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3006 Old Westminster Pike - P.O. Box 511 - Finksburg, MD 21048 / Sunday Service 10:30am

Church Family,

As we step into August, I have been reflecting on how grateful I am for the life and ministry we share here at Mt. Zion. We have walked through many seasons together, and I continue to be encouraged by your faith, your generosity, and your commitment to growing in Christ. July gave us another reminder of that. Our evening with Westward Road on July 3rd was a wonderful time of worship and encouragement. Their music lifted our hearts, and the fellowship meal afterward was filled with joy, conversation, and the kind of warmth that makes this church feel like home. My family and I left that night thankful for your hospitality and the way you care for one another.

Looking Back: Hidden Treasure

In July we completed our Hidden Treasure series. Those weeks helped us see the Kingdom of God as something worth seeking with intention and worth valuing with our whole lives. I appreciate the way you engaged with the parables, asked thoughtful questions, and allowed God to speak through His Word.

Looking Ahead: God Never Said That

In August we will begin a new teaching series titled **God Never Said That**. Each week we will look at a familiar phrase that sounds spiritual but does not actually come from Scripture. Together we will explore what God truly says and how His Word brings clarity, hope, and freedom.

Here are the themes and Scriptures for the month:

- **August 2:** "God will never give you more than you can handle" *2 Corinthians 1:8–10; 2 Corinthians 12:9–10*
- **August 9:** "Forgive, don't forget" *Ephesians 4:31–32; Colossians 3:13*
- **August 16:** "God just wants you to be happy" *1 Peter 1:15–16; John 15:9–11; Philippians 1:6*
- **August 23:** "Everything happens for a reason" *Romans 8:28; Genesis 50:20*

My hope is that this series strengthens our understanding of Scripture and helps us build our faith on what God truly says, not on cultural sayings that fall short of biblical truth.

A Word of Thanks

As we look ahead, I am excited for what God is doing here at Mt. Zion. I see a church that loves deeply, serves faithfully, and continues to grow in grace. I see people who show up for one another, who pray for one another, and who want to follow Jesus with sincerity and purpose. That kind of heart is a gift, and it is something God can use in powerful ways.

I am grateful for the privilege of serving alongside you. My family is grateful as well. You have welcomed us, encouraged us, and made us feel at home in every season. We are looking forward to the months ahead and to all the ways God will continue to shape us, strengthen us, and lead us.

Let us keep worshiping with joy, loving with intention, and trusting God to guide us into the future He has prepared.

With gratitude, **Pastor Shawn**

LOOKING AHEAD...

- August: No Fellowship during these months
- Wednesday Bible Study has concluded for the summer. We will resume in the fall.
- September 01 – Tuesday - Finance Mtg – 7:00 – Social Hall
- September 13 – Sunday - Church Picnic (at Church) Becky Knop Coord.
- September 15 – Tuesday - Church Council / Trustees Mtg – 7:00 - Social Hall

The Mt Zion “Summer Singers”

During the summer months, anyone who would like to sing during the special music time of Sunday worship is invited to join us. We will learn short choruses at 9:45 each Sunday morning. Music will be provided. These choruses will be easy to learn and add just a little extra to worship while the Faithful Few are resting for the upcoming fall session.

Sunday Sept 13th is our CHURCH PICNIC. Held on the church grounds. A sign-up sheet will be available for the extras to bring next week. Becky Knop coordinator.

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

NOVEMBER FELLOWSHIP a coordinator for this month is still needed. See Becky.

Do you have an announcement that you would like to see included in the slides before service starts? If so, talk to Mark Hemler.

Church Meetings

Finance & Trustees: Sept 1 / Church Council: Sept 15

Both meetings are open to all

In the Social Hall @ 7:00pm – Tuesday

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.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Financial Contribution are always welcome
- New Backpacks
- Pocket Folders
- Canvas Pencil Pouches
- 1 Inch Binders
- Wide-ruled Composition Notebooks
- Wide-ruled Filler Paper
- Colored Pencils
- Primary, (Fat) Pencils
- Blue, Black and Red Pens
- 3x3 Ruled Index Cards
- Markers and Highlighters
- 24 ct. Crayons
- Pink Block Erasers
- Rulers