

St. John's United Methodist Church
5312 Backlick Road
Springfield, VA 22151
Return Service Requested

The Chimes a monthly publication of
St. John's United Methodist Church

FEBRUARY

Scout Sunday
The UMM will host a continental breakfast
for the Scouts on Sunday, February 23

2025 Pastor's Lenten BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)

JOHN

The Gospel of Light and Life

by Adam Hamilton

Pastor J.W. will lead a 6-week Lenten Bible Study this March. Using Adam Hamilton's Video Bible Study **"JOHN: The Gospel of Light and Life"** participants have a chance to deepen knowledge about the Gospel of John. As this study deals with John's special (& unique) perspectives in theology, it would be a good chance to recapitulate and remind us of our faith from Jesus's beloved disciple.

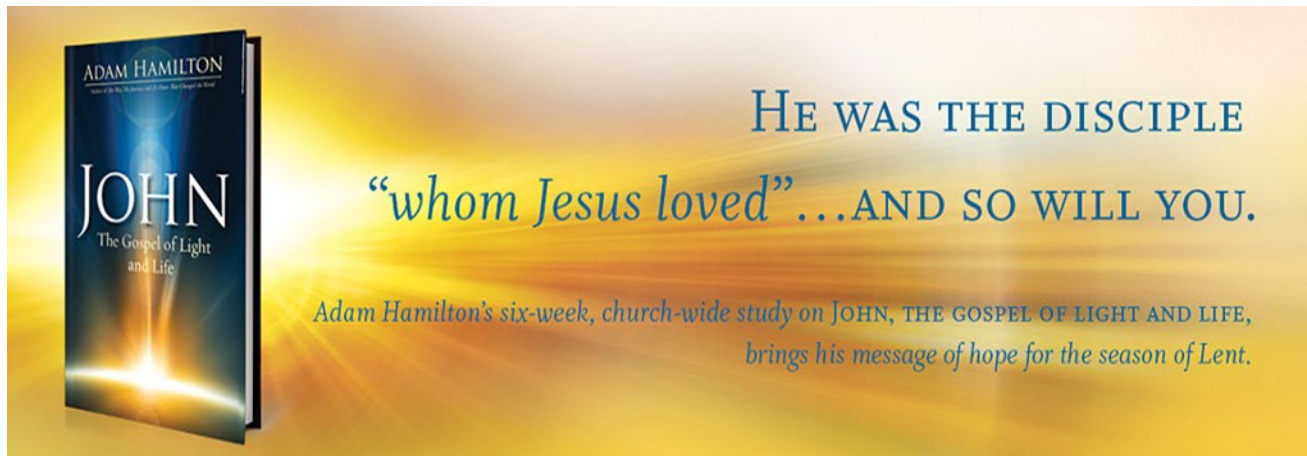
All lessons are independent, so don't worry about missing a piece!

Class begins on **Monday evening (7 pm), March 10, 2025.**

Study materials (PPT and Bible Reading Note) will be provided.

It will be conducted via Zoom for 60 mins.

Contact Pastor J.W at pastor@saintjohnsumc.org



March 10 (Mon) The Word Made Flesh

March 17 (Mon) The Miraculous Signs of Jesus

March 24 (Mon) The "I AM" Sayings of Jesus

March 31 (Mon) The Farewell Discourse

April 7 (Mon) The Arrest, Trial, and Crucifixion of the King

No Class (4/14): Holy Week

April 21 (Mon) Eternal Life

Meeting ID 933 7271 9443

Passcode 785608

A Note from Our Pastor

Happy New Year Again!

When you receive this newsletter, it might be a little after Lunar New Year Day (Jan. 29). Although our calendar says it is February, we are still in New Year's Mode! Again, I hope you have a very blessed and healthy 2025 with the Lord.

How was this past December? For me, it was very eventful! Usually, clergies and their family find it hard to enjoy the Christmas season. Looking back to my early childhood, I recall that my parents were very busy and couldn't have family time to value this season. With so many church events and services, my family's December was fully booked and packed.

With your prayer and support, St. John's had such a beautiful Christmas and Christmastide. The Children's Christmas Pageant was so great and adorable. We also had a wonderful Christmas Concert. Being surrounded by many good things to enjoy, the second fire in the kitchen (Dec. 18) was disappointing. But we got through it and are working on the restoration process. Once again, my big thanks to the Trustees, especially John Novack, a chairperson, and Debbie Ashby for their wonderful support to see this progress. As we will see this coming Spring season after the cold winter, we will be back to normalcy. With that, I am looking forward to this coming Easter (April 20). Do you know that this year's Easter comes far late? Let me tell you about Easter dates for the next several years:

Easter Sunday Dates (2025-2029)

2025 April 20

2026 April 5

2027 March 28

2028 April 16

2029 April 1

As you see, we will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus with a warm and beautiful Spring! With that, I would like to ask you to plan a baptism for your family (mostly for your grandchildren). No trouble bringing your little ones. All will look beautiful, period! Please don't miss this special opportunity! Let's capitalize on this chance to do outreach more actively!

One last thing is this. This year is St. John's 69TH anniversary. We will celebrate it on Sep. 14 (Sunday). One day, when I had a chat with Dr. Kitty Yang, I learned that every 9TH birthday is very special and meaningful in China. If so, I believe this year 2025 will be very special and meaningful, don't you? Thank you so much for your wonderful support and prayers for St. John's.

Keep the Faith!
J.W.





A Note About Music

Greetings to you all members of St. John's, and Happy New Year. On behalf of the music groups here at St. John's, I want to thank you all for the support during last year's Christmas Concert, Candlelight service and the Children Pageant. I have had good reviews of how you enjoyed our performances. I also thank all the performers who dedicated their time each week for rehearsals.

Thanks to Laurie for preparing the children for the pageant, it was awesome to see the kids play their characters in their costumes.

I also take this opportunity to thank the parents for their tireless support, especially during the pageant, as they helped the kids learn their lines or fitting them into their costumes.

The Sky zone event on December 23, 2024, was the highlight of the children's activities. The old saying that work without no play makes jack a dull boy, did not apply here, because after Christmas pageant, the children and the Youth got play time and food at Sky Zone Park, which they enjoyed so much. I will have pictures for you to see. We had 14 children and Youth join us.

As we start the New Year, there's a lot of great events to look forward to in the Spring. The inauguration of the Last Supper, Good Friday service and Easter Carols.

We are also planning for the Music and Arts Summer Camp that starts on **June 16, 2025**, from **9:30am to 12:00 noon**. The registration forms will soon be out for you to register. The music camp is an opportunity for the kids to explore their own creativity through music and the arts. Please let the children know in your communities about this opportunity.

On **June 23**, Laurie will conduct the Vacation Bible School, (VBS), and she is looking forward to having your children or your grand children be apart of this great event. The children will be nourished spiritually.

Thanks so much.

Yours faithfully,
Paul Kigenza,
The Music Minister





United Methodist Women

LAURIE SCHEIBLE RECEIVES SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION

At the December Christmas party and general meeting, the St. John's United Women in Faith honored Laurie Scheible with a Special Mission Recognition pin for the role she plays in the everyday mission of the church and the community. We are very fortunate to have Laurie lead our children's worship as the Director of Children's Ministry at St. John's among other church-related activities. She puts her faith, hope, and love into action on a daily basis. Congratulations Laurie!

BETHANY HOUSE THANKS YOU!

Many thanks to the members of the St. John's United Women in Faith who generously donated gift cards and cash to Bethany House of Northern Virginia this past December. We gifted Bethany House a total of \$300! Bethany House is very appreciative of our support over the years. Many women and children had a merrier Christmas than they would have had because of you. God is good!

YOUR 2025 PLEDGE SUPPORTS UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Your pledge to the St. John's United Methodist Women d/b/a United Women in Faith is voluntary and confidential. If you haven't already done so and you are a member, please consider making a pledge (there are no dues) to St. John's UMW for 2025 (see form below). At the Harvest Banquet (our annual meeting) last October, a budget in the total amount of \$4,462 was adopted, which includes certain charitable state and local mission projects. Thank you for supporting United Women in Faith.

Fluvanna Christmas Gift Ministry

Thank you, thank you to all of you who donated toiletries, stationery, stamps, and greeting cards to the Christmas Gift Ministry for the women incarcerated at the Fluvanna Correctional Center in Troy, Virginia. Your donations are so important to the success of this ministry.

This past November I delivered to my Fluvanna contact 79 hygiene kits, over \$100 of postage stamps, plus several boxes containing stationery, greeting cards, and additional toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, shampoo and deodorant.

There were also monetary donations in the amount of \$735 given by individuals and units to the Fluvanna Resource Fund administered by GraceInside. These funds are used to purchase hygiene kit shortages, or provide travel expenses for funeral or deathbed visits, worship materials, and other incidentals necessary to support the prison population.

At Christmas about 1,200 grateful women at Fluvanna are given the hygiene kits. They look forward to receiving them. Just to know that people "in the outside world" are thinking of them, especially during the holidays, is very important to their outlook on life.

GraceInside (the chaplaincy that oversees this ministry) wrote: "We appreciate your continued support of this important ministry and thank you for your generosity and service to the Lord."

Again, thank you for your contributions to this great mission outreach, and for all you do to support women, children, and youth year after year. Love in action can change the world.

Blessings, Marty

ST. JOHN'S UMW 2025 PLEDGE

As a member of the United Methodist Women d/b/a United Women in Faith, I wish to assume a part in supporting the local, national, and global ministries of the UMW. Pledges are voluntary, confidential, and may be changed at any time.

I pledge \$ _____ to the 2025 budget of the St. John's UMW.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please return this form with your check made payable to "**St. John's UMW**" to the UMW mailbox at church, or mail it to the UMW Treasurer, Marty Bickford at 3561 Martha Custis Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302-2003.

NOTE: Pledge amount does not include extra gifts, such as World Thank Offering, the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial donations, Candle Burning, and other gifts made throughout the year.

2025 Officers of St. John's United Methodist Women d/b/a United Women in Faith

Officers

President	Terri Bucklin
Vice President	Anne Moore
Secretary	Pam Jennings
Treasurer	Marty Bickford
Nominations Committee Chair	Patti Parker
Communications	Carol Pratt

Nominations Committee Members:

Class of 2026	Kathy Kinzer
Class of 2027	Carol Pratt
Class of 2028	Eileen Leamon
Class of 2029	Barbara Cornell

Mission Coordinators:

Education and Interpretation	Maria Delpizzo
Membership Nurture & Outreach	Patti Parker
Social Action	Edwina Marie
Spiritual Growth	Brenda Romenius
Program Resources/Librarian	Mildred Moore

Appointed Positions:

Church Women United
Community Relief
2025 Directory

Chairpersons:

Maryanne Lacheman
Marty Bickford
Debbie Ashby

Circle Chairpersons:

Joy (3 rd Wed 7:30 pm)	Patti Parker
Kaleidoscope	Debbie Ashby
Women in Action	Carol Pratt
(meetings vary)	Anne Moore
Sunshine	Debbie Ashby
Friends	Anne Willis Hill



Church News



Year End Statements

Please pick up your year end statements in the Narthex. You will find them in alphabetical order. Thank you.

Save the Dates:

Our Easter Egg hunt is April 6, at 12 noon. We'll need volunteers to stuff and hide eggs. We'll get together after church to stuff eggs on Sunday, March 19, 2025.

Save the Date!

We're looking for campers and volunteers for True North VBS starting on **June 23**. Camp will run from 9-12 from Monday through Friday with a performance during our 10:30 church service on June 29th. Early drop off can be arranged. Campers will pretend to be on an adventure in Alaska. We'll have music, crafts, science experiments, snacks, story time and scripture from Matthew.

March Chimes Due

Spring is just around the corner!

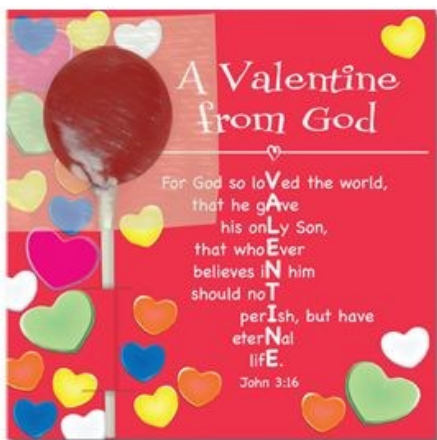
Time to get ready for the Easter Season
Submit March articles to the church office by
February 17.

Thursday Bible Study -- Lent Program

Lent is an appropriate time to encourage and strengthen our spiritual muscles through various activities: Worship, prayers, fasting, outreach to those in need, and Bible studies, to name a few, are special ways to observe Lent.

The Thursday Bible Study group holds a Zoom class every **Thursday, 10:30 AM - Noon**. This year during Lent we will be exploring Adam Hamilton's "The Lord's Prayer." Our group uses casual conversations about the book, videos and our Bibles. We welcome all who wish to participate! If you are interested in the Thursday Bible Study group, please contact Anne Moore (atrd@verizon.net) or Brenda Romenius brendaromenius@yahoo.com

A Christmas Gathering



Birthdays, Anniversaries and Prayers



3 Debbie Ashby, Amy Jackson
4 Kelly Posey, Jonathan Ward
6 Brittani Gonzales
7 J.R. Stratton
8 Bill Stearns
10 Susan Novack, Robyn Strong
14 Marissa Reynolds, Marvin Ward
15 Joseph Listopad
16 Virginia Quinn
17 Boris Mewborn, Ben Williams
18 Tom Moore
19 Makayla Reynolds
21 Cynthia Sparks, Debbie White,
Lisa Whittle
22 Tip Holcombe
26 Gail Wood
27 Rick Garrison, Grace Garrison
28 Zimmie Goings
29 Judy Dubler

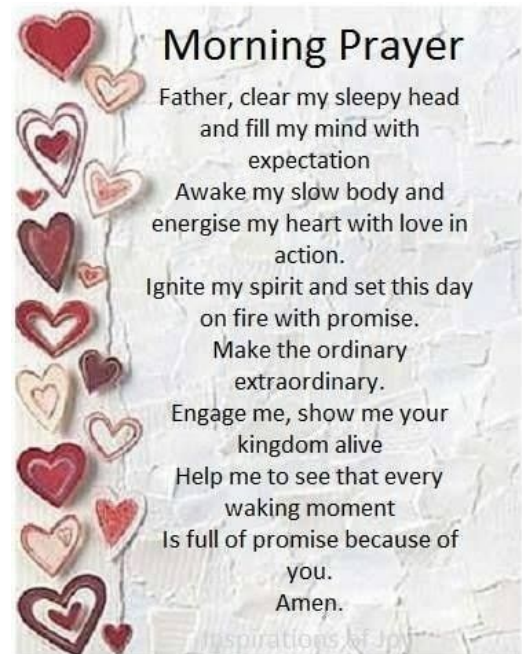
February Anniversaries...

14 Beth & Barton Cooke
22 Philip & Christine Antoun



In Our Prayers

Betty Aldrich, Zimme Goings,
Virginia Halterman, Dollie Hankinson,
Judy Paseur, Emily Pederson, Susan Ray,
Patsy Simpson and Bebbly Train



February 2025

February 2025

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23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 26	27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1 8:30am SDA Worship 4:00pm SDA Youth
2 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Pathfinders	3 7:00pm Scouts	4 7:00pm SDA Board Mtg	5 7:00pm Bells 7:00pm Nomination Mtg 7:30pm SDA Prayer	6 10:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	7 4:15pm Children Music	8 8:30am SDA Worship 4:00pm SDA Youth
9 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45am PSPR Mtg.	10 7:00pm Scouts	11	12 7:00pm Bells 7:30pm SDA Prayer	13 10:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	14 4:15pm Children Music	15 8:30am SDA Worship 4:00pm SDA Youth
16 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Pathfinders	17 Office Closed 7:00pm Scouts	18 6:30pm Staff Mtg. 7:00pm Council Mtg.	19 7:00pm Bells 7:30pm SDA Prayer	20 10:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	21 4:00pm Scout Set Up 4:15pm Children Music	22 8:00am Pinewood Derby 8:30am SDA Worship 4:00pm SDA Youth
23 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	24 7:00pm Scouts	25 7:00pm UWF Board Mtg.	26 7:00pm Bells 7:00pm Nominations Mtg 7:30pm SDA Prayer	27 10:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	28 4:15pm Children Music	Mar 1