



LET THE SPIRIT GUIDE US!!

“For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 14:17)

As we continue to prepare for a transition in the pastoral leadership at Zion, we need to reflect on the many changes that have occurred at Zion over its 204-year history. When we study those changes, it becomes clear how the work of the Holy Spirit moved within the lives of the people of this body of Christ. Through the church’s rich history, it also becomes clear in how the righteous work of its lay leadership, and faithful pastors, was driven by the Spirit in effectively spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ to the community.

The work of the Holy Spirit has helped the church grow in its ministry and be effective in reaching new people through various means to become a part of the church’s work in the community and in the world. But we need to also be aware that the Spirit is a part of God that cannot simply be summoned, managed, or controlled. As scripture reveals, the Spirit is always moving in us and through us, even when everything appears in the midst of chaos.

The Rev. Park’s words should remind us that we need to continue to be open to new things and new ways of reaching new people in meaningful and effective ways. We need to embrace transitional periods and look to Christ to guide us through the new opportunities before us.

“Trusting the Spirit never means certainty. It always means attentiveness. It requires leaders and [churches] to be willing to release control and learn how to respond faithfully to movement they did not initiate. Trusting in the Holy Spirit is not passive. It requires formation and discernment. It requires environments where leaders can learn in motion rather than only evaluate outcomes after the fact.” Rev. Isaiah Park with Discipleship Ministries

Zion has gone through periods of growth and periods of decline. We have welcomed new members and young families, celebrated new births and new lives together as couples are married. Yet, we have also praised God for those who have been a vital part of this faith community and have ended their course in faith and now rest in their heavenly home. This is all a part of an active and vibrant church, and it is the work of the Spirit in our midst, even during the chaotic and disappointing times.

It is through our faith, and the work of the Holy Spirit, we remain faithful and continue to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ. Now we must remain active in our various mission ministries, teach our faith to our children, help our youth expand their Christian faith, and share Christ’s love and grace with others. We need to continue to rejoice and to share that joyous spirit with others.

We need to appreciate the past, while focusing on the future. We need to be receptive to learning and growing from the experiences of the past seeking Christ’s guidance in our paths forward. We give thanks to God for our many blessings as we enter another Lenten Season, and as we rededicate ourselves to the faith journey ahead as we approach the cross, which leads to Easter.



Pastor David

FEBRUARY SHARE THE LOVE MISSION

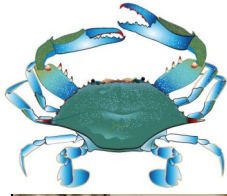


Thank you to everyone who supported our annual Chemo Kits Mission Project, recognizing the gift of Christ's love and celebrating in February. A total of 24 kits along with some extra goodies were collected and delivered to Virginia Oncology. We give thanks to Mr. Doug for leading this effort and to Girl Scout Troop #1346 whose members helped to organize and assemble the kits!





Men Prepare To Begin Fundraiser By Learning How To Build And Sell Crab-pots



In an effort to raise funds for the work of the UMM, the men invited Mr. Steven Borst to their January meeting to demonstrate how to build crab-pots. The men were intrigued to learn of his technique and more about the materials used for a longer lasting pot.

The men will be building some of the pots before crab season this late spring and summer.



The goal is to continue to build the pots each year as a fundraiser to help the men fund their mission ministries.

Also, the UMM is inviting graduating high school students to pick up scholarship applications to assist them in the expenses of continuing their education. The money will be awarded to students who are planning to further their studies either in college or a trade program.

The church office has the applications for interested students.



**Next Dinners & Meetings
Thursday, March 26 & April 23 - 6:30 pm**



Parsonage Floor To Receive Face-lift with New Flooring

Several men of the church assisted Pastor David in removing the three layers of flooring in preparation of a new floor. The SPRC had recommended the flooring be replaced before the new pastor and family moves in this summer. The project began on January 10 and the old flooring covers have now been removed. This meant the removal of two vinyl floors and a row of tiles to get to the subflooring. The new floor will be a light-gray plank floor that will complement the cabinets, counter and wall color. Those who helped were Andrew Collins, Scott Dayton, Matt Burris, Lynn Allsbrook, David Tyree and Ben Bridger.



Pictured above is the floor after the removal of all three layers. This flooring extends into the downstairs bathroom and hallway leading to the utility room. **Thanks gentlemen for all of your help!**

Ash Wednesday Celebration

Once again our Shrove Wednesday Pancake dinner was a success! With Rob Thompson, as the master pancake flipper and others who stepped up to help with set



SHROVE WEDNESDAY

up, serving, and cleaning up, the meal was enjoyed by all. Following the dinner

was a meaningful Ash Wednesday Service with

special music from our handbell choir.



ASH
Wednesday

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATIONS

Our orientation sessions have been received well by those interested in learning more about becoming a member of Zion UMC. The session covered the history of Zion, the United Methodist Church, and what it means to be a member.

We have seven people that will be joining our church family soon.

If you were unable to attend but would like to join please set up a time to meet with Pastor David.



NEXT PORT DATE TO SERVE - MARCH 5

Zion will be serving the homeless community through the PORT Winter Shelter program on Thursday, March 5, at Hidenwood Presbyterian Church.

Thank you to Jake LaFlam & Mr. Doug

for stepping up to be in charge of the meals.

Come and be a part!

FAMILY COVERED-DISH DINNER HELD

Snow forced a change to our dinner, originally planned for February 1. The meal was postponed until the end of the month. On Sunday, February 22, we tried again.....and it snowed. Even with the threatening weather, a great time was had by those who braved attending! Our trivia game will be saved until our next gathering. The next Covered Dish dinner is scheduled for Sunday, April 19. Let's pray that it will **NOT** snow that day!



LET THE RACES BEGIN!!!

Local Girl Scout Troops held their annual Powder Puff Derby here at Zion on Saturday, January 31. Olivia and Viola Collins created their own cars and participated in the event.

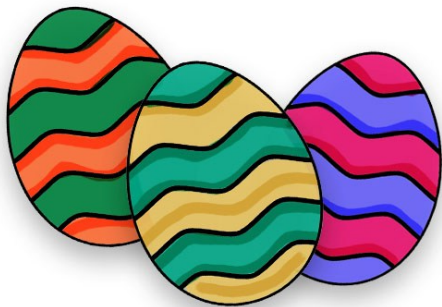
While the girls were enjoying their activities, the Collins family and other church members sold concessions.



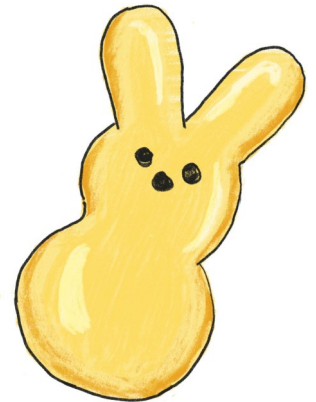


EggFest is one of our biggest community outreach events, with more than 100 children and their families attending each year. It takes many hands to help with games, food, crafts, and the egg hunt. If you can help in any way, please sign up at the Sign Up Station.

Candy Needed for EggFest!



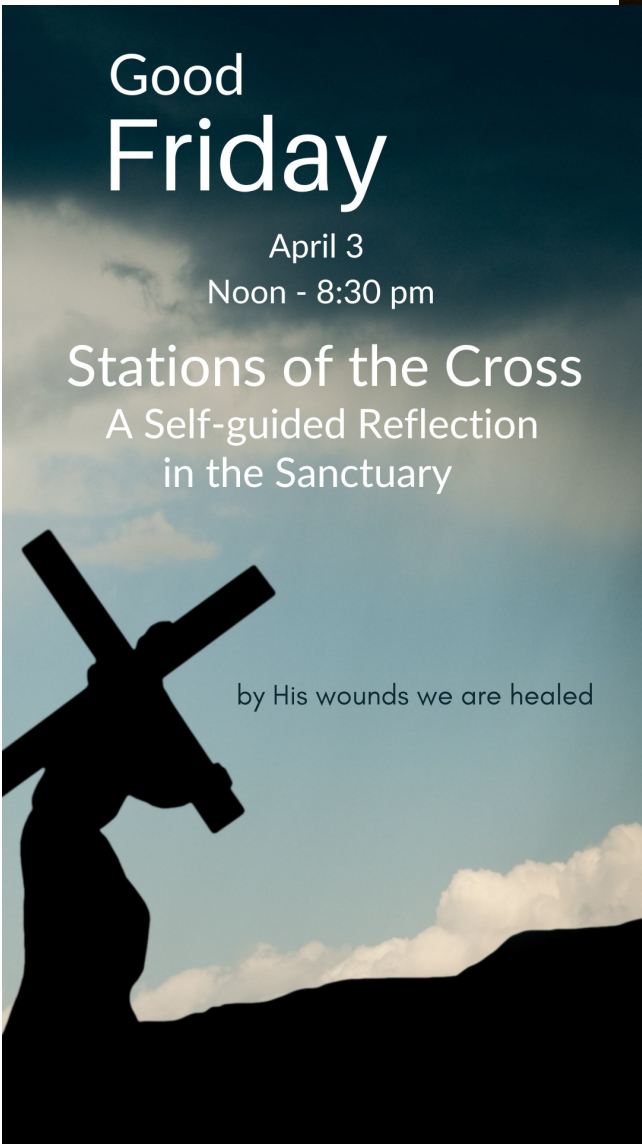
Each year we fill approximately 3,000 eggs for the egg hunt at EggFest. If you can help by donating small individually wrapped candy, please drop it in the basket at the Sign-up Station.

A graphic for the Snowball Mountain Challenge. It shows a snowy mountain with a ski lift, a skier, and a snowboarder. A cartoon seal character in a red jacket and green hat holds a microphone. The text "Cokesbury Kids" is in the top left, and "FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD" is in a small circle at the bottom left.

VBS

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School 2026
Snowball Mountain Challenge
July 27 - 30
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
More Information and volunteer opportunities COMING SOON!!



Easter Sunday Worship

6:15 am - Sunrise Service

in the Social Hall

Followed by Pancake Breakfast

10 am - Easter Worship



FOOD DRIVE

Each Sunday during Lent everyone is encouraged to bring in non-perishable food to share with our neighbors being served through the York County Food Closet

February 22

Soup: Chicken Noodle or any Creamed Soups

March 1

1 lb. Spaghetti Noodles & a 24 oz. can of Sauce

March 8

Canned Veggies: Green Beans or Corn

March 15

Canned Fruit: Pineapple or Peaches

March 22

Mac & Cheese

March 29

Cereal



Don't Forget About Our Lenten Food Drive



We want to thank our Food Models for helping share with the congregation each week the requested food items to bring the following Sunday. Pictured above are Tucker and Preston Guin.

MISSION News

MISSION SUNDAY - MAY 17

On May 17, we will once again gather in the Social Hall after our worship service to build hygiene kits for UMCOR. The items will be laid out on tables to make it simple for putting the kits together.

Lunch will be served after we complete building the kits.

More information will be shared as the event gets closer.

Bazaar Ladies Continue Busy With Many Activities!



Two dozen coconut pies will be baked soon and be available to purchase for your family Easter gatherings! Pies will be baked and frozen. The pies will be available for pick up following worship on Sunday, March 22, (or call the office to arrange a time).

Cost per pie is \$12.

Please reserve your pie at the Sign-Up station. Proceeds from this event will go toward UMCOR kit supplies for May's Mission Sunday.

Several Spring Cemetery saddles have been made and are available for purchase in the social hall.



During one of the recent snow events, Link of Hampton Roads requested blankets for the homeless community staying in the PORT Winter Shelters. So the ladies jumped into action and purchased twelve new blankets from Kohls and delivered them to the All Generations Church on Harpersville Road, who was hosting PORT that weekend.

**Daylight Saving Time
begins Sunday, March 8**

**Don't forget to Spring Forward
and set your clocks ahead
one hour.**



MISSION RIVERS DISTRICT TRAINING



The Mission Rivers District held its training at Ebenezer UMC in Stafford on Saturday, January 30. These trainings offer laity and pastors opportunity to learn how to grow and better serve in their roles in the church.

Pastor David was invited to be a part of the panel to discuss how to establish strong relationships between clergy and lay leaders.



CHILDREN'S INVOLVEMENT IS VITAL TO CHURCH

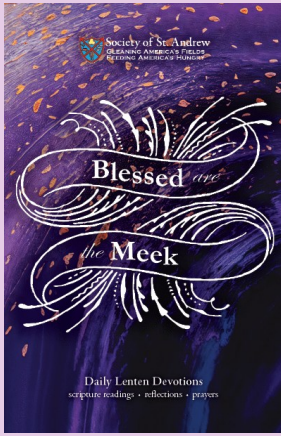


Our children are always eager to come to the front when Pastor David calls them each Sunday. In this picture they are learning about Jesus' Transfiguration.

Their gift of honesty, openness, and vulnerability are lessons for everyone!

The children also enjoy Movie Night's. It is always a great opportunity for entertainment, food, and fun for all who attend. We had a great turnout for the first two of 2026 and we look forward to keeping the schedule going in the future.





Lenten Devotional from the Society of St. Andrew

During this Lenten 40-day journey, we are invited to be a part of a devotional experience through *Blessed Are the Meek*. The daily readings and prayers in this year's devotional explore Christian humility, service, and strength unfolding in the scriptures and daily life. Few of us aspire to meekness. Yet the scriptures routinely raise up small, lowly, poor, meek, and humble persons as testimony against institutions, societies, and leaders who use power against them. Financial gifts offered through the collection banks will go to St. Andrew Society to address food insecurity.

Transition Team Preparing for Pastoral Leadership Change



The time of transition for pastors creates the most difficult segment of United Methodist ministry. We find ourselves filled with both anticipation and sorrow as established relationships are broken in preparation for "beginning again." We trust that the mighty power of God moves with those servants who give their lives in ministry.

The Transition Team at Zion is working to assure that all of the important aspects of a pastor leaving and the reception of a new pastor are discussed and properly planned. Every pastor/family touches certain individuals in very special ways. There are always those who grieve when "their" pastor moves. But the pastor/family also grieve knowing they are leaving loved ones behind. Lynn Allsbrook, SPRC Chair, is helping to oversee this Transition Team and is being assisted by a number of laity who add important dimensions to planning the transition in our pastoral leadership.

Cemetery Update - Clean-up Coming Soon!

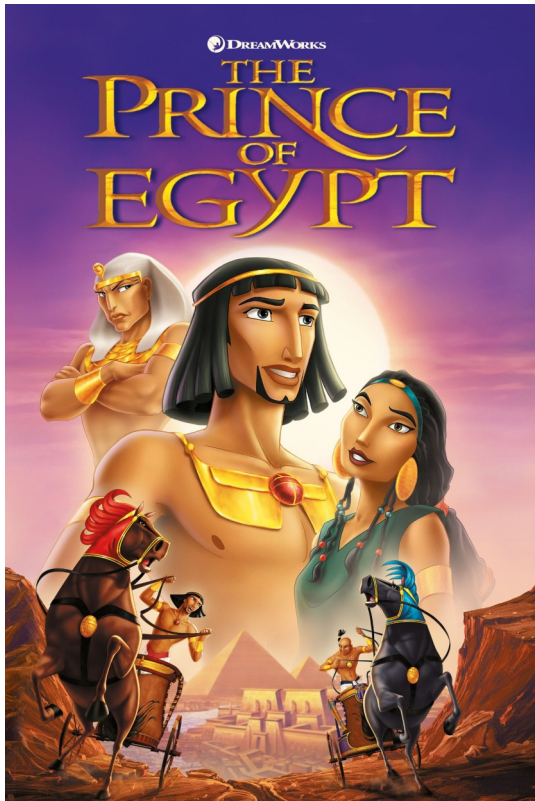
All fall and Christmas flowers, and decorations must be removed from grave sites at Zion's Cemetery by Saturday March 7, 2026. This is so new Easter and spring flowers can be put in place. Also, this keeps the cemetery looking fresh and beautiful. The Cemetery Committee will remove any remaining fall and Christmas flowers/decorations on March 9, 2026. If anyone has already placed spring/Easter flowers before March 9, please know that they will not be removed.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE CLEAN UP: Cemetery committee members will meet at the cemetery on Monday March 9, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. to clean up the cemetery. After the cleanup, members will meet for a short annual meeting. Please advise if you are available to participate by calling Zetie or Chris.

OUR CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE: Lynn Allsbrook, Doug Crockett, Zetie Damron, Chris Hopkins, Monty Mills, Susan Shaw, and Carol Westcott.



Movie Nights



March 21 - 6:30 pm



Saturdays



April 25 - 6:30 pm



May 23 - 6:30 pm

Come with an appetite for family entertainment, food, snacks and beverages. All a part of our ministry to families and children.





March 5 & 6 – Serving PORT at Hidenwood Presbyterian Church
 March 6 & 7 – Handbell Festival in Rehoboth Beach, DE
 March 9 – 9 am Cemetery Clean up and Meeting
 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
 March 10 – 6:30 pm SPRC Meeting
 March 11 – 6:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting
 March 12 – 2 pm Lenten Study
 March 13 & 14 – Social Hall Reserved for Scrapbooking
 March 18 – 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting
 March 19 – 2 pm Lenten Study
 March 21 – 6:30 pm Movie Night – *The Prince of Egypt*
 March 26 – 2 pm Lenten Study
 March 26 – 6:30 pm - UMM Dinner and Meeting
 March 29 - Palm Sunday

April 2 - 7 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service
 April 3 - Noon - 8:30 pm Stations of the Cross
 April 4 - 10 am - Noon EggFest '26
 April 5 - 6:15 am Sunrise Service
 10 am Easter Sunday Worship
 April 6 - Church Office Closed
 April 13 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
 April 15 - 6:30 pm Transition Team Meeting
 April 17 & 18 Social Hall Reserved for Scrapbooking
 April 19 - 5:30 pm Covered Dish Dinner & Trivia
 April 23 - 6:30 pm UMM Dinner & Meeting
 April 25 - 6:30 pm Movie Night - *Zootopia 2*

Weekly Events

Monday's - 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
 6 pm - Girl Scouts
 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 \$2,200 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 |
| Michael Moore | 3/17 |
| Lawrence Stippich III | 3/22 |
| Elizabeth Dillon | 3/26 |
| Saylor Stansberry | 3/27 |
| Kathryn Moore | 3/28 |
| Joshua Humphrey | 3/29 |
| Susan Shaw | 3/30 |
| Kathy Shields | 3/30 |
| Jackson Foster | 3/31 |

April Birthdays

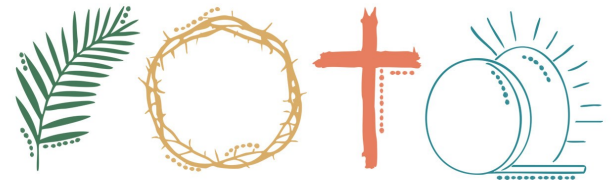
| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Garner Knutson | 4/1 |
| Barry Kopczynski | 4/2 |
| Glenna Usselman | 4/2 |
| Albert Jones | 4/4 |
| Wyatt Thomas | 4/5 |
| Carol Harrison | 4/7 |
| David Ancarrow | 4/9 |
| Beverly Black | 4/11 |
| Thomas Foster | 4/11 |
| Benjamin Rush Jr. | 4/12 |
| James Grimmett | 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 |
| Olivia German | 4/27 |
| Irene Damron | 4/28 |
| Richie Moore | 4/29 |
| Riley Wroten | 4/29 |

March Anniversaries

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

April Anniversaries

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



A lot can happen in
seven days.



Wi-Fi Access

Connect to: Zion Guest
Password: zion1822

Resurrection SUNDAY

OUR WEEKLY COUNTERS!

March: Beverly Black & Flo Rush
April: Leona Knutson & Chris Wolfe

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@zionseaford.church so we can update our database.

Zion's email addresses:

Pastor David: pastor@zionseaford.church **Office/Sherry:** office@zionseaford.church



Zion United Methodist Church
PO BOX 240
Seaford, Virginia 23696
March - April 2026

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

**Welcome
Spring**



March 29 - April 5

Zion's Staff

Pastor: Rev. David Magruder;
Administrative Assistant: Sherry Wornom, Accompanist: Tara Thomas;
757-898-7417, Fax: 757-898-9226 Email: office@zionseaford.church
Website: www.zionseaford.church or Like us on Facebook