



Share Jesus. Grow Disciples. Serve Others.

**WELCOME TO MT. ZION!** We are so glad that you're here and that you chose to worship with us today. If it is your first time with us, please pick up a gift bag at the Welcome Center. No strings attached; we just want to say thanks for coming.

**FIND US ONLINE** | website: [mountzionchurch.org](http://mountzionchurch.org), Facebook @MTZChurch, Instagram @mtz\_church

**THE DETAILS** | Contact the **Church Office:** M-TH; 8:30AM-5PM **Phone:** 937.426.0814

**Email:** [info@mountzionchurch.org](mailto:info@mountzionchurch.org) **Address:** 428 Shepherd Road, Beavercreek Township OH 45385

**GIVING** | Offering plates are available at the entrances and exit of the Gym. If you would like to give online, please visit [mountzionchurch.org/giving](http://mountzionchurch.org/giving).

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GETTING BAPTIZED?** If you have recently made a decision to begin a relationship with Jesus or you have never made this public profession of your faith and desire to now, Pastor Vance would love to talk with you about setting up a time for you to be baptized. You can email him at [pastorvance@mountzionchurch.org](mailto:pastorvance@mountzionchurch.org) or call the Church Office if you are interested.

**NEED PRAYER?** Members of our Prayer Team are available to pray with you following the service across the Foyer in the Chapel or submit a request to our Prayer Chain at [mountzionchurch.org](http://mountzionchurch.org).

#### **DOWNLOAD OUR CHURCH APP TODAY!**

Stay connected with our church community anytime, anywhere by downloading our church app that can be found in most major app stores. While our app will continue to grow as we add features to help our church community stay connected to one another, right now you can watch our weekly livestream and past sermons, take sermon notes, find upcoming events, take part in our one-year daily Bible reading plan, submit prayer requests to our Prayer Chain, and find links for online giving.

- To download the app, visit the Google Play Store for Android devices or the Apple App Store for iOS devices and search for **Mt. Zion Xenia**. Once you've downloaded and opened the app, tap on the "Bible" tab at the bottom of your screen, then tap the word "Plan" to take part in our one-year Bible reading plan.

A **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** to approve the 2023 Annual Report will follow the worship service next Sunday, February 11. Reports are available for you to pick up in the Foyer.

The Women's Ministry provides a monthly meal for **BRIDGES OF HOPE**, a local overnight shelter, and we need people to cook, donate food, transport, and serve food. If you would like to help, please sign up at the Welcome Center and you will be contacted. If you need more info, contact Brenda Donahue [don60378@yahoo.com](mailto:don60378@yahoo.com).

**CARING CARD MINISTRY** | **Monday, February 5, 10:30AM-11:30AM (76 S. Fairfield Rd. 45440)**

Interested in being crafty with a purpose? Join us to make handmade cards to encourage and bless others.

**BIG GAME SUNDAY PARTY & CHILI COOK-OFF** | **Sunday, February 11, 6PM at Mt. Zion**

Everyone is invited to bring a friend and join us on Super Sunday for some food, fun, and football during our Big Game Day Party. We'll have chili, a hot dog bar, games, trivia, and prizes as we watch the big game, and of course the commercials, together. Drinks will be provided, but we encourage you to bring your favorite game-time snack, appetizer, or dessert to share (chips, veggie tray, cheese & crackers, cookies, brownies etc.). To enter your championship chili for the cook-off, please sign up at the Welcome Center. Judges will try small samples of each entry. The winner of the cook-off will be announced at halftime. We hope to see you there!

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE** | **Wednesday, February 14, 6:30PM at Mt. Zion**

Come prepare for Easter as we begin Lent with this special service. Childcare provided for children 5 and under.

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT** | **Friday, February 16, drop off anytime between 5PM-9PM at Mt. Zion**

Too busy for a night out on Valentine's Day? Just need a break? Drop your kids off for dinner with us to enjoy a fun-filled evening of games, movies, food, and fun! It's a win-win. Time away for you. Fun for the kids. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if your child is coming.

**IF:2024 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE** | **February 23 (6PM-10PM) & 24 (9AM-4:30PM) at Mt. Zion**

Mt. Zion is excited to be one of the local hosts streaming IF:Gathering 2024 live from Fort Worth, Texas, so join us and hundreds of thousands of women worldwide for this two-day event. IF:2024 is a chance to gather. A reason to celebrate. A moment to refocus on our mission to go make disciples because we know our time on earth is short. And if Jesus were to come back in our lifetime, wouldn't we want to have done everything in our power to reach every person on earth? We will hear from great speakers like Jennie Allen, Christine Caine, Lauren Chandler, Jamie Ivey, Sadie Robertson Huff, David Platt and many more! Cost is \$10 (includes lunch). Childcare for children 5th grade and under can be made available on Saturday if requested when you register. A link to register can be found at [mountzionchurch.org/women](http://mountzionchurch.org/women).

### **THE BOOK OF 2 TIMOTHY STUDY | Sundays, beginning February 11, in the Chapel**

The book of 2 Timothy is a letter from Paul to Timothy that teaches readers what it means to be a disciple and how to disciple others, and its center point is the gospel of Jesus Christ. Join pastor Joby Martin in this eight-session series where he walks us through the book of 2 Timothy. Learn what it means for disciples to be entrusted with the gospel, shaped by the gospel, and driven by the responsibility of sharing the gospel with others.

### **RENU YOUTH (GRADES 6-12) | Wednesdays, 6PM-8PM at Mt. Zion**

A place where students can come as they are, have fun, and learn more about Jesus. **Upcoming RENU Youth events:** Guys' Night at Round1 (Friday, February 9, 6PM-8PM @ The Mall at Fairfield Commons), Girls' Galentine Day Celebration (February 17, 5:30PM-8:30PM; off-site)

### **AWANA (AGE 3-5TH GRADE) | Wednesdays, 6:30PM-8PM at Mt. Zion**

AWANA offers a fun-filled program to promote Bible literacy and help kids develop a lifelong faith in Christ. Register your child using the link found at [mountzionchurch.org/mtzkids](http://mountzionchurch.org/mtzkids).

### **GRIEFSHARE | Wednesdays, 6:30PM-8PM at Mt. Zion**

GriefShare is a free Christ-centered grief and loss support group. We want to offer a safe place for you to find help and encouragement as you navigate your grief journey following the loss of someone you love. We know it hurts, and we want to help. These weekly sessions are self-contained and open, meaning you can join the group at any point. Sign up at the Welcome Center or register online at [griefshare.org/groups/176439](http://griefshare.org/groups/176439).

### **THE GOSPEL OF JOHN SMALL GROUP | Mondays, thru March 18, 6:30PM-8PM at Mt. Zion**

This study dives into the last 7 chapters of the Gospel of John. Come experience the heart of God and His offer of hope and restoration.

### **WOMEN'S GROUP | Thursdays, 10AM at Mt. Zion**

All women are welcome for a time of prayer, fellowship, and study of the Gospel of Luke.

### **MEN'S GROUP | Thursdays, 6PM (76 S. Fairfield Rd. 45440)**

Come as you are able and join us for a time of fellowship, snacks, topical Bible study, and prayer.

### **ONE ANOTHER FELLOWSHIP GROUPS | Saturday, March 2**

One Another Fellowship Groups are simply spending time with one another for one evening. On March 2, we will have our first One Another Fellowship Groups where small groups will meet in a host home, share a meal, and fellowship together. It really is as simple as that! Sign up at the Welcome Center now through Sunday, February 25 with your name and how many are in your family or group. After February 25, you will be contacted by your hosts with a time, location, and details for your group. You can also sign up to be a host if you are interested. Please see Pastor Vance if you have any questions about hosting or the groups in general.

### **WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB | Thursday, March 7, 6PM in the Church Library**

Ladies, read our Book of the Month *Vienna Prelude* by Bodie & Brock Thoene and join us to discuss.

## **SERMON NOTES**

### **MORE OF YOU: MAKING EXCUSES**

February 4, 2024 | John 5:1-14 | Pastor Vance Weeks

**Jesus shows up** (John 5:1-4)

**Jesus' question** (John 5:5-6)

**The lame man's answer** (John 5:7)

#### **What does the lame man's answer show us?**

- The lame man's answer shows he has given up
- The lame man's answer offers excuses
- The lame man's answer places blame
- The lame man's answer points out obstacles

**Jesus responds to the excuses** (John 5:8)

**What happens when Jesus moves us past our excuses?** (John 5:9)

**The two things we do after we get more of Jesus in our lives** (John 5:10-15)