



Prayer List

Dock Allen, Heather Bowes, Jerry Brand, Sabra Brown, Pat Campbell, Jackie Carter, Cline Chandler, Yvonne Chapman, Harry Clayton, Mary Frances Clayton, Terry Clayton, Daniel Cole, Robert Crumpton, Jason Daughenbaugh, Dana Davis, Robert Davis, Al Day, Effie Dowell, Margaret Eidson, D. A. Fields, Brooke Fuller, John Garrard, Ray Garrett, Walter Gray, Anthony Green, Janet Guess, Julie Gurtner, Dorothy Whitfield Harrington, Mary Harrison, Lucy Hawkins, Susan Hicks, Betty Hill, Crystal Hughes, Charlene & Pete Hunley, Ronnie Jackson, Pattie Sue Jones, Mike Kempson, Travis Loftis, A.E. Long, Dorothy Long, Renea Long, Sherman Long, Dora Anne Maness, Vera Mays, Luke & Becky McKinney, Jim Nance, Arther Oakley, Buck Oakley, Flint Oakley, Marvin Paradis, Neil Pennell, Linda Pennington, Mike Perry, Frank Poindexter, Richard Poole, Mike Porterfield, Emma Jean Powell, Coleman Rimmer, Logan Rimmer, Dot Roberson, Jake & Faye Roberts, Ethel Russell, Rebecca Saunders, Virginia Scott, Nita Sikes, Catherine Smith, Vera Solomon, Hilda Stox, Peggy Suchil, Neil Titus, Taylor West, Tammy Whitt, Vivian Wilkerson, Patsy Williams, Malcolm Wooten, the family of Dennis Brann. Military: Charles Bradsher, Michael McClung, Travis Long, Eric Price, William Price, Jr., Matthew Tuck.

Upcoming Ministries

Prayer Ministry

We meet every other Wednesday at 7 pm. We will continue to develop this ministry with an aim of integrating 'prayer' (thru prayer chain, prayer cells, home-based prayer groups) in all the ministries of the church.

Children's Ministry

We will be inviting all SS teachers, leader & volunteers working with children from ages 0-5th grade for a Children's Ministry Meeting on Sept. 17 Sunday at 4 pm) to assess where we are, develop goals & timetable, and present new initiatives such as Sunday School Rotation, Godly Play & Parents Network. Anyone who is involved/in this ministry are invited to attend.

Youth Ministry

In the next few weeks, we will guide this group in developing ministry plans & goals until May 2007. As to the UMYF group, we're blessed to welcome back David & Wendy Jones as they accepted our invitation to provide leadership among UMYF. We decided to have a UMYF Pool Party & Cookout at the Solomons' on Sept. 24, Sunday right after the 11 am service to bring the kids back into the 'loop'.

Young Adult Ministry

Mike, Merle & Pastor Ed led a meeting on Young Adult Ministry last Aug. 29 to share ideas and thoughts on how to reach out this age group and develop ministries for ages 18-30 years old. The result was to have a Youth Adult Bowling Fellowship on Sept. 17 (Sunday afternoon). If you

are interested in developing and leading this ministry please contact Pastor Ed.

Caring Ministry

Pastor Tony & Pastor Ed will lead a meeting on October 1 (Sunday at 5 pm) for volunteers and helpers who are interested in starting 'Caring Ministry'. We will recruit & train team of volunteers who will assist the pastor in Hospital/Bereavement Visitation & Follow-Up and developing a Lay Shepherding Ministry.

Outreach Ministry

Pastor Ed initiated an Outreach Committee meeting last August 6 for the purpose of organizing this group. Mt Zion is already doing a lot of outreach ministries and we need to have a pro-active team that will develop and sustain our outreach programs. Our next Outreach Committee meeting will be on Sept. 10 (Sunday at 5 pm).

Communications Task Force

This task force was formed on August 13th to make recommendations for improvements, changes and concepts of the way we communicate information to our church members and to ensure all communication is the same. This team will also over see and coordinate all news media for the Church. Their next meeting is September 26th at 7:30 pm.

Mt. Zion Happenings

A Newsletter of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
September, 2006

Volume 6 Issue 9

A Faith Sharing - "Can One Church Make a Difference?"

By Sandy Davis

Can one church make a difference? Can one church make a difference in a person's life? Can one church make a difference in a community? Think about these questions.

Members of the Pastor Parrish and Building Fund Committees met Rev. Edgar De Jesus for the first time on April 6. Dr. Judi Smith, district superintendent, facilitated that meeting asking each person to answer the questions, "What is special about Mt. Zion?" "Why do you attend here?" Answers could be placed into three categories. The first category was you, the people of Mt. Zion. Secondly, were the programs and ministries offered to children, youth, and adults. Thirdly, the responses focused on how the members of the church reach out to people in the community. How would you have answered that question? What would be on your list? Would it be Bible School, a special Sunday School teacher, a revival you attended, MYF memories, the love and support you experienced when you lost a love one, Circle friends and activities, the altar where you gave your heart and life to Christ, or the fellowship of making a stew, meeting and working with someone you did not know?

When I think of Mt. Zion, I think of a church with a rich heritage. Many of you can trace the 200+ year history through ancestors who founded this church and served it diligently over those years. I'm sure when the founders and later members discussed the building of a church or fellowship hall they asked the same questions we ask today. "Do we need to build, and if so, what?" And of course, the difficult question of "Where will the money come from?" They may have referred to the first four verses of Hebrews 11 to remind themselves of the definition of faith and how such an undertaking could be accomplished. They were in essence thinking of you and me. They were answering the question..."Can one church make a difference?"

I do not know what the future hold for Mt. Zion, but I believe through faith that God holds the future and is in control. I do not think about what the new facility will do for me, although I know I will be blessed by it. Instead, I think of the young children who come to the altar each Sunday morning to the Children's' time. Too, I think of the unborn children who at this time are known only to God. They are the future of our church and our community.

As we think of the challenges of a building project, may we not feel overwhelmed. Instead, may we think of the opportunities it holds. May we strengthen our faith as the great characters in the Bible did as they put their trust in a loving and almighty God. One action each of us can take daily is to pray. Pray for the people of our church and for the project before us. Pray that God will grant a depth of faith not experienced before in your life.

As you spend time with God this week while reading your Bible and praying, may I suggest you reflect upon several questions. What would you like this community to be like in 2050? Can one church make a difference in a person's life? Can one church make a difference in a community? Is that church Mt. Zion?

PASTOR'S COLUMN

The Spirit is moving! We are in the Pentecost season and I am reminded in the Scripture of the dramatic transformation that occurred in Acts 2 among the apostles who go from covering disciples to fearless evangelists through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. I have witnessed the tremendous outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the past few weeks here in Mt. Zion. The Spirit is moving in our Sunday School Promotion Sunday last August 20. It's amazing that we have more than 90 attendees that came to Sunday School last Sunday. The Spirit is moving when we get our hands dirty at the Beef Stew Cutting the following day with a joyful heart. It was my first experience, and I was amazed with all the presence of the young and old folks. The Spirit is moving when we help serve lunch and share Christ at the Christian Help Center. The Spirit is moving whenever we visit our folks in the nursing homes, shut-ins and hospitals. The Spirit is moving for our Spirit-filled Gospel Music Concert last August 26. Many were drawn closer to Jesus Christ through music, praise and testimonies. And more than 700 folks came and we raised more than \$15K towards our Building Fund Campaign. The Spirit is moving in our communal worship life just about every Sunday here at Mt. Zion. A faithful member recently told me, *"I always look forward being there at worship every Sunday. It makes me feel closer to God."* Indeed, the Spirit is moving when we hold hands together in our Prayer Team meetings claiming the power of the Holy Spirit that guides us in all what we do here in Mt. Zion.

Please join with me in continually praying to revive the power of Spirit in our hearts— that God will enable His Church through us to spread the good news of salvation, so that all nations may hear the Good News of Christ salvation and welcome the Spirit into their lives. The Spirit is moving!

In His Love,

Pastor Ed

**Circle
News**

Joint Circle Meeting
Sept. 12th
7 p.m.

Ann Whitt from Volunteers
in Mission will be speaking
in the Fellowship Hall.

Tony's Cajun Dinner

Friday, September 22
6:00 pm

Come and enjoy an authentic canjun
dinner and great fellowship.

Submission Information

Please e-mail any items to:
mtzionhappenings@earthlink.net

Deadline for submission of articles is the
Friday
before the last Sunday of the month.
Issue date is the last Sunday of the month.

Mt. Zion Happenings

9/11 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

September 10th at the 11 am Service

We will be recognizing all members of our church in
Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement, both active and
retired.

BBQ CHICKEN DINNER, GOSPEL MUSIC AND AUCTION

September 9th

The menu will be BBQ chicken, string beans, new
potatoes, cole slaw, bread, drink, and dessert.

Dinner starts at 5 pm. Tickets are \$7.

Carolina Royalty Quartet to perform at 5:30 - 7:00

Auction will begin at 7:30.

Please join us for a...

"Floating Birthday Celebration"

In honor of Felton Laws' 90th birthday

Saturday, September 23rd 2 til 4 pm

Mt Zion UMC Fellowship Hall

Absolutely No Gifts Please!

Your presence will be enough.

PERSON COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE

Person County's Relay for Life Event is Friday,
September 29th @ Person High School. Come out
and support the fight against cancer.

MISSION TABLE

Some of you may have noticed the "Mission Table"
right before you enter the Educational Building.

UMCOR/MERCI (these are items needed to
complete partially made flood buckets) - bleach (50
oz), sponges, reusable cleaning towels, liquid
laundry detergent (50 oz), household cleaner (12 -
16 oz), clothesline (100 ft.), latex gloves, work
gloves, heavy duty trash bags (33 - 45 gal), insect
repellant spray (6 - 14 oz).

Christian Help Center - canned soups, canned
spaghetti, paper towels, toilet paper, treat meat,
men's clothing.

MT ZION SHIRTS

The shirt order deadline is Sept 25. Order forms are
on the secretary. See Kate Holeman.

MISSION SPOTLIGHT - CHRISTIAN HELP CENTER



The Christian Help Center is a non-profit organization seeking to meet the emergency needs of
the citizens of Person County. Their mission is based on the words of our Lord as found in Mat-
thew 25:35-36. They are there to feed the hungry, cloth the naked, comfort the suffering in whatever way
they can. The center is able to fulfill this ministry by providing a food pantry, clothes closet, a hot lunch each
weekday. They also provide some financial assistance for utility bills for the unemployed, sick, elderly, etc.
Applications are taken and a committee reviews the applications before funds are disbursed.

During the past twelve months the Help Center has provided the following assistance: 6,506 individuals with
food from the food pantry; 5,908 individuals in the clothes closet; 6,304 individuals were served in the soup
kitchen; 297 utility bills were paid; 16 homeless and 17 fire victims were assisted and 10 families from
Katrina moved into the county and were assisted through the Center.

The Center is funded by Person County Churches, civic organizations, individuals, businesses, Person
County United Way, limited federal grants and fund raisers. Donations include: Money, good, clean
(seasonal) clothes, towels and wash clothes, bed linens, non-perishable food items, toiletries, small household
item. All donations are tax deductible.