

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*

Kurt's Corner

Recently I heard someone state that pastors who say the same things over and over again, week in and week out, need to throw those phrases out of their vocabulary for a while. It made me wonder if I repeat the same words each Sunday and they might have become stale.

One such phrase that I have a hard time not repeating are the words "amazing grace." When I think about Jesus' love for us I cannot help but think about "amazing grace." This grace is the basis for my faith in God and inspires me to continue living the Christian life.

Grace is best defined as a gift from God (John 3:16). Grace is God's love and mercy given to us because God wants us to have it. Grace is not something earned because we did something (Ephesians 2:8-9).

John Wesley's faith was based upon the grace of God as well. In fact, for Wesley, the grace of God was the central element of his theology. He believed that God's grace stirs in us an awareness of God's love for us and reveals our sinful nature. It is God's grace that moves us to seek repentance for our sins and turn our lives in a new direction (Matthew 4:17).

God's grace also enables us to have faith in Jesus Christ and be justified in Him (Galatians 3:24). It is God's grace that calls us to have "a new birth" (John 3:7) and helps us transform our lives as "new creatures in Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:17). It is God's grace that moves us to live holy lives, "love our neighbors as ourselves" (1 John 3:11), and do "good works" (James 2:17).

I cannot think about Jesus without thinking about grace. Now you know why I speak about it so much. Isn't it amazing?

In Christ,

Kurt

Bi-Lo will contribute a percentage of sales to three chosen charities for each Bi-Lo Bonus Card. If you would like one of yours to be Clemson Community Care, (CCC) just take this page to Bi-Lo. When you check out, ask them to scan this bar code below. You will only need to do this once each year, but make sure you do re-register each year by July 1st. Then you will be donating with each Bi-Lo purchase! Clemson Community Care will appreciate these donations.



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.

CLEMSON COMMUNITY CARE



In Memory of Sara Parsons

1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Several years ago my husband Dean and I made a commitment to attend Mt. Zion UMC. One Sunday Sara Parsons come up to us and she spoke to Dean. "You have been to church three Sundays in a row. Now let's see if you can make it four!" Wow! She meant business.

Sara was one of those church members that are steadfast in attendance. She had her spot to sit; and it was a fixed feature, almost part of the service. We depended on her presence and she rarely failed.

Sharon Miller, our United Methodist Women's President, pointed out that Sara was a part of a group of UMW members that are good, modest, unassuming, pious women, who truly have been nourishment to the superstructure of the organization and also to the superstructure of our church. She was faithful in prayer and service. Sara may have never had her name printed in any missionary magazine, but her sacrifice, labors of love and prayer, supported the structure of the UMW and our Mt. Zion United Methodist church.

I still look for her car parked at the front door of the church and imagine I see her seated in her pew. Sara, we miss you and thank you for all your years of dedicated service to this church.

Most Sincerely,
Elizabeth Finley



The church has received the following thank you from Randall Parsons:

"Thank you for your kind words, gift, wonderful lunch, and all the prayers. The nieces and nephews really appreciate all that Aunt Sara's friends and church members have done. I have been very busy going to and from Central and Savannah. As most of you know, there is much to do in these situations. As soon as I can, I will visit one Sunday morning to personally thank you all. Aunt Sara was one of the best. My grandfather and her helped mold me into a better man and person. She will never be forgotten. Again, thanks for all you have done."

Mark Your Calendars

Men's Club: Sunday, September 9 at 8:30 a.m.

UMW Joint Meeting : Saturday, September 29 at 10:30-11:30 a.m. (Church)

The fall joint meeting will be a **Mission Fair**. Have you ever wondered about the **Five Missions** and how we have earned a **FIVE STAR AWARD**? Come and munch on **pop-corn and cotton candy** while learning about these missions!

Tailgate at the Parsonage: Sunday, October 14 at 5:00 p.m. (Parsonage)

By tailgating in October this year, we will have more pleasant fall weather and heat will not be such a factor. As usual, we ask church members to bring their favorite side dish or appetizer. The church will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs. Hope to see you there!

UMW Tasting Luncheon for Missions: Saturday, November 3 at 11:30 a.m. (Church)

Ladies will again fix their favorite recipe(s) for our guests to eat. These recipes will be featured in this year's luncheon cookbook.

Charge Conference — Thursday, November 8 at 7:00 p.m. (Church)

CROP WALK

The CROP walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 7, 2012. As of now, Mt. Zion does NOT have a representative to pass out donations envelopes and do the publicity for the church. Unfortunately, I cannot commit to this worthwhile cause this year. I cannot even walk due to a family wedding that weekend. CROP does international donations, but the local donations go to Clemson Community Care. CCC received over five thousand dollars last year due to CROP. It is the biggest actual fund raiser for the year. Please consider this service. If not, please consider walking in the CROP or sponsoring a walker. We do need a couple of walkers too.

I recently helped with the Back to School Workshop sponsored by Clemson Community Care. Representatives from all the Daniel and Pendleton area schools shared information with parents and had a hot dog supper one evening at Goldenview Church. These are parents who normally work and often may be intimidated by the school setting. Students whose parents were in attendance received free school supplies. Supplies were given to around 185 students. These students got backpacks with their names on them as well as the supplies requested by their school and grade. They were given out the day before school started, allowing those kids to feel as prepared as the other kids. This was a good thing. Rotary and many other organizations and individuals donated to this worthwhile endeavor. On Tuesday, I delivered any extras to the schools so they can have a stash of supplies for any needy student.

Thank you for your continued support for Clemson Community Care.

Vicki Miesbauer

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was held July 15-19 cooperatively with Lawrence Chapel UMC. Our theme for the week was "Operation Overboard" with children ages 3-5th grade in attendance. Children experienced God through storytelling, music, recreation, and crafts. Our VBS served 34 children, had 11 youth involved, and 30 adults helped in all areas of the venture.



Adults from Mt. Zion that assisted were Amy Evans, Kurt and Lillie McPherson, Leah and Dave Armstrong, Beth and Chris Bowman, Elizabeth Finley, Janet Crenshaw, Jill Sims, and Libba Carson. The children had a busy and fun time and we greatly appreciate all the help that was given.

Safe Water Mission



Earlier this summer, we approached our Mt. Zion congregation about a project that we were supporting through our Vacation Bible School. Our theme for VBS was called "Operation Overboard" and our entire week was centered on water. This included our Bible stories, our activities, some costumes and even our nightly food. The mission was to raise money for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) that would provide water pumps for wells in vulnerable communities outside the United States. Each pump cost \$150.

As our eager children were stationed at doors for several Sundays to collect contributions, we had no idea we would receive such an outpouring of love and support. We are also grateful to several families that purchased a well on their own for our mission. Our church alone purchased 6 wells. The combined efforts of Mt. Zion, Lawrence Chapel, and money that was collected nightly at VBS purchased a total of 14 wells.

Your generosity has been so greatly appreciated. We want to extend a very sincere thank you to the entire congregation. This exceeded any expectations that we had and it just shows what a loving church family we have.

The New Brass Urn

We thank Eileen and Ron Nonnenberg for donating a lovely brass urn, which is now available for altar flower arrangements. Please contact Kristine Reeves (639-6918) or Myra Armistead (639-6240) if you would like to use this decorative container.



Birthdays

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

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), Lillie McPherson (28)



Anniversaries

September: Henry & Peggy Bodie (22)

October: None

Welcome New Member Sam Blackman

Sam is in his 26th year working in the Sport Information/Media Relations at Clemson University's Athletic Department

He graduated from Clemson in 1985 and received two Master's Degrees from Clemson in 1987 and 2006.

Sam grew up in Calhoun Falls, SC. He was a member of the Calhoun Falls First Baptist Church.

His hobbies are sports and he has been studying Karate for the last 15 years. He loves animals and owns four cats. He also loves history, especially Clemson sports history. He co-authored a book entitled Clemson—Where the Tigers Play in 1999, a history of Clemson Sports.

New Books in the Church Library

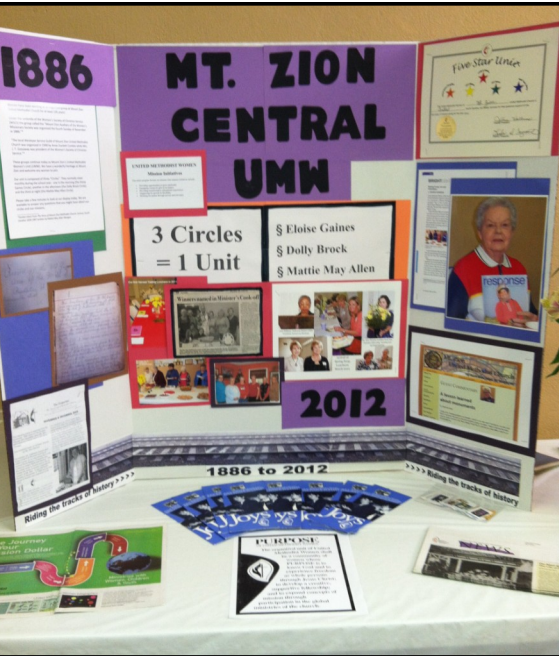
Sharon Miller has donated the following books by Franklin Graham to the church library:

Living Beyond the Limits: A Life in Sync with God
Rebel with a Cause: Finally Comfortable Being Graham -
An Autobiography

Anderson District UMW Celebrates 40th Anniversary

The 40th Annual Meeting of the Anderson District of the United Methodist Women will be held at the First United Methodist Church, Easley, SC on October 13. Each unit in the district has been asked to celebrate this event by creating a display of their church's history. Our unit decided to do a display board highlighting the beginning of our unit in 1886 with the first meeting of the Mount Zion Auxiliary of the Women's Missionary Society. A photograph showing the first page of their minutes makes one realize just how far back our history goes. The display then progresses from left to right showing newspaper articles, newsletters, pictures, snapshots of pages captured from our website, and our latest UMW award.

Incorporating this historic event into our activities this fall, the Mt. Zion UMW Executive Committee decided to celebrate this anniversary by providing an "Anderson District Anniversary Cake" as dessert for the church luncheon on Sunday, August 26, 2012. The display and cake were a definite "hit" and enjoyed by all.



Mt. Zion's UMW display board featuring our history from 1886 to the present. Many thanks to Sharon Chandler and Elizabeth Finley for their work in preparing this display.

Thank you to Paige Evatt for taking these wonderful photographs!



A Strong Heritage at Mount Zion

By Sharon Miller

Women have been working as an organized group at Mount Zion United Methodist Church for at least 126 years!

Under the umbrella of the Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) the group called the "Mount Zion Auxiliary of the Women's Missionary Society was organized the fourth Sunday of November in 1886."*

"The local Wesleyan Service Guild of Mount Zion United Methodist Church was organized in 1948 by Anne Duckett Cumbie while Mrs. J. T. Gassaway was president of the Women's Society of Christian Service."*

These groups continue today as Mount Zion's United Methodist Women's Unit (UMW). We have a wonderful heritage at Mount Zion and welcome any woman to join.

Our unit is composed of three "Circles". They normally meet monthly during the school year: one in the morning (the Eloise Gaines Circle, Leader Elizabeth Finley, 639-4397), another in the afternoon (the Dolly Brock Circle, Leader Ann Wilbanks, 885-6023); and the third at night (the Mattie May Allen Circle, Leader Vicki Miesbauer, 654-5766).

Please feel free to visit all three circles to find the "best fit" for your schedule. Participation in the UMW is one way to share your God given talents and experience Christian fellowship with other women.

*Quotes taken from *The Story of Mount Zion Methodist Church, Central, South Carolina 1830-1967* written by Mattie May Morgan Allen .