BETHESDA
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WASHMOREFEET.ORG

Sunday, October 4, 2026

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!

We Are a "Wash More Feet" Congregation

Growing together to love
and serve Christ, our neighbor,
our world.

Bethesda United Methodist Church

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

Rev. Dr. Ann Laprade
Interim Pastor
ann@washmorefeet.org

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

World Communion Sunday
ReUNITE: A Year in Community

Sunday, October 4, 2026 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

Pre-Service Music

Choral Introit — Sanctuary Choir

Opening Music

"One Bread, One Body" - setting by Ron Schmoltze (1936-2018)

Bringing the Light of Christ — Lucas Foster

Tolling the Church Bell

Welcome and Announcements

* Opening Hymn — TFWS 2175

"Together We Serve"

Confession and Assurance

Pastor: Jesus prayed that we might be one: one in Spirit, one in mission, in union and communion with each other and with you.

People: Today, God, we confess fumblings and failures in accomplishing unity, as we set aside yet another day to remind ourselves of the task. On this World Communion Sunday, give us eyes to recognize your reflection in the eyes of Christians everywhere. Give us a mind to accept and celebrate our differences. Give us a heart big enough to love your children everywhere. We thank you for setting a table with space enough for us all! Amen.

(time of silence)

Pastor: Hear the good news: the table God sets has always had room for us all. Not because we earned our seat, but because grace doesn't count chairs. On this World Communion Sunday, we remember that the unity Jesus prayed for is not something we build alone. It is a gift already given. We fumblers and failures are exactly the people God invites, and the Spirit is still drawing us together, across every difference, into one body. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, you are welcomed, and you are one. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

* Sharing the Peace — TFWS 2171

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Children's Message — Barbara Bickford

Children ages 5 through fifth grade are invited to Kids With Purpose or Sunday school on their own.

Witness & Invitation — Chris Bixler

Offertory Music — Praise Band

"Lead On, Good Shepherd"

* Doxology — UMH 79, Verse 4

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

* Offertory Prayer

Listening

Anthem — Sanctuary Choir

"Let Us Come" - Karen Marrolli

Scripture Reading — Janet Edmonds

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Message — Rev. Dr. Ann Laprade

"Holding the World Together"

Responding

Holy Communion — TFWS 2257a–d

Music During Communion — Praise Band

"Hungry"

Sending

* Closing Hymn — UMH 435

"O God of Every Nation"

* Commission & Blessing

* Choral Benediction — Sanctuary Choir

* Carrying the Light of Christ Into the World

Closing Music

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing" - setting by Wayne Wold (b. 1954)

TODAY'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Ann Laprade
Director of Children's Ministries: Dennis Williams
Director of Music: Chris Warrington
Sanctuary Choir Conductor: Max Nolin
Minister of Discipleship & Justice: Rev. Dr. Shaw Brewer
Communications: Rev. Steven D. Martin
Director, Bethesda Bells: Gail Williams
Office Manager: Kris Hoxha

Tech: Steve Martin (livestream), Bob Gillette (slides), Carl Eichenwald (sound)
Coffee Hour: Christine Golding, Enrica Lipata
Worship Chairs: Jean Bullock & Cindy Osnos

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

Sunday, October 4: World Communion Sunday
- 8:45 am Philosophy, Theology, & Religion
- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School
- 9:00 am Youth Sunday School
- 9:50 am Pre-service Music
- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Kids With Purpose
- 11:15 am Manna Packing

Monday, October 5
- 8:30 am Mission Monday Food Collections
- 6:30 pm Festival Ringers
- 7:30 pm Bethesda Bells

Tuesday, October 6
- 7:00 pm Trustees Committee Meeting
- 7:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)

Wednesday, October 7
- 12:15 pm Midday Prayer & Communion
- 12:30 pm Midday Bible Study
- 1:45 pm Fit for Worship
- 7:00 pm Stewardship Team Meeting (Zoom)

Thursday, October 8
- 6:30 pm Praise Band
- 8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Saturday, October 10
- 8:00 am Men's Group Breakfast
- 10:00 am Fit for Worship

Sunday, October 11
- 8:45 am Philosophy, Theology, & Religion
- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School
- 9:00 am Youth Sunday School
- 9:50 am Pre-service Music
- 10:00 am Worship
- 11:15 am Manna Packing

Monday, October 12: Columbus Day – Office Closed
- 6:30 pm Festival Ringers
- 7:30 pm Bethesda Bells

Tuesday, October 13
- 7:00 pm SPRC Meeting
- 7:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)

Wednesday, October 14
- 12:15 pm Midday Prayer & Communion
- 12:30 pm Midday Bible Study
- 1:45 pm Fit for Worship
- 7:30 pm Church Council Meeting

Thursday, October 15
- 6:30 pm Praise Band
- 8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Saturday, October 17
- 10:00 am Fit for Worship
- 4:00 pm Bingo Bonanza w Project Transformation

Mission Monday is Tomorrow: We will collect individually wrapped meat and cheese sandwiches and baggies of homemade trail mix (no nuts) in the church parking lot on Monday, October 5, from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. If Monday is inconvenient, you may leave your contributions in the refrigerator in the church kitchen today, marked with your name and the number of items included. All items will be distributed in the District of Columbia that evening. Nonperishable food for our little free pantry can be left in the narthex any time.

Bethesda United Methodist Church Solar Panel Blessing

Sunday, October 18, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Please join us, along with partners from Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA) and the Montgomery County Green Bank, as we dedicate the Church's new solar panel installation. After an outdoor blessing and dedication from the Church leaders, we will head inside to the fellowship hall for refreshments and remarks. This will be the culmination of our 10:00 a.m. worship service, which will lead into this event; all are invited. Parking is available behind the church.

Tech Crew is Recruiting: We're looking for people who enjoy working with technology and want to use it to share the Good News around the world. If you can run a PowerPoint presentation, you can operate the worship slides one Sunday a month. If you know your way around a video game console, we'll teach you our livestream system. If you have an ear for music, help our music ministries sound their best at the mixing board. Contact Steve at communications@washmorefeet.org, or wander up to the balcony on Sunday morning.

Church Office Hours:

Monday: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Tuesday – Thursday:** 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friday: The Office Manager works remotely. If you need assistance on Friday, please call the church office at 301-652-2990 and leave a message. Someone will return your call as soon as possible.