



THE MT. ZION MESSENGER

THE GOOD NEWSletter

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 33 Oak Street, Springfield, MA 01109

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Volume 25; Issue 6

Rev. Dr. Atu White, Pastor

November 2023

WEEKLY SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Worship Service

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

*In Person in the Sanctuary, or Livestreamed on
[Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com); [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com); or our website,
wearemtzion.com*

If you desire special prayer or would like to join Mt. Zion,
call the Church at 413-785-5664 following service until 12 noon.

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#### \*Prayer/Mediation Call

Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon

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*Bible Study

Wednesday, November 29th at 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study Lesson: "The Articles of Faith"

***CANCELLATION NOTICE**

The Prayer & Meditation Call & Bible Study
are cancelled on the first four (4)
Wednesdays of the month
November 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd.

Both will resume on Wednesday, November 29th.

IN-PERSON SERVICES

In-Person worship services start at
10:00 a.m. each Sunday.

Masks are optional.

Social distancing is encouraged.

Those who are not attending services in the
sanctuary, can continue to worship via
live streaming. (See article to the left.)

**ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH!**

VOTE!



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH !**



SET CLOCKS BACK 1-HOUR

Have a Happy & Safe Thanksgiving!!

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Nov. 1-----Dea. Dan Jones

Nov. 4-----Sis. Bamma Garvin

Nov. 6-----Bro. Carmen Garner

Nov. 7-----Sis. Ariel Parker

Nov. 8-----Sis. Karen Ebron

Nov. 12-----Sis. Ashley DeJesus

Nov. 13-----Sis. Helen Burston

Nov. 14-----Sis. Tayshaana Brown

Nov. 17-----PASTOR ATU WHITE

Nov. 18-----Bro. Walker Bryant

Nov. 20-----Deaconess Luz White

Nov. 21-----Sis. Sonya Garvin

Nov. 29-----Sis. Veronica McNair

Happy November Anniversaries

Nov. 19-----Bro. Justin Nicholas
& Sis. Shanice Coppedge-Nicholas

Nov. 24-----Sis. Anna Howell
& Bro. William Howell

TOP 10 PREDICTIONS No Matter Who Wins The Election

- 1) The Bible will still have all the answers.
- 2) Prayer will still work.
- 3) The Holy Spirit will still move.
- 4) God will still inhabit the praises of His people.
- 5) There will still be God-anointed preaching.
- 6) There will still be singing of praise to God.
- 7) God will still pour out blessings upon His people.
- 8) There will still be room at the Cross.
- 9) Jesus will still save the lost.
- 10) Jesus will still love you.

So Regardless of the
Election Results,
isn't it great to know
Jesus is still in control.

First Published in 2008 Newsletter

DIFFERENT COMMUNION CUPS

This month, we're trying a different shaped communion cup—the hourglass juice & wafer. Open the bread/wafer-side first, and then turn it over and open the juice side. Feel free to share your thoughts about it with any Deacon or Deaconess.



NOVEMBER 2023 MEETINGS

DEACON MINISTRY MEETING

Saturday, November 18th

at 10:00 a.m.

All Deacons & Deaconesses should attend.

USHER MINISTRY MEETING

Saturday, November 18th

at 11:00 a.m.

All Ushers should attend.

MAN CAVE FELLOWSHIP

Friday, November 17th

at 6:00 p.m.

All Men are invited to attend.

SHE SHED FELLOWSHIP

Friday, November 17th

at 6:00 p.m.

All Women are invited to attend.

NO MISSIONARY MINISTRY MEETING THIS MONTH

CHOIR REHEARSALS

MALE CHORUS

Wednesday, November 15th

at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 18th

at 12 noon

MASS CHOIR

Wednesday, November 29th

at 6:00 p.m.

SPECIAL

JOINT BOARD MEETING

Monday, November 20th

at 5:45 p.m.

Joint Board Members are asked to attend this very important meeting.

The meeting will start 15 minutes earlier than normal, at 5:45 p.m.

Food will be served.

Young Adult Ministry Event

Written by *Sis. Patrice Wood*

On Thursday December 7th, the Young Adult Ministry (YAM) will be hosting a Mind and Paint event from 6-9pm. YAM's goal is to bring together MZ members/friends ages 19-39 (20s and 30s). We will enjoy an instructor-lead paint class, a mindfulness discussion, great food, and of course, phenomenal fellowship. This event is free of charge. Tell a friend to tell a friend. Space is limited; please RSVP and reserve your spot with the QR code located on the flyer or by contacting **Sis. Patrice Wood** or **Sis. Jolene Snowden**. Hope to see you there



NO MOBILE FOOD TRUCK

The Western Mass Food Bank Mobile Food Truck will **NOT** be at The Dunbar Center this month.

The truck will return to our Union Street parking lot on the 4th Friday in December—December 22nd from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

PASTOR HAS TWO PREACHING ENGAGEMENTS THIS MONTH

On **Thursday, November 2nd** at **7:00 p.m.**, Pastor White will preach a Revival service at St. John's Congregational Church here in Springfield.

On **Sunday, November 19th** at **3:00 p.m.**, Pastor White will be the guest preacher at Third Baptist Church, 196 Kent Avenue, Suffield, CT, for their Pastor's Installation Service.

LET'S CELEBRATE PASTOR'S BIRTHDAY



Pastor White's birthday is Friday, November 17th, but Mt. Zion will recognize and celebrate it two days later.

On the third Sunday of this month, November 19th, at the 10 a.m. service, any member or ministry wishing to share well-wishes with our Pastor, or present him with a gift, will have an opportunity to do so.

If there's one day of the year that Pastor White **LOVES**, it's his birthday. Please help make it special!

Pastor Is Shown Appreciation

October was "Pastor's Appreciation Month," and on Sunday, October 29th, Mt. Zion recognized this occasion. On behalf of the Church, the Pastor's Aid Ministry Leader, **Deaconess Deborah Jones**, presented Pastor White with a love gift from the Church.

A SOLDIER GONE HOME

SIS. BETHUNE ANDREWS

went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, October 29, 2023.

Beth was a faithful member of the Church and the Senior Usher Ministry.

She will be sorely missed.

NEW MEMBERS

Joining Mt. Zion in October were:

BRO. COLE MADDOX

Date Joined: October 8, 2022

Method: Christian Experience

SIS. AYANNA SPENCER

Date Joined: October 8, 2022

Method: Candidate for Baptism

Welcome Cole & Ayanna!

Coat Drive Huge Success

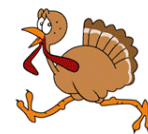
Written by *Sis. Anna Howell*

The Mt. Zion Missionary Ministry would like to extend our sincere appreciation for your donations and support in our coat drive. . The coat drive was a great success! We gave away 77 coats to adults and children. (All children's coats were brand new.) May God richly bless you for your generosity that will help others to stay warm this winter.

Again, thank you and may God continue to bless you.

A LITTLE THANKSGIVING HUMOR

Why did the turkey



cross the road?

See 'Puzzle' section for Answer.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

Veterans Day is an official United States public holiday observed annually on November 11th.

It honors military veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

TO ALL MT. ZION VETERANS & FRIENDS & RELATIVES OF MT. ZIONITES...

WE RECOGNIZE YOU! WE SALUTE YOU!

and most of all, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SACRIFICE AND SERVICE.

Our known Mt. Zion Veterans are:

MT. ZION MEMBERS WHO ARE VETERANS

Ivrie Thompson
U.S. Army
Corporal
1950-1953

Rev. Bert A. Johnson
U.S. Air Force
T Sgt./ E6
1956-1976

John Charles
U.S.M.C.
Specialist E-3
1959-1971

Bobby Hartsfield
U.S. Army
E4
1963-1965

Alvin Parker
U. S. Army
E4
1963-1966

Jesse McKnight
U.S. Army
Sgt./ E7 1st Class
1967-1969

Alfred L. Dixon
U.S. Navy
E-4
1969-1973

Walker L. Bryant
U.S. Air Force
Sgt.
1969-1976

Rocky Edge
U.S. Army
E3
1971-1973

Richard Scroggins, Jr.
U.S. Army
Sgt. 1st Class/E-7
1971-1985

Lois Bass-Peterson
U.S. Army Reserve
Staff Sgt./E7
1972-1985

Delores Culp
U. S. Army
Sp. 4
1976-1979



Ronnie Williams
U.S. Marines
Sgt.
1979-1989

Qumar Bilal
U.S. Army
Sergeant
2009-2019



VETERANS WHO ARE RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF MT. ZION



Robert S. Magill
U.S. Navy
RDPO3
4 years

Willie Moore
U.S. Army
E4
1964-1967



**Mt. Zion will host the
101st Annual Session of the United Baptist Convention of MA, RI, & NH, Inc.
November 9-11, 2023
People from all over New England will be in attendance. Please be one of them.
See the schedule of events below.**



United Baptist Convention of

Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire

Rev. Dr. Atu White, President

101st Annual Session of the United Baptist Convention of the MA, RI & NH November 9th - 11th, 2023

Thursday, November 9th

- ***The Opening Worship Service @ 7:00 pm (In-Person + Livestream)***

Friday, November 10th

- ***The Convention Prayer Breakfast @ 9:00 am (In-Person)***
- ***Empowerment Sessions: Youth, Women, Laymen, & Pastors @ 11:00 am (In-Person)***
- ***The Convention Hour @ 6:00 pm (In-Person + Livestream)***
 - ***Women's Auxiliary President's Address***
 - ***Congress of Christian Education Address***
 - ***The State of The Convention***
- ***The Evening Worship @ 7:00 pm (In-Person + Livestream)***

Saturday, November 11th

- ***The Business Meeting @ 9:30 am (In-Person)***
- ***The Closing Worship Service (Communion Celebration) @ 11:00 am (In-Person + Livestream)***
- ***Fellowship Lunch @ 12:30p***

Hosted by:

***Mt. Zion Baptist Church
33 Oak St.
Springfield, MA 01009***

Livestream: Facebook.com/Wearemtzion, YouTube/Mt. Zion Baptist Church Springfield, MA, Wearemtzion.com

To ALL UBC VOLUNTEERS:

Please plan to meet on **Monday, November 6th at 6:00 p.m.** to review protocols and procedures.

*If you have not already signed up to volunteer to help with this event, please do so today.
See Sis. Lakisha Coppedge or Sis. Luz White to do so.*

HONORARY STREET NAMING

Written by Sis. Charlette Scott

On October 26, 2023, the community ushered in a street naming event on the corner of Oak & Union Streets in honor of George "Big Will" Williams. Big Will was a community leader who valued and supported having a community center where children and teens could engage in sports activities. Mt. Zion Baptist Church/The Dunbar Center, Inc. is committed to continuing the sports legacy as well as fostering activities centered on Arts, Wellness, & Education.



The street naming ceremony was held here at The Dunbar on our Oak Street grounds. In attendance were our Pastor, **Dr. Atu White**, a number of Mt. Zionites, many members of the community, and several dignitaries, including Springfield Mayor Dominic Sarno, City Councilor Lavar Click-Bruce, and State Representative Bud L. Williams.

~~~~~PUZZLES~~~~~

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE: MOSES ANAGRAM

Last month you were asked to unscramble the letters below to find the words in this Anagram about Moses. How did you do? Let's see...

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| ABEKST ~ <u>BASKET</u> | AAHHOPR ~ <u>PHARAOH</u> | AEGLPSU ~ <u>PLAGUES</u> | AEOPRSSV ~ <u>PASSOVER</u> |
| AEEIILRSST ~ <u>ISRAELITES</u> | DEEHPRS ~ <u>SHEPHERD</u> | ACEILMRS ~ <u>MIRACLES</u> | ADEELR ~ <u>LEADER</u> |
| ACDEMMMNOST ~ <u>COMMANDMENTS</u> | BGINNRU BHSU ~ <u>BURNING BUSH</u> | <u>DLTK's Template Printing (dltk-kids.com)</u> | |

THIS MONTH'S PUZZLE: "THANKSGIVING WORD HUNT"

For our puzzle this month, see how many 8-letter words you can find using the letters in "THANKSGIVING." A letter cannot be used in the 8-letter word any more times than the letter appears in the word THANKSGIVING. For example, there are two (2) i's in THANKSGIVING. Thus, the 8-letter word cannot contain more than two (2) i's. There are at least sixteen (16) 8-letter words. Good luck and enjoy your 'THANKSGIVING Word Hunt.' Answers will be in next month's newsletter.

Thanksgiving Humor Answer: To prove it wasn't chicken!



Chair Aerobics

Written by Sis. Awilda Oxios

Bay Area Neighborhood Council, 437 Bay Street, Springfield, (across the street from the Cemetery)...

This is a great place to get your body moving with a wonderful instructor (Tracy Thompson) and a most unique group of senior people. (Don't be fooled by the word, 'senior.' There is nothing senior about the workout or the people.) The group will keep you laughing and enjoying the sessions on Tuesdays and Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m...and the sessions are FREE!

There are other activities during the week. I encourage you to check it out. You will be pleasantly surprised.

FunFest

Written by Sis. Charlette Scott

On Tuesday; October 31st, Mt. Zion Baptist Church/The Dunbar Center, Inc. in partnership with the Center Afterschool Program, Shriners Suez Temple No. 114, Suez Court No. 149, and St. John's Congregational Church and others welcomed over 500 people to FunFest 413. It was a great night of fellowship, good fun, and games. At this year's FunFest

event, the Dunbar gym was decorated with a theme centered around being active. The evening began with a dance demonstration by Legacy Dance Studios. Every corner of the gym had an activity to keep children actively engaged. Visitors could participate in many activities including candy corn bowling, jumping in the two bounce houses, line dancing, taking selfies at the photo booth, or visiting the Fire Truck parked in the Union Street lot. There were games and contests of "Guess the number of candy corns in a jar," "Guess the weight of the pumpkin," and "Guess the number of eyeballs in a jar." There was a 'Best Costume' contest by age groups with many children dressed in classic Disney Characters like princesses, Marvel characters, Minnie Mouse, and more. The grand finale game was a "Trunk or Treat" contest where participants were judged on the decoration of their car trunks. All the trunks entered were nicely decorated representing various organizations or themes. FunFest participants cast votes, and the winners of this year's FunFest 413 'Trunk or Treat' were:

1st place--Patrice Wood (Her second year placing 1st)

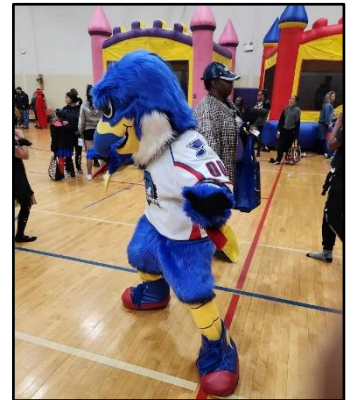
2nd place--Mason Square C- 3 (the Cruiser was nicely decorated.)

3rd place--The Garner Family (featuring designer **Ebony**)

Thanks to the following supporters of this event: UMass Five Federal Credit Union, Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services, Shriners Suez Court No. 149, Suez Temple No. 114, St. John's Congregational Church, Legacy Dance Studios, Sure Shot, Bethlehem Baptist Community Church, WTCC, Third Baptist Church, Wesley United Methodist Church, DJ Boogey for DJ services, Alaze Fun Houses, City Councilor Tracye Whitfield, the C-3 Police Department, Engine #8 Fire Truck, Boomer (the Thunderbirds' mascot) who stole the show as the most photographed character and dancer with the best moves, ROCA Inc. for the candy donation, the men and women of Suez Temple No. 114, Suez Court No. 149 for grilling and serving almost 1,000 hot dogs, and **Sis. Andrea Dixon** for serving a tasty dinner for our volunteers.

A huge gratitude to **Sis. Angela Westbrook** and **Sis. Kim Weir** for the beautifully decorated gym. A special 'thank you' to all the members and volunteers from Mt. Zion Baptist Church who donated candy, treats, socks, food, and funds, who helped with all the set-up, and who volunteered their time to participate in this wonderful event.

We thank God for the resources, continued partnerships, and the ability to host another safe and successful FunFest 413!



OUR WORKING GOD

Written by Sis. Andrea Dixon



On October 1, 2023, I discovered a beautifully bloomed "Easter" lily in my backyard. On October 4, 2023, I had two lilies!! Imagine that! Through the cold spell and the rains, we had Easter lilies in October!

I sent a photo to **Sis. Angela** (Westbrook) and her reply was, "Only God!" I also sent a photo to **Deaconess Wanda** (Powell) and her reply was "Truly Amazing!" There are many songs about our awesome God, but the two remarks above, also the names of two songs, came to my mind when I saw those beautiful lilies!

Pastor Atu just preached that we're God's creations! He created us and all that's on the earth and dwells within is His! We are God's and those lilies are just another sign of the wonders of our God!

Daily, God keeps on showing us His Handiwork. His beautiful Easter lilies in October 2023! PRAISE GOD.