

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*

Meet Our Oldest and (soon to be) Youngest Members

Did you know that children we baptize are members of our church? Although not counted towards our statistics, baptized members are full members of our local church family and the church universal. That being said, we are excited to announce:

The Baptism of Lucy Gelder on September 28, 2014

Plan to welcome her into the family and celebrate afterwards with a potluck lunch!

Meet Sara Payne Kelly:

She is Mt. Zion's oldest member. This photo was taken on Sept. 2nd. She will be 102 on Sept. 19th. Sara joined Mt. Zion in 1935 having come to Central upon her marriage to T. P. Kelly. Sara faithfully attended church and participated in many areas of Mt. Zion's ministry as long as her health permitted. She was treasurer of women's groups in some capacity for over sixty years. Along with the late Nancy Kirkley, Nita Boggs and Catherine Abbott, Sara became known as one of the Mt. Zion "Golden Girls". With three daughters, she was involved with everything from the youth groups to the church bazaars. Active in the Central community as well, she was instrumental in getting the first Central Branch of the Pickens County Library. With the help of her daughter, Sara Lou, she still resides in her own home in Central.



God Bless You, Mrs. Kelly!

Tailgate at Mount Zion

We will be having our church-wide tailgate following the morning worship service on **Sunday, October 19**. This will be a lunch and we will gather downstairs and outside, weather permitting. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, "fix-ins" and drinks. Please bring your favorite tailgate side or dessert. You may also want to bring a chair as we can sit outside under tents, tailgate-style. Hopefully we will have nice fall weather and the children will also be able to play games outside. Please feel free to wear your team colors to church that day. Everyone is welcome...invite someone to come with you to church!



Filled with New Life: The Sacraments of Communion and Baptism

By Rev. Michael Goldston

Last January, Anna and I traveled to the Holy Land. We walked through the ruins of the house of Peter's family in Capernaum, mentioned in Mark 2 as Jesus' home where he taught crowds so thick that people had to lower a paralytic man through the ceiling to reach him. In Nazareth, we prayed in the church built over Mary's house where the mother of our Lord lived after the resurrection. In both places, I felt connected to the earliest Jewish-Christian communities who joined together there in the name of Jesus to share the Communion meal and baptize new members into their community, as Jesus had taught them. These two worship practices were recorded in the scriptures in the Gospels and the letters of Paul, handed down through church tradition, and are experienced now as the ordinary means by which God sends grace to us, God's people.



Peter's House in Capernaum

United Methodists, along with most Christians, recognize baptism and Communion as sacraments. John Wesley affirmed Anglican teaching that they are "outward signs of inward grace," meaning that God works in and through our actions to fill God's people with grace. Although God can work in extraordinary ways, these are the ordinary ways God comes to be with us.

Baptism is part of our lifelong process of salvation by which we receive new birth into the church, the body of Christ. By water and the Spirit, we are united to the death of Jesus Christ, thereby dying to sin. "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:5). Through the same water by which we were born, by which God saved Noah, by which God saved the Israelites at the Red Sea, we are reborn to new life in Christ, repenting and accepting forgiveness. The Holy Spirit comes in power to heal our sinful nature and to seal the baptized into God's covenant people.

Therefore, baptism is not only an individual act of repentance and cleansing, but also a communal act of the body of Christ. The people of God celebrate the growth of God's kingdom and promise to form the baptized in faith. Accordingly, we baptize infants as a sign of God's prevenient grace already at work in the child's life and as recognition of the communal responsibility for salvation. Baptism reminds the community of our new identity as children of God, justified by Christ's faithfulness and pledged to build each other up in lives of faith.¹

Our life of faith together is sustained by the Lord's Supper. Communion has several names that recognize different aspects of the sacrament. The Lord's Supper is "food of our souls" by which we receive a foretaste of the heavenly banquet that Jesus shows us at the feeding of the five thousand. In the Eucharist, from the Greek word for thanksgiving, we give thanks to God for God's mighty acts of salvation in Christ. In Communion, Christ binds us together in love into his body. All of these terms describe the sharing of bread and fruit of the vine (wine or juice) by the baptized and repentant community of faith.

In the United Methodist Church, we believe in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and juice. The community gathers and speaks historic words of thanksgiving and remembrance. A person set apart by the community re-enacts Christ's actions to take bread, give thanks, break it, and give it to the disciples. By a holy mystery, we receive Jesus' body and blood. As Charles Wesley writes, "Who shall say how bread and wine God unto us conveys...fills his faithful people's hearts with all the life of God! Sure and real is the grace, the manner be unknown;" Our new life, begun in baptism, is sustained in Communion.²



Altar at the church over Mary's house in Nazareth

As we baptize and share Communion with reverence and joy using traditions we have shared for generations and throughout the ages, we also look to the future as we grow together in grace. To share the joy of new life in our church begun in baptism, we are beginning a new tradition of celebration following worship in which people are baptized. Our tradition of kneeling together to receive Christ's body and blood and sharing one loaf offered by one of our own members may be strengthened by sharing one cup as well. In these acts, we will stand on the foundations of our forbearers at Mt. Zion and the historic church while at the same time growing and changing to serve our present and future community by offering the grace of God in Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit in the sacraments.

¹ "By Water and the Spirit: A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism," in *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church*, 2008, 6-12.

² "This Holy Mystery," in *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church*, 2008, 20-22.

Calendar for September and October

The following take place at the church unless otherwise indicated. In some cases more details can be found in this newsletter and/or will be forthcoming in the church bulletin. Note that information for each Sunday's bulletin is due by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday before. Email to Chery Amidon at: camidon@clemson.edu

September:

- 14—Blood Drive, 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Lawrence Chapel UMC (call Bev Cureton @ 639-2794 to sign up for a 15 min appt.)
 - Epworth Work Day Offering at 11:00 a.m. worship service.
 - Cookies due for Men's Kairos.
 - Women's Day Service at 3:00 p.m., Central UMC. Theme "On the Wings of a Butterfly..."
- 17—RAPpers (senior group) 12:00 noon (pot-luck lunch)
- 20—Stewardship Summit at Shandon UMC, Columbia, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- 28—Baptism of Lucy Gelder at 11:00 a.m. service

Dinner to welcome the Goldston family and Lucy following the worship service.

October:

- 1—Bible Study, 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m. at the parsonage
- 5—World Communion Sunday
 - Men's Club at 8:30 a.m.
 - Crop Walk 2 p.m.
- 7—Circles, 2:30pm
- 8—Bible Study, 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m. at the parsonage
- 15—Bible Study, 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m. at the parsonage
- 18—Annual Meeting of the Anderson District UMW, 9:30 a.m.—12:00 noon at St. John's UMC, Anderson
- 19—Tailgate after worship service (see pg. 12 for details). Cookies due for Women's Kairos
- 22—Bible Study, 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m. at the parsonage
- 26—Deadline for November-December issue of *The Grapevine*
- 29—Bible Study, 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m. at the parsonage

SAVE the Dates:

- November 1st—Fall Festival at Asbury Hills Camp and Retreat Center, Cleveland, SC
 - 11th—Minister's Cook-off, Clemson
 - 16th—8:30am Men's Club Pancake Breakfast. Free! All welcome!
 - 9:45am, Mt. Zion's Charge Conference with District Superintendent (DS)
 - 11am Worship Service with our DS, Rev. Susan Leonard-Ray



The **42nd Annual Meeting of the Anderson District United Methodist Women** will be held from 9:30 a.m. until noon on **Saturday, October 18, 2014 at St John's UMC**, 515 S. McDuffie St., Anderson, SC. The theme is Grace for Mission. The registration fee is \$5 and with lunch, \$12. Lunch is 12:00 -1:00 p.m. Elizabeth Finley will be sending in our registration form when all have been notified. See Elizabeth at church, a UMW meeting, or call at home, 639-4397, if you'd like to join us as we car pool to this meeting.

Youth Rebirth

Mt. Zion youth are meeting soon to discuss the possibility of uniting with the Lawrence Chapel UMC youth group. To do so, we need committed adult volunteers to encourage the growth of the lives of faith of our youth. If interested, please contact Pastor Michael.

Mt. Zion RAPpers (Really Adult People)

The RAPpers will be meeting at noon for a pot-luck lunch and planning meeting on Wednesday, September 17th. Bring a dish, a friend and ideas. ID's will not be checked! For more information, contact Kristine Reeves at 639-6918.

Starting in October

Weekly Bible Study will begin October 1st on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the parsonage, 203 Joseph St. in Central. Led by the pastor, we will start with fellowship, study the sermon scripture from the previous Sunday, and end at 7:30 p.m. The Methodist movement began in mid-week Bible study led by John and Charles Wesley at Oxford, so who knows what will come of it? All are welcome.

New Pictorial Directory

Elizabeth Finley will be taking pictures before and after worship starting the month of November for a new pictorial directory. The directory is intended for church member use and will not be posted online. Please take the time to have your picture made.

Mission Corner

Mt. Zion’s UMW Circles resumed after a summer break with a joint meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 2nd. Elizabeth Finley’s program highlighted the section of the UMW Purpose which states: “United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is...and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church”. It was followed by the completion of their **summer mission project of preparing health kits**. A total of fifty kits were blessed on Mission Sunday, September 7th, and sent on their way to **UMCOR (the United Methodist Committee on Relief)**. Thanks to all those who donated a Health Kit, materials for a kit and/or money to purchase materials and/or pay mailing expenses. The estimated value from UMCOR of the value of the contribution is \$600.



Clemson CROP Walk October 5

CROP walks are a vital source of income to hunger-fighting programs around the world and is Clemson Community Care’s biggest fundraiser. We will walk as a team, led by Vicki Meisbauer. Contact her to join. Corporate sponsors are also welcome!

Kairos Prison Ministry

We are supporting Anderson District Kairos Prison Ministry for the men’s weekend on September 18-21 and women’s weekend on October 23-26. We will conduct a prayer vigil for both weekends (sign up after worship). The UMW are baking cookies. Everyone is asked to write encouraging letters, and children can decorate placemats and posters with Christian themes. Sponsorship is also available. Contact Elizabeth Finley, Benji Cumbie, or Pastor Michael for more information.

Mt Zion UMC

2014 Financial Summary

	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>June Quarter</u>	<u>Better/(Worse) than Budget</u>	<u>Year</u>	
						<u>To Date</u>	<u>Better/(Worse) than Budget</u>
<u>General Fund</u>							
<u>Budget</u>	\$14,167	\$14,167	\$14,167	\$42,500		\$85,000	
<u>Actual Expenses</u>	\$10,376	\$9,295	\$19,622	\$39,293	\$3,207	\$75,351	\$9,649
<u>Actual Income</u>	\$10,463	\$10,703	\$11,114	\$32,280	(\$10,220)	\$75,317	(\$9,683)
<u>Actual Gain/(Loss)</u>	\$87	\$1,408	(\$8,508)	(\$7,013)		(\$34)	

Expenses were high for the June due to our Quarterly Apportionment payment, Conference expenses, and replacing the air condition unit at the Parsonage. In addition to the above income and expenses, we funded our support to Epworth, \$2148, and had a Love Offering, \$544.

With our gifting remaining below our budgeted level, we will continue to monitor our finances closely.

Welcome New Members !!



It is more like, “welcome home” for **Lynn Cureton** who grew up in Mt. Zion and was rearing her children here until they moved. Those three children are grown now and she has four grandchildren. Lynn lives in Easley, but works in Greenville where she is the office manager at Triad Grading. She enjoys teaching Sunday school. Lynn comes to us on transfer of her membership from Lawrence Chapel UMC.

Anna Anderson and Mary Grace Goldston

transferred their membership from Platt Springs UMC in West Columbia, SC. We found out lots about them in the July-August 2014 issue of *The Grapevine* as husband/father, Michael, Mt. Zion’s new pastor, introduced his family. **Mary Grace** will be two on Sept. 29th and she is expecting a baby brother in January.



B. J. Skekton has lived all of his life in the Clemson area. Retired from Clemson University, he taught for twenty-one years in the Horticulture Department and was Vice Provost for twelve. B. J. has four children, nine grandchildren and a great-grandson. He is a certified Lay Servant and comes to Mt. Zion on transfer of his membership from Lawrence Chapel UMC.



THANKS to ALL Who Serve During Sunday Worship Service!

Nursery

Sept 07—Heather & Benji Cumbie

Sept 14—Jan Miller & Sara Sarasua

Sept 21—Libba Carson & Vicki Miesbauer

Sept 28—Wayne and Chandler Coffman

Oct 05-Elizabeth Bowman, Catherine Ferguson

Oct 12—Jane Jones & Janet Crenshaw

Oct 19—The Sims family

Oct 26—Open

Nursery Help Needed We are in need of volunteers to be in the nursery during the Sunday School and Worship times. We always have two people in the nursery together. You would be responsible one Sunday every other month, or six times a year. If you are able to help with this, please call Libba Carson (639-6522) or Elizabeth Bowman (885-2223).

Children’s Church— Led by Libba Carson, Jane Jones and Jan Miller. Children’s Church will not meet on Communion Sundays (1st Sunday of month).

Acolytes

Sept. 07—Jeremy Sarasua

Sept. 14—Isaiah Mullinax

Sept. 21—Grayson Bowman

Sept. 28—Quint Cumbie

Oct. 05—Braelin Cumbie

Oct. 19—Mason Sims

Oct. 26—Quint Cumbie

Scripture Readers

Sept. 07—Serena Miles

Sept. 14—Ansel Miller

Sept. 21—Sharon Chandler

Sept. 28—Dean Finley

Oct. 05—Wayne Coffman

Oct. 12—John Malmgren

Oct. 19—Sharon Chandler



News From the Conference

Stewardship Summit on September 20, 2014 at Shandon UMC (3407 Devine St. Columbia, SC 29205) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Summit will include time for worship with Bishop Holston as well as a time for learning and discussion about What does a More Excellent Way of Stewardship look like? In your life? In the life of your local church? In the life of the SC Annual Conference. The Summit's keynote speaker will be Rev. Ken Sloane, Director of Stewardship & Connectional Ministries Leadership Ministries Division at GBOD.



At the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church, *Lay Speaking* was changed to *Lay Servant* since responsibilities extend beyond speaking. Lay Servant Ministries involve Leading...His Church, Caring...for His People and Communicating...Our Faith. Many opportunities exist for the certified lay servant, among which are leading a Bible

study, starting a prayer ministry, teaching Sunday school, participating in a prison ministry or visiting shut-ins.

To become a Certified Lay Servant, one must take the Basic Course followed by an Advanced Course. Once certified, an Advanced Course must be taken every three years in order to remain certified.

The Anderson District Lay Servant School this fall will be held on the following dates and times at Zion UMC (5708 Hwy.187) in Anderson. (Your next opportunity will be February 1, 8 and 22 in 2015 at Bethel UMC in Iva.)

October 5—2:45 to 6:30 p.m., October 12—3:00 to 6:30 p.m.

October 26—3:00 to 6:45 p.m. with closing service at 7:00 p.m. Visitors are welcome at the closing service which is followed by a reception.

For more information contact Rev. Goldston. Cost is \$35.00 and **deadline for registering is September 15th.**

Anyone may take a Lay Servant class. If you are not interested in certification, but are interested in continuing education and study about the United Methodist Church and growing deeper in the Lord's care, you are welcome.



September: Ed Martin (1), Drew Gelder (3), Sam Miles (5), Dick Singleton (10), Sharon Miller (14), Terri Lee (15), Sara Kelly (19), Bonnie Littrell (20), Kathy Still (20), Chelcee Coffman-Baker (22), Ginger Mullinax (23), Allison Mullinax (24), Lynn Martin-Wisham (25), Mary Grace Goldston (29).



October: Glenn Abbott (1), Jonathan Sarasua (1), Lane Miller (4), Anna Goldston (8), Jeremy Allen (8), Ron Goldstein (11), James Sarasua (12), Lynn Cureton (13), David Connor (15), Jane Jones (19), Catherine Carson (26), Haley Lee (28), Frances Reid (31).

September: Joey & Amy Parsons (13), Sam & Wanda Miles (21), Henry & Peggy Bodie (22), Michael & Anna Goldston (27)

October: None

Please notify the church office (639-2101) if we do not have your special date.

Goodbye and Best Wishes to Sean Baker who has blessed Mt. Zion with his faithful presence and skill at the control panel for our sound system during the past year. You will be missed, Sean!



- ◇ **Blake Jones** upon his graduation from Clemson University on Friday, August 8, 2014. He received a BS degree in Sociology and a minor in Psychology. Blake is currently working for The Reserve at Lake Keowee, Sunset, SC.
- ◇ **John Wisham and Lynn Martin** who were married on August 2nd.
- ◇ **Robert Musgrave and Shannon Jenkins** who were married on August 2nd.



To the family of Jerry and Sharon Chandler upon the death of his grandson, Nicholas Chase Stewart, on July 10th.