Welcome to Bethesda UMC

Sunday, March 17, 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
hrpark@washmorefeet.org

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

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Heritage Sunday

Sunday, March 17, 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 & Bringing the Light of Christ — Praise Band

"One Day"
"Shout to the Lord"
"We Fall Down"

Choral Introit — Sanctuary Choir

Tolling of the Church Bell

Welcome & Announcements

* Greeting

Leader: On this Heritage Sunday, we gather to remember who we are.

People: We are the story of God's grace in this place.

Leader: We have seen troubles, conflict, and fear within and outside these walls, yet God remains as our faithful guide.

People: We are the story of God's grace in this place.

Leader: We have been part of spreading God's love in this community, rejoicing when we witness lives transformed, families nurtured, and neighbors caring for one another.

People: We are the story of God's grace in this place.

Leader: Today may we celebrate all that God has done and continues to do in our midst as we remember and renew our commitment to take part in God's story in this place.

People: We joyfully answer the call to live out God's story of grace in this place! Amen.

* Opening Hymn — UMH 660 verses 1-4

"God Is Here"

* Sharing of the Peace & Song — Praise Band

"You Make Me Brave"

LISTENING

Childrens Message

"Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16

Hymn — UMH 120 vv. 1&4

"Your Love, O God"

Prayers of the People

Anthem — Sanctuary Choir

"Thou Knowest Lord the Secret of Our Hearts" - Purcell

Scripture — Janine Gregory

Ezra 3:8-13

Message — Rev. Ron Foster

"Back to the Future"

RESPONDING

Invitation to Offering & Offertory Music

* Doxology — UMH 87 vv. 2 & 4

"What Gift Can We Bring"

* Offertory Prayer

SENDING

* Closing Hymn — UMH 140 vv. 1-3

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

* Dismissal & Blessing

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

Closing Music — Praise Band

"Hear Our Praises"

TODAY'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

Pastor: Rev. Dr. HiRho Park
Preacher: Rev. Ron Foster
Director of Music: Chris Warrington
Director, Bethesda Bells: Gail Williams
Minister of Discipleship & Justice: Dr. Shaw Brewer
Worship Leader: Michael Mitchell
Sanctuary Choir Conductor: Max Nolin
Tech: Sam Bohn (livestream), Steven Martin (slides), David Flumbaum (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, March 17: Art Show, Heritage-Homecoming Sunday

- 8:45 am PTR Class
- 9:00 am Sunday School
- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Kids With Purpose
- 11:00 am All Church Potluck
- 7:00 pm Evensong Worship

Please Donate

HERITAGE SUNDAY IS TODAY: We welcome Rev. Ron Foster as our guest preacher! As the lead pastor, Rev. Ron served Bethesda United Methodist Church for sixteen years (1998-2014). He led BUMC through a revival period and grew the church to where we are today. Rev. Ron is passionate about finding creative ways to make faith tangible and engaging for people of all ages. The BUMC congregation loved Rev. Ron, his wife, Holly, and their two daughters, Christine (married to Ross) and Sara (recently married to Hunter). He enjoyed spending time with youth, talking with children, teaching adults, and participating in hands-on missions alongside others.

A graduate of Princeton University (1983) and Duke Divinity School (1986), he served as an adjunct faculty member at Wesley Theological Seminary for thirteen years. He co-authored The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soultending in Youth Ministry with his good friend, Kenda Creasy Dean. Please join us for lunch and enjoy meeting with Rev. Ron and Holly.

EVENSONG TONIGHT: We cordially invite you to join us in a solemn service of scripture readings, prayers, and songs. This contemplative evening offers a tranquil space amidst our bustling lives. Our gifted musicians will melodiously guide us through diverse acoustic and vocal pieces. Communion is always part of this gathering. This week we welcome Jack Fisher as our preacher and look forward to his spiritual leadership.

SACRED ANOINTING SERVICE: We warmly invite you to join us on March 24, 7:00 PM for a 'Sacred Anointing Service.' This special evensong on Palm Sunday will allow us to walk in Jesus' footsteps. As we commemorate how Jesus was anointed in each of the gospels at the beginning of the Holy Week, let's reflect and receive an anointing with oil and prayer. This simple yet profound act promises a sense of comfort and healing. Particularly suited for anyone seeking God's solace, this service is open to all.

EASTER FLOWERS: Help beautify our sanctuary for Easter Sunday by ordering Easter flowers. Yellow daffodils and pink tulips are priced at $22, or choose the stunning blue hydrangeas for $30. Orders must be placed by today. Order envelopes are available in the Narthex, or you can place your order online at https://washmorefeet.org/easter-flower-orders/. After the 10:00 am Easter service, feel free to take your chosen flower(s) home to continue the festive spirit. Let these vibrant Easter flowers symbolize renewal and joy as we celebrate this special occasion together.

THE ART OF BEING A UNITED METHODIST: Through Sunday morning, March 24, we are holding a congregation art show in the Narthex and in Lonnie's Lobby. All art media – watercolors, oils, acrylics, pastels, tempera, charcoal sketches, pencil and ink sketches, computer graphics, collages, sculptures, jewelry, stained glass, needlework, quilts, and photography – are part of this show. Please spend some time looking at these works of art as a way of honoring those who present them.

EGGS-TRAORDINARY EASTER PREPARATIONS: Get involved in the joy of Easter as we prepare for our annual Egg Hunt! From now until March 17, we ask for your help picking up and filling Easter eggs. Please ensure they're filled with small toys or candy (no nuts, please). Your contributions will add to the excitement and fun for our young ones on Easter Sunday. For egg pickup and other related inquiries, kindly email dennis@washmorefeet.org.