

Churches in the Shenandoah Valley

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church
1600 Ridge Rd
New Market VA 22844



A brief History

The beginning of Mt. Zion Church began with the Rev. Socrates Henkel, who inspired by the needs of the people and promoted by his call as a minister, secured the use of Kipps Schoolhouse to preach to the people on the west side of the Shenandoah River. He preached his first sermon there on August 21, 1853. He began preaching at Kipps Schoolhouse once a month. In six months these services were organized with officers being elected on February 12, 1854.

Church website: www.mt.zion.newmarket.com
Telephone: 540-740-8525

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Elders: Albert Flemings, John Lowry

Deacons: Moses Tusing, Michael Hess, George Lohr, Peter Bushong.

There were sermons in German and English. The first communion was held and lasted three days, June 1,2,3, 1855. In these three days there were also baptisms, confirmations and preaching.

In December 1870, it was decided to take subscriptions and build a House of Worship. George Lohr and his wife, Magdalene deeded an acre of land to build upon on May 18, 1871.

The new building was dedicated during services on November 23,24,25 1872. Subscriptions were taken and the church building was completely paid for.

The original building was 35' x 45'. In 1918 a bell tower and new entrance was built (11' x 22').

In 1932, Mt Zion joined with St Martins (New Market) and St Marks (Forrestville) to form Quicksburg Parish.

This remained until November 1988 when the members voted to be on their own. A new Parsonage was built and the Pastor Jeff Sonafelt became the first Pastor.

Other important dates:

1956 - Major repairs to the church building

1961 - Balconey was converted to Sunday School rooms

1973 -John Kipps Educational building was built which included bath rooms, Sunday School rooms and a social hall. Prior to this the Kipps Schoolhouse was used as a social hall.

1979 - Aluminum siding was put on the church

2008 - a new social hall was built.

Church Mission Statement: We are a family of God serving others through Christ's love.

Wriiten by Dwight Kipps, December 2011

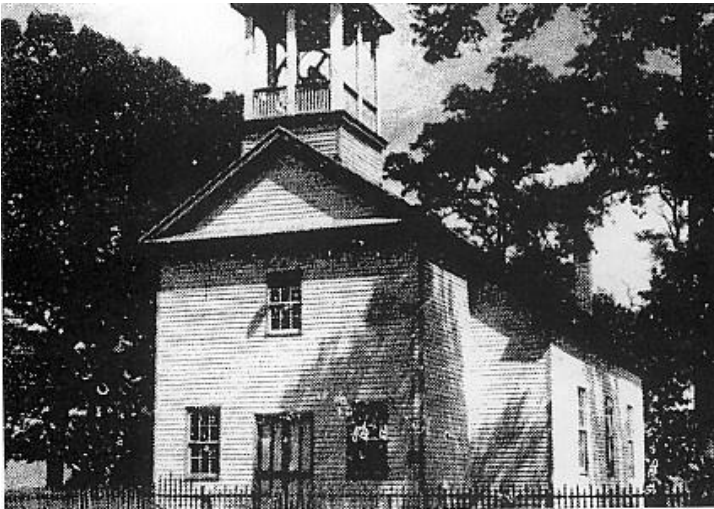
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Original Church



Original pews and pump organ



Open steeple added 1918



Kipps Educational Building



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