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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)

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# New Zion News

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

1-776-2026



250 Years of Freedom

## FROM YOUR SENIOR PASTOR'S PEN

Happy 250th Birthday, America! As we celebrate 250 years of freedom, we should remember that this freedom we enjoy daily is a gift from God. Our prayer should be "give us many, many more years of this freedom." To hold onto our freedoms as a nation and to pass these freedoms on to our families, we must honor the scripture which says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." (Psalm 33:12) As long as our nation honors Jehovah God as the God of our nation, we will be blessed. But when we allow and accept the worship, adoration and promotion of false gods and false religions, we will not be blessed. May we hold on and stand up for our Christian heritage on which our nation was founded.

If we are to be blessed, we also must be a blessing to the nation of Israel. God gave Abram a promise thousands of years ago that still stands true today. That promise is speaking to Abram and his descendants - "and I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee; and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." (Genesis 12:3)

May our great nation continue to enjoy God's blessing of freedom as we continue to choose the Lord God of the Bible as our God and as we support God's people, Israel.

Pray for our nation and our leaders. Pray for our Vacation Bible School on July 6th-10th from 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Pray for many to hear and receive the Gospel. Pray for our workers to be healthy and for our community to be touched. Pray for our Youth Vacation Bible School on July 19th-22nd. Thank you to everyone who has given, prayed and volunteered for Vacation Bible School.

Also pray for those going "on mission" to the Dominican Republic on July 12th-19th. Pray for their safety and a harvest of souls. Pray for our 3rd-6th grade children that will attend Centri-Kids Camp on July 26th-30th. Pray for God to change the lives of those children.

So much to pray for daily, but what a privilege! May we be a praying church.

You Are Loved,  
 Happy Birthday, America!  
 Bro. Clark

## WELCOME

- October  
 Ricky Lester  
 Cindy Lester  
 Hailey Finch  
 Allisen Borgstede
- November  
 Shane Hickman  
 Christian Hickman  
 Timothy Marcotte  
 Joleen Hickman  
 Frank Palmisano  
 Kim Palmisano
- January  
 Charene O'Hara  
 Margaret "Susan" Freyder
- February  
 Lynn LeBlanc  
 Hadley Casadaban
- March  
 Joni Andrews  
 Milagros Calix  
 Christina Calix  
 Mark Morris  
 Joey Deidrich  
 Angie Deidrich  
 Troy W. Welch, Sr.  
 Tammy McMahon  
 Carlos Hurd
- April  
 Shea Tongate
- May  
 Jonathan Campbell  
 Logan Huffman  
 Eric Penton  
 Kristen Hardy  
 Briley Hardy
- June  
 Philip Morgan  
 Mildred "Rose" Mask  
 Gerald Mask  
 Robert Magee  
 Jimmy Adams  
 Audry Adams  
 Johnny Martens  
 Susan Martens  
 Buddy Gallman

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."  
 Galatians 5:13  
 "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."  
 Galatians 5:1



New Zion Baptist Church  
 17387 New Zion Church Road  
 Covington, LA 70435

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

Dear Church Family,

First, thank you, choir and tech team, for a great job on our Patriotic musical. What a blessing to be born in a country with such a legacy and such freedoms.

July is a very busy month at New Zion. VBS, DR Mission Trip, Youth VBS, Children's Camp, along with our regular weekly opportunities to worship, study God's Word, and serve. It takes a WHOLE LOTTA FOLKS to make this happen. I hope that you've found your place of service by now. If not, just ask Bro. Clark or one of the staff members (or our wives) or any of the other ministry leaders. God has LOADED and BLESSED our church with help to get all of this done. There's a great blessing for ALL who step up to serve.

That being said, I know of two areas that need more help as well:

1. Please pray, join the choir and/or help us recruit. Come and join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We also have a HUGE need for an 8:00 a.m. sound tech. If you're feeling called to serve in this area, we will train you and greatly appreciate you! Just see me or Bro. Johnny Kern.

2. Our Celebrate Recovery ministry meets every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. in the FMC. We are looking for a few good volunteers to train to be leaders. The job: Mainly good listeners and guides. I cannot tell you just HOW rewarding this ministry is! If you're interested, see me, Bro. Clark or Bro. David ASAP. I'm so thankful and blessed by the faithful leaders we already have. Is God calling YOU to join the faithful?

Only 1 in 3 people (statistically) at CR are there for drug and alcohol addictions. The CR program exists to help those with ALL kinds of issues. Like grief, anger, depression, fear, anxiety, control, shame, eating disorders, codependency, people pleasing, pride, pornography, abortion, abuse, dysfunction; just to name a few. Whenever you're ready to start working on your healing of hurts, habits and hangups, walk through the FMC door at 7:00 p.m. on Monday night. We'll be excited that you're here and stand ready to help. All with God's Word, His love through us, and all for His glory!

Sharing His love through music and more,  
Bro Toby

FROM YOUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR/ADMINISTRATOR

If you are old enough to read this article, you more than likely understand by now, measurements are a constant part of life. Examples: Athletes are measured in terms of the progress they make in increased wins, faster times, or greater distances. Businesses are measured by the bottom line, profits or losses and market share. Educational institutions use a variety of methods to measure their success such as test scores, writing ability, and grade point averages to indicate accomplishments. In a doctor's office, upon arrival, they measure height, weight, temperature, and blood pressure. This give the doctor a baseline for one's overall health. We could go on and on. In a church small group Bible study we can also examine some key factors that will tell us the health of that particular group/class. Let me explain.

1. Individual Attendance: It's more important to know who attends each week than it is to know how many attend each week. Don't misunderstand me on this point. The only way to accurately gauge ministry to each person within a group is by tracking individual attendance. This allows the church to measure activity among people groups.

2. Number of Leaders: Measurable growth can be determined by the number of capable leaders/teachers. This multiplies and spreads the leadership load, decreases the dependence level of the group, and provides for future new groups. Each small group should be mentoring an associate leader who can serve as the main teacher/facilitator on a regular basis.

3. Measuring Faithfulness: God never holds leaders responsible for the decisions of others to follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Leaders are to preach, teach, share, minister, serve, sow seeds, and always trust God for the growth. Disciples of Christ are to be found faithful.

4. Gospel Conversations: Leaders and members alike should be encouraging each other during the week to engage in simple conversations about matters of faith. These conversations may lead to someone trusting in Jesus as Lord and Savior. As believers, we are to sow gospel seeds in the lives of other people. When faith conversations are entered into, when one prays with someone, shares what the Lord is doing in their life, then we are being obedient children. This may not come natural for some leaders or class members but God will supply the courage and wisdom for His love to be shown to others. "Ask and it will be given to you," ... (Matthew 7:7, (NIV).

5. Personal Action Plans: In James 1:22 we find these words, "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says" (NIV). We "all" can improve in "doing" the Word of God. As a leader, help the members in your group/class to identify some type of concrete application that can be acted upon during the next week. It could be answering some of the following "Is there" questions: an attitude to correct? a relationship to restore? a habit to address? an action to remove? an apology to be made? decisions to solidify? a direction to pursue? By one asking themselves these questions, and honestly answering them, strides can be made toward Godly obedience.

The above are just a few measurable points for Bible study leaders to consider when it comes to their group/class growing. Some of the content was taken out of an article written by David Bond, Evangelism & Church Growth, 2015 Mid South Strategy Development Group. In this book there are several more measurable growth points. We "all" need to realize without a growth mind-set in leaders and members we are tremendously limiting our opportunities for reaching more people with the gospel message of Jesus Christ.

As Christians, both teachers and members of groups/classes we are missionaries. God has called us to do everything within our power to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. It's not optional according to God's Word, the Bible. One of my favorite Bible passages is as follows.

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.'" (Romans 10:14, 15, NIV).

We are God's ambassadors here on this earth, let's let our lights shine for Jesus through our Bible study groups/classes. May God get the glory for your life and mine!

In His Service,  
Bro. David

FROM YOUR YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTER

ILLUMINATION STATION VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL New Zion Baptist Church July 6th-July 10th 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. VBS Commencement Sunday, July 12th @ 10:30 a.m. (Meal & Fellowship to follow in FMC) Register online @ newzion.net

Worship Bible Study Games Free Meal at 6:00 pm ONE BELONG BELIEVE BECOME @onewzionyouth IGNITE Youth VBS RISING 7TH - 12TH GRADE Sunday July 19th - Wednesday July 22nd 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm 17387 New Zion Church Rd Covington, La 70435

The Storyteller author of all things 2026 Children's Camp Centri Kid Camp at TimberCreek Sunday, July 26 - Thursday, July, 30th

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Church Office Closed Friday, July 3rd USA 250th Anniversary Saturday, July 4th

ILLUMINATION STATION VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ~ JULY 5TH-JULY 10TH 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm ~ Ages 3 y/o - 5th Grade

NO 8:00 A.M. SERVICE ON SUNDAY, JULY 12TH VBS Commencement service ~ Sunday, July 12th @ 10:30 a.m. (Meal to Follow in FMC Gym) NO EVENING ACTIVITIES ON SUNDAY, JULY 12TH

Dominican Republic Mission Trip Sunday, July 12th-Saturday, July 18th

Women's Prayer Ministry (SFH) Wednesday, July 15th @ 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Women on Mission Sewing for Missions Saturday, July 25th ~ 9 a.m.-12 p.m. ~ FMC

Save the Date! Saturday, August 1st @ 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Senior Adult "Silver Sonshiners" ~ Dinner & a Movie (\$10) Meet in the FMC Youth Room at 10:00 a.m. to watch the movie "Flywheel" from the makers of "Facing the Giants" & "Fireproof." Then enjoy a catered Italian meal in the FMC Gym after. Purchase your ticket from Milton or Robyn no later than Sunday, July 26th.

Baby Dedication Services Sunday, August 16th ~ 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Please contact church office if you want to dedicate your baby & email up to 5 pictures to Bro. Toby @ tobhug622@aol.com no later than Sunday, August 9th.

JULY MEETINGS Adult Class SS Teachers' Meeting Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. FMC 213 Long Range Planning Committee Meeting Wednesday, July 15th @ 5:30 p.m. Women's Prayer Ministry (SFH) Wednesday, July 15th @ 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Safety Meeting (Youth Room) Thursday, July 16th @ 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting Sunday, July 19th @ 3:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting Sunday, July 19th @ 4:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting Sunday, July 19th @ 7:15 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting Wednesday, July 22nd @ 6:30 p.m. Building Fundraising Committee Meeting Sunday, July 26th @ 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

ignite YOUTH Youth VBS July 19th-July 22nd 6 pm-8:30 pm ~ 7th-12th Grades Register online @ newzion.net

Give Blood for Life! Save the Date! BLOOD DRIVE Sunday, August 16th 9:00 am-1:00 pm If anybody has donated whole blood before June 14th, you can donate again on August 16th.

CR Celebrate MONDAYS Recovery 7:00 P.M. A CHRIST CENTERED Recovery Program

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

LADIES' EXERCISE CLASS ~ ALL AGES WELCOME! 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.