



Friday, October 31, 2025

Report from the Leadership Board

Since preparing our last report for the current *The Good News*, the Leadership Board met August 20, September 17, and October 19.

The Safe Sanctuary Policy has been updated to acknowledge the formal training required of all who regularly work with youth and the refinement of guidelines related to online electronic communication. The installation of new HVAC for the second-floor offices and the adjacent classroom (200) was approved, and that work was completed before Sunday School resumed.

The effectiveness of the Leadership Board would be very limited without the ongoing work of staff and several lay-led work groups, and it appreciates their efforts. This is an opportunity to recognize the important work of Keshika Dias, our new facilities manager, and the work of the Building Integrity Team (BIT) and the Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry (AIM) Committee. The BIT mobilized volunteers from the congregation to complete cosmetic work in the second-floor offices and classroom. The BIT has also worked with Keshika to oversee installation of 6 security cameras installed on church grounds from a previous grant, and plan upcoming projects made possible by a new security grant, which will be used to replace the sanctuary doors, provide access control on several doors, and install an alarm system. AIM members worked with the BIT to request and review bids for

sidewalk concrete work that will improve accessibility to be done in conjunction with installation of the new doors.

The Board prepared a cover letter for the narrative budget distributed by the Stewardship Team in early September, which described the decisions that have been made this year for consideration as we all make commitments to invest in Faith's future. It also prepared several reports, including the Congregational Profile and 2026 Clergy Compensation, and reviewed several reports prepared by staff, for review/approval by the November 11 Church Conference.

The Board reviewed reports from another important lay-led effort, the Affordable Housing Study Group (AHSG). Kathy King, chair of the AHSG, met with the Board to discuss what had been learned by the AHSG after many months of investigating this subject. Because of AHSG efforts, Faith is eligible for a grant to pay for qualified consultants to conduct a feasibility study for developing affordable housing for seniors, including market analysis, financial feasibility, and site and regulatory analysis. The Board provided input into questions we would like the study to answer.

Finally, the Board conducted the pastoral ministry evaluation and appointment advisory, which is due to the BWC later this Fall. Also, the planning/visioning session for the congregation to provide input into growing ministries, which was mentioned in the September issue of The Good News, has been postponed until 2026.

If you have any questions, ask any Leadership Board member: Mike Coppersmith, Rachel Hedrick, Brian Jones, Mike Kitzman, Nancy Kneisly, Jane Rall, Janelle Veazey, Jennifer Young.

Bill Maas

Chair, Leadership Board

News & Events

Daylight Savings

Time to fall back! Be sure to move your clock one hour back Saturday before you go to bed and enjoy the earlier sunsets.

Preparing for Communion

The need for food is as great as ever. Please help our hungry neighbors. Bring non-perishables with you to worship on Sunday, November 2. A good way to remember is that on the Sundays we share the Communion feast, we also share our abundance with others. Items can be left on the table or basket in the narthex to the left of the door into the sanctuary. Your donations will help keep the Blessing Box stocked. Click on the button below to access a list of suggested food items.

You can also donate toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand soap, shampoo, tampons/pads, etc. Click on the QR code to access the healthy food donation list for additional suggestions.

The Blessing Box is a community effort so no one person is responsible. In addition to donations, taking the initiative to move items into the storage area near the office or directly into the Blessing Box is always appreciated.

[Download the List of Suggested Items](#)

Share the Warmth: LAST CHANCE!



Share The Warmth

MCPS Prek & Head Start Program

WINTER COAT DRIVE

Please help families in need
by donating new children's
winter gear

**COATS, BOOTS,
GLOVES, SCARVES,
SOCKS**

Your help is really appreciated!

**Drop-Off
Location**

MCPS Prek & Head Start Program
4910 Macon Rd. Room 141
Rockville, MD 20852

**For Additional
Information**

240-740-4530

Lisa Conlon
lisa_w_conlon@mcpsmd.org

**NEW COATS Boys and Girls,
sizes 5, 6, 6x, 7, and 8 are
most appreciated!**



The Faith Outreach Team invites you to share the warmth this season with the children in our community! We are collecting NEW winter outerwear through **Sunday, November 2nd**. Please place your donation of coats, hats, gloves, scarves and socks in the collection box in the narthex or outside the church office.

Faith UMC Charge Conference

Tuesday, November 11 at 7:00 p.m.

This conference is an annual meeting with church leadership and a district superintendent to review the past year's ministry, conduct essential church business, and set goals for the coming year. The charge conference is responsible for approving nominations. The Charge Conference is important as it reflects the connectional nature of The United Methodist Church, where decisions are made cooperatively by clergy, laity, congregations and connectional leadership.

All members of Faith UMC are invited to attend. The meeting will take place via Zoom; credentials will be available at a later time.

This year's theme is "Love Boldly: Building a Bigger Table". Love Boldly a principle, inspired by Matthew 22:37-39 and John 13:34-35, encourages United Methodists to passionately love God and, like Jesus, to embrace and include people of every age, nation, race, gender, and walk of life. It means creating space for diversity and welcoming all neighbors and strangers. Building a Bigger Table: This phrase is a metaphor for radical hospitality and inclusion, emphasizing the need to make room for everyone in the community, especially those on the margins who might feel excluded or unwelcome in traditional settings.

Five Crock Pot Friday is BACK!

Friday, November 14, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

With so many folks impacted by the federal government shutdown, it feels like breaking bread together in a safe and loving atmosphere is a good idea. We pray that by 11/14 all folks will be back to work, however let's plan to gather between the fall sports season and the holiday crush. Please let Pastor Laura (revlaura@faithworkshere.com) know if you can bring a crock pot of dinner goodness to share!

Get Involved with Faith

We commit to serve as members of Faith. Here are some ways you can serve in the weeks to come:

A/V Team: Even if you know nothing about sound or projection, we will train you. The following volunteer positions are needed to serve once every other month. Do you hear what I hear? manage the sound board; Feel the urge to direct? operate the camera; Control freak? control the projection for those in the sanctuary and online! Contact Jason Spriggs to volunteer and receive training at jason@jasonspriggs.com.

Chat Host: Participate in the chat online on Sunday mornings. Serving as a host includes: welcoming others who join worship online; reporting any technical issues (i.e. no sound); gathering joys and concerns from listeners to share with the greeter. The only requirement? A cell phone and ability to text. **BONUS: Hosting can be done from home or while you are sitting in a pew at Sunday worship!** If you would like to serve as an online host contact Linda Pickle at Lwpickle353@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 2, 2025

All Saints Sunday

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell

Scripture: 1 Kings 19:4-14

All Saints Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate beloved members of the church and to acknowledge a worldwide connection with those who claim the name of Christ. Traditionally, Faith UMC publicly remembers and honors those who have passed away. As a way of honoring the impact their lives have had on us, we light candles and call the names of church members who have died since November 2024.



Communion

This Sunday we will gather in person and online to celebrate communion. Communion calls us to remember and live into our oneness as the body of Christ. To participate virtually, you will want to take some time to gather grape juice and bread or crackers of some sort. Spend an extra moment thinking about holy space, and consider lighting a

candle, setting out some flowers, creating a little escape from the everyday things of home for this act of worship.

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 welcome children in worship at all times. 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

- *Teachers:* Dawn Adair Johnson & Ann Coppersmith
- *Location:* Room 203
- *Program:* Godly Play

3rd–5th Grade

- *Teachers:* Susan Jones & Janice Jones
- *Location:* Room 200

Middle School (6th–8th Grade)

- *Teachers:* Dave Cope & Chuck Spencer
- *Location:* Room 206

High School (9th–12th Grade)

- *No high school Sunday School on the first Sunday of the month.*

Congregational Care Ministry

Sunday following worship

The CCM team will meet in person following worship. This Ministry focuses on supporting the spiritual and emotional well-being of individuals and families within the church community.

Youth Ministry

Sunday 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Middle and high school youth gather at Faith UMC this evening. We look forward to a time of fellowship and connection. Contact Suzanne Smedberg, Youth Coordinator at ssmedberg@faithworkshere.com for more information.

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.

Last Sunday's Worship Service

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

Wednesday, November 5

Small Group Led by Jane Rall

Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - noon

This group meets every Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. to noon via Zoom. If you have questions or would like to join, contact Jane Rall at Janeerall@yahoo.com.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 815 8816 6859

Passcode: 511624

AIM (Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry)

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Faith's Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry (AIM), was formed to work on ways to improve the accessibility of Faith's physical building and its programs to individuals with disabilities. This group meets the first Wednesday of each month from 7:00-8:00 p.m. via zoom. If you have questions or would like to participate, contact Jennifer Young at young.jennifer@gmail.com.

Thursday, November 6

Bells of Faith

Thursday 6:30-7:30 p.m.

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

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

The Chancel Choir rehearses every Thursday 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, Sue Walters and Kristen Wayne will receive your request.

Prayers for Faith UMC members: Bill Jones; Kathy King; Tammy Woolard

Prayers for those dear to us: Ken, son of Virginia McDowell; Family and friends of Summer Lim, the 11-year old struck and killed by a school bus in Montgomery County; Kristen Benjamin, 24-year-old grand niece of Erna and Stan Benjamin and Jimmy Castillo, family friend of Dave and Lorena Savell.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays (November 1-15)

- November 2: Brynna Kitzman
- November 3: Austin Fish
- November 8: Timothy Kunkle
- November 9: Sara Romeyn
- November 12: Jan Spencer
- November 13: Gerane Sever
- November 14: Dave Savell, Joann Rice
- November 15: Oscar Stolz, Andrew Spencer

Anniversaries

- November 5: Frank & Dawn Adair Johnson



[Join us on Facebook](#)



[Follow us on Instagram](#)



6810 Montrose Rd.

Rockville, MD 20852

301-881-1881

office@FaithWorksHere.com

www.FaithWorksHere.com



*Faith United Methodist Church
is a member of the*



Faith United Methodist Church seeks 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. As we grow in Christ's love, Faith UMC continues to take new steps forward to help ensure that all people can participate fully in this community of faith.

Sent by Faith UMC, processed by the Lakelands Institute LLC

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update your profile](#) | 335 Shipyard Dr, Cambridge, MD 21613

