

**BUILDING STRONG
FAMILIES FOR GOD**



HISTORY OF ZION'S REFUGE BAPTIST CHURCH

11 PEOPLE WITH A VISION

THERE WAS A GROUP OF ELEVEN PEOPLE THAT WANTED TO START A CHURCH TO HONOR GOD IN PRAISE AND MINISTERING THE GOSPEL. MAY 2003, WE MET AROUND MY KITCHEN TABLE AND DISCUSSED HOW WE COULD START A CHURCH. WE WANTED TO START AN INDEPENDENT CHURCH AND WE CAME UP WITH THE NAME "ZION'S REFUGE BAPTIST CHURCH". WE ALL AGREED TO START OUR FIRST SERVICE THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY AT OUR HOUSE AND I (DAVID PARSONS) WOULD BE THE PASTOR.

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WELCOME!

May 19, 2024

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10AM
WORSHIP 11AM
CHILDREN'S CHURCH AGES 3-7
NURSERY 2 & YOUNGER

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

PRIMARY CLASS 3-6
JUNIOR CLASS 7-12
TEEN CLASS 13-17
7 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS



FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY
JUNE 9
MORE INFO TO COME!

**HELP US CELEBRATE ZIONS 21ST BIRTHDAY!
STAY AROUND AFTER CHURCH
TODAY AND JOIN US FOR THE FUN!**

ZIONS REFUGE BAPTIST CHURCH
1400 LUCAS ROAD PO BOX 3934
MANSFIELD, OH 44903

SENIOR PASTOR DAVID PARSONS
YOUTH PASTOR TIM PARSONS
419-525-0617

WWW.ZIONSREFUGECHURCH.COM

HISTORY OF ZION'S REFUGE BAPTIST CHURCH CONT'D

EXCITING NEWS

THE NEXT DAY MY FATHER-IN-LAW CALLED ME WITH EXCITING NEWS. HE HAD FOUND A CHURCH FOR SALE IN PAVONIA, OHIO. IT WAS AN OLD METHODIST CHURCH THAT WAS LISTED IN THE MANSFIELD NEWS JOURNAL. I CALLED THE OWNER AND WE WENT TO INSPECT THE CHURCH. IT WAS A WELL-BUILT CHURCH BUT WAS VERY DIRTY AND NEEDED TO BE PAINTED. THE OWNER GAVE ME A PRICE WHICH WE ALL AGREED WITH, BUT I TOLD HIM WE DIDN'T HAVE A LOT OF MONEY AND WE NEEDED TO THINK ABOUT THE CHURCH. HE TOLD ME THAT HE WOULD SELL THE CHURCH TO US ON LAND CONTRACT INTEREST ONLY LOAN. I COUNTER OFFERED. I TOLD HIM I WANTED TO RENT THE CHURCH FOR 6 WEEKS WITH NO DEPOSIT TO GIVE US TIME TO GET A DOWN PAYMENT. A WEEK LATER THE OWNER ASKED ME ABOUT THE BUS WE USED IN OUR SINGING MINISTRY AND IF I WOULD CONSIDER FOR A PARTIAL DOWN PAYMENT. WE AGREED TO USE OUR BUS AS HALF THE VALUE OF THE CHURCH. WHEN THE SIX WEEKS CAME TO MAKE THE FIRST PAYMENT WE HAD ALREADY SECURED A COMMERCIAL LOAN. MY SON TODD AND JONI AND I WERE THE GUARANTEE FOR THE CHURCH LOAN BY USING OUR HOMES FOR EQUITY.

THE FIRST SERVICE

THE FIRST SERVICE WAS AMAZING. EVERYONE CALLED AND INVITED FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO OUR SERVICE. WE HAD 27 PEOPLE FOR THE FIRST SERVICE. THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD WAS IN THE HOUSE. WE ALL CRIED AND PRAISED GOD. WE ALL LEFT THE CHURCH THAT DAY ON CLOUD NINE. WE WORSHIPPED 10 YEARS AT THE PAVONIA CHURCH.

NEW FACES, NEW PLACES

AFTER BEING A CHURCH FOR 10 YEARS MY SON TODD CALLED ME AND ASKED ME IF WE WANTED TO MERGE WITH THE LIGHTHOUSE CHAPEL CHURCH IN LUCAS, OHIO. THE CHURCH AGREED TO AN OPPORTUNITY TO MERGE IF WE WOULD RETAIN OUR CHURCH DOCTRINE AND OUR ESTABLISHED FRAMEWORK OF RUNNING THE CHURCH. WE ACQUIRED THE CHURCH AT LUCAS, 5 ACRES FOR FUTURE EXPANSION ON STATE ROUTE 39 AND MONEY TO HELP BUILD A CHURCH ON THAT LAND. THE CHURCH GREW TO ABOUT MAXIMUM CAPACITY. THEN, WE LAUNCHED A BUILDING CAMPAIGN. WE STARTED A FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN. HAD PLANS DRAWN TO RESEMBLE WHAT WE WANTED TO BUILD. THE CHURCH SECURED THE LOAN AND THE BUILDING PROCESS BEGAN. BREAKING OF THE GROUND STARTED THE FALL OF 2016 AND WE HAD OUR FIRST SERVICE EASTER 2017.

A DREAM COME TRUE

MAY 19, 2024, WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THE CHURCH'S 21ST BIRTHDAY "ZION'S REFUGE BAPTIST CHURCH".

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR HELPING US IN OUR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PRAISE TEAM PRACTICE

SUNDAYS 9:15

2ND & 4TH TUESDAYS 7:00PM

PASTOR DAVE'S OFFICE HOURS

THURSDAYS 6-8PM

APPOINTMENT ONLY

MISSIONARY SUNDAY

LAST SUNDAY OF

EVERY MONTH