



May the **God** of hope fill you with all **joy** and **peace** as you **trust in him**, so that you may **overflow with hope** by the power of the **Holy Spirit**.

Romans 15:13

## RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

### PRAY

“Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” (Jeremiah 29:12-13)

### READ THE BIBLE

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

### RELY ON GOD

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

### ATTEND CHURCH REGULARLY

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:24-25)

### SERVE

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” (1 Peter 4:10)

### WITNESS TO OTHERS

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

### GIVE GENEROUSLY

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Ladies Book Club

Our December Book Club is rescheduled to January 5th at 6p. Join us in the Family Life Center for a great time to meet the “regulars”, check out what we’ve been reading, and share some food and fun. Bring finger foods to share. No worries if you haven’t read the December selection (“Paper Bag Christmas by Kevin Milne) - come be a part!

## New Wednesday Group

On January 7th at 6p we will begin the study, “The Biblio Diet”. This study is based on wisdom from the Bible and modern science and will enable you to eat and live God’s way.

*Sign up on the bulletin board or let the church office know if you would like to attend.* If you would like the book and/or workbook by Jordan Rubin & Dr. Josh Axe, please purchase those on your own.

## Men's Breakfast

All men (ages 12 and older) are invited to breakfast, fellowship, and spiritual growth on Saturday, January 10th, from 8-9:30a. *Sign up on the bulletin board.*

## Grappling Ministry

Grappling starts back up on Monday, January 12th at 9a or 7p. Learn how grappling basics can improve your spiritual/physical development.

## Thank You

*The nursing home party at Hickory Creek was a success. A big thank you to Mt Zion Wesleyan church for the Bingo prize donations. And thank you to Mt Zion Wesleyan Missions group for buying soft cozy lap blankets for each resident! You made their Christmas a little warmer!*

*Thank you to all of those who came and helped serve food, to those who played music and sang, gave devotions, to those who helped set up, to all of you who baked, and donated all kinds of yummy things to eat. A big thank you to my Thursday night Twisted Sisters group for the many ways you contributed! The residents were very thankful for all that was done for them. They received some love from Jesus through your hands and giving. I wanted to mention each and everyone of you, but was afraid I would leave that one person out, so just give yourselves a hug and know that you are loved much!*

-Anita Hillman

## MISSIONS NEWS

### December Missions Giving

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Global Partners                  |         |
| Faith Promise . . .              | \$900   |
| JESUS Film . . .                 | \$100   |
| Christian Love Help Center . . . | \$225   |
| Fleece Throws for                |         |
| Hickory Creek Residents . . .    | \$96.46 |

## Thank You . . .

We appreciate the 47 Christmas shoeboxes that you packed for Operation Christmas Child. Thank you, also, to those of you who donated postage money to send the shoeboxes. Enough money was given to pay for all the postage. Great teamwork!

## Thank You Mt. Zion

“Your generosity and faithfulness year after year are SO encouraging to us. Thanking God for you! Praying that the holiday season is full of joy and reminders of His goodness and provision for all of us.”

- Steve & Becca

## Attendance Last Month

|               | <u>12/7</u> | <u>12/14</u> | <u>12/21</u> | <u>12/28</u> |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Sunday School | 101         | —            | 51           | 54           |
| Worship       | 189         | —            | 220          | 163          |

## Basketball Rec Play

Join us on Thursdays at 6:30p. You can expect to play multiple games each evening, some full-court. Everyone over the age of 16 is welcome. Bring some water and a friend. If you have any questions, see Connor or Maddy Pyle.

## Year End Receipts

Year end receipts for 2025 giving will be mailed out by the end of January.



**Keep up with the church by liking and following our facebook page.**

(Search for New Castle Mt. Zion Wesleyan Church)

# KIDS & TEENS

## KIDS MINISTRY

We will jump back to the Old Testament in the midst of the reign of King Ahab. What mighty things will God do through Elijah? What will Elijah be feeling? Will he still obey?

**\*\*Kids Church for all ages will start at 10:20 moving forward.\*\***

December's Big Picture Questions:

**Elementary - Elementary-** How many gods are there?  
*There is one true God who alone deserves worship.*

**Older preK/K -** How many gods are there? *There is one true God.*

**Younger preK -** Know that the Lord is God. *There is no other!*

Key Verse: 1 Kings 8:60

### January 4th

Sunday, January 4th, is our New Year's Kids Church Celebration for all Kids! It's also pajama day in the Kids Wing. We'll have a great morning together and by the end, you'll see one of the reasons the church owns a shop vac!

### Kids Sunday School

This month in Sunday School, the elementary Sunday School class will be learning about Samson. In a culture that promotes self, we'll see how pride got in the way of Samson's purpose in God.

The younger Sunday School class is for those who have turned two years old through Kindergarten. Because of the broad age range, this will be review activities from their Kids Church experiences.

## Looking Ahead

February 15th - Hearty Party  
Winter Olympics: Kid Edition

## TEEN MINISTRY

We didn't get to do much in December, but we are ready to start the new year with you!

### Sunday Night Teen Group

Sunday Night Teens will start with how we can see Jesus throughout scripture and some practical Bible study tips. Bring your Bible and a notebook.

**January 4th . 5-7p . Annual New Year's Toast**  
Be prepared to be outside for 10 to 15 minutes.

**January 11th & 25th . 5:30-7p**

We will meet every Sunday evening in February.

### Sunday School

Jonathan Wells will continue teaching Sunday School for teens at 9:15 am the first few weeks of January. They will be finishing an advent series.

### Help Needed

The Teen Ministry needs more volunteers! There are roles for Sunday School, Teen Group, and events. Talk to Karyn Rogers for more info.

