

# 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)*

**OCTOBER 6, 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.

## **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

### **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.

**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.**

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## PRAYER MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE

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

- **Andrea Barnes** is recuperating at home from a recent surgery. Cards and calls are welcomed: 6682 Possum Ct, Columbia MD 21045; 301-596-2836.
- **Paul Broady** is now home, undergoing rehab. He would welcome your prayers and cards: 8855 Shining Oceans Way, Columbia MD 21045.
- **Charles Dyer's** son **Adam** says Charles would welcome visits, calls and cards: 9895 Palace Hall Dr, #313, Laurel MD 20723; 301-604-4750; cadassoc@aol.com
- **Nancy Gabie** asks for prayers for her brother, Terrence Gabie, who wants to come to the US. Your prayers for a way to be made are earnestly requested by Nancy on behalf of her whole family.
- **Debra Snow's** mother, **Mary**, is resting comfortably in hospice care. Debbie would welcome prayers, cards and calls of support: 12100 Little Patuxent Pky #E, Columbia MD 21044; 510-708-1127; [debrasnow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debrasnow@sbcglobal.net)
- **Dave Douds** hopes to be back in his apartment by the end of this month. Keep him and his wife, **Judy**, in your prayers. Both would appreciate cards: 719 Maiden Choice La, BR 231, Catonsville MD 21228.
- **Pamela Love** requests prayers for her **brother Brad Gibson**, living with a serious chronic health condition, and for her **mother**, whose dementia is worsening. Pamela welcomes cards: 6229 Light Point Pl, Columbia MD 21045.
- 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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## EMERGENCY CARD UPDATE

It's time for you to update your emergency card information! You can pick up a card from the usher cart as you enter Room 4 on Sundays. You can even return your completed card to the cart at the end of the service. Not attending in person? You can [print out the emergency card included in this FLASH](#), fill it out, and either:

- email it to the church: [SJUColumbia@gmail.com](mailto:SJUColumbia@gmail.com) or

- mail it to the church:

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

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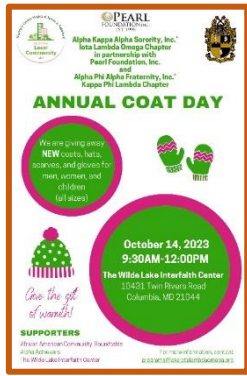
## NEEDLEWORK GROUP

Do you knit, crochet, embroider, or enjoy any other needle craft? **Come join the SJU Needlework Group TODAY**, after worship, at one of the cafe tables. Bring a snack and your current project. Beginners and needlework-curious folks welcome! ~ *Thanks! Ingrid*



## ANNUAL COAT DRIVE

Trena Perez



This is an annual event for our community members in need of a new coat. If you would like to donate a **NEW** coat for the Annual Coat Drive:

- please give it to Trena Perez after our church service on October 8th, or
- place it in the container located in the administrative office lobby, or
- order a coat from Amazon and have it mailed to:

Trena Perez  
5207 Grovemont Drive  
Elkridge, MD 21075

Thank you. ~ Trena Perez Powell, SJU Community Leader

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## MEMBER NEWS

An SJU congregant is in need of gently used furnishings for their home near the church, specifically, living room seating and side tables. Also needed is vertical window treatment for a kitchen sliding door. If you are able to assist, please **contact Sheryl at 301-337-5008**.

Member **Jordan Randall** is holding an author event to introduce his book, "Pinkface." The event is on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, from 5pm-6pm, in Room 10.

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## NEWS FROM THE ANTI-RACISM / SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAMS

### **Plan to Attend the Film "At the River: Struggle + Grace in the Segregated South"**

Filmmaker and Alabama native Carolyn Crowder will host the screening of her film at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, Oct. 17**, in Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian Church of Annapolis. The event is free, but space is limited, so reservations are necessary and will begin October 4th by emailing [movie@annapolis-presbyterian.com](mailto:movie@annapolis-presbyterian.com)

The filmmaker sought out white Presbyterian ministers who served in the South during the Civil Rights era, often in isolated, rural communities, and who nevertheless took unpopular stands on the issues. "When did you realize that what you were being taught about race as a white Southerner was wrong?" was one of her questions. Now in their 80s and 90s, these men reflect on their experiences as they struggled to do the right thing at a time when it was difficult and dangerous. This program is sponsored by First Presbyterian's Committee on Antiracism and Racial Equity (CARE).

Please give your name, email address, which congregation you belong to and how many are in your party. Hope to see you there. ~ Rae Jean Goodman, member of CARE

**Oct 14 Silence the Violence concert at National UMC** to benefit TraRon Center in DC for children traumatized by gun violence. Also streaming. Buy tickets here on Eventbrite: <https://g.co/kgs/1ggSXY>

### **Oct 16 Stopping the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Tools to Protect Black Neurodivergent Students**

Join the United Women in Faith Office of Racial Justice for a special workshop led by Mrs. Cheryl Poe, Executive Director of [Advocating 4 Kids Inc.](#) Mrs. Poe will equip you with tools to support the Black neurodivergent K-12 students in your life as they navigate the public school system.

7:00pm-8:30pm ET / 4:00pm-5:30pm PT [Register Here](#)

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### HELP THE SJERC GREEN TEAM PLANT TREES

**On October 28th, the WLIFC property is going to be planted with 15 trees.** We'd like to invite any interested members of St. John United to join us in this planting project and hope that the project can be advertised within your congregation too. Anyone willing to help can sign up using the google form that is in the announcement below. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Kathleen Valdivia, SJERC Green Team  
410-245-2202

*St. John the Evangelist RC Green Team, along with St. John United, are planting 15 trees on the perimeter of the WLIFC open space along Twin Rivers and Trumpeter Roads. Join us for an hour or more to help dig holes, plant, water, and mulch the new trees on Saturday, October 28th from 9 - 4. Register at <https://forms.gle/C2NxJYxUaFbAB97p9>*

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### NEWS FROM THE BWES PARTNERSHIP TEAM

The delivery of school supplies at the beginning of the school year was greatly appreciated. If you'd like to continue to support the school in another way, you can join or just donate to the BWES PTA (see the PTA's announcement below). Thank you! ~ The BWES Team

#### **Join the PTA!**

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We are so excited to welcome our new and returning bears to the Bryant Woods Elementary School family!

The Bryant Woods PTA is an integral part of the BWES community--we sponsor family nights, special events, and provide support to students, teachers, and families throughout the year. This requires the support, advocacy, hard work, and dedication of all of our PTA members. Each one of us has the time, talent, or treasure needed to make the very best educational experience for all of our children.

To make membership available and affordable to ALL, BWES PTA has a flexible cost membership--YOU decide your membership fee! The minimum amount to join is \$10.00 per member. Please consider an additional amount you can give and select an amount you can donate. Donations will be used by the BWES PTA to run family night programs, support our BWES teachers and staff, offer cultural arts assemblies or events, etc.

For full information and to download the membership form, go here:

[BWES PTA Membership](#)

*BWES PTA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, donations are tax deductible. We truly appreciate your kindness and support. Thank you!*

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## NEWS FROM PATH

**ACT NOW—Email the Council to Support HoCo by Design**

[SEND LETTER HERE](#)

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL VOTE**

**Wednesday October 11th at 2pm**

**George Howard Building (3430 Court House Dr #100, Ellicott City, MD 21043)**

Support HoCo By Design by attending the Howard County Council vote on Wednesday October 11, starting at 2pm at the George Howard Building (3430 Court House Dr #100, Ellicott City, MD 21043) There are 116 amendments to the bill and the council will be voting on them that day.

This is our last push to make sure the Howard County General Plan improves housing in our community for the next 10-20 years! The General Plan is an opportunity to right-size our county to provide more housing, particularly affordable housing and housing for the disabled so that people who were raised in Howard County and who work in Howard County can afford to live here, and that people who have lived and raised families here can afford to retire here.

We are calling on our elected officials to be bold and visionary so that Howard County is a place where everyone can thrive.

Please edit the sample letter as you see fit. Please include an intro sentence about who you are, if you're part of a congregation or community or PATH, and why housing is important to you personally.

[SEND LETTER HERE](#)

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## NEWS FROM THE BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

**October 4, 2023 | A Message from Bishop Easterling**

"Jesus said, "Weep not for me; weep for yourselves and for your children..." — Luke 23:28

Beloved,

As we come to grips with the horror of the **shooting that took place at Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD**, our hearts break and we pray for those most closely affected. Once again violence has shattered lives and we, as a faith community, struggle to make sense of senseless violence. Five individuals were shot, four of them students, on Tuesday evening during what should have been a time of celebration and festivities.

Morgan State began as a Methodist institution. Its identity is intertwined with our own. The gun violence that broke out at the homecoming celebration reverberates in other incidents throughout our region and nation. While fear is the natural response, we must not allow that fear to paralyze us. Nor can we become so unfazed by these tragedies that we turn a deaf ear to the pain, brokenness and devastation such incidents cause. Thoughts and prayers are not enough. We must respond as if those young people were our children, our flesh and blood, because when any are hurting, all are hurting. United Methodists must take action to curb the epidemic of gun violence. This pain must be our call to action.

And, even as we act, the grief persists, and we are compelled to pray -- for those who were shot, for those whose lives are impacted, for legislators and public officials, and for our young people, who deserve to a safer world.

I hope you'll join me in prayer; I hope you'll join me in action. I hope that together we can mourn, and then move into renewed devotion and efforts to stop this violence as we work to build the beloved community, the kin-dom of God. This is the only way that leads to life.

Blessings and Peace,  
Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling

[ASP 2024](#)

**Kickoff Meeting, Sunday, 10/8/23, 5pm, Room 4**

For more than 50 years, ASP volunteers have made homes warmer, safer, and drier in Central Appalachia.



For more information on the Appalachia Service Project, go here: <https://asphome.org/>

For information on the local church trip, contact Linda Allera: [sjuaspm@gmail.com](mailto:sjuaspm@gmail.com)

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[FROM THE HOWARD COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE](#)

October is breast cancer awareness month, and the perfect time to get tested and understand the importance of preventative care. Like many of our neighbors, I have people in my life who have been affected by cancer. The Howard County Health Department's Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP) is striving to reduce this number, as well as cervical cancer deaths, through education, screening, diagnosis, treatment, and patient navigation services. Learn more [here](#).



**Riding for Success:** The Free Bikes 4 Kidz Fifth Annual Collection Day is more than an event; it's a commitment to foster community spirit and ensure all of our children have an opportunity to experience the joy of owning a bike. By donating your unused bicycles, you participate in a journey to refurbish and revive the spirits of bicycles and gift them a new journey, alongside a new helmet, with local children in need. This initiative isn't merely about providing bikes but about promoting physical activity and reinforcing community bonds in Howard County. Learn more [here](#).

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[HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM PRESENTS:](#)

**October 15: Freedom to Read Presentation and Roundtable (Miller Branch)**

Join librarians, publishers, authors and your community in supporting the essential right to read at the Freedom to Read Presentation and Roundtable, presented in partnership by the Howard County Library System (HCLS) and the Howard County Poetry and Literature Society (HoCoPoLitSo).

At 1:30 pm, come to the Miller Branch for thoughtful discussion and readings by distinguished award-winning poets and publishers Grace Cavalieri and Truth Thomas, and stay to watch and participate in the virtual Roundtable panel discussion at 2:30 PM with award-winning author, musician, and screenwriter James McBride, Washington Post satirist and author Alexandra Petri, renowned historian and author Dr. Richard Bell, and American Library Association President Emily Drabinski. There are options to attend in-person or virtually via Zoom.


[Register here](#)


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**ONGOING SJU NEWS / LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST**

**Columbia Association:**

• Showing our PRIDE on CA open space is always worthy of celebrating.  CA couldn't be more excited to support our LGBTQIA+ community as a sponsor of [HoCoPride 2023](#). Come join the festivities in Symphony Woods on **Sunday, October 15!**

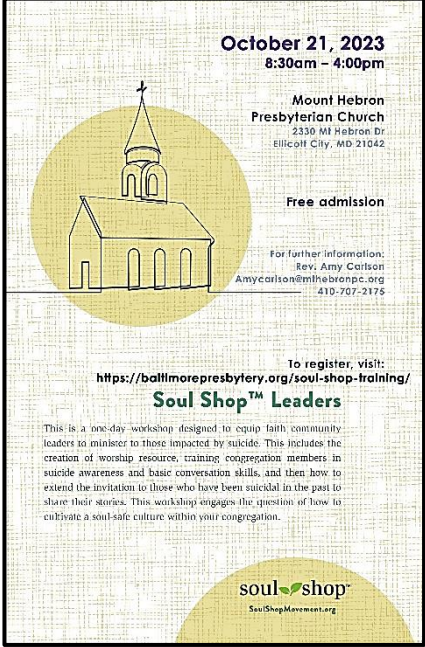
 **Candy + community.** What could be better than gathering with thousands of your neighbors for some festive fun (including a monster obstacle course)? Save the date for [Trunk or Treat](#) at the Columbia SportsPark on **Sunday, October 28.**

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**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 (last updated on 5/8/23), go here: <https://sjunited.org/new-to-sju/>



**October 21, 2023**  
8:30am – 4:00pm

**Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church**  
2330 Mt Hebron Dr  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

**Free admission**

For further information:  
Rev. Amy Carlsson  
AmyCarlsson@mhps.org  
410-707-2175

To register, visit:  
<https://ballmorepresbytery.org/soul-shop-training/>

**Soul Shop™ Leaders**

This is a one-day workshop designed to equip faith community leaders to minister to those impacted by suicide. This includes the creation of worship resource, training congregation members in suicide awareness and basic conversation skills, and then how to extend the invitation to those who have been suicidal in the past to share their stories. This workshop engages the question of how to cultivate a soul-safe culture within your congregation.

**soulshop**  
SoulShopMovement.org


**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.

Nothing refreshes  
your memory of  
what you need at  
the grocery store  
like coming home  
from the grocery  
store.

HEY! IT'S 2023!

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**CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 8 – OCTOBER 15**

**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:

Sun, 10/8	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE ( <i>in-person &amp; streaming</i> ) (Service is led by Guy and Susan Moody)
	5:00 pm	ASP 2024 KICKOFF MEETING ( <i>Room 4</i> )
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
<b>Mon, 10/9</b>		<b>OFFICE CLOSED IN HONOR OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY</b>
Tue, 10/10	4:00 pm	FINANCE TEAM
Thu, 10/12	6:00 pm	A/V TECH TEAM & CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL ( <i>Room 4</i> )
Sat, 10/14	5:00 pm	JORDAN RANDALL: BOOK AUTHOR EVENT ( <i>Room 10</i> )
Sun, 10/15	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE ( <i>in-person &amp; streaming</i> ) (Scheduled liturgist: Noella Sama)
	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](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.





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**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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Facebook: [SJU Facebook](#) YouTube: [SJU YouTube](#)

