



MOUNZION
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
serving Christ & the community since 1831

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 8 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



1) Angels from the realms of glory,
 wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 ye who sang creation's story
 now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Come and worship, come and worship,
 worship Christ, the newborn king.

2) Shepherds, in the field abiding,
 watching o'er your flocks by night,
 God with us is now residing;
 yonder shines the infant light

Come and worship, come and worship,
 worship Christ, the newborn king.

About two thousand years ago God gave his one and only son, Jesus, to the world. He chose a young woman named Mary to bear this unblemished male child: "And she gave birth to a son" (Luke 2:6). The Redeemer was presented in the humble setting of a shepherd's cave and was laid in a manger, where animals went to be fed. It was the perfect place for the Savior to appear.

In Bethlehem there is a large church called the Church of the Nativity that was first established in 327a.d.. It is a rather plain church, but when you go inside, you find a door in the floor that leads to the cave under it. As you go down some steps, you arrive at the cave, and find it has been highly decorated over the years. In one corner an old Coptic Priest stands and offers a blessing on every one who enters the cave. And, then you quickly find a huge star with a hole in the middle. It is believed that this is the actual spot where Jesus was born. All those who enter are allowed to bow down and pray.

When I visited Israel, I bowed and prayed at that spot. I realized I had followed in the steps of the shepherds, who heard the birth of Christ announced by the angels.

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**CHURCH
 STAFF**

Pastor	Rev. Jimmy Boone
Lay Leader	Tommy Henderson
Children's Ministries Coordinators	Brooke Miles & Sarah Andrews
Nursery Director	Nikki Bonner
Pianist	Greg Waldrep
Organist	Jeannie Boehmler
Secretary	Heather Wilmot
Custodian	Mary Canty
Newsletter Editor	Sarah Andrews

DECEMBER



2- Tommy Henderson & William Spear
Alt. Buddy Pittman

9- James Baker & Buddy Pittman
Alt. Tommy Henderson

16- Tommy Henderson & Walter Champagne
Alt. William Spear

23- William Spear & James Baker
Alt. Tommy Henderson

30-Buddy Pittman & Jeremy Nelson
Alt. Walter Champagne

HOSPITALITY:

- 2- Hank Holland
- 9- Micki Thornhill
- 16-Jeannie Boehmler
- 23- Carolyn Garnett
- 30- 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-Carter Donaldson, Elaina Howard



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



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

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3-Trustees @ 7PM
10-Finance @ 6PM
NO Admin Council this Month
NO UM Men this Month

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2-Chrismon Service @ 6pm
- 4- Golden Agers Luncheon @ 11:30AM;
- Annual City-wide Christmas Tree Lighting @ 6pm SS City Hall-Zionkidz to perform puppet show
- 8-Christmas Caroling
- 9-Christmas Cards/Ornaments for Seniors @3-5pm, see Sarah Andrews for more info
- 15-Youth Christmas Party @4:30pm, see Kim Rhames for more info; Christmas Caroling
- 16-Visit from Hamar, Keeper of Inn in Bethlehem;
- Christmas Cantata @ 1st UMC of Phenix City @3pm
- 18-Boy Scouts Christmas Party
- 19-Churchwide Christmas party @6pm, bring finger foods & snacks. Also bring \$10 wrapped gift for man/woman, AWANA Christmas Party upstairs
- 24-Candlelight Communion Service @5pm

Continued from Page 1...

The shepherds had actually been in the Shepherds fields outside of town when they heard the message from the Angels that a Savior was born. The shepherds were probably in one of the many caves located there. With the sheep behind a fence in one end of the cave, the shepherds had a fire at the entrance where they stayed to keep watch over the sheep, and stay warm.

The Angels appeared and announced the good news " But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:10-12)

At Christmas, we are reminded that we are called to come and worship. You may not be in the Grotto in Bethlehem or hear the Angels singing, but we too are called to come and worship.

The word *Advent* is derived from a Latin root meaning "to come." Early Christian leaders recognized the need to set apart a special time to remember those long years of waiting and to provide time for people to prepare spiritually for the coming of Christmas. They acknowledged that getting ready for Jesus' coming has more than one meaning. Not only is it an annual celebration of an event that took place many years ago; it is a celebration of his coming to us each day as well as each year during the holy season.

In the coming days you will be preparing. We prepare as we decorate our homes and church. We prepare as we go shopping. We prepare as we worship together, sing the songs of Christmas, share in parties, and remember the birth of our Savior.

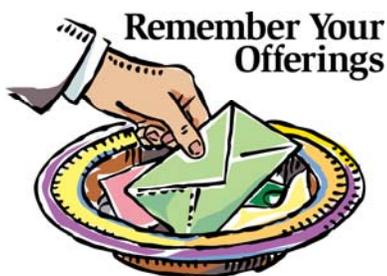
I pray that each of you will remember the wonderful message of the Angels, and plan to come and worship during this blessed season.

Be sure to look over all the events this month, and plan to be with us for all of them, as we come and worship.

Proclaiming "Jesus is Lord!"

Rev. Jimmy M. Boone

Pastor, Mount Zion and Union Grove Charge



Through our Gifts

2018 General Fund Budget: \$ 132,602

Weekly Budget Needs: \$ 2,550.04

11/18/18 Offering \$1,555.00

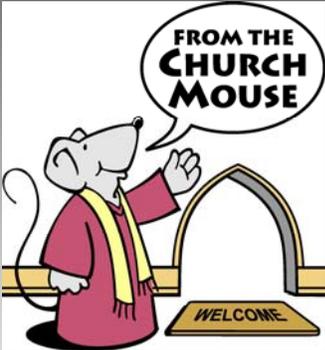
Actual YTD \$97,521.09

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Mt. Zion Youth Fundraiser

Our Youth are selling Poinsettia's. Small plants are \$10 and large are \$15 each. Donations can be made in honor or memory of a loved one. Please see our youth, Kim Rhames or Bro. Jimmy for more info if interested in purchasing a poinsettia.



**MT. ZION RISING
CHRISTMAS
CAROLING**

**Dates: December 8th & 15th
See Liz Waldrep for More
Info**



**Party Saturday December
15th @4:30pm, see Kim
Rhames for more info!**

**Youth Lock-In January 1st
Asking for finger food &
desserts**

We are partnering with one of our Scouts (Rafer Springfield) for his Eagle Project are helping to collect Donations for the Plummer House for Veterans in Columbus.

Items needed include: Full size men's toiletries, twin size sheets, blankets, Pillows, and towels.

Please turn in by 12/11/18



Need Volunteers to help Cut Grass at Church. If you are willing and able to help maintain the grounds. Please contact Tommy, Tex, or Buddy.

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.**



**M T . Z I O N
U N I T E D M E T H O D I S T
C H U R C H**

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