

## LET US ALL REJOICE!!



*"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near." (Philippians 4:4-5)*

What a joyous time, the beauty of a large snow, the visual sign of the approaching spring with the sight of birds migrating north, and small patches of grass turning green, it is joyous. These are visual reminders of the changes

we are in the midst of, and the reason for our joy now and still to come. While everyone is not happy about cold and snow, the beauty of it all is a reason to rejoice! Colder temperatures help keep the bugs at check, and the snow provides water for the soil and flowers about to come forth.

For the church, we rejoice because we are welcoming new faces and new people into our congregation. While some of the congregation may not have recognized the new faces, or may not have met the people who are new in the congregation as of yet, it is always exciting and reinvigorating to welcome people into our church. While this information may be a little late in actually being printed, the tardiness does not represent a lack of rejoicing that I and others have been feeling with the reception of new people and families into our congregation.

A church is not a stranger to transitional periods in its history. We go through periods of growth and then periods of decline. Growth from new members and young families welcoming additional children through birth. While other members get older, then we lose them as they end their course in faith and go to their heavenly home. It is all part of an active and vibrant church, which is another reason I say, "Rejoice!"

While active and vibrant, it doesn't mean that we will not, or do not, face challenges from time to time. Yet, when faced with these challenges, we have options as to how we respond. We can either become fearful and allow our fear to overcome our faith, or we can remain faithful and follow God's calling to be responsible in our faith? The bottom line is for us to remain faithful. Together, we can face our challenges head-on and we can allow God to work through us in managing the challenges and emerge as more resilient and vibrant in love and service. This applies individually and collectively as a church body.

God continues to bless Zion with a variety of different people who are part of our ministry. It is now up to us to continue to be active in our various mission ministries, teach our faith to our children, help our youth expand their Christian faith, and to share Christ's love and grace with others. We need to continue to rejoice and to share that rejoiceful spirit with others. Our children are looking up to us and we need to model for them and others what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Let's appreciate the past, while focusing on the future. We give thanks to God for the many blessings as we prepare to enter another Lenten Season, and we rededicate ourselves to the faith journey ahead as we approach the cross, which leads to Easter.



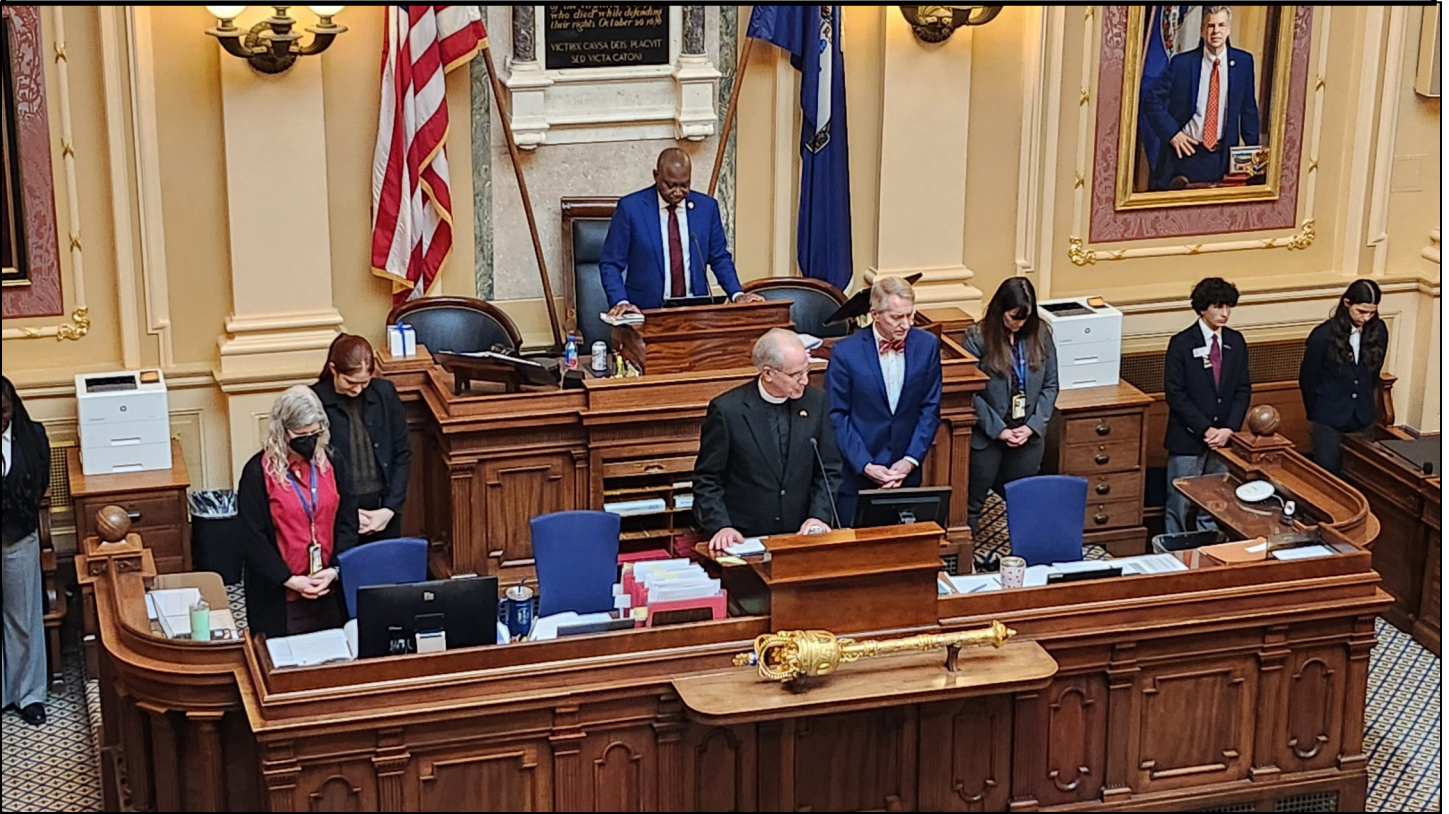
Serve him in  
**SINCERITY**  
and in  
**FAITHFULNESS.**

JOSHUA 24:14

Pastor David



# Pastor David Invited to Offer Invocation at Capitol



Our Delegate and church member, Chad Green, had placed Pastor David's name on the list of pastors who are to be invited to offer the Invocation for a House of Delegate General Session a year ago. His name surfaced to the top and he, along with five other members of Zion drove to Richmond on February 12 to meet with Delegate Green and to offer the Invocation.

After the prayer, Chad stood to introduce Pastor David and also recognized the Zion members who were seated in the gallery on the second floor of the House of Delegates.





Doug Crockett, Warren and Sondra Hickmott, Sherry Wornom and Jeff Moore attended the General Session and sat in the Gallery Section. They felt they were on the 50-yard line with the seats they secured!

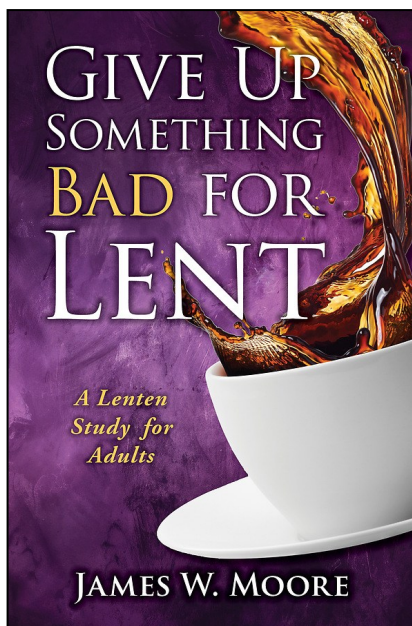


## SNOWY WINTER

So far this winter, we have experienced several snow events. Pictured here are from a December snow, which was helping us to prepare for the 7-inches of snow we just received in February. Maybe warmer weather is close at hand!







## LENTEN BOOK STUDY - MARCH THROUGH APRIL

During Lent each year, Christians give up something as an act of sacrifice and spiritual discipline. Often it is something like chocolate, knowing that after Easter Sunday they can once again enjoy what they have given up. Rev. James Moore challenges us to take it further—to give up something spiritually that they would be better off not doing. Imagine giving up envy, jealousy, self-pity, apathy, procrastination, gossip, resentment, or negative thinking, how much better life would be.

The sessions will be held on Thursdays, at both 2:00 pm and 6:30 pm. The first session is March 6, and it will continue through April 10. Contact the church office to sign up now. The books are \$15.

## Lenten Events - Wednesday, March 6

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**Worship Service**  
**7:00 pm**

## Pancake Dinner

**6:00 pm**

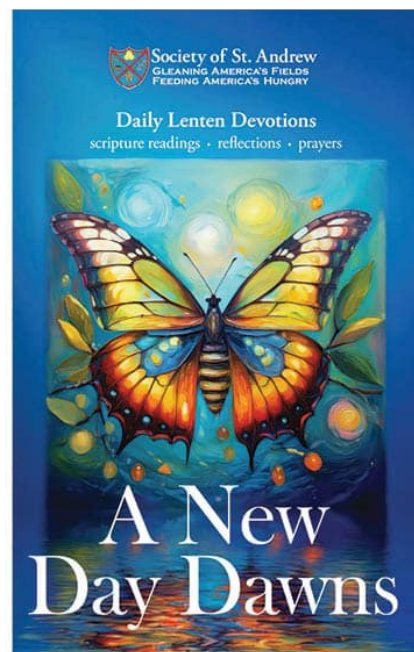


## Society Of St. Andrew Lenten Devotions

As we enter the Lenten season, we embark on a meaningful 47-day journey to Easter with “A New Day Dawns,” a devotional booklet from the Society of St. Andrew. Grounded in the hope-filled words of 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, this year’s theme focuses on the promise of new beginnings, renewal, and eternal glory.

These devotions explore how dawn symbolizes hope, rebirth, and illumination—a reminder of the light and resurrection that Jesus offers to all of us. Each day’s reading is designed to inspire, challenge, and deepen your spiritual journey through prayer, reflection, and gratitude. Devotions are available for pick, as well as coin banks. Please consider using a bank to collect your coins during Lent so we can help Society of St. Andrew continue their important ministry.

If you would like to receive a devotion in the mail please contact the church office.







# Holy Week Schedule

**PALM**   
*Sunday*

April 13



Maundy  
**Thursday**  
Worship Service  
April 17 at 7:00 pm

"Do this in Memory of Me"



**EGGFEST '25**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 19**  
**10:00 AM - NOON**

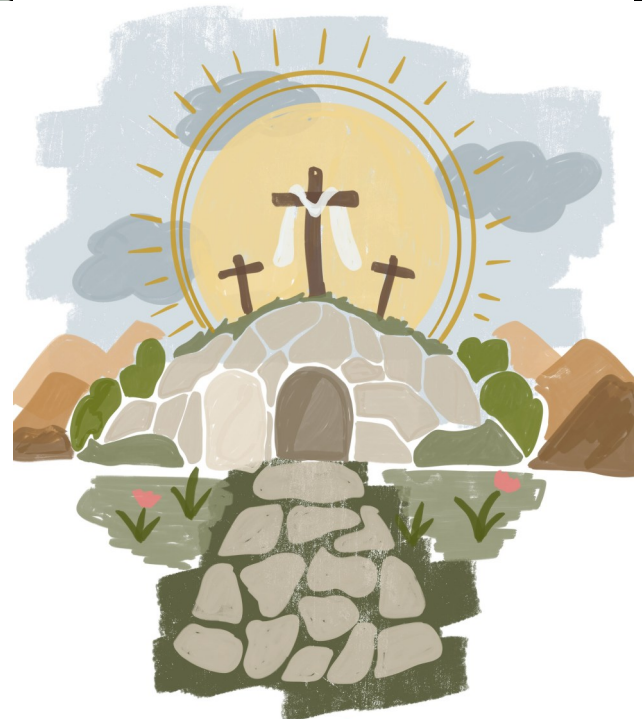

## Good Friday

April 18 - Noon - 8:30 pm

### Stations of the Cross

Self-guided Tour  
in the Sanctuary

by His wounds we are healed



Joy Comes in the Morning:  
*Easter Sunday*  
**APRIL 20**



# Church Yard Sale

**Saturday, March 29**

**8:00 am - 1:00 pm**



As you are cleaning out your closets, cabinets, craft room, garage, kid's rooms, etc. please consider donating items to the church for the yard sale. Everything is being accepted: clothes, household goods, electronics, furniture, tools, sports equipment, and more. We do have storage spaces available,

so feel free to bring items whenever you have them ready during office hours or see Doug Crockett on Sunday mornings. Proceeds from the sale will go to the general operations and ministries of the church.

Also, please support our Youth who will be having a bake sale during the Yard Sale. The funds raised will go toward the youth's mission trip and church's general funds.

## YOUTH BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER

All proceeds will be divided between the Youth Impact the Valley Mission Trip and church General Funds

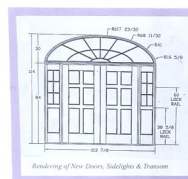
**MARCH 29TH**  
**8:00 AM-1:00 PM**  
**(OR UNTIL SOLD OUT)**  
**DURING ZION UMC YARD SALE**

## MONEY COLLECTED FOR FRONT DOORS

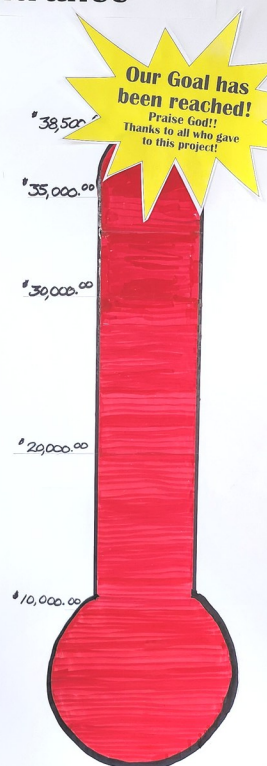
Thanks to the generous financial gifts of members of Zion, the \$34,000 needed for the new front entrance to the Sanctuary has been raised. Zion was blessed to receive a \$4,000 grant from the District toward this project.

The new doors, sidelights, and transom have been ordered and are expected to be installed in May.

### New Sanctuary Front Doors Entrance



The front of the church is an important part of the identity of Zion United Methodist Church. Many pictures of special events are taken in the front of the church. Our current doors, however, do not meet the proper code for width and direction of the hinges. Exterior doors for buildings are now required to swing outward rather than inward like ours. In order to meet code, we will need to replace the doors, the sidelights, and the transom. This type of work for a building that was constructed in 1949 will require custom work, which is expensive. The Trustees have been in discussion over this project for a number of years. With a recent grant offered us from our Mission Rivers District for this project, the Trustees have decided to move forward with this work with the help of gifts from the congregation. The total cost is \$38,500, and we have already been blessed with \$10,000 toward that goal. Please be in prayer to help with this important project.







## **St. Patrick's Day Dinner**

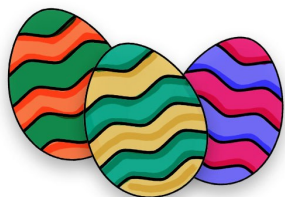
Wednesday, March 19  
5:30 pm

## **Next Red Cross Blood Drive**

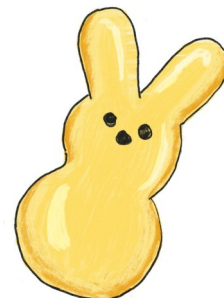
Monday, April 7 - 1 pm - 6 pm



## **Candy Donations Needed for EggFest '25**



Please consider donating small, individually wrapped candy to help fill the eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt. A collection basket will be out in front of the office starting Sunday, March 23.



**Movie Nights are fun for all!**  
More are scheduled - see page 9  
for the complete schedule and  
movies!





## FEBRUARY SHARE THE LOVE MISSION PROJECT



*Thank you to everyone who provided items for our Chemo Kits Mission Project. Since Mr. Doug delivered the kits to Virginia Oncology at Port Warwick we've had two Seaford residents reach out to us to say "thank you!" We also have received other cards of thanks. Our efforts are truly appreciated and are making a difference in the lives of our neighbors.*



Dear Zion Friends,  
Today when I went for an appointment at the VOA, I discovered a large bag of gifts. My tech said "they're for you from a church." Oh! When I looked inside I was flabbergasted! So many useful and lovely things. Thank you! I am a cancer survivor and life hasn't been easy at times. My doctor and staff have been marvelous to me and all our fellow patients. So here I am, thanking you my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Yours Sincerely, Rev. John LeGault,  
Retired Methodist Preacher

I just wanted to thank you personally for the Care Packages you sent for Chemo patients at Port Warwick Virginia Oncology Associates. I am one of those patients and when I read the card and realized it came from you our neighbors in Seaford (some live right down our street) it brought me to tears. It was such a touching, loving, thoughtful act of LOVE.

Thank you for serving Our Lord. Wendy Smith

Dear Congregation ,  
What a wonderful surprise to be gifted with the very thoughtful oncology gift bag! My husband has been visiting the Virginia Oncology office for the past year and never received a gift! What a thoughtful group of gifts! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! God bless each of you!

Sincerely , Tina & Ron Pack

Dear Congregation ,  
I wanted to thank you for the wonderful bag of goodies that you gave to Virginia Oncology this date. I was lucky enough to be a recipient of one of the bags. I was at oncology today for an infusion. It was such a nice gift and a surprise. It brightened my day. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and for Isaiah 41:10.

Sincerely , Debbie M.

Dear Congregation ,  
I am in treatment at Virginia Oncology and yesterday while there I received a wonderful gift full of useful and delightful treats inside! Oh my, how wonderful and thoughtful! Thank you so much. Prayers are so appreciated.

Nancy Hirschberg



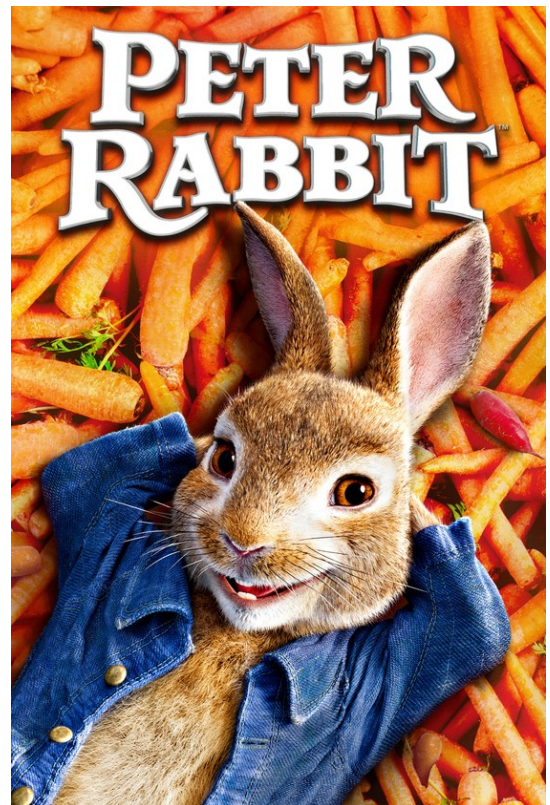
# Movie Nights Continue!



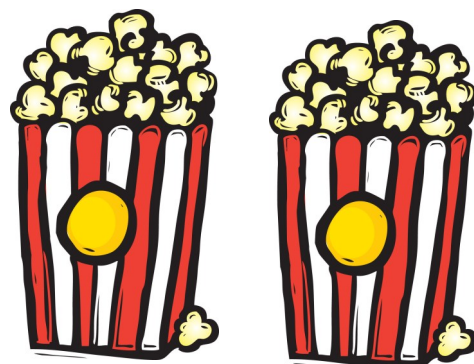
**March 15 – 6:30 pm**



**May 17– 6:30 pm**



**April 12 – 6:30 pm**







March 1 - 8 am ZUMM Breakfast  
 March 4 - 6:30 pm Trustees Meeting  
 March 5 - 6 pm Pancake Dinner  
                     7 pm Ash Wednesday Service  
 March 6 - 2 pm or 6:30 pm Lenten Study  
 March 7 & 8 - Handbell Festival in Ocean City, MD  
 March 7 & 8 - Social Hall Reserved for Scrapbooking  
 March 9 - Daylight Saving Time Begins  
 March 10 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting  
 March 11 - 6:30 pm SPRC Committee Meeting  
 March 13 - 2 pm or 6:30 pm Lenten Study  
 March 15 - 6:30 pm Movie Night - **Inside Out 2**  
 March 16 - Youth Mission Trip Meeting following Worship  
 March 19 - 5:30 pm St. Patrick's Day Dinner  
                     7 pm Church Council Meeting  
 March 20 - 2 pm or 6:30 pm Lenten Study  
 March 23 - Expecting Mothers' Reception after Worship  
 March 27 & 28 - Set up for Yard Sale  
 March 27 - 2 pm or 6:30 pm Lenten Study  
 March 29 - 8 am - 1 pm Church Yard Sale  
                     & Youth Fundraiser Bake Sale  
 March 30 - 9 am Sunday School Social & Snacks

April 3 - 2 pm or 6:30 pm Lenten Study  
 April 4 & 5 Social Hall Reserved for Scrapbooking  
 April 7 - 1 pm - 6 pm Red Cross Blood Drive  
 April 9 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting  
 April 10 - 2 pm or 6:30 pm Lenten Study  
 April 12 - 6:30 pm Movie Night - **Peter Rabbit**  
 April 13 - Palm Sunday  
 April 17 - 7 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service  
 April 18 - Noon - 8:30 pm Stations of the Cross  
 April 19 - 10 am - Noon - EggFest '25  
 April 20 - Easter Sunday  
 April 21 - Church Office Closed  
 April 23 - 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

### Weekly Events

Monday's - 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
 Tuesday's - 10 am - 2 pm Bazaar Workshop

## Offerings & Online Giving

Our offerings are collected in the baskets by the entrances to the sanctuary and the collection box by the church office. Gifts can also be mailed to the church at: Zion UMC, PO BOX 240, Seaford, VA 23696

- If online giving is more convenient for you, please scan this QR Code which will lead you to the E-Giving page on our website.
- In E-Giving you have the option to use your credit/debit card or directly from your checking account which carries no service fee.
- **Text to Give** - Text a dollar amount (example: \$20) to 844-652-1975 and complete the form. There is a \$3 minimum for this option.



## Thank You for Your Support!



Zion continues to receive the benefits of being a part of the Kroger Community Rewards program. So far we have received over \$2,000 from Kroger Community Rewards.

Thank you to everyone who continues to list Zion as its community reward partner. Signing up is easy through the app or on Kroger's website. If you need help signing up, please contact the church office.



# Celebrations!

## March Birthdays

Edna DeChristopher	3/1
James Usselman	3/1
Shawna Needy	3/2
Stacy German	3/3
Aubrey Wroten	3/3
Bradley Hooten	3/5
Gibson Moon	3/5
Elizabeth Robinson	3/5
Sandra Hill	3/9
Ethan McLawhorn	3/10
Beverly Palen	3/11
Patricia Binder	3/12
Bonnie Llewellyn	3/14
Ella Thomas	3/14
David Westcott Jr.	3/14
Shawn Patterson	3/16
Blake Simpson	3/16
Rose Marie Hopkins	3/19
Lawrence Stippich III	3/22
Elizabeth Dillon	3/26
Saylor Stansberry	3/27
Kathryn Moore	3/28
Joshua Humphrey	3/29
Christopher Harrison Jr.	3/30
Susan Shaw	3/30
Kathy Shields	3/30
Jackson Foster	3/31

## April Birthdays

Garner Knutson	4/1
Barry Kopczynski	4/2
Glenna Usselman	4/2
Albert Jones	4/4
Wyatt Thomas	4/5
Carol Harrison	4/7
David Ancarrow	4/9
Beverly Black	4/11
Thomas Foster	4/11
Benjamin Rush Jr.	4/12
James Grimmett	4/13
Scott Tyree	4/14
James Greenwood	4/15
Cynthia Taylor	4/16
Joseph Gibbs	4/18
Nancy Stippich	4/18
Florence Rush	4/18
Penny Drummond	4/20
Grace Thompson	4/22
Pamela Turk	4/22
Gail Williamson	4/24
John Beavers	4/26
Christopher Harrison	4/26
Lisa Miller	4/26
Olivia German	4/27
Irene Damron	4/28
Richie Moore	4/29

## March Anniversaries

Tyler & Erica Goon	3/12
Glen & Joyce Adams	3/23
David & Catherine Westcott	3/28
Ronald & Bonnie Bennett	3/31

## April Anniversaries

Donald & Phyllis Teel	4/17
Kristina & John Beavers	4/23



**VBS 2025 - Road Trip**

**July 7-10**

**6:00 pm - 8:15 pm**

**Registration Opens Soon!**

## **Wi-Fi Access**

**Connect to: Zion Guest**  
**Password: zion1822**

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed throughout the year, please call the office or send an email to the church office at [office@zionseford.church](mailto:office@zionseford.church) so we can update our database.

## **OUR WEEKLY COUNTERS!**

**March:** Beverly Black & Flo Rush

**April:** Leona Knutson & Chris Wolfe

## **Zion's email addresses:**

**Pastor David:** [pastor@zionseford.church](mailto:pastor@zionseford.church) **Office/Sherry:** [office@zionseford.church](mailto:office@zionseford.church)  
**Youth/Glenna Usselman:** [youthdirector@zionseford.church](mailto:youthdirector@zionseford.church)





Zion United Methodist Church  
PO BOX 240  
Seaford, Virginia 23696  
**March - April 2025**

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SEAFORD, VA 23696  
PERMIT # 1



Daylight Saving Time Begins  
**March 9**

**Zion's Staff**

Pastor: Rev. David Magruder; Administrative Assistant: Sherry Wornom  
Accompanist: Tara Thomas; Youth Ministry Director: Glenna Usselman  
757-898-7417, Fax: 757-898-9226 Email: [office@zionseaford.church](mailto:office@zionseaford.church)  
Website: [www.zionseaford.church](http://www.zionseaford.church) or Like us on Facebook