

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

**MARCH 31, 2023**

**\*Reminder: have your juice and bread/crackers prepared for holy communion on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**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.

**As of 3/30/23, 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

**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)

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## [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)

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### **Why do palm branches usher in Holy Week?**

*~ from United Methodist Communications*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, ushers in Holy Week, which helps us remember the events that led to the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Learn more about the history of Palm Sunday, as well as the modern traditions that make it a unique and meaningful day in the Christian year.



### [Watch video](#)

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## [PRAYER MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE](#)

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

- **Jennifer Wong** requests prayers for her parents, Rose and Gene Marciano in Florida, coping with several health matters.
  - **Lynn and Gary Pakulla** request prayers for their travel to Florida to attend to matters so they may return fully to life here in Maryland.
  - **Judy Miller** and family are celebrating her progress in rehab therapy following hospitalization. Judy hopes to return to her (new) home at Charlestown by the end of this week. Her updated room #: 719 Maiden Choice La **BR324**, Catonsville MD 21228.
  - **Dawn and Nat Barnes** request prayers for Nat's call to political leadership in Liberia-for wisdom, discernment, and preservation of his well-being in these bold steps.
  - 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.
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## NEWS FROM HOWARD COUNTY

**New Downtown Library:** On Thursday, March 30, 2023, Howard County Executive Calvin Ball was joined by Governor Wes Moore and President & CEO of HCLS Tonya Aikens to unveil plans for a reimagined and transformative library in Downtown Columbia. The project will be coupled with expanded mixed-income housing opportunities for the growing community. Go here to read the announcement: [New Library Plans](#)

**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.

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## BRIDGES TO HOUSING STABILITY

### **Reimagining Good Health for All: Dismantling Systemic Racism in HoCo**

*Horizon Foundation To Host Community Summit on April 29 Featuring Soledad O'Brien*

**Soledad O'Brien**, a prominent journalist and champion of diversity, has given voice to the underserved and disenfranchised in documentary projects including *Black in America*, *Latino in America*, *The Prison Breaker*, and *Disrupt and Dismantle*. Ms. O'Brien will visit Howard County for a **summit sponsored by the Horizon Foundation, on Saturday, April 29 beginning at 9 a.m.**

We hope you will join other members of the Bridges community to hear Ms. O'Brien talk about confronting issues of race, class, income inequality and opportunity – and how doing so will help us build a better future for everyone. We ask that you stay after her remarks through lunch (provided) and for small-group workshops that end at 2 pm.

Bridges will receive a small grant from the Horizon Foundation if we register at least 10 people for the full event. Please email [Jen Broderick](#) if you want to attend.

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## 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.

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**HEY! IT'S 2023!**



AND SO ENDS  
ANOTHER WEEK  
WITHOUT ME  
BECOMING  
UNEXPECTEDLY  
RICH OR BEAMED  
UP TO THE  
ENTERPRISE.

## **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.

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## **CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF APRIL 2 – APRIL 9**

**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](mailto:SJUColumbia@gmail.com) if you wish to receive meeting and contact information on anything below:

<b>Sun, 4/2</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE</b> ( <i>in-person &amp; streaming</i> ) (Liturgist: Lisa Cooper Green)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
Tue, 4/4	6:00 pm	A/V TECH TEAM REHEARSAL ( <i>Room 4</i> )
Wed, 4/5	2:00 pm	CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE
<b>Thu, 4/6</b>	6:00 pm	CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL ( <i>Room 18</i> )
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE</b> ( <i>in-person &amp; streaming</i> )
<b>Fri, 4/7</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE</b> ( <i>Christ United Methodist Church; in-person; check their website for zoom link: <a href="#">CUMC</a></i> )
<b>Sun, 4/9</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE</b> ( <i>in-person &amp; streaming</i> ) (Scheduled liturgist: Dawn Barnes)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
<b>Mon, 4/10</b>		<b>SJU OFFICE CLOSED</b>

**Maundy Thursday: April 6 // Easter: April 9**

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**Prayer Group Ministry:** Anyone in the church may submit a prayer concern to a group prayer chain. Contact Judy Miller ([quiltjudy@gmail.com](mailto:quiltjudy@gmail.com)), or Evelyn Chesnutt ([lchesnutt@icloud.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:SJUColumbia@gmail.com)

[PastorKanahanSJU@gmail.com](mailto:PastorKanahanSJU@gmail.com)

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

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**Weekly deadline for submitting SJUNews \*FLASH\* articles is Thursday by 12 NOON.**

**Send via email to [SJUColumbia@gmail.com](mailto:SJUColumbia@gmail.com)  
Please include "FOR THE FLASH"  
in your subject heading.**

