

This Week at Mt. Zion

Sunday	28	2:30 PM - Liberty Commons Worship Service
Monday	29	5:20 & 6:30 PM - Camp Gladiator 5:30-7:00 PM - Pickleball
Tuesday	30	5:20 & 6:30 PM - Camp Gladiator 5:30-7:00 PM - Pickleball
Wednesday	1	10:00-12:00 PM - Lectionary Group 7:00 PM - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	2	5:20 & 6:30 PM - Camp Gladiator
Saturday	4	Church rented by Brooke Brothers 48 hour Film Festival

October Sexton Volunteer - Jeff Safrit

October 5 - World Communion Day

Scriptures - Psalm 137:1-4, Luke 17:5-10
Sermon - God loves Servers!

Be sure you are following the Mt. Zion Facebook page so you will be able to find our live-streamed services and other important information!



www.facebook.com/mtzioncg or search your Facebook for "Mount Zion United Church of Christ, China Grove, NC" then click the "Like" button!"

CHURCH WIDE YARD SALE

The church yard sale is set for **October 10 & 11** and will benefit our Building & Improvement Fund. Drop off your **PRICED, CLEAN** and **WORKING** items in the church hut during office hours or contact Mary Corriher. Please **NO TV's or clothes**.

SUNDAY
19
OCTOBER

1:00-5:30 pm

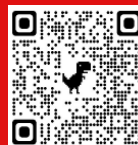
RED CROSS
BLOOD
DRIVE

1 PINT OF BLOOD SAVES
3 LIVES!

GIVE
THE GIFT
OF
life

**WALK INS
WELCOME**

Scan QR code
to schedule
appointment



Mt. Zion UCC
1415 S. Main Street | China Grove
704.857.1169 | mountzionucc@windstream.net

Enter code
Mt Zion UCC

Mt. Zion

United Church of Christ



SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

Pastor, Reverend James Simonds
1415 South Main Street | P.O. Box 1298
China Grove, NC 28023-1298

704.857.1169

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost†September 28, 2025

“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

Words of Greeting

*In Prayer and Meditation Let Us Prepare our Hearts
for Worship through God’s gift of Music*

Prelude“Beautiful Saviour”Susan Trivette

*Responsive Call to WorshipPsalm 146(Leader and **People**)

(1) Shout praises to the Lord!
With all that I am, I will shout his praises. (2) I will sing and praise the Lord God as long as I live.
(3) You can't depend on anyone, not even a great leader.
(4) Once they die and are buried,
that will be the end of all their plans.
(5) The Lord God of Jacob blesses everyone who trusts him and depends on him.
(6) God made heaven and earth;
he created the sea and everything else.
God always keeps his word.
(7) He gives justice to the poor and food to the hungry.
The Lord sets prisoners free (8) and heals blind eyes.
He gives a helping hand to everyone who falls.
The Lord loves good people (9) and looks after strangers.
He defends the rights of orphans and widows, but destroys the wicked.
(10) The Lord God of Zion will rule forever!
Shout praises to the Lord!

*Hymn“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”130

*Prayer of Invocation(Unison)

God, we gather to hear the good news of Your freedom, healing power and help.
Give us eyes to see Your beauty, voices to sing Your praise, and hearts to feel
Your love as we worship You this day.Amen.

*Gloria Patri“Glory Be to the Father”805

*Scripture ReadingLuke 16:19-31(Leader and **People**)

(19) There was once a rich man who wore expensive clothes and every day ate the best food.
(20) But a poor beggar named Lazarus was brought to the gate of the rich man's house.
(page 1 continued)

(21) He was happy just to eat the scraps that fell from the rich man's table.
His body was covered with sores, and dogs kept coming up to lick them.

(22) The poor man died,
and angels took him to the place of honor next to Abraham.

The rich man also died and was buried.

(23) He went to hades and was suffering terribly.

When he looked up and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side, (24) he said to Abraham,

“Have pity on me!

Send Lazarus to dip his finger in water and touch my tongue.

I'm suffering terribly in this fire.”

(25) Abraham answered, “My friend, remember that while you lived, you had everything good, and Lazarus had everything bad.

Now he is happy, and you are in pain.

(26) And besides, there is a deep ditch between us,
and no one from either side can cross over.”

(27) But the rich man said,

“Abraham, then please send Lazarus to my father's home.

(28) Let him warn my five brothers,

so they won't come to this horrible place.”

(29) Abraham answered, “Your brothers can read what Moses and the prophets wrote.

They should pay attention to that.”

(30) Then the rich man said, “No, that's not enough!

If only someone from the dead would go to them, they would listen and turn to God.”

(31) So Abraham said, “If they won't pay attention to Moses and the prophets,
they won't listen even to someone who comes back from the dead.”

Anthem“Poor Man Lazrus”Chancel Choir

Youth MinuteAnn Bullard

Call to Prayer“Be Thou My Vision”(vs. 1) **532**

Morning Prayer (based on Psalm 146)(Leader and **People**)

We give You praise and Honor, O God,

for giving us health, strength and desire to worship here today.

We have passed another week where we have seen people fail us,

but You have been faithful.

We lift before You, O healer,

the needs David wrote about that You alone can heal.

For the poor and hungry we pray You will bless the efforts

of Rowan Helping Ministries,

(page 2 continued)

Main Street Marketplace
and South Side Church of God Food Pantry.
For those imprisoned by the notion that they are not welcome in God’s family,
send them witnesses who will extend Your welcome as they are.
For those who are blind to Your love,
give them the opportunity to see Your love in how believers act.
To those who have fallen in sickness or despair,
give them Your hand to lift them up.
To those who feel alone due to grief,
bring alongside them those who will encourage their faith.
And for the strangers, orphans and widows,
we pray for us to be a country of compassion and justice.
We thank You for loving us
and for loving those in need.
We pray in the Name of Jesus
Who calls us to be One saying . . .

Passing the Peace		
Sermon	“God loves Sufferers”	
Offertory	<i>"Are Ye Able?"</i>	Susan Trivette
*Choral Congregational Response	<i>"Doxology"</i>	<u>809</u>
*Offering Prayer {for offerings given in person, Online and by mail}		
Thank You God for coming to earth to show us You love us in good times and in suffering. Use these offerings, we pray, to give relief to those who suffer from need, isolation, and rejection in this world.		
		Amen.
*Hymn	<i>"Day by Day and with Each Passing Moment"</i>	<u>367</u>
*Benediction		
*Benediction Response	<i>"Be Thou My Vision"</i>	(vs. 2) <u>532</u>
*Postlude	<i>"We Sing a Song of the Saints of God"</i>	Susan Trivette
*All able please stand		

Welcome to Mount Zion United Church of Christ. If you’re looking for a family that accepts people as they are and works to spread God’s love, we’d love to have you join us. Please speak to Pastor Jim if God is leading you to join the MTZ family! You can call or text him at **336-682-9649**. Or you can email him at **pastorszion@gmail.com**.

Please lift our sick and shut-ins in prayer, and show your concern through visits, cards, calls and prayers. **Convalescing at Home:** Jewel Thompson, Dennis Corriher, Peyton Bare. Jeanne Kirk is at Big Elm. Pat Archie is at Liberty Commons. Doris Campbell is at Trinity Oaks. Thelma Corriher is at Brookdale High Point North. Judy Beaver is at The Laurels of Salisbury. Doris Hileman is at Morningside of Concord. Members and Friends of the congregation are reminded to help the pastor and secretary by informing them of any persons who are sick or in the hospital.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Southside Church of God Food Ministry Donation: September - Oil & Cereal

Our family is so grateful for the overwhelming love and support we have received during Mom's sickness and entering heaven. It's a true comfort to know Mom was so loved by her family, her church family and her friends. Your prayers and kindness mean the world to us.

Becky Drye's children, Mark Helms and Anne Corriher

Chicken Pie Fundraiser | September 17 - October 13

Mt. Zion UCC Fundraising Committee is selling delicious chicken and other pies. Please pick up order form at handbell tables and return with payment **no later than Monday, October 13** to the Church Office. Pies will be available for **pick up on Friday, October 17, Sunday, October 19** after worship or at Preschool after October 20. Make checks payable to: Mt. Zion UCC with **BUILDING FUND** in memo line. If you have further questions, contact Sandee Carrigan.

Called Consistory Meeting | October 5

There will be a called Consistory meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, October 5 in the Consistory room. Please plan to be available.

Hayride and Weenie Roast | October 5 | 5:00 PM

Once again EVERYONE is invited for the Mt. Zion annual Hayride and Weenie Roast. Join us at the Bancroft home at 170 Corriher Farm Road, Sunday, October 5, beginning at 5:00pm. Please bring a side dish, drink and/ or dessert to share with everyone. Please RSVP to Emily Bancroft.

Congregational Meeting | October 12

MTZ UCC will meet for a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 12 after worship to discuss one item: spending over \$10,000 to complete the youth restrooms, install 2 new drinking fountains, cap a drinking fountain and take out a utility sink. Our possible spending will be in addition to a large grant we have received for this project.

Celebration of Baptism

Join the Mt. Zion friends and family, **Sunday October 19**, as we celebrate the baptism of Mary Catherine Meadows, daughter of Sarah and Andrew Meadows. Maternal grandparents are Candice and Jeff Safrit.