



Touching Lives for Jesus Christ

July 2018 Edition

**Our Mission**

Touching Lives for Jesus Christ

**Our Core Values**

To be a Loving Christian Community. Providing opportunities for worship, spiritual growth, and service.

**Our Vision**

Love, Grow, Serve



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# Mount Zion United Methodist Church

# The P<sub>o</sub>inter

Friends:

As I write this article, we are only days away from the official start of summer. The season of summer begins on the June solstice and ends on the September equinox. For many of us, we enjoy being outside and taking advantage of the longer days of sunlight. Others of us already have made our summer reading list; so it's a time for us to read some books that we've wanted to delve into for a long time. For most of us, summer is traditionally a time of vacations; a time to get away and spend some quality time with our family and friends.

Vacation comes from the Latin word 'vacatio'; meaning freedom, exemption. Synonyms or like-meaning words for summer are break, leave, and recess. Therefore, summer is a time to get a break from our daily grinds. We temporarily leave behind our to-do-lists and work-a-day weeks to get a respite from it all. And if we are fortunate enough to take a vacation, then we often come back refreshed and refueled for life.

My hope is that you will be able to get away and encounter moments that will replenish your spirit and renew your energy. I hope you are able to do some fun things. A while back my son told me that there are two types of time, recreational time and leisure time. Recreational time is when we involve ourselves in some type of activity; an activity that nourishes us physically, mentally, and emotionally. Recreation is an active use of time. Leisure time on the other hand is time spent resting, relaxing, and enjoying moments of solitude. In terms of physical fitness, leisure time is a passive use of time.

But I think that both types of time are important in our renewing process. In a spiritual sense, solitude is not a passive exercise. Richard J. Foster tells us that solitude is not being alone nor is it loneliness. He says, "Loneliness is inner emptiness. Solitude is inner fulfillment." Foster also goes on to say that "inner solitude has outward manifestations." He supports this claim by referring to the times Jesus went into the wilderness to be by himself and the times he called his disciples to 'come away to a lonely place.'

Personally, I am looking forward to times of solitude. I am a self-admitted news junky. I'm going to be intentional about turning off the strident political voices for awhile. In solitude, I am hoping to be in touch with a different voice; to focus in on a different purpose for being. Richard Foster quotes T. S. Eliot in his book on spirituality. Eliot writes: "Where shall the world be found, where will the word resound? Not here, there is not enough silence."

Indeed, the world is full of many voices; some strident, others loud and boisterous, and still others divisive and rancorous. Such voices often tend to drown out the voices of comfort, reason, wisdom, and cooperation. Because of the noisy cacophony of vitriolic voices, we fail to hear the "still small voice" of God calling out to us.

I hope you have a great summer. Get away and do something special. Do remember this however – you and I are never alone. The activity of God is always present. The good news is that we could never take a vacation from that reality.

Grace & Peace,

Gary

**Rev. Gary Sheffield-James**  
Senior Pastor

**Rev. Tammi D. Brantley**  
Executive/Youth Pastor

**Rev. Ken Dunnington**  
Assistant Pastor

**Jena J. Meredith**  
Director of Children's Ministries

**Mark Dubbs**  
Director of Music

**Deb Papavizas**  
Organist

**Chris Fox**  
Keyboard/Children's Choir  
Director

**Mark J. Blough**  
Facilities Manager

**Moéa G. Fatcher**  
Administrative Assistant

**Chuck Plant**  
Office Assistant



**Worship  
Spiritual Growth**

***Those Called to Serve and Lead Worship***

	Service Times	July 1 One Service @ 10 am	July 8	July 15	July 22	July 29
Kid's Time	9:00	Youth	Chad Hawthorne	Jena Meredith	Pastor Gary	Jamie Humphreys
	11:00		Eric O'Keefe	Jena Meredith	Pastor Gary	Jamie Humphreys
Greeters	9:00	Lynn Jacobson, Jackie Derr	Nancy & John Coonts, Debra Fitzgerald	Jerry & Margaret Rose, Larry Murdock	Will & Jill Scott, Olivia Yeager	
	11:00		Frank Lineberger	Evan Saunderson		
Liturgist	9:00	Elizabeth Dennis	Lamont Basket	Ellen McKinzie	Karyn Vice	
Projection	9:00	Adam Johnson	Jill Scott	Bonnie Luepkes	Bonnie Luepkes	Jill Scott
	11:00		Carol Messerly	Chuck Sehman	Carol Hill	Chuck Sehman
Sound	9:00	<i>Help Wanted</i>	Dustin Edison	<i>Help Wanted</i>	Scott Johnson	
	11:00	All Hill	Bill Ray	All Hill	Bill Ray	
Usher Captains	9:00	Pam Ehrenfried				
	11:00	Gary & Patricia Heinz				





## Worship Spiritual Growth



### Baltimore Washington Conference 234th Annual Conference ~ Marriott Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD ~ May 30 - June 1, 2018 ~ Lay Delegate Report

The 234th Annual Conference opened with the usual hustle and registration confusion. Most delegates received and remembered to bring their registration tickets but the task of making sure all voting units are logged out to the correct person always takes a little time. The ghosts or rather issues of the 233rd Annual Conference were still at the forefront of discussion. How would the BWC receive and respond the recommendation from the Council of Bishops to adopt the One Church Plan developed by the Commission on the Way Forward? The issue is particularly raw in the BWC. If you recall, last year "TC" an acknowledged lesbian and certified candidate for deacon was denied ordination. This year, she sought ordination again and was joined by "Joey" a homosexual pastor. Both completed all requirements for ordination and have been in service in their respective churches. Whether the BWC should admit and ordain the two was a matter for lengthy discussion. The session during which the pastors in the BWC discussed and voted on ordination of the two extended long into the night until after 10pm.

About a year ago, the UMC's Judicial Council required all candidates for commissioning and ordination be asked whether they were homosexual. The BWC's Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM) took a broad interpretation and asked whether candidates were faithful or celibate. Bishop Easterling issued a ruling that by UMC law the two were not eligible for ordination and commissioning because they are "self-avowed practicing homosexuals." Bishop Easterling later issued a letter indicating that she followed the law as she saw it but she left room to be wrong. Later, at the end of the conference the BWC voted to support the One Church Plan recommended by the Way Forward Commission and the Council of Bishops. In a nutshell, these are the highlights of the Annual Conference. You are invited to read on for a more complete picture of Annual Conference.

#### **Workshop Highlights**

I took two workshops: **Missioning Reimagined and Building the Beloved Community**. Beth Ludlum, a pastor and instructor at Wesley Seminary has led excellent workshops for the BWC and Missioning Reimagined was an interesting exercise. She asked: What is missional behavior? and What is "faithful" 20 years from now? We explored the concept of being a missionary and being in mission to people. We talked about stereotypes using millennials as the group being stereotyped. We noticed that a lot of misconceptions arise when using stereotypes. We broke down into listening groups of three people and then broke down again into groups of two. Our task was to listen to one person talk about a preselected subject for 2 minutes. At the end of these sessions we realized how many misconceptions we have about other people are wiped away when you listen to the ways you are alike. My take away: Listen to whomever you are talking to with full attention for 2 minutes. Don't say anything. Nod or let your face speak for you but the important thing is to listen. Active listening is one important way we can make connections with other people. You have to make a connection for your "mission" work to be successful. Often we think we are going out to do mission work to help other people. With a focus on how the mission work is changing our spirit and feeding us we can see the value in the culture of the people we hope to minister. *"The spirit is not tied up in your church. It moves freely into the whole world. It is a means of grace for us to listen to other's stories and learn to come together. It is not about what we can take to them."* - Beth Ludlum

The second workshop I took was entitled **Building the Beloved Community**. It was led by Rev. Dr. C. Anthony Hunt who had been on Pastor Gary's short list of people he would have liked to have come and talk to Mt. Zion while we were studying the William Willimon book "No Fear In Love". Dr. Hunt is a professor at two local seminaries. He periodically leads his students down to Birmingham, Alabama for field trips. This February he led a group of United Methodists both laity and clergy to observe the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

Rev. Hunt maintains that community building from a theological perspective is imperative. He told us one must be prepared to follow a nonviolent approach to protest. We discussed some of the conditioning required to help see things in a broader context. We tried one of the teaching tools used by Dr. King and Gandhi: turning the other cheek when someone strikes you. The idea is that by turning the other cheek you have taken away the power of your aggressor. That is, one slaps with an open hand in order to strike (the power hand) when you turn the other cheek the aggressor must use a backhanded stroke to strike you a second time. This diffuses the power of the blow as well as taking away the power of the aggressor. Several class participants felt they might better serve the nonviolent cause by preparing sandwiches in the kitchen and not being on the frontline diffusing slapping power.

[continues on pages 4 & 5]

***"You cannot have love and hate in the same space. We will to hate just like we will to love.  
Hatred has a contagious effect, so does love." - Dr. C. Anthony Hunt***

Dr. Hunt provided participants a Toolkit he prepared for those interested in nonviolent protest. I will leave a copy in the Mt. Zion library if you are interested in reading it.

### ***Photo Contest:***

The focus for the 2018 annual Conference is Ephesians 4. In 'The Message' it begins, "in light of all this..." So, "light" is the theme for the photo contest.

Twice a month there will be a photography tip in the e-connection on the topic of light as it pertains to photography. If you want to receive the e-connection, email Communications at info@bwcumc.org and ask to be added.

Submit your photo entries to mlauber@bwcumc.org. You may submit as many entries as you like. The deadline for the contest is May 15, 2019. Winners will be announced during Annual Conference. Three \$100 prizes will be awarded to the best photographs. An additional \$100 will be given to the best photo taken by a youth age 17 or younger.

**Let your light shine. Feel EnLIGHTened.**

### ***Laity Session***

Rev. Barbara Rommel addressed the laity on "**Courage, Leadership and Anxious Times**". There are two types of anxiety: acute anxiety, and chronic anxiety. Acute anxiety occurs when something happens that causes stress. Chronic anxiety occurs because something hasn't happened yet. (Often synonymous with worry.) Our bodies don't know the difference between the two. The physical response to both types of anxiety is to produce cortisol. Chronic anxiety can help us plan for the future; however, reacting with out thought is anxious behavior. Herding, when anxious people group together like a herd, is symptomatic of anxious behaviour. Blame is always an anxious response. Do not confuse assessing blame with blaming people when things go wrong. People jump for a quick fix. Remember, it's almost always possible to go back and have a conversation about the things that bother us.

We then looked at when it is better to rely on Self Differentiation or Connection. Self differentiation -- knowing who you are, where you end and church begins- Versus- Connection -- learning who people are. In anxious times, always ask: Is this a time for me to be self differentiated or connectional?

Finally, we looked at Vision -- being able to see, feel, and know the big picture -- and the need for a Non Anxious Presence. Basically, look the part. Faking it is OK. *"Everything will not go smoothly. Do everything in your power to be non anxious. It gives space for God's plan to work. For a congregation to move forward it takes vision and work from both pastor and congregation."* - Barb Rommel

Rev. Dr. Rick Vance then talked to the laity about stopping domestic violence and the Amending Through Faith program which works under the premise that God gave gifts to men and women to use in the church. This biblically based 8 week program looks at how scripture has been used to support violence. This ministry seeks to stop domestic violence and sees it as a man's problem. ***"Every man is to have an ongoing relationship with Jesus so the world can see Jesus at work."*** - ***Rev. Dr. Rick Vance***

Dolores Martin, BWC Lay Leader reminded us "lay people are the heart and soul of the church". The Laity Address, given by three district lay leaders, was based on unity. Words of exhortation included: "We have a job to do. We are called to one faith, one baptism, and one God, Father of all." "We are unified with a unity of spirit. God has made us all different and beautiful, equally loved and protected." "Human descriptions don't describe who we are under the cross. We see differences when we are not beneath the cross - this opens us to partisanship, and pain. When we are unified we can stop the devil, feed hunger..."

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar from the New England Conference stood in for Bishop Latrelle Easterling for the opening Plenary Session because the Bishop's son, Myles was graduating from Atholton High School. Bishop Devadhar gave us a brief history of the Council of Bishops' Way Forward Commission. At the 2016 General Conference of the UMC, the Bishops were asked to model a way forward for Methodists and for a variety of expressions to work in the church rather than be separated from each other. Adam Hamilton used John 17:21-23 as the basis for this request. The Bishops took up the task of 1) revising every paragraph in the Book of Discipline dealing with sexual orientation; 2) maintaining a dialogue with the Commission on the Way Forward as they worked; and 3) holding a 2-3 day Special General Conference in case a resolution is reached before the next General Conference in 2020. Meanwhile, the church is charged to work in grace with one another. The Commission on the Way Forward is comprised of thirty three people including young, not so young, LGBT, 8 bishops, laity and clergy. They represent 9 nations and 13 states. Over 17 months they held 9 meetings. They read, "The Anatomy of Peace Resolving the Heart of Conflict" by the Arbinger Institute. Their last meeting was May 16, 2018.

The Commission presented a report and a recommendation to the Council of Bishops with three options: One Church Plan, Connectional Plan and Traditional Plan. The Council of Bishops has decided to recommend the One Church Plan, which

[concludes on page 5]

removes language against homosexuality in the Book of Discipline and allows decisions about LGBT individuals to be made closer to the local level. This approach is thought to honor the traditions already in place and will permit the local church to determine how to relate to the LGBT. This model is considered to have the most potential for inclusion. While its not full inclusion, this model does give space for full inclusion to happen.

The morning Bible study both mornings was based on Ephesians 4:1-16. Bible study was taught by the Rev. Dr. Shively Smith, a Wesleyan Seminary professor who proclaimed that Ephesians was not a book that should be quietly read to yourself. No, Ephesians was written to be read out loud in community, to be "discussed and tussled with". Rev. Smith uses a broad lens when looking at this book. She says God chose us before the creation of the world. Before there were *patria* based families (bloodline based identities) and fraternity there was God, Christ and the church. The pre-existent Church was there at the beginning before time. The church was empowered by the crucifixion of Christ. Man would divide the church into sects; but we are called to make connections. The church cannot be defined by one image; therefore, we must find new ways to envision a church that has not yet been imagined. Smith left the crowd with the question: How can two groups, who are connected in Christ but opposed to each other, be connected? "Ephesians is fundamentally a conundrum of connection," she said. It "invites us into the experience of playing with what is possible."

Rev. Tom Berlin, a member of the Way Forward Commission talked to us further about their deliberations. *Rev. Berlin: "There is no definitive answer except for those people who have their own definitive answer."* The Anglican church is currently going through a similar review. Rev. Berlin shared advice received from an Anglican pastor, *"You will walk through this loosely or you will part with a blessing. If you don't part with a blessing you have missed the point."*

He spoke about the polarity of two equal truths that cannot easily be held at the same time. For example: Law vs. Grace, Faith vs. Works. He noted a strong set of sexual ethics for everyone would probably be best. He acknowledged our public mission to transform the world and our private mission to take care of our members. He then asked: "Are you just keeping members comfortable?" He stated that the majority of clergy are not telling their members about this issue. I was shocked to hear that.

The One Church Plan in its final report form will be published in 4 languages on July 7, 2018. Finally, Rev. Berlin asked for prayer.

***"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used to create them" Albert Einstein.***

The Annual Conference adopted a new mission statement: ***"To inspire and equip local faith communities to develop disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."***

Centre Street UMC in Cumberland MD, after serving God faithfully through the United Methodist church for many years, was closed by recommendation of the District Superintendent.

For more information on any individual resolutions brought before the conference for a vote but not discussed here, please go to [www.bwcumc.org/annual-conference](http://www.bwcumc.org/annual-conference).

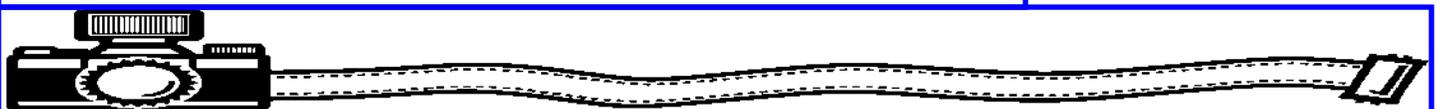
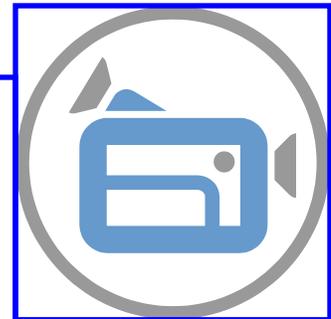
Respectfully submitted,  
Bettye Ames  
Lay Delegate, Mt. Zion UMC  
234th Annual Conference

### ***Man on the Street Videos***

The small groups committee is putting together a video to highlight all the things we do with and for Mount Zion. We will be looking for volunteers to provide a 10 second answer to the questions - what do you do with the church and why that is important after services during July.

**We want to hear from everyone!**

Please see Debra Leiss or any member of the Small Groups committee in the West Narthex or the library.





## Worship Spiritual Growth

Mt. Zion women sing for Father's Day service.



### Bible Study offered for Adults during Vacation Bible School

Mt Zion is excited to offer adults 2 opportunities to grow in faith and love of God in July. Pastor Ken will be facilitating a short term bible study based on the video study In **The Dust of the Rabbi**. Filmed in Israel and Turkey, these powerful DVD sessions explore what it meant to follow Jesus in the first century—and what it means to follow him today. This study requires no prep work or homework – just show up and join the discussion. The study will be presented in Conference Room 1 from 6-8 pm on 7/22 - 27/26. You are welcome 1 day or all 5 days. Please Let us know you will be coming at <http://evite.me/wVuCH8sQG>. Collection will be made to order light dinner/snacks for those attending. The study will also be presented in Conference Room 1 from 9:30 – 11am on Monday 7/23 – Friday 7/27. You are welcome 1 day or all 5 days.

Please Let us know you will be coming at <http://evite.me/8zaNP2kve1>





## Opportunities to Serve Missions

### Evangelism and Hospitality The Maryland Half Marathon- Water Stop and Festival Booth



#### Matthew 25:35

35 For... I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink...'

On June 9, ten members of Mt. Zion handed out water and Gatorade to almost 600 hot, thirsty runners within a 40 minute window. Liz Dennis, Shugo Tanaka, Karen Greiner, Dan and Corinne Kelly, Pam and Kim Gebhardtbauer and Kim's friend Alexandra, Deborah and Diana Towner had fun and got the job done!

Members of Mt Zion have been organizing a water stop for the Maryland Half Marathon ever since Pastor Malcolm had the 'Be the Church' theme... about 8 or 9 years ago. An official water stop was right outside the church, so we stepped up! The course changed due to logistics and safety, and water stop #3 is now over on Great Star Drive. It's a fun tradition we plan to continue.



## Discipleship Spiritual Growth

# Children's Ministry

### A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH.....”

**THERE ARE 3 WAYS TO ULTIMATE SUCCESS;  
THE FIRST WAY IS TO BE KIND,  
THE SECOND WAY IS TO BE KIND,  
THE THIRD WAY IS TO BE KIND. –Fred Rogers**



We hope all of our preschool families have a fun and safe summer break. Thank you for a wonderful school year.

The preschool is looking for substitutes and staff for the 2018-2019 school year. If you are interested in being a substitute or applying for a position, or you have any questions.

### VBS REGISTRATION has begun!

Please go to the link on our web site!

We still need adult helpers for VBS!! We need Mt Zion members to participate to be a witness for Christ and our church! Please contact Jena Meredith if you are able to help!

[jenameredith@hotmail.com](mailto:jenameredith@hotmail.com)

**KID'S ZONE** – We do not have enough volunteers for Kid's Zone this month so we will not be able to have it each week. There will be a schedule on the door for this month. Please contact Jena Meredith if you would like to help with this ministry.

**VBS** – If you would like to help with VBS, please contact Jena Meredith!

### SNACKS NEEDED FOR VBS HELPERS!!

If you cannot help with VBS please donate snacks to our volunteers!! Bring any type of snack to the kitchen July 22nd or during VBS week! It is such a blessing to give our helpers a yummy snack during the morning!!

**Vacation Bible School**  
at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church  
12430 Scaggsville Rd. Highland, MD 20777

**SHIPWRECKED**  
RESCUED BY JESUS

**July 23-27 - 9am to noon**  
with a picnic on the 27th at noon

Registration begins May 1st - June 25th  
(or until VBS is full)  
at [mtzionhighland.com](http://mtzionhighland.com)

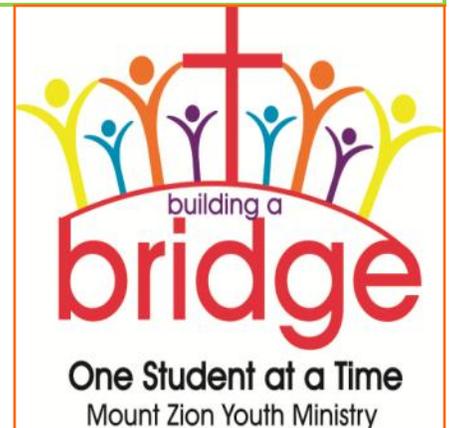
Cost is \$45 per child but the fee is waived if you volunteer to help.  
Contact Jena Meredith  
[jenameredith@hotmail.com](mailto:jenameredith@hotmail.com)  
if you wish to help  
Ages 4 - 5th grade



## Discipleship Spiritual Growth

### Youth Ministry

- Sunday Morning Youth Gathering ~ 10:10 am
- Students 6th - 12th Grade in Youth Center
- Youth Choir Rehearsal ~ Sundays at 5 pm
- Youth Ministry ~ Sundays at 6:15 pm in the Youth Center



### What is a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministers are laypeople-Christian men and women-trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation, or separation due to military deployment.

Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life. Their commonality? A passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

Since 1975, more than 650,000 people from more than 13,000 congregations and other organizations have been trained as Stephen Ministers.

Is it time for you to become one too? Please contact Pastor Ken or any Stephen Leader for more information.

Blessings,  
Debbie Burgio





## Opportunities to Serve Missions

The food pantry had 63 families in June.



### Community Outreach Event at Ames Memorial UMC in Baltimore



On June 16, Missions at Mt Zion partnered with Ames Memorial UMC in Baltimore for a Community Outreach event. Members of Mt Zion made bag lunches, sorted clothes for clothing give-away, brought leftovers from Mt Zion's Open Doors Food Pantry for distribution to people in the local community. Volunteers included Pastor Gary, Betty Cashmark, Pat Sanderson, Fred Deborah and Elizabeth Towner, Pam Kasemeyer, Lars Olsen and Robin Emrich, and Will and Jill Scott.





Discipleship  
Spiritual Growth

# Mt. Zion UMMen

## UMMen Calendar

13 July 2018 – Golfing at Willow Springs GC, West Friendship, MD, followed by dinner at Highland Tavern (5pm - ???)

14 July 2018 – Mt. Zion UMM Breakfast Meeting - Cars and Coffee (9am-12pm), church parking lot  
21 July 2018 – UMM Central District Picnic (3-8pm), Residence of Alden English, Olney, MD

12 August 2018 – Mt. Zion UMM Social Meeting (6:30-8pm), location TBD

8 September 2018 – Mt. Zion UMM Breakfast Meeting (8-9:30am), Roma's

15 September 2018 – UMM Central District Prayer Breakfast (8-10am)



Join the UMM for  
Cars and Coffee



Saturday, 14 July, 9am – 12pm

(\*\*\*\*\*)

If you have a vintage, muscle, sporty car, truck or motorcycle bring it to the church parking lot and enjoy the fellowship. Show it off for all to

see.



- Event open to all -



Watch for further details – Contact Ken Sines at [ksines57@gmail.com](mailto:ksines57@gmail.com), if you are stopping in with a vehicle for show.

## Golf with UMM

on Friday, 13 July at 5pm (+/-)

at Willow Springs Golf Course

*Dinner follows at Highland Tavern*



Contact Ken Sines at

[ksines57@gmail.com](mailto:ksines57@gmail.com) by 30 June, if interested in playing.

*Any skill level. Playing 9 holes, 2-man scramble, random selection of teams*



### Who We Are:

The United Methodist Men (UMM) of Mt. Zion

### What We Are:

A group of men that have come together to assist those in need – elderly; shut-ins; etc. that need assistance “around the house”

### What Assistance Can We Provide :

1. Yard Work - mowing, trimming (yards, hedges), maintenance, etc.
2. Fixin' of Stuff – light painting, repairs inside/outside the house, etc.
3. What do you really need help with? (hint...just email us)

### How Do I Contact the UMMen@Work Team:

Contact Bryan Meredith ([bryan.d.meredith@gmail.com](mailto:bryan.d.meredith@gmail.com)) and we will go from there to ensure that needs are met.



- 1 Denny Bernstein  
Rick Johnson  
Mike Luepkes  
Daniel Montague  
Laura Squirlock
- 2 Brooke Gettier  
Laura Montague  
Cindy Thompson
- 3 Ellen McKinzie  
Emma Whitaker
- 4 Chuck Montague  
Hamid Tavakolian
- 6 Alison Pfannenstein
- 7 Adam Johnson  
Susan Loomis  
Lee Miller Jr.  
John Salmans
- 8 Anne Hawthorne  
Trina Minor  
Esmeralda Wyler
- 9 Kyle Fehr
- 10 Lesley Morrison  
Arika Zimmerman
- 11 Sarah Cornell  
Daniel Maiorana  
Patrick Montague
- 12 Dan Callow  
Melvin Pfannenstein Jr  
Deborah Taylor  
Gregg Tubbs

- 13 Allison Dunn  
Valerie Kline
- 14 Ryan Hill
- 15 Sam Hergert
- 16 Ndidi Ahaghotu  
Allison Cashmark  
Celene Monroe
- 17 Mary Powers  
Alberta Jean  
Sonnemann  
Thomas Taylor  
Leslie Thompson

- 18 Robert C Cole  
Ed Kasemeyer  
Nancy Kraft
- 19 Michael Carr  
Rick Minor
- 20 Lisa Dubbs  
Dustin Eidson
- 21 Carly Earp
- 22 Thomas Chiang  
Jacqueline Easley
- 23 Ellen Messerly  
Alyssa Parr
- 25 Alex Lionikis  
Edward Wollack
- 26 Barb Fyfe  
Tish Miller  
Marjorie Thomas
- 27 George Bickerton  
Tresa Jones  
Ben Newman
- 28 Steven Dunn  
Allison Pihl
- 29 Kim Athey  
Mikayla Athey  
Ryan Hawthorne  
Sue Strickland
- 30 Marilyn Longenecker  
Kayla Morton
- 31 Terri Worrel





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10 am - Pioneer 10 am - Young Adult 12:30pm - Stephens 3pm - Pack 702 3pm - Pack 702	2 9:30am - Playgroup/ 10 am - Bible Study 7 pm - Maryland	3 Bulletin 7 pm - Finance/CR2 7 pm - Worship and 7:30pm - Mary	4 Independence Day-- Independence Day 9 am - CR1/Preschool 9 am - Preschool 9:30am - Seated 12 pm - Deadline -	5 7 pm - Praise 7 pm - UMW/CR2	6 6:30pm - CBT	7 Church floors 8:30am - CBT/Sanc 2 pm - Sanc/Papaviza
8 10 am - BP 10 am - Pioneer 10 am - Sandwich 10 am - Young Adult 3pm - Pack 702 3pm - Pack 702	9 9:30am - Playgroup/ 10 am - Bible Study 5:30pm - Stephen 7 pm - Fellowship 7 pm - Maryland	10 Bulletin 7 pm - Evangelism&H 7 pm - Missions 7 pm - Trustees/CR2	11 9:30am - Seated 10 am - Prayer 12 pm - Deadline - 12 pm - UMW 6 pm - BS Troop 7:45pm - Chancel	12 7 pm - Praise	13 12 pm - Sage 6:30pm - CBT	14 8:30am - CBT/Sanc 2 pm - Sanc/Papaviza 8 pm - Pack 702
15 10 am - Pioneer 10 am - Young Adult 12 pm - Stephen 3pm - Pack 702 3pm - Pack 702	16 9:30am - Playgroup/ 10 am - Bible Study 7 pm - Maryland	17 Bulletin 7 pm - SPRC/CR1 7:30pm - BS T-702	18 9:30am - Seated 11:30am - Ginny 12 pm - Deadline - 6 pm - BS Troop 6:45pm - Chancel 7:45pm - Chancel	19 6:30pm - UMM/CR2 7 pm - Praise	20 1 pm - Food Pantry 6:30pm - CBT	21 Food Pantry 8:30am - CBT/Sanc 9 am - VBS/All 2 pm - Sanc/Papaviza
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
VBS/All Church except Conf. Rooms						
6 pm - Adult VBS/CR1						
29 10 am - Pioneer 10 am - Young Adult 3pm - Pack 702 3pm - Pack 702	30 9:30am - Adult VBS/CR1 9:30am - Playgroup/ 10 am - Bible Study 7 pm - Maryland	31 Bulletin 7 pm - Church	1 9:30am - Seated 12 pm - Deadline - 6 pm - BS Troop	2 7 pm - Praise	3 6:30pm - CBT	4 8:30am - CBT/Sanc 2 pm - Sanc/Papaviza
10 am - Pioneer 10 am - Young Adult 3pm - Pack 702 3pm - Pack 702 5:30pm - Cub Scout	9:30am - Playgroup/ 10 am - Bible Study 7 pm - Maryland	Bulletin 9 am - Preschool 9:30am - Seated 12 pm - Deadline - 6 pm - BS Troop 6:45pm - Chancel	9 am - CR1/Preschool 9 am - Preschool 9:30am - Seated 12 pm - Deadline - 6 pm - BS Troop 6:45pm - Chancel	7 pm - Praise	6:30pm - CBT	8:30am - CBT/Sanc 2 pm - Sanc/Papaviza 6 pm - Zootopia/FH

Dear Mt. Zion Church Family,

Time certainly does go by fast. As I began to reflect upon the five years I have spent at Mt. Zion, the word that comes to mind is Grateful. Below is the very first article written about me and what my goals were when I started the position as the Director of Youth Ministries. A lot of great things have happened during my time here. The most rewarding for me is being able to have served each of you. My goal was to be an effective youth minister, grow the youth ministry, and be apart of the Mt. Zion Church Family. I would say with the help of the Youth Leaders, Parents, Members, and the Mt. Zion Staff we accomplished all I set out to do and so much more. I have had the pleasure of working with our awesome Preschool as a board member and doing monthly chapel sessions with our students. I have had the honor and privilege to work with three confirmation classes, teach Sunday School, have some of the best youth groups ever, Camp Hope and Rockaway Missions, make quilts and little dresses for Africa, work with the communications committee to enhance our technological capabilities, work with the trustees to upgrade and maintain our awesome youth center, and most exciting for me is to say we ended our time together with an active youth ministry roster of 52 youth.



So I thought it fitting that my last article in the pointer would look at where we started this journey together and how our journey will continue because of our time together.

Thank you Mt. Zion for helping me to become a better Pastor, Leader, Friend, Colleague, and Servant. May God continue to bless each of you in the days and years to come.

With Gratitude,  
Tammi D. Brantley  
July 1, 2018



## Meet Mt. Zion's new Youth Minister, Reverend Tammi D. Brantley

Welcome to the Reverend Tammi D. Brantley, the new Director of Youth Ministry at Mt. Zion. Tammi has been on the job since early August, having previously been Youth Minister at Walker Memorial Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. Tammi grew up in Fitzgerald, GA, and though she currently lives in Washington D.C., she says that Highland MD feels a lot like the town of her youth. Tammi earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing from Fort Valley State University, and then moved to Washington where she earned a Master's of Divinity from Howard University. She has been actively involved in the life of Youth Ministry for the past thirteen years.



Tammi senses great excitement from the Mt. Zion Youth and is eager to expand the Youth Ministry beyond the walls of the church. She has a vision of using technology (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) to spread the Gospel by enabling Mt. Zion Youth to tell others about their Sunday School lessons and Youth Group experiences via technological routes. In the near future, Tammi would love to establish after-school programs at Mt. Zion for middle – and high-school teens, and she hopes to make the Youth Center a safe haven during the week where kids look forward to spending time after school.

Tammi is currently enrolled in the Youth Ministry certificate program at Princeton Theological Seminary. She meets with fellow students (many of whom are United Methodist Youth Ministry Directors) online once a month, and travels to Princeton in November and April.

A self-described multi-tasker, Tammi is looking forward to growing the Youth Ministry at Mt. Zion. Please introduce yourself to her and welcome her to Mt. Zion!



### Family Movie Nights -

Finish your summer out with Family Movie nights. The Small Groups Committee is sponsoring family movies Saturday evenings in August starting at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring the kids and a snack to share. The movies include:

- 8/4 **Zootopia**
- 8/11 **CoCo**
- 8/18 **Wrinkle in Time**

**Drop In Class in August** - Movies today have wonderful plots, turns and twists. Many touch on biblical themes and values. **The Sunday following Family Movie Night** - the Drop In Sunday School class will discuss the previous nights movie and how film can be a medium for spreading the gospel message.



### *Pointer...*

- Page 1 - Message from Pastor Gary
- Page 2 - Sunday Worship Schedule
- Page 3 - 5 - Lay Report from 2018 BWC Annual Conference
- Page 5 - Man on the Street Videos
- Page 6 - Worship & Bible Study
- Page 7 - Evangelism & Hospitality at work
- Page 8 - Children's Ministry
- Page 9 - Youth Ministry & Stephens Ministry
- Page 10 - Mission Outreach
- Page 11 - UM Men
- Page 12 - July Birthdays
- Page 13 - July Church Calendar
- Page 14 - Message from Pastor Tammi
- Page 15 - Upcoming Activities

**Rings n' things...lots of bling....**donations of great, good or even not so good jewelry needed for The Jewelry Booth at the 98th Annual Montgomery General Hospital (Montgomery Medstar). Also come and enjoy the festivities of the day. July 24th 10 am-8 pm, there will be 6000 lbs of the best fried chicken ever, and so much more including a fabulous Kiddieland, Profits all go toward hospital improvements (Our Women's board paid for the recently opened Hospital Lobby, and awards 70 + scholarships every year for students pursuing a medically related profession. There is a box in the East Narthex for any jewelry that you would be kind enough to donate!

**Thank SO much.**  
Joyce Saunderson/

[August Pointer Deadline: Saturday, July 21]

*Mt. Zion News ~ Everyone can contribute:  
"Tag Mt. Zion on social media with @mtzionhighland or #mtzionhighland."*