



FALL at HERNDON UMC

Friends,

My dad was an audiologist. His career centered around protecting people's hearing. When I would observe his work, I had the chance to see him doing a variety of tests that could measure both a person's ability to hear and the effectiveness of various measures to protect the person's ability to hear. In many senses, hearing was his life's work.

Hearing is an essential part of the faith experience. Countless figures in Scripture hear from God, usually around the idea of vocation or direction or discernment. Hearing is how we can get edification in worship and discipleship. Hearing is often one of the most important ways we can be in mission and ministry outside the walls of our church.

Because hearing is so important, both in our physical and spiritual lives, it can feel frustrating or debilitating when we can't hear or feel unheard. Has this ever happened to you? Have you ever felt as if you can't hear from God, from others, or from yourself? Or have there been instances where you've said something but perceive that no one is receiving what you have to say?

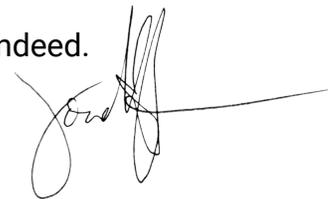
Amidst the many messages we all receive each day on our phones, computers, TV screens, newspapers, and beyond, I believe we are living in a world where it is increasingly challenging to hear and to be heard. There is so, so much noise. That feeling can be disarming and can leave us feeling more alone than we are meant to be.

So here's what I want you to know: I'm here to listen. More than hearing you, I want to know you. To know what is bringing you joy and hope. To know what is bringing you frustration or pain. I'm here to share in all that life has – good, challenging, and everything in between. I'm here to pray with you and to encourage you.

Most of all, I'm here to share the good news of God's love. My hope and my prayer is to do this in every word, thought, and action. And while I know there are times we all will fall short on that, my belief is that in this community of grace, we find that love more clearly through one another than in most any other venue.

It is a privilege to be one of your pastors. If you'd ever like to connect with me, know that I would love that opportunity! You can schedule time with me by visiting calendly.com/jonathanjpage. I'm here to listen. I'm here to hear you.

We're here to experience the love of God together. What good news, indeed.



Contact Pastor Jonathan jonathan@herndonumc.org, or through the church office, 703-707-6271

Reflections on Summer

Summer offers Northern Virginia an opportunity to slow down and take a break. Many Herndon UMC groups also go on hiatus or meet less frequently during the Summer, but Herndon UMC continued to serve and share God's love with our community.

Armoring KIDS with God's Love

From July 11-15, Herndon UMC welcomed 36 families for our first in-person, indoor **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** since 2019!



"Knights" armored up every day with different pieces of God's Great Armor; sporting the Shield of Faith, the Helmet of Salvation, the Breastplate of Justice, the Belt of Truth, and the Shoes of Peace! They were led by 24 wonderful student and adult volunteer leaders with delicious and loving support from our United Women in Faith.

In addition to the Games, Music, Bible Storytelling, and Imagination Stations, this year all VBS got to engage with a hands-on Missions Station. Over the course of five days, VBS folks packed 114 snack packs for the Embry Rucker Community Shelter and Laurel Learning Center, and donated, portioned, and stocked over 150 pounds of rice and non-perishable food goods for LINK Against Hunger (in the newly expanded LINK pantry)! Thanks be to God!

Inspiring a New Generation to Tell Jesus' Story

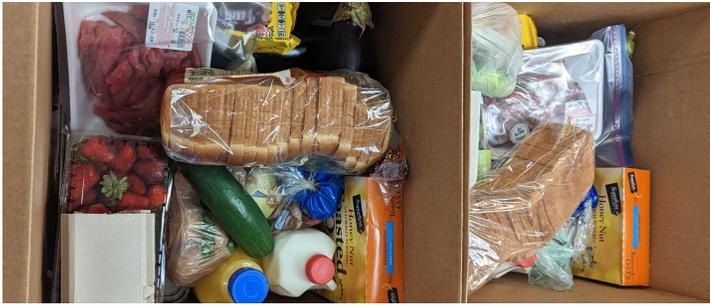


Rejoice! The week after VBS, musical theatre camp came to Herndon UMC. About twenty students between the ages of 7 and 18, spent the week together growing in faith and in relationships as they put together a production of **Godspell Jr.** that was offered free to our community on Friday evening.

Many of the performers came from our community, and not our immediate church family. More than half had never been involved in a stage production before. Both the performers and their supportive audience were blessed by this wonderful opportunity to share the stories of Jesus and his disciples in such a fun and creative way.

Caring for Refugees

For nearly a year, Herndon UMC along with Lutheran Social Services, West Fairfax Christian Ministry, Galilee Church, Floris UMC, Centerville UMC and Sterling UMC collected food (and monetary donations to help) for Afghanistan Refugees that were staying in this area. At this time there are no more of these refugees staying at this facility. As this program ends, we celebrate 77 boxes of food packed and delivered! Thanks be to God!



Our church family generously gave over \$3,000 to support refugees and while part of this money went to support needs for the Afghan refugee food deliveries; another \$2,400 was given to support Ukrainian refugees. Thank you to all who donated food, time and money to share God's love with these refugees.

Supporting Our Students

Over the summer, \$800 Herndon UMC scholarships were awarded to church members, Jason Albanus and Aubrey Werner, as they moved on to their freshman years away at college.

Herndon UMC wishes all our students and educators all the best in the new school year!

Celebrating Pastor Scott



In July, Scott Bach-Hansen, our Director of Congregational Care and Discipleship, became Pastor Scott, our Associate Pastor. It was a joy to celebrate with him, in his first opportunity to bless and serve holy communion.

Experimenting in Worship

While other churches might have dropped back to just one service, Herndon UMC mixed things up this summer offering two morning worship services and a "Sandbox Space" on Sunday evenings. We are blessed to be able to offer a variety of worship experiences that continue to meet our community where they are. Want to wear a mask? You are welcome to do so here. Still avoiding large group gatherings inside or choosing to stay online to protect yourself or vulnerable family members? The 8am outside and 10am live-stream services have been viable options for you that continue into Fall.



This summer, in addition to looking at scripture in different ways, we also experimented in the evening "Sandbox Space," in ways to make space for KIDS in worship (in the Sanctuary) during the 10am services, and reintroduced worship elements like the passing of God's peace. And while some of these experiences have met with mixed reviews, they have all helped the worship team move forward in forming new norms for our worship, while keeping our focus on worshipping God together. You can learn more about the vision for worship in a recent [Real Talk video with Melissa Chávez](#), Director of Worship and Music, available on [YouTube](#).

Revitalizing Spaces

Following a large influx of donated office furniture, a furniture “sale”, some fresh paint, and the work of some dedicated volunteers, the Herndon UMC building has a fresh spaces and some new energy.



The boxes of books are now on shelves in the Library. The dying flat screens outside the Sanctuary have been replaced. The Fellowship Hall entry area offers several places where you can sit and visit or work, and the rooms offer a variety of settings for working, collaborating, and sharing God’s love.



In particular, 103/104 (formerly the Jr. High room) is now an exciting multipurpose space supporting KIDS, music, and whoever else might need this space. This two-sided room offers a "structured" side with seating options for both the young and young at heart and an "unstructured" side offering a vast open area where all ages can play their ukuleles or just be in community. Come explore and enjoy this warm, welcoming space!

And all that furniture that we had? A number of area churches and individuals have taken the older sofas, bookcases, desks, tables and more for their use, filling needs in other ministries. It was great to see so many benefit from one initial, corporate furniture donation.

There are still some “handyman” type tasks to complete (and they come up periodically). If you have some time to share and are willing to make your church building more hospitable for use, please ask to join the **Building Action Team**. Join in the Herndon UMC app (**Grow >> Public Herndon UMC Groups >> Building Action Team**) or contact the office, office@herndonumc.org to be added to those receiving emails when there are tasks that need to be done. Completing the task can usually be done on your schedule.

A Grand Opening



It may have felt early to kickoff the new year in August, but on Sunday, August 21, there was one worship service in Doe Fellowship Hall. Worshipping around tables, we served each other communion. We also kicked off a new sermon series, **OPEN: Living the 701 Life**. It was great to all be together in one worship service to celebrate the start of the new year with food and fellowship after worship.

Open: Living the 701 Life

The new sermon series is based on the 701 Prayer written by several members of our church family. The prayer has been a part of our life for months now, and it is time to take a deeper dive into the meaning.



Find the 701 Prayer in the app (on the home page or **Live >> Worship & Prayer >> 701 Prayer**) or at herndonumc.org/pray-together. Want another way to pray with us? Sing the 701 Song, written by Melissa Chávez for our worship series. We will be singing this catchy tunethroughout the series. [Jump into worship and give it a listen on YouTube.](#)

Worship Schedule
August 28-October 2, 2022
8:00 am Outside Worship
10:00 am Inside, Live-streamed Worship*
5:00 pm Inside, Evening Worship

Growing in Service

A vital way that we help everyone know God's love is through service. As the school year resumes, many of our service opportunities revolve around our schools and school families.

Herndon High School

Herndon UMC's partnership with Herndon High School is as vibrant as ever and is offering us many opportunities to support teachers, students and their families. We started the school year with breakfast for the teachers, and look forward to coming opportunities to grow relationships in music and through the Community Tailgate on August 26.

Backpack Foods for Dranesville

Dranesville Elementary School (DES) sends about 100 bags of food home each Friday with students on free and reduced-cost lunches. Each bag includes 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, 2 snacks and 2 drinks. Herndon UMC has partnered with DES to provide backpack meals several times a year since 2014.

Our Fall goal is to fill 200 bags for deliveries on September 30 and October 7. The youth will pack 100 bags for the first delivery, and everyone is invited to help with the second 100 bags **before evening worship on Sunday, October 2**. Those wanting to help should meet in the big kitchen at **4pm**. This activity is open to all ages and abilities. If you need to sit to work, we have a job for you.

The list of items to be donated may be found in the Herndon UMC app (**Love >> Sign up to serve! >> Dranesville Backpack**), online bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds (don't forget to look for and confirm your sign up through email), or on the clipboards on the Connection Corners. Items are requested by September 22, and financial donations are welcome, please note "DES Backpacks" with your donation.

Thank God for Tutors (TGFT)

TGFT is a free service that Herndon UMC offers students from our partner, Herndon High School. Students receive free tutoring in math and sciences on Wednesday evenings. For 2022-23, TGFT will continue over Zoom and will grow to support Herndon Middle School students studying the offered subjects. Learn more about TGFT at herndonumc.org/tgft or contact tgft@herndonumc.org.

United Women in Faith

Service is a key part of the mission of the United Women in Faith. Herndon's women are sponsoring a heart pillow project open to the whole church family in September. October will bring their overnight retreat which is supporting two missions: Herndon UMC's scholarship fund and writing Thanksgiving cards for women missionaries both in the US and across the world. Of course there are ongoing missions through the circles like the Morning Glory card ministry. Look to the announcements, website, social media and eNews for more information about these opportunities and if you want more information on United Women in Faith contact women@herndonumc.org.



United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men are cooking up some good works this Fall. They have taken the lead in organizing the food for the Community Tailgate on August 26 and Fall also brings their big mission fundraiser, Brunswick Stew. All helping hands are welcome at the Tailgate and look for more information to come on purchasing and helping out with Brunswick Stew.

Remember Costa Rica Mission Projects

(CRMP)? Herndon UMC has been serving with CRMP for over a decade. Wil Bailey from CRMP will be visiting in October, and there will be information coming out in September about a June 2023 mission trip open to adults, and high schoolers traveling with an adult family member. There's more to come. Stay tuned.

Loving as God Loves

The vision of Herndon UMC is **to live the teachings of Jesus so that everyone may know God's love and grow in Spirit-filled relationships.** Our focus this Fall is on growing Spirit-filled relationships, and to help foster these relationships we have started forming Life Groups. A Life Group is a small group of 6-12 people, focused on journeying together in discipleship. Life groups add life to our church family by enriching relationships inside and outside of church. There is more information about Life Groups on the website at herndonumc.org/lifegroups. You can sign up for a group at bit.ly/HerndonLifeGroups or contact Pastor Scott, scott@herndonumc.org, to start a group or get help in finding a group.

Seeing Beyond Ourselves

Groups that are larger (than a life group) or less frequent are also important in serving and sharing God’s love with our church family and the broader community. There are many ways to get connected at Herndon UMC.

Missions & Ministries Fair | September 11

On September 11, everyone is invited to take a few minutes after the 10am worship service or before the 5pm service to explore many of the opportunities Herndon UMC offers to serve and share God’s love. If you are looking for a Bible study or class, a book club, a monthly connection, a way to serve others, come to the Missions and Ministries Fair and walk around Doe Fellowship Hall and talk to those doing it.

This is also a great opportunity for those young people needing service hours to find out what options are available through Herndon UMC.

Youth Group | **New Time!**

Youth Group begins September 11 and is moving to a new time on Sundays from 11:15 am-12:30 pm. Students in grades 7 through 12 gather together over some coffee and breakfast snacks, and then split into middle and high school life groups led by our awesome youth leaders. This time may include a big, fun fellowship event or a mission project, but no matter what– this is a place where the fullness of who you are is fully welcomed and celebrated! Reach out to JoAnn via email at joann@herndonumc.org for more information.

Youth Coffee and Convo

Every Wednesday from 3:30-5:30pm, students are invited to come to the North Point Village Starbucks (1444 North Point Village Center Reston, VA 20194) to hang out. This is a low-stress coworking space for homework, studying, chatting about the things happening in the world, and much more! Bring yourself and your friends, and let us get you a drink. Stay for the whole time, or just a few minutes– we’ll be glad to see you either way! Questions? Contact JoAnn, joann@herndonumc.org.

Monthly opportunities abound. Here are a few:



Top of the Hill* retirees have lunch on the 1st Thursday of each month. Contact office@herndonumc.org.

United Methodist Men enjoy breakfast at a **new later time**, 8:30 am, usually on the 1st Saturday at Herndon UMC. The September date will be September 10. For information contact men@herndonumc.org.

Four **United Women of Faith** (UWinFaith) circles. Times, places, and missions vary by group. Interested in finding a group or creating one, contact women@herndonumc.org.

Learn more about Herndon UMC's groups in the Herndon UMC app.

In the app, click **Grow >> Open/Public Herndon UMC Groups >> View the list.**

To get the app text "herndonumc app" to (833)-841-6111.

The list is also online at bit.ly/HerndonGroups.

Have an interest that you like to share?

There are other groups for a number of interests--history, book clubs, knitting, crafts, and just being together. If you need help identifying opportunities fitting you at Herndon UMC, please ask a staff member or email welcome@herndonumc.org.

Sharing Good News

Discipleship is about how you get involved with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. You are better able to live the teachings of Jesus the better you know the teachings of Jesus. There are more opportunities to grow in faith this Fall.

Some **new** Adult Sunday School opportunities start on September 18 around the 10am worship time.

- **9:00 to 9:45 am** | The **Good News Class** will follow the Cokesbury seasonal curriculum led by Mark Lemmons and Dave Young
- **11:15 am - Noon** | Pastor Scott will lead the **Pathfinders Class**.

These classes are planned to be in person at the church; learn more at the Missions and Ministries Fair or from announcements, the website, or the app.

Pastor Scott is looking for a co-leader, and for leaders for other classes. If you might be interested in teaching or co-leading a class please contact Pastor Scott at scott@herndonumc.org.

Just for Students (grades 7-12)

It doesn't matter if you've gone to church your whole life, or have maybe stepped into a church once. All of who you are is loved and welcomed here. Our goal is to walk with students as they cultivate their curiosity and wonder for their faith and all of the big (and small!) questions this life has to offer. We hope to provide opportunities for students to grow in their leadership skills through experimental and educational opportunities and spaces where students are able to show up as their whole selves as they seek to connect to God, each other, and themselves. It is our hope that all students can live the teachings of Jesus so that they may know God's love and grow in Spirit-filled relationships. There is a place for each of you at the table, and if you have any questions or are curious to know more, please don't hesitate to reach out to JoAnn Batteiger, at joann@herndonumc.org.

KIDS CLUB (age 3-grade 6)

Starting on August 28, KIDS CLUB is back in full swing during the 10am worship in their **new** space, 103/104! KIDS and their families are invited to start the morning in worship, and transition with the KIDS CLUB leaders after the

children's message, where they engage with hands-on Bible learning in activities like object lessons, games, science, crafts, and more! If you are curious about helping out in KIDS CLUB or need more information, please contact Mallory Hopper, mallory@herndonumc.org.

Fall Women's Retreat | Cup of Life



Come and hear how as a broken cup can be repaired, so God repairs our brokenness. Herndon United Women in Faith invite all Herndon UMC women to this overnight retreat led by Pastor Ali Deleo. The retreat is Friday-Saturday, October 14-15, at the Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD. The cost is \$125-140 per person depending on room selection. Registration is open and will close on October 2. Learn more and register at bit.ly/fallwomensretreat2022.

Filling Us with the Holy Spirit

There are other groups (that we will call teams) that serve our church family and community. Maybe they contribute to the worship experiences or serve our community (internally or externally) in other ways.



Ukulele is for All Ages

The Herndon UMC Ukuleles are an intergenerational ministry celebrating God through music. If you are interested in learning to play the ukulele or want to be a part of the group, please contact Margaret Tobat, margaret@herndonumc.org.

Ukulele 101 (August 28-September 25)

Everyone in third grade and up is invited to join this multi-generational group for people excited to learn about playing the ukulele!

This is the place for beginning ukulele players or for those who would like some review. This group focuses on identifying chords, strumming patterns, and ensemble skills. We even have ukuleles to loan you as you start out.

Singers of all ages and abilities!

Calling adult singers! **The Wesley Choir**, led by Shannon Wise, rehearses on Wednesdays from 7 - 8pm, and sings on Sundays at the 10am service. The fellowship is great, the music is wonderful, and as a bonus, regular singing improves your health and happiness. See you on Wednesdays!

All KIDS age 3 through grade 6 are invited to share a love of God and music, growing in musicianship and faith, in the **Joyful Noise** vocal ensemble. The group meets on Sundays from 11:05-11:35 am. Vocal development and ensemble skills are nurtured through warm-ups, movement, and a variety of repertoire.

Interested in **ringing handbells**? The Music team is recruiting ringers to begin ringing in October. Stay tuned for more information!

Leading in Worship

Do you have an eye for creative design? Find joy in crafting projects? Skill with a musical instrument? Love ironing or watering plants or speaking in public or serving communion or baking bread? Love technology and enjoying helping behind the scenes? Do you act or sing? We need your skills in the worship team. Email Melissa Chávez, melissa@herndonumc.org, or speak to her at a service.

Pursuing Our Vision

Leading the way in pursuing our vision are our leadership teams.

Resource Management Team

The Resource Management Team is like our Council, Staff-Parish Relations, and Finance Team all rolled into one. This team, led by Sally Block, is accountable (to Charge Conference) to set the strategic vision for the church and to align resources to the values, mission, and vision of Herndon UMC.

In response to our last charge conference, we are working to better communicate leadership actions with our community. Since June, there have been action teams working on Communications and Donor Development, and we look forward to seeing more outcomes from those teams soon, but here is a start with a snapshot of financial information.

Snapshot of Finances <i>(as of July 31, 2022)</i>	
Tithes/Offerings	80,111.66
Other Income	970.65
Total Operating Income	\$ 81,082.31
Operating Expenses	\$ 71,998.76
Net Income <i>(for fiscal year to date)</i>	\$ 9,083.55
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Total Assets <i>(cash and investments)</i>	\$ 586,410.57
Change <i>(from previous month)</i>	\$ 4,351.70

The above numbers give you a feel for the financial health of Herndon UMC, how we are doing with income and expenses, and how spending is impacting our total assets. Because we spend reserve funds on missions and expenses like HVAC units, the change in assets will not match the net income. July was the first month of our fiscal year, and the tithes/ offering number is above a typical average number because of prepaid donations. The Resource Management Team reviews detailed financial statements monthly and is working to better align our expenses with our vision, values, and mission.

Herndon UMC strives for transparency about finances, but does not want to overload anyone. If you ever want to know more detail about Herndon UMC finances, please feel free to ask Julie Albanus, Director of Business and Communications, julie@herndonumc.org.

HVAC Update



Speaking of HVAC units, we rejoiced as one of the Fellowship Hall HVAC unit was replaced, and the room was definitely cool for our one, all-together worship service. The Sanctuary unit is set for shipment around the beginning of September. We hope to have that unit installed in mid-September. The total cost of these larger units, about \$90K, has been covered from funds leftover from the capital campaign that ended in 2019 and from second-mile (above and beyond) giving from our church family.

A third HVAC unit has failed, serving the hallway and rooms on the frontside of the Fellowship Hall. The Resource Management Team and Trustees have already taken actions to contract for the replacement at a cost of about \$23K. This includes adding \$100K back to our mortgage principal with the current refinancing to help fund known and emergent maintenance needs like this HVAC unit. For this unit, replacement is necessary as repairs can not be guaranteed and the old coolant in the unit causes ozone depletion (and is very costly to replace). The lead time is 12-18 weeks, so stay tuned for updates.

Other important actions by our Trustees recently include finalizing a new lease with the

Children’s Place and with LINK for the pantry space, working with the Preschool about needs for the next school year, and reworking student parking.

Missions and Ministries Team

Another key leadership team is the Missions and Ministries Team led by Jim Seevers. This team of staff and lay leaders meets monthly (on the second Monday) to help our many groups work together towards our vision and pursuits. It fosters collaboration and community across generations, interests, and activities.

Save These Dates

Below is a quick list of some of the upcoming events. Look for more information to come about these events through announcements in worship, on the Connection Corners, and in the Herndon UMC app.

Aug 26	Community Tailgate
Sep 11	Missions and Ministries Fair & Hearts Pillows Project
Oct 1	UPWARD Registration Opens
Oct 22	Virginia Bronze Concert
Oct 30	Trunk or Treat & All Saints/Heritage Sunday
Nov 2-3	UPWARD Evaluations
Nov 5	Brunswick Stew

Keep up to date on the calendar in the app (**More >> Check the Calendar**) and at herndonumc.org/calendar.



Subscribe to youtube.com/herndonumc, and stay up to date with the latest, easily get served with related content, and directly get email updates as you prefer.

In addition to worship, YouTube offers a platform for our weekly update on what is happening in our community. Learn more about issues, activities and news happening at Herndon UMC in **Real Talk**. New episodes post on Wednesday afternoons.

Did you know Herndon UMC posts devotions every weekday that follow the scripture and subjects of the preceding Sunday? Catch **Read. Ponder. Pray.** of Facebook (facebook.com/herndonumc) and Instagram. (instagram.com/herndonumc).

There are other groups connected to our Facebook page as well. HUMC KIDS post a lot of information on the [KIDS](#) group. There are other groups for [music](#) and [youth](#) families, the [women](#), and a [Herndon UMC Community](#) group for sharing community information with our Herndon UMC church family. Many of these groups are private to protect the privacy of minors and members, but joining the group is easy if you are a part of the Herndon UMC family.

Similarly, the youth ([@herndonumcyth](#)), Preschool ([@herndonumcpreschool](#)), and UPWARD ([@herndonumcupward](#)) ministries have Instagram accounts.

There are many ways to know what's going on. Visit herndonumc.org, or check the **Herndon UMC app**. Follow or subscribe on social media. (To get it, text "herndonumc app" to (833)-841-6111.)

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