

# Mt. Zion United Methodist Church

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 7 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

### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Olivia Poole-Reneau
Assoc. Pastor	Rev. Lucas Tribble
Lay Leader	Carol Duke
Children's Ministries Coordinators	Brooke Miles & Sarah Andrews
Youth Director	Rev. Lucas Tribble
Nursery Director	Nikki Bonner
Pianist	Greg Waldrep
Organist	Jeannie Boehmler
Secretary	Heather Wilmot
Custodian	Mary Canty
Newsletter Editor	Sarah Andrews



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of Christ our Lord! I can hardly believe it is already December. This past month we have welcomed the community into our church through the fall festival, remembered those Saints who have gone before us, and invited the community to our church for a community Thanksgiving service. I am truly humbled by the manner in which you allow God to work in and through you.

As we enter into this Advent Season, we begin to prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of a child.

The United Methodist Church describes Advent in this way,

The season of Advent, which comes from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming" or "visit," begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve.

As Taylor Burton-Edwards notes, the Christmas Season "begins with the birth of Jesus and gives us two full weeks to encounter the extraordinary love, threats, dangers and opportunities God's Incarnation [in the birth of Jesus] set off then and still sets off today." God entered our world, not as a conqueror but an infant, demonstrating the depth of God's love — and a radical vision of peace and love — for all creation.

It is during this season we prepare and wait. We prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ and we wait anxiously for his birth. It is also during this time of year that we look to the second coming of Christ. We joyfully anticipate that great day when the Kingdom of Heaven will come to this earth.

One of my favorite days of the year is December 24th. This year we will have Sunday worship at 11:00 and Christmas Candlelight worship at 6:30 p.m. It is during this time that we gather as a community of faith and, once again, welcome Christ into this world..

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MT. ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



3- Tommy Henderson & William Spear  
Alt. Buddy Pittman

10- Walter Champagne & Buddy Pittman  
Alt. Tommy Henderson

17-Doyle Pair & James Baker  
Alt. William Spear

24 -Tommy Henderson & Buddy Pittman  
Alt. James Baker

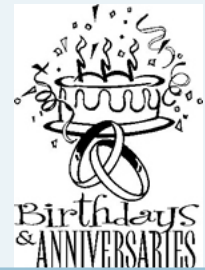
31-James Baker & Jeremy Nelson  
Alt. William Spear

**HOSPITALITY:**

- 3--Hank Holland
- 10– Micki Thornhill
- 17-Jeannie Boehmler
- 24- Carolyn Garnett
- 31-Linda Archer

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 2-Don Gilbert, Matt Anderson, Keith Banks
- 7-Richard Terry
- 8-Amber Howard
- 15-Earl Stone
- 16-Tommy Henderson
- 17-Samuel Rhames
- 19-John Boehmler, Christian Arnold
- 23-Faye Crandall
- 25-Mark Stein, Stephen Stokes
- 29-Nikki Bonner
- 30-Cameron Carswell
- 31-Elaina Howard, Carter Donaldson



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1-Dave & Debbie Wilmot
- 17-Eric & Shirley Garrett
- 21-Don & Carol Duke;  
Bill & Carolyn Franklin
- 28-Bobby & Barbara Franklin



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

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- 5– Charge Conference
- 6-Trustees @6PM
- 13-Finance @ 7PM
- 26-UM Men @730AM

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

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 3-Chrismon Service 6pm
- 9-Secret Sister Party @Terry Shepherds;  
Lauren Duke & Chris Anderson Wedding @6pm
- 10-Caroling to homebound members @6pm
- 13-Longest Night Worship Service @630pm
- 17-Christmas Cantata @ 3pm; Youth Christmas Party @6pm @Olivia's
- 24-Sunday Worship @11am; Christmas Evening Candlelight Worship @630pm



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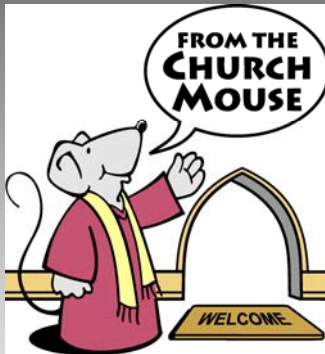
It is on this evening that I am often reminded of Fredrick Buechner's words from *The Magnificent Defeat*, "For outlandish creatures like us, on our way to a heart, a brain, and courage, Bethlehem is not the end of our journey but only the beginning - not home but the place through which we must pass if ever we are to reach home at last."

Each year, Bethlehem marks the beginning of the journey. It is not the culmination of the time of waiting and hoping that Advent permits, but rather the beginning of faith. It is a time of renewal in which I am reminded that peace is possible and hope is sure.

I pray that you will have a holy Advent that is filled with wonder, love, peace, and joyful anticipation.

Grace and Peace,  
Reverend Olivia

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



The new church office hours are Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:00a.m.- 2:00p.m.

Through Our Gifts  
2017 General Fund Budget \$131,552  
Weekly Budget Needs \$2,530  
Actual YTD \$ 79,551.43



# Mt. Zion's Community of Faith



## **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.**





MT. ZION  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

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