

January 2019  
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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 Highland, MD 20777 301-  
 854-2324  
 410-531-5137  
 (301) 854-2326 (fax)  
 office@  
 Mtzionhighland.com  
 Check us out on the web:  
 www.mtzionhighland.com

# Mount Zion United Methodist Church

# The P<sub>int</sub>er

Friends:

Now that we are in a new year, it is my hope that 2019 will be a time of new beginnings – a time to strengthen our concern for one another and deepen our relationship with God. What better place to start in this community of faith; the congregation called Mt. Zion.

No doubt 2019 will bring about new challenges and once such challenge will be quickly upon us. In previous newsletters, Pastor Ken Dunnington and I have provided information to you about the report of the **Commission on the Way Forward**. In 2016, the Council of Bishops appointed a 32-member commission to develop ways for resolving differences over how to be in ministry with LGBTQ people. The Commission on a Way Forward completed their final meeting on May 23, 2018 in Nashville after an 18-month period of meetings and deliberations. The Commission offered three models for addressing the issue of human sexuality. Soon a Special Session of the General Conference will be held from February 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> in St. Louis. Bishop Kenneth Carter, President of the Council of Bishops, described the focus of the SSGC this way: “The purpose of this Special Session of the General Conference shall be limited to receiving and acting upon a report from the Commission on a Way Forward based upon the recommendations of the Council of Bishops.”

To keep you informed about these three models, a pamphlet was included in the December Newsletter that highlighted details of all three models. That same packet will be placed in the worship bulletins for January 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The pamphlet will help you prepare for the **Four Sessions** offered at Mt. Zion. All sessions will be held on Sundays in the fellowship hall, beginning at **2:00 p.m.** and ending at **3:30 p.m.**

### Four Sessions

- Session 1** – Introduction - January 20, 2019
- Session 2** – One Church Model – January 27, 2019
- Session 3** – Connectional Conference – February 3, 2019
- Session 4** – Traditional Plan – February 10, 2019

[Continued on page 4]

**Rev. Gary Sheffield-James**  
 Senior 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

**Moëa G. Fletcher**  
 Administrative Assistant

**Chuck Plant**  
 Office Assistant

**Valerie Pierce**  
 Treasurer

## Mt. Zion UMC Highland Inclement Weather Policy:

Please adhere to this policy in cases of inclement weather. Always call the church first at (301)854-2324, to be advised of all openings and closings. Monday through Friday we follow the Howard County Government inclement weather policy. If there is a snow state of emergency for Howard County our services will automatically be cancelled.

During inclement weather, there is a high probability that our early morning worship service at 9 a.m. will be cancelled. Please call the church or check the church website, Facebook, or twitter page to be certain.

If the early morning service is cancelled, it does not mean that our 11 a.m. worship service will be cancelled also. Please call the church or check the church website, Facebook, or twitter page to be certain.

If both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services are cancelled, we will have worship service the following Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. This worship service will be ordered as a normal 11 a.m. worship service.



### *Pointer...*

Page 1 & 4 - Message from Pastor Gary  
Page 2 - Emergency Closure Policies &  
Current Church info  
Page 3 - Sunday Worship Schedule  
Page 4 & 5 - A Way Forward 2  
Page 5 - UM Women  
Page 6 - Children's Ministry  
Page 7, 16 & 17 - Youth Ministry  
Page 8 & 9 - Food Pantry  
Page 10 & 11 - Bricks for the Memorial Garden  
Page 12 - Mission to Ames UMC  
Page 13 & 14 - UM Men Activities  
Page 15 - January Church Calendar  
Page 16 - January Birthdays

### Save the Date:

Trivia Night  
hosted by UMM will be held  
Friday, February 22, 2019 at 7:00pm  
in the Fellowship Hall.  
More details in January.



## February Pointer Deadline: Monday, January 21

Mt. Zion News ~ Everyone can contribute:

Tag Mt. Zion on social media with

@mtzionhighland or #mtzionhighland.



# Worship Spiritual Growth

## *Those Called to Serve and Lead Worship*

	Service Times	January 6	January 13	January 20 Human Relations Day	January 27
Kid's Time	9:00	Pastor Gary	Andrea Smolen	Carol Messerly	Jamie Humphreys
	11:00	Pastor Gary	Sandy Sehman	Carol Messerly	Jamie Humphreys
Greeters	9:00	Shugo Tanaka & Wayne Mullinix	Crystal Zimmerman & Lorene Brown	Lamont Baskett	Allis Ellis, Erin & Jack Island
	11:00	Marcy McAdo	Frank Lineberger	Evan Saunderson	Laurie Sheffield-James
Liturgist	9:00				
Projection	9:00	Jill Scott	Adam Johnson	Jill Scott	Bonnie Luepkes
	11:00	Carol Messerly	Carol Hill	Chuck Sehman	Carol Messerly
Sound	9:00	Rob Messerly	Dustin Eidson	<i>Help Needed!</i>	Scott Johnson
	11:00	Al Hill	Bill Ray	Al Hill	Bill Ray
Usher Captains	9:00				
	11:00	Gary & Patricia Heinz			

### UM Special Offering ~ Human Relations Day Sunday, January 20, 2019

Together, we extend a helping hand to those in crisis so they can overcome formidable obstacles. The HR Day offering supports neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy in the US and Puerto Rico through the United Methodist Voluntary Services, and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program..





# Worship Spiritual Growth

[Pastor's message continued:]

I invite you to keep our local church, Mt. Zion, and also the wider church, The United Methodist Church, in your continued thoughts and prayers. The aim of these four sessions are to inform and not to influence, to listen and not to debate, and to understand more than to be understood. In our walk of faith, we are connected and we all need each other. As we enter into this New Year, let us commit ourselves to supporting one another in our journey of faith and hope.

Grace and Peace,

Gary



The Council of Bishops has called a Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held February 23-26, 2019, in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to receive and act on a report from the **Commission on a Way Forward** based on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops. The 32-member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 and appointed by the Council of Bishops to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church.

Below are the names of the delegates (half laity and half clergy) from the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference who will be attending this Special Session of the General Conference held in February, 2019. If you would like contact these candidates, you can go on the conference website ([bwcumc.org](http://bwcumc.org)) and click on resources. On the page that appears, you will see the name of each candidate on your right. Just click on his or her name and this will lead you directly to their email address.

## **CLERGY**

Terri Rae Chattin (chair of delegation) retired

Joe Daniels, pastor, Emory Fellowship, Washington, D. C

J.W. Park, Central Maryland District Superintendent

Ginger Gaines-Cirelli, pastor, Foundry UMC

Conrad Link, Cumberland-Hagerstown District Superintendent

Joan Carter-Rimbach, pastor, John Wesley UMC, Baltimore

## **LAITY**

Delores Martin, (chair of delegation), Good Hope Union UMC, Silver Spring

Jen Ihlo, Dumbarton UMC, Georgetown

Charles Moore, Community UMC, Crofton

Cynthia Taylor, Epworth UM Chapel, Baltimore

Tom Price, Mill Creek Parish UMC, Rockville

Ken Ow, North Bethesda UMC





Hello from BWC,

If you have not already done so, please mark your calendar for the **Laity Discussion on A Way Forward**. This event will be held at the Mission Center [11711 East Market Place, Fulton, MD] on Saturday, January 5, 2019 from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.

Rev. Rod Miller will lead the discussion and you will have the opportunity to hear and discuss what is slated to take place at General Conference in February.

This session is open to all laity and pastors. [Register today](#).



## UM Women:



Forty women attended a festive Christmas celebration sponsored by the UMW. This is a growing annual event shared with Hopkins UMC with a fun gift exchange, cookies and Christmas songs led by Janice Doherty. We praise God for bringing all generations of women together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Hope to see you next year!





# Discipleship Spiritual Growth

## Children's Ministry

### A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH....."

What if we began to treat our Bibles the way we treat our cell phones??

What if we.....

.....carried it with us everywhere?

.....turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

.....checked it for messages throughout the day?

.....used it in case of an emergency?

.....spent an hour or more using it each day???

Hmmmm.....

### KID'S ZONE

ATTENTION PARENTS!! THE KID'S ZONE MINISTRY NEEDS A FEW MORE ADULTS!! PLEASE CONTACT JENA MEREDITH IF YOU CAN HELP WITH THIS MINISTRY SO WE CAN CONTINUE IT 3 SUNDAYS A MONTH!!

REMEMBER....KID'S ZONE IS THE 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday of the month at both services! (As long as we have adult leaders!)



**Registration for the 2019-2020 school year** has begun for church members and existing preschool students. Please contact the preschool office at 301-854-2387 for more information.



### EASTER CANDY NEEDED IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY!!

If each family could bring in 1 bag of non-chocolate (we don't want melted candy in eggs) small wrapped candies, we will not have to buy candy for the 2500 eggs!! Please leave in a box in the mail office marked "Easter Candy" or bring to Jena Meredith's office on Sunday morning!! Due date is March 3, 2019. Thank you!





# Youth Ministry

## Breakfast with Santa:

The UMW and Youth Group would like to thank everyone for coming out to our largest Breakfast with Santa. The children had a chance to take pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus then shop for family and friends in the Secret Santa Shop. Mt. Zion is blessed to have the best Santa and Mrs. Claus!

See more pictures on pages 16 & 17.

## UMYF Thank You:

The youth leaders would express our appreciation and thanks to the youth and parents for the Christmas gifts. Youth group has been well attended, and we are appreciative of the parents making a lot of delicious meals. We are blessed to have a group of committed youth, and we look forward to the coming months. New youth and friends are always welcome – see you there!



Youth pictures from the Live Nativity and the pre-Breakfast-with-Santa lock-in.





# Opportunities to Serve in Missions

## The Open Doors Food Pantry had a great month in December!



We gave out food to 122 families, and 51 children received presents from the **Angel Tree**. The **Parenting Sunday School Class** hosted the Polar Express Shoppe for the children to shop for gifts for free. The smiles on their faces as they walked out of there with gifts for their parents, and siblings is something we'll never forget. The **Boy Scouts** were there to help where they were needed, and they are always such great helpers! **Steve Dennis is our Santa**, and the pictures of him with the kids show just how much they love him.

We've been operating with a **Board of Directors** for almost 2 years now, and we want to introduce ourselves. You are welcome to talk to any of us with any suggestions or donations you have questions about: **Diana Bandy, Chris Boretos, Karen Griener, Al Hill, Carol Hill, Ken McLaughlin, Trina Minor, Rick Minor, Belinda Norton, Laurie Norwood, and Sharon Waligora.**

**Karen Greiner** heads up the **Angel Tree** each year, and she does a fabulous job! The pictures show one little girl getting a bike, and the smile on her face just shows her excitement! Karen puts the gifts in black trash bags because they're easier to carry, and the kids don't get to see the wrapped gifts inside. **Pastor Gary** was there to help hand out fresh produce.







Food Pantry before and after.



Thank you to everyone that has kept this food pantry up and running for over 5 years. You touch lives of people you don't know, and you show the love of Jesus to each and every one of them. Happy New Year! If you have any questions, email us at [opendoorsfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:opendoorsfoodpantry@gmail.com)

See Page 12 for the mission to Ames UMC with the bounty of Food Pantry excess:





# Worship Spiritual Growth

## Title - Honor a loved one with a Brick Paver in the Memorial Garden

Remember or honor a loved one by purchasing an engraved brick to be placed in the circle of the Memorial Garden in the church cemetery. Feel free to visit the garden and see existing inscriptions. More information and the order forms can be found on the Church website at [www.mtzionhighland.com](http://www.mtzionhighland.com) and the Memorial Garden link (use Internet Explorer). A 4x8" brick paver is \$150, and an 8x8" brick is \$300. Send form and a check payable to Mt. Zion United Methodist Church to the church office. Your donation to pay for a brick is tax-deductible.

Questions may be directed to Roger Colvin  
Sincerely, Roger Colvin Memorials Committee





# Mt. Zion Memorial Garden

12430 Scaggsville Road  
Highland, MD 20777

## BUY A BRICK PROGRAM

We are raising money to help pay for the construction and maintenance of the new garden and partially reimburse the cemetery. Remember or honor a loved one by purchasing an engraved brick to be placed in the circle in the garden.

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ANY SYMBOL IS CONSIDERED ONE SPACE (PERIOD, COMMA, DASH)  
ALL TEXT IS CENTERED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED  
ALL CHARACTERS AND LETTERS WILL BE IN CAPITAL FORMAT  
MAXIMUM OF 21 CHARACTERS PER LINE, 18 RECOMMENDED

For a 4 x 8 brick, please engrave the following information on my brick: Cost \$150


For an 8 x 8 inch brick, please engrave the following information on my brick: Cost \$300


Send form and a check payable to Mt. Zion United Methodist Church to the church office.  
Any questions, contact Roger Colvin (301) 604-0776.

Ordered by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Amount paid \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The leftovers from the Open Doors Food Pantry are driven down to Ames UMC in Baltimore to be shared and given out to people in the local community on Saturday and Sunday.

We also handed out about twenty fliers for a staffing and day labor business called Command Center. These were much appreciated, and we pray that these result in several people getting connected to employment opportunities.

Carrots and canned goods



Produce brought into Ames UMC for distribution to people in the neighborhood.







# Discipleship Spiritual Growth

## Mt. Zion UMMen

### UMM/BWC Upcoming Events

**12 January 2019 – Mt. Zion UMM Breakfast Meeting (8-930am), Roma's on Shaker Drive**

**19 January 2019 – UMM Central District Prayer Breakfast (8-10am), Oakdale UMC, Olney, MD**

**9 February 2019 – Mt. Zion UMM Breakfast Meeting (8-930am), Roma's on Shaker Drive**

**21 February 2019 – (PET) Mobility Worldwide Carts, Mt. Holly Springs, PA**  
Leave Oakdale UMC at 7am, return by 4pm

**22 February 2019 – Trivia Night in the Fellowship Hall (7-930pm)**



#### 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 and we will go from there to ensure that needs are met.

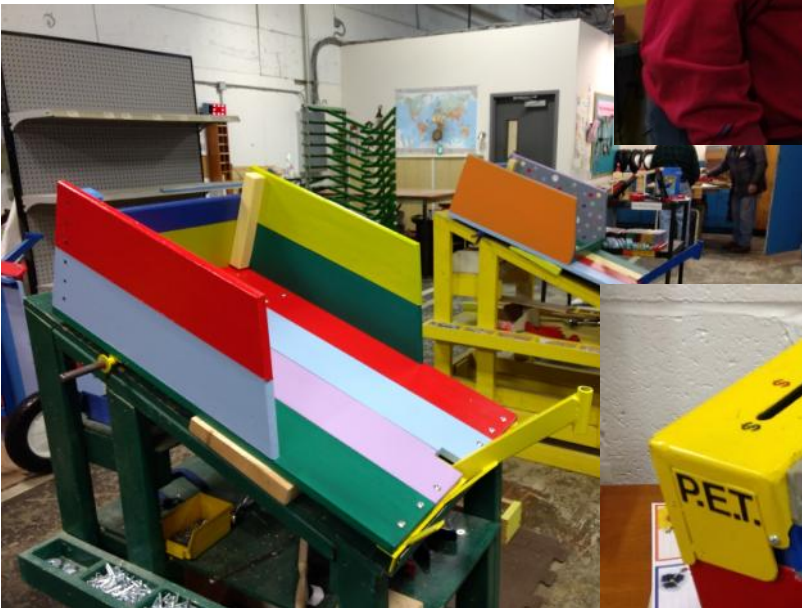


Toys collected and delivered to  
**Toys for Tots by UMM.**

The toys were gathered during  
the annual UMM Christmas  
Social held at the house of Will  
and Jill Scott.

## Mobility Worldwide (formerly PET Project)

On 29 November, Ken Sines, Chick Rhodehamel (friend), and Scott Gebhartsbauer and Alden English (of Oakdale UMC) spent the day in Mt. Holly Springs, PA. Work was done to build, assemble and ship 3-wheeled, off-road wheelchairs operated by hand power. Join us in January for another visit. Financial support would be greatly appreciated. Contact Ken Sines with any questions





# JANUARY



tern Time - New York

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		-- Office Closed -- Bulletin 7pm - Finance/CR2 7pm - Worship and 7:30pm - Mary	9am - CR1/Preschool 9am - Preschool 9:30am - Seated 12pm - Deadline - 6:45pm - Chancel 7pm - Adult	7pm - Praise	6:30pm - CBT 6:30pm - Preschool	8:30am - CBT/Sanc 2pm - Sanc/Papaviza 5pm - BS Pinewood 7pm - UMW/CR2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10am - Bible Study 10am - Pioneer 12:30pm - Stephens 4pm - Scout Pack	10am - Bible Study 7pm - Maryland	Bulletin 7pm - Evangelism & H 7pm - Missions 7pm - Trustees/CR2	9:30am - Preschool 9:30am - Seated 10am - Prayer 11am - Retired 12pm - Deadline - 6:30pm - Preschool 6:45pm - Chancel	9:30am - Preschool 7pm - Praise	8:30am - Preschool 12pm - Sage 6pm - Scouts 6:30pm - CBT	8am - Scouts 8:30am - CBT/Sanc 2pm - Sanc/Papaviza
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10am - Bible Study 10am - BP 10am - Pioneer 10am - Sandwich 12:30pm - GS 4pm - Pack 702 Bear 5:30pm - Stephen	10am - Bible Study 5:30pm - Stephen 7pm - Fellowship 7pm - Maryland 8pm - Pack 702	Bulletin 7pm - SPRC/CR1 7:30pm - BS T-702	9:30am - Seated 11:30am - Ginny 12pm - Deadline - 6:45pm - Chancel 7pm - BS Troup 7:45pm - Chancel	7pm - Praise	1pm - Food Pantry 6:30pm - CBT	7am - Food 8:30am - CBT/Sanc 9am - Food Pantry 2pm - Sanc/Papaviza 4pm - GS Pajama
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10am - Bible Study 10am - Pioneer 12pm - Stephen 1:30pm - Way	Office Closed Martin 10am - Bible Study 7pm - Maryland	Bulletin 7pm - Church	9:30am - Seated 12pm - Deadline - 6:45pm - Chancel 7pm - BS Troup 7:45pm - Chancel	7pm - Praise	6:30pm - CBT	8:30am - BWC 8:30am - CBT/Sanc 2pm - Sanc/Papaviza 2pm - Ted's Eagle
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
10am - Bible Study 10am - Pioneer 1:30pm - Way	10am - Bible Study 7pm - Maryland	Bulletin	9:30am - Seated 12pm - Deadline - 6:45pm - Chancel 7pm - BS Troup 7:45pm - Chancel	7pm - Praise		



Breakfast with Santa ~ Santa., Mrs. Claus and an Elf!!!



## Youth Group ~ Service Project

The youth kicked off the holidays with a service project. The kids had a great time decorating stockings and making personalized cards for 20 Veterans thanking them for their service. We had a crazy, noisy evening filling stockings with candy, hygiene care, book, snacks and Subway gift card. Arundel House of Hope houses men at the Patriot House and Fouse Center which are transition homes for Veterans ending their homelessness. UMYF would like to thank Missions for the gift cards and Operation Christmas Child for making good use of the 'inappropriate items'.



Secret Santa Shop