



Zion Episcopal Church

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

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

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

Upcoming Services and Events at Zion...

Sunday, November 23rd Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King
In-gathering of 2026 Pledge Commitment Cards

The candles on our Holy Table and reredos are given to the glory of God by Mrs. Roger Perry in loving memory of Roger Perry.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Davenport, III and family in loving memory of Mr. Benton Davenport and Mr. and Mrs. Leeds Riely and by The Petrecca family in loving memory of Merrily Clift, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clift, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Corregan, Virginia Gesner, Gertrude G. Jones, and Ruth S. Clift.

8:00 am — 9:00 am
Scheduled to Serve

Altar Guild
Lay Reader
Ushers
Hospitality

Holy Eucharist : Rite I

Kathleen Willis
Richard Seckinger
Jim and Laurie Ruddy
Jim Ruddy, Wanda Perry

9:15 am — 10:15 am
10:30 am — 11:30 am

Bible Study | Hauser Room
Choral Eucharist : Rite II

Scheduled to Serve

Altar Guild
Verger
Crucifer
Torch Bearers
Second Crucifer
Gospel Book
Lay Reader
Prayers of the People
Lay Eucharistic Minister
Ushers
Hospitality

Sue Floyd and Family
Lee Wilson
Greg Harp
Colin Harp, Rightly Wildman
Lucy Peyton
Isla Wildman
Greg Harp
Don Twyman
Don Twyman
Sandy Coughlin, Ken Fanelli
Members of Zion's Choir

5:00 pm — 6:00 pm

Community Meal Ministry | Social Hall

Monday, November 24th

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, November 25th

8:45 am — 9:45 am
10:00 am — 11:00 am
10:00 am — 11:00 am
4:00 pm — 5:00 pm
7:00 pm — 8:00 pm
5:30 pm — 6:30 pm

Exercise Class | Gym
Morning Prayer | Parlors
Exercise Class | Gym
Stewardship Committee Meeting | Parlors
Beginning Biblical Hebrew | Online via Zoom
Community Meal Ministry | Social Hall

Wednesday, November 26th

9:00 am — 12:00 pm
9:15 am — 10:45 am
10:00 am — 11:00 am
5:00 pm — 6:00 pm
5:30 pm — 6:30 pm

Thrift Shop Open
Exercise Class | Gym
Morning Prayer | Parlor
Exercise Class | Hauser Room
Community Meal Ministry | Social Hall

Thursday, November 27th

8:45 am — 9:45 am	Exercise Class Gym
10:00 am — 11:00 am	Morning Prayer Parlor
10:00 am — 11:00 am	Exercise Class Gym
5:00 pm — 6:00 pm	Exercise Class Gym

Saturday, November 29th

11:00 am — 12:30 pm	Zion Meal Ministry Social Hall
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Sunday, November 30th**Advent I**

8:00 am — 9:00 am
Scheduled to Serve

Holy Eucharist : Rite I

Altar Guild
Lay Reader
Ushers
Hospitality

Kathleen Willis
Phil Porterfield
Donald and Patsy Noland
Jim Ruddy, Linda Work

9:15 am — 10:15 am
9:15 am — 10:15 am
10:30 am — 11:30 am

Bible Study | Hauser Room
Holy Eucharist | St. Philip's
Choral Eucharist : Rite II

Scheduled to Serve

Altar Guild
Verger
Crucifer
Torch Bearers
Gospel Book
Lay Reader
Prayers of the People
Lay Eucharistic Minister
Ushers
Hospitality

Sue Floyd and Family
Lee Wilson
Lucy Peyton
Isla Wildman, Rightly Wildman
Winnie Wildman
Ken Fanelli
Don Twyman
Don Twyman
Stephen Hall and Urath Gibson
Julia Yuhasz

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!

Stewardship Committee News...

The Language of Song Is Universal

An Interview By the Very Rev. Julia McCray Goldsmith

I'm classically trained in opera and in church music, so when I think of "tell out my soul," I am reminded that music is a universal language. I only speak English fluently, but I sing in other languages. I can do this because I've learned to interpret the universal feelings in the music—love or loss or longing—that the composer intended. When I sing, I'm telling out on their behalf!

Last Saturday I was singing Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Pie Jesu." One way to translate these words, in the context of a requiem, is "Lord give them rest." It left me thinking of trans people and immigrants and others whose identity is currently under attack, and I find myself praying for their rest in Jesus.

I was not raised in The Episcopal Church, so I'm relatively new to the hymnody. But I convened our cathedral's young adult ministry and now I am on the vestry. I seem to get called to leadership roles even when I'm not looking for them. Maybe because I stand up for others? I was raised as a girl and taught to be more quiet and passive, but as a non-binary adult I lead out loud and assertively. It's a common understanding in music circles that the skill of your choir is only as good as the worst voice. Everyone is diminished if we don't support each other's voices.

I am especially thankful for the voices and the teachers that have supported me along the way. My first church music director believed in and encouraged me when I was only nine or ten. I had great college music professors and church music directors at St. Bartholomew's in Poway and at Trinity Cathedral in San Jose. These people told me that I have a gift to share, and I believed them.



Questions for Reflection:

How do you tell your story while empowering others to tell theirs?



Trinity "Trin" Hall (they/them) is a 24 year old freelance soprano and pastry artist, president of the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral San Jose Young Adult Ministry.



A Message from our Stewardship Chair, Michael Spensley...

Our Stewardship campaign, Tell Out My Soul, has afforded us opportunities to reflect on the many ways that we are connected to each other and community. By your stories, you have shared what brought you to Zion, why you continue to attend Zion, your actions, and why you support Zion's community, mission, and ministries. You have spoken of your relationships at Zion, the local community and beyond. This year, with all that has been going on in our homes, our community, country, and world, a constant has been the connections we have formed here in our church. (By the way, I look forward to sharing with you the story of my relationship with Zion, attributable to Drs. Sam Getty and Ernie Benner, Nancy, and co-authored by Nancy!)



Reflecting on Phil's presentation and relevant information, available on our website at www.zionepiscopal.net, please consider our history, particularly the last fifteen years, our internal and external ministries, our full-time rector and staff, and our aspirations to sustain—to grow and develop—and prayerfully commit financially to realizing Zion's emerging future!

In my letter to you last week was enclosed your pledge card that asks how, in addition to your treasure, you might use your time and talent to benefit one another, Zion, and the community. The time that you volunteer, your ideas and talents, and your donated treasure will be transformed into Zion's mission and ministry. Be sure to consider and respond on the reverse side of your pledge card! If you're unable to join us for worship on the 23rd (this Sunday!), please return your pledge card to our parish office by the 21st. Otherwise, pledge cards will be gathered at the Offertory at our 8 am and 10:30 am services on Sunday, November 23rd. Of course, we will graciously receive your pledge cards whenever you are able to submit them! Thank you for your engagement in our Tell Out My Soul campaign.

During our campaign, we've strengthened existing relationships, established new ones, and learned more about stewardship through activities, presentations, and sermons. In 2026, we'll continue to recognize stewardship as a year-round daily habit – not just an annual campaign. You already “do it” – let's continue to give it more visibility.

Zion's Monthly Meal Ministry News...

If you wish to sign up to serve at our November Meal Ministry please click on the following link:

[Zion's November 30th Meal Ministry Sign Up](#)

From Rev. Johanna...

This coming Sunday, November 23rd (Christ the King Sunday), we celebrate Christ's reign over all creation, gather our 2026 pledge commitment cards, and mark the final Sunday of the Church year. As part of our worship at the 10:30 am service, we will also offer our thanksgivings and bid farewell to our Minister of Music, Alex Kunu.



Although stepping away as our part-time Minister of Music, Alex will continue to offer his musical gifts to us as our supply organist whenever our needs and his availability intersect.

Since August 2024, Alex's musicianship and competence, his kind and generous spirit, and his care for the people of Zion have been a true gift. Stepping into the role of Minister of Music during a season without a rector is no small task, and Alex did so with grace and humility. I—along with all of you—am deeply grateful for his ministry among us.

Please be sure to gather with us this coming Sunday for worship and join me in expressing heartfelt gratitude to Alex for his service at our 10:30 am service. Members of our choir will be offering light refreshments following the service in honor of Alex and his faithful service, thus presenting the perfect opportunity for you to extend your personal thanks and well-wishes to Alex.

A Few Photos from a 2024 Annual Auction Dinner...



December Scheduling News...

Morning Prayer & Conversation in the Parlors

Our weekday service of Morning Prayer will continue through the month of December. We gather in the parlors at 10 am, Monday through Thursday for an informal service of prayers and readings. The short service is followed by conversation. The service lasts about twenty-five minutes. All are welcome, come as you are able!

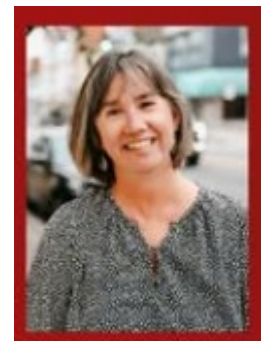
December 6th | Charles Town Christmas Parade

Join us at Zion as we extend holiday cheer and good will to parade goers. As we seek to do our part sharing the good news, we will be providing parade goers with some hot chocolate and a small Christmas ornament which will include information about our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. If you are available to participate in providing hospitality and welcome to parade goers, please contact Alice Ellis at: masudduth@mindspring.com.



While we are certainly hoping you will be able to join us on December 6th, if you are unable to join us for the parade, perhaps you might be available to help put our ornament/service information packages together!

By the way, Ann Paonessa will once again be serving as one of the Christmas Parade Judges. Thank you, Ann! This year's parade begins at 2:00 pm. And, word has it that Santa will be arriving at United Bank at 1:45 pm!



December 13th | Sacred Spaces 3 pm—7 pm

Zion Church will be open to the public during this year's Sacred Spaces tour. We are looking for a couple of individuals to help with guiding people through our church, sharing information about the history of Zion, our stained glass windows, and the Episcopal Church. Printed materials will be available for you to follow and to share with those who come through our doors. We are also hoping to provide some light refreshments to serve our guests. If you have time to serve as a tour guide, provide some hospitality or share your musical gifts, please contact Rev. Johanna.

December 14th | Coffee & Cocoa *together with* Cookies & Carols in the Parlors

Bring a half-dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies and join us following our 10:30 am service to share in fellowship, enjoy some delicious holiday treats, and sing some of your favorite carols.

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!

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

Our Christmas Day service will be a quite contemplative service of Holy Eucharist at 9 am.

Diocesan News...

**Seeds of Faith
Advent Godly Play Days
Saturday, November 22 | 10 am—1 pm
Trinity, Shepherdstown**



It's not too late to sign up for tomorrow's event!
All participants will receive a free subscription to some really
fabulous books which tell of our faith!

Come and celebrate the beauty of this Advent season with all those
around our Episcopal community. **Register for the Advent Godly
Play Day using the QR code.**



Diocesan Convention News...



From left to right...

On Friday evening, Bishop Matthew welcomed clergy who had accepted new
calls and clergy new to the Diocese of West Virginia.

On Saturday, Bishop Matthew announced that Zion's own, Frankie Amore, has
been appointed as Peterkin's next Director. Frankie will step into his new role at
Peterkin in the Spring of 2026.



Left: Following a full Convention Agenda,
Rev. Johanna and Zion Delegates to
Convention, Neale Delaney and Ken Fanelli—
accompanied by his wife, Lucy, attended the
Convention Banquet which included a
keynote speaker, dinner, and dancing.

To see more photos from Convention, [click here](#).

JCCM News...

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 99 pounds of food to JCCM last week!

Prayer Requests...

For Those Who Are Housebound...

Marian Auer, Jean Hale, Edna Phillips, Doris Starks, and Doris Whiting.

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, Kassidy, Kelly, Ruth, Lousie, Becky, Laurie, Barbara, Wanda, Jennifer, Karmen, Karen, Tyler, Walter, Nancy, Bob, Alison, Michele, Joan, Ned, Richard, Dennis, Renee, Lori, Evan, Bertie, and Brad.

For Those Who Have Died...

Mr. Benton Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Leeds Riely, Merrily Clift; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clift; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Corregan; Virginia Gesner; Gertrude G. Jones; and Ruth S. Clift and Roger Perry.

For Those Celebrating Birthdays in November

Liz McDonald, 1 st	Bill Chesley, 13 th	Leigh Anne Cassell, 20 th
Debra Cornwell, 4 th	Janet Barker, 13 th	Chris Chesley, 21 st
James Gibson, 5 th	Bill Noble, 14 th	John Lustrea, 23 rd
Barbara Porterfield, 7 th	Donald Noland, 14 th	Rob Salisbury, 26 th
Susan Skinner, 9 th	Kenneth Fanelli, 14 th	Jill Beck, 27 th
Karen Shefner, 10 th	Faye Davenport, 17 th	Sandra Coughlin, 27 th