

DECEMBER 2021



The Messenger

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

"The Church with a history and a future"



Boundless

This past Sunday we began our Christmas Advent Series, Boundless. What comes to your mind when you ponder this word, *boundless*? I think of the word bound, as in my hands are bound together. Sometimes we tell folks, "I am sorry I cannot help, but my hands are tied." In other words, we want to help but something is holding us back. Whether we or someone else did the tying, we are not able to help due to our hands being bound. Boundless communicates no ropes, no barriers, we are free to go, free to do, free to help. My next thought when pondering this word boundless, is the word boundary. While living in the mountains of Southwest Virginia, I first heard folks use this word to describe their land up on the mountains. In the summertime, farmers would drive their cattle up the mountain to their boundaries. For a non-farming flatlander, I would describe these areas as pastures or grassy fields surrounded by fences. Boundless communicates no boundaries to keep us fenced in; we are free to go, free to roam wherever the Spirit may lead us.

Boundless means unlimited, immense, infinite, unending, immeasurable. This word reminds us that God offers us so much more than we could ever want or need. This sense of freedom we have comes from the boundless love of God, unlimited, unending love. We are able to experience this love because of Jesus. This time of year we celebrate the story of God's presence coming to us in the birth of His son, Jesus. May we take time this Advent Season to tune in and be more attentive to God's presence with us. May we look for God each day in the majestic beauty of His sunsets, the encouraging words shared with a friend, and the still quiet moments of thankful prayer. May we remember the light of Christ who will show us what a life of love looks like and make our love increase and overflow for each other this Christmas season.

Love, Joy, Peace, and Hope,

Matt



- 11/28 - Advent I - Boundless Love - I Thess. 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36
- 12/5 - Advent II - Boundless Joy - Phil.1:1-11, Luke 3:1-6
- 12/12 - Advent III - Boundless Peace - Phil.4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18
- 12/19 - Advent IV - Boundless Hope - Heb.10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45
- 12/14 - Christmas Eve - Boundless Spirit - Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-14
- 12/26 - Christmas - Boundless Life - Col. 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1ST (ALSO 8TH, 15TH)

FELLOWSHIP MEAL - 5:15-6:00 PM

CHILDREN'S SONSHINE CHOIR - 5:30-5:50 PM

ADULT PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY - 5:55-6:30 PM, ADULT ASSEMBLY

CHILDREN/YOUTH HANDS-ON MISSION PROJECT 6:00-6:45 PM (1ST WED. OF THE MONTH)

ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE - 6:30-7:30 PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

JOY CLUB - 9:00 AM, CHERRY MTN. GEN. STORE & WASHBURN'S GEN. STORES, LUNCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH (ALSO 12TH, 18TH, 26TH)

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 AM, WORSHIP - 10:30 AM IN SANCTUARY & ONLINE

CHILDREN'S ORANGE - 4:30-5:30 PM

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S SNACK SUPPER - 5:30-6:00 PM, SMALL DINING ROOM

YOUTH - 6:00-7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL - FOOD, CRAFTS, CHRISTMAS STORY, VISIT WITH SANTA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

CHRISTMAS CANTATA DURING MORNING WORSHIP

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 22ND

YOUTH COOK BBQ

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

BBQ PICK-UP FROM 7:00 - 9:00 AM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - 5:00 PM





Zion December Mission Projects



GCCBA Toy Store

The Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association is looking for toy donation volunteers to help with the December 14th and 15th Toy Store ministry. The Toy Store will be located at the Shelby Mission Camp. Volunteers are needed to help with shopping and counseling. If you would like to volunteer please contact Katie at the GCCBA office—704-482-3472 .

Suggestions for toy donations to the GCCBA toy store: For younger children (2-4): picture books, pull toys, squeeze toys, riding toys, educational toys. For girls (5-7): dolls, tea set, story books, board games, puzzles, coloring books/crayons, radios, purses, writing/drawing pads, riding toys, dress up clothes. For boys (5-7): trucks & cars, model car kits, throw games, bats & gloves, storybooks, remote cars, baseballs, board games. For boys & girls (8-10): board games, DVD's, electronic games, books, cd players, bats, gloves, baseballs, football, basketballs. For older boys and girls (11-12): jewelry, jewelry boxes, makeup, perfume, vanity cases, curling irons, hair dryers, craft kits, jewelry making kits, watches, board games, card games, DVD's, electronic games, basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, cameras, tackle box, fishing gear, diaries/journals, clips/barrettes, hats, skateboards, photo albums, mp3 players, Cost of gifts should be around \$15 (up to \$20 for older children). Please do not bring toys that promote violence . Toy donations need to be dropped off at the association office by December 9th, or at the Shelby Mission Camp by Monday December 13th. (They will still accept toys after the 9th as numerous families will still request assistance up until Christmas.)

Sponsor a Child's Christmas

If you are interested in sponsoring a local child and helping provide some Christmas presents for them, contact the church office or Matt. We will get you paired up with a school social worker to provide you with a list of items the family would like for their child. Typically, items will need to be delivered to the school by the week of December 13th.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Shoeboxes and labels are available at church if needed. Individuals and families are encouraged to pack one or more boxes full of suggested items. OCC encourages folks to also make a donation for shipping. Deadline to return your shoebox is December 5th. If you have any questions about this mission project contact the church office or Matt.





Thank you for your continued support of Zion Baptist Church during this past year. Here is our giving report, weekly, YTD with budget and expenses:

Offerings:

November 7th - \$8,170.00

November 14th - \$5,175.00

November 21st -

\$6,676.00

November 28th-

\$6,555.00

As of November 30th, giving is \$62,078.00 above expenses and is \$6,339.00 below the budget. The weekly 2021 budget is \$7,455.04.

Many folks are mailing in their offerings, some are giving online via our webpage or mobile phone app, and some are folks are dropping off their offerings at church. Wanda, our church secretary, will be available Monday through Friday from 8:30am -1:30pm. We do also have a church mailbox attached to the office that remains locked, if you choose to drop off your offering here. The church mailbox and office locked box are checked daily each evening.

Haiti Earthquake Disaster Relief

For more information go to caribbeanchristianclub.org.

Love Offering for the Gaines Family

This offering is to help Robbie and Brittney Gaines with expenses while they are in Philadelphia with baby Ivy in the NICU. Please make your check payable to Zion Baptist Church and we will send the funds to the family.

Ingathering Offering for 2021

Thank you to everyone who gave to our annual Thanksgiving Ingathering Offering this year. The total given so far is \$20,527.00. Half of the offering will be given to the Haiti Mission and half will go to the Robbie and Brittney Gaines family to help with their expenses in Philadelphia while baby Ivy is in the NICU.



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



- 8th Alan & Kathe Sparks
- 17th Dan & Vicky Hoyle
- 19th Dickie & Linda Cornwell
Leonard & Kathi Fletcher
- 21st Gene & LaDonna Hastings
- 28th Joe & Paige Scism

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



5:15--6:00 pm, Family Life Center

December 1st

Hostess: Iris Spangler

Menu: Country-style steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, Tomato pie, black-eyed pea salad, rolls, peach cobbler

December 8th

Hostesses: Emily Parker, Dana Bradshaw

Menu: Chicken pie, green beans, slaw

December 15th

Hosts: Todd McMurry, Jane Cooper

Menu: BBQ with all the trimmings

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

December Prayer Requests

CHURCH FAMILY

Chuck Benton
Jessica Brooks
Danny Cartee
Sue Dawson
Elaine Falls
Brittney Gaines family, *baby Ivy in NICU*
Gary Gragg
LaDonna Hastings
Jim Hendrick
Myrna Hollifield
Bob Ingle
Dale Mayes
Marshall Mayes
Mickey Morehead
Buck Proctor
Rachel Proctor
Jim Ramsey
Linda Raynor
Randy Raynor
Lisa Spangler
Grady Ward Family
Scott Wellmon

OUR HOMEBOUND

Janice Cabaniss - *White Oak*
Sue Cabaniss - *cancer*
Gene Cornwell - *Cardinal Health, Lincolnton*
Billy Wright

MISSIONS

Will & Lucia Meeks - Honduras
Mark Brice - *sciatica pain; Haiti people in aftermath of earthquake, mission, orphanage*
Fuente de Salvacion - Guatemala
Daniele Selena Tercero - hospital chaplain, Honduras

OUR NATIONAL & STATE LEADERS HEALTHCARE WORKERS & ICU STAFF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS COLLEGE STUDENTS



*Join us for
our Christmas
Choir Cantata -
Sunday December 19, at 10:30am*





The JOY Club will be having an outing on Thursday, December 2nd. We will meet at the church at 9:00 am, take a trip to Cherry Mountain General Store, then go on to Washburn's General Store. Lunch will be at Big Dave's in Forest City. We should return to the church by 3:00 pm. Please make plans to join us.



Everyone is invited to our Children's Christmas Festival. It will be held on Sunday evening, December 12th. There will be food, crafts, the Christmas story, and a visit with Santa. Please make plans to come!



Youth Christmas Party
Sunday evening, December 19th



Zion is in need of a few more folks willing to get a CDL to drive our church bus. If you are interested, please contact Matt or the church office for more information.

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ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

525 West Zion Church Road

Shelby, North Carolina 28150

Phone 704-487-8216, website: zbcshelby.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*The Gift that
Changed the World*

Church Staff

Dr. Matt Storie, Pastor	704-244-0879	pastor@zbcshelby.org
Lea Bibbee, Minister of Youth & Children	304-917-5613	leannebibbee@gmail.com
Carol Martin, Minister of Music	704-472-8135	cmartinunc86@gmail.com
Dick Canipe, Custodian	704-482-4179	
Jennifer Cabaniss, Pianist	704-481-9212	jenny@zbcshelby.org
John Carroll, Organist	704-434-5193	john@zbcshelby.org
Wanda Schenkel, Secretary	704-487-8216	secretary@zbcshelby.org

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Week of December 5th

Leonard Fletcher, Gene Fortenberry

Week of December 12th

Bruce Martin, Todd McMurry

Week of December 19th

Frank Horn, Jeff Cornwell

Week of December 26th

Matt Cornwell, Clyde Gold

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

**The bulletin is printed each week on Friday 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 13TH & 27TH

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING INFORMATION FOR
PUBLICATION IN THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER 29TH**

**SECRETARY'S OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM**