

# Zebul on United Methodist Church

June 2018



*Transforming life through  
relationships with Jesus Christ*

**Then one of them (Peter) struck the slave of the High Priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, “No more of this!” and he touched his ear and healed him. Luke 22:50-51**

I grew up on James Arness, John Wayne, and Clint Eastwood. Always wanted to be a fast-draw artist and expert shot (I am pretty good, actually). Always believed in “frontier justice” and our right to defend our homes, our liberty, and the weak and defenseless among us. I think I am about as red blooded an American as anybody. So when someone from “outside” threatens, I am always quick to feel some righteous indignation and ready to cheer a decisive and powerful (i.e. overwhelming) response. My natural inclination was to equate the “shock and awe” bombing of Baghdad with Fourth of July fireworks! Don’t mess with US (of A)!

So what am I supposed to do/what are we Christians supposed to do with Luke 22:51? What does it mean that Jesus rejected armed defense by his supporters?

An aside: Most of the stories in the Gospels are not recounted in all four versions. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John rarely tell of Jesus’ life and teachings in the same way. For example, John leaves out the Sermon on the Mount and the Institution of the Lord’s Supper, and only Luke tells us that Jesus taught the Parable of the Prodigal Son. But all four Gospels record this story of a servant’s ear being lopped off by one of the disciples during Jesus’ arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, with Jesus issuing his strongest demand. “Put your sword away!” (Matthew 26:52; John 18:11) “No more of this!” (Luke 22:50) “All who take up the sword will perish by the sword.” (Matthew 26:52) “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me like bandit?” (Matthew 26:55; Mark 14:48; Luke 22:52) Like I said, What are we supposed to make of this? It is interesting to note that Israel was never commanded to choose non-violence in the Old Testament, and Jesus never explicitly demanded it as a general rule for his followers. But after Peter’s ear-whacking and Jesus’ violent death, we have no biblical or historical record of Christians using swords, arrows, or spears for military use or self-defense until Emperor Constantine recommended his Roman Army be baptized as Christians around 315 AD!

Our Lord Jesus had a different approach: “Do you think I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it (the crucifixion) must happen this way? (Matthew 26:54)” Jesus believed God was working redemptively behind the scenes, even beyond the violence.

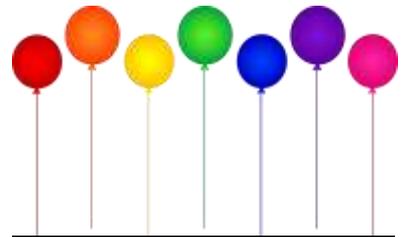
I am not saying that we Christians cannot defend ourselves, or that we cannot be a part of military action. Heck, I wanna go all “Clint” on the bad guys like everybody else!

I am saying that Luke 22 and Matthew 26 are in my Bible that I claim to believe and want to obey. So ..... I/we have to wrestle and talk about these inspired words and figure out the Christian boundaries of our willingness to employ violence, and we Christians need to back down a bit from smack talk and resist the temptation to believe that God gives us some inalienable license to use force against our enemies. Instead we are given a completely impractical rule - the Law of Love and Forgiveness that will only “work” if God sends His Spirit and keeps his promises of resurrection and Eternal Justice. We are called to believe that fear and death are on their last legs, and that the Gates of Hell will not prevail against Jesus’ church when it obeys Him. I believe, Lord. Help my unbelief, and help me holster my six-shooter.

My love to you all, Clyde



<b>June Anniversaries</b>	
4	Brian & Laurie Montgomery
6	Tammy Zukoski
7	Lucy & Willis Lamm
8	Gordon & Cindy Privette
9	Charles & Magdalene Coleman
14	Terry & Angie Brantley
16	Steve & Jocelyn Lyman
21	Chuck & Peaches Kennemur
28	Charles & Anna Corbett
30	Steve & Yvonne Eudy



<b>June Birthdays</b>	
1	Kathy Rasmussen
2	Judy Bailey Dale Williams
3	Nancy Maultsby
4	Elton Roberson
3	Jacob Duvall
5	Wayne Bouren
8	Magdalene Coleman
9	Terry Brantley Mary Ann Eakes
10	Shawn Holland Ruth Joyner
11	Doug Durham
12	Martha Coley
15	Patty Jones Mary Lib Brannan Willie Harrelson
18	Ashley Driver
19	Joseph Krebaum
22	<i>Isabella Harrelson</i>
23	Ryan Kennemur
24	Amy Bouren
25	Sandra Kiryluk
30	<i>Hailey Grace Tuck</i>



<b>June Sanctuary Flowers</b>	
3	Mel & Linda Daughtridge
10	Steve & Jocelyn Lyman
17	<b>Fathers Day.....Roberson</b>
24	Steve & Yvonne Eudy



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL! Registration is now open for all kids, ages 3 - 5th grades who would like to be a part of our fun-filled week of VBS. Don't forget to invite your friends! Our theme is SHIPWRECKED: Rescued by Jesus. The program will run Sunday, July 15th - Thursday, July 19th from 5:30-8:00pm.**

**You can visit this website for information and to register:**

**<https://vbspro.events/p/events/zumcvbs>**

## May Budget Report

DATE:	Amount Given	Year to Date Monthly Amount	Year to Date Budget Amount
May	\$18,618	\$113,777	\$143,892

# June

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> Trustees.....7:00pm</p>	<p><b>5</b> Women's Bible Study...9:00a Circle 1.....12:30p Circle 3&amp; 4.....7:00p Steel Magnolias.....7:00p Boy Scouts.....7:00p</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>10</b> <b>Graduation Sunday</b> UMW Luncheon.....12:00p</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b> Historical Society.....7:00p Boy Scouts.....7:00p</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>17</b> Prayer Shawl .....3:00p</p>	<p><b>18</b> Finance.....7:00p</p>	<p><b>19</b> Evangelism.....6:30p Boy Scouts.....7:00p</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> Church Council.....7:00p</p>	<p><b>26</b> Boy Scouts.....7:00p</p>	<p><b>27</b>  Girl scouts....</p>

# 2018

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Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2
5	7 Girl scouts.....7:00p	8 <u>Relay for Life</u>	9 Brownbag.....11:00a
3	14 Missions.....7:00p	15  Girl scouts.....9:00a	16 Brownbag.....11:00a
0	21  Girl scouts.....9:00a	22	23
7  .....9:00a	28 UMM.....6:30p	29	30

Summer time is here and it is time for our annual trip to the State Farmers Market! We leave church on June 12 at 11:00 am, have lunch at the seafood restaurant there and then shop for NC fresh fruits and vegetables.

Sign up sheet is in fellowship hall. Please join us for good fellowship! Call Anna if you have questions (919-810-9709).



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### Jennifer's Corner

When I first started working in the food pantry it was just once a month, and I just wasn't that excited about it. When Wyatt started pre-school in August, I started working every Tuesday and Thursday, so I wouldn't have to drive back home for 3 hours. Since then I have learned so much. I've learned to love more, to be more kind and to do what I can to make people smile. I have listened to those people and heard their stories and seen them cry, it's really sad that some people just don't have some of the basic things to even cook a meal, and they depend on us. I have seen Bob take the belt right off his waist and give it to someone that really needed a belt, that just warms my heart, I have cleaned out things at my house to bring to the pantry so other people can have clothes, dental floss or other things that I don't need. I have realized that you don't always need some of the things you may want. With just one income at my house I see how hard things can be. I am just so blessed to have a roof over my head and food on my table. There are so many that don't even have that. Now I just absolutely love being at the Food Pantry. I've met a lot of nice people and made several new friends. I've also gotten a lot closer to many of my church members as well. And for that I am **THANKFUL I HAVE FOUND MY PURPOSE!** And a special thank you to Bob and Sue Russo and Cyndi Christopher for showing me the way.

Jennifer P. Marshburn

These are our Graduating Class of 2018



Sara Elizabeth Brown

East Wake Academy

Lauren Elizabeth Bailey

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Carson Alexander Lyman

North Carolina State University

Evander Robert Montgomery

Appalachian State University

Cheyenne Gaynelle Schug

Meredith College

H A P P Y  
**FATHER'S**  
  
DAY