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[www.FaithWorksHere.com](http://www.FaithWorksHere.com)

Sunday, January 18, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.  
Second Sunday after Epiphany

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Accommodations: Faith offers large print hymnals and Bibles, magnifiers, printed versions of the sermon, FM wireless assistive listening devices, and noise-cancelling headphones for your use located on the white bookshelf at the Sanctuary entrance. Please feel free to use what you need and return. If you have any questions, please ask the welcome hosts at the Sanctuary entrance or contact Jennifer Young, Faith's Accessibility Coordinator, at [young.jennifer@gmail.com](mailto:young.jennifer@gmail.com) to request any other accommodations for future worship services.

## WE GATHER

Centering

Prelude: *The Hour Glass* (1951)

Ann Bartlow, organ  
Florence Price, 1887-1953

Welcome

Jay Moore

Call to Worship

Bruce Werber, liturgist

One: When justice is distorted,

**ALL: Christ overturns tables. One:**

When faith is misused,

**ALL: Christ speaks truth.**

One: When love is commodified,

**ALL: Christ calls us back to dignity.**

**We come to worship the God who**

**is not neutral about injustice and**

**not silent in the face of harm.**

**Let us worship with courage and hope.**

Confession and Pardon

Bruce Werber

**ALL: God of justice and mercy,**

**we confess that we often prefer peace over justice,**

**comfort over courage,**

silence over truth.

We benefit from systems that harm others  
and resist the disruption your love demands.

Forgive us for the ways we settle for less  
than your vision of beloved community.

Teach us to see injustice clearly  
and to act faithfully.

Amen.

Passing the Peace

## WORD

Anthem: *My Song Shall Be Always of the Loving-Kindness of the Lord* (1937)

Chancel Choir: Dr. Michael Wu, Director  
Godfrey Sampson, 1902-1949

Scripture Reading: John 2: 13 - 25

Bruce Werber

Children's Message: *Quarters for Kids Grand Finale*

Brian Jones, Leadership Board, member

Message

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

\*Hymn #605: *Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters*

Congregation Ann  
Bartlow, organ

## WONDER

Mission Moment: Retreat Recruitment

Janelle Veazey, Leadership Board, member

Invitation to Offering

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

Offertory Prayer

Bruce Werber

## WHAT NOW?

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name;  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.**

And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory  
forever. Amen.

\*Hymn #519: *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Congregation Ann  
Bartlow, organ

Sending Forth

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

Postlude: *Cortège* (from *24 Pièces en Style Libre*, Op. 31, No. 3, 1913)

Ann Bartlow, organ

Louis Vierne, 1870-1937

*Altar flowers are given by Nancy Kneisly in honor of the  
birthday of her daughter, Tammy Woolard.*

Please note that the calendar for 2026 to sponsor the altar flowers  
is on the wall in the narthex. We invite you to sign up for a specific  
date or dates and complete a pink slip (found below the calendar).

Drop it with a check in the offering chest or mail it to the church  
office. You may also pay online at our website:  
[www.FaithWorksHere.com](http://www.FaithWorksHere.com).



## VISITORS

If you are new to Faith United Methodist Church, welcome!



We encourage you to scan the QR code to let us know  
that you joined us today. If you would rather, you may  
complete a blue guest card that is available from a  
welcome host, then drop it in the offering chest.

## OFFERING

We are not passing an offering plate at this time. An  
offering box has been placed on the welcome table in the  
Narthex. You may also scan the QR code to give online.





## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

*Sundays at 5:00 p.m.*

Middle and high school youth will meet tonight for activities, dinner and fun at Faith UMC.

For questions, contact Suzanne Smedberg, youth coordinator, at [ssmedberg@faithworkshere.com](mailto:ssmedberg@faithworkshere.com).

## **STAFF THANKS YOU**

The Faith staff thanks the leadership and congregation for their generous financial Christmas gift. Your kindness is deeply appreciated, and your support reminds us how blessed we are to serve alongside such a caring and committed church family. Your generosity encourages us in our work and strengthens the shared ministry we carry forward together. Thank you for this meaningful expression of appreciation and for all the ways you embody the spirit of Christ's love.

## **FAITH SMALL GROUP INVITES YOU TO MLK EVENTS**

*Monday, January 19*

The small group led by Janelle Veazey typically meets every other Monday at 7:00 p.m. However, to kick off the new year, group members invite you to join them in celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day with two meaningful activities.

### **Lecture Series on Racial Justice**

*9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.*

Fitzgerald Theater, 603 Edmonston Dr., Rockville

### **Food Sorting Service Project**

*12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.*

North Bethesda UMC

<https://www.northbethesdaumc.org/>

The group will leave the lecture after the closing remarks and head to the food sorting event (arriving slightly late and departing a little early). You're welcome to participate in one or both activities as your schedule allows.



## STAR WORDS

A long time ago, a group of wise people saw something amazing in the night sky—a bright star shining like a promise. They knew this star was special, so they followed it on a long journey. It led them to Jesus, the newborn king. The star was more than just light—it was a guide. It showed the wise people where to go and reminded them of hope, joy and love.

What are Star Words? They are special words that can help us think about God and how we live. Words like peace, kindness, joy or faith. When you choose a Star Word, it's like picking a little light to guide you through the year. It reminds you to look for ways to share that word with others and to notice how God uses it in your life.

**If you have not received a Star Word yet, please pick one up outside the church office during the week or on Sunday in the narthex.** The wise people followed the star and found Jesus. When we follow our Star Words, we can grow closer to Jesus, too. Keep it close, and let it guide you like the star guided the wise people.

## VISION RETREAT

*Saturday, January 24 (Lunch Included)*

Join us for the Vision Retreat January 24 from 10 - 2 p.m as we enter the new year reflecting on how we become the people God calls us to be and how we can be love in our communities.

The morning will begin with a time to hear about what calling means and how we might discern ours. We will then hear about current ministries and ideas people have on their hearts and discuss, over lunch, where we see ourselves using our talents to serve our community and where we wish we could use them. After lunch we will brainstorm together and spend time naming what we care deeply about, where we think we can make a difference, and how we want to be a more vibrant church for our greater Rockville community.

Children, youth and adults are invited to join us for an afternoon of encouragement, discussion and brainstorming as we seek to listen to where God might be calling us as a church and as individuals in 2026.

Please RSVP using the QR code so we may plan for lunch.



## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

*Sunday, January 25 following worship*

# Love in action is UNSTOPPABLE



United  
Women  
in Faith

Join us for a United Women in Faith Interest Meeting on Sunday, January 25, 2026, after worship in Room 205/206. This relaxed, come-as-you-are gathering is a chance to learn what United Women in Faith is all about, enjoy fellowship and conversation, and explore ways to get involved locally—with plenty of time for questions.

All are welcome—bring a friend! Contact Nancy Kneisly, chair with any questions. Learn more at [UWFaith.org](http://UWFaith.org).

## JOIN US FOR CROCKPOT FRIDAY

*Friday, February 6th at 6:30 p.m.*

We will gather for a time of fellowship and care for one another and share a simple meal. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect as a community and enjoy meaningful conversation together.

We need five crockpot dishes to share. If you are willing to provide food, please reach out to Tim Evans at [advisors@starpower.net](mailto:advisors@starpower.net). If you're able to assist with set-up, please arrive about 10 minutes early. Clean-up will be a shared effort—many hands make light work.

Let's see where this gathering takes us!



## VOLUNTEER NEED

We need hosts to welcome worshipers and provide them with the resources they need to worship while offering warm hospitality – a Faith strength! If your smile is something you want to share, sign up in the narthex (next to the Flower Calendar) to be a host. There is a brief training that will ensure you feel comfortable. Our goal is to create a team of 16 hosts to volunteer once every other month; Faith already has six people that continue to host joyfully each Sunday. Join us!

## SERVING US TODAY

Acolyte: Grace Basford

Altar Gild for January Carol Henley

Audio Visual Volunteer: Connor Dowd, Jason Spriggs, Chuck Spencer

Congregational Welcome: Jay Moore

Fellowship Hosts: Carol & Gordon Henley

Liturgist: Bruce Werber

Money Counters: Alisa Dowd, Gary Clark

Nursery Caregiver: Emily Sama-Miller, Tessa Ricketts

Online Host: Linda Pickle

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

Sunday School Teachers:

- Elementary School Teachers: Dawn Adair Johnson, Karen Simpson, Nancy Hart, Susan Jones
- Middle School Teachers: Bill Maas: Laura Basford
- High School Teachers: Kristen Wayne

Welcome Hosts: Arvina Dalaya Gadre, Sharon Virts

## FAITH UMC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor | Ann Bartlow, Organist | André Coleman, Tenor Section Leader | Keshika Dias, Facilities Manager | Valerie Kunsman, Office Administrator | Curtis Osborne, Coordinator of Intergenerational Nurture | Tessa Ricketts, Nursery Staff | Suzanne Smedberg, Youth Coordinator | Kim Webster, Finance Manager | Dr. Michael Wu, Music Director