

MT. ZION NEWS



Mt. Zion United Methodist Church Newsletter

DECEMBER 2015

KIDZ CORNER

Season Greetings from the Children and Youth Department,

We have been blessed once again to be a part of the celebration of the birth of Jesus. You are all invited to come see the children and youth in their holiday Christmas Play. Parents please assist in making this a great production by practicing with your child at home. Also ensuring that they are at each rehearsal at 6pm Fridays. Rehearsal will be now through the 18th (We may need additional practices, but will notify). We realize you are busy as well as your child(ren), so we suggest learning one to two lines a day to start and so you do not get overwhelmed by trying to learn it all at once.

If there is a child that has not received a part and wish to participate please let me know as soon as possible. (727)-581-7198.

Cont. (Inside)

Uncommon Touch

8:00AM-8:45AM

Church Service

9:30AM

Sunday School

11:00AM

Family Bible Study/Dinner

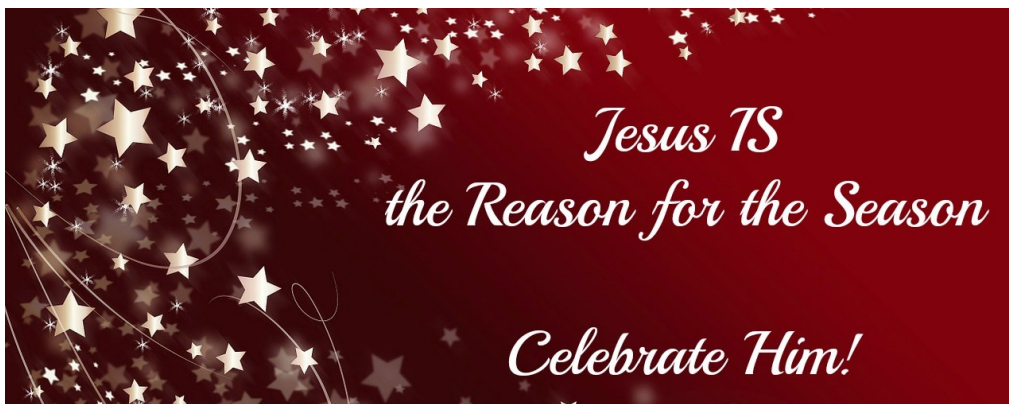
Wednesdays @ 6:00PM

"Mt. Zion United Methodist Church will be a vessel of hope for the community..."

- Rev. Michael A. Frazier, Sr.

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ADVENT MONTH

Kidz Cornor Cont.

This years Christmas program will be **December 20, 2015 starting at 9:00AM**. Light refreshments will follow.

As you celebrate this holiday season always be thankful for all that God has blessed you with and do your best to be a blessing to another.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless

Deborah Johnson

10 Reasons Your Church Isn't Growing

*Brian Dodd

1. **YOU'RE IN CONFLICT.** If you're constantly bickering and arguing, why would any new people stay? It's not that Christians shouldn't have conflict, but we should be the best in the world at handling them.
2. **YOU'RE MORE IN LOVE WITH THE PAST THAN YOU ARE WITH THE FUTURE.** This can be true of churches that are in love with tradition and churches that have had some amazing days recently. Many churches are frozen in their favorite era, 1940s, 1970s, 1990s
3. **YOU'RE NOT THAT AWESOME TO BE AROUND.** Fake, Judgmental, Hypocritical, Angry, Narrow and Unkind. Alternatively, we all know certain people who are energizing to be around, You leave feeling better than when you came, simply because you were in their presence. Unfortunately, not enough Christians today fit that description.
4. **YOU'RE FOCUSED ON YOURSELF.** Too many churches are focused on their wants, preferences, and perceived needs. They are self-focused organizations filled with self-focused people.
5. **YOU THINK CULTURE IS THE ENEMY.** All you are is angry with the culture around you, how are you going to reach people in that culture. You treat Unchurched neighbors like the enemy.
6. **YOU'RE AFRAID TO RISK WHAT IS FOR THE SAKE FOR WHAT MIGHT BE.** You look at what you have going for you versus other churches. You have more people in your church than the other churches around you. Some churches have closed but you're still open.
7. **YOU CAN'T MAKE A DECISION.** Governance is the silent killer in today's churches. When ; your decision making is rooted in bureaucracy or congregational approval for every major change.
8. **YOU TALK MORE THAN YOU ACT.** Most church leaders love to think and love to debate issues, which great. Thoughtful leaders do that. But effective leaders add one more component. They ACT!!!
9. **YOU DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH YOUR CHURCH.** They are the church member and leaders that love their church and can't figure out why no one else does. They think there is something wrong with other people.
10. **YOU'RE MORE FOCUSED ON GROWTH THAT YOU ARE ON GOD.** Some churches and leaders get so jacked up about growth that the forget it's about God and his mission.

HIV/AIDS Awareness Month



For the past 30 years, the impact of AIDS has affected people from all backgrounds both globally and nationally.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that an estimated 34 million people have died of AIDS and about 36.9 million people worldwide are living with HIV of which 2.6 million are children under the age of 15 years old.

Here in the United States 50,000 new infections occur each year.

HIV/AIDS continues to disproportionately affect the Black Community, with African-Americans accounting for an estimated 44% of all new HIV infections.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that approximately 658,507 people in the United States have died, and 1.2 million people in the United States are living with HIV infection. Unfortunately, almost 1 in 8 are unaware of their infection.

The WHO has set a goal to end the epidemic of AIDS by 2030. The time to Act is now.

Visit www.aids.gov to find out you can help.

The leading **states** with the highest number of newly diagnosed HIV infection cases in 2014 were:

1. **Florida (N=5,377)**, followed by
2. California (N=5,334),
3. Texas (N=4,854),
4. New York (N=3,803) and
5. Georgia (3,020).

The five leading counties in Florida reporting the highest number of HIV cases in 2014 were:

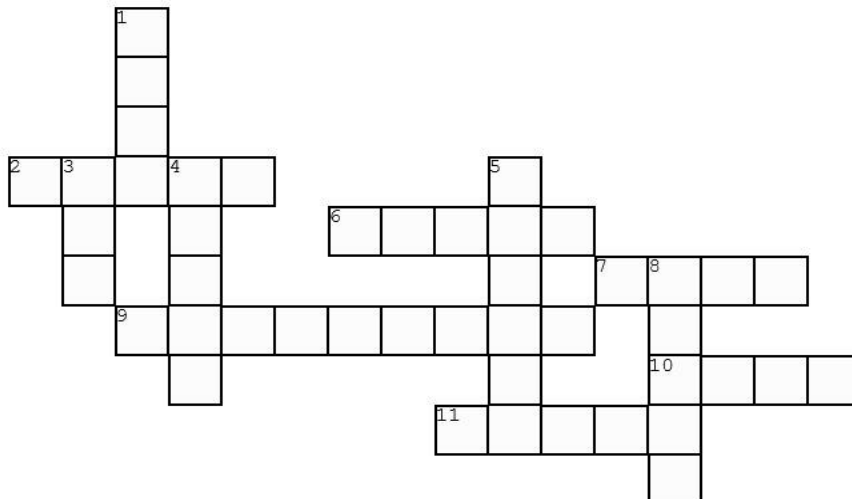
1. Miami-Dade (N=1,411)
2. Broward (N=993)
3. Orange (N=503)
4. **Hillsborough (N=443)**
5. Palm Beach (N=398)

Submitted by Health and Wellness Team.

Christmas Crossword

The Birth of the King

Complete the crossword below



Across

2. We celebrate his _____ at Christmas
6. The king of Judah when Jesus was born
7. Jesus' Mother
9. Where was Jesus born
10. A precious metal: one of the gifts from the 3 wisemen
11. How many wisemen were there

Down

1. This led the wisemen to Jesus
3. Jesus was born in a stable because there was no more room here
4. Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem to pay these
5. Mary's Husband
8. What appeared to the shepherds and told them about the birth of Christ

Answers on back

Birthday's & Anniversaries

Birthdays: Sis. Arlene Fisher 12/2; Sis. Alexis Braswell 12/3; Sis. Skylar Braswell & Bro. Conrad Lyttle: 12/6; Sis Kellissea Williams: 12/8; Sis. Charleen Crooks: 12/16; Sis. Penny Tucker : 12/18; Bro. Wilbert Ferguson: 12/20; Sis Kayeloni Harris & Bro. Ronald Mack & Robert J. Washington, IV: 12/23; Sis. Bridget Filer: 12/28; Sis. Gloria Campbell, Sis. Jessie LaPread: 12/26; Sis. Bridget Filer: 12/28; Sis. Lola Young & Sis. Natasha Sanchez: 12/29; Sis. Kai Montana: 12/30

MISSION & OUTREACH

Thanksgiving Giveaway!!!

Thank you to all those who donated and help with the Thanksgiving giveaway. We gave away 81 Turkeys and sides.

Christmas Dinner!!!

Donations: We need soap, new socks, new underwear, & new blankets.

~ Betty Perry

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Salty Service Ministry or Health and Wellness Ministry Meeting - Sunday, December 6, 2015

There will be a Salty Service/Health & Wellness Meeting immediately following church.

United Methodist Women Christmas Party - Saturday, December 19, 2015 @ 2PM

Come sing, dance and enjoy Christmas games. Enjoy our Men's group performing the exciting "Ten Lords a Leaping"

C & Y Christmas Programs - Sunday, December 20, 2015 @ 9AM

Join us for the Children and Youth Christmas program. The kids have worked very hard.

Christmas Day Dinner - Friday, December 25, 2015 @ 11:30AM

Dinner, Toys for Kids, Gifts for Everyone Blankets, Jackets, Clothes, & Shoes

SAVE THE DATE

Vision Night - Wednesday, January 6, 2016—Dinner @ 6PM

Come and hear the vision for Mt. Zion for the coming year.

Mt. Zion Photographers Needed

We are in need of a few photographers for Mt. Zion events and ministries. If you would like to volunteer please see Sis. Kim Brown

Stay Up To Date on All Church Events

Text "mtzevents" to 555888 and you will receive text messages about events.

Across

2.) birth 6) Herod 7.) Mary 9.) Bethlehem 10.) gold 11.) three

Down

1.) star 3.) inn 4.) taxes 5.) Joseph 8.) angel

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our service, events and ministries.

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Visit us on the web at
www.mzumc.net

Rev. Michael A. Frazier, Sr.