

To the folks and friends of Mt. Zion,

As the month of January comes to an end, we will soon move into the Lenten/Easter season. Lent is a time set aside by the Church (40 days; not counting Sundays) to examine our lives and to focus on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. The imposition of ashes reminds us of our finiteness – that one day we will die. We are also reminded of the promise of new life here and forever because of resurrected Jesus' triumph over sin and death – that one day we will rise above our ashes.

I invite you to observe a holy Lent by attending the Ash Wednesday Service held at Mt. Zion on February 14, 2018 at 7 p.m. Rev. Andrea King, pastor of Hopkins United Methodist Church, will be the guest preacher.

Grace & Peace,  
Gary

**Sunday Morning Worship** January 28, 2018

*Lesson:* Mark 1:21-28

*Sermon* “By What Authority?”

**Ash Wednesday Service held at Mt. Zion on February 14, 2018 at 7 p.m.** Rev. Andrea King, pastor of Hopkins United Methodist Church, will be the guest preacher.

Here are some **events and opportunities** for you to get connected in the church:

**Shepherding Team #2 Is On Call This Week**, January 28th to February 3rd. Contact Betty Cashmark.

**Thank you, thank you, thank you!!** On behalf of the kids served by the Pajama Program thank you very much for your very generous donations of pajamas and books. Also kudos to our wonderful Mt Zion Preschool Staff and Parents who made very special efforts with their contributions - some complete with creative artwork from their children. The kids served will be warm with their PJs and I'm still smiling by the show of support from our Mt Zion family. Stay tasty! Karen Williams

**Stephen Ministers and the Care Givers** invite you to join us to hear: Kathy Wehr, Caregiver Support Program Manager: Howard County Office on Aging and Independence, Speak on “Caregiving and Communication with Alzheimer’s and Dementia” Feb 4, 2018 @ 1:00 pm in the large conference room

**SAGE Brigade Special Event: Stepping Up Your Nutrition:** Discover and Learn • Why muscle matters • How nutrition affects falls • How to get enough protein and fluids • What you can do to eat better and improve your health **When:** Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> 12:00-2:30. **Cost:** \$5 to register or for more information, contact: Jeannie DeCray or Debbie Burgio.

**Houston VIM Presentation:** On Sunday February 11th, the Houston VIM team (which includes our own Ken Sines) will be giving a presentation on their recent experiences in the Houston, Texas area. The presentation will be held Sunday, February 11th at Emmanuel UMC during their 9:00 and 11:00 worship services. All who are interested are invited to attend.

**Trivia Night!!!** Friday February 23, 7-9:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Hosted by UMC for ALL AGES. Get Your Team Together Now! (Maximum 6 per Team). Entry fee \$10:00 Supports UMM. Save money by registering your team early February 2<sup>nd</sup> (Groundhog Day) and save \$10:00 per team. Prizes will be awarded – Free Fresh Popcorn – Sodas available for purchase. Register now with Mark Coffin or Ken Sines.

**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner:** For everyone who has volunteered to touch lives for Jesus Christ - you are invited to dinner and fellowship with other volunteers on 2/24 at 6pm in Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by 2/10/2018 to Debra Leiss. Please see attached flyer.

**Help Needed!!!!** If we want to continue KID's ZONE at the 9:00 and 11:00 services, we must have more adult help! Please contact Jena Meredith if you can serve in this fun ministry!

**Signups for Winter Shelter** begin on January 28 in the West Narthex.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** – February 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please see attached flyer.

**Join us for Great Date Night** on Saturday, February 17, as Mt. Zion welcomes singer, songwriter, and funny guy, Mark Cable, back to the stage for a spiritual evening of great entertainment. Mark's performance weaves a tapestry of uplifting lyrics, soulful acoustical guitar, and hilarious anecdotes in a romantic Coffee House setting. The Fellowship Hall doors open at 6:30 PM when we start serving warm winter beverages, then settle in for an amazing concert beginning at 7:00. At intermission, our delicious Valentine's Day dessert buffet will sweeten the evening (with healthy options as well). Tickets are \$15 per person and advance reservations are suggested by contacting Jan Plant. Please also see attached flyer.

**Rebuilding Together, All Day, Saturday, April 28** – Plan to participate in the Rebuilding Together day of service helping a local homeowner with home repairs and being in fellowship with each other. All skill levels welcome. Your commitment to join us is needed by Feb 4. For more information or to sign up, please indicate on the bulletin attendance sheet or contact Ken Sines or Kathy Dunn.

**Seated Exercise Class** will be held every Wednesday during January in the Chapel from 9:30-10am. Wear comfortable clothing. We will be jazzing up January with music from Russ Freeman. Any questions? Contact Betty Ames.

**Calling all cooks and those who like to eat!** Join our Cooking Group once a month and cook a meal to eat as well as enough to freeze for use by the Shepherding teams. If you are interested, please contact Debra Leiss.

**The Care Giver's Group meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month between services,** in the church library. Contact Judy H. Johnson.

**2018 Offering Envelopes:** 2018 Offering Envelopes are available for pick-up in the West Narthex. If you did not order Offering Envelopes, but still wish to have a box for the upcoming year, a limited number of extra sets were ordered. Please contact the church Treasurer at x14 if you are interested.

**2017 Year-end Giving Statements:** Giving statements for the 2017 calendar year are now available for pick up in the West Narthex. Please help save the church postage by picking up your statement prior to the January 31st mailing.