

Mt. Zion's History

"Still Standing, Still Sowing, Still Serving"

Today, Mt. Zion's members continue a tradition of service to the Georgetown community and greater Washington in the 21st century. They are proud of and grateful to their ancestors for founding and sustaining Mt. Zion, the oldest black church in the District of Columbia.

Still Standing

Mt. Zion's free and enslaved black founders worshiped at the Montgomery Street Church (now Dumbarton United Methodist Church) since the early 1800s. Dissatisfied with segregation at the Montgomery Street Church, 125 black parishioners purchased land on Mill Street (now 27th Street) in 1816 and built a church known as both "The Meeting House" and "The Little Ark." Dissention in Mt. Zion over the issue of black ministers presiding over black churches led several members to leave by 1849 and organize Union Wesley A. M. E. Zion Church, John Wesley A. M. E. Zion Church, and Ebenezer A. M. E. Church. Tragedy struck on July 14, 1880, when the original church burned to the ground after which the congregation met temporarily in the Good Samaritan Hall, located in what is now the 1500 block of 26th Street, NW.

Still Sowing

Since no public funds were expended for the education of black people in the city of Washington until 1862. Mt. Zion became an educational center for the black population.

Records indicate that until slavery was abolished, Mt. Zion served as one of the stations in the Underground Railroad; the vault in the nearby Old Methodist Burying Ground was used as a hideout for runaway slaves until their passage north could be arranged.

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church was designated in June 1974 in Category II of the Inventory of Historical Landmarks of the District of Columbia. On July 21, 1975, it was also placed on the National Register of Historical Places. Mt. Zion has contributed significantly to the visual beauty and cultural heritage of the District of Columbia.

Still Serving

Mt. Zion's Youth Ministries and Scholarship Program supports youth members with their development, annual pilgrimage to the Rock (youth retreat), and financial support for postsecondary study.

Mt. Zion continues to impact social change. Members currently participate in *Georgetown Saturday Suppers*, a feeding program in which we provide a hot meal to

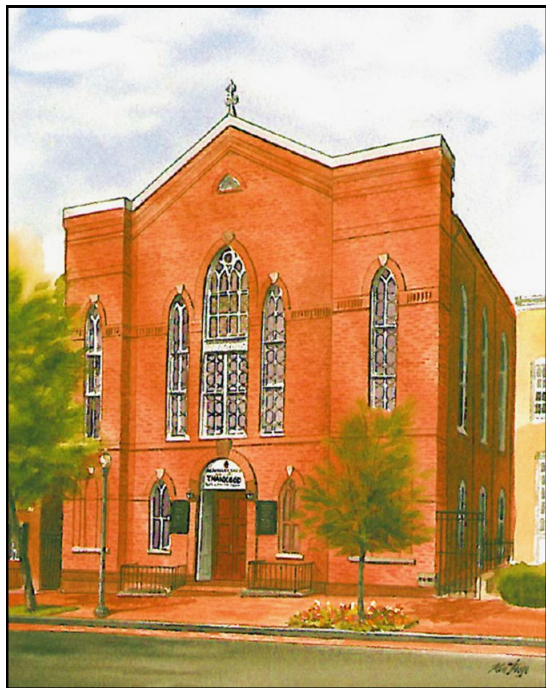
those who are "shelter challenged" – without a permanent home. Our church doors open every Saturday afternoon to serve those in need. In this program, Mt. Zion partners with five other churches in Georgetown, fostering true Ecumenical service.

Mt. Zion also serves as one of the churches in the D.C. Government's "One Congregation, One Family" program to support a family in need. The program matches selected families with trained church mentor teams who provide tools, resources and support towards self-sufficiency.

Thanks to our current kitchen renovation (Operation Kitchen), our ability to provided services will be expanded. Once the kitchen renovation is complete, we will be able to provide a hot meal not only to those without a home each week, but also to our elderly members who are homebound and unable to fully care for themselves.

Mt. Zion strives to exemplify the hands and feet of Jesus. We still stand, still sow, and still serve to make disciples of Jesus Christ to change our community and the world.

Mt. Zion
United Methodist Church



CELEBRATING 200 YEARS
IN GEORGETOWN!
1816 - 2016

*The Cradle of Black Methodism
in Washington, DC.*

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
1334 29th St, NW, Washington, DC 20007
202-234-0148 | www.mtzionumcdc.org
Email: mtzionumc.dc@gmail.com
Rev. Johnsie W. Cogman, Pastor

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
200th Anniversary Celebration!

Celebrating 200 Years
from October 2015 to October 2016!
Join the Celebration!



OCTOBER 2015

*Mt. Zion Goes Pink & Purple**

Sun Oct 11 Joint Worship & Homecoming
A.M. & P.M. Services

Sun Oct 18 MZ200 Walk: Dumbarton -
Cemetery - MZ & Libation Service

Sat Oct 31 **Anniversary Prayer Breakfast**
Kellogg Conf. Ctr. - Gallaudet Univ.

NOVEMBER 2015

*Coats for Comfort Clothing Drive**

Sun Nov 15 "Feed our Neighbors" Concert
with Christ House

DECEMBER 2015

*Coats for Comfort Clothing Drive**

Dec 6 - 11 MZ Goes to College
Brunch & Activity Outreach

Sun Dec 20 Holiday Bake Sale
Advent Cantata
Friends & Family Day

JANUARY 2016

Sun Jan 17 MLK Sunday Worship Experience

Mon Jan 18 MLK Day of Service

FEBRUARY 2016

Sat Feb 20 Health & Wellness Fair

Wed Feb 24 Black Georgetown Remembered

MARCH 2016

Sun Mar 20 Friends & Family Day

APRIL 2016

Sun Apr 10 Pinstripes: Food & Bowling,
all ages

MAY 2016

*Mt. Zion Celebrates Women**

Sat May 21 Youth/Young Adult Event

JUNE 2016

*Mt. Zion Honors Men**

Sun Jun 19 Friends & Family Day

Jun 24 - 25 Youth Summit

JULY 2016

Sat Jul 23 Spoken Word/Play/Drama/
Liturgical Dance Event

Sun Jul 24 Community House - Open House

AUGUST 2016

*School Supplies Drive (ends Aug 21)**

Sun Aug 7 Community/Reunion Choir
Concert

Sun Aug 21 Friends & Family Day
TBA Trip to Library of Congress Civil
Rights Act Exhibit & African-
American Hist. Museum

SEPTEMBER 2016

Sun Sept 11 **Block Party**

Fri Sept 30 **200th Anniversary Gala**

OCTOBER 2016!

Mt. Zion, You're 200 Years Young!!
Sunday, October 2, 2016
CULMINATING WORSHIP EXPERIENCE!

**Occurring all month long unless
otherwise indicated.*

Visit www.mtzionumcdc.org to learn more.