

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church

M A Y 2 0 1 6 N E W S L E T T E R

Through the Windows

Mt. Zion exists to ...
+ Love God
+ Communicate God's love to families and individuals in
our community and beyond



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

General Conference is fast approaching! The United Methodist Church's top legislative body will meet in Portland, Oregon from May 10-20, 2016.

General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church. This global gathering of the church happens once every four years. The conference can revise church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for church-wide programs.

There are a variety of issues that will be discussed this year at General Conference. Among those are restructuring the ministries of the general church. The Detroit Annual Conference is requesting a change in the annual conference lay-clergy equalization formula that would base the formula for equalization of annual conference membership on average attendance of clergy and laity. The General Commission on Religion and Race is submitting legislation that would mandate commissions on religion and race in annual conferences of central as well as jurisdictional conferences, and expand the role of the conference commission. The Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders has approved a petition calling for limited tenure for bishops and changing the relationships of retired bishops from the Council of Bishops to an annual conference. A ministry study commission, formed by the 2012 General Conference, is proposing significant changes in the ordination process for elders and deacons and standards that are more rigorous for local pastors. Discipleship Ministries is proposing a new hymnal that would use digital technology to provide music and worship resources, customizable to meet the needs of different faith communities. These are just a variety of the issues that will be discussed.

While General Conference receives reports, votes on legislation, and passes a budget, but it is more than a business meeting. The General Conference sessions are the only time The United Methodist Church gathers from across the globe in a single location. In that sense, it is something akin to a family reunion. When delegates and volunteers gather together every four years, they take the opportunity to worship, remember, and celebrate.

....continued on page 3...

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Olivia Poole-Reneau
Lay Leader	Carol Duke
Church School Superintendent	To be Filled
Children's Ministries Coordinator	Sara Banks
Youth Director	Lucas Tribble
Nursery Director	Nikki Bonner
Pianist	Greg Waldrep
Organist	Jeannie Boehmler
Secretary	Heather Wilmot
Custodian	Mary Canty
Newsletter Editor	Sarah Andrews



**CHILDREN'S MOMENTS/
CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

- 1- Olivia/ or Lucas/Communion
- 8- Lucas or Olivia/Sara B.
- 15- Sara B./Sarah A.
- 22- Jeannie/ Kim R.
- 29-Olivia/Rusty

USHERS:

- 1-Tommy Henderson & William Spear
Alt. Buddy Pittman
- 8- Randy Hodge & Buddy Pittman
Alt. Tommy Henderson
- 15-Doyle Pair & James Baker
Alt. William Spear
- 22-Tommy Henderson & Buddy Pittman
Alt. James Baker
- 29- Tommy Henderson & William Spear
Alt. Buddy Pittman

HOSPITALITY:

- 1- Hank Holland
- 8- Micki Thornhill
- 15-Jeannie Boehmler & Guerry Lowther
- 22- Carolyn Garnett
- 29- Linda Archer

**BIRTHDAYS &
ANNIVERSARIES**

MAY BIRTHDAYS
11- Haley Morgan
12- Sharon Carpenter
17- Sarah Andrews
19- Carol Duke
22- Shirley Garrett & Jenni Howard
24- Don Kellett
28- Buddy Pittman
30- Dillion Terry
31- John Barr



16- Mark & Dianne Stein



Please Contact Hank Holland if interested in placing Flowers in the church

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- 2-Trustees Mtg @7p
- 9-Finance Committee @7p
- 23-Admin Council Mtg @7p

Every Sunday:
Choir Practice @5pm
Prayer Mtg in Joy Class @6pm

Every Wednesday:
Supper @5:30-6:30pm
Children Ministries @630pm

Every Thursday:
Youth Ministries @ 6

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 7-VBS Workshop at 10am
- 8- Mothers Day
- 10-20-General Conference in Portland, OR
- 22- Pentecost Ministry Celebration; FUND the Fence Luncheon for Children's Ministries Playground

STEWARDSHIP
REPORT FOR
MAY 2016



OFFERING TOTALS:

4/3/16 \$3,797.50

4/10/16 \$2,898.50

4/17/16 \$1,515.00

4/24/16 \$ 706.82

Antioch Update

The Antioch Project is underway with the Imaging committee's work. They are looking at ways to make our church more inviting to those who visit. Mission and Visioning Committee will be created next and the coach for this will be Dr. John Ed Mathison, former Senior Pastor at Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church. Dr. Mathison will help us create a mission and a vision that will relate to every aspect of ministry. Following this we will work on discipleship and, finally, worship. Sarah Goosby and Robbins Simms will be our coaches for discipleship and Geoffery Lentz will be our coach for worship.

Continued from Page 1....

We are a worldwide church and have congregations from Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America. While there are various languages, cultures, and countries represented, the work of General Conference is to unite the global church. The worship of General Conference celebrates our unity and diversity. Eleven worship gatherings and nine opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion are offered during the 11 days. This worship reminds each delegate and volunteer that we are a connectional church. United Methodist Churches do not stand alone as local congregations. Rather, we are part of a larger mission.

I have been asked to attend General Conference this year as a monitor for the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women. My responsibilities include monitoring those who are called upon to speak in legislative sessions to ensure that all people from our global church are represented. I will collect data each day and process statistics that are submitted to the Bishops who preside over these meetings. It is an honor to be asked to serve the church in this way!

I invite you to participate in General Conference by praying daily for the delegates who will be making decisions that impact our global church. Pray for God to guide the General Conference's decisions, for Christ to lead us into the future, and for the Holy Spirit to empower us to go on toward perfection in our love of God and one another. The Upper Room has created *60 Days of Prayer for General Conference 2016*, a guide to lead us in prayer for the days leading up to General Conference, the days of General Conference, and the days that follow. You can sign up to receive the daily meditations and prayer prompts by email at 60daysofprayer.org. I invite you to pray for the delegates from our Annual Conference by name. Our Delegates and Reserve Delegates are the Following: Steve Furr, Lawson Bryan, Pat Luna, Larry Bryars, Beverly Maddox, Jeremy Pridgeon, Clara Ester, Dawn Wiggins Hare, John Brooks, Frank Moore, June Jerinigan, Robert Powell, Rurel Ausley, Frank Dunnewind, Cory Smith, Rob Gulleddge, Tonya Elmore, Malcom Floore, and Emily Kincaide.

We serve an Almighty God and a church that seeks to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Thanks be to God!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Olivia

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS
COMING UP!
JULY 11-15TH

PLEASE SEE SARAH ANDREWS FOR
MORE INFORMATION ON HOW YOU
CAN HELP!

Join the Zion Kidz

The 2nd & 4th Sunday's at 3:30pm
Bible Adventures with Gizmo, Chris and Joy



The United Methodist Men

The Men's breakfast is the 4th
Sunday of each month at 7:30am and
all men are encouraged
to attend.



WOMENS COVENANT GROUP

On the third Sunday night of each month, Pastor Olivia will be hosting a monthly women's covenant group for those who serve in our children's ministry. After meeting with our Children's Ministry Team, it has become heavy upon my heart that we must provide an opportunity for growth and discipleship for those that volunteer in this area. All women are invited to attend and become part of this covenant group, which will meet in my home. This women's covenant group will not be a bible study, but rather, an opportunity to share our joys and concerns with one another and faithfully pray for each other.

Mt. Zion's Community of Faith





MT. ZION
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

2616 Lee Road 243
P.O. Box 205
Smiths Station, Alabama 36877

Phone: (334) 298-4337
Pastor Email: olivia.poole@gmail.com
E-mail: mtzionumcsmiths@gmail.com

Mount Zion United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 205
Smiths Station, Alabama 36877