



What's Working @ Faith

Friday, March 6, 2026



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Move your clock forward 1-hour before you go to bed this Saturday night so you will be on time for worship Sunday morning!

OUR LENTEN SERIES CONTINUES

Lent 3 — March 8

John 18:12-27

Mending Our Fear and Denial

Lent 4 — March 15

John 18:28-40

Mending Our Relationship with Truth

Lent 5 — March 22

John 19:1-16a

Mending Human Dignity

Palm/Passion Sunday — March 29

John 19:16b-22

Mending Faith Under Empire

Maundy Thursday — April 2

John 19:23-30

Mending Through Love Poured Out

Good Friday — April 3

John 19:31-42

Mending in the Presence of Death

Easter Sunday (Communion) — April 5

John 20:1-18

Mending Hope

Easter 2 — April 12

John 20:19-31

Mending Belief and Doubt

At its February 8 meeting, the Leadership Board reviewed the year-end financial report. A summarized version, [*FUMC: A Financial Year in Review – 2025*](#), was shared with the congregation in mid-February. The report outlined the capital projects funded through reserves and grants, as well as charitable organizations supported through the operating budget. As in past years, the largest expense categories were staff compensation (fewer than four full-time equivalents) and ongoing building maintenance. The budget remained balanced only through significant withdrawals from invested reserves, a pattern that is not sustainable. The Board expressed appreciation for the congregation's generosity and affirmed the need to increase weekday use of the building and expand rental income.

A promising opportunity emerged through a proposal from two experienced early-childhood educators seeking space to open a licensed childcare center. They are eligible for an interest-free loan that could help fund required safety improvements to our building. Leasing space to this center would generate revenue while meeting an important community need.

The Board also reviewed guidance from other congregations using simplified, accountable leadership structures. This included best practices for forming short-term workgroups tasked with specific projects. These workgroups will typically be chaired by a Board member and include individuals from the congregation with relevant interest or expertise. The Board hopes members will consider participating when invited.

Four workgroups were approved, and Pastor Laura will begin recruiting members. These groups will focus on:

- Financial Reporting and Transparency
- Generosity (Stewardship)
- Legacy Giving
- Property Issues

Their specific deliverables will be aligned with Board priorities as work progresses.

The Board also discussed sustaining the energy from the January 24 vision retreat (summarized in [*The Good News*](#)). This spring, Fellowship Time may occasionally highlight one of the five ministry areas explored during the retreat, encouraging suggestions on how these ministries can continue to thrive.

Finally, the Board reviewed and affirmed Suzanne Smedberg's statement of call to ministry and recommended her to the District Superintendent to continue in the ordination candidacy process. If you have questions, please reach out to any Leadership Board member: Mike Coppersmith, Rachel Hedrick, Tamara James-Fish, Brian Jones, Kathy King, Janelle Veazey, or Jennifer Young.

Bill Maas

Chair, Leadership Board

FAITH WORK DAY!

Saturday, March 14th from 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

Join the Building Integrity team and volunteers of all ages as we come together to mend our building and grounds. This gathering is a chance to repair what's worn, refresh what's tired, and tend to the spaces that hold our worship and fellowship. We'll meet, hand out tasks, and get to work—enthusiasm matters more than experience, though both are welcome!

Bring clothes that can get dirty; Faith will provide water and snacks. As we mend the spaces around us, we also strengthen the community within us, helping Faith remain a clean, bright, and welcoming home for worship and growth.

FAITH BY THE FIRE: FAITH SPRING CAMPOUT

Saturday-Sunday, May 2nd-3rd

Reserve today by scanning the below QR code or using this [link](#)! Campsites are going quickly.

Faith United Methodist Church invites you to

FAITH BY THE FIRE

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 2-3



MONTGOMERY PARKS

LITTLE BENNETT
CAMPGROUND



GAMES | HIKING | FOOD | FELLOWSHIP

AND INFORMAL WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY MORNING

Pitch your tent at the family-friendly Little Bennett Campground in Clarksburg, MD. Whether you plan to stay overnight or simply join us for the day's activities, we would love to have you be part of the fun! Campers and non-campers alike are invited to RSVP using the QR code provided.

A \$40 deposit is required to reserve an overnight campsite, first-come, first-served. For questions, please contact Chuck Spencer at 240-370-2799 (vcspencer@aol.com) OR Sara Romeyn at 301-651-8210 (sararomeyn@yahoo.com).

FAITHFUL RESISTANCE



Faith calls people not only to believe, but to act. On Wednesday, February 25, United Methodists and faith partners gathered in Washington, D.C., for [*Faithful Resistance: A Public Witness for Immigrant Justice*](#), a day of worship, prayer, and advocacy calling for compassion and due process for immigrants. Pastor Laura was among the over 1,200 participants - a public witness that stretched more than a mile.

The opening service of *Faithful Resistance* was more than a prelude to public witness. It was a theological declaration. Bishop LaTrelle Easterling made it plain: **“A gospel that does not side with the oppressed is not the gospel of Jesus Christ.”**

To read more and view photos, click [here](#). Additionally, [this article](#) includes follow up information about related events that happened along **with ways that people can ACT now.**

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT - *Mending our Fear and Denial*

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

Scripture: John 18:12-27

LIVESTREAM SERVICE

How do I get to the worship service on the Faith website?

There are three ways to access our worship experience on Sunday mornings through our website. [Click here](#) to learn about those options.

PREVIOUS SUNDAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

[Listen and watch last Sunday's online worship service.](#) See and hear the worship service, led by Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, from last Sunday's worship service featuring music, scripture, and prayers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Children and youth are invited to begin their Sunday morning in the sanctuary for the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Middle and high school students are dismissed prior to the Children's Message, while children in kindergarten through 5th grade are dismissed following the Children's Message.

All Sunday School classes return to the sanctuary after the sermon to rejoin the congregation for the remainder of worship.

We joyfully always welcome children in worship. Whether your child prefers to remain in the pews or spend time at the kids' table at the front, they are warmly invited to participate in our worship gathering in the way that feels most comfortable to them.

Kindergarten-2nd Grade: Godly Play, room 203

3rd-5th Grade: room 200

Middle School (6th-8th Grade): room 206

High School (9th-12th Grade): room 205

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Sunday following worship

Faith 101 for new members meets after worship today in room 111. Faith members Jane Rall, Hunter Prillaman and Rev. John Campbell facilitate this 6-week class.

LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING

Sunday following worship

The Leadership Board meets today in room 102. This Board was created to simplify the church's leadership structure and allow people to focus their gifts and free up more time for acts of service and compassion.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

This Sunday the middle and high school youth will meet at Faith UMC for activities, food and fun. For questions, contact Suzanne Smedberg, Youth Coordinator, at ssmedberg@faithworkshere.com.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

SMALL GROUP LED BY BILL MAAS

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

This group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. via Zoom. If you have questions or would like to join, contact Bill Maas at billmaas@verizon.net.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87429970926?pwd=OXp0WDMvQVByQzhWZXJXSzZaTThUQT09>

Meeting ID: 874 2997 0926

Passcode: 568601

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

BELLS OF FAITH

Bells of Faith do not have rehearsal this Thursday.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

The Chancel Choir rehearses every Thursday from 7:30-9:00 p.m. under the direction of Dr. Michael Wu, Faith Music Director, in the sanctuary.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please email your prayer requests to Prayer@FaithWorksHere.com. Our Congregational Care Ministers (CCM), Tamara James-Fish, Jim Johnston, Susan Keller, Emily Sama-Miller, Chuck Spencer, and Kristen Wayne will receive your request.

Prayers for Faith UMC members: Seren Hemmings; Steve Bell; Bill Cooper and Terrie Tuckman

Prayers for those dear to us: Connie and her family (friend of Sharon Virts); JR (friend of Janelle Veazey); Jan and Don (friends of Nancy Kneisly); Reese (friend of Caroline and Ryan Babula); Students of Wootton High School; Family of Tre Johnson; Family of Joe Murphy (friend of Kay McCarty); Grandmother of Andrew Buck and The family of Charles R. Grant (friends of Bill and Lloydie Zaiser).

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS: MARCH 6-15

March 8: Ashley Jónsson

March 9: Frank Johnson

March 10: Carol Bridgers, Phil Isaacs & Adam Winchenbach

March 11: Tessa Ricketts

March 12: June Watts

March 13: Linda Bowles & Nancy Skinner

ANNIVERSARIES

None during this period.



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