Welcome to Bethesda UMC

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Reconciling Ministries Network

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We are a congregation that welcomes all with open hearts, open minds and open doors.
Our faith is deeply rooted in the Methodist tradition of social justice
and we support the inclusion of all in every aspect of the life of the church.
We are more than the sum of our parts.
We are a community of believers, doubters and seekers of all ages, from all corners of the earth.
Our church family is made up of people of differing sexual orientations and gender identities
and we affirm and celebrate all of them.
We are socially, politically and theologically diverse, yet we are one in the body of Christ.
We welcome everyone who wishes to join us as we strive to order our lives
in the way of the footwasher, Jesus Christ, to love our God, to love our neighbors
and to bring peace, kindness and justice to a world in need.

We're Glad You Are Here Today!

Please fill out an **Attendance Card** (located in the pew rack) to let us know you've been here in worship (just leave the card on the pew at the end of the service). You can use this card to share prayer requests, send a message to the pastors, or update your contact information. Thanks!

New Here?

We warmly welcome all who are visiting our church this morning. We hope to have the chance to personally greet you and answer any questions about our congregation that you may have. Want to learn more about BUMC? We invite you to text your name and email address to us at **301-246-0866** and we'll be in touch soon!

BUMC's COVID Safety Policy

Wearing masks is not required during our services and activities. Hand hygiene is important – feel free to use the sanitizing stations in the narthex and Lonnie's Lobby. And most of all, if you at all feel not well, even if it is just a little bit, the most loving thing you can do is to join us virtually instead of in person until you are sure you are well. The last two pews in the back are reserved for those who want to sit close wearing masks.

Bethesda United Methodist Church

8300 Old Georgetown Rd, Bethesda, MD 20814 • 301-652-2990 • washmorefeet.org

Rev. Dr. HiRho Park
Lead Pastor
hrpark@washmorefeet.org

Dr. Shaw Brewer
Minister of Discipleship & Justice
shaw@washmorefeet.org

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, September 17, 2023 11:00 a.m.

BUMC's services are livestreamed. Please be aware mics are live and conversations may be heard over the air. If you prefer not to be visible on the video, which is broadcast on YouTube, we invite you to be seated towards the rear of the Sanctuary. Thank you.

GATHERING

Gathering Music — Praise Band

"One Day"

Choral Introit

Opening Music & Bringing the Light of Christ

"Andante" from Organ Sonata No. 6
- Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Tolling of the Church Bell

Welcome & Announcements

* Greeting

Leader: Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!
This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones:

People: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life.

Leader: Then you will know that I am the LORD.

People: Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!

* Opening Hymn — UMH 152

"I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

* Confession

All: Like a valley strewn with dry bones.
Make every part of us alive so that we can serve you wholeheartedly.
Remove our heart of stone and give us a heart of flesh.
Give life to our eyes so we can see the way Jesus does
Give life to our ears so we can hear what the Spirit says.
Give life to our tongues so we can proclaim so that we can life-giving with all.
Give life to our hands so we can extend them to those in need.
Give life to our feet so that we can bring good tidings.
Give us an undivided heart and put a new spirit in us.

Leader: When you were dead in your sins, God made you alive with Christ!
He has forgiven all your sins! Thanks be to God!

* Sharing of the Peace

SOP Song — TFWS 2152

"Change My Heart, O God"

LISTENING

Children's Message — John Euler

+Memory Verse of The Week: *I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.* Isaiah 43:9b

Song — Praise Band

"Come Alive, Dry Bones"

Prayers of the People

Anthem — Sanctuary Choir

"I'll Be On My Way" - Kirchner

Scripture Reading — Nick Ganz

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Message — Dr. Shaw Brewer

Elijah: Not the Endgame

RESPONDING

Invitation to Offering & Witness — Debbie Gillette

* Doxology — TFWS 2150

"Lord, Be Glorified"

Offertory Prayer

SENDING

* Closing Song — W&S 3109

"Living Spirit, Holy Fire"

* Dismissal with Blessing
* Carrying the Light of Christ Into the World
* Choral Benediction

Closing Music

"Finale" - Johann Ernst Eberlin (1702-1762)

+**Memory Verse of The Week:** *The Confirmation Class has begun, and as part of their work, they are memorizing one scripture verse each week. The congregation will also memorize the same verse along with the confirmands to show support and grow with them.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

Pastor: Rev. Dr. HiRho Park
Minister of Discipleship & Justice: Dr. Shaw Brewer
Worship Leader: John Euler
Acolyte: Trevor Hasibante
Director of Music: Chris Warrington
Sanctuary Choir Conductor: Max Nolin
Director, Bethesda Bells: Gail Williams
Tech: Bob Gillette (slides), Steven Martin (livestream), Carl Eichenwald (sound)

Worship Chairs: Bill Allman & Cindy Osnos

If you have any questions or wish to provide input about our worship services, please contact Bill (bilgerall@yahoo.com) or Cindy (osnosmcrc@comcast.net). We'd love to hear from you.

Today at BUMC

Sunday, September 17

- 9:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 am PTR Class
- 10:00 am Sunday School/Confirmation Class
- 11:00 am Blended Worship
- 12:15 pm Listening Session with Rev. Rachel Cornwell
- 5:30 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Please Donate

Thank you for choosing to worship with us on your busy Sunday. We understand that our services may sometimes go beyond one hour. If you need to leave at the end of the one-hour service, we kindly ask that you do so quietly. Our worship leaders will not be offended.

INVITING ALL TO A LISTENING SESSION WITH OUR FORMER ASSOCIATE PASTOR, REV. RACHEL! Join us today after church as we welcome back Rev. Rachel Cornwell for a special listening session. Rev. Cornwell is coming back to discuss her book, *Daring Adventures: Helping Gender-Diverse Kids and Their Families Thrive.* In this book, she shares her experience as a passionate advocate for transgender and gender-diverse children. As a mother of a transgender son, she has written a beautiful and helpful book for parents seeking guidance and hope. Discover how a family's faith community can develop a deeper understanding and commitment to creating safe spaces for all. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, grow, and surround our transgender and gender-fluid kids and adults with the love and support they need.

UMYF: SAME FUN AT A DIFFERENT TIME: Join us at UMYF for an exhilarating time every Sunday night at 5:30 pm! Throughout the year, we have planned regular meetings and exciting activities, including an upcoming hay ride. We can't wait to see you there, so get ready for a fantastic time. For more information, contact shaw@washmorefeet.org.

DIVE INTO BIBLE STUDY WITH US: Join us on Tuesday nights beginning September 26 as we embark on an incredible journey into the heart of the Scriptures. Have you ever wondered what the Bible truly says about rejoicing, reviving, and rebirth? This fall, we're delving deep into each word, unpacking their significance and discovering the transformative power they hold. Be prepared to unleash your inner nerd as your spirit grows! Whether you're a seasoned theologian or new to studying the Word, this series is for you. So, mark your calendars and get ready to explore the treasures hidden within the pages of the Bible. For more information, contact shaw@washmorefeet.org. Together, let's embark on a journey of faith and knowledge that will revolutionize our understanding of God's Word.

HAYRIDE AT BUTLER'S ORCHARD: We invite all families to join us at Butler's Orchard on October 14th at 6:30 p.m. We will be having a hayride followed by a bonfire with s'mores. We are combining youth and children for a fun-filled evening of family fun. The cost is $10 per person; RSVP by emailing Dennis at dennis@washmorefeet.org.

"THEOLOGY, IDENTITY, AND ME" ONLINE COURSE: Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) has released a new online course consisting of three videos that serve to introduce important human sexuality and gender terms and concepts pertinent to the LGBTQ+ community. As a participant or a group leader, you will be invited to consider each presenter's unique context and theologies while you evaluate your own identities and relationship to this important material. Our communications director, Rev. Steven D. Martin, produced this course for RMN. We encourage you to purchase this course and learn how your vision of God's work in the world can be expanded to include all people.