DECEMBER 1, 2018



FROM THE PASTOR

essenger

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH



"The Church with a history and a future"

Invitation to Christ's Table

Throughout the years it has been a blessing to have taken part in the Lord's Supper with many different Christian believers, in many different churches, and in various locations. It seemed each church had a different tradition of observing communion. I remember visiting the small country church of my grandparents where my papaw was one of the men who served the communion. It was interesting watching him pass the plates with the bread and juice. I could tell it was a serious moment because there was no smile on his face, where normally he would always have a smile for me. On another occasion my family was visiting friends who attended a different church denomination. For some reason I was not yet allowed to take part in the communion, maybe because I was too young, but regardless, I was extremely jealous of my older brother because he was able to take part in eating the bread and drinking real wine from the small communion cup. To this day, I have a vivid memory of him taking tiny sips of the wine, maybe to take his time enjoying this freedom to drink wine as a young teenager. While serving as missionaries in Alabama, our family worshipped occasionally at an Episcopal church where every Sunday the congregation came forward to take part in communion, and in their tradition one could either receive the bread from the priest and dip it in the cup, or take the bread and drink from the communal cup held by the priest. I imagine they were hoping the Holy Spirit would strike down any cold germs passed on with sharing the same cup! I remember one particular Christmas Eve service at a church I served in Roanoke. It was the 11 pm service and the sanctuary was packed with over 500 people coming forward to take part in communion through intinction, where you take the bread and then dip it in the cup. As folks kept coming forward, I began to worry that our loaf of bread would not be enough for all the folks lined up. I began to silently pray there would be enough bread. By the end of the line, we had just enough bread, which was in my mind a Christmas Eve miracle. My most special memory of the Lord's Supper was when Melanie and I were able to take communion during our wedding ceremony; one of the first things we did as a couple was to remember our Lord and the blessings of our shared faith.

I imagine you also have many special memories of taking part in the Lord's Supper, whether at Zion Baptist or other churches. Where there may be different ways and faith traditions of observing the Holy Communion, the only instruction Jesus gives us is "do this in remembrance of me." We take part in the Lord's supper to remember the story that started it all. Brett Younger in his book, *Time for Supper*, writes "when we eat the bread we remember a love beyond any love we practice. We meet God at the table and see ourselves more honestly. We see how we ignore hurting people by doing what is safe. We are quick to join negative conversations and slow to speak positive words. We become too preoccupied with our own agendas to remember Christ's story. When we drink the juice we remember that we need God because we can't make it on our own. We need God to teach us to give, because we do not share well. We need God to make us kind, because we are not as caring as we should be. We need God to show us how to love, because we do not love enough."

This Advent Season we are all invited to Christ's table. In fact, we will have the opportunity to take part in the Lord's Supper on our first Sunday of Advent as well as our Christmas Eve Celebration. It will be a time for us to not only remember the story of Christ that happened 2,000 years ago in the past, but to experience the presence of Christ here and now in our lives. We will remember not a part of the past, but the evidence of the present—not a God who is gone, but a God who is here. May we all take time this Christmas season to remember the blessings of Christ in our lives.

Peace and Joy, Matt



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST BROTHERHOOD FILL TREAT BAGS - FAMILY LIFE CENTER

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND (Also 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th) SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:45 AM; WORSHIP - 11:00 AM HANGING OF THE GREENS, SPECIAL VISITOR & FELLOWSHIP AFTERWARDS - 6:00 PM CLEVELAND COUNTY RESCUE MISSION MEAL - 6:00 PM (PROVIDED BY FELLOWSHIP S.S. CLASS)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH (ALSO 12TH, 19TH)

Wednesday Fellowship Meal Begins at 5:15 pm Children's Choir - 5:40 pm; Orange - 6:00 pm; Youth - 6:00 pm Adult Prayer Meeting & Bible Study in Adult Assembly - 6:00 pm Choir Practice - 6:45 pm; Praise Team Practice - 7:45 pm

> <u>Sunday, December 9th</u> Children's Musical, *Follow the Star*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

Homework Club - 5:30-7:45 pm Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

Lyda Poston Covered-Dish Meal & Christmas Gift Exchange - 6:30 pm- Fellowship Building

Thursday, December 13th Take Shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse, Work in Warehouse, Have Lunch

> SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH CHOIR CANTATA, *PEACE HAS COME* YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARY

<u>Wednesday, December 19th</u> No Fellowship Meal Children - Supper & Christmas Caroling

> SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22ND BBQ PICK-UP 7:00-9:00 AM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE & COMMUNION - 5:00 PM

> TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH MERRY CHRISTMAS!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26TH ACTIVITIES CANCELLED





Sunday, December 2nd, is the first Sunday of Advent

Please plan on being with us during this holy season when we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Sunday evening will be our Hanging of the Greens Service at 6:00 pm, and then we'll have a special visitor and fellowship in the Family Life Center.

Operation Christmas Child

Again this year, we are filling shoeboxes for needy children through Samaritan's Purse. The shoeboxes and instructions for filling them are available in the sanctuary. We will be going to Boone to deliver the shoeboxes on December 13th. If you would like to work in the warehouse and have lunch with us that day, contact Matt or call the church office to sign up. We will leave at 7:30 am and return by 3:30 pm.







December 4th - This year the GYC is taking a trip for their Christmas meal. We will travel to Narro Way Theater, just south of Charlotte, for a Christmas show and meal. The meal is served at 6:30, with the show following, The Real Christmas Story. We will leave from church at 4:45 pm.



Lyda Poston Circle **Annual Covered Dish Pot Luck Meal** Tuesday, December 11th, 6:30 pm Fellowship Building

All ladies of the church are invited to join us and participate in a holiday mission project that we will be doing for our shut-ins. Also, again this year we will be doing a Christmas gift exchange. Please bring a wrapped \$15.00 gift if you would like to participate in this activity.

Homework Club

Volunteers are needed to help tutor children with Cecilia Beck's ministry. We need at least 5-7 volunteers to help. We eat dinner with the children from 5:30-6:30 and spend time getting to know them. From 6:30-7:30, tutor and read with the children. From 7:30-7:45 the children share what they have learned. Please contact Jenny Harrill or the church office if you would like to help. Zion helps the second Monday evening of each month.

December Prayer Requests

CHURCH FAMILY

Dick Canipe Sue Dawson Mike Falls Gary Gragg Jewel Greene Tim Hamrick Betty Hendrick **Bob** Ingle Dale Jackson Kim Lee Dale Mayes Marshall Mayes Thomas & Christian McSwain Dannie Moore Mickey Morehead Larry Proctor **Rachel Proctor** Randy & Linda Raynor Barbara Reynolds Lisa Spangler Myrtle Sparks Jessica Wellmon

HOMEBOUND

Dorcas Barbee Mary Helen Cabaniss Sue Cabaniss Gene Cornwell Max Cornwell Veva C. Gold Bob Horn Barbara Maloney Ora Trivett Billy Wright

MISSIONS

THOSE IN THE MILITARY

OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY





Dear Zion Family,

Thank you all so much for the phone calls, visits, cards and food during my recent illness.

Most importantly, I appreciate your prayers. I am blessed to be a part of such a loving Christian family.

Blessings, Betty Hendrick

To Zion Baptist Church,

On behalf of Pat and myself, I want to thank you for hosting the annual fall luncheon on November 3rd for the visually impaired residents of Cleveland County. The meal was delicious, the volunteer workers were so kind and hospitable and served with smiles. Thanks, too, for the "goody bag." May the Lord continue to bless Zion Baptist Church.

Gratefully, Dot Roark and Pat Anderson



- 1 Anne White Randy Raynor
- 2 Steve Boatwright
- Amber Canipe 3 Linda Alexander
- Jennifer Gold
- 4 **Brandon Bridges** Cameron Bridges
- Paige Scism 6
- 9 Sally Hamrick
- 10 Betty Morehead **Orlando Brooks**
- 14 **Barbara Bridges** Caroline Fitts
- 16 Charles Yarborough
- Josh Graham 17
- 19 Max Cornwell
- 20 Katie Lail
- April Wellmon Patrick Gammons 21
- 22 Tom Fitts
- Kyle Cochran
- 25 Barbara Ward
- 27 David Ledbetter Danny Lee Heather Cornwell **Ora** Trivett
- 30 Nikki Ledbetter **Emilv Parker**
- Melanie Wallace 31



As of November 28th, our budget gifts were \$318,219.10. This leaves us with a shortfall of -\$35,401.85 for our yearly estimated budget. As always, staff and FINANCES church leaders are working to keep expenses low and work-

ing to be good stewards of our church resources. As a reminder, you can mail in your weekly offerings or give online at zbcshelby.org to support our church ministry budget needs. Thank you for your continued financial commitment to support Zion Baptist Church.



- Alan & Kathe Sparks 3rd
- Dan & Vicky Hoyle 17th
- 19th Leonard & Kathi Fletcher Dickie & Linda Cornwell
- 21st Gene & LaDonna Hastings
- Joe & Paige Scism 28th

If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary, please contact the church office and we will be glad to add it to our calendar.



December 5th Hostess: Jane Cooper Menu: Pork loin, green beans, fall rice, bread & tea

> **December 12th** Host: Brad Cornwell Menu: To be announced

> > December 19th No Meal

> > **December 26th** No Meal

Please make reservation changes by noon on Monday, so we can have an accurate meal count. Thank you.



Christmas Thoughts

I love to study and learn in a small connect group. I just wanted to share something I found interesting from a Jewish rabbi in a Bible study and a recent trip to Bethlehem.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the angel told the shepherds that a Savior had been born and they would find Him wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. These were no ordinary shepherds, but Levitical shepherds, who were responsible for making sure the newborn lambs were perfect, without any blemish or defects, as they were to be used as a sacrifice in the temple. When it was time for one of their flock to give birth, they would bring the sheep into one of the caves surrounding Bethlehem. Jesus was born in one of the caves used for birthing these sacrificial lambs, because He Himself would be the ultimate sacrificial Lamb. Since baby lambs are clumsy at birth, many scholars believe that the shepherds would swaddle their newborn lambs in order to prevent them from being injured on jagged parts of the cave.

Baby Jesus was also wrapping in swaddling clothes. Is it possible that Mary could have gotten these cloths from her cousin Elisabeth, who was married to the priest, Zechariah? He wore these clothes when he carried out the duties in the temple.

The menorah was lit by the Levitical priests every evening and cleaned out every morning, replacing the old candle wicks with new ones. Interestingly, the wicks were made from the priests tunics. Any priestly garment that became too soiled that it was no longer acceptable to be worn during priestly service was cut up and the fabric used to make wicks for the menorah. So these shepherd priests saw the baby Jesus swaddled like a sacrificial Passover lamb in priestly garments that were used for the lighting of the menorah in the temple, which symbolized the eternal presence and promise of God. This baby was a sign to the shepherds, pointing to Jesus being both the Lamb of God and the Light of the World.

Please join us in Sunday School during this Christmas seasons and learn more about Jesus.

Kathi Fletcher, Sunday School Director

Upcoming Projects for 2019

Haiti Medical and Construction Trip – March 3rd- 9th. We will partner with FBC Salisbury to work with Marc Brice and his ministry in Haiti. There are still spaces available for the medical or construction teams if you are interested in serving on this trip. Community Mission Day – Spring (Church-wide and Partner Churches) This will be the third year of planning this mission project. We typically begin to meet in February to plan the mission projects and host the mission day either the last Saturday of March or the first Saturday of April.

<u>Guatemala Mission Project July 7/13-7/20</u> – This will be sponsored by the youth ministry, but we typically open up the trip to others in the church to help with their mission project. It typically consists of construction projects, VBS with children, working with youth, etc.

<u>Potential Projects :</u> If you are interested in helping serve in the following way, contact anyone on the mission committee or Matt. <u>Tutor at Schools –</u> (Julie Daves, Middle School BMS, CMS, SMS) 704-472-2886 Mentor, Lunch Buddy, Friend, Encourager, usually 45 minutes a week, not always every week. Also volunteers are needed for test proctoring in May.

<u>Bethel Colony Women's drug rehab facility in Lenoir</u>-- Bethel Colony recently purchased an older Methodist retreat center and is in the process of renovating the facilities to open a women's drug rehab center. They are currently working on several cabins for the women to stay in and will begin to renovate next year the old conference/dining hall area. The retreat is one hour away.

Cleveland County Rescue Mission Volunteer Needs:

Fund Raisers (hosting, sponsorship, event planning, printing, graphic design)

Chapel Leaders (small group leaders, fathers, mothers, clergy/pastors, teachers, husbands, wives)

- <u>Transporting Residents</u> to appointments, school, and work (anyone, retired person, someone who enjoys driving and brief conversations)
- <u>Professionals</u> (legal assistance for applicable and pre-screened residents, accountants/financial planners for personal budgeting and life skills training for the homeless)
- <u>One-on-One Faith Based Counselors</u> (licensed counselors, counseling and MSW students, pastors, substance abuse counselors of faith)
- <u>Medical Services</u> (all nurses and medical professionals, retired nurse or medical professional, medical and nursing students, parish nurses, medical office professionals, to staff on-site clinic)
- Life Skills Training (overcomers, life coaches, mentors, parents, teachers, anyone called to disciple others in a walk of faith in Jesus Christ).

Project Needs:

The following projects would be a blessing to CCRM Men's Mission: painting the first floor hallways (they are currently two different shades of "sand") and we'd like to have them all repainted the same color, in that color family; finishing and paining the baseboards of the stairwells with flat, black baseboards; painting the exposed overhead pipes on the first floor. A paper products drive is needed for the mission: paper towels and toilet paper.

Lazarus House: Zion will most likely help with the renovation and possible wiring of this transitional home for the Rescue Mission. They will keep us updated when the project is ready to begin.

Christmas Advent Message Series: An Invitation to Christ's Table

December 2nd –An Invitation to Hope—Mark 13:24-37 December 9th –An Invitation to Peace —Jeremiah 33:14-16 December 16th-An Invitation to Joy—Mark 1:1-8 December 23rd —An Invitation to the Kingdom —Isaiah 11:1-10 December 24th—Home for Christmas —Luke 2:1-7

During this Christmas season, many of us will have the opportunity to sit down at numerous tables to enjoy holiday meals with friends and families. We are blessed to have plenty of food, good friends, and supportive family. As we take time to gather around Christ's table here at Zion, may we be reminded there are many families that do not have plenty of food or support. Our prayer is for you to consider taking part in a Reverse Advent Calendar, where each day you will add a food item to a box to be donated to the Cleveland County Rescue Mission in Shelby and the UCAN center in Lawndale.

Dec. 2 Can of corn, Dec. 3 Canned fruit, Dec. 4 Canned soup, Dec. 5 Instant potatoes, Dec. 6 Can of Spaghetti sauce, Dec. 7 Pancake mix, Dec. 8 Can of tuna, Dec. 9 Peanut butter and jelly, Dec. 10 Macaroni & cheese, Dec. 11 Cereal, Dec. 12 Instant Oatmeal, Dec. 13 Granola bars, Dec. 14 Biscuit or baking mixes, particularly those that require only water, Dec. 14 Can of carrots, Dec. 15 Box of rice, Dec. 16 Can of green beans, Dec. 17 Box of crackers, Dec. 18 Jar of applesauce, Dec. 19 Can of beef stew, Dec. 20 Box of pasta, Dec. 21 Box of dessert mix, Dec. 22 Can of cranberry sauce, Dec. 23 Can of chicken noodle soup, Dec. 24 Box of macaroni and cheese.

There are also Advent devotional guides available around the church, entitled, *Promises*, a day by day guide of readings and activities for families during Advent based on the book of Matthew. They are written by John and Joy Sylvester-Johnson. Joy is the retired CEO of the Roanoke Rescue Mission and has many years of ministering to those who were hungry and in need.



Wednesday, December 19th - Christmas Caroling

(See Carson for details)



Youth Annual Christmas BBQ Sale

Please place your orders by Monday, December 17th for a pork shoulder, pork butt, whole turkey or turkey breast. Order forms are available at church or you may call the church office at 704-487-8216. Pick up date is Saturday, December 22nd, 7-9 am. The proceeds will help youth group members pursue mission opportunities in our community and abroad, attend youth camps and conferences and fund other youth events at the church. We appreciate your support, and we look forward to serving you. God bless!

DECEMBER 1, 2018



"The Church with a history and a future"

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

525 West Zion Church Road Shelby, North Carolina 28150 Phone 704-487-8216, website: zbcshelby.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Church Staff

Dr. Matt Storie, Pastor704-244-0879Rev. Carson Putnam, Minister of Youth & Children704-300-8068Carol Martin, Minister of Music704-472-8135Dick Canipe, Custodian704-482-4179Jennifer Cabaniss, Pianist704-481-9212John Carroll, Organist704-434-5193Wanda Schenkel, Secretary704-487-8216

VIDEO MINISTRY ~ December

Cody Dorsey

PRESCHOOL CHURCH

Sunday, December 2nd Brian & Joy Hord
Sunday, December 9th Miranda & Aubrey Bumgardner
Sunday, December 16th Jeff & Mary Cornwell
Sunday, December 23rd Connie, Katie & Emma Harrill
Sunday, December 30th Jason & Emily Parker

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Sunday, December 2nd June Lail Sunday, December 9th Tap Ramsey/Sally Barker Sunday, December 16th Linda Cornwell Sunday, December 23rd Vanna Wright Sunday, December 30th June Lail

pastor@zbcshelby.org putnamcarson@gmail.com cmartinunc86@gmail.com

jenny@zbcshelby.org john@zbcshelby.org secretary@zbcshelby.org

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Week of December 2nd Kenneth Wellmon, Bruce Martin
Week of December 9th Jeff Cornwell, Leonard Fletcher
Week of December 16th Dick Cabaniss, Brad Cornwell
Week of December 23rd Tim Tallent, Tommy Harrill
Week of December 30th Todd McMurry, Steve Boatwright

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

The bulletin is printed each week on Thursday Morning. Please forward any announcements, inserts, or prayer requests to the office by 10:00 am on Thursdays for publication the following Sunday.

NEXT CHECK WRITING DATES - DECEMBER 11TH & 26TH

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING INFORMATION FOR PUBLICATION IN THE JANUARY MESSENGER - DECEMBER 28TH

> Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

NURSERY WORKERS

Sunday, December 2nd Sherrie Clark, Kathe & Elizabeth Sparks

Sunday, December 9th Eddie & Jenny Harrill, Becky Dorsey

Sunday, December 16th Thomas & Adrienne Fletcher, Linda Cornwell

Sunday, December 23rd Dana & Maggie Bradshaw, Jean Silver

Sunday, December 30th Zach & Madelyn Parker, Susan Brown