

THE ZION TRUMPET



Greater Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church
1045 16th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33705
727-894-1393

March 1, 2026

Lent

A time to reflect,
repent and renew



In 2026, the Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, **February 18**, and concludes on Holy Thursday, **April 2**, with the start of the Mass of the Lord's Supper. This 40-day period (excluding Sundays) is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for Christians, leading up to Easter Sunday on April 5, 2026.

Key 2026 Lenten Dates

- **Ash Wednesday (Start):** February 18th
- **Palm Sunday:** March 29th
- **Holy Thursday (End of Lent):** April 2nd
- **Good Friday:** April 3rd
- **Easter Sunday:** April 5th

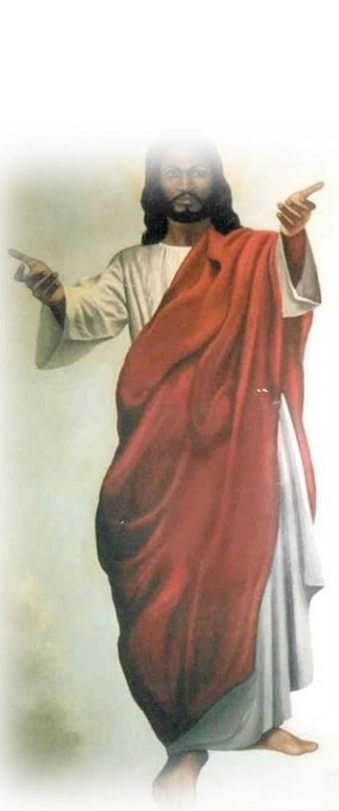
Key Traditions and Guidelines:

- **Fasting/Abstinence:** Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting (one full meal, two smaller ones)
- **Fridays:** Abstinence from meat is encouraged every Friday during Lent.
- **Focus:** The season emphasizes prayer, charity, and self-reflection.



**Don't Forget
to Spring Forward!**

Sunday, March 8



Trivia Answer for February 2026

An illustration of a golden gate with twelve pearls, set against a sunset background. The text "The Twelve gates were Twelve pearls" is written in a cursive font across the gate.

Revelations 21:21

Trivia Question for February 2026

Of what were the twelve (12) gates of New Jerusalem made?

Trivia Question for March 2026

Which timber was used to construct the Ark of Noah and what sealant was chosen to render it waterproof?

On-line Streaming

February 01st
Rev. Clarence A. Williams
Luke 14:7-14
"The Invitation"

February 08th
Rev. Keturah Pittman
1 Samuel 1:6-8, 11-12
"A Turning Point"

February 15th
Rev. Kenneth Irby
Deuteronomy 16:20
"Keep Fighting"

February 22nd – Church Anniversary
Rev. Dr. Ellis Hodge
Pastor, Word of Life Fellowship, St. Petersburg
Colossians 1:28-29
"By the Power of God"

A silhouette of a person kneeling on a rocky outcrop, looking towards a sunset sky with clouds. The text "When God speaks, we better listen." is written in a cursive font across the sky.

PREACH THE WORD
It's *Still* All About **Jesus**

A stylized graphic of a crucifix with a red heart in the center, set against a circular background with rays.

From The Pastor's Desk



ATTITUDE

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. It is more important than the past, than education, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company...a church... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way... we cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our **ATTITUDES!**

Now let us look at what the Scriptures say about attitude:

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!" Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV)

"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." Eph 4:22-24 (NIV)

"Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin." 1 Peter 4:1 (NIV)

So how has your **ATTITUDE** been lately?





Down Syndrome Awareness Month

Background: In every cell in the human body, there is a nucleus, where genetic material is stored in genes. Genes carry the information responsible for all our inherited traits and are organized along rod-like structures called chromosomes, half of which are inherited from each parent. Down syndrome occurs when an individual has a full or partial extra copy of chromosome 21.

This additional genetic material alters the course of development and causes the characteristics associated with Down Syndrome. Common physical traits of Down Syndrome include low muscle tone, small stature, an upward slant to the eyes, and a single deep crease across the center of the palm. Individuals with Down Syndrome possess varying degrees of cognitive delays, from very mild to severe. Most individuals with Down Syndrome have cognitive delays that are mild to moderate. However, each person with Down Syndrome is a unique individual and may possess these characteristics to different degrees, or not at all.

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), approximately one in every 640 babies in the United States is born with Down Syndrome, make Down Syndrome the most common chromosomal condition. About 5,700 babies with Down Syndrome are born in the United States each year. Some of the most common conditions include:

- Hearing loss (up to 75% may be affected)
- Obstructive sleep apnea, where a person's breathing temporarily stops while asleep (between 50 and 75%)
- Ear infections (between 50 and 70% may be affected)
- Eye diseases, like cataracts (up to 60%)
- Eye issues requiring glasses (50%)
- Heart defects present at birth (between 50 and 65%)
- Alzheimer's disease

What impact does Down Syndrome have on Society?

Individuals with Down syndrome are increasingly integrated into society and community organizations, including schools, health care systems, workforces, and social and recreational activities. Due to advances in medical technology, individuals with Down syndrome are living longer than ever before. In 1910, children with Down Syndrome were expected to survive to age nine. With the discovery of antibiotics, the average survival age increased to 19 or 20. Now, with recent advancements in clinical treatment, most particularly corrective heart surgeries, as many as 80% of adults with Down Syndrome reach age 60 and many live even longer (Down Syndrome, 2018). More and more Americans are interacting with individuals with Down Syndrome, increasing the need for widespread public education and acceptance.






Reference: National Down Syndrome Society and the CDC
Submitted by Sister Sam Foster

The Health & Wellness Ministry
Dr. Donna Pringle

Time to PLAY!

Its Rebus Time AGAIN...

A rebus is a picture representation of a name, work, or phrase. Each rebus puzzle box below portrays a common word or phrase. Can you guess what it is?

<p>wheel wheel wheel wheel</p> <p>DRIVE</p>	<p>APPLE</p> 	 <p>uu</p>
<p>horobod</p>		<p>engine</p> 
<p>VEG</p> 	<p>NoonT</p>	<p><u>camping</u> NIGHT</p>
 <p>go go</p>	<p>T i m e</p> <p>ABDE</p>	<p>PO</p> 



03/01 Angela Delvalle
 03/02 Darhea Blakely
 03/02 Reggie Reed, Jr.
 03/03 Leon Grant
 03/03 Steven Walker
 03/03 Ja'Niyah Clark
 03/03 Deidre Morgan
 03/03 Keisha Patrick
 03/03 Thomas Lawrence
 03/04 Sequoia Bilal
 03/04 Nicole B. Spears
 03/04 Markeisha Battles
 03/05 Gloria Benton
 03/05 Maxine Salter
 03/05 Joe Newton
 03/05 Labria Ware
 03/05 Janice Howard
 03/06 Dimetric Q. Williams
 03/06 Danny James
 03/06 John Gilbert
 03/06 Johntae Gwyn
 03/07 Willie Peak
 03/07 Victoria Giles
 03/07 James Butler
 03/08 Donald Baker
 03/08 Melody Jones
 03/08 Steven Vaughn
 03/09 Clara Clark
 03/09 Gregory Ervin
 03/09 Rafael Lowe
 03/09 Sabrina Thomas
 03/09 Willie Williams, Jr.
 03/10 Barbara Smith
 03/10 Giovonte Powell, Jr.
 03/11 Cynthia Millhouse
 03/11 Shanikka Wynn
 03/12 Henrietta Johnson
 03/12 Lori Sisler
 03/12 Erica Burnett
 03/12 Andrew Harris
 03/12 Tameka McMurray
 03/12 Londyn Clinton
 03/12 Kristy DeSence

03/13 Belinda Gonzalez
 03/13 Ruby Dee Coleman
 03/13 Ashia Holmes
 03/14 Helen Evans
 03/14 Savitre Gerratisomton
 03/14 Willie Searcy
 03/14 Phillip Haywood, Jr.
 03/15 Mable Thomas
 03/15 Andre Sermon
 03/15 Jonetha Williams
 03/16 Danny James
 03/17 Frank Wells
 03/18 D'aye Alexander
 03/18 Trinesha Davis
 03/18 Angela Kilpatrick
 03/18 Latroy Killens
 03/19 Angelina Williams
 03/20 Caira Jenkins
 03/21 DeShawn Blue
 03/21 Cojuana Mitchell
 03/21 Samara Cooper
 03/21 Ryan Smalls
 03/22 Julian Hill
 03/22 Kortney Snead
 03/22 Alicia G. Miller
 03/23 Melodee Lee
 03/24 Cynthia Crumb
 03/24 Latwanda Brown
 03/24 Malory Williams
 03/24 Michael Wilson
 03/24 LaWanta S. Porter
 03/24 Moneii Bryant
 03/25 Dozier Harrell III
 03/26 Rodney Davis
 03/26 Dwight Eva
 03/26 James Weldon
 03/28 Dr. Carol Sims-Robertson
 03/29 Daylynn Rembert
 03/29 Damoni Watson
 03/30 Zicari Gibbons
 03/31 Willie Smith



March Birthstone

AQUAMARINE

Symbolizes tranquility and courage. It brings clarity and calm, representing harmony and peace. This serene gem also protects travelers and promotes clear communication.

Birth Flowers

March

For March babies the birth flowers are daffodils and jonquils. These flowers symbolize rebirth, luck, vanity and prosperity.

BORN IN MARCH

- Attractive personality
- Affectionate and caring
- Naturally honest, sincere
- Loves peace and serenity
- Sensitive to needs of others
- Not easily angered
- Reliable
- Appreciative of gratitude
- Observant
- Loves travel
- Aesthetically gifted

with Deepest
Sympathies



To Clarence and Rhonda Ryan and all other Family Members on the loss of your Brother:

Rev. Bobby Joe Clemons

To Sister Mable Gibson, Lori Gibson and all other Family Members on the loss of your Granddaughter / Niece:

**Courtney Gibson
Ft. Myers, Florida**

To Ruth Dortch Davis and all other Family Members on the loss of your Sister-in-Law:

**Peggy W. Dortch
Talladega, Alabama**



Sister Barbara Keys	1750 16 th Street South, Unit 35279
Sister Kay Keys	3201 Burlington Avenue North, #405
Sister Daisy Powell	2350 9 th Avenue South, Apt. 102
Sister Edna Stevens	2400 23 rd Street South
Sister Jasmine Walker	1955 29 th Street South
Rev. Ira Whitson	1660 31 st Street South
Sister Annie Wright	1834 21 st Street South

Nursing Homes and Rehabilitation Centers

Ms. Valerie Griffin	Laurellwood Care Center, 3127 57 th Avenue North, #10
Mr. Eugene "Geno" Harrell	Angel Care Rehab Center, 4300 31 st Street South, Room 22
Brother Herbert Keys	Menorah Life, 255 59 th Street North
Brother Quentin Keys	Shores Acres Rehabilitation, 4500 Indianapolis St. NE



Ms. Stephanie Cummings

BIBLE DISCOVERY

EDUCATING | EDIFYING | ENCOURAGING

Every Sunday - 8:30 - 9:30 am

Senior Women's Class - Rhonda Ryan

Number: 1-978-990-5076

Access Code: 7777943#

Progressive Women's Class

Monique Brown and Rosalind Macon

Number: 540-792-0189

Access Code: 375083#

Men's Class

Brother Al Turner

Number: 848-220-3100

Access Code: 104516#

Youth Class – Rev. Dr. Sherrisse Bryant

Streaming at: greatermtzioname.org

Please Join Us!



Prayer Time



In His Footsteps...

Mid-Day Bible Study
Every Thursday, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Please join my meeting from your
Computer, Tablet, or Smartphone.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5557697236?pwd=ODN0aWxGazRxeXgzTkhXajBURUJhQT09>

Meeting ID: 555 769 7236
Passcode: Bible Study

Church News

LATEST UPDATES

Second Quarterly Conference
March 17, 2026 – 7:30 pm

Reports due by:
Sunday, March 8, 2026

St. Petersburg District
Leadership Institute
March 21, 2026

Spring Revival
April 27-28, 2026
Mt. Olive AMEC - Clearwater

Third Quarterly Conference
June 16, 2026 – 7:30 pm

Fourth Quarterly Conference
September 15, 2026 – 7:30 pm



Trustees
on Duty for the
Month of March 2026

James Brown, Sr.
Rodney Davis

Please make contact with any member of the Board of Trustees if you need information about building use, activities on the grounds, or any other concerns. If you need further direction or have questions or concerns, please call me, Fred Robinson, Pro-Tem of the Trustee Board. My phone number is listed on Page 15.

Thank you,
Mr. Frederick Robinson

Steward Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2026
8 pm - Via ZOOM

Trustee Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 18, 2026
8 pm – Via ZOOM

All Officers MUST be in attendance.

Thank you,
Rev. Clarence A. Williams

Upcoming Meetings

Please see the March
Calendar for all meetings
and rehearsals dates

Thank you

Bible Discovery



- 03/01 Love God and Love Your Neighbor
Mark 12:28-34
03/02 Work and Discipline
Proverbs 12:1-2, 10-14
03/03 The Temple of the Body
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
03/04 The Discipline of Right Choices
1 Corinthians 9:19-27
03/05 God Is Always With Me
Psalm 139:1-12
03/06 Fearfully and Wonderfully Made
Psalm 139:13-24
03/07 The Superior Training in Godliness
1 Timothy 4:7-12
03/08 Pure in Mind and Spirit
Daniel 1:8-17
03/09 God Will Defend the Needy
Psalm 12
03/10 Do Not Be Afraid to Give
Luke 12:13-21, 33-34
03/11 Treat the Neighbor With Justice
Leviticus 19:11-18
03/12 The Royal Law of Love
James 2:8-13
03/13 Everyone is Our Neighbor
Luke 10:25-37
03/14 Compassion for Those in Need
Deuteronomy 15:4-11
03/15 Seeing Christ in Those Around Us
Matthew 25:41-45
03/16 Souls Bound Together
1 Samuel 18:1-5
03/17 Abide in God's Love
1 John 4:7-16
03/18 Loving God and Each Other
1 John 4:17-21
03/19 All Peoples Will Worship God
Isaiah 56:3-8
03/20 Living Together in Unity
Psalm 133-134
03/21 Children of God Through Faith
Galatians 3:25-29

- 03/22 God Accepts Us All
Acts 10:9-15, 30-35
03/23 A Kingdom Not of This World
John 18:28-38
03/24 The Lord's Peace
Numbers 6:22-26
03/25 God Is Exalted Among the Nations
Psalm 46
03/26 God Guides the Destiny of Nations
Amos 9:7-12
03/27 Glory and Honor of the Nations
Revelation 21:21-27
03/28 The Nations Shall Gather to God
Isaiah 2:1-5
03/29 All Peoples Are Kin
Acts 17:22-28
03/30 Many Dwellings in the Father's House
John 14:1-4
03/31 Encouraging Words of Hope
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
04/01 I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Job 19:23-27
04/02 Awake and Sing for Joy
Isaiah 26:12-19
04/03 Give Thanks to the Lord
Psalm 118:15-24
04/04 Christ is Risen From the Dead
1 Corinthians 15:13-20
04/05 Death Is Swallowed Up in Victory
1 Corinthians 15:50--58



BLACK HISTORY

Black History Trivia Answers

1. Duke Ellington
2. Dr. Alexa Canady
3. Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett
4. The Tulsa Star
5. Madison Washington
6. The MOVE bombing
7. Zazzau (in present-day Nigeria)
8. Mansa Musa (of the Mali Empire)
9. 1967
10. Garrett Morgan

Trivia Questions for the Month

1. What organization did Malcolm X belong to before forming his own organization, the Organization of Afro-American Unity?
2. What was the primary goal of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?
3. What event in 1968 resulted in nationwide protests and is often seen as a turning point in the Civil Rights Movement?
4. What style of music originated in Black American communities in the southern United States and combines elements of spirituals, work songs and the blues?
5. In the early 1900s, what style of music, featuring intricate guitar picking and storytelling lyrics, became a cornerstone of the blues genre?
6. Which rapper released the iconic album "Illmatic" in 1994, often considered one of the greatest hip-hop albums of all time?
7. Who was the Black American novelist and enslaved person who wrote the famous narrative "Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl" under the pseudonym Linda Brent?
8. Who was the Black American orator and writer who rose to prominence through his fiery speeches advocating for immediate emancipation of enslaved people?
9. What 2017 film, directed by Jordan Peele, addresses issues of race in America through a horror-thriller narrative?
10. Who is the acclaimed director and producer known for films like "Fruitvale Station," "Black Panther," and "Creed"?



KNOW YOUR HISTORY

Inspirational Moment

Kindness is a Life Well Lived

We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.
– Sir Winston Churchill

This world is every shade of color at once. There are dark days and there are bright, glorious days. There are days of every color in between.

Recently, there have been some huge disasters in our country and the darkness has felt very thick. But then, there are small, quiet stories that seep out of the destruction. Neighbors giving all they have to help. People from out of town bringing supplies. Strangers coming into town and rescuing other strangers. Small businesses using their food supplies to feed those who have lost everything. Communities rallying to the aid of those less fortunate.

The light in the darkness is us.

It was always meant to be us.

So the challenge this week and of our lives, is how can we bring our color of kindness into the world? It should be in our every moment. Not just with those we love, but also with those we need to understand. If we bring kindness into the world, we make it better. And a better world is great for all of us.

Living a full life begins with kindness. May we fill up our lives and our world with it!

Practice kindness all day to everybody and you will realize you're already in heaven now.

– Jack Kerouac



No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever
wasted.



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Smart Money Habits

Here are a couple more tips for smart money habits...

Clean Up and Track Your Credit Score – your credit score has a direct impact on your ability to qualify for loans and the interest rate you'll have to pay. It can even impact your ability to get a job. Fortunately, you can get a free credit report by visiting AnnualCreditReport.com. This service used to be available once per year, but you can now check your credit every week. Checking your credit regularly not only lets you see how you're doing, it also give you a chance to spot any risks to your credit, such as identity theft. The three most important factors in determining your credit score are: **Plan for Big Expenses (College, Home, Travel)** – it can take a long time to save for college, so if there are any tuition bills in your family's future, the sooner you start saving, the easier it'll be when the time comes. Starting early not only gives you a chance to set more aside, you can also benefit from compound interest as your fund grow over time. If you're saving for a down payment on a mortgage, look at your home loan options and consider a federally backed affordable housing program you may be eligible for. Figuring out how to achieve these goals is a key reason why developing new financial habits and monthly budgeting are so important.

Talk to your Kids About Money – for most kids, parents are their biggest influence and source of knowledge about money and budgeting – and whatever positive habits and money handling skills they learn at a young age can help set them up for success when they get older. Start teaching your kids about money as soon as possible. Make sure they understand where money comes from, the hard work involved in earning a living, and the importance of spending (and saving) responsibly. If you're saving up for a family vacation, let your kids know that this kind of expense takes planning and sacrifices. You might set up a chart and keep them informed of your progress as you explain how to reach your financial goal. Even everyday purchases can be a teachable moment. At the grocery store, you could explain why you choose certain items and how the more you save today; the sooner you'll have enough money to meet that vacation goal. Make sure they also understand that debt, such as carrying a balance on your credit card, reduces how much you can spend on other things, while saving and having something in the bank makes life easier for all of you.

Automate Savings and Bills – many individuals have part of each paycheck split between their checking and savings accounts, or they place their income into a checking account and have a specific amount automatically transferred into a savings account on a weekly or monthly basis. Many people discover that this makes it easier for them to save money and reduces the temptation to spend what they might've contributed to their savings goals. You could also have the transfer split between more than one savings account, such as an emergency fund, college fund, and your regular savings account. Automating your bill payments can help you pay your bills on time, which can help your credit score, as long as you always have enough in your checking account to cover your bills when they post to your account.

We hope these help!



MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Unique Agenda LLC
P.O. Box 17056 St. Petersburg, Florida 33733
(727) 657-5680
UniqueAgendaLLC@gmail.com

Services Provided In The Areas Of:

- Political Consulting
- Corporate/Non-Profit Trainings
- Layouts and Designs
- Fundraising Services

When choosing the ordinary is not enough

Our new page will be highlighting both children and adults.

If there is an accomplishment, recognition, award or business you would like to have highlighted, please submit it to the Church Office on or before the **15th** of every month.

Do You Own a Business?

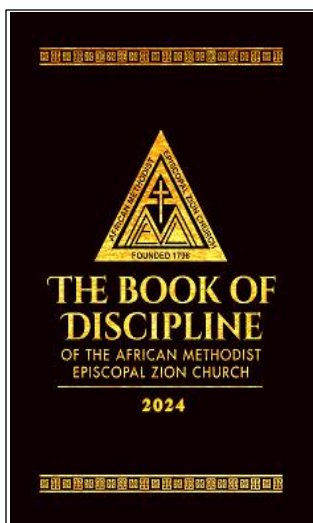
Beginning January 2026, we will highlight your business in The Zion Trumpet to get your information out to the Community and Members. Please turn in your information by the 15th of each month.

Thank you, and we are looking forward to patronizing all the “Businesses” that will be advertising with us.

The Office Staff

are
Now
Available!
\$36.00

Please see
Ruth Davis
or Phyllis
Dorsey for a
copy!



I am not lucky,
I am blessed!
Everything
I have is because
of God's grace
and favor.

Contact Information

Jimmy Pritchett, Steward Board Pro-Tem 727-366-7763
Frederick Robinson, Trustee Board Vice Chairman
727-563-6054

Rev. Keturah Pittman, Assistant Pastor 727-215-0407
Rev. Kenneth Irby, Clergy 727-244-1302
Rev. Ira Whitson, Clergy 727-768-6178
Rev. Dr. Sherrisse Bryant, Youth Minister 727-608-7695

Dr. Donna Pringle, Health & Wellness 727-215-1512
Malory Williams, Male Chorus 727-687-6384
Patricia Needom, Class Leaders 727-896-1085
Felicia Pizana, Women's Ministry Chair 727-452-1405
Al and Courtney Gwyn, Couples' Ministry 727-564-7393
Shirley Kicklighter Morgan, Lay President 727-815-6563
Valarie Lee, O.L. Nicks WMS President 727-851-5339
Ariel Snead, YPD Director 727-220-6491

Donna Butler, Kitchen Manager 727-599-4215
Dozier Harrell, Sons of Allen President, Janitorial
727-656-0302

James Butler, Janitorial 727-906-1200
Bessie Kirnes, Administrative Assistant 727-433-2533
and Director, Board of Christian Education



GET CONNECTED
STAY INFORMED

**Important
Telephone Numbers**



our ETTA Youths

Excelling Through Talents and Academics

"The more you learn, the
more places you'll go"

-- Dr. Seuss --



Cross and Anvil Human Services, Inc.

1207 7th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
Phone: 727-821-0284
Fax: 727-821-0004

Office Hours: 10 AM - 2 PM
Monday - Friday

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1045 16th Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
Phone: 727-894-1393
Fax: 727-827-4707
Website: greatermtzioname.org

Office Hours:
Helen Evans - MWF - 9 AM - 1:00 PM
Verna Thompson TTHF - 9 AM - 1:00 PM



**Update
your
info!** 

All Members:

Please contact the Church Office to update or check that your contact information is correct with the Church listing.

Your attention in this important matter is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
The Office Staff



Happy Anniversary

**Delmar and Nyiesha Brent
Michael Ferguson and Helen Rhymes
Reggie and Courtney Reed, Jr.
Kendrick and Latoya Scott**



thank you

To: Greater Mt. Zion AME Church

We the family of Anna Hering would like to send our gratitude and love, for all the prayers, loving kindness and support you have shown to us at this time. May God Bless you and keep you in His care,

With all our Love, Sheryl, Derrick, Zerrick and Darrion