

Dear Members of Mt. Zion,

My wife Laurie and I have been fortunate enough to visit New York City on numerous occasions and often we would attend a Broadway Show during our stay. I am reminded of the musical, *“My Fair Lady”*. Without describing the full plot, the main characters are Eliza Doolittle who is an unrefined woman and a man named Professor Henry Higgins who comes along and takes up the task of helping her to speak proper English. Mr. Higgins *“grows accustomed to her face”* but he doesn’t know how to express his feelings of love for her; for he is too busy teaching her words. And of course, Eliza sings the well-known song, *“Show Me.”*

Words! Words! Words! I'm so sick of words!  
I get words all day through; . . .

Don't talk of stars burning above; if you're in love,  
Show me! Tell me no dreams  
Filled with desire. If you're on fire,  
Show me . . .

Show me! Show me! Don't talk of love lasting through time.  
Make me no undying vow. Show me now!  
Sing me no song! Read me no rhyme!  
Don't waste my time, Show me!  
Don't talk of June, Don't talk of fall!  
Don't talk at all! Show me . . .

I know that we are called to dream and to share our ideas of what Mt. Zion can be. Yet I also know that any vision needs willing hands to show God’s love to others and our community. As we enter this busy fall season, I invite you think and pray about how you can serve here at Mt. Zion. In the next few months, we will be contacting people of our congregation to ask you to serve in various capacities. I already know that we need two volunteers to help teach the middle high Sunday school class. We are also in need of two youth counselors to step forward to provide guidance for the Youth Program. Other opportunities to serve will be offered as well.

As the pastor of Mt. Zion, I am proud to be a part of a congregation that is active and engaged in many ministries that help guide, nurture, and equip others to be followers of Jesus Christ. For the year that I have been here, you have showed me your dedication and commitment.

Grace & Peace,

Gary

Sunday Worship

September 9, 2018

Scripture Lessons:  
Message:

James 2:1-17/ Mark 7:24-37  
“Body and Soul”

**UPCOMING NEW MEMBER SESSIONS** – For those interested in joining Mt. Zion Church, new member classes will be held on the following Sundays - September 9, 16, 23 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. To register for the sessions, please email or speak to Pastor Gary on Sunday mornings.

**YOUTH COUNSELORS/VOLUNTEERS/PARENTS/YOUTH GATHERING - September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m.** On Sunday evening we will meet to present a preliminary calendar of planned events, report on the results of the Survey Monkey Questionnaire concerning the youth program (60 people completed the questionnaire – Thank You!), and share with you on where we are in the process of searching for a candidate to hire a future Youth Director. Please email the church office or Pastor Gary to let us know you will be attending. Thanks for your feedback and your support of the youth ministry at Mt. Zion.

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

**Shepherding Team #7 Is On Call This Week, September 9th to September 15th.** Contact Jan Plant .

**Blood Pressure screening** in the Library Sunday between services.

**Trinity's first rehearsal is this Sunday, 9/9, from 5:00pm – 6:15** in the choir room. Trinity choir is open to all singers in grades 6-12. We sing for church services approximately once/month, usually at the 9:00am service. All are welcome! Bring your friends! No auditions required. Please contact Lynne McWithey with questions!

**Chair Exercise Class** is held in the Chapel every Wednesday morning from 9:30-10. All are welcome! Please note that due to scheduling conflicts there will be no Chair Exercise on September 12 and 19. Any questions? Contact Bettye Ames.

**The Open Doors Food Pantry** will need help setting up on Friday, September 14th at 12:30pm, and with distribution on Saturday, September 15th from 7:30am - 11:30am. Any amount of time you can come to help, is very much appreciated. If you have questions, emails Carol or Laurie at [opendoorsfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:opendoorsfoodpantry@gmail.com)

**Fall Bible study on The Gospel of Mark.** Join with Pastor Ken Dunnington as he begins a series of studies entitled *There Has to Be a First*. We will take an in-depth look at the first written gospel and discover its meaning for us today as the followers of Jesus Christ. So bring yourself and your Bible and join us on 8 Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm starting Thursday, September 13 in CR1.

**SAGE Brigade September 14<sup>th</sup> at noon for lunch and a speaker.** Bryan Miller from VitaScript will be sharing his knowledge on the Connection Between Your Brain and Gut Health. Please join us for lunch. Everyone is welcome. I will bring the Chicken and Salad Greens. Please bring another topping for the salad or something else to share. RSVP to Debbie Burgio,. See you on September 14<sup>th</sup>!

**Understanding 'the Way Forward' with Tom Berlin Sept.15.** The United Methodist Church is at a crossroads as it lives into a season of discernment and choosing. In February, a special session of the General Conference will be held to consider the work of the Commission on a Way Forward and how the denomination will address homosexuality. It is a time, some say, for the church to decide if we will walk together loosely or part with a blessing.

On Sept. 15, the Rev. Tom Berlin, a member of the Commission on a Way Forward, will discuss the different options facing the church in a session, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Nichols-Bethel UMC, 1239 Murray Road in Odenton. The final reports of the Commission and a video of Rev. Berlin' presentation to the BWC in May is online. [Learn more.](#)

**Pastor Ken is seeking 2-3 individuals** from each worship service to give a few minute presentation on how prayer has been an important part of your life: either you received blessings from being prayed for, or blessed to offer prayer for others, or how God's presence and direction is made known to you in prayer, etc. You will be a part of Pastor Ken's sermon on prayer on September 30. Please indicate your willingness to participate by ticking the appropriate box on the back and writing your name and phone number on the front of the yellow information sheet in your bulletin.

**Stephen Ministry:** A new class for training Stephen Ministers will be starting on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Have you found yourself thinking that Stephen Ministry is a ministry that you would like to be a part of? Do you find yourself drawn to caring for others and wanting to improve your skills? Please contact any of the Stephen Leaders or Pastor Gary to let them know that you are interested in joining this year's class of Stephen Ministers. Applications are available on the Bulletin Board or from a Leader. Contact Debbie Burgio,

**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.

