The response from last month’s request regarding the frequency of publishing this newsletter was about evenly divided between those satisfied with receiving it once a month and those desiring a return to a weekly schedule. The disappointing thing was that the overall response was very small indicating little interest by the vast majority of those receiving the publication. So, I am offering one more opportunity for response. If you have already done so, please don’t respond again.

Preparing a General Fund Budget is a daunting task and one taken seriously by staff and lay leadership who are responsible for presenting a proposed budget to the church. The simple truth is our resourcing needs are more than what it appears our anticipated revenue from your giving will be. Since we do not ask for annual commitment cards, Frank Rucker works very hard to project future receipts on the basis of past history. Early indications are that our budget needs will exceed $3,500,000 for 2016.

The experience of Spiritual Awakening will, I believe, have an impact on how we use the financial resources God has entrusted to us as individuals and families. I have no doubt whatsoever that we would far exceed the budget number written above if all of us practiced tithing (giving 10%) to the general fund budget. We all benefit from the dollars given to provide adequate staffing, broad-based ministries for all ages and family groups, investment in missions and buildings in which to worship, study, be discipled and from which to launch our broader outreach to the community, nation and world. These broad budget areas of missions, ministry, personnel and buildings (think mortgage payment) form the bedrock of our ability to be the people of God in this place.

Budget development will conclude in early October, in time for you to look at it on the 3rd Sunday evening of that month. As we continue to pray for Spiritual Awakening, I am asking God to show signs of that awakening in various ways. One way is in the unusual growth in budget support. I challenge you to prioritize your giving by committing the tithe to the general budget and give to other needs over and above that basic amount.

Remember to mark on your calendar the following special events for September: 1) Focus on prayer at 6 p.m. on the 13th followed by a pie fellowship; 2) Celebration of the 160th anniversary of Mount Zion at 6 p.m. on the 20th with special testimonies and worship led by the choir and orchestra; 3) Annual Missions Celebration the afternoon and evening of the 27th.

Ron Madison (ron.madison@mzbc.net)
Deacons On Call

September 6
Bruce Bialoskurski  256.417.7651
John Vandiver & Phil Vandiver

September 13
Jason Blaxton  256.656.3979
Jerry Sims & Terry West

September 20
Robbie Burrough  256.337.1364
Ed Wilson & Jim Baber

September 27
Jeff Chandler  256.527.8484
Phillip Ballinger & Jerry Bennett

Ministers On Call

September 5 & 6
Rob Hatfield 256.503.9018

September 12 & 13
JJ Yount  769.798.4378

September 19 & 20
Ron Madison 256.468.2905

September 26 & 27
Mark Jacobs  256.797.4377

Associate Pastor

God continues to do amazing things that exceed our expectations! This past month has seen the largest number of people attending contemporary services in any given month in the history of our services. It has seen us have 5 less people (362) then we did in our Easter service this year. Each Sunday has had significantly more than the same Sunday last year (at least 20 more up to 110 more). The wonderful news is that our projections of continued growth in this area have held true and there is a significant positive momentum!

People frequently ask me how things are going and what it "feels like" in the contemporary service. My answer is that it feels like God is moving among us! Practically this means we have new people appearing every week and people are joining the church often. Tangibly it means that we’ve maximized our seating capacity by adding seats on the floor and in the balcony. Emotionally there is a palpable sense of expectation of what God might do on any given Sunday. What a joy and blessing to get to be a part of what God is doing!

The next question that inevitably comes is - what are we going to do about our growth? My answer is both simple and complicated. First, I don’t know. I don’t know how else to change the room or what other tool can be utilized to provide additional space. Second, I ask people to keep on inviting their friends and to keep on making people feel welcome so that the momentum of our growth continues to impact our community. Finally, I ask people to pray for God to reveal a solution to us as a body of believers. There is no simple answer, but we serve a God who is beyond wise and He will provide as we listen to Him.

Rob Hatfield  (rob.hatfield@mzbc.net)

Mission Celebration | September 27, 2015

The Fields are Ripe for Harvest...

Here am I, Send Me.
Isaiah 6:8

Missions & Outreach

Make your plans to be with us Saturday evening for an opportunity to hear what’s happening in Nepal, and how we can be involved as a church and as individuals. We will meet in room 101 on the South Hall at 6 PM. Come and hear Pradeep Jha and RP, another friend of Jonathan and Carrie, share what’s been happening since the earthquake in Nepal.

MAKE YOUR PLANS to attend this year’s Mission Celebration on Sunday, September 27th. Our special guest this year is Tim Milner, pastor of Essential Church. He will be sharing God’s Word with us. In addition to the fantastic booths and breakout sessions for adults, this year we have a special experiential breakout session for children. They will get to experience Haiti through the sights, sounds, and smells of a village house, the market place, and water’s edge. In addition they will have a craft and be learning a little Creole through song. The breakout sessions for adults will be Essential Church, How Mount Zion will be involved; Summer missionaries, Parents and Students; South Asia, updates on Disaster Relief, Jonathan and Carrie, and prayer needs; and Romania, Medical Mission Trips meeting humanitarian needs.

Romania Mission Trip  There's still time to help our Romanian Medical Mission Team. We are in need of "over the counter" medical supplies to take with us to Victoria, Romania September 3 - 15. A list of needs is available at the information desk. Items can be dropped off in the CMC.

Are you ready for 40 days of Prayer for Life Spring Church? By the end of this week we will have a 40 day prayer list that will include all of the events that will lead up to the launch of Life Spring Church on October 18. We will be putting together teams to help in the physical preparation as well as prayer teams to pray for the launch. Finally we will be sending a group to the Launch of the Church. Ask God now how you are to be involved.

It’s time for all you duffers to get off your duff. Sign up for the David McMichael Golf Classic. You can register yourself or your team on line or at the Kiosk. Don’t wait, pull that team together for a great round of golf filled with many great prizes.

David Cochran  (david.cochran@mzbc.net)
**Adults**

New Z-Groups Starting in October

- **Music in the Church, Part II**, led by Mike Aycock, begins Sunday, October 11 and lasts for 6 weeks. Room: S205. Cost: Free for those who have completed Part I. For newcomers, the cost is $5.

**Women of Zion**

We are excited to welcome the new people joining WOZ this semester. If you’d like to join a Bible class, it’s not too late! We meet in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 AM. Classes include:

- **Romans** – an original study written by Jean Herndon. Jean would appreciate your prayers as she presents this study each week. She has her largest class on record, with 72 registered!
- **Children of the Day** – Dive into I and II Thessalonians in this study led by Pat Dykes and Sherry Rist.
- **Let.It.Go.** – Learn how to let go of control in this study led by Kim Blaxton and Teresa Slay.
- **Creative Correction** – Apply Scripture to your creative parenting techniques. Lydia Bosse and Katrina Bristol lead this study.
- **The Patriarchs** – Join Kathy Blades to follow the lives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

For more info, visit www.mzbc.net/adults/women for class descriptions and costs.

WOZ has started a new mentoring program for women, *Apples of Gold*. This program meets on Thursday nights and includes a cooking demonstration, Bible study, and dinner. Even though we have formed our first two groups, you can mark your calendar for the next 7-week session in January. For more information, contact Cheryl Gangl, WOZ director, at c.gangl@att.net.

Terry Slay  (terry.slay@mzbc.net)

**Music**

September is a wonderful time to join the Music and Media Ministry of MZBC. Of course, you can join the Choir, Orchestra and other groups in the music ministry at any time of the year but there is no better time than NOW. Also, we are always in need of additional help in the Technical and Media Ministry. As a matter of fact we need someone to take the lead of the Light Team for the Chapel Services right now. If you are interested please contact me at mark.jacobs@mzbc.net or call me at the church office.

If you have been waiting for just the right time to join the **Sanctuary Choir**, **NOW is the time**! The meeting time is Wednesdays at 6:40. If you have been waiting for just the right time to join the **Sanctuary Orchestra**, **NOW is the time**! The meeting time is Wednesdays at 6:30. If you are interested in playing in our **Contemporary Worship Band** please contact Rachel Metcalf at the church office or see her when you are here on campus. We are always looking for others who can play. If you are a student, grade 7-12 and currently play in your school band, we have an orchestra for you. It’s called **Crosswinds** and they meet with director Mike Aycock on Sunday afternoons at 4:00. If you are a student or the parent of a student who might be interested, just contact us and get signed up.

Also, if you are a student and are interested in playing in one of our **Greenhouse Bands** please contact Casey Smith or the church office. If you are interested in participating in any of these groups or other groups it is easy: Just find me, Mike, Rachel or Casey when you are here at church or call the church office at (256) 837-2665 and we will be glad to assist you.

Mark Jacobs  (mark.jacobs@mzbc.net)

**Preschool & Children**

August has been an adjustment time where the kids are getting acclimated to a normal routine again. It has been wonderful seeing all the families back on campus engaging small group studies. The hallways once again are filled with joy as each one makes their way to their class to learn about Jesus. How refreshing it is to see such joy. Now that we are finishing up August, we need to look at opportunities that can be placed on your personal calendar in the next month. Here are some important dates that I pray you will take advantage of during this time. Please note that a few of these classes/events will require you to pre-register prior to the actual date.

- **8/28-29** – Royal Ambassador Canoe-camp-out (Lad/Dad) Deadline is Wednesday 8/26. Please call Amy at the CMC or register online at Mzbc.net
- **9/14-10/12** – Begins a 4 week study of I’m a Christian Now. The class will meet upstairs in room N200-201 from 6-7:30 (this is only offered to those who have been baptized-registration is required).
- **9/15** – Weekday Education pictures
- **9/18** – Grandparents Day @ Weekday Education
- **9/20** – The celebration of the 160th Anniversary of Mt. Zion Baptist Church
- **9/22** – Weekday Education speech and hearing testing
- **9/25** – Parents Night Out (from 6-10pm) registration is required, please contact Amy Schultz at the CMC @ 256-895-6021
- **9/27** – Mission Celebration (child care will be available from 4-7)

Tracey Burns  (tracey.burns@mzbc.net)

**Students**

Here is a look ahead in the Student Ministry.

-Fall Retreat

-Sept. 18-20
-\$75
-OCee Retreat Center, Ocoee, TN
-Senior High is White Water Rafting
-Junior High is playing Paintball
-Register at mzbc.net/students
-We will be contacting those who requested late transportation closer to time.
-Parent meeting is Sept. 9th at 7:30pm in the Chapel.

-Rooted

-Resumes Sept. 27th
-Following dates; Oct. 11th, Nov.8th
-Apply online at mzbc.net/students

-ZGroups

-Topics & Dates
-Evangelism: Aug. 30th, Sept. 13th
-Making of the Bible: Oct. 11th, 18th
-Reformation Day: Oct. 25th
-Know your heretic: Nov. 1st, 8th, 15th

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-Apply online at mzbc.net/students
Service Times

Sundays
8:30 am  Sunday School (1st hour)
9:45 am  Worship & Sunday School (2nd hour)
9:45 am  Contemporary Worship
11:00 am  Worship
11:00 am  Contemporary Worship
3:45 pm  Outreach/Inreach Visitaton
4:00 pm  Crosswinds Rehearsal
4:30 pm  Awana
5:00 pm  Adult & Student ZGroups
6:00 pm  Evening Worship

Wednesdays
5:00 pm  Wednesday Night Supper
5:45 pm  Preschool & Children’s Graded Choirs
6:00 pm  Prayer Meeting
6:00 pm  ZGroups
6:15 pm  Greenhouse
6:40 pm  Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal
6:45 pm  Children’s Mission Organizations

September Supper Menus

September 2  Beef Tips and Rice, Wonderful Corn, Slaw, Roll & Dessert or Salad Bar
Kid’s Meal: Hotdog

September 9  Chicken/Broccoli Casserole, Rice, Pear Salad, Roll & Dessert or Salad Bar
Kid’s Meal: Chicken Nuggets

September 16  Pork Sandwich, Potato Salad, Beans & Dessert or Salad Bar
Kid’s Meal: Hotdog

September 23  Chick-Fil-A
Kid’s Meal: Chicken Nuggets

September 30  Chicken Enchilada Soup, Roll/Crackers & Dessert or Salad Bar
Kid’s Meal: Chicken Nuggets

2015 David McMi-
GOLF CLASSIC
Friday, September 25
Shotgun Start @ 8am
Becky Peirce Municipal Course

COST: $40 includes range balls, golf and cart fees, catered lunch and soft drinks.
REGISTRATION: Online @ www.mzbc.net by September 18
CONTACT: Mount Zion Baptist Church @ 256.837.2665

Mount Zion Baptist Church
228 Mt. Zion Road
Huntsville, Alabama 35806
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Attendance

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August Giving

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Mount Zion Baptist Church
Celebrating 160 Years

Mount Zion Baptist has a long and storied history. On Sunday night, September 20 we will celebrate 160 years of great ministry. Please make plans to attend this service and also take an opportunity to visit the north hall commons and see the pictures of the various church buildings through the years.

THE FIELDS ARE RIPE FOR HARVEST...

Here am I, Send Me.
Isaiah 6:8

MISSION CELEBRATION | SEPTEMBER 27, 2015
Welcome New Members
The Lord Added

Kate Merrell (B-1)
Nikki Terry (L-1)
Matthew & Alicia Callis (L-2 & 3)
Jack Daniels (S-1)
Hope, Mackenzie & Maddox Meadows (L-4, S & B 2)
Sandra Hensley (S-2)
Richard Gale (B-3)
Dustin Schoknecht (B-4)