

Dear Members of Mt. Zion,

“My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.”

Thomas Merton

Grace & Peace,

Gary

**Sunday Worship**

November 11, 2018

Scripture Lessons: Mark 12:38-44  
Message: “The Greater Gift”

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

**Mt. Zion Christian Preschool is having a Spirit Day at Chick-Fil-A** on Johns Hopkins Rd. TODAY from 6 – 10pm. Please tell them you are from Mt. Zion Christian Preschool before you place your order.

**Shepherding Team #7 Is On Call This Week, November 11<sup>th</sup> to November 17<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Jan Plant

**The Open Doors Food Pantry** is setting up on Friday, November 16, 12:30 - 2:30 or so. We will also need help bringing in over 6,000lbs of fresh produce on Saturday morning, November 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30am. Any amount of time you can help out, is very much appreciated. Questions? email [opendoorsfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:opendoorsfoodpantry@gmail.com) or see Carol Hill or Laurie Norwood.

**Winter clothing, blanket, and food drive for Ames UMC in West Baltimore:** We are collecting winter items for those in need in Baltimore City. Drop off gently used blankets, clothing, coats, hats, gloves, and scarves in the collection bin located in the west narthex. We are also accepting nonperishable holiday food items. The collection will continue through Friday November 16<sup>th</sup>. Items will be distributed during the community outreach event at Ames UMC on Saturday November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** - Thanks to everyone who is preparing boxes. All **boxes must be brought to church next Sunday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>**. The boxes will be placed on the altar to be blessed before they are sent on their way to children around the world. Thanks for participating in this program. The Mt Zion Youth are collecting new and gently used items for this year's Secret Santa Shop. The shop will be open during the Breakfast with Santa on December 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be collecting items throughout the month of November. There will be a box in the west Narthex for you to place the items. Thank you for your support. If you have any question please contact Elizabeth Blough.

**Staff Appreciation Sunday November 18, 2018.** Mt Zion has a large salaried church staff made up of incredibly talented and dedicated people. The work they do affects many facets of our church, from everyday office, finance and maintenance activities to our weekly Sunday church services. On Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> we will recognize our staff at both services and gather for thank you refreshments for them in the Fellowship Hall between the services. Please join us on the 18<sup>th</sup> to show our appreciation for the wonderful work they do. Please feel free to bring goodies to augment the celebration.

**Oven use guaranteed to keep your kitchen warm and cozy!!** Bakers needed for the UMW Annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale on Sunday Nov. 18, 10am-12.15pm. We would be ever so grateful for any and all contributions! Contact Joyce Saunderson.

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**Join us for an Advent Study in Fellowship Hall on Sundays at 10:15 starting on 12/2 - 12/30.** Pastor Gary and Pastor Ken will lead this study titled **The Gift of New Hope**. This will be an opportunity to explore the bible readings from worship service during the advent season. This study includes commentary and reflection on readings from the Old Testament, the Gospels and the Epistles. It offers the opportunity to understand, appreciate, and engage in meaningful and joyous celebrations of Advent and Christmas and to live each day in God's hope through Jesus Christ.

**Reservoir High School** students with special needs complete jobs for the school system and community members. Our class is working on developing pre-work skills. We need more work to do and hope that you can help us. We can complete mailings (and drop it off at the post office upon request) We can label, collate, fold papers, fold brochures, file papers alphabetically, put together folders, hole punch, count out tickets or other items, shred documents, scan documents, stuff goodie bags and wrap gifts. This is just a sample of work we have done in the past. Please ask us if you have any other job you think we can help with-we are open to most possibilities. All of our services are **FREE**. You can drop work off at Reservoir High School (please make arrangements in advance) or we can pick it up and return it to you. We look forward to working with you! Please contact **Grace Dellinger**

**Save the Date! Marriage Enrichment Retreat:** February 15-17, 2019 in Ocean City, MD. Make plans now to enjoy this winter weekend getaway with your spouse! This year's theme is "Love to Last a Lifetime: Letting God Lead the Way." **Location:** Dunes Manor Hotel Ocean City, MD. **Cost:** \$350/couple (includes accommodations Friday and Saturday nights, 2 meals on Saturday and brunch on Sunday). Registration Brochures will be available in November. For more information contact Barb Jacques. The marriage retreat is a sponsored by Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Triadelphia Seventh Day Adventist Church, and Maranatha Seventh Day Adventist Church.

**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.

**A Shoe box to collect Box Tops for Education** is being placed in the church entry way. The local elementary school collects them to earn money to purchase items for their school. They will be collected and donated. Thank You, Marcy McAdoo.