

LAST WEEK'S CHURCH RECORD

Sunday School 140
Worship Attendance in the Sanctuary..... 240
Worship Attendance (via Facebook views) 137
Weekly Budget Requirement \$16,093.00
Budget Gifts \$17,347.00
YTD Budget Requirements \$ 772,464.00
YTD Budget Gifts \$ 709,725.19

A NEW DAY

Total Campaign Goal \$ 850,000.00
Gifts for Week 100 \$ 4,970.00
Total Gifts \$ 359,575.11

OUR KNOWN SICK

At Home:
Greg Pait
Duke Durham:
Curtis Strickland
WakeMed:
Connie Brayboy

OUR CHURCH CALENDAR

TODAY

9:00am Sunday School
10:15am Morning Worship (Sanctuary or
Facebook Live feed)
11:15am Children's Library Opens
4:00pm Wreath Workshop — FH
5:15pm Youth Handbells
5:45pm Youth Choir

MONDAY

8:30am Meditation --- Parlor

TUESDAY

10:00am Women's Bible Study — D11

WEDNESDAY

5:50pm Dinner Line Opens
6:30pm Nursery Opens — B10
Missions Friends, GA's, RA's,
Junior Connections, & Adult
Handbells
Adult Bible Study — FH

WEDNESDAY

7:00pm Music Mates, Cherub Choir,
& Junior Choir
7:30pm End of all above activities
7:30pm Youth Journeys — Blue Room
7:45pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

12:00pm Senior Adult Holiday
Luncheon — FH

FRIDAY

9:00am Gifting Ministry — D9

ZEBULON BAPTIST CHURCH, 400 N. ARENDELL AVE., P. O. Box 366, ZEBULON, NC 27597

Telephone: 919-269-7329; website: myzbc.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday –Thursday — 9:00am to 4:00pm

Friday — 9:00am to 1:00pm

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT — HOPE

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE — “Praeludium”..... Fischer

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

— Isaiah 64:8-9

BANNER PROCESSIONAL

Acolyte — Henry Pace

Litany Readers — Pat and Robert Jenkins

LITANY FOR CANDLE OF HOPE

Reader: In the midst of our own encounters with uncertainty and upheaval and our longing for deliverance, Jesus calls to us, “*Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the Master of the house will come.*”

Congregation: **We wait in hope as people surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to the work of the kingdom all around us.**

Reader: We light this candle as a sign of our shocking hope. May we stay awake to God’s activity in the world as we wait in expectation that even now God is with us, working to restore us to the fullness of life with God and one another. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

All-powerful God, grant us the hope that may increase our strength of will for doing good. We hope that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever. Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TOURS

Pastor Ward will be visiting Sunday School classes over the coming weeks, following the tentative schedule below:

<u>Sunday School Class</u>	<u>Sunday Date</u>
Youth	December 10
K/1, 2/3	December 17
Career & College	January 7
Women’s 2	January 14

NEWCOMERS LUNCHEON — SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024

Newcomers to Zebulon Baptist Church, whether new visitors or new members, are invited to join our ministry staff and a few of our deacons for a free luncheon in our Fellowship Hall following our 10:15 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 14.

Please respond by submitting the form at the QR code below or by calling the church office at (919) 269-7329 no later than Sunday, January 7, 2024.



SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY

TUESDAY MORNING WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY — Women’s Bible Study will be using Bible studies in the *Nurturing Faith* magazine (available outside the church office on the literature rack). All weekly Bible studies are dated using the Sunday date, and each week we will be discussing the study dated the Sunday prior to our Tuesday meeting date. All ladies are welcome to join the group on Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. in room D11 for a time of Bible study, discussion, and fellowship.

HELP NEEDED IN THE NURSERY!

Zebulon Baptist Church is in search of a part-time Assistant Nursery Worker to provide dependable, safe, secure, and nurturing care to the children in our church, ages 0 through 5 years old. If you are interested, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/ZBC-Assistant-Nursery-Worker> or scan the QR Code below to review a complete job description and send a message to the personnel team. You can direct any questions to personnel@myzbc.org. Trisha Jones (Administrative Deacon Personnel Chair), Ben Possiel (Administrative Deacon for Nursery Staff), Shannon Speller (Minister of Children, Outreach and Missions), or Kelly DuPont (Nursery Deacon).



Year End Giving

Each year our church receives a large portion of our gifts during December as members make gifts to be recorded on their giving record for taxes. As of the last Sunday in November, we have received 83% of our Unified Budget for the year. If we meet our goal for December, we will have reached 99.98% of budget! The New Day Campaign has received 75% of the 2023 (Year 2) goal as of the last Sunday in November.

Following is additional information about the offerings to consider at Zebulon Baptist:

The **Unified Ministry Budget** is the day-to-day budget, also known as the Unified Budget or Operating Budget. Offerings to the Unified Ministry Budget allow Zebulon Baptist Church to: do missions within our community, state and world; support our ministers and staff; provide Sunday School and Bible Study curriculum; and, maintain all the support services needed in the operation of the church.

The **New Day Capital Campaign** is an offering to pay obligations for facility projects, complete additional special projects for the campus and facilities, as well as to provide resources that enable us participate in mission partnerships and mission action.

There are a variety of ways you can give to Zebulon Baptist Church:

In Person – You can put your offering in the offering plate during any worship service or bring it by the office anytime during business hours.



Online via credit card – Visit our website at MyZBC.org and click the **Worship** tab, then click on **Giving**. Or scan this QR Code with your smartphone. Enter your information in the form, designating how you would like your offering to be applied. You can make a one-time donation or select a recurring interval.

Electronic Funds Transfer – This method withdraws your designated donation from your bank account at the interval you select. You can download a form from the **Giving** page or pick one up from the church office. The completed form must be submitted to the church office during business hours.

Visit the **Giving** page of our website to review some other ways you may choose to give.

We encourage you to consider making gifts of cash, stocks, or other assets to God through this church to be used in support of our Ministry Budget or New Day Campaign. The church office will be open until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 29, 2023 to receive your gifts that will be credited on your 2023 giving. Also, any mailed gifts must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2023 to be counted in this tax year. Online gifts must be made by December 31, 2023 as well in order to be credited to your 2023 giving record. We greatly appreciate the generous, faithful, and obedient giving of our ZBC family, especially at this time of year.

If you have questions about Giving to ZBC, please contact June Sanders at june.sanders@myzbc.org.

CHORUS — “The Christmas Gift”

‘Tis the Gift of a Savior, ‘tis the Gift of God’s hope who came to us from Heav’n above. The Promised Messiah born in Bethlehem’s stall came to Free His own as the Lord of all.

Sing, sing a simple song of cheer; an Advent gift for all is here! Sing! Sing, for this Holy One is a gift of hope, God’s Holy Son!

SPECIAL MUSIC BY THE MUSIC MATES CHOIR

THE CHILDREN’S SERMON

***ADVENT HYMN** No. 83
“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” — Wesley–Prichard

*OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY — “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” Thate

*ADVENT DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

*Our hope is in the God we love, who blesses us from heav’n above,
Praise God on high for Jesus’ birth, whose loving Spirit fills the earth.
Amen.*

***A CAROL FOR ADVENT** No. 107
“O Little Town of Bethlehem” — Brooks-Redner

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM — “Rejoice! Your Light Has Come” Mary McDonald
The Sanctuary Choir

SERMON — *Meanwhile* . . . Rev. Ward Page
Mark 13:24-37
(Page 40 in New Testament of Pew Bibles)

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT** No. 99
“View the Present Through the Promise” — Troeger-Emerson

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

BENEDICTION

***CLOSING CAROL** — “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”
*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

***POSTLUDE** — “Fughetta” . . . Muffat

*The Congregation is invited to stand as they are able.

CCL #1437762

SL #20535958

ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP

Please come usher in the wonderful Advent Season with our traditional Advent Wreath making workshop this afternoon from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All supplies are provided with the exception of a platter or pie pan to hold the wreath and shears to cut the fresh greens. ZBC devotional Advent booklets written by various church members will be available for you to enjoy during the Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS BENEVOLENCE 2023 UPDATE

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 we are in need of a few volunteers to help with organizing, last minute shopping, errands, and distribution on December 18 and 19. Please let Holly Lee (919-810-7036, priority.holly@gmail.com) or Shannon Speller know if you would like to volunteer!

Here are some remaining needs:

- Please reach out if you have connections to window sales/repair.
- 2 car seats for 19-month old twins (Car seats have an expiration date on the bottom. Please check prior to donating and refrain from donating any seats that have been involved in an accident.)
- full bed (bed frame and mattress)
- queen mattress

Many requests for bicycles this year!

OUTREACH TEAM members greeting visitors after worship will be Ben and Katie Henry.

DEACONS welcoming visitors and members this morning are Jim Calhoun and Sarah Hester.

PRAYER TEAM member dedicated to prayer for our ZBC worship service, our Zebulon community, our world, and many shared prayer concerns is Beth Cone.

USHERS for this morning are Bridget Bone, Johnny Clark, Matt Ellington, Dock Jones, Paxton Lanier, and Randy Pearce.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS are Melissa Morgan, Phyllis Underhill, Donna Waszak, and Susan Richert.

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH JOURNEYS — This week we will continue our Advent Study. See you from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Blue Room for fun, fellowship, and, Bible study.

SHOPPING FOR FAMILY — The ZBCY will go out to lunch and shop for our Benevolence family on Sunday, December 10. Please bring money to support buying presents to make this family's Christmas special. We will also go out to lunch before shopping, so bring money for that as well.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY — Our Youth Christmas party will be Sunday, December 17. We will begin at 5:00 p.m. at the Joy Gift Service. Be sure you have picked a card off the Joy Gift tree, and bring the item (unwrapped) with the tag on the gift to the service. We will sit together and then begin our progressive dinner party after the service concludes! Hope to see you all there for a fun and festive night together.

KANKI AND MOVIE — Wednesday, December 27, the youth will go out for our annual trip to Kanki and a movie. Sign up will end Sunday, December 17. Please go to the sign up link, bit.ly/zbcysignup, to secure your spot!

COLLEGE 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 the "graduated and forever youth" and hope it brightens their day.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Please enter the Fellowship Hall using the side door, pay at the table, and proceed through the serving line to pick up your dinner prior to being seated. Please make your reservations no later than **1:00 p.m. on Monday**. You can reserve your meals by one of the following methods:



- Contact the church office at (919) 269-7329 or email candace.heath@myzbc.org with "Wednesday Supper" in the subject line.
- Go to our website and click on Worship > Wednesdays at ZBC to fill out the online form or use the QR code to link to the online form.

Pricing will be \$10 per adult and \$4 per child. **Please pay for supper with Cash (PREFERRED)**. This week our Wednesday Night Supper will be prepared by the Four Amigos (John Cashwell, Doug Fowler, Roger Mitchell, and Waddell Mitchell). The supper line opens at 5:50 p.m. and will serve until 6:20 p.m. Our menu this week will be: Barbecue Pork (cooked and chopped by the Four Amigos), Slaw, Boiled Potatoes, Rolls, and Dessert. The supper serving team will be: Patti Baker, Sherrie Hopkins, Denise Loucks, Jane Mitchell, Jim Woodard, and Phyllis Woodard.