

Mount Zion
A United Methodist Congregation
+ Since 1856 +

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Mount Zion Weekly

Sunday December 8, 2024



Advent Two – Our journey of faith continues

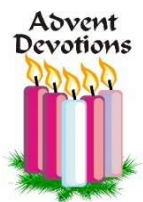
Our Journey to Bethlehem began last Sunday and continues today, the “Second Sunday of Advent”. We invite you to journey with Mary & Joseph and with us on Sunday morning worship and our weekday evening Bible study with our Pastor. We urge you to bring a family member, a neighbor or a friend to worship with you. If you are looking for a church home please see Pastor Shawn for more information. All are welcome at Mount Zion.



Last Sunday our theme was “hope”.

Today, on the second Sunday our theme is “peace.” In the Beatitudes (Matthew 5.9) Jesus said *“Blessed (spiritually happy) are the peace makers for they shall be called the children of God.”* It doesn’t say blessed are who simply shout for peace. “We are called to work for peace and unity. Using the power of the Holy Spirit we are called to bring people together. Far too often Christ-followers are part of the problem not working for a peaceful solution. Many times, at Mt. Zion we have sung the song *“let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me!”* It is the words *“let it begin with me”* that are the most important. Worship faithfully! Join our Pastor for our mid-week Bible study. Remember, the Advent season (four Sundays) helps us to prepare to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord.

We have a special Advent daily devotional booklet available free of charge and we hope you will read it every day during this special season. Free copies are in the vestibule. If you are not able to get to the church building, please call 301-351-6689 and we will deliver one to you. Our Pastor wants everyone to have a copy. Good meaningful reading.



THIS MORNING

December 8th is our annual church-wide **HOLIDAY BRUNCH**. Let’s have a great turnout for this special day! Everyone is urged to attend! Stay after worship and join us for fellowship. If you have drifted away this is the Sunday to come home. The food has been accounted for. For more information call Becky Knop 410-979-3509

**Did you know more people come by invitation than any other way?
When was the last time you invited someone?**

Christmas Eve Worship at Mount Zion, Two services of worship. An afternoon worship service at 3:00 p.m. and an evening service at 9:00 p.m. Plan to worship now on this very special evening as we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord Jesus. Invite someone to worship with you.



The NEW "Upper Room" for November/December is available this morning. Or we can get a copy for you simply by calling 301-351-6689. It is given free of charge (regular or large print) by Charles & Inez Beckhardt in memory of our parents Louis & Theresa McClelland and Charles & Naomi Beckhardt and Lillie Daugherty. Also, LaDonna Schemm in memory of her husband George and in honor of her children George W. Schemm, and Michael & Lisa Schemm and her grandchildren Aubrey & Colson.



You are invited to get two items "free" from our church. You can get an "official" church pen. Second, you can be the first to get your "official" 2025 church calendar. Thanks to LaDonna Schemm.

See one of the ushers or call 301-351-6689 and we will get it to you.

We need **USHERS** for the months of Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June. We also need **FELLOWSHIP COORDINATORS** for Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June. Can you help with one of these months? See Melanie Stranix.



SUNDAY FUNNIES

Someone once said... "Hate has 4 letters but so does Love. Enemies has 7 letters but so does Friends. Lying has 5 letters but so does Truth. Cry has 3 letters but so does Joy. Negativity has 10 letters but so does Positivity."

Life is 2 sided, choose the better side of it. 😊

Finance & Attendance

In the "Year 2024" we need \$2136 each week for our Operating Budget
Last Sunday we received \$109 BELOW our Operating Expense
2024 average Sunday attendance: 36.8 / Last Sunday's attendance: 36



Did you know that most people attend because they were personally invited?



Plan now to invite someone to Christmas Eve service Dec 24th 3pm or 9pm.

Meet Our Staff...

+ Our Pastor: Shawn Vollmerhausen +

Phone: 410-790-5214 Email: shawnvollmerhausen@gmail.com

Church Email: MtZionUMCFinksburg@gmail.com Church Office: 410-517-2300

Director of Music: Leslie Gabler December Ushers: David Fitzwater & Dawn Zepp

Website & Facebook Page: Kathy Giroux / Chair Church Council: Dan Armacost

Worship Technology & Today's Weekly: Mark Hemler Video: Peggy James

Trustees & Finance Chair: Bill Tighe Lay Leader: Jerry Knop

The Shepherd's Staff

Mt. Zion has always been diligent in providing donations for Shepherd's Staff & feeding our Goat.

Currently they need School Supplies.

Please continue to support them.

Just a note – we will collect School Supplies all the time. When the students run out of what they are given at the beginning of the year they come back asking for more.

If you have questions about School donations, see Barb Hayes

**Did you call or send a card to a homebound or shut-in this week?
For more information, please contact one of our Pastors.**



CHRISTMAS CARDS may be deposited in the designated box for distribution within the congregation. The box is located in the Social Hall. Do you need a church directory to mail out cards directly yourself? See Peggy James 410-259-4881, peggyjames47@gmail.com

Did you know more people come by invitation than any other way?

NEW! Need an extra boost to help hear the Pastor during service?



We now have a new hearing assist system that we are implementing in our sanctuary.

If this would be of help to you, see Pastor Shawn or Mark Hemler for details.

Give it a try and see what you think about it!

Sharing Your Love at Christmas



Our "Poinsettia" Love List 2024

Poinsettia "love" has always been important to the people of Mount Zion

This year we will do it similar to last year.

Instead of purchasing individual Poinsettias as we have done in the past the Altar Team will purchase them to decorate the altar of our church.

You can share names "free of charge" names of those you would like to honor or those you would like to remember at this special time of the year. We will publish those names in the Christmas Eve worship service hand-out!

The "ABSOLUTE" dead line is Wednesday December 18^h. Please use the "official" form at the bottom of this sheet or call Mark 410-299-7517

(Leave voice mail for a call back if no answer)

If turning in form in person, give to Mark Hemler

See your email that includes an online form to instantly submit your information

Official Form for our Poinsettia Love List Christmas 2024



+ Please PRINT!

Name of the Person(s) you wish to Honor

Name of the Person(s) you wish to remember

Your Name:

Your Phone Number:

Your Email address:

If you would like to support our Mission Fund, make your check out to **Mount Zion UMC** and clearly mark it "**Mission Fund**". Do not send cash in the mail.

Mail to: Mt Zion UMC

Poinsettia List 2024 ... Post Office Box 511 ... Finksburg, Maryland 21048