

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 13, 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 1/12/23, the COVID-19 positivity rate for Howard County is 13.7%.

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!):

- 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 following a hospital stay.
- Also, please continue your prayers for Mrs. **Jean Gibson, Pamela Love's mother**, for general health and strength.
- We ask for general prayers of recovery for our member at Charlestown, **Maxine Behling**.
- 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.

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.

SAVE THE DATE!

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 Zoom
(link will be shared in a special Annual Meeting FLASH)

EXCITING NEWS

Barring unforeseen circumstances,
our new website launches on Tuesday, January 17th!

There are different, larger fonts...

More color and more vibrant photos...

A welcome video from Pastor MK...

Two paths to view key items, like donating, signing up for ministries, worship info, news, etc....

There's a Welcome to SJU section...

Dedicated sections for ministries...

And the "members only" section accessed via the same password as the current site.

*NOTE: if you go to the website next Tuesday and don't see the new version,
try refreshing the page on your screen, or try again a little later in the day.*

www.sjuinted.org

NEWS FROM THE ANTI-RACISM TEAM

Here are a few offerings from the Anti-Racism group:

As we approach MLK's birthday in January, as well as Black History Month in February, please plan to visit a museum in our neighborhood:

Howard County Center of African American Culture

5434 Vantage Point Rd., Columbia, Md 21044
410-715-1921

PBS special: a must see "Let the Little light shine." Below is an overview.

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?

Debra Snow

**Weekly deadline for submitting SJUNews *FLASH* articles is
Thursday by 12 NOON. Send via email to SJUColumbia@gmail.com
Please include "FOR THE FLASH" in your subject heading.**

FROM THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

Our Struggle for Justice: A Day of Action

What issues do you care about? How do you feel empowered? Join the Portrait Gallery and our partners for A Day of Action. Sun, January 22, 2023, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm EST. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution 800 G Street Northwest Washington, DC 20001.

For your free tickets, go here: [Our Struggle for Justice: A Day of Action](#)

NEWS FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF BALTIMORE

Sunday, January 15, 3pm - 4th Annual MLK Performing Arts Competition. Presented by the In the Loop Ministry Group Register to attend in person or online, and find more information at BaltimorePresbytery.org

Monday January 16 at 7pm - [Legacy of Black Farming & Human Rights](#). Join **Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake** on this holiday special webinar. You'll learn about the rich history of Black Farming in America and the growing push for environmental justice. Guest speakers will share how they are working tirelessly to dissolve existing barriers to create new opportunities for Black farmers.

NEWS FROM THE BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Bishop LaTrelle Easterling and the Cabinets of the Baltimore-Washington and Peninsula-Delaware Conferences met this week to begin the work of clergy appointments. Recognizing that this is a difficult and extraordinary time that we're living through, the bishop is sending out this video note to the clergy of the two conferences, assuring them that the Cabinets are practicing deep discernment in the months ahead and that the well-being of the clergy is at the heart of all their work.

[View the video](#) and join Bishop Easterling as she prays that all of God's servants will know the peace, love, and joy of Christ.

Glen Mar UMC's Annual MLK Jr. Day of Service: Glen Mar UMC in Ellicott City invites you to its ninth annual MLK Jr. Day of Service on Monday, January 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It will be an 'in-person' event at Glen Mar Church with co-hosts Ames Memorial UMC and St. John Baptist Church. Family-friendly short-term service activities for ages 5 to 105 are planned. [Learn more.](#) [Register.](#)

NEWS FROM HOWARD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Hopping to a New Year: The Lunar New Year is a momentous holiday marked by community, family, and beautiful traditions. It is a celebration of shared history and culture, highlighting that diversity is our strength. After two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, I'm excited to once again host our annual Lunar New Year celebration in person on **January 21st, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the Mall in Columbia**. Join us for a spectacular showcase as we ring in the Year of the Rabbit, featuring special performances and guests.

Be The Difference: We were all recently reminded of the importance of learning how to administer CPR. When a person goes into sudden cardiac arrest, their survival depends on immediately getting CPR from someone nearby. By learning how to administer CPR, you can help save a life and be the difference. The Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services offers FREE individual, group, and virtual CPR trainings. To register for a class, please click [here](#) or call 410-313-2016.



[NEWS & EVENTS FROM HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM](#)

Howard County Library System's annual gala fundraiser is back at the East Columbia Branch on February 25, and this year we celebrate current pop culture. Our goal is to raise \$150,000 to benefit the Battle of the Books competition for fifth graders at Merriweather Post Pavilion.

For more information: [Evening in the Stacks Go POP!](#)

[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, 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 CCC 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

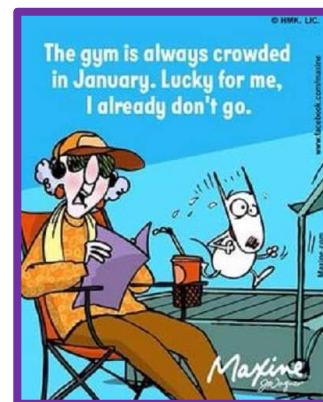
Here is the link to the website:

<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 15 – JANUARY 22

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:

Sun, 1/15	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Scheduled liturgist: Debra Snow)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
Mon, 1/16		OFFICE CLOSED: MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
Tue, 1/17	7:00 pm	STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMM MEETING
Wed, 1/18	10:00 am	WEBSITE TEAM (<i>if necessary</i>)
Thu, 1/19	7:30 pm	CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (<i>Room 4</i>)
Sun, 1/22	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Scheduled liturgist: Pastor Mary Ka)
	11:30 am	ANNUAL MEETING (<i>in-person & via Zoom</i>)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP

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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