

To the folks and friends of Mt. Zion,

Birds are singing. Flowers are blooming. Leaves are budding. Spring is here! All around us we are observing the many signs of growth and new life.

In the midst of this Holy Week, we are preparing ourselves to celebrate new life. Like the lush, colorful spring that follows the cold, dark, damp winter, we, who have experienced the dark shadows of life, will celebrate God's victory over the powers of sin and death in the resurrection of Jesus. The tomb is empty and God's eternal love reigns now and forever. Let us journey to Easter with joyous hearts.

### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

Thursday, March 29, 2018 **Maundy Thursday Service** - Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm

Friday, March 30, 2018 **Good Friday Service**

Tenebrae Service – Cantata “Song of the Shadows” 7:00 pm

Service held in the Sanctuary

Saturday, March 31, 2018 **Easter Egg Hunt** – 2:00 pm

Sunday, April 1, 2018 **Easter Sunday**

7:00 am **Sunrise Service** - held at the Mt. Zion Cemetery

Message – “Relay for Life”

9:00 am Traditional & 11:00 am Contemporary

Message – “When Life Rings a Bell”

Pancake Breakfast Easter Sunday – 7:30 am to 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

Grace & Peace,

Gary

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

**Shepherding Team #2 Is On Call This Week**, April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 7<sup>th</sup>. Contact Betty Cashmark.

**Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup> at 2pm.**

**The Open Doors Food Pantry** is able to buy food and other necessities from the loose change we receive. Please deposit any loose change in the offering plate to help feed those in need. We have volunteer opportunities on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from 7:30am - 11:30am. To contact us, please email [opendoorsfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:opendoorsfoodpantry@gmail.com). Thank you!

**UMM sponsors a hike** for Mt. Zion members and friends, male and female, 10 AM on Saturday, March 31. 6-mile round trip on Patuxent Branch Path with optional lunch at Rams Head Tavern, Savage. Meet at trail parking opposite [9175 Guilford Road](http://9175GuilfordRoad.com). Register w/ Will Scott.

**Native American Ministries Observance at Covenant United Methodist Church** (CUMC) will observe Native American Ministries this year through a special program open to all, Saturday April 14, 2018, from 1 to 4pm, at the Covenant United Methodist Church, Montgomery Village, Maryland. Refreshments available. Dr Casey Church, a nationally known leader in Native American Ministries will lead us in a seminar that will provide (1) brief historical view of Native American history in our area that leads to our current environment, (2) examples of ministries that are active in other United Methodist churches, (3) how congregations may participate in meaningful ways to join the United Methodist Church 2012 General Conference action to heal past relationships with Native American and Indigenous peoples as we grow into the future. For RSVP's or questions contact Belinda Norton also see attached flyer.

**Love the Other:** A speaker series inspired by the Will Willimon's book *Fear of the Other : No Fear in Love*. Join us to learn about different cultures that may seem strange or foreign. This opportunity is a first step to love (and not merely tolerate) those considered to be outside mainstream Christian culture. Series is located in the Fellowship Hall and includes:

4/15 at 12:15pm - Native Americans with Belinda Norton

4/22 at 3:00pm - Holocaust Survivors with Edith Corde

5/7 at 7pm- Muslims with Iman Dibba

All events will take place in the Fellowship Hall at Mt Zion

**Help with Potluck:** The Call to Action committee is looking for volunteers to help with the Love the Other Speaker Series by bringing a casserole, salad to desert to share. If you are able, please let Bettye Ames know or email [smallgroups@mtzionhighland.com](mailto:smallgroups@mtzionhighland.com)

**Drop In Class:** We have started a new study - Alpha. This study from Nicky Gumbel intended to explore the Christian faith, ask questions and have meaningful conversations about life and faith.

**Save the evening of Saturday, May 5 for Mt. Zion's dinner theater production of Trailer Park Tragedy.**

Get ready for a politically incorrect night of mystery, scandal, and fun! Ticket sales will begin in April after Easter. In the meantime, if you are interested in portraying an avid outdoorsman, a crazy cat lady, a high school dropout, or a parolee who will do anything to avoid going back to jail, please contact Jan Plant to ask about being in our crazy cast of characters!

**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.