

CONNECT

UPWARD • ONWARD • OUTWARD

Fall 2024





*Mount Zion's vision is to become
a passionate body of disciples
being transformed by Christ,
growing through biblical teaching,
and sharing the Good News
to the ends of the earth.*

*Mount Zion's mission is calling people
Upward, Onward, and Outward.*

For us to achieve both the vision
and mission of Mount Zion, we need
to connect with God, each other,
and our community.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

MOUNT ZION WEBSITE

Go to: mountziongmc.org

- Worship Times
- Upcoming Events
- Ministries
- Livestream
- Past Sermons
- Prayer Requests
- Online Giving

Visit us on Social Media



CONNECT WEEKLY



A weekly email is sent out that previews what is happening at Mount Zion. ***To sign up for this email, you may use the QR code provided.***

RIGHTNOW MEDIA

Every person at Mount Zion has free access to biblical videos, interactive devotionals, kids' shows and much more. Flyers with the QR code and directions are available at the Welcome Center.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

CARE MINISTRY

The Care Ministers offer care through cards, calls, emails, texts, and visitations at homes and hospitals. The ministry is designed to connect individuals to one another as we journey together through life. We pray that people find hope and companionship through this ministry. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus is seen multiple times healing bodies, minds, and spirits. He understood the depths of suffering and its hold on the lives of people. **Contact: Cindy Brendle, Care Ministries Coordinator: cindy@mountziongmc.org**

PRAYER MINISTRY

Mount Zion has a Prayer Room located off of the Chapel that is open 24 hours daily for anyone needing a quiet spot to meet with God. Additionally, feel free to join us for a prayer group that meets every Wednesday morning, 8:00-8:45 AM, in the Fellowship Hall.

CHURCH LENDING LIBRARY

Located in the Prayer Room is a valuable resource of books that are available for borrowing: prayer books, devotionals, and studies.

BIBLE CART

A cart with Bibles is located in the Fellowship Hall. They are free for anyone who wants one or would like to give a Bible away to someone. Children's, youth, and study Bibles are just a few of the choices available. This Bible Cart Ministry is supplied by Steve Sorrell.

NEXT STEPS

REALM®

Realm® is Mount Zion's Church database and smartphone app. Realm makes it easier for our church family to connect with each other and grow as a connected community of believers.

Here are a few of the highlights our Realm app offers:

- **News, Posts, and Photos**
- **Events, Messages, and Participation Info**
- **Notification Settings:** Manage your preferences for group notifications and emails



If you are not yet connected with Realm, use the QR code provided.

DISCOVERING MOUNT ZION

Are you considering joining the church and becoming more involved at Mount Zion, but would like more information? Then join us for our next Discovering Mount Zion class. Lunch will be provided, and ***childcare is available upon request**. This is a 3-hour class, taught by Pastor Leonard, focusing on a higher level of spiritual commitment and the ins-and-outs of Mount Zion. Watch for the next class being offered. Please contact Donna Rex at: donna@mountziongmc.org for more information.

You will need to register in Realm or at: mountziongmc.org/upcoming-events.

****Registration will be available closer to the date of the classes being offered.***

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We encourage you to consider joining an Adult Sunday School class; below are the current classes being offered. You can contact the leaders directly, or contact Donna Rex at donna@mountziongmc.org. Also, if you are a Mount Zion member who is interested in beginning a new class, contact Donna Rex.

GOOD SAMARITAN'S CLASS

Sundays 9:30 AM • Fellowship Hall

Contact Les Brown: lbrown120@nc.rr.com for details.

BIBLE SEEKERS (Women's Class)

Sundays 9:30 AM • Room 103

Contact Alma Black: ablack03@centurylink.net for details.

FISHERS OF MEN (Men's Class)

Sundays 9:30 AM • Room 105

Contact Dean Crow: crowdean86@gmail.com or

Tom Breci: tom@brecidetaiting.com for details.

SHARE AND CARE CLASS

Sundays 9:30 AM • Room 104

Contact Julia Dupree: robert.julia@centurylink.net for details.

BIBLE DISCUSSION CLASS

Sundays 11 AM • Room 103

Contact Bill Cordray: bill@kesslercommunications.com for details.

BIBLE DISCUSSION CLASS

Wednesday 7 PM • Teleconference

Contact Bill Cordray: bill@kesslercommunications.com for details.

ELEVATE SUNDAY



INFANT - TODDLER
Nursery (Up to 3 years)
9:30 & 11:00 • Room 101

PRESCHOOL
(Potty Trained 3-5 years)
9:30 & 11:00 • Room 102

K-5th GRADE
9:30 & 11:00 • Room 203

6th-12th GRADE

**See Next Gen Connect Groups for Youth Opportunities*



ELEVATE KIDS & YOUTH

ELEVATE KIDS & YOUTH 2024/25 • Begins 9/11

Toddler, Preschool, K-5th Grade • Wed's • 6:30-7:30 PM

A weekly program where children engage in interactive lessons that involve games, science, cooking, crafts, and more that are designed to match Mount Zion's mission and vision to call children upward, onward, and outward in their walk with our Lord.

6th-12th Grade • Wednesdays • 6:30-8:00 PM

Throughout the year, Elevate Youth holds weekly ministry on Wednesday nights, plus weekend retreats, service opportunities, fellowship nights, and a summer discipleship camp.

Wednesday Night Meals • FREE • 5:30-6:15 PM

We also serve dinner on Wednesday nights during the Elevate season. Meals are free and for the whole family to enjoy. We hope that this helps our families navigate the midweek schedule so that children can attend Elevate. Children that are 5th grade and younger need to attend the meal with their parents, but youth can be dropped off.



ELEVATE KIDS & YOUTH



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER FOR ELEVATE.



NEXT/GEN CONNECT GROUPS

BIG QUESTIONS ● 6th-12th GRADE

Students are invited to join this 8-Week Connect Group that will meet on Sunday mornings each week at 11 AM to discuss **Big Questions**. What can you expect? To dig deep in Bible study, productive discussions, and great fellowship!

Leaders: Danielle Doud, Patty Eller, and other youth leaders

Meets: Weekly on Sunday mornings

Time: 11:00 AM -12:00 PM

Dates: 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29,
10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27

Location: Room 202

Cost: Free

Contact Jenni Ackerman to sign up:
jenni@mountziongmc.org.



CHRISTMAS STUDY ● 6th-12th GRADE

Students are invited to join this 7-Week Connect Group that will meet on Sunday mornings each week at 11 AM to explore **The Christmas Story**. What can you expect? To dig deep in Bible study, productive discussions, and great fellowship!

Leaders: Debbie & Rex Spivey

Meets: Weekly on Sunday mornings / 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Dates: 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/8, and 12/15

Location: Room 202

Cost: Free

Contact Jenni Ackerman to sign up: jenni@mountziongmc.org.

NEXT/GEN CONNECT GROUPS

HIGH SCHOOL ● 9th-12th GRADE

High School students are invited to join this 6-Week Connect Group that will meet on Monday nights, twice a month, to discuss ***Biblical Practices of Highly Effective Christian Teens***. What can you expect? To dig deep in Bible study, productive discussions, and great fellowship!

Leaders: Louie Nenni, Tim Ackerman, and Jenny Barbour

Meets: Bi-Weekly on Monday nights

Time: 7:00-8:00 PM

Dates: 9/16, 9/30, 10/14, 10/28, 11/4, and 11/18

Location: Room 202

Cost: Free

Contact Jenni Ackerman to sign up: jenni@mountziongmc.org.

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL ● Preschool-5th Grade

Children are invited to participate in this year's Christmas musical, ***"We Knead A Little Christmas."*** The musical will be presented on Sunday morning, December 22nd, during the 9:30 AM service. There are over a dozen speaking parts, seven songs, costumes, props, and sets; it will be a full-blown production! Parts will be assigned in September, so children can begin learning their parts, and practices will begin in November on Sunday afternoons.

Leader: Jenni Ackerman

Meets: Weekly on Sunday afternoons / 3:00-4:00 PM

Practice Dates: 11/10, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15.

Location: Sanctuary

Cost: Free

Contact Jenni Ackerman to sign up: jenni@mountziongmc.org.

CONNECT GROUPS

What are Connect Groups?

A Connect Group is a small group, which is usually 8 to 12 people, who come together and meet regularly with similar interests. A variety of interest-based groups are offered three times a year: Fall, Winter/Spring, and Summer. **Fall Connect Groups** are listed below; you may contact each leader directly to sign up for that group or gather more information about it. Contact information is also available in the RealmConnect APP. *If you don't have access to the APP, contact Donna Rex at: donna@mountziongmc.org for further details.*

IN PURSUIT OF PETER STUDY

How did Peter transform from an uneducated fisherman into one of the most celebrated and beloved Jesus-followers in history? New Testament scholar Con Campbell explores the places where Peter lived and traveled—including the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, and Rome. Con's inquisitive mind and adventurous spirit create an engaging travelogue-style program that both entertains and enlightens. After watching this seven-part series, viewers will better understand how Jesus slowly transformed Peter's outlook from worldly cowardice to otherworldly glory.

Leaders: Elaine Heintzeman: dexchines@gmail.com

Jack Granger: jacksgranger@gmail.com

Meets: Weekly on Mondays / 5:45-7:00 PM

Dates: 9/16 - 11/25

Location: Room 103

Cost: Free

CONNECT GROUPS

UKULELE ENSEMBLE

This class, for beginners, will introduce you to the ukulele. We will discuss tuning, chords, strum patterns, etc. We will be playing a variety of simple songs, traditional gospel, and contemporary Christian. We will also discuss the role of music in the Bible, the church, and our lives.

Leader: Alan Eatmon: alan_e27603@yahoo.com

Meets: Weekly on Mondays / 7:00-8:00 PM

Dates: 9/9 - 12/16

Location: Fellowship Hall

Cost: Free

**Attendees need to have a ukulele, concert ukulele if possible (soprano is ok as well).*



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY & COFFEE

Join us as we dig into the Word in Beth Moore's "***Beloved Disciple: The Life and Ministry of John.***" John referred to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved." Just as Christ took John on a lifelong journey into the depths of His love, He will do the same for you. The bridegroom's love is unmatched and inexhaustible, and He is waiting to lavish it on you, His beloved. This 11-week study will entail a 1-hour video and 5 nights of homework, which will be done individually. Then we will gather weekly for discussion of videos and homework.

Leader: Jenni Ackerman: jenni@mountziongmc.org

Meets: Weekly on Mondays / 7:00-8:30 PM

Dates: 9/16 - 11/25 / Location: Panera 42

Cost: Purchase of the workbook: "*Beloved Disciple - Bible Study Book: The Life and Ministry of John*"

CONNECT GROUPS

TUESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

This is a weekly Bible Study for women on the life of Moses and Exodus. Participants will need to bring their Bibles. Any translation of the Bible is welcome. No homework is required.

Leader: Glenda Fowler: gfn253@yahoo.com / 919-810-6849

Meets: Weekly on Tuesday mornings / 10:00-11:30 AM

Dates: 9/17 - 12/17

Location: Room 103

Cost: Free



YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP & STUDY

This group offers an opportunity for young adults to meet, learn, and grow together in faith. If you are a young adult and want to get connected, we invite you to join us.

Leader: Todd Spivey: tspivey.home@gmail.com

Meets: Weekly on Wednesdays / 6:30-7:30 PM

Dates: Starts on 9/11 and runs concurrently with Elevate

**does not meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month*

Location: Parsonage

Cost: Free

CONNECT GROUPS

SENIOR FIT CLASS

This group of senior adults joins together for low-impact chair exercises. **Some standing is required. Wear comfy clothes and sneakers.*

Leader: Diane Shannon: bake5017@yahoo.com
919-219-3272

Meets: Weekly on Thursdays / 11 AM-Noon

Dates: 9/26 - 12/19

Location: Sanctuary

Cost: Free

FAITH DRIVEN ENTREPRENEURS

Faith Driven Entrepreneurs is about connecting people because we know all too well how lonely the journey of an entrepreneur can be. Through a foundation group, you can lock arms with other like-minded business leaders and develop meaningful friendships. This is an 8-week journey where you will learn more about your call to create, watch compelling videos, engage in conversations with other entrepreneurs, and listen to what God has to say. For additional information go to www.FaithDrivenEntrepreneur.org. **People may attend individual sessions.*

Leader: Barbara Taylor: barbarahemphilltaylor@gmail.com

Meets: Friday mornings / 8:00-9:00 AM

Dates: 9/13 - 12/13

Location: Room 103

Cost: Free



CONNECT GROUPS

MOUNT ZION MEN

This group is open to all men. Participants gather for a time of fellowship, breakfast, and devotion each month. There also will be opportunities for service in our community that take place on different days of the week. We hope you'll join us! You do not have to participate in the service projects to be a part of this group.

Leaders: Bill Cordray: 317-507-6427

Bob Kisner: 919-819-0987

Meets: Monthly 2nd Sunday

7:00-8:00 AM

Dates: 9/8, 10/13, 11/10, 12/8

Location: Fellowship Hall

Cost: **Suggested: monthly donation of \$5 which is applied towards community outreach projects. Breakfast is provided each month.*



CAMPFIRE CONVERSATIONS

For those who don't mind a little smoke, come and gather around the fire pit for informal discussions on a variety of topics.

Leaders: Pastor Leonard and Donna Rex

Meets: Monthly on Sundays / 6:30-8:00 PM

Dates: 9/15, 10/20, 11/17

Location: Parsonage Backyard

**or living room in the event of rain or snow*

Cost: Free



CONNECT GROUPS

SHIRLEY MCLAURIN MEMORIAL CARD CLUB

This group was named after Shirley McLaurin, JoAnne Myers' sister, who loved to play cards. All women are invited to gather for fellowship and the card game, Hand & Foot. Beginners and experienced card players are welcome. The ladies would love to teach you how to play.

Leader: Elaine Heintzelman: dexchines@gmail.com

Meets: Bi-Monthly 2nd & 4th Wednesdays / 1:30-4:30 PM

Dates: 9/11 – 12/11

Location: Room 106

Cost: Free



GAME NIGHT

Join together with other adults for a night of games, goodies, and fellowship! Each month we will share in a devotion, goodies, and an evening of laughter and games. Pictionary, Wits & Wagers, Cards, Charades, and More.

Leader: Tim & Jenni Ackerman: jenni@mountziongmc.org

Meets: Weekly on Fridays / 7:00-8:30 PM

Dates: 9/27, 10/25, 11/22

Location: Tim & Jenni Ackerman's House

Cost: *Each participant will be asked to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Drinks and games will be provided.*

CONNECT GROUPS

CREATIVE CHRISTIANS

This is a group for crafty souls who gather to share in Christian fellowship while working on their own craft projects. Bring a project and a snack to share. Come for part or all of the evening. **Group is for 13 and up.*

Leaders: Carolyn Brown and Sarah Lee:

usborne4you@nc.rr.com or angelelectra@aol.com

Meets: Monthly on Fridays / 6:00-10:00 PM

Dates: 9/20 Room 103

10/11, 11/8, 12/6 Fellowship Hall

Cost: Free



LADIES BUNCO GROUP

Bunco is a fast-paced dice game played in rounds that gets everyone involved at the same time! It only takes minutes to learn. We will have fellowship, devotion, and prayer. Bring a snack to share.

Leader: Sheila Brookover: sbrook467@gmail.com

919-862-4405

Meets: Monthly on Friday evenings

7:00-9:00 PM

Dates: 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 12/13

Location: Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$5 a month for prizes



SERVE

**Here are just a few suggestions on how
you can serve at Mount Zion:**

YARD MINISTRY

The Yard Team oversees the physical needs of the church landscape, cemetery, and parsonage lawns. Volunteers are always needed to mow, trim, and perform basic lawn care.

Contact: Tim Cowell: tdcowell2@gmail.com

SAFE SANCTUARY/SECURITY MINISTRY

Volunteers are needed to help with church security on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

Contact: Roger Locklear: rogerlocklear@yahoo.com

MUSIC MINISTRY

There are many opportunities to be involved in the Music Ministry at Mount Zion, including Choir, Cantatas, E519, and special music.

Contact Julie An, Director of Music Ministry:

julie@mountziongmc.org.

Contact Erin Nenni, E519 Leader:

erin@mountziongmc.org.

SERVE

Here are some additional ways to serve and connect through Mount Zion's partnership with Community of Hope, located in Garner.

We encourage you to learn more about this local ministry on their website at communityofhopeministries.org. The following are ways Mount Zion is already helping serve with Community of Hope:

CARPENTER'S HAND

This group provides home repairs to “*at-risk*” citizens in the Garner area. Widows, single mothers, senior citizens, and those with disabilities are eligible to benefit. The services include minor home repairs, lawn maintenance, and other household needs.

Contact: Bill Cordray: bill@kesslercommunications.com

FOOD PANTRY

Currently, we are looking for individuals who are interested in helping with the Community of Hope's Food Pantry pick-up at the Food Lion on HWY 50.

Contact: Janice Krakowsky: magicaljan22@gmail.com

GARDEN OF HOPE

Community of Hope has an on-site garden where it grows fresh produce to give out through its food pantry. Each year, their garden produces thousands of pounds of fresh produce.

Contact: Bill Poske: wposke54@gmail.com