

**Zion United Methodist Church**  
**21291 Three Notch Road, P. O. Box 341**  
**Lexington Park, Maryland 20653**  
**Church Office Number: (301) 863-5161**  
**Church Website: [www.zionumclexpk.org](http://www.zionumclexpk.org)**  
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**\*If you have an announcement or prayer request, please email it to [zionlexpk@gmail.com](mailto:zionlexpk@gmail.com) by Wednesday.**



***“Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”***

***Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025***

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



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## ***Eighth Sunday after Pentecost***

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

***Prelude~ “Revelations 19:1”***

***Welcome~ Rev. Dr. Andrea Cummings***

***\*Opening Hymn~ “Leave it There” - #522 UMH***

***Opening Prayer***

***\*Offering***

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

***Prayer of Illumination: Holy God, grant us your wisdom. By the power of your Holy Spirit, open the Scriptures to us today, so that in the Word read and proclaimed, we might know your truth. In Jesus’ name, we ask it. Amen.***

***\*The Scripture Readings***

***First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23: Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity.***

## ***Ready to Join?***

*Please complete the form and hand it to an usher. Pastor Cummings will reach out to you to arrange a time to discuss the membership vows and the date for you to join.*

## ***What are our membership vows?***

*Vows are taken when a person joins a United Methodist Church as a baptized or professing member. By taking the baptismal and local church membership vows, the individual agrees to covenant with God and the local church members to keep the vows that are part of living the baptismal covenant and reception into membership in the local church.*

*These vows have four parts: (1) to confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior; (2) to believe in the Christian faith as contained in the Old and New Testaments; (3) to support The United Methodist Church; and (4) to uphold the local congregation with one's prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.*

***Name(s)***\_\_\_\_\_

***Address***\_\_\_\_\_

***Phone/Email***\_\_\_\_\_

### **Mark your Calendar**

**The Unified Board Meeting is scheduled for August 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in person and via Zoom.** We encourage all members to attend. To submit an agenda item, email Sis. Stephanie Lee at [stephanielee13@gmail.com](mailto:stephanielee13@gmail.com) ten days prior to the meeting. Please make plans to attend if you submit a request to the board.

**Annual Homecoming is August 24, 2025.** The theme is **“Faith Through the Generations: A Legacy of Testimonials.”** Supporting Scripture: “For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations. ~ Psalm 100:5.” The colors are shades of blue and white. The committee is requesting a **donation of \$50.00** in addition to your regular tithes. If you would like to join the Homecoming Committee, please contact the chair, Sis. Judy Butler.

**Pastor Cummings’s 3rd Anniversary celebration will be held on September 14, 2025.** If you'd like to help plan Pastor Cummings’ 3rd Pastoral Anniversary, please reach out to Min. Kevin Harris.

**Cleaning Committee:** We are seeking volunteers to assist with cleaning the church. Please contact Sis. Kim Scriber for more information.

**Flowers for the Sanctuary:** Purchase flowers in honor of a loved one, anniversary, birthday, celebration, or other special occasion. Contact Sis. Janie, with any questions.

*So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.*

**\*Psalm Reading~ Psalm 49, Response: My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.**

*1. Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all inhabitants of the world, 2. both low and high, rich and poor together. 3. My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. 4. I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp. 5. Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me, 6. those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches? 7. Truly, no ransom avails for one’s life; there is no price one can give to God for it. 8. For the ransom of life is costly and can never suffice, 9. that one should live on forever and never see the Pit. 10. When we look at the wise, they die; fool and dolt perish together and leave their wealth to others. 11. Their graves are their homes forever, their dwelling places to all generations, though they named lands their own. 12. Mortals cannot abide in their pomp; they are like the animals that perish. R*

**\*Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11:** So, if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ

*is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!*

### ***Song of Preparation ~ “Grateful”***

**\*Gospel Reading: Luke 12:13-21:** *Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”*

***Proclamation~ Dr. Cummings***

***Invitation to Christian Discipleship***

***Affirmation of Faith~ 881 UMH***

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

***Prayer of confession, assurance, and pardon~ pg. 8***

***Thanksgiving & Communion~ pg. 9-11 (see insert for sung response)***

***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***

***\*Closing Hymn~ “God Be with You” - #639 AAHH***

***\*Benediction~ Dr. Cummings***