



# Zion Episcopal Church

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

Telephone: (304) 725-5312 | Email: [office@zionaepiscopal.net](mailto:office@zionaepiscopal.net)

## Parish Office Hours

*Parish Office Hours will resume when a new office administrator has been hired.*

## 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 Rev. Johanna at [priest@zionaepiscopal.net](mailto:priest@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...*

### **Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am — 3:00 pm                      Healing Hearts Ministry | Lower Level Ed. Bldg.

### **Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Easter 3**

*This week's altar candles are given for the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. J. Blackwell, Sr. Our altar flowers today are given for the glory of God and in loving of Merrily A. Clift, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clift, Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Corregan, Virginia Gesner, Gertrude G. Jones, and Ruth S. Clift by the Petrecca Family; and Dr. and Mrs. H. Robert Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Skinner, Sr., Elizabeth Skinner Gough, and Jane Gibson Helmick by Mr. and Mrs. John C. Skinner, Jr.*

**8:00 am — 9:00 am**

**Holy Eucharist: Rite I**

### **Scheduled to Serve**

Altar Guild

Linda Work, Laurie Ruddy

Lay Reader

Linda Work

Ushers

Jim and Laurie Ruddy

Hospitality

Jim Ruddy, Linda Work

**No Bible Study**

**10:30 am — 11:30 am**

**Holy Eucharist: Rite II**

**Scheduled to Serve**

Altar Guild

Sue Floyd and Family

Verger

Lee Wilson

Crucifer

Lucy Peyton

Torch Bearers

Isla Wildman, Rightly Wildman

Gospel Book

Winnie Wildman

Lay Reader

Erin Delaney

Intercessor

Jamie Wilson

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Jamie Wilson

Ushers

Stephen Hall, Urath Gibson

Hospitality

Joanne McIsaac

2:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Music of the Regiment | Church

**Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm — 8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal | Church

**Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

10:00 am — 11:00 am

Morning Prayer | Hayes Chapel

**Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

9:00 am — 12:00 pm

Thrift Store

10:00 am — 11:00 am

Morning Prayer | Hayes Chapel

5:30 pm — 6:30 pm

Community Meal Ministry | Social Hall

**Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

10:00 am — 11:00 am

Morning Prayer | Hayes Chapel

**Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Office Closed**

**Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

2:00 pm — 3:30 pm

Delaney/Grove Wedding | Church

**Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Easter 4**

**8:00 am – 9:00 am**

**Holy Eucharist: Rite I**

**Scheduled to Serve**

Altar Guild

Laurie Ruddy, Linda Work

Lay Reader

Phil Porterfield

Ushers

Sam and Lanette Byrer

Hospitality

Jim Ruddy, Linda Work

**9:15 am – 10:15 am**

**Holy Eucharist: Rite II | St. Philip's**

**10:30 am – 11:30 am**

**Holy Eucharist : Rite II**

**Scheduled to Serve**

Altar Guild

Sue Floyd and Family

Verger

Lee Wilson

Crucifer

Colin Harp

Torch Bearers

Lucy Peyton, Isla Wildman

Gospel Book

Winnie Wildman

Lay Reader

Greg Harp

Intercessor

Kenny Floyd

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Kenny Floyd

Ushers

Sue Floyd, Jamie Wilson

Hospitality

Ken Fanelli

### *Scheduling News...*

For those who served during our Sunday worship services – and those who may be considering serving (!), please note that the following names used to identify specific roles filled by laity during our liturgy have been changed to more fully reflect the roles of the laity.

While 'Lay Reader' has remained the same, 'PP' or Prayers of the People has been changed to 'Intercessor' to reflect that the lay person who leads the congregation in The Prayers of the People during worship acts as one who prays on behalf of others. 'CB' or Chalice Bearer has been changed to 'Lay Eucharistic Minister' to reflect that the individual is a confirmed layperson licensed by the bishop to administer the chalice. Long story short: same roles, different names!

*From Rev. Johanna...*

Joe and I returned from vacation late Sunday evening. By *almost* all accounts, we had a good vacation. But, the best part — honestly, the part I will carry with me for a long time — was the time I spent with my granddaughter, Ella. Although Ella and I spend time talking on Facetime several times a week, we hadn't seen each other in person for quite a while. No doubt you know, life has a way of stretching the distance between us and the people we love. Despite the distance, when I finally pulled into my daughter's driveway and stepped out of the car to see Ella cheerfully standing at the front door, there was this beautiful, slightly awkward, completely wonderful moment of joy as we reacquainted ourselves with each other.



Ella had grown. I had missed things. And yet — there it was. That unmistakable thread of love and recognition, pulling us right back together as if no time had passed at all. We laughed. We figured each other out again. We spent time together in ordinary moments — meals, games, reading stories and singing songs — the same ones, over and over (!) — and every single one of those moments felt like such a gift. I found myself thinking: this is what it means to be cherished. Not the grand gestures. Not the perfectly curated occasions. Just the simple, unhurried presence of someone who is glad — genuinely glad — that you exist. As I have settled back into my normal routine this week, I've intentionally spent some time with that feeling because I think it has something to teach us about God.

In reflecting on the verses from Psalm 116 we'll recite this coming Sunday, verse 15, "*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones*" lingered in my mind. Well, specifically it was the word — precious — which lingered in my mind. I thought about how when we hear "precious," we tend to think of something rare. Something fragile behind glass, locked in a display case, too valuable to touch. And while that's not entirely wrong, it doesn't quite capture the fullness of what the psalmist is reaching toward. The Hebrew word used by the psalmist is *yaqar*. And yes, it does mean costly and valuable. But it also carries the sense of something held dear. Something beloved. Something that matters deeply — not because it is distant and untouchable, but because it is intimately known and genuinely treasured. The difference between a diamond in a museum and a photograph worn soft at the edges from being

taken out and looked at over and over again comes to mind. Both are precious. But only one is cherished.

The sentiment captured in verse 15, is that in God's sight, even in the moment of death — that most vulnerable, most human of passages — we are not dismissed. We are not forgotten. We are held dear. We are *yaqar*. We are the soft-edged photograph God reaches for again and again. That is not a small thing. In fact, it is everything.

The thing is, I don't think this cherishing love of God is reserved only for the threshold of death, or for our finest spiritual moments, or for the times when we feel most worthy of being loved. I think the cherishing love of God is woven into the very texture of our ordinary days — days like the ones I spent with my granddaughter. Because what struck me most during my vacation wasn't any one big moment. It was the accumulation of small ones. A shared meal. Quiet time together playing Bugtastic Bingo. The way she tilted her head when she was thinking or just about to instruct me with her emphatic, "You stop that!" The way she smiled when I went into her room to get her up from her nap.

God's love, I believe, works something like that. God's love doesn't wait for a grand occasion. It is already here, already noticing, already glad — genuinely glad — that we exist. We are precious to God the way my granddaughter is precious to me — known, delighted in, missed when absent, welcomed when near. That is the kind of love Psalm 116 points us toward.

So, wherever you find yourself — whether this is a gentle season or a hard one, whether you feel close to God or at a bit of a distance — I want to offer you this simple, sturdy truth: You are precious in the sight of the Lord. Not as a relic. Not as a project. But as someone who is genuinely, warmly, tenderly held dear. The same love that knits us together in our mother's womb, that meets us at the waters of baptism, that will one day welcome us home — that love is also here, right now, in the ordinary moments of our days. In our morning coffee. In our conversation with a neighbor. In the small, unremarkable gift of another day. We don't have to manufacture a mountaintop experience to encounter that love. We just have to open our eyes to it, and let ourselves be seen.

Pace e bene,  
Johanna+

*Friends of Happy Retreat News...*

**Music of the Regiment**  
**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 2pm | Zion Episcopal Church**  
Tickets are \$25

Founded in 2023 by Dominic Giardino and Chris Troiano, **Music of the Regiment** (MotR) is an ensemble of musicians and network of researchers dedicated to the study and performance of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century European and American military music. MotR offers scholarly and musical programming that contextualizes the role of military music and musicians from the Age of Enlightenment through the American Civil War.

Whether performing music from the 1760s or the 1860s, MotR is committed to presenting programs on instruments appropriate to the period. Musicians in the ensemble use both original instruments and reproductions to “step into the shoes” of musicians of the past.

To learn more visit: <https://www.musicoftheregiment.com/>

*Property News...*

**Church Yard Clean Up**  
**Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 am**  
*Many hands make light work.*

Please mark your calendars and plan to join in helping to clean-up our church yard. We will be gathering Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 9:00 am. Bring along a rake and don't forget to bring your gloves! Any time you are able to offer will be greatly appreciated!

*Bishop Matthew's Annual Visitation...*

**Bishop Matthew's**  
**Annual Visitation Coming Soon!**  
**Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> | 8 am & 10:30 am Services**

Bishop Matthew will be present with us for his annual visitation on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. He will preside and preach at both our 8 am and 10:30 am services. All are welcome to attend and to greet our Bishop during coffee hour immediately following our services.



### *Healing Hearts Ministry News...*

**Healing Hearts Ministry**  
**Third Saturday of Each Month | 9 am to 3 pm**  
**Beginning Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**



At our April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of Healing Hearts we sorted and culled fabrics which had been stored away. Thank you to Hsiu Liascos, Marcia Lance and Sue Floyd who sorted, and sorted, and sorted fabrics into themes and color families. Fabrics which will not be used by Healing Hearts will be donated to Project Linus.

The first 'official' meeting of our Healing Hearts Ministry will be this Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm. Thereafter, we will meet on the third Saturday of each month from 9 am to 3 pm. All are welcome to participate! This Saturday, after finishing sorting through leftover fabrics, we'll begin pulling, cutting, and assembling kits for our quilts. We also hope to begin sewing our first quilts!

At this time, we are not in need of donations. However, when setting aside fabrics to donate please keep in mind that we cannot use large print, stripes/ checks/plaids, panels, partially assembled quilts/blocks, or fabrics that are not 100% cotton. For more information, contact Sue Floyd at [suecat37@yahoo.com](mailto:suecat37@yahoo.com) (304.261-3646) or Laurie Ruddy at [lruddy05@gmail.com](mailto:lruddy05@gmail.com) (304.676-2873).

### *JCCM Food Pantry News...*

**Thank you for your abundant generosity in helping to support those suffering from food insecurity. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.**



No doubt, many of you have heard or read about our efforts to welcome, support, and help meet the needs of our neighbors who find themselves in untenable circumstances. To be clear, donating to this emerging outreach ministry is separate from and in addition to our Red Wagon donations to support the ministry of JCCM. That is to say, all donations placed in our Red Wagon will continue to be sent to JCCM. Donations to our emerging outreach ministry should be dropped off at our parish office during the week. Please watch our Weekly Tidings for a list of requested donations and to learn how to support our new outreach ministry.

### *Prayer Requests...*

*"Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed."*  
— Matthew 8:8

### **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, 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, Barbara, Wanda, Jennifer, Karmen, Tyler, Bob, Alison, Ned, Richard, Dennis, Renee, Lori, Evan, Bertie, Brad, Robert, Rusty, Joshua, Diane, Michele, Patrick, Karen, and Brian.

### **For the Men and Women Serving in our Armed Forces...**

Andrew, Amy, Blake, Bill, Bridget, Sean, Dakotah, and Andrew.

### **For Those Who Have Died...**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clift, Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Corregan, Virginia Gesner, Gertrude G. Jones, Ruth S. Clift, Dr. and Mrs. H. Robert Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Skinner, Sr., Elizabeth Skinner Gough, and Jane Gibson Helmick.

### **For Those Celebrating Birthdays in April:**

|                                      |                                     |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Fred Everman, 1 <sup>st</sup>        | Tess Truitt, 12 <sup>th</sup>       | Adele Chesley, 22 <sup>nd</sup>  |
| Julia Yuhasz, 2 <sup>nd</sup>        | Melinda Maye, 13 <sup>th</sup>      | Beverly Shepp, 24 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Susannah Buckles, 5 <sup>th</sup>    | Betina Peyton, 17 <sup>th</sup>     | Kate Salisbury, 26 <sup>th</sup> |
| William Rogers, 6 <sup>th</sup>      | Lizzie Fanelli, 19 <sup>th</sup>    | Claire Johns, 28 <sup>th</sup>   |
| Erin Hilton Buetin, 10 <sup>th</sup> | Richard Seckinger, 21 <sup>st</sup> | John Kirby, 28 <sup>th</sup>     |
| Stephen Hall, 11 <sup>th</sup>       | Jerry Bowers, 22 <sup>nd</sup>      | Sarah Lustrea, 30 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Linda Poston, 11 <sup>th</sup>       |                                     |                                  |

*If you are celebrating a birthday this month and your name does not appear on the list above, please send an email or call our parish office so that we can add your birthday to our birthday list! (Email: [office@zionaepiscopal.net](mailto:office@zionaepiscopal.net) or phone: (304) 725-5312)*