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**WELCOME TO MT. ZION!** If this is your first time with us, please stop by the Welcome Center for a gift. We're so glad you're here today!

- **INTERESTED IN BEING BAPTIZED?** Pastor Vance would love to talk with you about this next step in your journey with Jesus. Email [pastorvance@mountzionchurch.org](mailto:pastorvance@mountzionchurch.org) or contact the Church Office.
- **NEED PRAYER?** Prayer Team members are available to pray with you under the front screens following the service or submit a request at [mountzionchurch.org/prayerrequests](http://mountzionchurch.org/prayerrequests)
- **DOWNLOAD OUR CHURCH APP!** Search Mt. Zion Xenia in the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store.

Printed copies of a **ONE-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN** are available in the Foyer and in our church app. The plan includes 25 daily readings each month, with built-in catch-up days. In the app, open **Bible** at the bottom of the screen, then tap **Plan** (next to the calendar icon) to view or listen to the daily reading.

Our **21-DAY PRAYER CHALLENGE** began last week, and it's not too late to join. Whether you use a prayer card available in the Foyer or follow along in our app, both are simple guides to help you pray each day for one person in your life who doesn't know Jesus.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**LADIES' GAME NIGHT | Friday, January 23, 6:30PM at 76 S. Fairfield Road, 45440**

Game on! Invite a friend, bring a snack to share.

**EVERY LIFE SINGS WORSHIP NIGHT | Friday, January 30, 6PM-8PM at Victory Church**

Join Hope Rising Pregnancy Center for this free event that features Christ-centered worship with guest artist Phil Stacey, powerful testimonies of God's work through Hope Rising, and a unified time of prayer for families, pastors, and churches as we stand for life together. **Victory Church is located at 2443 Valle Greene Dr. Fairborn, 45324**

**RENU YOUTH VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION | Sunday, February 8, 11:45AM-3PM (offsite)**

For girls grades 6–12—movies, pizza, and snacks. Learn more at RENU Youth or see Pastor Shawn.

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT: VALENTINE'S DAY EDITION | Friday, February 13, 5PM-9PM at Mt. Zion**

Love is in the air, and so is the chance for a kid-free evening. Drop your kids off anytime between 5PM-9PM for dinner, games, movies, and fun at church, giving you a well-deserved night to yourself. Go out, stay in, or enjoy dessert without sharing, we won't judge. This event is free. Sign up in the Foyer.

**MTZ YOUNG ADULTS LUNCH | Sunday, February 15, following the 10AM worship service**

College students and 20-somethings are invited to lunch following the service.

**WINTER JAM 2026 | Saturday, February 21 at Heritage Bank Center in Cincinnati**

Middle school and high school students are invited to Winter Jam, Christian music's biggest tour, featuring performances by Chris Tomlin, Matthew West, Katy Nichole, Hulvey, Disciple, Emerson Day, NewSong, and speaker Zane Black. We will leave Mt. Zion at 1PM. The cost is \$15 for a ticket, and students will need to bring extra money for food. Sign up in the Foyer or see Pastor Shawn for more details.

## WEEKLY/MONTHLY GROUPS

- **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 1 Timothy study (9AM)
- **MEN'S ALLIANCE:** Learn more at [mensalliancetribe.com/tribes/shepherd](https://mensalliancetribe.com/tribes/shepherd) (Mondays, 6:30PM, Parking Lot)
- **EMBRACING JOY: A STUDY OF HABAKKUK** | Tuesdays, beginning January 20, 10AM (offsite)  
Join us for an eight-week Bible study on one of the Old Testament's most overlooked books, pointing us to lasting peace and joy. Space is limited. See group leader Carol Ober in the Foyer for more info.
- **MIDWEEK AT MTZ** | Wednesdays, doors open at 6PM
  - **RENU Youth:** weekly gathering for middle & high school students (6PM-8PM)
  - **GriefShare:** Support for those grieving a loss. Register at [griefshare.org/groups/285584](https://griefshare.org/groups/285584) (6:30PM-8PM)
  - **Awana Clubs:** helps kids grow in faith, friendships, and Bible knowledge. (6:30PM-8PM)
- **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: BOOK OF ACTS** | Thursdays, 10AM
- **CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** | Thursday, January 22, 2PM-4PM  
A supportive space for those caring for a loved one, using *The Heart of the Caregiver* study.
- **CARD MAKING GROUP** | Monday, February 2, 10:00AM at 76 S. Fairfield Road, 45440  
Encourage and bless others by making handmade cards.
- **WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB** | Thursday, February 5, 6PM  
Book of the Month, *The Yankee in Atlanta* by Jocelyn Green.

## SERMON NOTES

### THE LIVING GOD: GIRDING YOUR LOINS

Pastor Vance Weeks | 1 Kings 18:40-46

What does it look like to “gird your loins” spiritually and prepare for the battles and storms that are coming your way in life?

- Girding your loins **means dealing with the past** (18:40)
- Girding your loins **means trusting God's promises** (18:41-42a)
- Girding your loins **means praying** (18:42b-44)
- Girding your loins **means refusing to quit** (18:42b-44)
- Girding your loins **means accepting help** (18:42b-44)
- Girding your loins **means being ready to move when God says move** (18:45-46)