



**1856**

**2023**

# **ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY**

**June 11, 2023**

**PENTECOST**

## **CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**



**Mount Zion**  
**Finksburg Maryland**

*I love this church!  
I love its history and heritage! I love its vision and future!  
I love the spirit of Jesus which is in the hearts and lives of our members  
and friends! We aren't perfect but we are pressing on to be more  
"Christ-like" every day! I love this church!*

## **Mount Zion**

A United Methodist Congregation  
3006 Old Westminster Pike, Finksburg, Maryland 21048  
Post Office Box 511  
Church Phone 410-517-2300  
Pastor Wm. Louis Piel Home 410-751-9049 + Cell 301-351-6689  
Director of Music+ Leslie Gabler

### **We Welcome You!**

We welcome you to our celebration of the anniversary of the Mount Zion-Finksburg congregation. Although the name of the church congregation has changed through the years we cherish our heritage which dates back to 1856. This year we celebrate the 167<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our founding.

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### **The Special 2023 Anniversary Offering**

By action of our Church Council our annual Anniversary Sunday offering will go directly to our mission/outreach ministry. Please use the special offering envelope that was mailed or the one in this worship bulletin. Our mission/outreach program (supervised by Barbara Hayes) combined with our Community Service Fund has touched the lives of many both in our congregation and in our ever growing community. Need to know where your money is going? Every dollar you give will support our "mission/outreach program" to help us reach someone or some family in need.

### **Our Thanks**

The Anniversary Bulletin is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Kathy Damico,  
by her sister Becky Knop & husband Jerry.

The anniversary of Kathy's birthday was last week.

The Anniversary Sunday bulletin cover is given to the Glory of God by LaDonna Schemm  
In loving memory of her husband George and their parents and in Honor of their children & grandchildren.

Our thanks to Bob Hayes for creating our worship bulletin cover this morning  
based on covers created by George Painter for many years.

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Our thanks to everyone who contributed to this special Sunday morning!

Our appreciation to Teresa Tighe for the Pentecost & Anniversary Sunday Sanctuary Decor

The late Mary Etta Landis created our two sanctuary banners to celebrate  
Pentecost and the power of God's Holy Spirit.

### **We Welcome Our Morning Speakers**

Our Anniversary Sunday is built around several themes. (1) What does our heritage & history say to us? (2) What does our church music say to us? (3) What does our mission/outreach say to us? (4) We also recognize several areas of our church life and those who have made them possible.

### **Our Up to Date Church Directory + June 2023**

Your "revised – up to date" (at least for this moment) will be available to you (one to a family) today on Anniversary Sunday. Our appreciation to Peggy James who keeps our directory up to date. If you find an omission or a mistake or a change we do not have PLEASE contact Peggy and we will make the change immediately.

# Happy Anniversary

**+ Celebrating 167 Years of Faithful Service to our Lord & Community +**



**We welcome you to our anniversary worship & celebration**

*I love this church!*

*I love its history and heritage! I love its vision and future!*

*I love the spirit of Jesus which is in the hearts and lives of our members and friends! We aren't perfect but we are pressing on to be more "Christ-like" every day! I love this church!*

## **Our Gathering Songs**

Led by Karen

**"How Great Thou Art"**

"O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds thy hands have made. I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power through the universe displayed. Then sings my soul, thy Savior God to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art. Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art."

**"Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus"**

"Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of his glory and grace."

**"Spirit of the Living God Fall Afresh on Me"**

"Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me."

**"Amazing Grace How Sweet the Sound"**

(1) "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me, I once was lost but now am found. Was blind but now I see." (2) Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come. 'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home."

## **Our Name + Our History**

In 1857 the church was simply called The Finksburg Church. The name was changed to Finksburg Methodist Protestant Church. Somewhere along the way (no one seems to know when or why) it changed again to "Mount Zion." Different names from different times but the same Spirit guiding us!

## **Our Affirmation**

(over)



(Unison) I love this church. I love its history and heritage! I love its vision and future!  
I love the spirit of Jesus which is in the hearts and lives of our members and friends!  
We aren't perfect but we are pressing on to be more  
"Christ-like" every day! I love this church!

Leader+ We have gathered together this morning to celebrate our church anniversary but who are we

**+ WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD! THE FAMILY OF FAITH! THE PEOPLE OF THE SPIRIT! THE BODY OF CHRIST JESUS! WE HAVE GATHERED ON THIS ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY TO WORSHIP GOD AND TO CELEBRATE THE LOVE AND GRACE OF GOD IN JESUS THE CHRIST!**

**+ WE ARE BOUND TOGETHER AS SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN THE BODY OF OUR LORD WITH CORDS THAT CANNOT BE BROKEN.**

**+ WHEN WE LEAVE THIS PLACE WE WILL TAKE GOD'S LOVE WITH US AND WHEREVER WE GO! THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**Affirmation Response** U.M hymnal #310) "I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today, I know that he is living whatever foes may say. I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, and just the time I need him, he's always near. He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today. He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart. You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart."

## **Prayer**

### **Anniversary Hymn "On This Day of Celebration"**

*Written by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette "Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship"*

*(Tune "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" UM Hymnal #89)*

1. On this day of celebration, at this time when hopes are new, God, we gather as your people, called to put our trust in you. You have made the world we live in, you have worked through history. In your plan we find our purpose, in your love, our unity.
2. Long ago you sent a Savior, to our world in deep despair, In your Word made flesh you came, our life to know, your sins to bear. Christ has died and Christ is risen! At this new year we proclaim: Yesterday, today, forever – Jesus Christ is still the same!
3. Through two thousand years of change, through these passing centuries, You have called your church to witness, to Christ's love that claims and frees. Each new generation hears you, each must find a fresh new way, To make known the life you offer, to the people in their day.
4. On this day, we pause and wonder, what the future years will bring. Yet we know you clothe each flower and you make each sparrow sing. How much more will you protect us, with your guiding, caring hand! By your Spirit, lead us boldly, in the future you have planned.



*(Prayers of the people)*

We pray together the “Our Father” (Our Lord’s Prayer)

### **Informal Moments and We Welcome Our Children & Youth**

“Where Children Belong” (in the “Faith We Sing.” Songbook #2233) This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng. Water, God’s Word, bread and cup, prayer and song. This is where children belong.”

### **Reception of our Tithes & Offerings**

Offering Response Hymnal #95 Doxology “Praise God from whom all blessings flow...”

#### **A Moment of Recognition – Dan Armacost, Chair, Church Council**

In recognition of the service given to Mount Zion through many years we recognize  
with appreciation Bill & Teresa Tighe

In recognition of the service given to Mount Zion through our video ministry, web page & newsletter  
we recognize Kathy Rixham Giroux, Jerry Knop, Peggy James, Mark Hemler, Barbara Hayes,  
Melanie Stranix, Diana Fraser

### **Congregation Hymn U.M. Hymnal #117 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”**

#### **+ Commentary “How do you celebrate an anniversary +**

**Celebrating an Anniversary + Let our history guide us**  
Joyce Mirfin

**Solo** “Count your blessings name them one by one.”  
Karen Iglehart Bounds + Musician Joyce Iglehart

**Celebrating an Anniversary + Let our music guide us**  
Elizabeth Kirby

**Solo** “God of the Mountain, God of the Valley”  
Christina Sasser

**Celebrating an Anniversary + Let our mission guide us**  
Melanie Stranix (Representing Barbara Hayes)

### **Our Closing Hymn U.M. Hymnal #413 “A Charge To Keep I Have”**

### **The Circle of Love and Unity**

Let us make a circle of love & unity around the sanctuary. Holding hands we affirm our love for one another in the power of the love of God for each one of us.

### **Closing Words**

Please join us in the church fellowship hall



Fellowship Meal

Our thanks to everyone who helped put our fellowship meal together

## **We Pause to Remember!**

Let us give thanks for the Saints of God who were instrumental in giving us the church at Mount Zion that we have today. We pause to remember.

### **Lighting the Memorial Candle & A Moment of Silence**

*Scripture Lesson + Letter to the Hebrews 12.1-2 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.”*

#### **Memorial Remembrance (Tune “Come Thou Font of Every Blessing” Hymnal #400)**

(Congregation singing) *“We remember with thanksgiving, those who dared frontiers of old, speaking words of faithful living, they in truth the gospel told, they believed the church’s story, that in Christ all folks are one, both the mission and the glory, were that God’s will be done.*

+ Lighting the Memorial Candle (A Moment of Silence) Candle-lighter Clifford Yingling

(Congregationsinging) *“Into future gen-err-rations, may the Word go out abroad, so all people, lands and nations, join to praise the Triune God. Then in gratitude for vision, re-affirm, recall, rejoice, recommit our-selves to mission still the church’s clearest voice. (Jane Parker Huber)*

#### **Congregational Prayer (Unison) Led by Ashley Bigley**

*Our prayer song “Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care, and bids me at my Fathers throne, make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found release, and oft escaped the tempers snare by thy return sweet hour of prayer.”*

Dear Lord,  
thank you for drawing us into community  
in this congregation that has been a place called home for so many, for so many  
years.

Inspire us with the lives of those before us,  
those ancient ones who have lived here in faith  
and opened up and given away  
your love to all those who needed it.

May you change us with a vision to continue here  
as a constant presence for those who travel through life,  
a community of welcome that cares for all our growing commuity  
believing into what is still yet to be.

Call us from our past,  
through the voices of our ancestors, in the songs they have sung  
and the prayers they have spoken that have shaped peace within this parish,

And may we join our voice with their voice,  
in the one great song of love that will be lived and celebrated yet,  
throughout those who call Mount Zion Home.

## Celebrating an Anniversary – Let Our History Guide Us

by Joyce Mirfin\*

Anniversary Sunday provides an opportunity for us all to consider how Mt. Zion has withstood troubling events throughout its history.

Most of us weren't around then, but our history dates to 1856 when a group known as The Finksburg Congregation made plans for a church building. The men of the community, with their own hands, faith and prayer, built a small church on a plot of land across the street from where we are now, and the Finksburg Methodist-Protestant Church was founded. If you look at the bell tower as you leave today, you can see the engraving memorializing its beginning.

Just 5 years later and before the building's completion, our nation was engaged in the Civil War. Maryland was home to sympathizers on each side, and I assume that Finksburg was no different. However, the church remained strong and grew, and a new, larger church building was constructed where we are now. The war claimed the lives of as many as 750,000, but with faith and prayer, Mt. Zion endured.

In 1917, World War I had already been raging for 3 years when the US entered the fighting. Men from all over the country were drafted into service, but with faith and prayer, Mt. Zion endured.

Then in 1939, this country was thrown into the Great Depression. Many of you do remember that. Excessive government borrowing and bank failures led to the high unemployment, inflation and homelessness that plagued our nation. The Finksburg community was not immune, but with faith and prayer, Mt. Zion endured.

President Franklin Roosevelt famously said, "December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy...." The lives of Americans everywhere were forever changed when Pearl Harbor was bombed, and America was thrown into World War II. Over 12,000,000 American military personnel served. 88 of the dead were from right here in Carroll County. Women were raising families alone and taking the places of men in fields and factories. No one escaped the hardship, but with faith and prayer, Mt. Zion endured.

This faith community suffered through the "police action" in Korea, the war in Viet Nam and the Gulf War, yet with faith and prayer, Mt. Zion endures.

The Covid pandemic caused many churches to suspend weekly services for a time and led to the permanent loss of church attendees in parishes everywhere. Mt. Zion was no different. Some no longer join us because they cannot attend services in person anymore. A few passed away, and for some, they prefer the convenience of watching the weekly video from the comfort of their homes. Fortunately, Mt. Zion still endures.

And as is often the case, each crisis brought the congregation of Mt. Zion closer and stronger. In its 167-year history, we have celebrated, and we have seen crises, yet as a church, a family of believers, we have grown stronger. I hope that we can continue to flourish long into the future.



Our local church directory has been updated and we have a copy for you. Our appreciation to Peggy James who is our directory coordinator. We strive to keep it up to date. If you find an omission or something that has changed, please contact Peggy immediately and we will bring it up to date or make changes.



### OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

**As followers of Jesus.....it is very important  
that we stay in touch with one another.**

It is also important that we keep our Prayer Ministry up to date. Please report any prayer concerns Bob Hayes 410-596-9004. We generally keep a name on the prayer list for 30 days but it can be renewed. (Barbara Menchey can also receive calls.410 861-8827)

Ray Lowe, Joan Resch (Rehab The Villages, Florida), Virginia Hoy (at home), Peggy Bosley (at home), Pat Murphy (At home), Mary Moores,), Bobby Evans (Robin Hadel), Wendy-Copper Ridge (Dawn Zepp), Jim Moore (Nancy Cross), Nancy Ferguson (at home 5309 Emory Road, Upperco ), Marty Brown, Stephen Merkson (Lois Pulket), Thelma Otto, Keri Holmboe (Willa Johnson), Laura Sallada, Robert Tighe (Joan Tighe), Colton Zepp (Dawn Zepp)

*Peggy Wade –Room #114 Spring Arbor of Severna Park, 345 Richie Highway,  
Severna Park, 21146*

*Virginia & Bill Hoy, 5060 Harney Rd. Taneytown, Md. 21787*

*Tommy DeMoss (at his brother's-Gerald 1604 St. Paul Street Hampstead 21074).*

*Wayne Wray, 5836 Bartholow Roar, Eldersburg, Md. 21784*

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**We are called (even commanded) to look out for one another!**

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The Mount Zion United Methodist Church Council at their meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 reaffirmed what had been agreed upon at a previous meeting that our church will remain as part of the United Methodist Church denomination. There has been a lot of discussion among United Methodist congregations on whether to stay in the denomination or leave the denomination and join another Methodist group or go independent. It was felt at this time we need to stay in the denomination while at the same time learning more about related issues that are being discussed. We feel that the General Conference of the United Methodist Church being held in the fall of 2024 should give us some guidelines.



# Mount Zion – a community congregation since 1856

Every Sunday morning at 9:55 a.m.



*United Methodist*

*Post Office Box 511 +3006 Old Westminster Pike, Finksburg, Md. 21048*

*Pastor Lou Piel 410-751-9049*

**+ Important Church Information is listed on our Web Site +**

Kathy Rixham Giroux keeps it up to date 240-357-5913

**+ Remember + We release a free worship video every Sunday Morning. To get on our list call Mark 410-299-7517.**

**+ The Joy of Getting Involved +**

**Our church will mean more if you get involved. There are a number of ways you can get involved in the life of our congregation.**

**See our Pastor for more information.**



**We are grateful that the faithful are supporting the ministry of Mount Zion!**

In the “Year 2023” we needed \$2,156.67 each week to meet  
our Operating Expenses (current expenses)  
The Offering, last Sunday was \$2,795.00

*Our average worship attendance has increased to 48.1 (Thank you!)*

Last Sunday we received \$599.00 for our Community Service Fund

Thank you for thinking of others!

Our video ministry has received gifts of \$290.00

Our Ukraine project received an additional \$200.00

**+ + + + +**

**IMPORTANT ! Are you on our mailing list?**

“If you are not or don’t think you are on our mailing list or don’t receive ours weekly video worship and would like to be included please fill out a yellow card found in the pew holders with your Name, Address, Phone & Email and give it to Mark Hemler sitting at the sound cabinet in the back, on your way out. He will then add you to our mailing list going forward”

Why not share our Sunday morning video ministry with a family member,  
or a neighbor or friend?

# THE UPPER ROOM<sup>®</sup>

DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

The Upper Room daily devotional guide is one of our finest ways to practice your “daily walk with God.” Thanks to sponsors we given out the booklets without charge. The concern is – do our people really use them?

We thank Joyce Iglehart for sponsoring the May/June issue

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## Important Words to Live By

“God is love and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them.....There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say ‘I love God and hate their brothers or sisters are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen.

The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

(The Letter of I John 4.16b-21)

+ The strength of a church lies in the faithfulness of its people! +



## Thank you for feeding our “goat”

Non-perishable items can be placed in the goat which is just inside the door of our social hall.

Items go directly to the Shepherd Staff ministries.

Paper towels, toilet paper granulated dishwashing soap, personal hygiene items, soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, meat based soup with a flip top,

## MT. ZION - ONLINE GIVING

- > Give safely
- > No need to handle the offertory plate
- > No special APP needed
- > Give one time or set up recurring gifts
- > Use credit / debit card or bank ACH transaction
- > Fast, Easy and Safe!

For Questions or Help  
Mark 410-299-7517 / Mark.Hemler@gmail.com

[mtzionumcfinksburg.breezechms.com/give/online](http://mtzionumcfinksburg.breezechms.com/give/online)

