



## FRESH NEW APPROACH TO THE SEASON

*"Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."  
1 Corinthians 5:8 (NRSV)*

We are now entering into a new season of celebrations! While we are in the midst of the 50-day Easter Season as a church, where we celebrate our Resurrected Lord, it is also a season of celebrations with our family and friends. In May, we recognize our moms on Mother's Day. There are also college graduations, and outdoor family gatherings because of warmer weather and longer daylight hours. In June, it is celebrating our fathers on Father's Day and high school graduations, and the end of another school year. For some it also marks the beginning of a summer vacation and more time at the beach or on the water.

There is something refreshing about each of these celebrations. It is refreshing because there are more activities outdoors, in the beauty of God's Creation. It is also refreshing with a sense of newness and new birth. Maybe new people join us around the table to celebrate each one of our special occasions. Maybe it is a new career path by graduating students. Or maybe it is the sound of new cries from newborns that have blessed each family with God's miracles.



CELEBRATE  
and Rejoice

For the church, we need to also recognize the newness in our midst. The new smiles, the new faces, the new younger ones, and the new activities and events. As the Apostle Paul reminds us, the way that we celebrate, or the way that we see others, is up to us. We can either hold on to old disappointments or misunderstandings that leads to unhappiness and malice, or we can take a fresh approach and see others with a sense of newness, leading to sincerity and truth. The choice is ours.

In May, we will be celebrating Mission Sunday on Sunday, May 18, and we will build 600 hygiene kits for UMCOR. Thanks to the generosity of ZUMM (the Men's Group) and the Bazaar Ladies, the funding for this mission is covered. If, however, you would like to help offset the cost of purchasing the items for the event, you can write a check to Zion UMC, and note on the check it is for kits.

If anyone is interested in helping to collect UMCOR kits for Annual Conference, please join us at Seaford Transfer on Saturday, June 7, from 10 am until 2 pm. This year's Virginia Annual Conference will be held in Roanoke, from June 11-14. Our delegate, Sherry Wornom, will accompany me to attend all of the meetings and report back to the congregation on the highlights of the Conference.

Our commitment remains to continue to grow in faith and in service as disciples of Jesus Christ. We recognize that we are born anew through our baptisms, and we look forward to the coming months with a new and fresh yeast so we can celebrate the rise of the Spirit as we partake in the bread of Heaven, Christ. Let us join together and sing a new song to God for all that God has done in our midst and what God has in store for us in the future through Christ.



Pastor David



## EggFest'25 Offered Great Celebration For All

Over 120 children brought their families to Zion on Saturday, April 19, to enjoy and experience our Annual EggFest. From crafts and activities, to games and refreshments, and of course a visit from the Easter Bunny and egg-hunt, our volunteers offered something for everyone.



All of this was made possible thanks to the number of volunteers who brought candy, stuffed the eggs, decorated the social hall, set up all of the tables and egg collection spots, and welcomed our guests for this special event.













## From Ashes to Resurrection

After a wonderful pancake meal on March 5, it was on to the Ash Wednesday service, marking the beginning of a new Lenten Season. This led to Palm Sunday and Holy Week, then to a Maundy Thursday service and Stations of the Cross, which led to an Easter Celebration on Sunday, April 20.

Thanks to everyone who helped through each step of this transitional season.







Pastor David offering the Easter Benediction with two acolytes, his grandsons, Cole Foster & Connor Magruder.

## LAST OF FLOOD BUCKETS TRANSPORTED FROM VIRGINIA



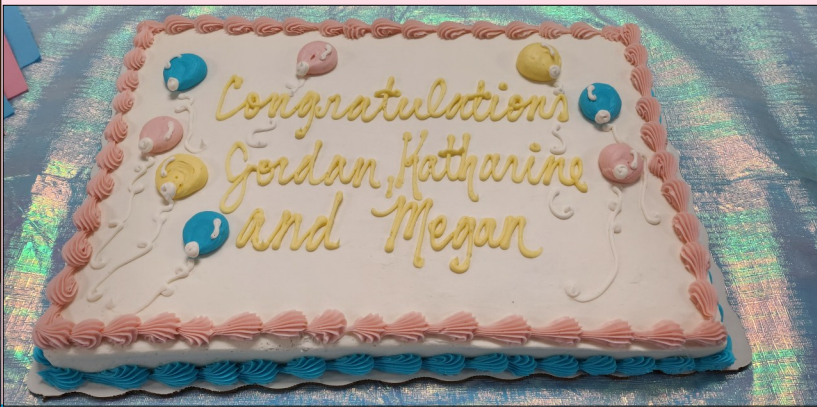
In March, Jeff Moore, Pastor David, along with Allan Lentz and Pastor Brian Posey loaded the remaining 1,500 flood buckets collected by The Virginia Conference was transported to Mission Central in Pennsylvania. Happy faces on all when the last truck was unloaded.



# Celebrating Our Expecting Mothers



On Sunday, March 23, three of our expecting mothers were recognized during worship. Katharine Mason, Megan Wroten, and Jordan Murphy are all expecting new babies very soon! A reception was held following the service for the families to enjoy and the congregation to congratulate them.



## NEWS FROM CHURCH FINANCES

Spring is in the air. The flowers are in full bloom and the Spirit is strong. We proclaimed God is Great as we celebrated our Risen Lord with a wonderful Easter weekend full of activities. Seeing families visiting Zion for EggFest on Saturday, April 19, and the people packing the pews on Easter Sunday, we are reminded of His presence in our lives. This reminds me of what is stated in the UMC *Book of Discipline*, "We emphasize the nurturing and serving function of Christian fellowship in the Church. Our Faith and tradition not only promote personal growth, they also equip and motivate us for mission and service to the world".

For a church to continue to grow and serve, we must have a strong financial foundation. Recently, we have been focused on the operational portion of Zion's budget. Unfortunately, we finished 2024 with a negative balance in our Operating Account. Since this account pays to "keep the lights on", we took action to fund the Operating Account by moving money from investment accounts and other designated accounts. We also encouraged our generous congregation to focus their giving on the Operating Account, while we implemented a freeze on all non-emergency spending, and we continued the freeze on Capital Projects.

Blessedly, these actions are helping, but we are not "out of the woods yet" but through faith and commitment, we are making great progress. We would like to challenge you to increase your gifts to the Operations Account by \$5 dollars per week. If 100 givers add \$5 to their weekly gift, it will generate over \$25,000 in just 12 months. If you can give more, praise the Lord! If 100 givers added \$10 per week it would generate over \$50,000 in a year.

If you would like more information about the finances of the church, please contact anyone on the Finance Committee. We also invite you to learn more about the church's finances and ask any questions about the money at our next Mission, Ministry, Finance gathering on Wednesday, May 7th, at 7 pm in the Social Hall.

Blessings

Scott Dayton, Chair of Finance Committee



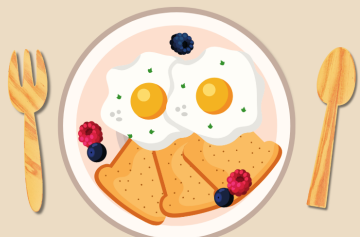
# Zion United Methodist Men

The Zion United Methodist Men gathered on Saturday, March 8, to clean up some of the church grounds in order to look nice for Easter.

Keep an eye out for more announcements from the United Methodist Men! There is a breakfast scheduled for Saturday, May 10, at 8 am, and more activities and mission projects are in the works.



**Zion United  
Methodist Men  
Breakfast**



**Saturday - May 10 at 8 am in the Social Hall the men are invited to the next Men's Breakfast meeting.**



## MISSION CORNER



**LENTEN FOOD DRIVE – WOW!** Over 40 bags of food and 1,800 brown paper bags have been delivered to the York County Food Closet during our Lenten Food Drive, thanks to the generosity of the Zion UMC congregation. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this mission event. The York County Food Closet is one of our ongoing mission projects, collection bins are located in the Commons throughout the year for your gifts of food. Special thanks to Doug Crockett and Chris Hopkins for delivering the items each week, and our amazing promotion team, pictured left are Cole Foster and Connor Magruder showing the congregation what items to bring the following week.

### FEEDING THE HOMELESS THROUGH THE PORT PROGRAM

Volunteers from Zion came together on March 11 to feed our neighbors in the homeless community through the PORT program at Hidenwood Presbyterian Church. Thank you to Chip Rowley, his kitchen crew, and all the volunteers who came together to serve over 120 guests that evening. The volunteers included: Mike Salyer, Elizabeth Williams, Kathy Moore, Penny Drummond, Sherry Wornom, Monty Mills, Sondra and Warren Hickmott are in the photos.







# Youth Bake Sale

From everyone who baked and donated goodies, to those who shopped and purchased their favorite sweet treat, the youth truly appreciate all your support.



## OUR HAND BELL CHOIR ATTENDS BELL FESTIVAL

Over 400 ringers came together at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City, Maryland on March 7 & 8 for the annual Spring Festival. It was a milestone event as everyone celebrated the 60th anniversary of Handbell Musicians of America's Area 3.

Past state chairs and leaders were invited to direct some of the music performed and teach classes. There was a special festival for community choirs to attend, which was FANTASTIC! And our ringers got to see how large chimes and bells can get (taller than Haley!) These events are such a great opportunity for us to learn, network, and grow as ringers.

After we returned from festival it was time to dive deeper into music for Holy Week and Easter. We are excited to have two new ringers who have joined us since Christmas, but there is room for a few more if you are interested! The handbell choir is taking a few weeks off from rehearsal but will be back soon and ringing for the congregation in June.







## VBS 2025 - Road Trip

**Monday, July 7 - Thursday, July 10**  
**6:00 pm - 8:15 pm**

Bible Stories, Music, Games, Crafts,  
Science, & Tie-Dye t-shirts!  
**For 3 year-olds to Rising 8th graders!**  
**Scan the QR Code to REGISTER!**

ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

UMCOR KITS

## MISSION SUNDAY

**MAY**  
**18**

### SCHEDULE

10:00 AM - WORSHIP

11:00 AM - PACKING 600  
HYGIENE KITS FOR  
UNITED METHODIST  
COMMITTEE ON RELIEF  
(UMCOR)

## Mission Sunday

On May 18, following worship, we will be packing 600 hygiene kits for UMCOR to send to Virginia Annual Conference. The UMM and the Bazaar have agreed to help fund this project, but if you would like to contribute to the cost of supplies, each kit will cost approximately \$5. Please designate your gift by marking on your check or envelope "Zion Kits".

Plan to be a part of a special dinner, Monday, May 12, at 5:30. Boy Scout Troop 123 is preparing and serving a Spaghetti Dinner as a way of showing their appreciation to the church for supporting scouting. Sign up sheets are available at the entrance to the sanctuary. If you have not signed up, you can also call the church office to have your name added to the list.

## Spaghetti Dinner

Monday, May 12, 2025  
5:30 pm



Sponsored by  
Boy Scout Troop 123



# Movie Nights



**May 17- 6:30 pm**

Movie Nights are fun for our guests and volunteers! The simple dinner, popcorn, sno-cones, and other snacks are easy to prepare and enjoyed by all.

The Movie Night in April was a test run on our new cotton candy machine, making sure it will handle the crowd at EggFest '25! Thanks to Nick Crockett for helping with the cotton candy.



**June 21 - 6:30 pm**







May 2 & 3 – Social Hall Reserved for Scrapbooking Group  
May 7 – 7 pm Ministry, Mission, & Finance Update  
May 10 – 8 am ZUMM Breakfast  
May 12 – 5:30 pm Spaghetti Dinner  
                6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting  
May 15 – Builders Class Lunch  
                6:30 pm SPRC Meeting  
May 17 – 6:30 pm Movie Night – Honey I Shrunk the Kids  
May 18 – Mission Sunday – Packing Hygiene  
                Kits following Worship  
May 21 – 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting  
May 26 – Church Office Closed for Memorial Day  
May 31 - Social Hall Reserved for Girl Scout Dance

June 6 & 7 - Social Hall Reserved for Scrapbooking  
June 7 - District Kit Collection at Seaford Transfer  
June 9 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting  
June 11 - 14 - Virginia Annual Conference in Roanoke  
June 18 - 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting  
June 21 - 6:30 pm Movie Night - Dog Man

### Weekly Events

Monday's - 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
                (Bells on Spring Break until May 12)  
Tuesday's - 10 am - 2 pm Bazaar Workshop

## **DON'T FORGET**

**VBS 2025 - Road Trip**  
**July 7- July 10**



## **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!

## May Birthdays

Betty Fox	5/1
Bill Gibson	5/2
Cooper Simpson	5/2
Cole Foster	5/3
Beth Tyree	5/3
Robert White	5/3
William Wornom Jr.	5/7
Tony Moore	5/9
Elizabeth Greenwood	5/10
Laura Pack	5/10
Rebecca White	5/10
Marshall Butler	5/13
Charlie Thomas	5/13
Stephanie Freeman	5/15
Rebecca Golden	5/15
Barbara Nickerson	5/15
Rob Thompson	5/17
Jordan A. Murphy	5/19
Andrew Moon	5/20
Maureen Cassada	5/21
Ronald Bennett	5/22
Sharon Dunn	5/23
Matthew Needy	5/23
Phillip Miller	5/26
Matthew Burris	5/27
Loretta Leonard	5/27
Samantha Grimmett	5/28
Katie Simonnet	5/28
Jessica Weiss	5/29
Anne Moffat	5/30
Clark Nickerson	5/30
Douglas Crockett	5/31
Monty Mills	5/31
Julie Thomas	5/31

## June Birthdays

Mike Salyer	6/1
Nancy Verry	6/1
Cammie Butler	6/2
Seth Blanton	6/5
Jaclyn Wilburn	6/6
Catherine Westcott	6/7
Jeannette Moldovan	6/8
Benjamin Tyree	6/11
Barbara Gillikin	6/13
Austin Ancarrow	6/14
Kelly Gdovic	6/14
Gwendolyn Appleton	6/18
Madison Capps	6/18
David Westcott	6/20
Bob James	6/22
Albert Cote	6/23
Barbara James	6/25
Richard Gdovic	6/26
Bonnie Bennett	6/27
Mallory Wornom	6/28
Brian Wroten	6/28
Atley Ancarrow	6/29
Carson Burris	6/29
Corey Carden	6/29
Robert Morrow	6/29
Miranda Moon	6/30

## May Anniversaries

Thomas & Virginia Foster	5/2
George & Darlene Stephenson	5/4
Thomas & Maria Scallorn	5/8
Julie & Michael Mason	5/9
Clarence & Carol Westcott	5/9
Jordan & Jordan Murphy	5/11
Barbara & Rick Hopson	5/12
William & Beverly Moreland	5/16
James & Glenna Usselman	5/18
John & Laura Pack Sr.	5/21
Richard & Mary Boyd	5/25
Scott & Britney Tyree	5/25
David & Pam Turk	5/28
Lewis & Sam Stratton	5/30
David & Beth Tyree	5/30

## June Anniversaries

Greg & Martha Simonnet	6/1
Dalton & Katharine Mason	6/3
Bob & Barbara James	6/8
Chris & Beverly Palen	6/13
Warren & Sondra Hickmott	6/16
Andrew & Carol Harrison	6/19
Stacy & Ronald German	6/21
Seth & Liz Blanton	6/25

## **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](mailto:office@zionseford). church so we can update our database.

## **OUR WEEKLY COUNTERS!**

**May:** Leona Knutson & Chris Wolfe

**June:** Pat Binder & Maria Scallorn

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

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





Zion United Methodist Church  
PO BOX 240  
Seaford, Virginia 23696  
**May - June 2025**

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



**Sunday, May 11**



**Sunday, June 15**

*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