September 16, 2020

**Genesis 50:20-21 (NIV)**

**You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children. And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.**

Charles Stanley says that trusting God to use the disappointments in life is difficult. Trusting God to work through people’s evil intentions is something else entirely. When events such as a betrayal occur, a wall of frustration clouds our relationship with God. We ask why God didn’t stop it. As our frustration turns to doubt, we lose confidence in God’s concern and involvement in our lives. To be free from the doubt and resentment we tend to feel toward God when we are intentionally hurt by others, we must focus on the principle stated so clearly by Joseph: “You intended to harm me but God intended it for good.” Through all the rejection and abuse Joseph encountered at the hands of his brothers, God had not abandoned him. Through the intentional mistreatment Joseph experienced, God was working to accomplish His Divine plan. In order for God to turn a negative situation into a positive, we must remain faithful through the process. It was Joseph’s faithfulness through the process that gave God the freedom to work.

**Did You Know?**

We have received a thank you note from Sister Debbye Williams: Thank you for your expressions of sympathy. My family and I are so grateful for your kindness. It is so heartwarming to know the support I continue to have from my Mt. Zion family. Please continue to keep my family in your prayers.

We also received a thank you note from Dr. Inell Bolls: To know you is to know people who are kind, considerate, and thoughtful. To know you is to be grateful for the special things you do. Special thanks to: my Mt. Zion family for the resolution; Rev. Pat Stone for praying with me; the Deacon Ministry for your card and members who sent a card and/or a text. You are truly a blessing.

This is an election year and you have the right to **vote by absentee ballot**. Every registered voter in the state of Ohio should be receiving a request form for an absentee ballot. You should complete that form and return it to the Board of Elections as soon as possible. You will receive your ballot by the first week in October. Please complete your ballot as soon as you receive it. If you need assistance with returning your ballot, we will have a box set up in the vestibule to collect your ballots and take them to the Hamilton County Board of Elections.

The “Greenhouse Logo” competition is still underway. All youth are asked to participate by submitting a design. Please submit your entries to the Advisory Team by September 26, 2020. The winning entry will receive a $25.00 gift card and all other entries will receive a $15.00 gift card.

Did you know that Deacon Bob and Sister Tina Merriweather are celebrating their 50th

wedding anniversary on September 19th? Please take a moment to wish the Merriweathers a blessed anniversary.

Did you know that you can now watch Sunday service on You Tube? All you have to do is go to YouTube and type in: MtZionWoodlawn. It is case sensitive and should be typed as one word.

The Bailey family is hosting a celebratory fellowship for Rev. Dr. Albert Bailey, Jr.:

On Saturday September 26, 2020 the Bailey Family is hosting a celebratory fellowship between 1-5pm at Park’s Place Restaurant located at 1185 Kemper Meadows Drive Cincinnati, Ohio 45240. All are welcome to celebrate the achievement of Doctoral Degree graduate Dr. Rev. Albert Bailey Jr. Please join for fun, food and fellowship. Social distancing will be in place and facial coverings required.

If you unable to attend you are also welcome to participate in a graduation drive by. The drive by will begin at 12 noon on September 26th. Please make plans to line up at the corner of Greencastle Drive and Yorkhaven (Springdale community 45246) by 11:50am. Please ensure your hazard lights are on. Hope to see you there!

Did you know that on Sunday, September 27, 2020 we will be celebrating our 151st Church Anniversary? The celebration will take place during our 6:00 p.m. Zoom fellowship. When you receive a call to participate please respond with a loving yes.

Did you know that if you have any ministry related questions/issues, you can direct them to Deacon Sanford Kirksey and Rev. Patricia Stone? They will work with you to provide direction.

Did you know that you can still submit questions to the Official Board and you will receive an answer in the weekly correspondence? The answer to this week’s question is attached.

Can you believe it's that time of the year again?  **Women's Season 2020** is approaching, and it's time to begin planning!  If you are interested in helping to plan this year's **virtual** event, please contact Sister Diane Favors (dmfavors1959@gmail.com) or Sister Arlonda Allen (arlondavallen@gmail.com). Once we have everyone, we will begin to schedule regular planning meetings.  Thank you, and please keep our programs in your prayers.

Did you know that we are planning a Shred Day event for the community on Saturday, October 3, 2020? If you did not make it to the last one, please mark your calendar. The Shred Day event will run from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Please begin gathering your documents**. If you are available to volunteer, please call the Church and leave your name and number**. See the attached flyer.

Did you know that we are entering “budget season” here at Mt. Zion? We will be sharing more information with you over the coming weeks.

Did you know that we are planning an outdoor worship service for Sunday, October 4, 2020? This will be a communion service and we will be practicing social distancing. You can either stay in your automobile or bring a lawn chair to sit in front of your automobile. We are also asking that you wear your mask and we will be distributing the communion elements as you enter the parking lot.

If you are having trouble receiving Church Correspondence, please let us know and we will make every effort to ensure that you receive the correspondence. Also if you know of any member that is not receiving the correspondence, please have them to notify the church.

As a reminder, Sister Mary Bennett is in the Church office every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Our preacher this Sunday will be Rev. Keith Turner, Jr. Rev. Turner grew up in Cincinnati however he currently resides in Columbus, OH. Please keep Rev. Turner lifted in prayer as he prepares to bring the Word. The preachers for the next few Sundays will be:

 September 27, 2020 Rev. Dr. Kenneth Cumming

 October 4, 2020 Rev. Patricia Stone

 October 11, 2020 Rev. Jerome Weaver

Please continue to pray for those who are sick, shut-in and in nursing homes/care centers. I have

attached a list of our sick and shut-in members as well as those that are in the nursing homes. Please remember that you cannot visit the nursing homes during this time. Please pray that all the residents will remain safe.

Please join us for the following weekly worship services/Bible Studies:

**Wednesday Noon Bible Study (Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m.)**

**Teacher:** Deacon Sanford Kirksey

**Study Scripture:** I Corinthians 10

**Dial in Number:** (470) 480-9361

**Wednesday Evening Prayer Time and Bible Study (Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m.)**

**Teacher:** Rev. Dr. Albert Bailey, Jr.

**Study Scripture:**

**Dial in Number:** (470) 480-9361

[Freeconferencecall.com](http://freeconferencecall.com/) - Video Access is available if you download the app

**Saturday Bible Study (Saturdays at 10:15 a.m.)**

**Teacher:** Bro. Steve McCullom

**Study Scripture:** James 4

**Dial in Number:** (470) 480-9361

Freeconferencecall.com

**Sunday School (Sunday, September 20, 2020 at 9:15 a.m.)**

**Sunday’s Lesson: Victorious Love**

**Teacher: Sister Gina Ruffin Moore**

**Study Scripture: Genesis 42**

**Dial in Number:** (470) 480-9361

**Sunday Morning Worship Service (Sunday, September 20, 2020 at 10:45)**

**Morning Message:** **Rev. Keith Turner, Jr.**

**Sermon:**

**Sermon Text:**

**Dial in Number:** (470) 480-9361

**Facebook Live is also available for this event: Mt. Zion Baptist Church Woodlawn**

**Saturday Evening Prayer**

**Receiving Prayer Request Every Saturday Evening at 4:15 p.m.**

**Evening Prayer: Deacons**

**Dial in Number:** (470) 480-9361

**Monday Morning Prayer**

**Receiving Prayer Request Every Monday Morning at 8:15 a.m.**

**Morning Prayer: Rev. Eddie Martin**

**Dial in Number:** (470) 480-9361

If you have Facebook, when you **like** Mt. Zion Baptist Church Woodlawn’s Facebook page, the live feed will be available to you. You can also access Facebook through our website. Conference calls can be made from a land line or cell phone. If you need assistance understanding how to access the conference call or with downloading the app, please contact

Sis. Bonita Layson (513) 702-1668 or Sis. Whitney Tarver (334) 552-2159. They will assist you with this process. We are making every effort to keep you informed and connected.

We encourage you to continue to reach out to each other to minister the Good News. Most importantly, our hope rests in the Lord Almighty, Emmanuel, God-with-Us. In the words of the Psalmist:

**If you make the Most High your dwelling—even the Lord who is my refuge—then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. (Psalm 91:9-10 NIV)**

During this time of isolation, we are not alone! God is with us, and we have each other as members of the Body of Christ.

In His Service,

Rev. Patricia Stone