



## What's Working @ Faith

Friday, March 13, 2026

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### MENDING IN ACTION

Pastor Laura's sermon on the first day of Lent offered "This year our guiding image for these weeks of Lent is **mending**—the kind of repair that makes things useful again, yes, but the kind of repair that also leaves evidence that something has happened here.

Can you picture in your mind's eye a piece of clothing that has been mended?

The threads of the repair show. The stitches tell the truth.

Repentance, like mending, restores us to life – life with God, but we are not the same after the repair. We are changed."

We invite you to [share your story](#) of mending in action - whatever that may look like!

Read below Eva Szabo's story and although she believed "It was a very concrete response rather than a spiritual one" perhaps it could be the continuation and strengthening of her life with God.



Eva recently shared with Pastor Laura: *Your sermon on mending made a real impact. I decided to first take you literally (for a starter) and went right out to G Street Fabrics after church and bought a patch for my favorite sweater with a big elbow hole.*



*And for good measure, I consciously rejected symmetry, not out of laziness, and only did one elbow (very uncharacteristic for me). Something new out of the old.*

*A wonderful metaphor for our new retirement lives.*

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## **FAITH WORK DAY!**

***TOMORROW***, March 14th from 9:00 a.m.- noon

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 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.

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## SECURITY UPGRADES TO OUR BUILDING

In the coming weeks, you may notice work taking place around the church as Faith begins implementing several important security upgrades to our building. These improvements are part of our ongoing commitment to being good stewards of our facilities and, most importantly, to ensuring the safety of everyone who gathers here for worship, fellowship, ministry, and community activities.

The upgrades will include the installation of new high-security sanctuary doors with windows for exterior visibility, enhanced access control features on frequently used exterior doors, ADA operators on the sanctuary doors and one set of Fellowship Hall double doors, and a new alarm system with panic buttons that will be directly linked to local law enforcement. We are grateful that these improvements are being made possible through funding awarded to Faith through the Governor's Prevention of Hate Crimes Grant.

Work began this week and is expected to take approximately 2–3 weeks to complete. While we do not anticipate major disruptions to building access, there may be brief or temporary inconveniences. For example, the current keypad entry system will be replaced with a newer system and will not be accessible during part of the transition. Once the upgrades are complete, there will be some adjustments to how the building is accessed during the week and on Sunday mornings. As these systems are finalized, we will share additional information and guidance so everyone feels comfortable and informed when we are ready to transition to the new system.

## OUR LENTEN SERIES CONTINUES

### **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*



## CHARGE CONFERENCE

*Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m.*

Faith will hold a **called Charge Conference on Zoom**. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on recommending **Suzanne Smedberg** as a candidate for ministry in the Baltimore–Washington Annual Conference.

This is an early but significant step in what will be a multi-year journey for Suzanne. As she begins moving toward seminary and the formal steps of certified candidacy, we ask you to keep Suzanne—and her family—in your prayers.

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## FAITH EASTER EGG HUNT

*Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> following worship*

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Easter Egg Hunt

SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH FELLOWSHIP TIME

BRING YOUR OWN BASKET OR BAG  
TO COLLECT TREATS!

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## FAITH BY THE FIRE: FAITH SPRING CAMPOUT

*Saturday-Sunday, May 2nd-3rd*

Join the already 35 campers who have signed up! Remember, it is not necessary to spend the night, everyone is welcome to enjoy the day's activities. Reserve today by scanning the below QR code or using this [link](#).

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).

# The Week Ahead

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**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

*Mending our Relationship with Truth*

**Preaching:** Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

**Scripture:** John 18:28-40



## **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.

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## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**



belong • become • believe • be love

Sunday School for  
Children and Youth  
learn, explore, grow

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 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.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

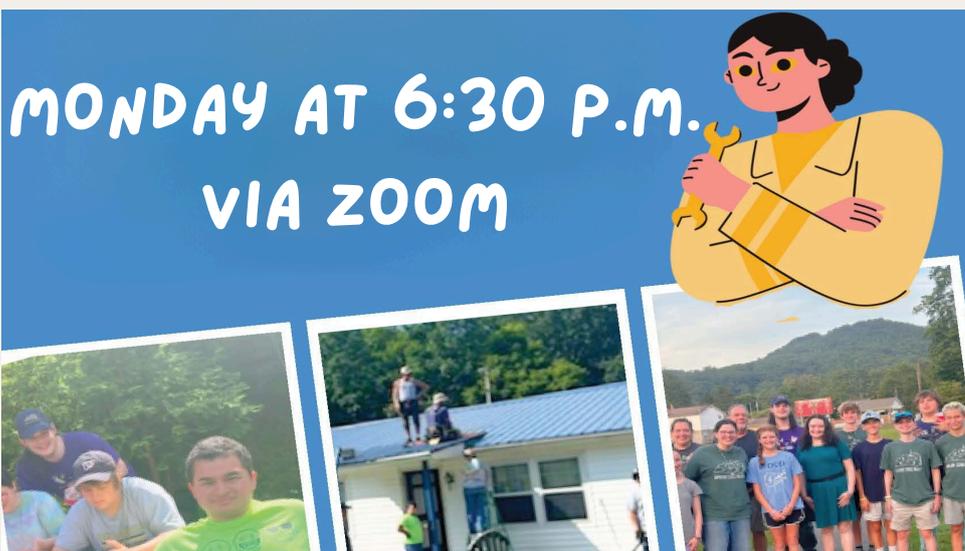
*Sunday at 5:00 p.m.*

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

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## **MONDAY, MARCH 16**

### **YOUTH MINISTRY APPALACHIAN MISSION TRIP**



The week of July 12th, youth will head south to serve a mission week for Appalachia Service Project (ASP), a non-profit committed to eradicating the substandard housing of central Appalachia. Teams of youth and adults will work on everything from roofing to foundations, to support those most impacted by Hurricane Helene. During this week, our youth will stay, work and eat with youth from all over the country who are also committed to serving God and others.

Are you a youth interested in showing God's love by working with us?

Are you an adult with the skills and spirit to support our young people?

**Interested youth, parents and adults are invited to an ASP informational Zoom meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/6939965144?  
pwd=Z0RkbkNmanJrZGZwaXhBNjVrczFEQT09](https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/6939965144?pwd=Z0RkbkNmanJrZGZwaXhBNjVrczFEQT09)

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## **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18**

### **CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY MEETING**

*Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.*

The CCM team meets Wednesday via Zoom. This Ministry focuses on supporting the spiritual and emotional well-being of individuals and families within the church community.

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## THURSDAY, MARCH 19

### **BELLS OF FAITH**

*Thursday at 6:30 p.m.*

Bells of Faith rehearses every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. under the direction of Nancy Kuhn in the sanctuary.

### **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.

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## SATURDAY, MARCH 21

### **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

*Saturday at 9:00 a.m.*

Participants will meet for the second of 4 sessions on March 21 in rooms 205/206. Confirmation will be celebrated in worship Sunday, June 7.

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please email your prayer requests to [Prayer@FaithWorksHere.com](mailto: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:** Jennifer Young and her family; Phil and Sandra Isaacs; Lloydie Zaiser; 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).

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## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### **BIRTHDAYS: MARCH 13-30**

March 13: Linda Bowles & Nancy Skinner

March 16: Lesley Avery

March 17: Nicole Beisner

March 18: Jamie Hoffman

March 19: Ellen Stanley

March 21: Terrie Tuckman

March 25: Lorena Savell

March 26: Patti Beisner, Abby Dennis & Mary Stark

March 28: Debbie Spriggs

March 29: Susan Keller

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

March 29: Celina and Jake Schmidt



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Faith United Methodist Church is a member of the reconciling Ministries Network.



We seek to welcome and include all people in the life of this congregation. Our building and gathering spaces are accessible to people who use wheelchairs and walkers. Large-print hymnals and Bibles, FM wireless assistive listening devices, sensory friendly items for children, and gluten-free communion elements are available during worship.

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