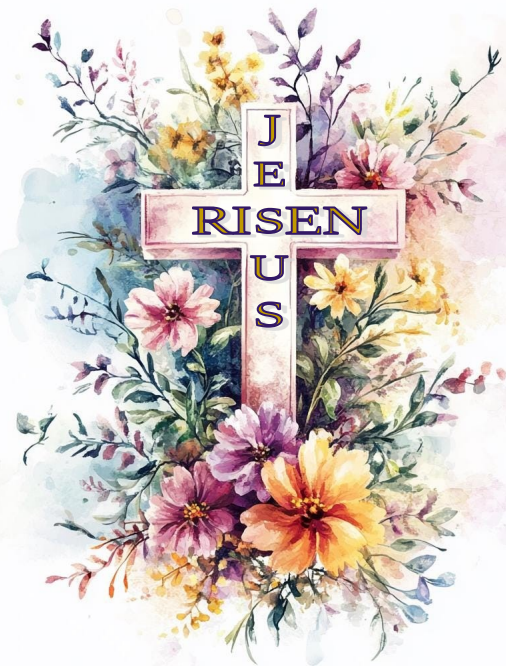


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WORSHIP SERVICES
 Sundays @ 8:00 a.m.
 Worship Service In Sanctuary
 & Drive-Up (Tune into FM 87.9)
 Sundays @ 9:15 a.m.
 Bible Study (All Ages)
 (Drive-Up Available)
 Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.
 Worship in Sanctuary & Drive-Up
 (Live-Streamed & available on
 Church App Sunday afternoon)
 Sundays @ 6:00 p.m.
 Evening Worship Service
 Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.
 Adult Bible Study (FMC 101)
 Young Adult Bible Study
 (Ages 18-30) FMC 207
 Adult Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
 Adult Teachers' Meeting (FMC 213)
 Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)
 RA's, GA's & Mission Friends (FMC)

*"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."
 I Peter 2:9-10*

*"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."
 I Peter 2:24*



New Zion Baptist Church
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 Covington, LA 70435

Non-Profit
 Organization
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 Permit #58

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New Zion News

New Zion Baptist Church
 17387 New Zion Church Road
 "The Place to Begin Again"
 April 2026



FROM YOUR SENIOR PASTOR'S PEN

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow." What great revival services we had! Bro. Darel Daniels and Bro. Ronnie Barefield preached the Word powerfully. I was refreshed. The encouragement we received from their preaching was a great blessing. Now let us walk in it. Bro. Monty Bounds did a great job leading our music. What a great revival team God sent us. I hope each of you are as encouraged as I am, and will now walk in the "light" that was given to us.

Now we look forward to celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord. Sunday, April 5th, is Easter Sunday. We will have our early service at 7:30 a.m. (outside, weather permitting), our Life Groups (small group Bible study) at 9:15 a.m., and a second worship service at 10:30 a.m. After our 7:30 a.m. service, we will gather together in the FMC for breakfast. I hope you plan to worship Jesus on Sunday, April 5th. It will be a great worship experience, and by the way, bring someone with you!

On Sunday, April 12th, we will have a "Harvest Day." This is a time to have a harvest of new souls saved. Evangelist Sam Moore will be with us preaching. He is dynamic and biblical. Please invite the unsaved and unchurched to all three services on April 12th. II Corinthians 5:18b says, "God hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation" and in verse 20, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ." We are to tell everyone how God reconciled us by the finished work of Christ. We, as ambassadors for Him, represent Him to the world. Let us be faithful in the way we live and love to share the true Jesus to our community and world.

I'm excited!

You Are Loved,
 Bro. Clark



FROM YOUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR/MINISTER OF MUSIC/CELEBRATE RECOVERY LIAISON

Dear Church Family,

Our spring revival has been a HUGE blessing! Many of our prayers have been answered. And now, as a teenage boy once preached, let's "take and do" what the Lord has spoken to our hearts. Move closer to Him and serve Him like never before because of what He's done for us. "Christ gave Himself for the Church. Can we do any less?" He didn't die so that we could live any way we want to, but that we would live for Him and see Him again in Heaven. Let's make holy living and serving Him a priority!

Our Easter Musical will be presented on **Sunday, March 29th at the 10:30 service only**. NOTE: There will be no 8:00 a.m. service so that ALL can experience this together. Please make this a priority by inviting others to this worship celebration of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Our choir has been working overtime and is excited about sharing this great celebration of praise: "Arise, My Soul, He Is Risen!" He's alive! And, Hunter Erwin will be here that night doing a love offering concert.

Be sure to get in on our **EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION CELEBRATION!** The Christian's biggest day of the year! See the schedule, plan to attend, and remember Jesus said: "Because I live, you shall live also." What a day!!!

Our Celebrate Recovery ministry meets every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. in the FMC. What is it that you need to recover from? What hurt? What hang-up? What habit? What loved one do you need to bring so that THEY will come and experience recovery? Our CR leadership stands faithfully ready to help!

Sharing His love through music and more,
Bro Toby

FROM YOUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR/ADMINISTRATOR

I thought this might be interesting for all of us here at New Zion.

The Top Reason People Attend Bible Study Groups ... By Ken Braddy

Almost half of people who attend a Bible study group do so because someone invited them. I visited a local restaurant at the invitation of a friend in ministry. He sent me a text and invited me to join him for what he promised to be a great lunch—both food quality and service—at a place he'd discovered. I was intrigued and said yes.

The experience did not disappoint! I wouldn't have known about this restaurant if my friend hadn't invited me to join him there. I had not heard of this restaurant, nor did I know anyone who had eaten there. Now it's one of my favorite Mexican restaurants.

Invitations matter

Lifeway Research revealed (and documented in a free e-book, *Together the Power of Groups*) a related truth about Bible study groups: the number one reason people visit a Bible study group is because of an invitation. It's just that simple. Friends trust friends, like I trusted my friend not to steer me wrong when he said he'd found a great new Mexican food restaurant. If I'd seen an advertisement for the restaurant, I probably would've passed on it. If a person I know has an experience at a place like this, I value what they say. Word of mouth is important to many of us, and word of mouth causes us to try things we might not normally do without an endorsement.

Lifeway Research discovered almost half of people who attend a Bible study group do so because someone invited them. The invitation of a group member or the leader of a group led 47% of people to attend.

Compared to the other ways people become aware of Bible study groups, the power of a personal invitation shouldn't be underestimated. People may discover a group because the church advertises it or has a ministry fair that raises awareness of the types of groups it offers.

However, if you want people to visit groups, the best way to get them there is through the invitation of group members and/or the group's leader.

Informing group leaders and group members of their important role in helping people make the leap to group life is something every church should do. As you raise awareness of the impact of a personal invitation, encourage group members to invite potential new group members to participate in these parts of group life:

The group's weekly Bible study

Groups that actively invite new people to join them for Bible study always have extra chairs, extra study materials, people wear name tags, and there is a sense of expectancy that new people will be present any time the group meets.

The group's fun and fellowship events

Juan C. Ortiz once proclaimed, "People who are opposed to the gospel are not opposed to ice cream." That's true! If you want people to connect to your Bible study group, some of them will be hesitant. But if you invite them to a night of bowling, a Saturday afternoon movie, a round of golf, or other fun social events, chances are they'll say yes. Sometimes people become part of a group before they officially become a member of the group.

The group's service to members of the community

A percentage of people join groups because of what they can give to others, so don't forget to invite people who are not connected to your Bible study group to include non-members when the group goes out into the community to serve. For some people, that's the on-ramp they need into group life. As churches regather and get back to a sense of normalcy, people are looking for connection. And they need the gospel. A culture of invitation can certainly bridge both gaps. Who will you invite to your Bible study group?

By Ken Braddy Ken is Lifeway's director of Sunday School and regularly blogs at kenbraddy.com. He is the author of 11 books on group ministry, including his latest, *Welcome Aboard!*, which is all about helping groups become places of extreme biblical hospitality so guests want to connect with your church. He also hosts a group ministry podcast, *Disciple-making in Community*.

Just a thought!

In His Service,
Bro. David

CR Celebrate Recovery
A CHRIST-CENTERED Recovery Program
MONDAYS
7:00 PM

REFIT® Ladies' ONLY FREE exercise class
Thursdays ~ 6 pm-7 pm (SFH)

FROM YOUR YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTER

Thank you for your ongoing support of New Zion's youth and children's ministries. We had 111 children register for the Easter Egg Hunt. Your candy and dessert donations were a blessing.

The youth and children's ministries are also excited to host their first fried shrimp and fish dinner fundraiser on April 25th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. If you would like to purchase a ticket and haven't done so yet, please let me know. Children and youth will sell tickets at church on Sunday mornings. The last day to buy a ticket will be Sunday, April 19th.

The meal costs \$15, which includes choosing one option of fish, shrimp, or both. The sides are fries and coleslaw. There is also a children's meal for \$5, including chicken nuggets and fries. The meal will be prepared fresh upon your arrival. You can choose to take it home or dine at church with wait service.

Matthew Smith
Youth, Children, and Family Pastor

A NIGHT OF GROUP GAMES, RELAYS, AND SOME TRIVIA.
ACTIVITIES FOR PRE-K
GAME NIGHT
PRE-K THRU 6TH GRADE
6:00 PM -8:00 PM
Sing up at newzion.net

ONE BELONG BELIEVE BECOME
ONE NEW ZION YOUTH
PAISE
Be Still & Know I Am God
PSALM 46:10
Youth Camp 2026
June 22nd- June 26
Orange Beach, AL
Learn more and sign up at www.newzion.net/youth

**APRIL 5TH
EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE**
7:30 a.m. Early Service
8:30 a.m. Breakfast
9:15 a.m. Life Groups
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
NO EVENING ACTIVITIES
AT NEW ZION

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES
Church Office Closed Friday, April 3rd

**New Zion Dominican Republic Mission Trip
Plant Sale Fundraiser @ Ellen's on Lee Road
Saturday, April 4th @ 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

LADIES' EXERCISE CLASS
Tuesdays & Fridays @ 9:00 a.m. ~ Small Fellowship Hall
Weights, Bands, Balls (Water Bottles/Soup Cans-Bring what you have.)
Work at your own pace and strength level.
BEGINS APRIL 7TH ~ ALL AGES WELCOME!

Women's Prayer Ministry (SFH) ~ Wednesday, April 8th @ 6:30p.m.

**FISHING TOURNAMENT 2026
Dominican Republic Mission Trip Fundraiser**
Registration ~ April 9th ~ 6 pm-7 pm
Weigh-In ~ April 11th 12 pm-1 pm
Jambalaya Dinners \$10
Pick Up April 11th ~ 11 am-1 pm
(Drinks & Desserts Sold Separately)
For information or questions call Hunter King (985) 502-1506
Gift Card Prizes
Junior Division ~ 12 & Under \$20 per entry
Big Fish, Bass, Perch, Crappie
Entry Fee per 2 person Team \$50
Bass—5 Fish Stringer, Big Fish

Women on Mission Garden Party
Sunday, April 19th ~ 2:00 pm-4:00 pm ~ SFH
Bring a Friend; Bring a dish; Bring your Mission Money; Bring a Plant to Exchange.

APRIL MEETINGS
Adult Class SS Teachers' Meeting
Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. FMC 213
Long Range Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 8th @ 5:30 p.m.
Women's Prayer Ministry (SFH)
Wednesday, April 8th @ 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
Safety Meeting (Youth Room)
Thursday, April 9th @ 6:00 p.m.
Stewardship Committee Meeting
Sunday, April 12th @ 3:00 p.m.
Church Council Meeting
Sunday, April 12th @ 4:00 p.m.
Quarterly Business Meeting
Wednesday, April 15th @ 6:30 p.m.
REAL Moms Meeting
Thursday, April 16th @ 6 p.m.-8 p.m.
Deacons' Meeting
Sunday, April 19th @ 7:15 p.m.

WORK DAY (CEMETERY)
SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH @ 8:00 A.M.

MEN'S BREAKFAST
Sunday, April 19th
7:00 a.m. FMC Gym
MEN OF ALL AGES INVITED!

WOM SEWING FOR MISSIONS
SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH
9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. (FMC)

Youth & Children's Shrimp & Fish Dinner Fundraiser
\$15 ~ Saturday, April 25th
4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (FMC Gym)
Proceeds to benefit Youth & Children's Camps