

This Week at Mt. Zion

Sunday	21	Homecoming lunch after worship
Monday	22	5:20 & 6:30 PM - Camp Gladiator 5:30-7:00 PM - Pickleball
Tuesday	23	5:20 & 6:30 PM - Camp Gladiator 5:30-7:00 PM - Pickleball
Wednesday	24	10:00-12:00 PM - Lectionary Group 11:00 AM- JOY Club meets at Gary's BBQ 7:00 PM - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	25	5:20 & 6:30 PM - Camp Gladiator

September Sexton Volunteer - Max Corriher

September 28 Scriptures - Psalm 146, Luke 16:19-31
Sermon - God loves Sufferers

CHURCH WIDE



October 10 & 11

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!

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

GIVE
THE GIFT
OF
life

WALK INS
WELCOME

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Mt Zion UCC

Mt. Zion

United Church of Christ

270th Homecoming

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

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

704.857.1169

mtzionchinagrove.com | mountzionucc@windstream.net

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

+

September 21, 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

“Song of Assurance”

Handbell Choir

*Responsive Call to Worship

Romans 12

(Leader and **People**)

Dear friends,
God is good.
So I beg you to offer your bodies to him as a living sacrifice, pure and pleasing.
That's the most sensible way to serve God.
(2) Don't be like the people of this world,
but let God change the way you think.
Then you will know how to do everything
that is good and pleasing to him.
(3) I realize God has treated me with undeserved grace,
and so I tell each of you not to think you are better than you really are.
Use good sense and measure yourself
by the amount of faith that God has given you.
(4) A body is made up of many parts,
and each of them has its own use. (5) That's how it is with us. There are many of us,
but we each are part of the body of Christ,
as well as part of one another.

*Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

20

*Prayer of Invocation

(Unison)

**We praise Your Name, O God, for calling us to be in Your body of believers
gathered here today. Grant us eyes to see Your glory, mouths to proclaim Your
praise and soft hearts to embrace the love You show readily share. Amen.**

*Gloria Patri

“Glory Be to the Father”

805

*Scripture Reading

Mark 11

(Leader and **People**)

(12) When Jesus and his disciples left Bethany the next morning,
he was hungry.
(13) From a distance Jesus saw a fig tree covered with leaves,
and he went to see if there were any figs on the tree.
But there were none,

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because it wasn't the season for figs.
(14) So Jesus said to the tree, “Never again will anyone eat fruit from this tree!”
The disciples heard him say this.
(20) As the disciples walked past the fig tree the next morning,
they noticed that it was completely dried up, roots and all.
(21) Peter remembered what Jesus had said to the tree. Then Peter said,
“Teacher, look! The tree you put a curse on has dried up.”
(22) Jesus told his disciples:
Have faith in God!
(23) If you have faith in God and don't doubt,
you can tell this mountain to get up and jump into the sea, and it will.
(24) Everything you ask for in prayer will be yours,
if you only have faith.

Anthem

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Chancel Choir

Youth Minute

Pastor Simonds

Call to Prayer

“Be Thou My Vision”

(vs. 1) 532

Morning Prayer (based on Romans 12)

(Leader and **People**)

We bow before You, God to lift our hearts in prayer
for we know You are good.
We offer our lives to Your service
praying that we will move at the leading of Your Spirit.
Thank You for giving us minds that pray for the needs of others
and care for those needs as if they were our own.
You have given us grace, and we pray for Your healing grace
**to pour into the lives those we have mentioned aloud and thought of at this time
of prayer.**
Bless those who are a part of the Mt Zion family to learn how they, once again,
can find a way to serve in this place.
Heal the ones who are ill or injured and remind them that they have vital ministry to
do for You
even though they are differently abled due to life’s challenges.
For those walking in the shadows of death give comfort through Your Spirit
and comfort through us as we act as Your healers in their lives also.
Again, we thank You for calling us to find our place
in this local body of Christ.
Give us expectant hearts,
a welcoming spirit
and willing mouths to speak invitations for others

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to be a part of Your Body of Christ here at Mt Zion United Church of Christ.

We pray in the Name of Jesus

Who calls us to be One saying,

Passing the Peace

Sermon "Elevate your mind, and elevate your life."
Rev. Dr. Edward Davis, Conference Minister, Southern Conference UCC

Offertory "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" Carole Brooke

*Choral Congregational Response "Doxology" 809

*Offering Prayer {for offerings given in person, Online and by mail}
Thank You God for this opportunity to support Your ministry at Mt. Zion. Grant us, we pray, eyes to see the way You continue to work in this place, mouths to tell others how You are good to us and hearts that move us to share Your love with all whom we meet. Amen.

*Hymn "Standing on the Promises" 306

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Be Thou My Vision" (vs. 2) 532

*Postlude *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

The flowers on the altar are placed to the Glory of God and in honor of the Mt. Zion United Church of Christ 270th Homecoming! WELCOME!

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



Thank you to The Men's Fellowship for the beautiful work on the preschool playground. Thank you to Ethan Bancroft and RS Braswell for providing the machinery for the job.

Thank you for all the cards, Happy Birthdays (we saw on Facebook live feed) and other acts of kindness for my 97th birthday. All were truly appreciated! *John Yost*

September Clothing Drive
For the month of September, the youth are encouraged to bring their used clothes and clothes of friends to be donated on behalf of the church to a local clothing ministry so local children can enjoy their generosity.

Chicken Pie Fundraiser | September 17 - October 8
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 Wednesday October 8** to the Church Office. Pies will be available for **pick up on 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.

JOY Club | September 24
The JOY Club will meet at Gary's BBQ for the monthly meeting, beginning at 11:00am on Wednesday, September 24. Please sign up at handbell tables if you plan to attend.

Liberty Commons Worship Service | September 28 | 2:30 PM
Once again Mt. Zion will meet at Liberty Commons for worship service, Sunday, September 28, beginning at 2:30pm. We hope you will be able to join us. Invite your friends!

World Communion Sunday
Join us Sunday, October 5, for World Communion Sunday.

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.

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.
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