

Zion United Methodist Church
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“Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

July 19, 2026

Rev. Dr. Andreá Cummings-Wratee, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Johnsie Cogman, District Superintendent
LaTrelle Miller Easterling, Presiding Bishop



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for our e-news!**



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

****Please stand as you are able in body or spirit***

Prelude~ “Perfect Praise”

Welcome~ Rev. Dr. Andrea Cummings-Wratee

****Opening Hymn~ “Guide My Feet” - #131 AAHH***

Opening Prayer

****Offering***

Doxology~ “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”~#650 AAHH

Prayer of Illumination: Spirit of the living God, Fall Afresh on Me~ #393 UMH

****The Scripture Readings***

First Reading: Genesis 28:10-19: Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all

Mark your Calendar

VBS, August 8th from 8 am to 4:30 pm. Theme: Shine Brightly with Jesus. Cost: \$5 per person (includes snacks, drinks, and lunch). Adult cost: \$8 for learning materials. For more information, contact Sis. Kim Courtney. Also, if you would like to volunteer, please reach out to Sis. Sheila Milburn, ASAP to complete your Safe Sanctuary training.

The Unified Board Meeting is on August 11th at 6 pm via Teams only. Members are encouraged to attend each monthly meeting. August through September will be dedicated to preparing for the church conference on November 7, 2026, at 11:00 A.M. at Mt. Harmony-Lower Marlboro, 155 E. Mt Harmony Rd., Owings, MD.

Homecoming, August 23, 2026. Please contact Sis. Judy to join the planning team.

Announcements? If you have an announcement or prayer request, please email it to zionlexpk@gmail.com by Wednesday.

Ready to Join Zion? Please text 301-997-3328. Pastor Cummings will reach out to you to arrange a time to discuss the membership vows and schedule a Sunday to join Zion.

Proclamation~ Dr. Cummings-Wratee

***Affirmation of Faith:** (881 UMH): *I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church*, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. (*universal)*

Prayers of the People: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

***Confession/Pardon/ The Peace~** Pg. 8

Thanksgiving & Holy Communion~ Pgs. 9-11

Lord's Prayer

Post Communion Prayer: *Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

Announcements

***Benediction**

the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

***Psalm~** #854-855~ UMH, Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

***Second Reading:** Romans 8:12-25: *So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to*

decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

Song of Preparation~ “Safe in His Arms”

***Gospel Reading:** Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43: He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.*

Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***