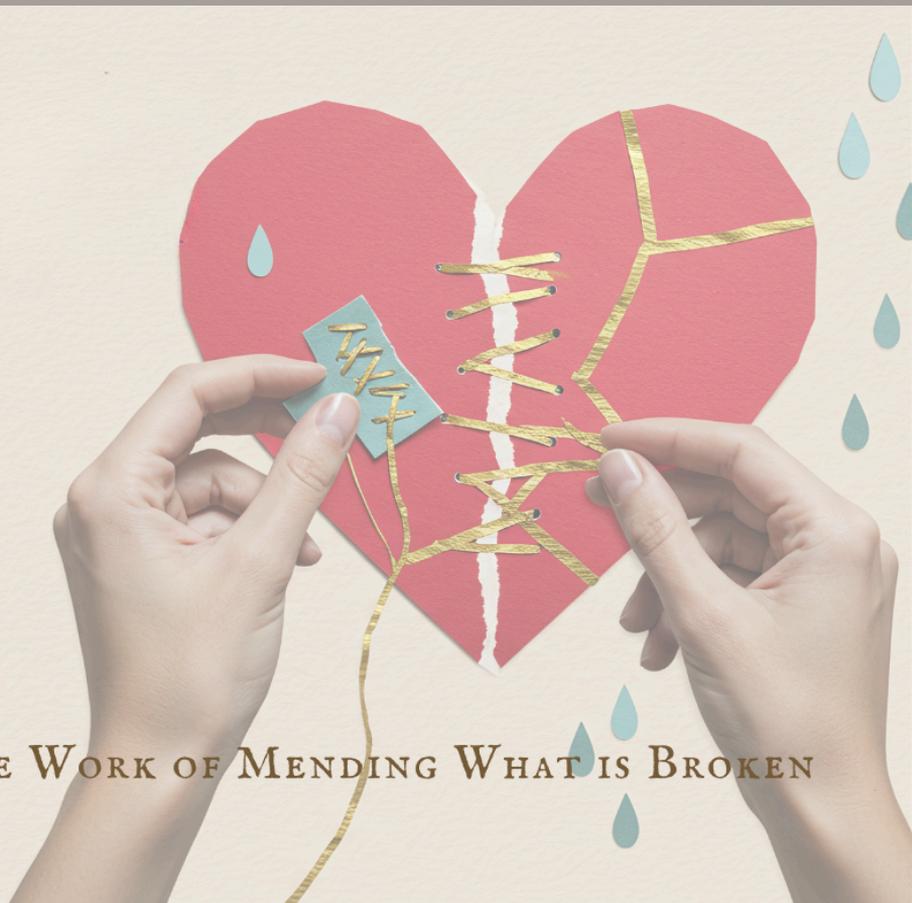


Faith United Methodist Church



THE WORK OF MENDING WHAT IS BROKEN



6810 Montrose Rd. | Rockville, MD 20852
301-881-1881 | office@FaithWorksHere.com
www.FaithWorksHere.com

VISITORS

If you are new to Faith United Methodist Church, welcome! We encourage you to complete a guest card available from a welcome host. Please drop it in the offering chest or hand it to one of the welcome hosts following the worship service.

ACCOMODATIONS

Faith offers a variety of accessibility resources for your use, including large-print hymnals and Bibles, magnifiers, printed versions of the sermon, FM wireless assistive-listening devices, and noise-cancelling headphones. These items are available on the white bookshelf at the Sanctuary entrance. Please feel free to use whatever you need and return the items after the service. If you have any questions, speak with the welcome hosts at the Sanctuary entrance. You may also contact Jennifer Young, Faith’s Accessibility Coordinator, at young.jennifer@gmail.com to request additional accommodations.

WE GATHER

Centering

Prelude: *Chorale Prelude on Heinelein* (2025)

Ann Bartlow, organ
David Ibinaiye, living

Welcome

Bill Maas, Leadership Board chair

Call to Worship

Bruce Werber, Liturgist

ONE: Come, you who long for truth that sets free.
Come, you who are weary of half-truths and distortions.
Come, you who seek clarity in a complicated world.

**ALL: Christ stands before us, embodying truth.
The Spirit leads us into all truth.
Let us worship God together.**

Confession and Pardon

Bruce Werber

ONE: God of truth,

**ALL: we confess that we often choose comfort over honesty.
We accept distorted stories when they benefit us.
We remain silent when truth would demand change.
Forgive us.
Mend our hearts and minds,
that we may live with integrity and courage.**

ONE: Hear the good news:

Christ does not abandon truth for power.

God's truth is not erased by our fear.

In Christ, we are forgiven and invited into freedom.

Thanks be to God.

Passing the Peace

WORD

Anthem: *With Prayer and Supplication*

Chancel Choir

Dr. Michael Wu, Director

(from Choral Responses, Catalogue 8, No. 2, 1891)

Amy Beach, 1867-1944

With prayer and supplication, | Let your requests be known
unto God. | And the peace of God which passeth all
understanding | shall keep your hearts and minds through
Jesus Christ our Lord. (Philippians 4:6-7)

Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

Scripture Reading: John 18:12-27

Bruce Werber

*Scripture can be found in the New Testament, pages 112-113
in the pew Bible.*

Message

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

*Hymn #463: *Lord, Speak to Me*

Congregation; Ann Bartlow, organ

WONDER

Mission Moment: UMCOR Sunday

Outreach Team

Invitation to Offering

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

Offertory Prayer

Bruce Werber

WHAT NOW?

Mending Moment

Sara Romeyn

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 #381: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Congregation; Ann Bartlow, organ

Sending Forth

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

Postlude: *Prélude (Trois Improvisations, 1911)*

Ann Bartlow, organ
Nadia Boulanger, 1887–1979



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT - CHARGE CONFERENCE



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

Faith will hold a called Charge Conference on Zoom. The only 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.

VISITORS

If you are new to Faith United Methodist Church, 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 currently. An offering box has been placed on the welcome table in the Narthex. You may also scan the QR code to the right to give online.



NEW MEMBER CLASS

Today following worship

Faith 101 for new members meets after worship today in room 111.

YOUTH MINISTRY & APPALACHIAN MISSION TRIP

Today at 5:00 p.m.

This evening, middle and high school youth will meet at Faith UMC in rooms 205/206 for activities, food and fun. Contact Suzanne Smedberg, Youth Coordinator, at ssmedberg@FaithWorksHere.com with questions or for more information.

Monday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m.

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 and parents are invited to an ASP informational Zoom meeting on March 16th. The link for the meeting was in Friday's *What's Working at Faith* or contact Suzanne Smedberg.

ALTAR FLOWERS UPDATE

We are so grateful for the beauty you help bring to our worship space through the gift of altar flowers. After holding the same price for more than six years, our florist has let us know that—beginning April 1, 2026—**the cost will be \$75.**

If you have already signed up for a date after April 1 and the new price no longer works for you, please feel free to remove your name from the flower calendar in the narthex. We completely understand. Thank you for your kindness, generosity, and the care you show our church family.

LENTEN SERIES CONTINUES

REPAIR IS RADICAL

Lent 4 — March 15 at 10:00 a.m.

John 18:28–40

Mending Our Relationship with Truth

Lent 5 — March 22 at 10:00 a.m.

John 19:1–16a

Mending Human Dignity

Palm/Passion Sunday — March 29 at 10:00 a.m.

John 19:16b–22

Mending Faith Under Empire

Maundy Thursday — April 2 at 7:30 p.m.

John 19:23–30

Mending Through Love Poured Out

Good Friday — April 3 at 7:30 p.m.

John 19:31–42

Mending in the Presence of Death

Easter (Communion) — April 5 at 10:00 a.m.

John 20:1–18

Mending Hope

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Sunday, March 29 following worship

United Women in Faith (UWF) launched last month with a strong start, welcoming 15 enthusiastic participants.



United
Women
in Faith

The gathering was marked by a spirit of energy and hope as members joined in prayer and articulated shared aspirations for how our community can embody its faith through meaningful action. UWF will continue to meet the last Sunday following worship each month. We warmly invite you to attend our next gathering, March 29th.

FAITH EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, April 5 following worship



DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON AT FAITH?

If you are not receiving our weekly e-newsletter, *What's Working at Faith* and other digital communications, please contact the office at office@FaithWorksHere.com or call 301-881-1881 to be promptly added to our mailing list. Faith will also send communication through the mail upon request.

FAITH BY THE FIRE: FAITH SPRING CAMPOUT

Saturday & Sunday, May 1-2

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 below.



For questions, please contact Chuck Spencer (vcspencer@aol.com) OR Sara Romeyn (sararomeyn@yahoo.com).



SERVING US TODAY

Altar Guild for March: Debbie Spriggs

Audio Visual Volunteers: Connor Dowd, Brian Jones and Debbie Spriggs

Congregational Welcome: Bill Maas

Fellowship Hosts: Michael and Michelle Buckley

Liturgist: Bruce Werber

Money Counters: Tim Evans and Jane Rall

Nursery Caregivers: Gary Clark and Tessa Ricketts

Online Host: Linda Pickle

Sunday School Teachers:

- Elementary School Teachers: Nancy Hart, Dawn Adair Johnson, Nancy Kuhn, Susan Jones and Jane Rall
- Middle School Teachers: Laura Basford and Bill Maas
- High School Teachers: James Hedrick and Kristen Wayne

Welcome Hosts: Bill and Lloydie Zaiser

FAITH UMC STAFF

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

SECURITY UPGRADES FOR OUR CHURCH 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, 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.

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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! Email office@FaithWorksHere.com.

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*

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.

*Permission from Ms.Szabo was granted to share this mending in action.

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