



September Newsletter

Zoar Baptist Church

September always feels like a new beginning in the life of the church. Summer schedules wind down, ministries get back into rhythm, we have new committees, and we are so excited and grateful for those who said yes to serving.

Our Midweeks are beginning again on Wednesdays. I hope you will make Midweek a priority this fall, because we believe God uses Christian community to help us become more like Jesus.

Paul writes in Philippians 3:13–14: “Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God’s heavenly call in Christ Jesus.” Paul understood that following Jesus means continuing to move forward.

We can be thankful for what God has done without becoming complacent with where we are. There is always another step of faith to take, another person to love, another opportunity to serve, and another way God wants to shape us into the people He has called us to be.

That is my prayer for Zoar as we begin this new church year: *Lord, help us keep reaching forward.*

Let’s celebrate what God has already done, but let’s also look expectantly toward what He is going to do next.

That same idea is at the heart of our current sermon series:

Explore Zoar: Discover Faith, Community, and Purpose.

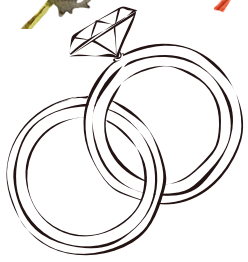
Throughout this series, we are going over some of the foundational questions of the Christian life. What do we believe? Who is Jesus? Why can we trust God’s Word? What does it mean to belong to a church family? How do we live together when relationships are difficult? And how has God called each of us to serve and live on mission?

My hope is that longtime members, new believers, visitors, and those who are still asking questions will all be challenged through this series. Because exploring Zoar is ultimately about discovering a deeper faith in Jesus, finding genuine community with His people, and embracing the purpose God has given us.

I am grateful for what God is doing in our church, and I am excited about where He is leading us. As this new church year begins, let’s pray together, serve together, invite others to come with us, and continue taking our next steps of faith.

The best way to discover what God has ahead is to faithfully follow Him into it.

In Christ, *Pastor Jon*



Anniversary:

Kyle & Allison Jenkins - **09/17**

Ryan & Kayla Gauthier - **09/29**



Birthdays:

Cindy Ledford - **09/04**

Andrea McSwain - **09/05**

Carole Gantt - **09/06**

Chuck Wright - **09/09**

Jill Cantrell - **09/14**

Billy Blanton - **09/22**

Dianne Whisnant - **09/27**

Steve Willis - **09/27**

Rhonda Newton - **09/29**



Nursery Volunteer

September:

6- Doris Putnam

13- Lorraine West

20- Rhonda Newton

27- Melody Gamble

Children Volunteer

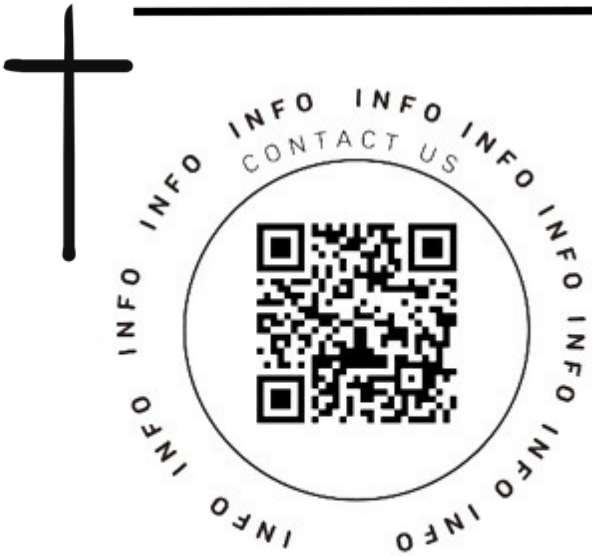
September:

6- Allison Jenkins

13- Doris Putnam

20- Mallorie Humphries

27- Sherry Blanton



Activities

Date Reminders:

MID-WEEK MENU

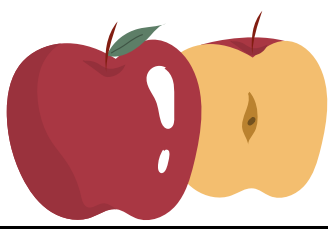
- September 2 - Tacos
- September 9 - Spagehtti
- September 16 - Chicken & Rice
- September 23 - Hot Dogs
- September 30 - Mesquite Sheet Pan Chicken

- Wednesday, September 2- Midweek Begins
- Sunday, September 6- 10 am, Promotion Sunday
- Sunday, September 6- C.A.R.E 5pm
- Sunday, September 13 - Homecoming
- Sunday, September 20- Church Council 4 pm
- Thursday, September 22- Deacon Meeting 7 pm
- Wednesday, September 25 Youth Lazer Tag 5- 8 pm
- Saturday, September 26 - J.O.Y Grandads Apple
- Sunday, September 27 -Church Conference 11am
- Saturday, October 10- 5:30- BINGO Night
- Saturday, October 31 Trunk-or-Treat
- Thursday, November 5- Ladies Night, LeGrand Center
- Friday, November 6 - Date Night 5-8 pm
- Saturday, January 9 - Mens Breakfast 8am

October 9th 8PM-October 10th 8AM.
Email Caleb to sign up!



The J.O.Y. Group is going to **Grandad's Apples** with lunch on **Saturday Sept 26!!**
We will go leave for Grandad's Apples in Hendersonville at 9:00am on the van and then to Dairi-O's afterward.
Please see the **sign up sheet on the trophy case**. Please contact Julia if questions at 704-477-1223



Friday, Nov 6th 5-8pm



Childcare for a night together

- Step 1: Plan a date night.
- Step 2: Drop off the kids with us at the church. (1740 S Lafayette St.)
- Step 3: Have fun on the date!



Mission Action Committee Report:

In September, our focus is twofold: first, the North Carolina Mission Offering (NCMO); our goal is **\$ 1,800**; second, we resume our Backpack Ministry (12 students) at Shelby Middle School (SMS) and monthly treats for the teachers, staff, and administrators.

The Baptist on Mission report for August in Western North Carolina (WNC) states 1,105 home repairs completed, 195 home repairs are in progress, 23 new homes are under construction, and two new homes were completed. Well over 30,000 volunteers have traveled to WNC to fulfill God's will in their lives. Millions of dollars have been donated, providing materials for all these repairs and work sites where volunteers are housed and fed in order to sustain this huge operation. 100% of your donations go to provide disaster relief in WNC and other mission projects all over the world. Please give generously in September to the NCMO.

The Backpack ministry resumes this month, and we will need all those who signed up and donated food items last year to continue this next school year. We are very grateful for every donation and your generosity. Please continue to use the tubs in the FLC and across from the SS office to drop off your food donation or place it in the Backpack room (Ruth SS classroom). If you want to make any changes to your donations this school year, please let Mickey Bradley know.

Being the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus is a joy!

- Our food closet has served, so far in August, 30 adults and children, and most were children. Our grant funds are being used to refill the shelves, and you can still donate anytime as well using the tubs in the FLC and across from the SS office.
- We are so grateful for all those who participated in the recent SMS/James Love prayer walk and who handed out shaved ice at Washington Square apartments.
- Thank you to all our church volunteers (especially Lyn and the Barnabas class) who helped at our Block Party. We had 118 guests registered for the Block Party, and some came from Washington Square apartments, whom we have focused our attention on recently.
- We had 30 at the men's breakfast in August and enjoyed great fellowship and testimony. We were all blessed with great food and conversation. Our next breakfast is January 9, 8am so mark your calendars and bring a friend.



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>

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