What's Working @ Faith

Friday, November 13, 2026

BACK TO BASICS: WE'RE ALMOST THERE!

Our "Back to Basics" campaign has walked us through grace received, gratitude practiced, and generosity shared — and today we get to share some encouraging news.

As of today, Faith has received pledges totaling **$435,000** toward our **$480,000** goal for 2027 — and based on past years, we expect more pledges to arrive in the coming days. If they do, we won't just reach our goal, we'll exceed it.

Thank you to this year's Stewardship Team — Laura and Andy Basford, Nancy Kuhn, Stephen Bell, Jane Rall, Jim Johnston, and Tamara James-Fish — for leading this campaign so faithfully.

If you haven't yet made your 2027 commitment, there's still time. Give online at faithworkshere.com/give or scan the QR code in this week's bulletin.

Faith in Action

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY TO FAITH

People make a difference at Faith. They teach Sunday school, sing in the choir, plan worship, serve communion, and take care of our building. They connect others with mission in our neighborhoods and serve our neighbors. As the familiar song reminds us, the church is not a building – the church is the people.

Advent is a season when many people go "church shopping," and you can help new people find our community. It can be as simple as inviting a neighbor or teammate. We are also looking for people who will share information about Faith's services and upcoming events on neighborhood listservs.

One easy way to help connect others to Faith is to share events and opportunities (like the information delivered to your inbox in *What's Working at Faith* each Friday) through your neighborhood listserv. Church members in the Old Farm neighborhood immediately surrounding the church have done this successfully for some time. If you are willing and able to do the same, please let the church office know (office@faithworkshere.com). Together, we'll build a list of ambassadors who share our work!

JUICE, JOE & JUSTICE

THIS Sunday, November 15 following worship



This Sunday the monthly discussions about social justice issues and how our own identity and experiences may impact how we work to expand our love for all our neighbors will continue. Juice, Joe and Justice (JJ&J) will be held this Sunday after worship in room 206 ("the Youth Room"). Grab a cup of joe or juice and a snack in the Fellowship Hall and bring it upstairs.

We regularly are invited to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. How might that be done? The United Methodist Social Principles give concrete expression to this vision, connecting our love for God and neighbor with our responsibility to pursue compassionate justice, build peace, and care for creation.

Taking an active stance in society is nothing new for followers of John Wesley. **He set the example for us not to separate love of God from love of neighbor and working for holiness in society.** Methodists have always been known as a denomination involved with people's lives, including their political and social struggles. Our Social Creed is a statement of faith reflecting our Social Principles.

The UMC Social Principles can be found here as a pdf. The online version organizes the principles into four communities: Community of All Creation, The Economic Community, The Social Community, The Political Community.

Even if you haven't had time to review the Social Principles, come to JJ&J anyway to learn more about them and help guide topic selection for future JJ&J sessions. If you can't make the discussion in person, there will also be an opportunity for folks to join on-line.

Teens are welcome in all Juice, Joe and Justice conversations.

UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

Sunday, November 22 (note this is a change in date)

UWF believes love in action can change the world. Join Faith UMC women following worship in room 111 as they work to influence and impact our community. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Nancy Kneisly, chair at mailto:kneislynancy@gmail.com.

FAITH UMC
UWF Ruth Circle

FAITHFUL FRIENDS IS BACK FOR GRADES 3-5!

Friday, December 11 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. *Register now!*

We're excited to announce our second *Faithful Friends* event, just for children in Grades 3–5!

Each quarter, *Faithful Friends* gather on a Friday evening (6pm -8pm) for two hours of dinner, games, hands-on service projects, and plenty of fun.



It's a chance to build friendships, grow in faith, and discover how we can make a difference in our community—all in a relaxed, welcoming environment.

At our next gathering, we'll be making and assembling Christmas care packages for members of our congregation who might need some extra cheer this season.

Questions? Reach out to Jan Spencer – jspencer2@aol.com.

Click here to register your child today! Registration deadline: Monday, December 7.

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Back to Basics

Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: Rev. John Campbell

Scripture: *Micah 5:2–5a; 6:6–8*

Theme: *Being Love*





This is the last week of our *Back to Basics* series and for weeks we have gone back to the basics. We have remembered grace. We have practiced blessing, connection, gratitude, intentionality, truth-telling, remembrance, and generosity.

And today Micah brings us to a wonderfully simple—and endlessly demanding—summary:

Do justice.
Love kindness.
Walk humbly with God.

One final time in this series we ask: What is the church practicing today? We practice **being love**. Because the goal of all these practices is not to make us better at church. It is to make the love of God increasingly visible in the lives we live.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday during worship

Sunday School is one of those “church traditions” that carries a holy purpose: helping children know they are seen, known, and loved in the body of Christ. Children and youth are warmly welcome to join worship each Sunday in the sanctuary, either seated with their families or at the children's activity table near the front of the sanctuary.

FAITH UMC
belong • become • believe • be love
Children’s Sunday School
Wonder, Play, Learn

The Details

Nursery and Sunday School classes are taught by two screened, trained, and caring adult volunteers who provide a safe and engaging learning environment. All children

and youth (except those in the nursery) start in the sanctuary for 10 a.m. worship and are then invited to their Sunday School classrooms.

ELEMENTARY K-2ND: ROOM 203

ELEMENTARY 3RD-5TH: ROOM 200

MIDDLE SCHOOL 6TH-8TH: ROOM 206

HIGH SCHOOL 9TH-12TH: ROOM 205

YOUNG SINGERS OF FAITH

Sunday following worship

Young Singers of Faith will gather today and almost every Sunday after 10 a.m. worship in Room 200. We learn the fundamentals of singing, pitch matching, and music reading while working on music that we will sing in worship on occasion. The group also participates in the Family Christmas Eve service at Faith the afternoon of December 24. Rehearsals will end by noon.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

Youth (grades 6-12) of Faith UMC and North Bethesda UMC will gather at N. Bethesda UMC (10100 Old Georgetown Rd.) for Bible Study: “What does God say about prayer?”

Rockville Youth is a collaborative ministry between Faith and North Bethesda UMCs intended to give young people in our community a place to build relationships with other youth and adults who love them as they are. For questions, contact Suzanne Smedberg, Youth Coordinator, at ssmedberg@faithworkshere.com.

Access the full year schedule with dates, times, locations and topics here.

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 last Sunday's worship service featuring music, scripture, and prayers.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY MEETING

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 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.

BIT (BUILDING INTEGRITY TEAM) MEETING

Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Faith UMC is so fortunate to have a beautiful structure to house our ministry. Our building can also serve as a resource for our entire community. We are called to steward this property on behalf of generations to come. The Building Integrity Team leads this effort. This is a standing team that meets monthly.

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.

DONATE STOCK TO FAITH UMC

Donating appreciated stock can be a tax-smart way to support Faith UMC. If you have held the stock for more than one year, you may be able to deduct its fair market value and avoid capital gains tax on the appreciation. Please consult your tax advisor to determine whether this option is right for you.

To ensure your gift is properly credited to Faith UMC and counted for 2026, please contact **Kim Webster, Finance Manager, at kwebster@faithworkshere.com by December 1, 2026.** The final deadline for 2026 stock gifts is **December 11, 2026**, but earlier notice is strongly encouraged.

Please provide the stock name and number of shares you plan to donate. Transfer instructions will then be provided for your broker. Advance notice is essential because stock gifts are received into a shared account and cannot be credited to Faith UMC unless the donor is identified.

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD! OFFICE SPACE AT FAITH AVAILABLE

Private Office Suite for Lease

A welcoming, secure office environment in a convenient location for non-profit organizations and professionals serving the community.

This professional suite provides a quiet, welcoming setting for focused work, client meetings, counseling, administration, ministry, and community service





3 Private Offices
Three individual offices, approximately 150 sq. ft. each, with natural light and a quiet atmosphere.

Meeting Room
Meeting space for meetings, team collaboration, workshops, classes, group sessions

All-Inclusive Facility Fee
High-speed internet and utilities included
Individual heating & cooling control

Secure Access + Parking
Monitored property with exterior security cameras, electronic building access and ample free weekday parking





PRIME NORTH BETHESDA LOCATION

Minutes from Pike & Rose, Westfield Montgomery Mall, and the Rockville Pike business district, with convenient access to I-270, I-495, and the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Easily serves Bethesda, Rockville, Potomac, and surrounding Montgomery County. Conveniently located near Grosvenor–Strathmore and North Bethesda Metro stations, with direct bus access.

To schedule a tour and for more information
Contact: Office@faithworkshere.com | 301-881-1881
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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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