

SJUNews *FLASH*

A weekly email to share important information
and to alert you to upcoming events.

Article submission deadline: Thursdays at NOON

www.sjuned.org
[SJU Facebook](#)
[SJU YouTube](#)
SJUColumbia@gmail.com
(best way to contact the office)

JANUARY 20, 2023

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 AM **LIVESTREAM FROM THE INTERFAITH CENTER**

Use this same link for EVERY SJU worship service!

[SJU Worship Service Livestream](#)

This worship service link is also posted on both our website and our Facebook page.

[SJU Website](#)

[SJU Facebook](#)

Our service also streams live on our Youtube page, beginning at 10:30 am.

[SJU YouTube](#)

We invite all persons back into worship on Sunday mornings at our 10:30 a.m. service in Room 4 of the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center. We hope you have been able to receive all COVID vaccinations and boosters, and will assist you in doing so, if you wish. Guests are welcome to participate fully in the worship service prayers and singing. When COVID positivity rates and hospitalizations are increasing, we strongly encourage you to wear a mask and safely distance yourself at your comfort level.

However, we ask that you stay home and worship with us virtually via our livestream broadcast at <https://wildelakecenter.org/streaming-now/> if you or a member of your household:

- have any [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, such as fever, cough, loss of smell, shortness of breath;
- are awaiting COVID-19 test results;
- have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 10 days; or
- have had [close contact](#) with a person who has tested positive for, or who has symptoms of, COVID-19 within the past 10 days.

We ask that if you have traveled where the COVID positivity rate is 10% or greater, you refrain from in-person worship for 5 days and/or have a negative rapid test result before returning to in-person events, regardless of the Maryland or Howard County COVID positivity rate. We recommend double masking or using the KN95 or N95 masks.

As of 1/19/23, the COVID-19 positivity rate for Howard County is 12.4%.

SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP – 7:00 PM – VIA ZOOM

Meeting ID: 835 8748 4349

Password: 940379

Join **online**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83587484349?pwd=MmhCampLL0tnMWhOc1hEWtBwQ29BQT09>

Or by **phone**: +1 301 715 8592 US

PRAYER MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE

This Week in Your Prayers (your prayers are felt and make a difference!):

- Beth Gallihue, daughter of **Maxine Behling**, shared that Maxine has experienced a change in her health and wellbeing and is being supported with hospice care at this time. Maxine is in her room at Charlestown Caton Woods 319, and resting comfortably. The family asks for your prayers of peace, comfort and strength as the loving kindness of our Lord surrounds them all.
- Please be in prayer for **Angelo Farmer and his family**, wife Sheryl and son Joshua. Angelo is diagnosed with cancer and has been very sick. He will begin chemo treatments through the Oncology Center in Columbia next Friday, January 20th. His family asks for your prayers for strength and relief from pain for Angelo, and the ability to navigate the next steps of their life together with grace, by faith, in Jesus Christ. Their faith is strong. Cards may be sent to: Angelo Farmer, 5861 Harpers Farm Road, Columbia, MD 21044. You can send text messages to: 443-832-8378.
- We celebrate that **Lynn Pakulla** has returned home to continue her journey of recovery from surgery. She is appreciative of your calls, cards and visits of support for herself and for Gary. She looks forward to returning to worship in person as soon as she can!
- Please be in prayer for **Robert Gordon, son of Pat Gordon**, who had surgery recently. He will be hospitalized for some days and continue his recovery at home with the care of his family. He greatly appreciates and anticipates your prayers as he heals in body, mind and spirit this season. May the God of all Peace comfort and guide him. Cards may be sent to his home at 4293 Red Bandana Way, Columbia, MD. 21042.
- Prayers for **Paul Broady**, recovering at home following a stay in the hospital.
- Lift up in prayer **Frances Nyorkor**, recuperating at home after a hospital stay.
- Continued prayers for **Evelyn Chesnutt**, who is making progress at home in her recovery, and for general health.
- Prayers for **Evann Ridgeway**, continuing her recovery at home.
- Also, please continue your prayers for Mrs. **Jean Gibson, Pamela Love's mother**, for general health and strength.
- Our hearts and voices join in prayer for the **people of the Ukraine** and all who are experiencing fear and violence as a result of a conflict with Russia.
- Pray for our **church worldwide, pray for SJU and its leaders and members**, pray for one another, our neighbors, and for yourself and often. Pray for what burdens your heart and mind for the world, our nation and our neighborhood.

SJU'S ANNUAL MEETING IS SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

(11:30 am // immediately following worship)

All members and interested persons should attend! You can attend in person (Room 10) or attend via this Zoom link:

[Annual Meeting ZOOM Link](#)

Or by phone: +1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 891 8487 9324

Passcode: 779112

IMPORTANT:

If you are viewing the worship service via livestream, you must leave the livestream and use the ZOOM link to attend the annual meeting.

[SPECIAL REQUEST FOR THE JANUARY 22ND SERVICE](#)
[BAPTISMS AND NEW MEMBERS](#)

This Sunday is a very special Sunday in which we will be celebrating baptisms in addition to other membership vows. The Communion table will be a “liturgical” work of the people design to represent the gently flowing waters of baptism, but it is missing something. It needs a few large, medium, and small washed and dried shells like there would be on a beach. **Each person can only bring one shell** to lend for the service. (large = 6-7”) and the shells have to be at church by 10:20am. Please take your shell home after church. Thank you! ~ Jean Weller

[NEWS FROM THE ANTI-RACISM TEAM](#)

UPDATED: Here are two PBS specials suggested by the Anti-Racism group:

PBS special: “Let the Little light shine”

A must see! National Teachers Academy (NTA) is considered a beacon for Black children: a top-ranked, high-performing elementary school in the fastest growing neighborhood on Chicago's South Side. As the neighborhood gentrifies, a wealthy parents’ group seeks to close NTA and replace it with a high school campus. How will NTA's community fight to save their beloved institution?

PBS special: “Claiming a Space”. A documentary on Zora Neale Hurston.

Meet the influential author and key figure of the Harlem Renaissance. Also, a trained anthropologist, Hurston collected folklore throughout the South and Caribbean - reclaiming, honoring and celebrating Black life on its own terms.

Check your local PBS listings for air dates.

Debra Snow

[FROM THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM](#)

January 18-25: Week of Prayer and Christian Unity: Central Mary Ecumenical Council (CMEC) will be hosting various denominations to explore their response to this theme, and/or introduce us to their faith, and/or engage us in prayer and/or praise of God. Our faith-filled denominations provide a rich tapestry on which God, the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit are woven such that all can be supported, encouraged, and celebrated. Go here for more information, and to register for the zoom sessions:

[CMEC Week of Prayer](#)

Two events from the Baltimore/Washington Conference:

January 31: The BWC’s **Gun Violence Prevention Team** and the Maryland Chapter of Moms Demand Action will gather for a rally and meet with legislators at Legislative Advocacy Days in Annapolis on Jan. 31. The day begins at 9 a.m. with a rally followed by legislative meetings at 11 a.m. The legislative priorities this year include strengthening Maryland’s concealed carry permitting laws, ending gun manufacturer immunity, repealing qualified immunity for police officers, and improving safe storage laws. United Methodists can gather as a group at the Thurgood Marshall statue on Lawyers’ Mall at 9:20 a.m. that day. For more information, contact Susan Bender at susanbender@comcast.net or 301-379-4561. [RSVP](#)

February 2: Journey to Beloved Community: 6 Actions for Belonging and Becoming

This 8-session course will focus on six actions that you and community partners can take to grow in building beloved community and hence create spaces of belonging and becoming. [Learn more and register.](#)

Calling All Kids and Kids at Heart!



Please join us to create Valentine cards & messages to
SHOW YOUR LOVE
for family and friends near and far!

We'll have the craft supplies including blank and preprinted cards, you bring the creativity!

Can't wait to see you there!

P.S. You'll be home in plenty of time for the Superbowl! ~ CJ Buche & Donna Hayman

NEWS FROM HOWARD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Howard County is home to one of the best restaurant scenes in our region due to our diverse community and our thriving culinary scene. **Howard County Winter Restaurant and Craft Beverages Weeks** is currently underway! From Fulton and Maple Lawn to Columbia and Ellicott City to Savage and Lisbon – you can find something for everyone. I encourage residents to support our locally owned and operated restaurants during Winter Restaurant weeks and enjoy a meal with friends, family, and neighbors. Find all participating restaurants [here](#).



Combatting Human Trafficking (Human Trafficking Awareness Month)

Human trafficking is a crime that requires more than just good effort and intention to combat. In order for Howard County to be the best county for all, we cannot let our most vulnerable residents slip through the cracks. We remain committed to protecting our residents and their families from this devastation, and holistically support survivors. To learn more about our efforts, please click [here](#).

NEWS & EVENTS FROM HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Racial Equity Training: HCLS is pleased to offer new racial equity training opportunities this winter. We believe that when we engage in racial equity education, we are investing in our own knowledge and growth, AND we are investing in and contributing to our community's growth and progress. Thank you for planning to do both in 2023!

Everyday Activism: New Lens for Howard County

Everyone can do something to dismantle racism. This two-day virtual seminar will help you discover how to break inaction cycles and get involved to make a difference. Participate in a broad-stroke review of structural racism and bias and a series of reflective activities to answer the question, "What can I do?" **New Lens is your formal invitation to get involved and make a meaningful difference through everyday activism.**

[Monday, January 23 & Tuesday, January 24 \(9 AM - 11 AM\)](#)

[Friday, January 27 \(6 PM - 8 PM\), Saturday, January 28 \(9 AM - 11 AM\)](#)

YOUR CONTINUED GIVING IS APPRECIATED!

Please continue helping us meet our need so that all of our ministries and missions can continue and be prepared for the fullness of service in the coming months. Here's how you can help:

Donate through GIVELIFY.

With Givelify, you have two options:

1. Download the GIVELIFY app (iphone or android), search for us by name (Saint John United Church) or phone number (410-730-9137), and follow the steps, or
2. Donate online through this link: [Donate Today](#) and search for us as explained above.



Donate by mail. Yvonne checks the mail for contributions, and makes weekly deposits.

Make your check payable to **ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH**, and mail it (with or without including your contribution envelope) to:
St John United Church, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd, Columbia MD 21044

Donate through your bank or credit union. Set up St. John United Church as you would any other bill through your bank's bill payment option.

DIRECTED DONATIONS

At this time, the Finance/Investment team asks that you please do not designate or direct your contributions to SJU toward a specific ministry unless asked. When SJU is aware that specialized ministries need funding, that need will be publicized in advance, and solicited for a specific time and use. The elected leaders of the Church Council are in continual discernment to guide all of SJU's human, financial and spiritual resources in responsible and impactful ways, for the transformation of the world.

ONGOING SJU NEWS / LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

From Your Congregational Care Committee

With the current steps to re-entry, the Congregational Care Committee no longer sees a need for the Caring/Sharing Help list to appear every week in the SJU News FLASH. Therefore, if anyone wishes to request any of the following services (transportation, errands, or computer help), they should contact: Evann Ridgeway (evann9@comcast.net) or Andrea Barnes (awbarnes00@aol.com)

From Columbia Community Care

SPECIAL NOTE:

Thanks to your generosity and the generosity of residents of Howard County the total number and selection of many non-perishable items has exceeded all expectations especially in areas such as canned goods.

For more information, see photo. →

COLUMBIA COMMUNITY CARE

(as of May 2022)

Currently there is an excess of items such as:

- Canned soups (all types)
- Canned green beans
- Canned potatoes
- Mac and cheese
- Ramen noodles

When making donations at the WLIFC it is requested that donors consider the following items which are in high demand:

- personal care items such as:
 - toothpaste
 - shampoo
 - bars of bath soap
 - baby diapers
 - baby wipes
 - sanitary napkins (rather than tampons)
- canned tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato paste (rather than jars and cans of spaghetti sauce)
- pasta, spaghetti (not macaroni and cheese products)
- canned meats including tuna, chicken, corned beef, ham, Spam, Vienna Sausages, canned salmon
- sugar, flour, masa, rice, cooking oil
- household items such as paper towels and toilet paper

Please Note:
At WLIFC we are only collecting non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items for Columbia Community Care. We do not collect clothing, bedding, kitchen appliances, toys, medical supplies, books, magazines, mail, or other printed materials (cards and stationery). We also cannot collect food items that require refrigeration as there is no refrigeration available. These items may remain outside for a day or more creating problems with spoilage and contamination of other items placed in the totes.

Please do not leave home-made food items in the collection totes. Food items that are not properly packaged and placed in the closed totes may be consumed by animals.

Financial contributions are welcome by CCG and may be made directly through the CCC Facebook site or at <http://columbiacare.live>

The Columbia Community Care always needs volunteers to assist in distributing materials at the three pantries. Volunteers can assist in setting up the sites, sorting and working at distribution tables, or breaking down the site. See the CCC Facebook site for more information on how to volunteer.

Thanks to all for your generosity! Regards, Brad and Margaret Hunt

For current information on Columbia Community Care go to: [Columbia Community Care on Facebook](#) or <http://columbiacare.live>

How YOU Can Find the Daily COVID-19 Positivity Rate for Howard County

Here is the link to the website:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/health/covid-19#cases-dashboard>

You can get the date for the latest shown positivity rate on the screen by hovering the mouse over the end of the line in the Positivity Rate graph to see the "as of" date.



HEY, IT'S 2023!



CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 22 – JANUARY 29

All meetings are via Zoom unless otherwise noted;

links to any open meetings are in this issue

All meetings are open to the members and affiliates of SJU unless otherwise noted. Members are encouraged to connect, be engaged and invested in the life and leadership of this Body of Christ, the church! Contact SJUColumbia@gmail.com if you wish to receive meeting and contact information on anything below:

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Sun, 1/22	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Liturgist: Tony Powell)
	11:30 am	ANNUAL MEETING (<i>in-person & via Zoom</i>)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
Thu, 1/26	7:30 pm	CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (<i>Room 4</i>)
Sat, 1/28	9:00 am	SJU MEN'S GROUP
Sun, 1/29	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Scheduled liturgist: Andrea Barnes)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP

Prayer Group Ministry: Anyone in the church may submit a prayer concern to a group prayer chain. Contact Judy Miller (quiltjudy@gmail.com), or Evelyn Chesnutt (lchesnutt@icloud.com). If you would like to be part of the Prayer Group Ministry, also contact Judy or Evelyn and let them know so they can add you to the distribution.

Pastoral Care: Self-Care in the Pandemic: Pastoral Care, Coaching and Spiritual Direction for Individuals or Households. Rev. Kanahan, a trained IFC Coach and Spiritual Director, is here to offer Pastoral Care, Coaching and Spiritual direction during this time. Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-11 am or 6-8 pm. All 50-minute appointments and interactions are confidential and customized for your needs. She is willing to listen, encourage, pray or offer resources according to your request. Schedule your self-care consult by contacting her at: pastorkanahansju@gmail.com or 410-428-8090.

ADMIN OFFICE AND PASTORAL OFFICE HOURS: Yvonne is in the office for a few hours once a week, normally on Thursdays, and Pastor Mary Ka is in as needed each week. Because it might be several days before they can retrieve phone messages, please send them an email with any questions you have, for help you may need, or to make an in-office appointment.

SJUColumbia@gmail.com

PastorKanahanSJU@gmail.com

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