



Zion Episcopal Church

We share Christ's love and grace with joy, respect, and compassion.

Telephone: (304) 725-5312 | Email: office@zioneepiscopal.net

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Thursday | 9:00 am — 2:00 pm

Rector's Office Hours

Monday through Thursday | 10:00 am — 3:00 pm
or by appointment

Upcoming Services and Events at Zion...

Sunday, December 21st

Advent IV

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Candy Cain in loving memory of Harry James "Diddy" Cain, Harry J. and Mabel R. Cain and by Pam Hooper in loving memory of Steve Hooper.

8:00 am — 9:00 am

Holy Eucharist : Rite I

Scheduled to Serve

Altar Guild

Linda Work, Laurie Ruddy

Lay Reader

Linda Work

Ushers

Donald and Patsy Noland

Hospitality

Jim Ruddy, Linda Work

9:15 am — 10:15 am

Bible Study | Hauser Room

9:15 am — 10:15 am

Holy Eucharist | St. Philip's

10:30 am — 11:30 am

Choral Eucharist : Rite II

Scheduled to Serve

Altar Guild

Joanne McIsaac, Sandy Coughlin

Crucifer

Lucy Peyton

Lay Reader

Erin Delaney

Prayers of the People

Don Twyman

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Don Twyman

Ushers

Sandy Coughlin, Ken Fanelli

11:45 am – 12:45 pm

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

7:00 pm

Greening of the Church

Community Meal Ministry | Social Hall

Caroling and Refreshments | Rectory

Monday, December 22nd

8:45 am – 9:45 am

10:00 am – 11:00 am

10:00 am – 11:00 am

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Exercise Class |Gym

Morning Prayer | Parlors

Exercise Class |Gym

Exercise Class |Gym

Tuesday, December 23rd

8:45 am – 9:45 am

10:00 am – 11:00 am

10:00 am – 11:00 am

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Exercise Class |Gym

Morning Prayer | Parlors

Exercise Class |Gym

Community Meal Ministry | Social Hall

Beginning Biblical Hebrew | Online via Zoom

Wednesday, December 24th

9:15 am – 10:45 am

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Exercise Class |Gym

Exercise Class |Hauser Room

Community Meal Ministry | Social Hall

Festival Eucharist

Scheduled to Serve

Altar Guild

Laurie Ruddy, Linda Work

Verger

Lee Wilson

Crucifers

Colin Harp, Lucy Peyton

Torch Bearers

Isla Wildman, Rightly Wildman

Gospel Book

Winnie Wildman

Lay Reader

Ken Fanelli

Prayers of the People

Erin Delaney

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Greg Harp

Ushers

Sue Floyd, Jamie Wilson

Thursday, December 25th

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Christmas Day

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Scheduled to Serve

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Phil Porterfield

Saturday, December 27th

11:00 am — 12:30 pm Zion Meal Ministry | Social Hall

Sunday, December 28th

8:00 am — 9:00 am **Holy Eucharist : Rite I**

Scheduled to Serve

Altar Guild Linda Work, Laurie Ruddy

Lay Reader Phil Porterfield

Ushers Sam and Lanette Byrer

Hospitality Jim Ruddy, Linda Work

9:15 am — 10:15 am **Bible Study | Hauser Room**

9:15 am — 10:15 am **Holy Eucharist | St. Philip's**

10:30 am — 11:30 am **Choral Eucharist : Rite II**

Scheduled to Serve

Altar Guild Joanne McIsaac, Sandy Coughlin

Verger Lee Wilson

Crucifer Lucy Peyton

Torch Bearers Isla Wildman, Rightly Wildman

Gospel Book Winnie Wildman

Lay Reader Jamie Wilson

Prayers of the People Kenny Floyd

Lay Eucharistic Minister Kenny Floyd

Ushers Stephen Hall, Urath Gibson

5:00 pm — 6:00 pm **Community Meal Ministry | Social Hall**

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, kindly find a replacement and let our parish administrator know so that our scheduling accurately reflects those serving!

*If you have news you would like to share with our congregation, please send word to our parish administrator, Eric Ott, at office@zionepiscopal.net. News items received each week by Wednesday morning will be published in our **Weekly Tidings on Friday**.*

Adopt-A-Family Tree, Ornaments Available in the Narthex...

Thank you to all who generously contributed their time and treasure to purchasing and wrapping gifts for families on our Adopt-A-Family Tree. Your kindness and generosity helps to bring Christ's light into the world.



December at Zion...

Last Saturday afternoon and evening we opened our doors of the church to welcome those from our community into our sacred space to enjoy the beauty and history of Zion. Thank you to Barbara Porterfield for her posting her well written and in-depth history of our stained glass windows. In addition, we are thankful for Barbara, Urath Gibson, Randy Hilton, and Katherine Hortenstine for serving as docents and welcoming all who visited our church.

On Sunday following our services we gathered in our parlors for Coffee & Cocoa *together with* Cookies & Carols. Heartfelt thanks to Royal Wilson for her vision and organization of the event. And thank you to Ned Wilson for accompanying our caroling on the piano. By all accounts the gathering was a wonderful success and the delicious cookies and treats along with warm cocoa and fellowship were enjoyed by all!

December 21st | Greening of the Church following our 10:30 service.

Following our 10:30 am service on December 21st (Advent IV), we will green our sacred space for our Christmas celebration. Plan to stay and help with the preparations or plan to stay and encourage those who are hanging the greens! Light refreshments and coffee will be available. Join us for fun and fellowship!

December 21st | Caroling & Gathering at the Rectory beginning at 7 pm

We will be gathering at the rectory at 7 pm to head out into the neighborhood to sing Christmas carols for our neighbors! Plan to join us as we connect with our neighbors and spread Christmas cheer and good will—caroling sheets will be available, but don't forget your flash light or a battery operated candle! Following the caroling, light refreshments and fellowship will be enjoyed in the rectory. All are welcome!



**December 24th | Christmas Eve
Festival Eucharist at 6 pm
Candlelight Service with Brass Quintet**

Please note that this year, we will be having one service on Christmas Eve. The service will be a Candlelight Festival Eucharist with our Choir and a Brass Quintet.

December 25th | Christmas Day — Contemplative Eucharist at 9 am

Christmas Memorial Flowers...

Christmas Memorial Flowers

If you would like donate a Christmas Poinsettia in memory of someone or to offer as a thanksgiving at Christmastime, please complete the form below and either mail it to the Parish Office or drop it in the alms basin on Sunday. The cost this year is \$16.00 each.

Please make your checks payable to: "Zion Episcopal Church Flower Fund," with a notation on, "Christmas Poinsettia," on the memo line. All Christmas memorials will be listed in the Christmas bulletin. Please print names clearly. You may drop your check and names by our parish office or

Mail to: Zion Episcopal Church
221 East Washington Street
Charles Town, WV 25414
Given by: _____

(Name and Telephone Number)

In memory of Or A Thanksgiving for: (Please underline)

Stewardship Pledge Campaign Update...

Our Annual Stewardship Campaign continues to receive 2026 Pledge Commitment Cards.

As of December 17th we have received **47** pledge commitment cards totaling **\$191,645.00**.

Thank you to everyone who has submitted a pledge card. Your generosity is inspiring.

If you have not yet submitted your 2026 pledge commitment card, there is still time! Pledge cards may be placed in the offertory plate during one of our services, dropped off at our parish office Monday through Thursday between 9 am and 2 pm, or mailed to Zion Episcopal Church, 221 E Washington Street, Charles Town, WV 25414.

Pledge cards are available in the Narthex of the church, our parish office, or may be downloaded from our website by clicking on the 'Tell Out My Soul' button:



JCCM News...

On Tuesday, December 23rd, JCCM will be hosting a Holiday Potluck for their clients from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please consider stopping by JCCM and saying hello. If you would like to contribute a dish to the potluck, please contact Brooke Grossman, Executive Director, JCCM at (240) 313-5797.

Shopping List for JCCM: Food Items: Spaghetti Sauce, Ramen, Crackers, Canned Meat (chicken, tuna, beef stew, chili) Canned Vegetables, Cereal, Hearty Soups, Canned Pasta (Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, etc.) Rice, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Bottled Water.



Non-food items: Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Shampoo, Body Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Conditioner, Deodorant, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper.

Zion contributed 210 pounds of food to JCCM last week!

Parish News...

We have received word that **Doris Whiting** passed away peacefully in the early morning hours on Wednesday, December 17th at Canterbury Center in Shepherdstown. Arrangements to offer thanksgiving and to celebrate her life will be forth coming as they are made. In the meantime, please keep Doris' family in your prayers.



Bishop Cowden and Melissa pass along their appreciation and gratitude for your prayers as they continue to negotiate their way through their son Joshua's health challenges. Notes and cards of encouragement, assurance, and prayers are welcome and may be sent to:

Joshua Cowden
14311 SW 74th Ct.
Palmetto Bay, FL 33158

Below are a few pictures from **Richard Seckinger** taken during his recent cruise to Key West and the Bahamas.



Left to Right: Christmas in Freeport, Bahamas; Christmas in Key West, FL.

Zion's Monthly Meal Ministry News...

If you wish to sign up to serve at our Monthly Meal Ministry please click on the following link below. Our next meal is scheduled for Saturday, December 27th from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

[Zion's Meal Ministry Sign Up](#)

Prayer Requests...

For Those Who Are Housebound...

Marian Auer, Jean Hale, Earl and Bertha Kelican, Edna Phillips, Doris Starks.

For Those on our Parish Prayer List...

Those in nursing homes, assisted living, and rehabilitation centers, Alex, Edna, Emma Anne and Nick, Doris, Annette, Pat, Doug, Michael, Mary Bruce, Jim, Leo, Peggy, Donna, Lucas, Ava, Owen, P.T., Tom, Sharon, Jim, Mary Jane, Bobbie, Don, Cassidy, Kelly, Ruth, Lousie, Becky, Laurie, Barbara, Wanda, Jennifer, Karmen, Karen, Tyler, Walter, Bob, Alison, Ned, Richard, Dennis, Renee, Lori, Evan, Bertie, Brad, Robert, Rusty, and Joshua.

For Those Who Have Died...

Harry James "Diddy" Cain, Harry J. and Mabel R. Cain, Steve Hooper, and Doris Whiting.

For Those Celebrating Birthdays in December:

Judy Maye, 3 rd	Harlan Salisbury, 13 th	Candy Cain, 24 th
Sally Skinner, 5 th	Sandy Campbell, 15 th	Liam Blood, 24 th
Traci Davis, 6 th	Brenda Whittington, 15 th	Randolph Hilton, 25 th
Annette Murphy, 8 th	Annette Hale, 16 th	Levi Yuhasz, 25 th
Carl Neve, 9 th	Karen Wysong, 16 th	Chris Carter, 29 th
Nathan Seibert, 10 th	Andrew Cassell, 17 th	Anne Steptoe, 30 th
Geneviene Costello, 10 th	George Cornwell V, 18 th	Peggy Crusan, 30 th
Jody Carter, 12 th	Bill Myers, 22 nd	George Cornwell, 31 st

If you are celebrating a birthday this month and your name does not appear on the list above, please send an email to our parish administrator, Eric: office@zionepiscopal.net or call him (304) 725-5312, so he can add you to our list!