

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
Office 703-256-6655

Lent 2025 Mission Project **Change for Change Jar for UMCOR**

For this year's Lenten Mission Project, we will collect donations for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Disaster Relief. With all that is going on both nationally and globally, they need our help more than ever. The Change for Change jar will be back starting Sunday, March 2 so start saving your spare change (and bills and checks) and bring it in for the jar to help make a difference in people's lives. You may also donate online through the St. John's website.

On Sunday, March 30, which is UMCOR Sunday, we will dedicate our donations and recommit to continuing to help this important organization.



A Note from Our Pastor

Waiting for This Spring Soon...

It is hard to believe that it is March! Do you feel that Spring is coming? As we got a lot of snow and cold weather this winter, many of us must have waited for the coming Spring. However, although we see this Spring physically, it is questionable how many people would feel their 'real' Spring emotionally. All the things around the world indicate that people are still in winter.

As a Korean American immigrant, I used to hear this from my friends with their high-toned voices. What on earth is different between 1953 and 2025? As you might know, the Korean Armistice Agreement was made in 1953. Presumably, around this time in 1953, there must have been many meetings and discussions to stop the Korean War temporarily. Likewise, we now see the same thing from the Russian invasion of Ukraine these days. It has been three years like the Korean War (1950-1953)! This is why I have mixed feelings to see what is happening these days. I pray that the world sees this war not by money, but by human life. Please pray for Anna (St. John's Nursery Attendant)'s family from Ukraine too.

Although we are surrounded by many challenges, one good news is that St. John's is working very hard to reach out more actively. Working on getting a new church website and a new outdoor sign-board is exciting! Church kitchen restoration is making progress now. The Scout Sunday (Feb. 23) was so good to know St. John's wonderful mission partnership with Scouts. To see two little kids (Theo & Eloise)' baptism on Transfiguration Sunday (March 2) makes us feel the true meaning of Transfiguration. With that, I am very grateful to you for your prayers and support to make St. John's ministry fruitful. Please keep all these things in your continued prayers.

Here are a couple of things for your attention. Please plan to make it to the church on the first Sunday of April (April 6). There will be an Easter Egg Hunt after service, and we will celebrate one special staff's 20TH anniversary serving St. John's in Donaldson Hall. Yes, Debbie Ashby celebrates her 20TH anniversary in April! Let's plan to make this Sunday as this year's 'Preview' Easter! Wishing you a very blessed and meaningful Lenten journey!

Keep the faith!
J.W.





A “Note” about Music Ministry



Greetings to you all St. John's Members. As we conclude the month of February going into March, all the music groups at our church have been preoccupied with learning and performing exciting music with guest musicians such as Ron Vasquez, Julia Morris, and Christie Phillips. This is always a unique experience because it always makes the music richer to the listeners.

In a week from now, we will be starting our Lenten journey which will culminate into Easter, so be expectant of reflective music and victorious music. I'm looking forward to for the reenactment of the last supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, a ritual that is unique with St. John's. please watch out for this space, because I, Pastor JW and Patti, will need your participation in this regard.

Upcoming event to watch for:

March 9th members of SDA church will sing with us in the service

March 16th Children instrumental concert in the service

March 16th you are invited to attend Annual Bach Marathon Concert of 50 years of Rieger Pipe Organ at the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church at 2pm- 7:00 pm, where our very own retired Music Director will be performing at 3:00 PM.
Address is 1 Chevy Chase Circle, Washington DC 20015.

April 20th Easter Concert.

Paul Kigenza,
The Music Minister



United Women in Faith

UWF READING PROGRAM

Hope that everyone has been catching up on their 2025 Reading BOOKS during all the snowy weather. Can you believe we are already half way through the Reading year!

There are many good books on the 2025 List. However, remember to look back at the books for 2020-2025 as you complete your plan.

Listed below are some of the books in St. John's UWF Library from the 2020-2025 lists.

2021-EFM: *The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan*

2023-EFM: *The Woman of Troublesome Creek* and in 2025-EFM: *The Book Woman's Daughter*

2025-EFM: *The Girl With the Louding Voice*

2024-LD: *Notable Native People*

2025-LD: *Right Worthy Woman*

2024-NFC: *Crying in H Mart: A Memoir*

2025-NFC: *Start With Hello*

2022-SA: *She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World*

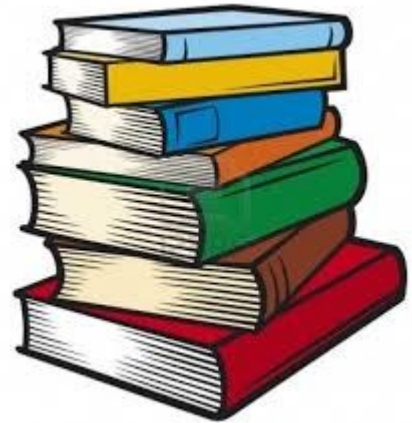
2022- SA: *The Girl with Seven Names*

2024-SG: *The Seeker and the Monk: Everyday Conversations with Thomas Merton*

2024-SG: *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants*

BONUS Books: Count as reading two books

2025-SG: *The Little Book of Joy*



See a book on the reading list you want to read but it is not in our UWF Library check for it in the Fairfax Library.

Circle Duties

March Greet & Cards

UWF Board

**You are invited to a
WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
Saturday March 15 9 – 11 AM**



“United Women in Faith: Transforming Communities”

Featuring: Friends of Guest House of Alexandria
Helping women successfully reenter the community after incarceration

Location: St. John's UMC, 5312 Backlick Road, Springfield, VA

There is no fee, Breakfast will be provided, but we kindly appreciate for visitors to bring a breakfast bread to share

Registration is required by March 10 to brendaromenius@yahoo.com

Monetary Donations will go to Friends of Guest House, and UWF Mission Giving.
Checks made out to “NOVA District UWF” – note “*Prayer Breakfast*”



United Women in Faith of Northern Virginia



Church News



Spring Forward!

Don't forget to spring forward **1 hour** before you go to bed Saturday night on **March 8.**



A Challenge for You

As we come into the Lenten season, let us all challenge ourselves to reach out to our neighbors, friends and family and invite them to come to St. John's. Let's all challenge ourselves to make this happen!

Save the Date!!



On **Sunday, April 6**, St. John's will recognize Debbie Ashby for her 20 years of service to our church and our congregation. Everyone is cordially invited to Donaldson Hall after worship for a reception in Debbie's honor. Let's show our love and appreciation for everything she has done for us. Come celebrate this milestone with Debbie on Sunday, April 6.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY -- Adam Hamilton's "THE LORD'S PRAYER"

Lent is a special time for reflection and examination of our spiritual practices. It is appropriate that we would look at the most significant and beloved prayer that Jesus told his disciples to pray, commonly referred to as "The Lord's Prayer" (Matthew 6:9-13).

Come join the Thursday Bible Study beginning **March 13, 10:30 AM to Noon** (on Zoom) to discuss Adam Hamilton's insightful book of "The Lord's Prayer: The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught." Using videos and our Bibles, Hamilton leads us for 6 weeks with questions and casual conversations about The Lord's Prayer and what it means. We welcome all who wish to participate! Please contact Anne Moore (atrd@verizon.net) or Brenda Romenius (brendaromenius@yahoo.com) to let us know your interest and provide you with a zoom link.

Scout Sunday

On February 23, St. John's hosted our scouts with a continental breakfast. During service our own Jim Leamon was award the Cross & Flame for Chaplin!



SECURITY REMINDER

All users of church buildings must ensure exterior doors are properly shut tight and locked after their activity or event is completed. By doing this important step, you help our church maintain the first level of protection against thief, vandalism and or the destruction of property. Thank You, Trustees/Property Committee.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayers



March Birthdays...

- 2 Jadon Rousseau
- 3 Melissa Pacak
- 7 David Lindsey
- 8 Lora Robertson Adams
- 11 Rachel Parker
- 13 Kathryn Finney
- 15 Allison Walsh-Pitcher
- 17 Bob Augustad, Devin Gill, Bill Romenius
- 20 Eve Holtzman, Mike Jennings
- 21 Judy Paseur
- 23 Kathy Strong
- 24 Debbie Pederson
- 30 Margaret Bartos, Bebbby Train
- 31 Pat Cave



In Our Prayers

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

Baptism

Theodore Saade Benega and Eloise Saade
Benega, to be baptized on March 2, 2025
Parents: Tracey Saade and Pablo Benega



March Anniversaries...

- 7 Dale & Julia Wilson
- 26 Dennis Gray & Kay Cameron



March 2025

March 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 23	24	25	26	27	28	Mar 1 8:30am SDA Worship 4:00pm SDA Youth
2 10:30am Worship 3:00pm Pathfinders	3 7:00pm Scouts	4 7:00pm SDA Board Mtg.	5 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:30pm SDA Prayer	6 10:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	7 4:15pm Children Music	8 5:00am SDA Sunrise 9:00am SDA Worship 12:30pm SDA 1:00pm SDA
9 10:30am Worship Service 11:45am PSPR Mtg.	10 7:00pm Bible Class 7:00pm Scouts	11	12 7:00pm Bells of Praise 7:30pm SDA Prayer	13 10:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	14 4:15pm Children Music	15 9:00am SDA Worship 9:00am UWF Prayer Breakfast
16 10:30am Worship Service 3:00pm Pathfinders	17 7:00pm Bible Class 7:00pm Scouts	18 6:30pm Staff Mtg. 7:00pm Council Mtg.	19 7:00pm Bells of Praise 7:30pm SDA Prayer	20 10:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	21 4:15pm Children Music	22 9:00am SDA Worship
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