



Welcome to Bethesda UMC

Sunday, February 18, 2024



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



First Sunday in Lent Black History Sunday

Sunday, February 18, 2024 10:00 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

Choral Introit

Opening Music & Bringing the Light of Christ

Tolling of the Church Bell

Welcome & Announcements

* Greeting

Leader: Welcome to this place of love and grace,

People: Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

Leader: God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,

People: God invites all of us to share in the good news:

Leader: We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

People: In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

* Opening Hymn

UMH 269, all 5 verses

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Apostles Creed

UMH 882

* Sharing of the Peace & Song

Praise Band

"Word of God, Speak"

LISTENING

Childrens Message

Musical Selection

Praise Band & Congregation

"Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone"

Prayers of the People

Scripture Reading

Joy Harwood

Acts 2:40-45

Message

Rev. Dr. Kevin M. James, Sr.

"Guess Who's Coming To Church?"

RESPONDING

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Music & Imposition of Ashes

Sanctuary Choir

“Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit” - arr. William Dawson

* Doxology

UMH 559, verse 4

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

* Offertory Prayer

SENDING

* Closing Song

Praise Band, Choir, & Congregation

“O Mary, Don’t You Weep”

* Dismissal & Blessing

* Choral Benediction & Carrying the Light of Christ Into the World

Closing Music

Black History and American Art

Black History Month remains a powerful symbolic celebration and a time for acknowledgement, reflection, and inspiration. This year we welcome the chance to acknowledge, reflect upon, and be inspired by African Americans and the Arts, the theme for 2024. On its webpage, The Association for the Study of African American Life and Culture states, “African American art is infused with African, Caribbean, and the Black American lived experiences. In the fields of visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural expression, the African American influence has been paramount. African American artists have used art to preserve history and community memory as well as for empowerment. Artistic and cultural movements such as the New Negro, Black Arts, Black Renaissance, hip-hop, and Afrofuturism, have been led by people of African descent and set the standard for popular trends around the world”

Truly, all of our lives have been enriched, either directly or indirectly, by black artists in all walks of life - music, the visual arts, dance and performance, literature, etc. For centuries, black artists, and their contributions to the arts, were ignored or actively excluded from venues open and available to white artists. Yet, not only did the contributions to the arts survive this discrimination, they thrived in many places and under the most difficult circumstances. For example, the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920’s saw an explosion of black talent in music, literature, and the visual arts. It was an explosion that still reverberates today. We all owe so much to these talented and creative artists.

TODAY’S WORSHIP MINISTRY

Pastor: Rev. Dr. HiRho Park

Minister of Discipleship & Justice: Dr. Shaw Brewer

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Kevin M. James, Sr.

Director of Music: Chris Warrington

Sanctuary Choir Conductor: Max Nolin

Director, Bethesda Bells: Gail Williams

Tech: Sam Bohn (livestream), Holly Pannullo (slides), David Flumbaum (sound)

Coffee Hour Hosts: Ada Wong & Haitao Wang, Dee Carden

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 (osnosmrcr@comcast.net). We’d love to hear from you.

Today at BUMC

Sunday, February 18: 1st Sunday of Lent

- 8:45 am PTR Class
- 9:00 am Sunday School
- 10:00 am Worship: Guest Preacher
- 10:15 am Kids With Purpose
- 5:00 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship
- 7:00pm Evensong Worship



Please Donate

“LIFT AND SHIFT” (our Sunday morning schedule change) has been in place since January 7. We sincerely hope you are finding it to be a successful choice, or at least you are willing to give it a fair chance. We welcome feedback, pro or con, at any time, to help us when we evaluate the change at the end of May.

JOIN THE VOYAGE OF REFLECTION WITH OUR LENT GROUPS: Embarking on the Lenten journey? We invite you to sign up for one of our Lent groups—an integral part of our Church’s community-building exercise during the season of Lent. These avenues of fellowship offer opportunities for you to grow in your spiritual journey and connect more deeply with God. Sign-ups are made easy through our online platform, Sign-up Genius, or at the church narthex. To know more, feel free to drop a message at shaw@washmorefeet.org. Let’s walk in faith together this Lent.



LENTEN EVENSONG BEGINS TONIGHT: During the six Sundays of Lent, BUMC will be hosting an additional evening service. This service will include music, a short message, and communion. It is a peaceful and meaningful way to unwind from the past week or spiritually recharge for the upcoming week within the context of your faith. We invite you to join us at 7:00 p.m. starting this evening, continuing each Sunday evening through Palm Sunday.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY: Our church office will be closed on Monday in honor of the President’s Day holiday. We hope you enjoy the long weekend; the office will reopen on Tuesday.

BUMC BOOK GROUP: The BUMC Book Group will meet on Wednesday, February 21, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss “Five Little Indians” by Michelle Good. We will meet in the BUMC Narthex and on Zoom. Everyone is invited. For the Zoom link and any questions, please contact Jill Barr at barr.jillh@gmail.com. We hope you will join us.

THE FULL POTENTIAL FAMILIES PROGRAM: Beginning February 25, we are launching three pilot groups to meet the diverse needs of families in our community. This initiative will provide a secure environment for open discussion, mutual support, and eventually, one-on-one coaching. Our goal is to have flexible groups and topics that can adapt to meet the needs of our congregants while ensuring privacy and safety. The pilot groups include families with learning and medical needs, led by Shaw Brewer; families with transgender children, led by Dennis Williams; and families of divorce, also led by Shaw Brewer.

FOLK FEST – A BUMC TRADITION: All singers, players, dancers, and poetry readers are welcome at our annual Folk Fest on March 16. If you have been considering performing in public in a safe environment, now is your chance. This is an opportunity with no stress, similar to singing in your car or in the shower. So sign up and join us. You will be glad that you did. Contact John Euler at john@eulers.net or 301-509-7478.

COCOA IN THE PARK NEXT WEEK: Come experience the joy and warmth of “Cocoa In The Park,” our beloved annual gathering that brings children and families together! This cherished event offers an opportunity for our community to connect and share laughter, all over delicious hot cocoa. It’s a perfect way to celebrate fellowship and enjoy the outdoors, making it a highlight of the year for both young and old. Join us on Sunday, February 25, at 3:00 p.m.