

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 7th, 2014

Please silence all cell phones and games when entering the sanctuary. Thank you!

This weekly announcement sheet will now be included on Mt. Zion's website.

TODAY

- ~Worship at 8 and 10:30 AM
- ~Sunday School for all ages at 9 AM
- ~Jubilation Rehearsal 9:10-9:55 AM
- ~WOW Kids during the 10:30 AM Worship Service
- ~Children's Choir Rehearsal Room 5, 10-10:30 AM
- ~Singles Lunch Crimson Grill, 1839 S. Queen St., 12PM
- ~Christmas Give-Away Grace UCC, 2-4 PM
- ~Praise Band Rehearsal 7-8:30 PM

THIS WEEK

- ~Game Day at Mt. Zion UCC Tues. Dec. 9th, 10 AM-3 PM
- ~Book Discussion Wed. Dec. 10th, Panera Bread, lunch at 11:30 AM, discussion at 12 PM
- ~Woven Threads at the Abel Home, Wed. Dec. 10th, 6:30 PM
- ~Children's Hand Bell Choir Thur. Dec. 11th, 6:30-7 PM, Hand Bell Choir Room
- ~Worship Choir Thur. Dec. 11th, 7:00-9 PM in the Choir Room (please note change in time)
- ~Outreach to Pleasant Acres at Elm Springs Apts., Fri. Dec. 12th, 10-11:30 AM
- ~Dress Rehearsal for ALL music groups performing Sun. Dec. 14th, Sat. Dec. 13th, 9:30 AM-12 PM

NEXT SUNDAY

- ~Worship at 8 and 10:30 AM
- ~Sunday School for all ages at 9 AM
- ~WOW Kids during the 10:30 AM Worship Service
- ~Children's Choir Rehearsal Room 5, 10-10:30 AM
- ~Children's Hand Bell Choir performs during 10:30 AM Service
- ~20:30 Group Cookie Exchange, Fellowship Hall 12-2 PM
- ~Youth Group Christmas Party, Fellowship Hall 6-8 PM

Our *Monthly Mission* for December is **The UCC Christmas Fund**. The Christmas Fund helps retired clergy and spouses by providing supplemental monies for pension and health insurance premiums to low-income retirees. At Christmas, the offering provides gift checks to hundreds of annuitants, but it also provides emergency assistance throughout the year.

The 2015 Budget Sponsorship Tree is in the narthex with opportunities to provide resources for the Summer Program for our children, Messy Church, new books for the children's library, advertising for special events, and camperships. Please take a leaf, place your name on the back and put it in the offering plate as a sign of your commitment.

Children's Choir- practices today in room 5 from 10-10:30. All children aged 3years old-6th grade are welcomed to join!

Children's Bell Choir is ringing right along! Kristal Bells use a color coded system which enables the youngest children to participate. Travis is currently working with 4th-6th graders. This group will meet each Thursday from 6:30-7 PM up until December 18th. The children will perform Sun., Dec. 14th during the 10:30 service, and on Christmas Eve during the 7 PM service. The preschool group will begin their practices after the New Year! If you have any questions, you may email Travis at the following address: travispinci1280@gmail.com.

Prepare Him Room: Spiritual Practices During Advent--The weeks leading up to Christmas are often filled with shopping, family, parties, and food. While we celebrate the excitement of the season, we need also be preparing our lives for the birth of God's most precious gift to this world: Our Savior. Join David Bradnick in the fellowship hall at 9 AM today and Dec. 14, 21 and 28 as together we learn about the spiritual practices of Prayer, Fasting, Simplicity, Submission, Worship, and Celebration. Join us as we discover together how to *Prepare Him Room*. All are welcome! Come as you are!

Gifts for Homewood Homes Residents-- As in previous years, Mt. Zion is collecting small Christmas gift items for residents of Homewood Homes. You can pick up a name and gift suggestion in the narthex. Please have the items back to Mt. Zion by today. The gift should be wrapped or in a gift bag and be clearly marked with the residents' name and the contents of the gift (even extra gifts included). There is also an opportunity to renew or begin a membership with the Homewood Auxiliary. The cost of becoming a member of the Homewood Auxiliary is \$2.

Northeastern Food Pantry- During the month of **December**, the food pantry is in need of the following items: **instant potatoes, ramen noodles, mac/cheese, and cereal**. Any and all food items except canned peas, corn and green beans are always needed and greatly appreciated. They also distribute personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes (for adults & children), toothpaste, bar soap and shampoo/conditioner. Thank you for your generosity, Barbara Krier. **I will be making the delivery to the food pantry on Monday, December 22, 2014.**

2014 Christmas Give Away: We appreciate your donations of gently used toys and children's winter clothing for the Christmas Give Away at Grace UCC in the city of York. This is the third year we have partnered with Grace to offer this outreach event. The donations will be distributed today. Thank you!

Parents Day Out (Youth Fundraiser)~ Do you have some last minute shopping to do? On Sat. Dec. 20th from 9 AM to 1 PM, the youth (and parents) are hosting a **Parents Day Out**. For a donation towards the youth group's fundraising efforts towards upcoming trips, **we invite you to bring your children** to Mt. Zion for the morning to share with us in crafts, fun, and games! Snack and lunch will be included. Babies are also welcome! If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity for excellent child care while you get things done, simply sign up in the side narthex. Questions can be directed to Pastor Dani.

Woven Threads is a discussion and Bible study group that will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 PM at Janet Abel's home. They will be using the guide, "Unglued: Making Wise Choices in the Midst of Raw Emotions" by Lysa Terkeurst. We welcome all of you to come to the next discussion on Wednesday, December 10th!

Chop and Peel- The next chop and peel is on Dec. 29th at 6 PM. We know this is a busy time of year, but if you could please sign up to donate some food items, we would really appreciate it! The signup sheet is in the side narthex. Thanks!

We will have **Game Day** from 10 AM -3 PM (note the change in time) on Dec. 9th. We can discuss how often during the upcoming sessions for next year. If you have any questions call Nancy Sleeper at home, 266-4668 and cell, 515-4790.

NEW sign up in the side narthex for **Worship Ministry Teams**. Teams consist of 4-5 people and meet 3 to 4 times. We are now moving into the coming year with Epiphany and Lent. If you have done this before, invite someone new to join you on a team and let's plan inspiring, spiritual worship for all ages!

Substitute Sunday School Teachers Needed! If you would be available to serve as a **substitute teacher** in any of our children's Sunday school classes when a teacher is unable to be there, please visit the signup sheet in the side narthex. Thank you!

We are seeking acolytes for December and January. If your child (or you!) would be interested in acolyting, please sign up on the sheet in the side narthex and please indicate if training is needed. As a guide, children typically begin acolyting around third grade. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to be in touch with Pastor Danielle.

20:30 Group will be hosting a cookie exchange on Dec. 14th from 12-2 PM in the Fellowship Hall. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex, and if you have any questions, please email Heidi Merritt at rittshjem@comcast.net.

The Church Office has Weis and Giant gift cards available in \$10, \$25, and \$50 denominations. A portion of every card purchased benefits Bell Socialization! Checks should be made out to Mt. Zion U.C.C.

Please consider sponsoring either an altar flower arrangement or our weekly bulletins. It's a great way to send a special message, remember a loved one or celebrate a birthday or event. You are encouraged to take a few minutes upon sign up to complete the form providing the information as you would like it to appear in the bulletin. We are in need of bulletin sponsors for December 14th, 21st, and 28th. Cost of flower arrangements is \$14.75 and cost of bulletins is \$15.00.

In the event of inclement weather, please check WGAL's (www.WGAL.com) or Mt. Zion's website (www.mtzionucc.org) for changes. WGAL may list church cancellations due to a major snowstorm on television, but it will be at their discretion.

Thank you for the continued prayers for Jeff & Ashley Lusby and family. For anyone who would like to send cards, the address for Jeff and Ashley Lusby is: 121 E. Laredo Trail, Raymore, MO 64083-8536.

Date	Attendance	Current Receipts	Ave. Weekly E-tithing	Total Received for Current	Weekly Budget for Current Exp
November 9, 2014	141 members + 10 guests	\$2,167.00	\$1,691.15	\$3,858.15	\$4,560.91
November 16, 2014	148 members + 14 guests	\$3,163.00	\$1,691.15	\$4,854.15	\$4,560.91
November 23, 2014	161 members + guests	\$2,685.00	\$1,691.15	\$4,376.15	\$4,560.91
November 30, 2014	147 members +18 guests	\$2,365.00	\$1,691.15	\$4,056.15	\$4,560.91

Special needs prayer chain - please call the church office at 755-6117.

Undergoing Treatment/Therapy: Joey Harvey, Leon Hartman, Paulette Smith

Recuperating: Ted Trout-Landen, Paula Beever, George DeMers, Sharon Baines, Melissa Shindler

THIS WEEK:

8 AM Worship Tech: Mary Jane Snyder
8 AM Advent Candlelighting: Dan Kinard & Dick Everhart
8 AM Welcome Team: The Dallam Family
10:30 AM Worship Tech: John Schriver
10:30 AM Advent Candlelighting: Judy Cornelius & Paula Beever
10:30 AM Welcome Team: Bill & Bonnie Murphy, Maddie & Sophia
10:30 AM Acolyte: Joey Bevivino
10:30 AM Nursery: Missy & Scott Kiefer
WOW Kids: Kathy Sweeney

NEXT WEEK:

8 AM Worship Tech: Jim Shiffer
8 AM Advent Candlelighting: Jerry & Becky Hester
8 AM Welcome Team: Don & Diane Strine, Deb & Jack Herlocker
10:30 AM Worship Tech: Palmer Burke
10:30 AM Advent Candlelighting: Vanessa & Braden Bicher
10:30 AM Welcome Team: The Merritt Family
10:30 AM Nursery: Paisley Hensel & Jamie Smith
WOW Kids: Lori McCracken