



Messenger

ZION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021

One of the best-known stories in the Bible is Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. I have read and preached about that miracle from the eleventh chapter of John many times. Last week I read it again and a new truth jumped out at me from the scripture. It is about how Jesus loved that family.

The family was Mary, Martha, and their brother, Lazarus. A message came to Jesus. He is told, "Lord, the one you love is sick." Then we are told, "Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus." When Jesus was at the place where Lazarus had been entombed, He wept. The crowd of people watching him said, "See how He loved him." It is clear that Jesus loved this family.

So, what do you do when you love people? Well, if you're like Jesus you eat with them, you hang out at their house every chance you get. What do you do when you're together? This year I have spent a lot of time with my own family. That has been one of the blessings of COVID-19. We have eaten together, I have worked puzzles, played board games, watched TV, and chased grandkids around the house. We have talked a lot and laughed.

Everyone's house is a little different. At my house, we scatter out when we are all together, some eat at the kitchen table, others in the dining room, and some on the couch. When the meal is over, I try to remember to take my plate to the sink, then get out of the way. The children run around inside yelling, screaming, fighting over toys. If the weather is nice, they are eventually told to go outside. If they are inside, they are told to hold it down. The grownups end up in the living room, the television might be on but nobody is watching it. We talk, and remember things, catch up on what each one is doing, and enjoy spending time with each other. Eventually someone stands up, and far too soon it's time to go, because of work, and school tomorrow. That is what you do when you love people.

In scripture, Jesus did the same with the family of Lazarus. On one occasion as He was visiting Martha tried to involve Him in her squabble with her sister Mary, who wasn't helping in the kitchen with the meal. Their house seems to have been the home base for Jesus and his disciples during His last week before His crucifixion.

They lived in Bethany, which is a small village about two miles from Jerusalem, on the opposite side of the Mount of Olives. It was at Bethany in the home of Simon the leper that Mary anointed Jesus' feet. It was at Bethany where Jesus began his entry to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. More importantly it was in Bethany, near the home of His friend Lazarus, where Jesus ascended back into heaven. It is to the Mount of Olives near Bethany that Zechariah 14 and Revelation 19 prophesy Jesus will one day return as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

I hope and pray that we, the people of God at Zion Hill Baptist, and as those whom the Lord loves, will share His love during the month of March. While the current pandemic is keeping us apart, let's stay together. Use your phone to call those in the church family, send encouragement online, or mail a card. When you feel safe, come join us in person as we worship together. Until that day keep in touch and watch online. When you love as Jesus loves, you will find a way spend time together. There were 102 views of the service online Sunday February 14. May God bless you; we will miss you until we are together again. God loves you, and so do I.

Terry Fortner

Preschool/Children Committee Meeting 6:00pm March 2

March 7 Deacons meet at 8:00am. The Lord's Supper will be observed in the morning worship service.

Week of Prayer for North American Missions March 7-14

The Mission Moves Forward is the theme for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. God's mission hasn't changed! He is still seeking those who are lost! Use the prayer guide in the March 7 bulletin to pray each day for NA Missions. Pray about your gift for this offering. The national goal is \$70 million. Zion Hill's goal is \$5,000.

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 14. Set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday, March 13.

Church-Wide Derby Race

Sunday, March 14, at 5pm, we will have a church-wide Pinewood Derby Race! Children will play for trophies, and Adults and Youth will play for a chance to pie Bro. Rich in the face! The stakes are high! Due to low attendance there is a very good chance to win a trophy! Adult participants are asked to pay a \$10 fee to cover the cost of the racer. Participants must have their cars weighed between 4:30 and 4:50. If you have any questions, contact Bro. Rich, Phil Jones, or Andy Kew! Sign-up sheets are in the breezeway.

You're Invited to a Wedding Shower

Come join the fun Saturday, March 27, 2-4pm, as we shower Jessica Erwin and Justin Morgan with blessings, gifts, advice, love, and well-wishes for a long and happy marriage. They are registered at Bed Bath & Beyond and Walmart. The wedding is Saturday, May 1.

Job Opening for Zion Hill Secretary

We are looking for someone to prepare weekly bulletins, a monthly newsletter, and maintain church records. Previous office experience is helpful, including working with Microsoft programs. Experience with website tools and social media is a plus! This position includes competitive pay, paid time off, and a flexible schedule. Contact Pastor Terry Fortner, broteri@aol.com, phone (501) 690-3428, or Michelle Wyatt (501) 209-9576, for more information.

Bayou Meto Elementary Food for Children

Want to feed children? You can help at least 65 children at Bayou Meto Elementary School with food for the weekend. Items needed:

- Individual packets of oatmeal or cereal, Vienna Sausages
- Individual or whole box Mac & Cheese, Tuna
- Granola bars, Fruit Snacks, Juice boxes
- Cans of soup, chili, or pasta (Ravioli, Spaghetti-O's, etc)

Information sheets and collection box are in the Breezeway. Large donations can be taken directly to Bayou Meto Elementary, but you must call first because of Covid. For more information please contact Susie Dodson or Renee Hand. If you can help by taking the weekly donations to the school, please call Susie Dodson, Renee Hand, or the church office.

Choir Rehearsal Resumes

Join us for choir practice 7pm each Wednesday in March to review the musical *Living Hope* that we will sing Easter Sunday, April 4.

February was full of fun, cold weather, and snow! Plus, a polar plunge! In hindsight, we should be doing all we can to reach people. Jesus went through extensive measures to reach people, and people went through things to be reached. We should be doing all we can to reach people, even if it means jumping into a cold lake!

Upcoming we have are the Pinewood Derby Race, which I hope has a great turn-out with good chances to win trophies for children, and an opportunity for the youth to pie me in the face! (Which would definitely be a sight, for sure!) If you are interested, please sign up! Adults will have to pay a \$10 fee, but that \$10 also enters you for a chance to pie me in the face.

2021 has gotten off to a rough start, but don't be discouraged, be joyful in these tough times. We need to have enough faith in God to be able to say, "It is well with my soul" even during the toughest times. Let's continue to build endurance and stay strong, the Lord's blessings are among us!

—Bro. Richard

March Activities - Choir Practice 7pm each Wednesday

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| 2 | 10:00am | Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| | 6:00pm | Preschool/Children Committee Meeting |
| | 7:00pm | Co-Ed 3 Class Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| 3 | 6:30pm | Bible Study, The Switch, GAs, RAs, Mission Friends |
| 7 | 8:00am | Deacon Meeting/Week of Prayer for North American Missions |
| | 9:45am | Sunday School |
| | 11:00am | Worship/Lord's Supper Observed |
| | 6:00pm | Bible Study—Adults in Sanctuary, Youth in Basement |
| 9 | 10:00am | Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| | 7:00pm | Co-Ed 3 Class Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| 10 | 6:30pm | Bible Study, The Switch, GAs, RAs, Mission Friends |
| 14 | 9:45am | Sunday School |
| | 11:00am | Worship |
| | 5:00pm | Pinewood Derby, Fellowship Hall (Weigh-in 4:30-4:50) |
| | 6:30pm | Finance Committee Meeting |
| 16 | 10:00am | Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| | 7:00pm | Co-Ed 3 Class Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| 17 | 6:30pm | Business Meeting |
| | 6:30pm | The Switch, GAs, RAs, Mission Friends |
| 21 | 9:45am | Sunday School |
| | 11:00am | Worship |
| | 6:00pm | Bible Study—Adults in Sanctuary, Youth in Basement |
| 23 | 10:00am | Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| | 7:00pm | Co-Ed 3 Class Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| 24 | 6:30pm | Bible Study, The Switch, GAs, RAs, Mission Friends |
| 27 | 2:00pm | Wedding Shower for Jessica Erwin, Fellowship Hall |
| 28 | 9:45am | Sunday School |
| | 11:00am | Worship |
| | 6:00pm | Bible Study—Adults in Sanctuary, Youth in Basement |
| 30 | 10:00am | Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| | 7:00pm | Co-Ed 3 Class Bible Study, Fellowship Hall |
| 31 | 6:30pm | Bible Study, The Switch, GAs, RAs, Mission Friends |

Contact Us

Zion Hill Baptist Church

11923 Zion Hill Rd

Cabot, AR 72023

Office: 501-988-4989

Fax: 501-988-4020

Email: zionhillbc@gmail.com

Website: www.zionhillcabot.com

Please use the following contact info when the church office is closed on weekends and holidays.

Terry Fortner, Sr. Pastor

terry.fortner@zionhillcabot.com

501-690-3428

Gary Vaile, Music Director

gary.vaile@zionhillcabot.com

501-519-2868

Richard Barkhimer, CYE Director

zhbc11923@gmail.com

870-833-0175

Recent videos of Zion Hill's Sunday am services can be viewed at www.zionhillcabot.com/sermons.