

Zion United Methodist Church
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***If you have an announcement or prayer request, please email it to zionlexpk@gmail.com by Wednesday.**



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

Sunday, August 17th, 2025

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



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for our e-news!



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
****Please stand as you are able in body or spirit***

Prelude~ “Give Us This Day”

Welcome~ Rev. Dr. Andrea Cummings

****Opening Hymn~ “Hold to God’s Unchanging Hand” - #404***
AAHH

Opening Prayer

****Offering***

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

Prayer of Illumination: Oh God, your Word is like fire. By the power of your Holy Spirit, illumine our sight, and enflame our hearts so that we may live lives more faithful to your will. Amen.

****The Scripture Readings***

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:23-29: Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed! I have dreamed!” How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal.

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

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 take place on September 14, 2025. Our theme is “A Good Example,” inspired by 1 Peter 5:2-3. The guest speaker is Rev. Chania Dillard. There will be one service at 10:30 a.m., followed by a meal. The colors are purple and white. The committee requests a \$50 love offering in addition to regular giving. Members are encouraged to give cards and gifts to the pastor individually.

The 145th Church Anniversary celebration will be on Oct. 19th at 10:30 a.m. If you would like to join the planning committee, please contact Sis. Omega Taylor.

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.

Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

***Psalm Reading~** Psalter 804, verses 1-8

***Second Reading:** Hebrews 11:29-12::2 *By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of*

faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Song of Preparation ~ “Order My Steps”

****Gospel Reading:*** *Luke 12:49-56: “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?*

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 UMH

Thanksgiving & Communion~ pg. 9-11 UMH

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~ “Be With Us All Lord” (see insert)***

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