

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)

MARCH 10, 2023

**Daylight Saving Time reminder: Turn your clocks AHEAD one hour on Saturday night, 3-11-23.*

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 3/9/23, the COVID-19 positivity rate for Howard County is 5.9%.

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 praying for **Judy Miller**, hospitalized at St. Agnes Hospital now for several days, with pneumonia. Her daughter (Karen Long) is with her and staying in touch with Judy's closest friends at Charlestown. Visits are not the best form of support for now, but cards, email, phone/texts are welcome. 719 Maiden Choice La BR341, Catonsville MD 21228; quiltjudy@gmail.com; 443-833-3687.
- Pray for Maxine Behling's daughter, **Heidi Balter**, as she and the family mourn the sudden passing of her son, **Max Balter**, on March 27th. Max's service will be held Monday, March 13th, at 3pm in Room 4. All are invited to the reception immediately following the service.
- We were informed by his children that **Chester (Chet) Roebuck** passed away on Wednesday, March 1. He is Addie Roebuck's son. Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Prayers for **Andrea Barnes** recuperating at home for several weeks following surgery. Cards can be sent to 6682 Possum Ct., Columbia MD 21045.
- Please continue to pray for **Angelo Farmer**, living with late-stage pancreatic cancer. 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 \(s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com\)](#)

"LIKE" SJU'S FACEBOOK POSTS

As your Communications Team works to "ramp up" SJU's presence on various social media outlets, we're asking you to help in one small way, if you can: go to the **SJU Facebook** page and "like" our weekly worship service posts there. Thank you!

[SJU Facebook](#)



[NEWS FROM THE BWES PARTNERSHIP TEAM](#)

Bryant Woods is having many activities during the month of March. We would like the members of SJU to be involved in any way they can!

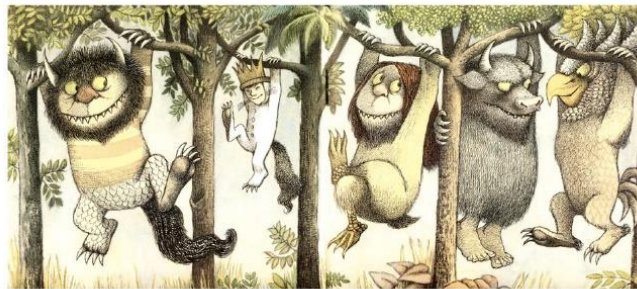
- Volunteers are needed for their **gardening (winter sowing) project**. Contact Long Chen at bwespta.programming@gmail.com for this project.
- Please **consider joining the PTA**. The minimum amount to join is \$5.00 per member, which covers the cost of the National and State PTA dues. The dues help to cover cultural arts assemblies or events etc. BWES PTA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible. To join the BWES PTA, go here: [BWES PTA MEMBERSHIP](#)
- Or, you can make a direct donation to the BWES PTA to support their important activities. Go to their MemberHub page here: [BWES PTA Donation](#) and click on "Open Donation", or send a check payable to "Bryant Woods Elementary PTA" to the school (designating "donation" in the memo line).
- You can also **purchase a yearbook**; the last day to purchase a book is March 24th. Ordering information is coming.
- Finally:

You are cordially invited to
Bryant Woods Elementary School
for our annual
Guest Reader Day
on
Wednesday March 29, 2023

We would love for you to come to our school to read to a class of your choice for a 20-30-minute time frame between 9 and 2:30! Please sign up [here](#) if you can join us!

📖❤️ The BWES Reading Team 📖❤️

"Inside all of us is a Wild Thing"



"And Max, the king of all wild things, was lonely and wanted to be where someone loved him best of all."

Maurice Sendak

Bryant Woods Elementary School
5450 Blue Heron Lane
Columbia, MD 21044

FROM THE BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Go here for Bishop Easterling's March message (published March 6): [Bishop Easterling's March Message](#)

Registration has begun for 2023 Annual Conference (May 31-June 3). Go here for information and to register: [BWC Annual Conference](#)

Council of Bishops President Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton delivered a **Mid-Term State of The United Methodist Church Address** on March 2. Listen to the full message and join in embracing a hope-filled beloved community at [UMC.org/Renew](https://www.UMC.org/Renew).

[Read the E-Connection](#) to learn what's happening in, around and beyond the Baltimore-Washington Conference. And, if you have not already done so, [subscribe to receive](#) the weekly e-newsletter.

WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER LIBRARY

Pamela Love

Our **Interfaith Center Library** is open Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:30 and 11:15-12:30. The library will be closed on April 9.

We have books for ages 2-102! Fiction and nonfiction, award-winners and bestsellers (including graphic novels), religious books (including Bibles), books about ways for people to improve their lives, communities, and the world, books in Spanish, and so much more! New books are coming in, so please continue to stop by.

It's easy to sign up to use the library. Just ask at the desk!

ART EXHIBIT EVENT

The Meeting House Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of *Interlude: An Art Exhibition* featuring artists from the Oakland Mills Interfaith congregations. The exhibit will run from March 4 through June 3, 2023. Meet the artists at our reception **on Sunday, March 19, 2023 from 1:00-3:00pm**.

Some of the art on display will be available for purchase along with additional art and other items at the reception. Select from a variety of works in acrylic, oil, mixed media, photography, watercolor, ceramics and stained glass mosaics.

The gallery is open from 8:00am-5:00pm weekdays, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD. Hours vary on weekends. Call ahead, 410-730-4090. Closed on federal holidays.



INTERLUDE
An Art Exhibition
Featuring artists from OMI congregations

March 4 - June 3, 2023
Meet the Artists on March 19!
Opening Reception from 1:00-3:00pm

Artists:
Ron Berkowitz - Pen & Ink
Stu Berlin - Photography
Carol Carey - Acrylic on Paper
Dan Cohen - Woodcarving
Susan Cohen - Oil
Judith Estrin - Watercolor, Acrylic
Michele Krupka - Ceramic
Jim Lubitz - Photography
Sue Nicholson - Ceramic
Hans Plugge - Wood & Concrete
Chick Rhodehamel - Photography
Ronee Rothman - Watercolor
Steve Rothman - Photography
Lois Savar Rock - Watercolor
Elizabeth Sumner - Watercolor, Ink
Roslyn Zinner - Stained Glass Mosaic

The Meeting House Gallery
Exploring diversity and celebrating unity through the arts

OMI
Oakland Mills Interfaith Center

5885 Robert Oliver Pl, Columbia, MD 8:00am to 5:00pm
theetinghouse.org/art-gallery Closed Federal holidays
theetinghousegallery@gmail.com 410-730-4090

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.



INFO FROM HOWARD COUNTY

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:

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.



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 pointed 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>

HEY! IT'S 2023!



CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF MARCH 12 – MARCH 19

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 SIUColumbia@gmail.com if you wish to receive meeting and contact information on anything below:

Sun, 3/12	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE <i>(in-person & streaming)</i> (Scheduled liturgist: Connie Lynch)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
Mon, 3/13	4:00 pm	FINANCE TEAM
Tue, 3/14	7:00 pm	COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM
Thu, 3/16	6:00 pm	A/V TECH TEAM & CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL <i>(Room 4)</i>
Sun, 3/19	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE <i>(in-person & streaming)</i> (Scheduled liturgist: Connie Lynch)
	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

St. John United Church, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd., Columbia MD 21044
SJUColumbia@gmail.com • 410-730-9137 • www.sjunited.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.**

