

Friends,

I thank Mt Zion for all your prayers and kindnesses during the past several months as my mother declined in her health. And certainly the outpouring of prayers, cards of condolences, and the many emails sent to me and my family after mom's passing on Sunday, May 26th. I was able to be by her bedside during the time of her death, stroking her hair, kissing her forehead and telling her that I love her. I thank Mt. Zion church and staff for sending to the funeral home a beautiful bouquet of flowers and for the Stephen Ministry leaders sending a beautiful plant. After the service, Laurie and I took them home and they now are placed in a prominent place in our living room. I also would be remiss in not thanking Rev. Ken Dunnington for stepping in and undertaking extra duties in my absence. Ken – thank you so much for your ministry to me and to Mt. Zion.

Mt. Zion is a loving and caring church. I am proud to be your pastor. And as your pastor, I know that many of you know the sorrow of losing a loved one and being filled with tremendous grief. You also are in my prayers. My mother's passing was during the Easter season in the church's calendar, a time when we celebrate the new life we have now and forever through the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb. Because of that hope, you and I can move forward in hope. I like the passage from Psalm 30:5b – "Weeping may stay for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning."

Again, thanks for your loving support and endless prayers.

Peace,

Gary

**Sunday Morning Worship, June 9, 2019, Pentecost Sunday**

Lessons: Acts 2:1-21 and John 14:8-17, 25-27

Sermon: "What Kind of Church Is This?"

**Pastor Ken's last day here will be Sunday, June 16.** We wish him all the best as he joins his new church in Middletown and we thank him for sharing his kindness and remarkable wisdom with us this past year.

**Shepherding Team 9 Is On Call This Week, June 1-June 9.** Contact Bonnie Luepkis.

**Kid's Zone June 9th.** All elementary age children are invited to join us in Conference Room 3 (next to the Nursery).

**End of the School Year Youth Group Picnic June 9 from 5:30 - 7:30 PM @ the Youth Center.** Weather permitting, we will cook out & have a giant slip n' slide. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. We will provide burgers, dogs, buns, condiments, drinks & paper products. Parents interested in helping, please contact Carol Wunderlich.

**2019 VBS July 22-26 Volunteers Needed!** If you can help, please email [mtzionvbs2019volunteers@gmail.com](mailto:mtzionvbs2019volunteers@gmail.com). Go to the Mt Zion website and click on the VBS flyer in the Upcoming Events page. We are also looking for nurses or persons with some medical/first aid knowledge to volunteer to be present during VBS hours 9-12 that week. First aid supplies are provided. TLC is sometimes needed and a Band-Aid or two. One or more days would be so appreciated. Please contact Joyce Saunderson.

**Summer Children's Ministry.** Beginning 6/16, the Nursery will remain open on its regular schedule, but children finishing K - 5th are invited to attend worship with their families. During the Sermon portion of both services, elementary children are invited to the Children's Worship Table at the back of the Sanctuary to join in quiet activities with our Sunday School and Kid Zone leaders. Parents & other adults interested in providing some non-prep leadership for the Children's Worship Table may contact Carol Wunderlich.

**Chair Exercise class.** Wednesday mornings 9:30-10:00. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please call or text Bettye Ames.

**VIM Trip.** Mt. Zion's UMM has a VIM trip planned to support the North Carolina Disaster Response, in Newport, NC, July 12-20 led by Ken Sines. We would like to have a team of 12 - 15 people. This is open to all, ages 21 and over. Team meeting Sunday, June 9 at 10:15 am. in the Chapel. Please contact Ken Sines or Debby Klopp.

**Missionary Support for Matthew and Jennifer (King) Wilke.** The Missions Committee of Mt. Zion is very excited to share that our own Jenny (King) and Matthew Wilke will be leaving in early August for Missionary Work in Tanzania, Africa. To learn more about the organization, Angel House, that they will be working with please check out this link: <http://grassrootsangelhouse.org/> As they have been approved as Missionary Volunteers through the General Board of Global Ministries, you are able to help support them in this exciting opportunity by giving through the Advance. Please follow these instructions to ensure that your donations go directly for their support as all mission volunteers have the same advance number.

Please use: <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-642-mission-volunteers-individual-volunteers.aspx>

The Advance Number for mission volunteers is 982465. Donors should:

1. Search 982465 in the search box.
2. Scroll down and open the Mission Volunteers Advance Page.
3. Under Designate Your Gift is a drop-down list. **Matthew and Jennifer Wilke** are listed at the bottom of the drop-down list.
4. Donors will select your name and determine how they'd like to give to complete the steps to donate.

If you are not able to donate at this time, we ask that you continue to support them with your prayers and words of encouragement. Contact information will be shared when it becomes available. If you would like additional information or to be included on the e-mail newsletter chain during their trip, please contact Belinda Norton, Acting Chair of Missions Committee.

**Those jewels you are no longer wearing are SO needed** to make the Jewelry Booth at The Women's Board supporting Montgomery Medstar Hospital 99th annual Picnic and Bazaar on July 23rd, a success!! These monies fund many needed Hospital projects and scholarships for local students. There is a collection box in the narthex. Thank you so much!! I am happy to pick up! Please contact Joyce Saunderson.

**Church Work Day.** Trustees are sponsoring a church workday from 8-12 am on June 22. There is a need for general cleaning indoors and light maintenance both inside and out. Please

contact a trustee if you can help and discuss any supplies or tools that will be needed. We have a list to share. Posted by Roger Colvin.

**The Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominating Committee)** will meet each month to explore how we can match people's skills to be engaged in ministry and serve Christ's Church. Please reach out to us so that you might be engaged in Christ's ministry here at Mt. Zion, in our community and around the world. - Rev. Gary Sheffield-James, Chair of Lay Leadership

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