

Zebulon Baptist Church
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Zebulon, NC
Permit No. 42

Zebulon Baptist Church

A center of worship

A place of ministry

A fellowship of believers

Dr. Michael Cogdill, Interim Senior Pastor

Phone: 919-269-7329

Visit us on the web: myzbc.org



Address Service Requested

DECEMBER YOUTH NEWS

JOURNEYS — Advent is here! Come to the Blue Room from 7:30-8:30 p.m. for Bible Study to help prepare our hearts for Christmas. See the schedule below for the weekly topics:

November 30 — Worth the Wait

December 7 — Trust the Timing

December 14 — Power of Peace (Christmas Party from 7:30-9:00 p.m.)

SHOPPING AND LUNCH — Sunday, December 4, the youth will go out to lunch at Five Guys in Knightdale, and then go shopping for our Christmas Benevolence family. Please bring money for lunch and to support buying gifts for our family.

CHRISTMAS PARTY — Wednesday, December 14, the ZBCY will hold our Christmas Party in the Blue Room from 7:30-9:00 p.m. We will enjoy games, refreshments, and a short devotion time in the Sanctuary to conclude our night. Hope to see you there!

WINTER RETREAT — The ZBCY will be going to Banner Elk, NC, to stay at the Old Greer House, February 3-5, 2023, for the annual Winter Retreat. This year we will be offering tubing again as our free time event. The total cost will be \$140, which covers lodging, a ZBCY themed shirt, and tubing. To secure your spot, a deposit of \$100 will be due **no later than Wednesday, December 14**, to Lauren. The remaining balance (\$40) will be due later in January. Sign up will need to be completed at the link bit.ly/zbcysignup, and will begin Wednesday, November 30, and conclude Wednesday, December 14. See Lauren with any questions.

KANKI AND MOVIE — Tuesday, December 27, the youth will go out for our annual trip to Kanki and a movie. Sign up will end Sunday, December 18. Please go to the sign up link, bit.ly/zbcysignup, to secure your spot!

COLLEGE/CAREER CARE PACKAGES — The ZBCY have carefully prepared care packages for our college and career students. These boxes may be picked up from the Sanctuary building (on a table in front of the choir room). If you are a family member or friend that would like to pick up the box, please deliver it to the individual in time for the holiday season and end of the semester. The ZBCY are praying for all of these “graduated and forever youth” and hope it brightens their day.

The Birth at Bethlehem: “The Eye of the Storm”

Eastern North Carolinians know well the impact and force of hurricanes. Some in our church may remember Hurricane Hazel from the 1950’s. This hurricane hit North Carolina “head on,” not losing strength upon landfall resulting in great devastation on our inland territory as well as the coast. Still today, these many years later, people still speak of Hurricane Hazel. For years, Hazel was the “marker” hurricane in N.C. until Fran hit our state with near equal wreckage and destruction. And who can forget Matthew or Floyd?

One thing we have learned about hurricanes is that there is “an eye to the storm.” The eye of a hurricane is “a lull, a quiet still center with no ferocious rain or wind.” At times, the sun can even shine in the eye of the storm! Amazing. But “the eye of the storm” is usually brief at best. All too soon, the fury of the storm breaks out again.

The events of Christ’s birth in Bethlehem might be viewed as “the eye of the storm.” One of our favorite carols, Silent Night, may hint at this truth. The carol says that on the holy night of Christ’s birth, “all is calm, and all is bright.” In addition, the Bible says the shepherds were able to see and hear the angelic songs of praise in the clear, peaceful night and make their way to the manger unhindered. Perhaps for Mary, the calm and peace of a “silent night” finally came to her. The child had been born healthy even with no room in the inn. The promised Child was here, and her heart was filled with feelings of fulfillment. True to form, this “eye of the storm” did not last long. Herod’s fury would be unleashed soon against many innocent families in the area of Jerusalem and Bethlehem. And there would be other storms to come.

So here we are in a new Advent season. We are aware of storms around us. Our storms do not magically disappear at Christmas, do they? But hear the good news: God sent Christ, the Prince of Peace, to be our Savior “right in the middle of them all!” So, brothers and sisters, light some candles, sing carols, rejoice with families, friends, and God. God comes miraculously to us, even when the storms are around. Sing with joy: “Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.” Believe in your hearts: “Joy to the World, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!” I say Amen to this.

Michael G. Cogdill
Interim Senior Pastor

JANUARY 1, 2023 — COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

On Sunday, January 1, all Adult Sunday School classes are invited to come to the Fellowship Hall for a combined lesson. Katherine Gillespie from the Coed 4 Sunday School class will lead our lesson on “The Wise Men,” from Matthew 2:1-15. Come for a time of fellowship with a continental breakfast and exciting lesson that will be presented!

CHRISTMAS BENEVOLENCE 2022

Thank you to all that have made the decision to contribute to the Christmas Benevolence Ministry. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! We have just a few families remaining and the sign-up notebook is outside the church office. The Joy Gift Tree can be found outside the parlor and is another great way to support Christmas Benevolence. Feel free to select a tag(s), purchase the item, and bring it to the Joy Gift Service. Please know that we are in need of a few volunteers to help with organizing, last minute shopping, errands, and distribution on December 19 and 20. Please contact Holly Lee (919-810-7036, hleezebnc@gmail.com) or Shannon Speller to let them know if you would like to volunteer!

- Queen-size box spring
- Microwave
- Humidifiers (2) — for children with asthma
- Refurbished laptop for college student
- Toy kitchen set
- Kitchen table and chairs

SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

All Senior Adults are invited to our Christmas luncheon on Friday, December 16 in our Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy a wonderful meal of turkey and dressing, sweet potato casserole, green bean casserole, rolls and desserts. Our special guest will be Jennifer Taylor!! Jennifer accompanied our Sanctuary Choir from February until August the past year. Plan to join us as we enjoy her beautiful piano music! Please bring three (3) or more canned goods for our food pantry. (Canned meats, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, peanut butter, jelly, rice, dried beans, mac and cheese, canned vegetables, canned fruits, saltine crackers, and cereal). Lunch will begin at 12 noon. Please let Barbara Glasgow or the church office know if you are coming by **noon on Monday, December 12.**

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS SINGING IN DECEMBER

December 4, AM Worship — The Junior Choir

December 11, AM Worship — The Music Mates Choir

December 18, AM Worship — The Cherub Choir

December 18, PM Worship — All of our graded choirs

(Music Mates, Cherub, Junior Choirs, Youth Choir and Youth Handbell Choir)

ZBC CHRISTMAS POST OFFICE

Our ZBC Christmas Post Office is open. You can place Christmas cards to fellow church members in the appropriate boxes of our Christmas Post Office, located outside the Fellowship Hall. **PLEASE remember to mail cards to homebound members, and PLEASE mail cards to members who may not come to church often.** Remember to check the post office regularly for greetings sent to you.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23; MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 and TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 4, AT 6:00 P.M.

THE SYMBOLS, SOUNDS, AND STORIES OF CHRISTMAS

This special service will highlight music from our Sanctuary Choir, Youth Choir, Adult Handbell Choir, and Youth Handbell choir. Our Youth Choir and Sanctuary Choir will join their voices together for one of the anthems. We will also enjoy learning about some of our Chrismon's that hang on our Chrismon Trees. Join us as we learn and listen to beautiful Christmas music! Nursery will be provided.

TICKETS FOR MEYMANDI/SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 AT 7:00 P.M.

Our ZBC Sanctuary Choir is looking forward to singing at Meymandi Concert Hall with about 265 voices and orchestra on Sunday evening, December 11. We will present the Christmas musical *The Seven Noels* written by Pepper Choplin, who will be directing the musical. Before the musical, the choir and audience will sing carols with our orchestra. Tickets are available at the church office or with Barbara Glasgow. We would appreciate a \$15 donation for each ticket. Students (high school and younger) are free.

AGE GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTIES

PRESCHOOL — Sunday, December 11 following worship in the Blue Room.

This party is for preschoolers and their families. Come enjoy lunch, a short Christmas movie, and a Christmas story around the tree. If you have any questions, please see our Preschool Deacon, Kayla Howell or Shannon.

K-3 — Sunday, December 18 following worship in the Blue Room.

The party will be for the children only! We will enjoy lunch, a few games, and finish with the Christmas story around the tree. Parents can pick up their children from the Blue Room at 1:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please see our Children's Deacon, Anna Elliott or Shannon.

JUNIORS — Sunday, December 18 from 4:30-5:45 p.m. in the Juniors Room.

We will enjoy pizza, games, and fun before participating in the Joy Gift Service at 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please see our Juniors Deacon, Megan Possiel or Shannon.

JOY GIFT SERVICE, DECEMBER 18, AT 6:00 P.M.

The Music Mates, Cherubs, and Junior Choirs will all present their Christmas music in this service that concludes with bringing forward our unwrapped gifts for children and youth in our Christmas Benevolence Ministry. This wonderful service begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary with nursery provided for infants and toddlers.

SAVE THE DATE!

JANUARY 11, 2023

"Prayer Emphasis for ZBC"

The Pastor Search Team invites all to join in a time of prayer for our church during this transitional season. Your Pastor Search Team is diligently and prayerfully reviewing resumes and potential candidates for Senior Pastor of Zebulon Baptist Church. We will kick off the New Year with an important spiritual practice of prayer. The younger children will have supervised activities allowing leaders and individuals to be a part of this prayer emphasis. Make it a priority to participate in our prayer service as we return to our Wednesday night activities in 2023. The evening of prayer will begin in the Fellowship Hall following our regularly scheduled Wednesday night dinner on January 11. Dinner begins at 5:50 p.m. followed by an evening of prayer from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

"God's will, nothing more, nothing less and nothing else."