

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 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 3/23/23, the COVID-19 positivity rate for Howard County is 4.1%.

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!):

- The memorial service for founding member **Andy Snope** on **Saturday, March 25**, begins at 11:00 am in Room 4. The service will **not** be livestreamed, per the family's wishes. A reception in the foyer café area immediately follows the service. Continue to keep the family in your prayers.
- Continue to pray for **Judy Miller**, still recuperating from her bout with pneumonia. Cards, email, phone/texts are welcome. 719 Maiden Choice La BR341, Catonsville MD 21228; quiltjudy@gmail.com; 443-833-3687.
- Please continue to pray for **Angelo Farmer**, living with late-stage pancreatic cancer. Cards may be sent to: Angelo Farmer, 5861 Harpers Farm Road, Columbia, MD 21044. You can send text messages to: 443-832-8378.
- 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 continue to 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, and all around the world who are **affected by recent natural disasters**.
- 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.

A SEASON OF SPECIAL GIVING

During Lent, we are asking you to make a special gift to One Great Hour of Sharing.

OGHS: For many years our Palm Sunday special offering has supported “One Great Hour of Sharing” (OGHS). This is a great way to help both Presbyterian and Methodist agencies aid Ukrainians, other refugees and victims of disasters. We will welcome your additional gifts for that purpose **from Sunday, April 2 through Thursday, April 13.**

In addition to your checks, **with OGHS on the memo line**, we will add an option to support these ministries through Givelify during these weeks.

UMCOR SUNDAY (UM)



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

PC(USA)

PALM SUNDAY THROUGH EASTER SERVICES

(at SJU and livestreamed, unless otherwise noted)

SUNDAY, APRIL 2: PALM SUNDAY (10:30 am service)

THURSDAY, APRIL 6: MAUNDY THURSDAY (7:00 pm service)

FRIDAY, APRIL 7: GOOD FRIDAY (7:00 pm at **Christ United Methodist Church**)

SUNDAY, APRIL 9: EASTER SUNDAY (10:30 am service)

SJU VBS AUGUST 7-11, 2023!

We need your help! Join us at our planning meeting
Tuesday, March 28, 7pm on Zoom.

Email SJUColumbiavbs@gmail.com
for the Zoom link.



KNIT FOR FOOD KNIT-A-THON

Ingrid Sampson

I'm excited to share that I am participating in the 3rd annual Knit for Food Knit-a-thon on March 26, 2023! I'll be knitting for 12 hours straight to raise money for four organizations that work to combat food scarcity and hunger. 100% of the dollars raised will be split equally between Feeding America, No Kid Hungry, World Central Kitchen, and Meals on Wheels. Will you support me in this effort, by making a one-time donation to the campaign? Here's a link to donate! Thank you so much!

<https://givebutter.com/knitforfood23/ingridsampson>

NEW CHRISTIAN APPLICATIONS CLASS BEGINS MARCH 26

Albert Holm

The Christian Applications class will begin studying Elaine Pagel's book "Revelations: Visions, Prophecy, & Politics in the Book of Revelation" on Sunday, March 26. We expect to learn more about this, the most controversial book of the New Testament, about its author John of Patmos, and about its impact.

You are invited to join us by Zoom on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am. For the Zoom link, email me at AlbertHolm@hotmail.com Videos of our discussions of this book and of previous books are available at albertholm.com/SJU-CA/ChristianApplications.html.

FROM THE BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

[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.

[ASP 2023](#)

Appalachia Service Project

ASP share sales will happen only one weekend this year:

Saturday, March 25 – 3:30 pm-5:30 pm

Sunday, March 26 – 7:30 am-1:30 pm

Support the ASP volunteers by purchasing a share!

Not sure what the Appalachia Service Project does? Go here: [ASP](#)

[HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM PRESENTS:](#)

Celebrate spring with a walk in the woods and experience the beautiful spring wildflowers. Visit the Middle Patuxent Environmental Area to enjoy a StoryWalk® of Wake Up, Woods. The book was illustrated by Gillian Harris. Text was written by Michael Homoya. Verses were created by Shane Gibson. The StoryWalk® is a deconstructed children's book made into signs that are placed along a trail where visitors can stroll through meadows and forest and follow the story from page to page. Combine reading, enjoying the outdoors, and spending family time in this creative new way!



Saturday, March 25 – Monday, April 10

South Wind Trail

Middle Patuxent Environmental Area

6495 South Wind Circle, Columbia, MD 21044

A StoryWalk® is a deconstructed children's book made into signs placed along a trail where visitors can stroll and follow the story from page to page.



Info: 410-313-4726

[NEWS FROM HOWARD COUNTY](#)

Summer Youth Program: Young people from every corner of our county have expressed need for more programs, activities, and places to be in community with each other. On March 20th, the county announced the launch of its empowering Summer Youth Program and a new, innovative Esports Initiative, in partnership with Howard Community College. Through these experiences, young people will have the chance to learn key skills and positively recreate with their peers and our community. Read more about all the programs available for our young people [here](#).

Youth Opportunity Fair: The Youth Opportunity Fair is back! Join the Howard County Office of Workforce Development and community partners for a job fair dedicated to our young people on **Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 11 am – 2pm at Wilde Lake High School**. This event is centered around networking and directly connecting youth and young adults to local community resources, volunteer, internship, and employment opportunities. Help us spread the word and engage youth in the workforce.

[NEWS FROM HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING AND INDEPENDENCE](#)

April's news and events for older adults are available here: [County office for aging independence](#)

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

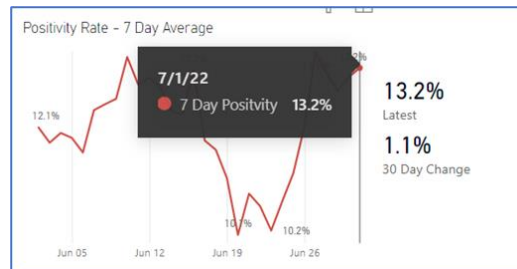
At this time, the Finance/Investment team asks that you please do not designate or direct your contributions to SJU toward a specific ministry unless asked. When SJU is aware that specialized ministries need funding, that need will be publicized in advance, and solicited for a specific time and use. 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.

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 MARCH 26 – APRIL 2

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, 3/26	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Liturgist: Edna Quoie)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
Tue, 3/28	7:00 pm	VBS PLANNING MEETING
Thu, 3/30	6:00 pm	A/V TECH TEAM & CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (<i>Room 4</i>)
Sun, 4/2	10:30 am	PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Scheduled liturgist: Lisa Cooper Green)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP

Maundy Thursday: April 6 // Easter: April 9

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

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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.**

