



CONNECT

UPWARD • ONWARD • OUTWARD

Winter/Spring 2023





*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



MountZionGMC



Mountziongmc

CONNECT WEEKLY

A weekly email that previews what is happening at Mount Zion.

MYMOUNTZION

MyMountZion is our online directory, email, giving, registration, and church calendar site. This site is open to all Mount Zion attendees. To register for an account, follow the link that can be found on our church website at mountziongmc.org, under resources.

NEXT STEPS

FIRST STEP

Are you new, or have you been attending Mount Zion, and are interested in finding out more about us? If so, then our First Step gathering is a great place to ask questions and get information about Mount Zion, including: our vision and mission, information on opportunities to engage in serving and connect groups, and a tour of our campus. Our First Step gathering is led by our Connection Ministries Coordinator, Donna Rex. This is a very informal time to get a better glimpse of who we are at Mount Zion. We hope you can join us for our Next Steps gathering on Sunday, February 5th, at 12:15 in the Parlor. We plan to have a First Step gathering on the first Sunday of every month.

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.

Upcoming Class Dates are: Sunday, February 26th, May 21st; and August 27th from 12:15-3:30 PM; in the Fellowship Hall, lunch is provided. You will need to register at mountziongmc.org/upcoming-events. **Childcare provided upon request.*

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@mountzionmc.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 Elaine Heintzelman: dexchines@gmail.com for details.

FISHERS OF MEN (Men's Class)

Sundays 9:30 AM • Room 105

Contact Dean Crow for details.

SHARE AND CARE CLASS

Sundays 9:30 AM • Room 104

Contact Julia Dupree for details.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Sundays 11 AM • Room 103

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

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

CARE MINISTRY

The Care Ministers offer care through: cards, calls, emails, texts, and visitation at home 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. **Cindy Brendle, Care Ministries Coordinator: cindy@mountzionmc.org**

PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer is an expression of our relationship with God. Our prayers, both individually, and as a church family, open us up to the guidance, wisdom, and power of the Holy Spirit as we seek God's heart and will. 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. Join us for a prayer group that meets every Wednesday, 8-8:45 AM, in Room 103.

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

Located in the Fellowship Hall are free Bibles for those who are in need of one. Children's, Youth, and Study Bibles are just a few of the choices available. Bible Cart Ministry is supplied by Steve Sorrell.

CONNECT GROUPS

What are Connect Groups?

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

HAVE A NEW KID BY FRIDAY

Want a great kid? Want to be a great parent? This 6-session video-based study, by family expert Dr. Kevin Leman, reveals why your kids do what they do and what you can do about it. This group is led by Leonard & Donna Rex: donna@mountziongmc.org or leonard@mountziongmc.org. Meets: Wednesday's; 6:30–7:30 PM; starting on 2/8; Parsonage; \$8 for participant guide.

SENIOR FIT CLASS

Seniors join together for low impact chair exercises. Group led by Diane Shannon: Bake5017@yahoo.com. Meets: Thursdays; 11 AM - Noon; 2/9 - 5/18; Fellowship Hall; FREE. *Some standing required, wear comfy clothes and sneakers.*

CONNECT GROUPS

JONAH: Navigating a Life Interrupted

Are there interruptions in your life that are God sent? How well do you manage them? How well do you surrender to God's directions? Jonah ran away; do you run or draw near? This is a video-based Bible study by Priscilla Shiver. Group is led by Elaine Heintzelman: dexchines@gmail.com. Meets: Mondays; 5:45-7:00 PM; starting on 3/6; Room 103; FREE!

EXPERIENCING GOD

Would you like to hear God speak? Would you like to know God's will for your life? Would you like to experience his presence and power daily? This 12-week Bible study focuses on knowing God intimately, recognizing his voice, understanding his will, and doing it. It will involve weekly video lessons and discussion, as well as personal study in between. Materials developed by Henry Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, and Claude King. Group led by Patty Eller: tompattyeller@gmail.com or 919-553-1106. Meets: Thursday's; 6:30-8:00 PM, 2/9-5/4; Room 103; Cost \$20 for the Book.

STUDY OF JOSEPH

This is a study on the last 14 chapters of Genesis, which follows the life of Joseph. Participates will need to bring their Bible to follow along through the scriptures, as we look at the life of Joseph. Any translation of the Bible is welcome. No homework given. Group led by Glenda Fowler: gfn253@yahoo.com or 919-810-6849. Meets: Tuesdays at 10:00 AM; starting on 2/7; Room 104; Free!

CONNECT GROUPS

UKULELE ENSEMBLE

This group will meet monthly. We will work to improve our skills and learn some new songs. We will also seek out opportunities to perform both in church and in the community. Prayer requests and celebrations will be shared. Group led by Alan Eatmon: alan_e27603@yahoo.com. Meets: 2/20, 3/20, 4/17, 5/15 at 7 PM; Room 202. *Attendees need a ukulele. They also need to have taken the Beginner Ukulele class, or already be able to play the ukulele relatively well.*



SACRED MARRIAGE

What if God designed marriage to make us Holy more than make us happy?

This is a 6-8 week video-based study. The study invites you to see how God can use marriage as a motivation to know him more. It uncovers the ways that your marriage can become a doorway to a closer walk with God, and with each other. Group led by John and Jennifer Boyd: jenniferboyd65@gmail.com. Meets: Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 AM; starting 2/12; Cost: \$6.50 for workbook.

SATURDAY SOCIALS

A group that meets once a month to have lunch and fellowship! Group led by Diane Shannon: Bake5017@yahoo.com. Meets: Monthly; 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20; 11:30 AM - 3 PM; Fellowship Hall; participants are asked to bring a dish to share.

CONNECT GROUPS

LADIES BUNCO GROUP

Bunco is a fast-paced dice game, played in rounds that gets everyone involved at the same time! Will meet once a month. It only takes minutes to learn! We will have fellowship, devotion, and prayer. Bring a snack to share. Group led by Sheila Brookover: sbrook467@gmail.com or 919-862-4405. Meets: 2/24, 3/24, 4/21, 5/19; from 7-9 PM; Fellowship Hall; Cost \$5 a month for prizes.

CREATIVE CHRISTIANS

Crafty, artsy souls who gather to share in Christian fellowship. Bring a project and a snack to share. Come for part, or all, of the evening. Group led by Carolyn Brown and Sarah Lee: usborne4you@nc.rr.com or angelectra@aol.com. Meets: 2nd Friday/Monthly; 6-10 PM; 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12; Room 103; FREE! *Group is for 13 and up.*

CONNECT GROUPS



QUILTING GROUP

This group is for experienced, and beginner, quilters. We will be putting together a quilt and quilting it for the Harvest Day Sale in October. It was made, and donated, by Debbie Burns. This is a good way to learn from more experienced quilters. You do not have to participate every time we meet. Group led by Donna Rex and other highly experienced quilters: donna@mountziongmc.org or 919-218-7474. Meets: Monday Afternoons; starting 2/6; 1:00-3:00 PM; Parsonage; Free!

CONNECT GROUPS

MOUNT ZION MEN

Join us as we gather monthly, on Sunday mornings, for a time of fellowship, breakfast, and devotion. Periodically, there will be opportunities for service in our community that takes place on different days of the week. We hope you'll join us! Open to all men. Group led by Bill Cordray and Bob Kisner. Meets: 2nd Sunday/Monthly; 7 AM; 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 5/14; Fellowship Hall; Breakfast provided each month. **Suggested: monthly donation of \$5; applied towards community outreach projects.*



SERVE

The Bible teaches that every Christian is called to Christian service, regardless of his or her vocation. We practice the truth that every believer is a minister, by encouraging every member to find a place of service and ministry. Our church leadership is made up of paid-staff and volunteer committees and teams, working together to fulfill the ministries of God's kingdom. Although church membership is required for leadership positions, we encourage everyone to find a place to serve. You can contact the chair of any of the teams listed below to find out more about helping in these areas of ministry.

A/V TECH MINISTRY

This team uses technology, and equipment, to enhance the worship experience for those in-person and online. Volunteer positions needed: Sound Tech, Slide Tech, and Livestream Tech.

Tim Ackerman, Chair and A/V Ministries Coordinator:
tim@mountziongmc.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

You'll find a variety of music, all focused on magnifying Jesus Christ. There are many opportunities to be involved in the Music Ministry at Mount Zion, including: Choir, Cantatas, E519, and special music. **Julie An, julie@mountziongmc.org, Dir of Music Ministry; Erin Nenni, erin@mountziongmc.org, E519 Leader.**

MISSIONS MINISTRY

Outreach is our faithful response to God's grace. We serve by working together with partners, locally and globally, building relationships, directing our efforts to spread the gospel, helping the poor, and providing practical assistance in the name of Jesus Christ. **Chair: Kristy Wiesel: klwiesel@yahoo.com**

SERVE

NEXT GENERATIONS MINISTRY

The Next Generations Ministry plans and implements on-going ministries, and special events, that fulfill the mission of Mount Zion for children and youth, ages birth-18. It serves as a liaison with organizations, persons, and resources in, and beyond, the local church that relate to ministry with children and youth. Volunteers are needed for Sunday School, Elevate Kids, and Youth on Wednesday nights. **Jenni Ackerman, Chair and Next Generations Minister:** jenni@mountziongmc.org

SAFE SANCTUARY/SECURITY MINISTRY

The Safe Sanctuaries and Security Team reviews, maintains, and implements Safe Sanctuary policy for the protection of all involved in ministry at Mount Zion. Volunteers are needed to help with church security on Sunday mornings, and Wednesday evenings. **Chair: Les Brown:** lbrown120@nc.rr.com

SPORTS MINISTRY

Mount Zion Sports Ministries exists to glorify God by using sports to teach life principles and biblical truths, that point athletes to his Son, Jesus Christ. **Chair: Myrtle Earley:** earleys4@hotmail.com

YARD MINISTRY

The Yard Team oversees the physical needs of the church landscape, cemetery, and parsonage lawns. Volunteers are always needed. **Chair: Tim Cowell:** tdcowell2@gmail.com

SERVE



OUTWARD

Other ways to connect at Mount Zion is through our new 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 to serve with others at Mount Zion through one of five ministries at Community of Hope:

CARPENTER'S HAND

Home repairs are provided 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 that are interested in helping with the Community of Hope's Food Pantry pick-up at our new Food Lion on HWY 50. **Contact: Janice Krakowsky for details: magicaljan22@gmail.com**

SERVE

AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Community of Hope Ministries offers a tutoring-based After School Program for 1st-5th grade students who are below grade level in math and reading, and come from families who have financial challenges to provide for tutoring. We partner with eight Garner area schools to identify students for our program. **Contact: Jenni Ackerman: jenni@mountziongmc.org**

CAMP GOOD HOPE

Camp Good Hope is a Christian Day Camp with field trips, swimming, science experiments, crafts, sports, and more pack each “themed” week. Daily Bible devotion and music are offered each camp day – building faith and character in each camper, as well as a hot lunch and two snacks each day. Camp Good Hope is now also available as a track-out camp throughout the school year. **Contact: Jenni Ackerman: jenni@mountziongmc.org**

GARDEN OF HOPE

Community of Hope has an on-site garden where it grows fresh produce to give out through their food pantry. Each year their garden produces thousands of pounds of fresh produce. **Contact: Bill Poske: wposke54@gmail.com**

**UPWARD,
OUTWARD**



ONWARD, AND