

We Are The CHURCH

ZION HAPPENINGS

September 2021

Pastor Note,



“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”
Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.
Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.
We share each other's woes,
our mutual burdens bear; and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.
When we asunder part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.



John Fawcett
UM Hymnal, No. 557

The story tells us that John Fawcett was converted to the Christian faith at the age of 16 years old while George Whitfield delivered a message on John 3:14-15 “*And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so, must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.*” After the message, and convicted in his heart, Fawcett told Whitefield that he wanted to preach, by his surprise, in that very moment Whitfield sent Fawcett with his blessing to preach.

Fawcett first joined the Methodists, but three years later became a Baptist preacher at Bradford, York. UK. In 1765, Fawcett was ordained a Baptist minister at Wainsgate, where he built his first congregation. After 8 years of building community and fellowship, Fawcett was invited to preach in London in one of the prestigious churches with more financial resources. Without hesitation, he formerly accepted the invitation, preached his farewell sermon, loaded his wagon with all his goodies, but the ‘tie that binds’ the love and tears flowed from his congregation, and after he prayed, he decided to remain in his appointment and the people broke out in joyful acclamation! Fawcett sacrificed the London appointment to remain where he was loved and respected.

The story says that from this incident and circumstances Fawcett wrote his well-known hymn “Blest be the tie that binds”. The ‘tie that binds’ is a beautiful and sentimental expression that can be applied to the tie that binds a family relationship. In my recent trip to Mexico, the first encounter that I had with my sister at the airport burst into an explosion of joy and love. Even though I am away from my family and extended family, the “tie that binds” is for a lifetime. Yes, there is geographical distance, but the phone calls, the text, the Gmail, the messenger, and Facebook message has kept us connected and the “tie that binds” has made stronger our relationship than ever.



And as I think in the blessing of family, I acknowledge also, that God has bonded us together in the blessings that we have through his Son Jesus Christ, the “tie that binds” us together in Christian love. As Paul says “*We are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel*” (Ephesians 3:6).



Now, no wonder why we celebrate homecoming every year. There is a strong tie that binds people even when by the circumstances in life they have moved away from their home church. Homecoming celebration reminds us of the “tie that binds” us together, remind us of the love, the joy, the fellowship, the years of ministry together, the life-changing testimonies, the celebration of milestones as a church, and as individuals. And as we consider these things, we also remember those who the Lord called to a heavenly home, we remember those who faithfully have been called to serve in other ministries and other capacities.

I pray to the Lord, that the ‘tie that binds’ the Zion family will continue growing and increasing as the church grows in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Norma



SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Sidney & Melia Haigler - 11	Tommy & Pam Hinson - 2
Robbie & Lisa Hall - 18	Kevin & Kim Brock - 21
Zach & Peggy Herman - 18	John & Theresa Phifer - 28
Randy & Tara Warlick - 22	

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Arlene Haigler - 1	Betsy Hinson - 22
Erin Beach - 9	Tony Purser - 25
Ronald Thomas - 11	Natalie Harris - 26
Teresa Phifer - 14	Mark Clark - 27
Susan Clontz - 17	Vann Huntley - 27
Jamie Wiley - 21	
	Shirley Lowery - 3
	Emma Hall - 5
	Cameron Plyler - 7
	Scarlet Helms - 16
	Gray Brooks - 18
	Taylor Apple - 19
	Susan Beam - 19



Peggy Herman - 20

Greetings members of Zion United Methodist Church!

I am delighted to be joining Zion UMC as the Worship and Music Director this month. I have been involved in music ministry for over 15 years and I am so excited to bring my passion and vision into this leadership position.

While my background is primarily in performance as a vocalist in operas and musicals and as a voice teacher, ever since I started my first praise and worship band as a teenager, I have always wanted to make music ministry an element of my career.

My wife, Savannah, and I moved back to North Carolina this summer after living in the Chicago area for two years while I completed a master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology. We both currently work for Cabarrus County Schools, myself as speech therapist in a pre-school and Savannah as an elementary music teacher. We also just welcomed our first child, Emma, in September. We are truly blessed!

I look forward to meeting the congregation and to developing a music ministry at Zion UMC that glorifies God by employing all of the many talents we all bring to worship.

Peace and blessings,
Jake



Prayer Group: Fast & Pray

Tuesdays @ 5PM in the Sanctuary

Please send anyone prayer requests to zionumcmonroe@gmail.com

Upcoming Church Events and News



Loaves and Fishes: This month we will be collecting packages of mashed potatoes, corn muffins, sugar and grits

Senior Nutrition Program: There is a new volunteer opportunity, they provide meals to homebound seniors in Union County, if you would be interest in volunteering every week, or want to be a substitute for those who cannot make it, Please contact Gloria Haney at gloria.haney@unioncountync.gov or by calling 704-296-4312

- A big thank you to Nancy and to everyone who came out to support the Blood drive!
- Tara Warlick received the UMW recognition pin on August 29th. Congratulations to Tara!
- The chicken and dumplings will be postponed till February

Youth Group

Please join us along with Stallings UMC, Faith UMC, Indian Trail UMC, and Mill Grove UMC for Sunday Youth Nights from 4:30-6!



Calendar September at Stallings UMC

Sept 19
Sept 26
Oct 3

Rest of October at Faith UMC

Oct 10
Oct 17
Oct 24
Oct 31



AUGUST GIVINGS

Tithes	16,365
Children's Mission	28
Book Bag Mission	100
Total	16,493





FALL REVIVAL

9.19-9.22 | 7PM
ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SPECIAL GUESTS, ICE CREAM SOCIAL &
MORE

SEE YOU THERE!

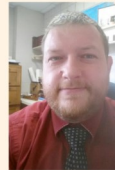
GUEST SPEAKERS



SUNDAY
REV. DR. SCOTT E. IRELAND
STALLINGS UMC



MONDAY
REV. EDWARD BUTLER
MILL GROVE UMC



TUESDAY
REV. MATT SMITH
FAITH UMC INDIAN TRIAL



WEDNESDAY
MARTY BARRETT
UNION GROVE INDIAN TRIAL

WE WILL BE HAVING AN ICE SOCIAL ON
WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE



Clergy Meetings with Bishop Ken Carter

Join Bishop Carter for a virtual conversation with clergy as he begins his episcopal ministry in the Western NC Conference

Western North Carolina Conference
The United Methodist Church

Virtual Clergy Meetings with Bishop Ken Carter
Many WNCC clergy had the opportunity to welcome Bishop Carter in the first of two virtual clergy meetings. The next virtual meeting will be October 6 for clergy to greet Bishop Carter and enter into dialogue around the question: What is our focus as an annual conference? Or said differently, what is the one thing that is necessary? (Luke 10:41). Learn more and register for this virtual conversation with Bishop Carter.



The annual United Methodist Men golf tournament is scheduled for September 18th at 1:30 at Red Bridge in Locust, North Carolina.



It was her first night in foster care –

Kendra remembers the moment this photo was taken. She was in a strange house, with people she did not know. Her brothers and sisters were taken somewhere else – she had no idea where. Neighbors, pets were all left behind. She was 7 years old, and she was scared.

Can you imagine?

This is how foster care usually begins, with so much loss and hurt. No part of that is easy to heal – but when it happens, we want to call it out and celebrate it. Today, Kendra is soaring. She keeps the photo of her younger self in an album under the bed, along with other memories. She doesn't get them out often, but she likes to know they're there. They remind her of all that she has overcome – all that she holds close to her heart – and all that she has achieved and gained.

We can't wait to see what's ahead for this sweet family.



Please consider making a donation for the Methodist Home for Children.