one another means listening, respecting, and caring. All of this starts with prayer. During this season I am praying. Praying to learn to love others more. I am praying to find peace in the midst of chaos. I am praying for the love that God has shown us to be reflected in myself. I hope you will join me in this prayer.

In Christ,  
Gene

*Amazing*  
**LOVE!**



We remember **Norma Malmgren**, mother of John Malmgren. Norma passed away on September 17th. Please keep John and his family in your prayers.

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

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Announcements for the bulletin need to be sent to Jennie by noon on Wednesday to be put in the bulletin for the following Sunday. Email them to [mtzion@nctv.com](mailto:mtzion@nctv.com) and put bulletin on the subject line. Also, articles for the newsletter need to be submitted to Jennie at [mtzion@nctv.com](mailto:mtzion@nctv.com) with newsletter on the subject line. Newsletter submissions are due the last Sunday of November, January, March, May, July, and September.

Contact Information

Church Secretary: Jennie Brown [mtzion@nctv.com](mailto:mtzion@nctv.com)

Office: 864-639-2101

P.O. Box 186 Central, SC 29630

Pastor Gene Aiken

E-mail: [eeaiken@umcsc.org](mailto:eeaiken@umcsc.org)

Cell: 864-952-9537

Office hours: Mon. – Thurs. 9-12