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Church family,

As we step into the month of May, I keep thinking about the journey we have taken together over the past three weeks. We have listened for God's voice, asked honest questions about purpose, and learned to trust that God often brings clarity one faithful step at a time. Purpose is not something we finish in a sermon series. It is something God continues to form in us as we follow Jesus day by day.

That may be the right posture for this month. We are not rushing into a new theme and we are not trying to force clarity. Instead, we are choosing to stay open, attentive, and willing. God often does His best work in the seasons when we are not sure what comes next but we are still showing up with open hands and open hearts.

May also brings us to Mother's Day. This day brings joy for many and tenderness for others. We give thanks for the women who have shaped our faith, our character, and our lives. We honor mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers, and every woman who has poured love, wisdom, and strength into the people around them. We also hold space for those who grieve, who long, or who carry complicated stories. The God who sees us, the same God who saw Hagar in the wilderness, sees you as well.

As we move through this month, my prayer is simple. I pray that we will continue to walk in the purpose God is forming in us, even when the picture is not fully clear. I pray that we will trust the Spirit to guide our steps. I pray that we will encourage one another along the way, because purpose grows best in community and not in isolation.

I am grateful to walk this road with you. Let us keep listening for God's voice together.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Shawn

LOOKING AHEAD...

- May 5th : Church Finance / Trustees Meeting – 7:00pm
- May 6th, 13th, 20st, 27th : Bible Study – 6:30pm in the Social Hall
- May 10th : Fellowship Sunday – Mother's Day
- May 19th : Church Council Meeting – 7:00pm
- June 14th : 170th Anniversary Sunday & Fellowship
- July & August : No Fellowship during these months

JUNE 14TH

MT ZION'S 170th ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY & FELLOWSHIP

All current & past attendees are invited to come out on this special day to reunite with friends and fellow congregants.

All are invited!

PLAN NOW, TO INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN YOU AT SUNDAY SERVICE!

The **UPPER ROOM** daily devotional booklet for **MAY / JUNE** is now available free of charge. We urge all of our people to use this fine Christian resource on a daily basis. We have two editions, regular and large print. It comes free of charge thanks to our sponsors. The May/June edition is given by Willa Johnson Kensinger to the glory of God and in honor of her daughters, Debbie, Cindy and Joan and family members.

USHERS still needed for August, November & December. See Becky Knop to volunteer.

MISSIONS

Mt Zion Missions Coordinator Barb Hayes – 410-596-1483 – bbhayes@verizon.net

FEED THE GOAT: Things that are needed most...

Food Items, Paper Towels, and Toilet Paper.

WHAT IS MEMORIAL DAY?

Monday, May 25, 2026

It is a federal holiday for honoring / mourning / remembering U.S. military personnel that have died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

WESTWARD ROAD

A photograph of three performers walking towards the camera on a dark, reflective stage. On the left is a woman with blonde hair wearing a light-colored blazer and pants. In the center is a man with brown hair wearing a light-colored suit. On the right is a man with dark hair wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and light-colored pants. They are all smiling and looking forward. The background is dark with some stage lighting effects.

Gospel Music Ministry Concert

July 3rd 6pm

Meal to Follow

Mt Zion UMC Finksburg

Free Concert
(Love offering appreciated)