



MAY Newsletter



Zoar Baptist Church

As we step into May and look ahead to summer, I am reminded of the words of 1 John 1:5: “God is light, and there is absolutely no darkness in him.” What a comfort to know that our gracious God is perfectly holy, perfectly good, and always faithful. Because He is light, we are called to walk in His light and let His truth shine through our lives.

We're continuing our sermon series through 1, 2, and 3 John on Sunday mornings. These short books that are letters may not be long, but they are full of truth we need. They remind us what it looks like to really know Jesus, walk in the light, love one another, stay grounded in truth, and have assurance in our faith. John writes in a clear and personal way, and I believe this series is helping us grow stronger in both our walk with Christ and the way we live for Him every day.

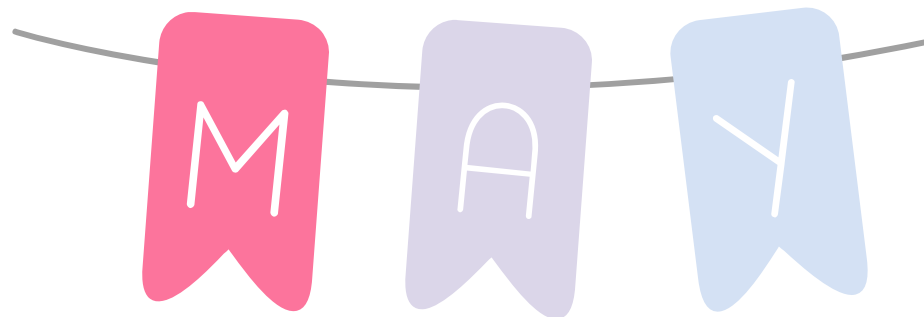
One of the things I love about serving here at Zoar is the heart of this church. Zoar has a heart for the Lord and a heart for Shelby. That is one of the reasons I believe this is the best place to worship, grow, and serve together. God has been so gracious to us, and I am thankful to be part of a church family that desires to love Him and make Him known.

As summer approaches, we have some exciting opportunities in front of us. Vacation Bible School at the end of May and into June will give us a wonderful chance to share the gospel with children and families. Then at the end of summer in August, our Block Party will be another great opportunity to connect with our community and point people to Christ.

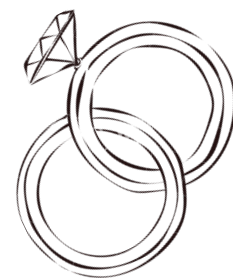
Let's pray that God will use these months in a powerful way as we walk in His light and share His love. And as we do, let's invite others to Explore Zoar and discover the faith, community, and purpose we have found in Jesus.



In Christ, *Pastor Jon*



Anniversaries:



Jesse and Sonda Hamrick - 05/01

Donald Gene & Glenda Allen - 05/15



Birthdays :

Lorraine West - 05/01

Boyd Hamrick - 05/03

Holly Hamrick - 05/05

Caleb Marlowe - 05/12

Dorris Jackson - 05/14

Jane Willis - 05/16

Marie Eury - 05/17

Aaron Prychodko - 5/22

Kayla Gauthier - 5/23

Courtney Lutz - 5/23

Nursery Volunteer

MAY:

3- Rhonda Newton

10- Lorraine West

17- Melody Gamble

24- Sherry Blanton

31- Glenda Allen

Children Volunteer

MAY:

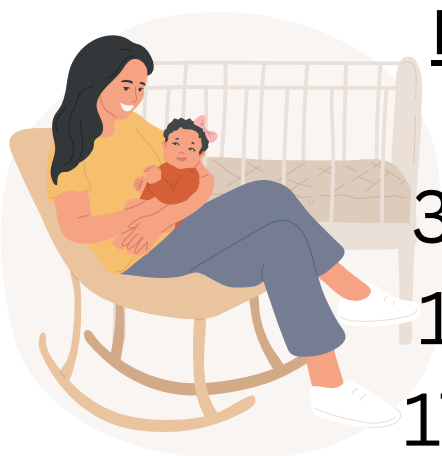
3- Dorris Swafford

10- Rhonda Newton

17- Cindy Ledford

24- Family Worship

31- Family Worship



Activities

Dates:

- Sunday, 5/3/26 - 5:00 - CARE Meeting
- Saturday, 5/16 - 8:00 - Men's Community Breakfast
- Sunday, 5/17/26 - 11:00 - Church Council
- Wednesday, 5/27/26 - VBS Decorating
- Saturday, 5/30 - Shaved Ice Ministry
- Sunday, 5/31/2026, Church Conference
- May 31 through June 4 - VBS *is coming! Please pray about how you can help!!!*



Mother's Day: May 10th.



Puppet Performance Schedule for Morning Worship

May 3

May 24



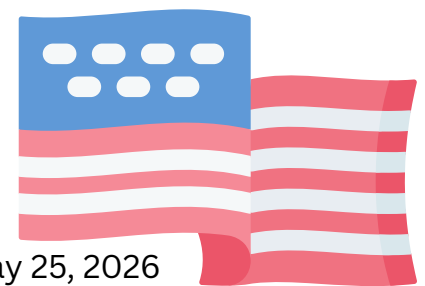
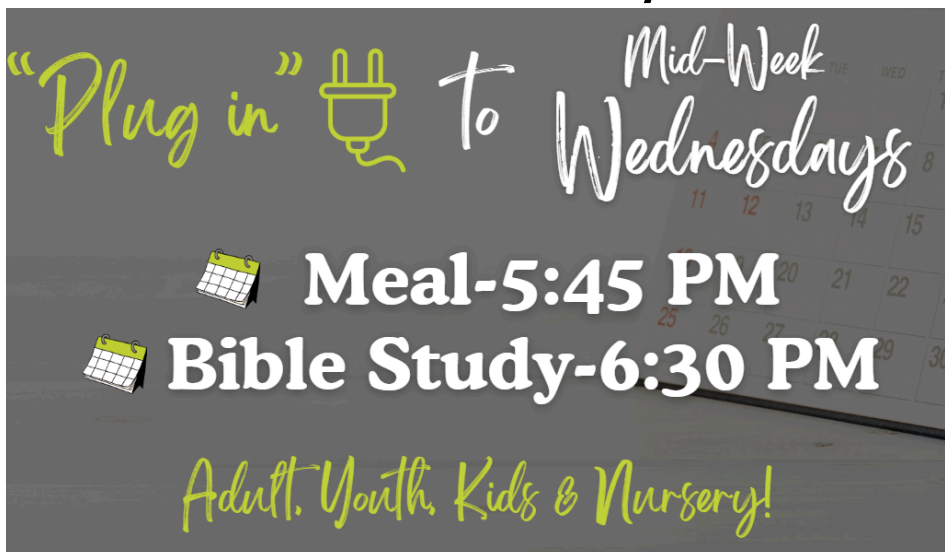
Shaved Ice at Washington Square Apartments MAY 30th 11am

VBS Decorating Starts 5/27



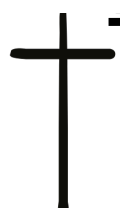
May 31st-June 4th

Summer Break 5/27



May 25, 2026

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY



Mission Action Committee Report:

To All our Backpack Ministry Supporters:

We had another successful year providing meals and snacks to a dozen students at Shelby Middle School thanks to all our donors and volunteers. Thank you all so much for your generous donations, prayers for these students and teachers and support!

How meaningful do you think it was to these students who every week received a bag of snacks and food? Hunger is real in our community and we all know that feeling. Jesus is the answer to all our prayers, concerns and needs. We are the hearts, arms and feet of Jesus.

““ ‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me; I was in prison and you visited me.’ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or without clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick, or in prison, and visit you?’ “And the King will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” Matthew 25:35-40 CSB

This ministry has touched many students, teachers, staff and leaders at the middle school not only through the Backpack meals you provided, but the monthly snacks and fellowship for teachers and staff, the prayer walks at the beginning of each school year and prayers throughout the year. We are very grateful to Sherry, Billy and others who provided all the packing, delivery, coordination and leadership to this important ministry.

We'll provide our last backpacks the last week of April, ending this ministry for this school year, but it will continue in late summer and the new school year. While this is earlier than expected we still have a month of supplies to start the next school year which starts August 12, 2026.

We will also observe Teachers Appreciation Week the first week of May by providing breakfast biscuits and other items for all the teachers, staff, and administrators there. Pastor Jon has participated in many ways with prayers and counseling on occasion to these teachers and we appreciate his heart for loving people and missions like these.

Being the hands and feet of Jesus is a joy!

Future and continuing mission projects are below. Your prayers and support are needed.

- Our food closet continues to support hungry families, especially in the summer months.
- Mid-week meal and Bible study is a mission event so bring a friend.
- Hurricane Helene Disaster Relief , BOM reports 775 families returned home after home restorations were completed, this is an ongoing project over the next 5 years.
- Men's Breakfast has a new date. (Next breakfast, May 16, 8am)
- SS class mission event, we encourage each class to pick some mission projects that you all are interested in. Ask God to fill our eyes and hearts with community opportunities and guidance. We already have several active mission projects centered in Sunday Schools. What are yours?

Thank you all for your devoted support to provide snacks and food for our Shelby Middle School students and support for the monthly show of support to the teachers, support staff and leaders there. They really appreciate all we do. Please continue to pray for SMS.



Donations are always needed for the NC Baptist on Missions for WNC residents who are in desperate need. Link to donate:

<https://baptistsonmission.org/Mission-Projects/By-Mission-Type/Disaster-Relief/Hurricane-Helene>

PLEASE CONTINUE PRAYING FOR OUR COUNTRY, OUR LEADERS AT EVERY LEVEL, OUR MILITARY, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS, AND OUR COMMUNITY. IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS.

Your Mission Team, Jon Jones, Martha Ledford, Nina Willis, Billy and Sherry Blanton, Eddie Winecoff, Mickey and Paulette Bradley