



ZION HAPPENINGS

ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1521 Old Fish Road
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December 2020



OUR VISION

To be a church that follows Jesus so closely and makes disciples so well, that our community and town cannot help but be transformed.

Pastor Note

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King! Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, With the angelic host proclaim: "Christ is born in Bethlehem." Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!" Charles Wesley

One of the things that make Advent such a wonderful and memorable time of the year is the carols and the Christmas hymns. The same music year after year has been filling the hearts of the people for centuries with hope and joy.



Christians all around the world have the task of sharing the message of Jesus Christ to every corner of the world. We make the effort by sharing it through witness, through worship, and through missions, which is excellent! But this season the message of grace and truth that is found in Hymns and Carols "Christ is born in Bethlehem" is creatively spread through a gospel song that joyfully builds up the faith of all people each and every time they sing.

What more can we ask for this season as generations sing and internalize the deepest gospel revelation? The story of Jesus' birth will be told and retold in different cultures, in different languages, different places such as shopping stores, supermarkets, malls, and restaurants. The melodies and the hymns with the lyrics of the story of Jesus will resonate in the hearts of many, many people. There will be some that will listen to the melody and probably think that it is the sound of the sentiment of the holiday season. But there will be others that will wonder, marvel, and be inspired by the child, the holy savior that came to rescue the world.

Charles Wesley was inspired by the savior's message and the sounds of London church bells while walking to church on Christmas Day. He wrote the "Hark" poem about a year after his conversion to be read on Christmas Day. This poem, according to the story, appeared first in Hymns and Sacred Poems in 1739 with the opening line of "Hark", but in 1753, George Whitfield, a student and colleague of John and Charles Wesley, adapted the poem into the song we now sing today. It was Whitefield who added the phrase "Glory to the Newborn King!"

As you sing carols this Christmas, take the time to think about the message of the songs and what they mean. Consider the words you are singing and the truths they proclaim about the Savior. We hope that others not only may listen, but as well, be reminded of God's faithfulness of the past, the hope that this good news brings to the future, and the present grace that is now available to each of us in Christ. Amen!!

"And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12



Merry Christmas!!

Pastor Norma Villagrana



The Loaves and Fishes item for December is a can of soup.

Homeless Shelter: The next meal will be served on December 21st

The Angel Tree

Thank you to everyone that participated in this year's Angel Tree, 20 families were blessed by your generosity!



Thank you to the United Methodist Men, who Donated 8 outfits for boys and 8 outfits for girls in the community!



Poinsettias

In Honor of:

Barbara Griffin
Virginia Braswell
Joe and Helen Greene

Given By

Secret Pal
Secret Pal
Secret Pal

In Memory of:

Lamar Gaston
Frank Lee
Teresa Goldner
Mr. And Mrs. T. H. Beasley
Mr. And Mrs. J.T. Beam
Lawrence Tucker
Gene and Syble Hinson
David Helms
Lisa Purser
Lisa Purser
Paul and Flonnie Purser
Dowd and Deane Simpson
Doug Simpson and Bud Purser
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Purser
Mr. and Mrs. Brice Hinson
Misty Wilfong
Barry and Helen Mulvaney
Frank and Betty Herman
Bengie Braswell
Franklin Haigler
Lauren Harris
Charlie and Joyce Harris
Allyson Stanley
Robert and Colleen McKoin
Calton and Frances McCall

Given By:

Neal and Connie Gaston
Neal and Connie Gaston
R.A. and Elsie Kindley
Jim and Susan Beam
Jim and Susan Beam
Tommy and Pam Hinson
Tommy and Pam Hinson
His Parents
Tony Purser
The Tony Purser Family
Kenneth and Debbie Purser
Kenneth and Debbie Purser
Kenneth and Debbie Purser
Rondal and Eloise Purser
Rondal and Eloise Purser
Caroleen Baucom
Zach and Peggy Herman
Zach and Peggy Herman
Sidney, Melia, Kirby, and Karis Haigler
Sidney, Melia, Kirby, and Karis Haigler
Chip and Leigh Harris
Chip and Leigh Harris
Rachel McCall Olson
Emily McKoin McCall
Bob McCall

Operation Christmas Child:

Thirty-four boxes were sent to Operation Christmas Child from our congregation!
Thank you for helping Samaritan's Purse spread God's word and making a child smile!

Thank you to everyone who bought a poinsettia this year!!
You will be able to take them home the Sunday before Christmas,
December 20th



This Months News:

- The office will be closed December 23 through the 25 for Christmas and December 30 through January 1 for New Years.



Andrew Mullis
 Kim Mullis
 Mitzi McManus
 Joe and Helen Greene
 Kay Medlin
 C.W. Price
 James and Shirley Lowery
 Jimmy and Susan Clontz
 Teachers and Students
 Military
 Peggy's nephew- Brett Adams
 Jim Beam
 Rondal & Eloise Purser
 Angie Eudy
 John and Theresa Phifer and family



Music Notes from Barbara!



It is a busy time of the year and is quite different from Christmas' past!
I got through Thanksgiving without having my family at my house for our annual Thanksgiving meal. It looks like we will have to do Christmas the same way! Covid has made many of us change our plans this year. Christmas music is so important to me and I thought we would be able to do our Cantata.. After talking with a number of people and after careful consideration about how we could do the Cantata safely I have decided that we will not be able this year to do a Cantata. We will have a lot of music to catch up with once this pandemic is over. Hope everyone is enjoying being back in the sanctuary. The flowers, tree and decorations are so beautiful. I wish for all of you a very Merry Christmas with good health and a Happy New Year!

If you would like anything added to next month's newsletter please email it to zionumcmonroe@gmail.com by the first of the month
 Thank you

DECEMBER

JANUARY

Phil Douglas - 3
 Zach Plyer - 3
 Bobby Clontz- 4
 Randy Warlick - 11
 Jerry Clontz - 12
 Kenneth Stegall - 15
 Grier Donaldson - 18
 Dwight Brooks - 26

Polly Donaldson - 1
 Calvin Helms - 5
 Nancy Martin - 6
 Brandon Purser - 7
 Celia McCall - 9
 Gary Whitley - 9
 Sidney Haigler - 11
 Leigh Harris - 11
 Bonnie Haigler - 12
 Tucker Biggers - 16
 John Phifer - 24
 Janie Whitley - 28
 Theresa Donaldson - 30



Happy Anniversary

DECEMBER

JANUARY

Gary and Ashley Price- 4
 Neal and Connie Gaston- 7
 Tommy and Scarlet Helms-9
 Calvin and Diane Helms-19

Jerry and Dru Clontz - 18

Upcoming Meetings:

- The United Methodist Women will meet again on Tuesday January 26 at 6:00 PM

November 2020 Collections

Online Collections (Tithes)	\$2,000
11/01 Tithes	\$2,875
11/08 Tithes	\$7,193
11/08 Memorials	\$1,175
11/15 Tithes	\$1,992
11/15 Children's Missions	\$2
11/20 Poinsettias	\$336
11/22 Tithes	\$1,405
11/22 FV Christmas Festival	\$200
11/30 Tithes	\$2,060
Total	\$19,238

The Candlelight & Christmas Eve Service will be held on Thursday December 24th at 5:00pm.

The Lighting of the candles as well as the singing of silent night and other carols will be held outdoors after the service!

Starting the first week of January my new hours will be
Tuesday & Thursdays from 10-2:30 and
Wednesdays from 3-6

Thank you!
Mackenzie Brame



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Announcements and Updates

- **Christmas Secret Pal event is canceled.** Please send your pal a gift in December and reveal yourself to them with that gift.
- The Annual Christmas lunch has been canceled.
- The next blood drive will be on *February 3rd, 2021*
- UMW officers were elected, and no changes were made
- The spring Chicken and Dumplings dinner has been canceled