

MARCH 2022

The Messenger

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

"The Church with a history and a future"

Lent— Our Spiritual Journey to the Cross

On Ash Wednesday we begin the 40 day season of Lent leading us up to Easter Resurrection Sunday. For many, this is a time of inner spiritual reflection that gives us an opportunity to examine our limitations, mistakes and sins, with the hopes of gaining a better awareness of our need for a Savior. I am reminded of Richard Foster's book, *"Celebration of Discipline—The Path to Spiritual Growth,"* where he writes about several inner spiritual disciplines, such as Meditation, Fasting, Study, and Prayer. During Lent, we often give up certain items, like coffee, chocolate, liver mush for Cleveland County folks, or even social media. This is a form of fasting, going without certain items that when craved, remind us to focus on our spiritual self and personal faith journey.

Another inward spiritual discipline that is important to practice daily is prayer. As we know, there are many different ways to pray. Foster says, "real prayer is something we learn. The disciples asked Jesus, "Lord teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1). They prayed all their lives, yet something about the quality and quantity of Jesus praying caused them to see how little they knew about prayer." Prayer is a learning process, even for those seasoned in their faith; we all still have opportunities to learn and grow in our prayer lives. We are to pray boldly, with the belief our prayers will be answered. We are to pray for God's guidance, seeking God's will in our lives and in our communities. Jesus prayed in the garden, "nevertheless not my will, but Your will be done." One of the critical parts of our prayer life is becoming in tune with God. With all the technology in our world, there is all sorts of media passing by us such as radio, tv, and internet wi-fi, yet we do not pick up these signals unless we are tuned in. Our prayers should first begin with us being tuned in to God. This may sometimes mean being silent and listening for God's voice and guidance.

Brother Lawrence, in the 17th century, became a lay brother in the Carmelite order of monks, in Paris, France. His calling was to be a servant of the servants, which he fulfilled by working in the kitchen of the monastery. He sought out to be in tune with God by developing a habitual sense of God's presence. Brother Lawrence's goal was to be constantly seeking to be in God's presence, to be wholly God's. He learned not to get angry when his mind wandered from God, but in his prayers, in his daily work, he drove away everything that was capable of interrupting his thought of God. He shared, "I have walked before God in simple faith, with humility and with love, and I apply myself diligently to do nothing and think nothing which might displease him. I hope that when I have done what I can God will do with me what He pleases". Let us follow the example of Brother Lawrence and imaging ourselves as a stone before a sculptor, which he or she will carve into a beautiful statue. We are presenting ourselves before God, asking to be formed into His perfect image in our souls.

Another form of prayer to practice is intercession prayer, or our prayers for others. One specific way to practice these prayers is praying the news headlines. With all the chaos going on now in the world, especially in Europe, a good spiritual practice is to pray for God's presence, God's will, and for God to intervene in all that is going on. We pray for all our Christian brothers and sisters and we pray God will bring peace in the midst of war. May this season of Lent be a time of personal spiritual reflection and growth. May we practice daily these disciplines of fasting, meditation, study, and prayer.

Peace and Joy,

Matt



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL - 5:15– 6:00 PM

CHILDREN'S CHOIR - 5:40-6:00 PM

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

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 6TH

SUNDAY SCHOOL—9:30 AM, WORSHIP—10:30 AM IN SANCTUARY AND ONLINE

CHILDREN'S ORANGE—4:30-5:30 PM

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

YOUTH—6:00-7:00 PM

DEACONS MEETING—6:00 PM, FELLOWSHIP BUILDING

THURSDAY, MARCH 10TH

JOY CLUB, ATTEND GOSPEL CONCERT IN RUTHERFORDTON, LEAVE CHURCH AT 5:15 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST MEETING—8:00 AM, SMALL DINING ROOM

SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH

HAITI MISSION FUNDRAISER LUNCH—AFTER WORSHIP IN FAMILY LIFE CENTER

THURSDAY, MARCH 31ST

JOY CLUB, MEAL AT CAPTAIN'S CAP, LEAVE CHURCH AT 5:00 PM





T. MILLS AND EARCIE D. CORNWELL SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for this college scholarship are available in the church office and on the hall table across from the 2nd floor elevator. Any interested applicant must complete the application and return it to the church office on or before Friday, May 6th. No applications will be considered if received after May 6th. *Students need to complete an application each year if attending a university or community college.*



What are you giving up for Lent? Chocolate, caffeine, or maybe even social media? Believers often give up certain things during the season of Lent, so when they are missed it serves as a reminder to pray and reflect on our spiritual lives. Our Lenten Sermon series, 'Character and Calling', will encourage us to

not focus so much on what you *give up*, but instead what you *take up* that prepares us for the cross. Each week we will look at different parts of our Christian character. Hopefully, we will all be challenged to allow the Spirit to renew our character and commitment to God's call.

3/2—Ash Wednesday

3/6—Discipline—Philippians 3:17-4:1

3/13—Holiness—1 Corinthians 10:1-13

3/20—Reconciliation—2 Corinthians 5:16-21

3/27—Faith—Philippians 3:4-14

4/3—Humility—Philippians 2:5-11

4/10—Palm Sunday

4/17—Victory—1 Corinthians 15:19-26



JOY Club Upcoming Activities

Thursday, March 10th — Attend the Concert at RS Central High School in Rutherfordton at 6:30 pm, the Carolina Gospel Association with Ernie Haase & Signature Sound. The cost is \$15.00, so let June Lail know if you are interested in going. June's phone number is 704-692-4920. We will leave from the church at 5:15 pm.

Thursday, March 31st — Go to the Captain's Cap for dinner. We will leave from the church at 5:00 pm.

MONTHLY MISSION PROJECT FOR MARCH

The Mission Committee will be hosting a lunch fundraiser on Sunday, March 20th after worship. Folks can either eat at church, pickup some take-out plates, or let the church know, and we will be happy to deliver lunch plates to your home. Monies raised will go to help the Haiti mission purchase land for their church to be rebuilt. Many of us have worshiped in the church, Temple Calvaire, which was recently destroyed by gang activity in Port Au Prince. Contact the church office to sign up for the meal or fill out a meal reservation form that will be available in the bulletin. If you want to send in donations apart from the meal, checks can be made out to Zion Church or you can donate directly to the Haiti Mission online at caribbeanchristianclub.org

There is also the possibility of some local mission projects through the Shelby Mission camp for anyone who may be interested. Contact Matt if you are interested in helping with a weekday or Saturday mission project. Also, if you would be willing to serve on a short term trip to Lumberton or Kentucky to help with the disaster rebuild effort, let Matt know.

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.



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:

February 6th	\$5,945.00	February 20th	\$9,040.00
February 13th	\$6,085.00	February 27th	\$5,581.00

As of February 28th, giving is \$1,913.00 above expenses and is \$14,800.00 below the budget. The weekly 2022 budget is \$7,541.58.

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.



- 1 Anita Horn
- 3 Gene Hastings
Luke Scism
- 4 Jeff Cornwell
- 6 Claire Cabaniss
Jenny Cabaniss
Lisa Spangler
Laura Wellmon
- 9 Brett Hamrick
John Hamrick
Jason Parker
- 10 Ron Alexander
- 12 Pat Phillips
- 14 Sandra Cartee
- 15 Susan Beaver
Blake Dyer
- 16 Shane Bostic
Eloise Stallings
- 17 Barbara Hilton
- 18 Ginny Davis
- 19 Steve Curtis
- 20 Hazel Wilson
- 22 Ned Gold
Rachel Proctor
- 23 Brandon Johnson
- 24 Kenneth Bostic
- 25 Kiley Gold
Michael Wright
- 26 Mike Bankhead
- 27 Carol Martin
Chuck Benton
- 28 Jessalyn Jenks Marcela
Jessica Yarboro
- 30 Jenny Harrill
- 31 Betsy Boatwright
Dennis Wright

Kitchen Announcement

If you or your group make coffee on Sunday morning, please make sure the coffee maker is turned off and cleaned afterwards. Also please clear and clean the kitchen counter. We want to take care of our nice facilities. Thank you.



3rd Ned & Lorah Gold

10th Todd & Julie McMurry

15th Rusty & Lindsey Albrecht
Lem & Beth Hafer

21st Randy & Linda Raynor
Scott & Kelly Snellings

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

March 2nd

Hostess: Iris Spangler

Menu: Crispy chicken sandwiches with lettuce & tomato, baked beans, deviled eggs, apple cake

March 9th

Hostesses: Libby Senter S.S. Class

Menu: Hot dogs with all the trimmings

March 16th

Hostess: Iris Spangler

Menu: Chicken supreme, mashed potatoes, broccoli casserole, marinated salad, rolls, chocolate pie

March 23rd & March 30th

Hostess: To be announced

Menu: To be announced

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

March Prayer Requests

CHURCH FAMILY

Jessica Brooks
Danny Cartee
Sue Dawson
Brittney Gaines family, *baby Ivy in NICU*
Tim Hamrick
Ansel Hartley
Jim Hendrick
Myrna Hollifield
Bob Ingle
Dale Jackson
Dale Mayes
Marshall Mayes
Buck Proctor
Rachel Proctor
Linda Raynor
Randy Raynor
Lisa Spangler
Scott Wellmon

OUR HOMEBOUND

Janice Cabaniss - *White Oak, Shelby*
Sue Cabaniss - *cancer*
Gary Gragg—*White Oak, Shelby*
Billy Wright

MISSIONS

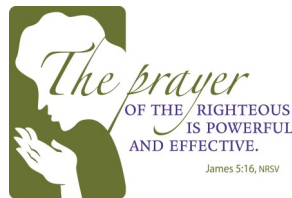
Will & Lucia Meeks - Honduras
Mark Brice - *sciatica pain; Haiti people, mission, orphanage, new church location*
Fuente de Salvacion - Guatemala
Daniele Selenia Tercero - hospital chaplain, Honduras

OUR NATIONAL & STATE LEADERS

ALL HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS

TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

COLLEGE STUDENTS



Wednesday Bible Study—Sessions with John—*The Vocabulary of Grace*

Can you remember the last time you climbed a spiral staircase? Often these staircases can direct your eye to what is above, perhaps a window where you can see the light shine from the sun. When you climb a spiral staircase, with each circle you gain a different view and perspective. Robert Setzer, the author of our Bible Study says we can think of the Gospel of John as a spiral staircase. In John's story of Jesus, there are certain words, images, and themes that appear again and again. As we read the gospel, we will circle around and see the same image appear again, but from a different context. With each spiral of truth, we will gain a deeper understanding of Jesus' words. Each week beginning March 2nd, we will look at different themes that appear in John such as, Word and Flesh, Light, Signs, Born Again, Believe, Truth, Eternal Life, Love, Paraclete/Abide, Glorified/Lamb of God, Blessed, Bread and Fish, and the Beloved Disciple. The story of Jesus shared in John's gospel is more than simply gaining a better knowledge of Jesus, but to be transformed by Jesus and becoming a new person who fully trusts and follows Him.



Prayer Time and Bible Study are each Wednesday from 5:50-6:30 in Room 134 in the FLC. You can also connect with our Bible Study online via our Facebook page and church website, zbcshelby.org. Also, if anyone is interested in meeting for this study on Wednesday mornings or lunch time please contact Matt for more info.

2022 Baptist Missions Conference, March 25-26 at Calvary Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC
Special features include mission breakout sessions, missions opportunities, Friday supper, mission Testimonies, mission fair exhibits and much more. Cost: \$20 per person, Supper cost: \$8
The registration deadline is March 18th.

Also, let us know if you would be willing to go on a short-term mission trip to Kentucky or down east in March.



Regular Children's activities: Orange, 4:30-5:30 pm on Sundays, followed by Snack Supper at 5:30

Other activities will be announced.



Youth Snack Supper at 5:30 pm on Sundays, followed by Bible Study at 6:00

Other activities will be announced.

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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



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 March 6th

Thomas Fletcher, Eddie Harrill

Week of March 13th

Leonard Fletcher, Gene Fortenberry

Week of March 20th

Bruce Martin, Todd McMurry

Week of March 27th

Frank Horn, Jeff Cornwell

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 - MARCH 7TH & 21ST

Deadline for submitting information for publication in the April newsletter, March 30th.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

8:30 AM - 1:30 PM



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH. DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 12TH.