

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)

FEBRUARY 24, 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 2/23/23, the COVID-19 positivity rate for Howard County is 8.3%.

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!):

- Prayers for **Andrea Barnes** recuperating at home for several weeks following surgery. Cards can be sent to 6682 Possum Ct., Columbia MD 21045.
- Please pray for strength for the family of **Betsy Hudson**, who lost her cancer battle on February 10th. Cards may be sent to Tom Hudson, 50 West Street, Unit 2R, Portland, Maine 04102. Email can be sent to betsy.l.hudson@gmail.com and the family will be able to read the messages. A memorial service celebrating Betsy's life and faith will be held later this spring. Here is the link to her obituary:
[Betsy Hudson Obituary - Portland, ME \(dignitymemorial.com\)](#)
- The memorial service of death and resurrection for **Maxine Behling** will be held in the Chapel at Charlestown Retirement Community on Maiden Choice Lane in Catonsville, MD on Saturday, March 4th at 11:00 a.m. A reception will follow in the art gallery. Maxine will be interred at Garrison National Cemetery on Friday, March 3rd, with her family in attendance. Expressions of sympathy to the family may be sent to her daughter Beth Gallihue, 8116 Tamar Drive, Columbia, MD 21045.
[Obituary | Maxine Eleanor Behling | Peaceful Alternatives Funeral & Cremation Center](#)
- Please continue to pray for **Angelo Farmer**, living with late-stage pancreatic cancer and undergoing treatment at the oncology center in Howard County. His wife, Sheryl, is very appreciative of the care, cards, and prayers of support they have received. Cards may be sent to: Angelo Farmer, 5861 Harpers Farm Road, Columbia, MD 21044. You can send text messages to: 443-832-8378.
- We ask that you continue your prayers for **Trudy Snope**, whose husband, **Andy**, died on Jan 21. They are former members of SJU from the founding days with Barclay Brown. The memorial service on Saturday, March 25, begins with a viewing period at 10:30 am and the service at 11:00 am in Room 4. A reception in the foyer café area immediately follows the service. Trudy's address: 11022 Thistle Brook Ct Columbia, MD 21044.
[Andrew Snope Obituary \(1939 - 2023\) - Ellicott City, MD - Baltimore Sun \(legacy.com\)](#)
- Also, please continue your prayers for Mrs. **Jean Gibson, Pamela Love's mother**, for general health and strength. She is at home now.
- 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.

LENTEN PRACTICE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

During Lent, many of us are reminded once again to examine our lifestyles and ask, "What can we do for others?" Part of faith formation at any age is compassion and offering a serving heart to our neighbors.

Lent is a good time to commit to giving money to a project that helps those in need. One way to involve the whole family is to collect coins during the season of Lent and then following Easter, donate the money. Follow our [Coins for Lent Giving Calendar](#) as a guide. Determine who you will give your coins to and be prepared to share who you chose to bless with your generous Lenten practice, why you chose them, and what it means to you and to them.

[LentenCoinCalendar_2023rev2.pdf \(s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com\)](#)

SJU VBS AUGUST 7-11, 2023!

We need your help! Join us at our planning meeting
Tuesday, February 28, 7pm on Zoom.
Email SJUColumbiavbs@gmail.com
for the Zoom link

Save the Date!

SJU VBS
August 7-11, 2023
Planning Meeting
Tuesday, February 28, 7:00pm

Volunteers

Volunteer

LOTS of Volunteers!

If you would like to help,
EMAIL:
SJUColumbiaVBS@gmail.com

[LENT DEVOTIONAL 2023](#)

The link to the “Sanctuary for Lent 2023” is in the Member Resources section of the website.

[SYRIA AND TURKEY DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS](#)

Check our parent denominations’ disaster relief websites for ways you can help:

[UMCOR International Latest Responses - Global Ministries \(umcmision.org\)](#) – it directs us to the Facebook page for most up to date information.

PCUSA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance): Financial support for relief efforts can be designated to [DR999999-ST earthquake](#). Gifts can be made [online by clicking here](#), by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with “[DR999999-ST Earthquake](#)” written on the memo line and mailed to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

[FROM THE BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON CONFERENCE](#)

Click the link below to read the Lenten Message from Bishop Easterling and the Council of Bishops

[Reclaim-Revive-Renew: A Lenten Message](#)

Want more information about news and events from the BW Conference? The e-connection is a weekly electronic newsletter from the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

Go here: [BWC e-connection](#) There’s a link there for you to subscribe to it.

[FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF BALTIMORE](#)

Click the link below to read the Lenten Message from the General Presbyter.

[Lenten Message from the General Presbyter](#)

[BRIDGES TO HOUSING STABILITY](#)

Donate to Bridges here: [Support Bridges' Efforts to End Homelessness in Howard County](#)

2023 ChiliFest & Cornhole Tournament

All proceeds from the 12th Annual ChiliFest & Cornhole Tournament support Bridges to Housing Stability’s work to end homelessness through affordable housing in Howard County.

Sunday, March 19, 2023, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church of Howard County, 9325 Presbyterian Circle, Columbia, MD 21045

Chili Tickets: \$25 each; Cornhole Registration: \$40 (team of two players).

Tickets must be purchased in advance here: [ChiliFest & Cornhole Tickets](#)

INFO FROM HOWARD COUNTY



Starting now through April 13th, AARP and the IRS will be offering FREE personal Federal and Maryland income tax preparation at 50+ Centers throughout the county.

Appointments will be available on the following days, times and 50+ Center locations:

- Bain 50+ Center – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9AM to 2PM
- East Columbia 50+ Center – Tuesday, 2 to 6PM and Thursday, 1 to 6PM
- Elkridge 50+ Center – Wednesday, 10AM to 4PM
- Ellicott City 50+ Center – Monday and Friday, 9AM to 3PM
- Glenwood 50+ Center – Monday and Thursday, 9AM to 2PM
- North Laurel 50+ Center – Tuesday and Thursday, 11AM to 4PM

To schedule a tax prep appointment, please call 443-741-2373; do NOT call the 50+ Center directly.

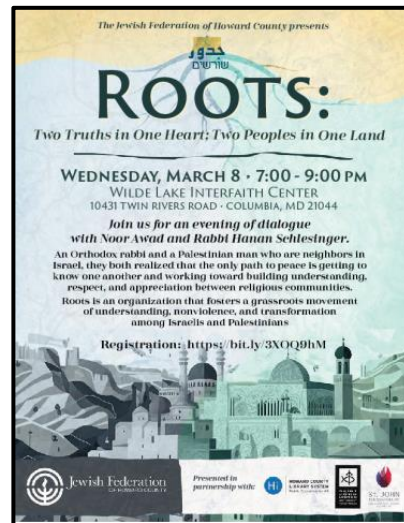
All preparers and volunteers have received IRS-approved training and are certified in tax preparation.

AARP Income Tax Preparation Appointments Now Available at a 50+ Center Near You

Now through April 13th, AARP and the IRS are offering FREE personal Federal and Maryland income tax preparation at our 50+ centers across the county. Offered by appointment only, this service is available to middle- and low-income taxpayers with special emphasis on those 60 and older. Self-employment returns with more than \$5,000 in expenses and complex returns are not eligible for this service. Also, please keep in mind, each appointment is for one single or joint return. Go here:

Register here:

[ROOTS registration link](#)



The Jewish Federation of Howard County presents

בבית
ישראל


ROOTS:

Two Truths in One Heart; Two Peoples in One Land

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8 • 7:00 - 9:00 PM
WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER
10431 TWIN RIVERS ROAD • COLUMBIA, MD 21044

Join us for an evening of dialogue with *Noor Awad* and *Rabbi Hanan Schlessinger*. An Orthodox rabbi and a Palestinian man who are neighbors in Israel, they both realized that the only path to peace is getting to know one another and working toward building understanding, respect, and appreciation between religious communities. ROOTS is an organization that fosters a grassroots movement of understanding, nonviolence, and transformation among Israelis and Palestinians.

Registration: <https://bit.ly/3XOQ9hM>

Jewish Federation of Howard County
Presented in partnership with: 

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, macaroni, 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 refrigerator 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, Bad 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.



It's MARYLAND 2023!



CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26 – MARCH 5

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, 2/26	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Liturgist: Evann Ridgeway)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
Tue, 2/28	7:00 pm	VBS PLANNING
Wed, 3/1	2:00 pm	CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE
Thu, 3/2	6:00 pm	A/V TECH TEAM & CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (<i>Room 4</i>)
Sun, 3/5	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Scheduled liturgist: Robin Dietzway)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP

***Reminder: have your juice and bread/crackers prepared for holy communion on March 5th.**

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

St. John United Church, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd., Columbia MD 21044

SJUColumbia@gmail.com • 410-730-9137 • www.sjuinted.org

Facebook: [SJU Facebook](#)

YouTube: [SJU YouTube](#)

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**Send via email to SJUColumbia@gmail.com
Please include "FOR THE FLASH"
in your subject heading.**

