

Zebulon Baptist Church
400 N. Arendell Ave.
Post Office Box 366
Zebulon, North Carolina 27597

Non-Profit Organization
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Zebulon, NC
Permit No. 42

Zebulon Baptist Church

A center of worship

A place of ministry

A fellowship of believers

L. Jack Glasgow, Jr., Senior Pastor

Phone: 919-269-7329

Visit us on the web: myzbc.org



Address Service Requested

DECEMBER YOUTH NEWS

JOURNEYS IN DECEMBER -- This month we will begin our study to prepare our heart and minds for the coming of Christ with a *JOURNEY into Advent*. Each week we will discuss a different element of the journey into Advent and finish with discussing gratitude at the Christmas party.

December 2 — Expectation

December 9 — Preparation

December 16 — Anticipation

December 23 — NO JOURNEYS

December 30 — NO JOURNEYS

WINTER RETREAT — The ZBCY Winter Retreat will be Friday, January 29 to Sunday, January 31 to Banner Elk and stay at the Old Greer House. Sign up will begin December 2 and conclude December 18. As we have in the past, we will offer an option to ski or not to ski. To secure your spot, a deposit of \$100 for skiers and \$50 for non-skiers will be due to Lauren and sign up at the link

<http://bit.ly/zbcysignup>.

LUNCH AND SHOPPING FOR FAMILY — Sunday, December 6, after B Week Sunday School and Worship for youth, we will go out to lunch in the Knightdale Shoppes at Midway. Please begin prayerfully considering the money that you would like to give to help support our Christmas Benevolence family. We will then go shopping for our family and return back to church to begin packing the items. See Lauren with any questions.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY — Sunday, December 20, the youth will have their Christmas party starting at the Joy Gift service at 6:30 p.m. We will meet in the Blue Room for any youth not participating in the service and socially distance ourselves, but sit together for the service. We would encourage the youth to pick a card off the Joy Gift tree that has an item or toy listed for one of the Christmas Benevolence families. Then bring that gift to the Joy Gift service that night. This will be in lieu of our traditional gift exchange between the youth. After the service, we will travel to the Mitchell's home for appetizers around the fire pit. We will then finish the evening with dessert back in the Blue Room and devotion around the Chrismon tree.

December 2020

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ADVENT/CHRISTMAS OF 2020

Like the holiday song expresses, in December of 2020 “we need a little Christmas.” It indeed may be a little Christmas compared to others as we have to adjust holiday routines at church just as they are adjusted at homes and businesses due to COVID-19. But we are planning for a great month of worship, fellowship, mission and ministry here at Zebulon Baptist as we once again anticipate and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday morning worship will continue with the schedule we have been using since September, with members coming to worship and Sunday School every other week on a Week A and Week B rotation. Those not in Sunday School may choose which weeks they wish to attend. In December our Week A Sundays will be December 13 and 27, and our Week B Sundays will be December 6 and 20. You can see the details of the Week A and B schedules on our website at myzbc.org.

Inside this newsletter you will see more detailed information about how we carry out traditional services like the Christmas musical, the Joy Gift Service, and Christmas Eve Services. Our approach will involve options and maintaining social distancing, mask wearing, hand sanitizing, and the continuing appeal for you to stay at home when you are not well or know of your own direct exposure to COVID-19. We want this Advent/Christmas season to be safe, enjoyable, and meaningful for everyone; and we will be live streaming services throughout the month.

The theme for the sermons and messages of Advent this year is “Turn Our Mourning into Dancing,” inspired by a work written by the late Henri Nouwen. The Sundays in December will be focused on:

December 6 — The Candle of Love — “From Manipulation to Love”

December 13 — The Candle of Joy — “From Our Little Selves to a Larger World”

December 20 — The Candle of Peace — “From Holding Tight to Letting Go”

December 27 — Christmastide Worship — “From a Fearful Death to a Joyous Life”

Please engage in as much of our Advent/Christmas worship and celebration as possible whether in person or via live stream. Be sure to get a copy of the 2020 Advent Devotional Book and enjoy the writings of ZBC members and staff.



CHRISTMAS EVE AT ZBC

This year we are offering three opportunities for worship in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve with services at 4:00, 6:00 and 11:00 p.m. Unfortunately, we cannot have the large crowds at our usual services, so we are restricting attendance to 100 persons at each service. We will be sitting on every third row, socially distanced, and wearing masks. With this number in the Sanctuary we should be able to enjoy many of the same worship traditions we enjoy each Christmas Eve. We will be live streaming the services.

To get your tickets to one of the three services, you may come by the office during the hours of 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning December 7 until tickets run out. Please only pick up tickets you know you will use, and if something comes up, please return tickets so that others may use them. If you cannot come by the office during these hours, call the office at 919-269-7329 and ask to have your tickets put aside for you to pick up on a Wednesday night or Sunday.

Nursery for preschool children will be available for the 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. services only.

A NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC DECEMBER 6 AND 13, 6:00 PM

Our music ministry is presenting “A Night of Christmas Music” at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary on the Sunday evenings of December 6 and December 13. We are suggesting that those who attend Sunday morning services with Week A, who will not be at church on the morning of December 6, come to the music presentation on that night, December 6. Then those who attend with Week B, who will not be at church on the morning of the 13th can come that night to enjoy the music. We will seat you with social distancing and ask that masks be worn.

The Sanctuary Choir will present several selections from the musical, “Everlasting Light: The Promise of Christmas.” The Adult Handbells and oboist Holly Lee will play at the December 6th service, and the Youth Handbells and saxophonist Russell Knight will play at the service on December 13.

THE OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS

We continue our Christmas tradition of encouraging everyone to give a special, sacrificial, and generous offering in support of the global missions program of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Baptists and missions giving at Christmas have a long-standing relationship. The work of our missionaries as they seek to be the presence of Christ among some of the world’s most neglected people groups deserves our prayerful and financial support.

Global Missions Offering envelopes will be available in December. We encourage Week A worshipers to bring your Global Missions gifts to church to present in worship December 13, and Week B worshipers to do the same on December 20. Of course, we will receive your offering for Global Missions any time through December.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS
END DECEMBER 9
MAKE SUPPER RESERVATIONS BY NOON ON TUESDAY**

SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS MEAL

Senior Adults are invited to enjoy a wonderful holiday meal in our Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, December 15. Barbara Glasgow and the Senior Adult Ministry Team will have turkey and dressing, sweet potato casserole, green bean casserole, corn, rolls and desserts for you to enjoy. The Fellowship Hall will be decorated for Christmas, and Doris Pearce will present several selections of Christmas music. There will be two meals so that we can keep our senior adults safe and distanced in groups of about 25 — a lunch at noon and a dinner at 5:00 p.m. We will need to know how many are coming to these meals — so make your reservation with Barbara Glasgow or through the church office by Sunday morning, December 13. Come to the meal with at least three items for our food pantry — canned meats, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, peanut butter, jelly, rice, dried beans, mac and cheese, canned vegetables and fruits, saltine crackers, and cereal are needed items.

YEAR-END GIVING AND OFFERING ENVELOPES

Year-end giving to God through our Ministry Budget and to the Faith Challenge is vitally important to providing the resources needed for our church’s ministry and mission. Please prayerfully consider making your gifts this month. Gifts brought to the church office by the close of the business day on Thursday, December 31, or mailed to the office with a December 31 postmark or earlier will be credited to your 2020 giving statement for tax purposes.

Boxes of Offering Envelopes to use in 2021 are available for your pickup in Building D between the office and the Fellowship Hall. If you do not see an envelope box with your name and would like one, please contact June Sanders in the church office. Remember the option of online giving available on the website, myzbc.org.

SCHEDULE FOR YOUNGER CHOIRS IN DECEMBER

December 6, a.m. Services — Cherub Choir

December 13, a.m. Services — Youth Choir

6:00 p.m. Service — Youth Handbells

December 20, a.m. Services — Juniors Choir

10:15 a.m. Service Only — Music Mates Choir

5:00 p.m. Joy Gift — Music Mates and Cherubs

6:30 p.m. Joy Gift — Juniors and Youth

JOY GIFT SERVICE

Our Joy Gift Service will look a little different this year. On Sunday, December 20 we will enjoy hearing our Music Mates, Cherub, Juniors, and Youth Choir. At 5:00 p.m. our Music Mates and Cherub Choirs will perform their Christmas music and present their Joy Gift presents. When the Music Mates finish, they will go back to their choir room for a small Christmas party while the Cherub Choir performs. Once the Cherub Choir has finished, they will go to the Blue Room for their Christmas party. Parents are asked to join their children after their performance. At 6:30 p.m. our Juniors and Youth Choirs will present their music and gifts. At the conclusion of their program, each group will have their Christmas party.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Did you know that —

~ Meditation is a form of prayer time.

~ Meditation is about LISTENING to God, when all too often our prayer life is about TALKING to God.

~ Meditation is not about turning off your “brain” and your thoughts.

~ Meditation is about not getting involved in those thoughts that occupy your mind.

~ Meditation is sitting in stillness, being open, aware, and listening.

Please join us for our every other Monday morning meditation as we practice the ART of LISTENING to the Divine. We will be in the Sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. on December 14 and December 28. Meditation is led by Linda Griffin.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY — The Ladies Bible Study meets at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. We continue studying the book of Micah. This study is being led by Jackie Strickland.



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DECEMBER YOUTH NEWS (continued)

KANKI AND MOVIE — Monday, December 28, the youth will take our annual after Christmas trip to Kanki and a movie. Please sign up (starting Wednesday, December 2) using the <http://bit.ly/zbcysignup> link. Sign up will end Sunday, December 13 to allow us to get an appropriate reservation with Kanki. We have rented out two movie theaters at Raleigh Grande to see "Elf" and "Daddy's Home 2." We can only have 20 tickets per theater, so when signing up please make sure you indicate which movie you would like to see. The cost of the trip is \$10 for your ticket, and money for your lunch and snacks at the theater.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES — The youth have carefully and lovingly prepared boxes for our college and career students. They can be picked up outside the choir room entrance and are labeled with the student's name. If you see a box for a family member that you would like to pick up and drop off, that would be greatly appreciated.

COLLEGE/CAREER CHRISTMAS PARTY — Go ahead and reserve on your calendar Monday, December 21 as the college and career Christmas party. More information to come in a December bulletin. You will not want to miss out on the fun and fellowship!

JUNIORS CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday evening, December 20, Juniors will enjoy a Christmas party after their performance in the Joy Gift Service. Each Junior is asked to bring a wrapped, unisex \$15 gift for a fun game. We will enjoy dinner, Christmas fun, and a short Christmas movie. We will conclude at 8:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS BENEVOLENCE

Christmas Benevolence is off to a great start. A few families are still available for adopting. Check out the notebook outside the church office to see what is available. Also the Joy Gift tree outside of the Parlor has several tags left of gifts for the Joy Gift Service. Important dates to remember: If you have adopted a family, please have your items at church on Sunday, December 20 for the Joy Gift Service with your unwrapped gift with the tag attached to it. Distribution day to the families is Tuesday, December 22. If you have questions, please contact Shannon Speller or Emma Gardner.

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