

## God's Love is Active

This winter has been spent exploring the hope found in Christ and what it looks like to be a multicultural community church. It was filled with our church family serving and sharing God's love in many ways. Here are a few stories that have been shared.

#### Six Pancakes

On the afternoon of February 2, a group of Herndon's United Methodist Men got together to make a meal for 85 residents at the Temporary Overnight Shelter in Reston. The men like to make breakfast for dinner and have done so for a number of years. They gathered in the kitchen to make pancakes and egg casseroles, and they delivered the meal to the shelter in Reston.

A few days later, one of the men went to the Herndon Post Office. You may have seen her sitting under the overhang just outside the door. You may have offered her some money or something to eat or drink. This man saw her, offered assistance, and asked her if she knew about the homeless shelter. She did. He asked if she had dinner there on the previous Sunday. Again, she did. She had six pancakes! Thanks be to God.

Herndon UMC supported four dinners for the Temporary Overnight Shelter in Reston in January and February. Thank you to all who supported these dinners.

### A Thousand Pairs of Socks

Another way our church family supports the housing insecure in our community is by collecting new socks of all sizes. Maybe you have placed new socks in the cabinet in Room 105 for the homeless shelter. Mary Martha Circle wanted to collect 1000 pairs by the end of 2024. With God's help and your generosity, they delivered 1136 pairs to the shelter in 2024 and early 2025. Their collection continues with an even bigger goal this year! New socks and underwear or sweats of all sizes are welcome. Clothing donations will be taken to the homeless at Cornerstones' shelter(s).

## A Conversation to Help the Homeless



Herndon's Social Action Ministry welcomed guest speaker Kerrie Wilson (Cornerstones CEO) and her team of Edwina, Shayla, and Angel. They gave insights into the resources available for those who are food or housing insecure, the challenges those serving this community face today, and how important it is for all of us to work together to help provide these basic human needs. The slides from the presentation are available for download here.

If you missed the presentation, you can still watch the conversation on YouTube. There are many ways that each of us can make a difference, including showing up to Town Hall events to show support for these services.

Around 70 people gathered in person at Herndon UMC to hear from Kerrie and her team about this important topic, with even more watching online (live and later). We were fortunate to also have local leaders in attendance, some of whom spoke to the issue: Virginia House Delegates, Irene Shin (Herndon) and Karen Keys- Gamarra (Reston); Dranesville Supervisor, Jimmy Bierman; Representatives from The Closet, George Wiley and Tempestt Ware Harmon; Joe Bellman and Sara Leonard of Cornerstones' Board of Directors; and Pastor Stephen Smith-Cobbs of Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Herndon UMC's Social Action Ministry thanks everyone who helped bring this valuable conversation (and the supporting reception) together for our community.

### God's Love is Real

January's sermon series explored "New Hope" from four different pastoral viewpoints. It was great to hear different voices and different perspectives and to rediscover the truth that God's love is real and ever-present for all.

Pastor SeongJae Jo began the new year reflecting on the unchanging nature of Jesus Christ. Jesus was faithful in the past, is faithful today, and will be steadfast in the future. Therefore, no matter what this year brings, Jesus is with us yesterday, today, and

forever. <u>Jump into worship and hear all of SeongJae's message.</u>

The second Sunday, Pastor Pam Bentley helped us envision Jeremiah 29:4-14 from a collective viewpoint. She challenged us in our world that needs more cooperation and less conflict, that is "me and you and us and them and everyone" together. "We" have the power to see a vision of better days and move to build and to plant in ways that help us get there. Jump into worship and hear more.



On the third Sunday in January, we welcomed Rev. Kirk Nave, our Northern Virginia District Superintendent. In his message, he asked us, what good is church? Is it a place that is supposed to make each of us happy? Or might it be about something bigger than us? <a href="Jump">Jump</a> into worship and hear Rev. Nave's message.



Rev. Larry Buxton, Herndon UMC's former Minister of Visitation, returned for the last

Sunday in the series. He offered a message about hope in the dark, reminding us that God is ever-present. <u>Jump into that service and hear Larry's message.</u>

## **Connecting Families, Growing Resilience**



Herndon UMC's UPWARD Basketball league is an integral part of our activities to help grow resilience in our community. UPWARD encourages kids to exercise, cultivates strong social connections between teammates and families, and helps teach positivity in an encouraging environment. This year, we had almost 200 kids on 20 teams.

Thank you, Rachel King, for being our program director again this year, and to the 35 coaches and 30 volunteers who helped make this season's UPWARD Basketball league a great success!

## The Sisterhood of the Traveling Wheelchair

Part of Herndon UMC's vision is growing Spirit-filled relationships. That has long been a hallmark of Herndon's United Women in Faith (UWF). Over the past couple of years, UWF members have been sharing walkers, ice machines, advice about physicians, food, etc.

Recently, one of the oldest members of the Esther Group, normally a very positive person, lamented the difficulty she was having getting authorization to get a wheelchair during their

prayer "joys and concerns." She visited her doctor's office to request Medicare to provide a wheelchair. The nurse practitioner assessed her to see if a wheelchair was really needed. An occupational therapist was sent to her house. A physical therapist was sent to her house. And, finally, a nurse was sent to her house! How frustrating when you are already severely hindered in your ability to get around!! A sister from the group had just received (and put into storage) a wheelchair used by another sister from Herndon UWF, and that chair was offered to the member in need. That same night, it was delivered to her front porch. As one member noted, this is a "Wonderful example demonstrating the community of believers living their faith through good works." May it inspire you to know God's love is real, active, and here for you and everyone.

## God's Love is for Everyone

February's worship focused on being a Multicultural Community Church. Pastor SeongJae started day one by speaking of oneness in Christ as not being sameness. This grows our pursuit to be more intergenerational, challenging us to become more multicultural.

#### If You Give a Kid Bible



So, starting from intergenerational, the all together family worship on February 2 was our

Children's Sabbath. Children played an active role in worship, collecting a special offering and engaging in a story time with Jomo Johnson, Director of Next Generation (Next Gen) Ministries.

A great bunch of kids showed up for Herndon UMC's celebration of Children's Sabbath. Herndon United Women in Faith (HUWF) was honored to purchase Bibles for 3rd through 6th graders—this is a time-honored tradition. Levenia Kibler was excited to represent HUWF. The Bibles were gifted with beautiful ribbons. Many thanks to Pastor Pam Bentley, Jomo Johnson, and Melissa Chávez for planning this special worship service.

### A Visit from Proskuneo Ministries

The series ended with a weekend with Proskuneo Ministries. This group out of Clarkston, Georgia, worships in a densely diverse community and has a mission to help other worshiping communities grow as multicultural, Jesus-centered worshipping communities.



The founder and leader, Josh Davis, offered a Saturday seminar for church leaders where they introduced many different, and sometimes seemingly opposing, dimensions that contribute to culture, and then focused in on a few of the pairings like: prioritizing time or events, direct or indirect communication styles,

and prioritizing doing or being. Josh challenged our leaders to know themselves and our church as they intentionally welcome other cultures and then to stretch themselves and learn more about and from those other cultures.

On Sunday morning, Proskuneo Ministries led the majority of the 10 am worship service. You can watch the service here on YouTube and download the worship bulletin and slides to follow along.



After worship, a Sunday seminar was open to all and shared over Zoom. The Proskuneo team invited attendees to reflect on multicultural elements from worship service – singing in different languages, different languages (not sung) on screens, welcome in different languages, backgrounds used, artwork used (in worship and around the building), as well as other creative elements (dance/artist working during sermon/mime) and multicultural elements.



There are many ways to express our belief that God's love is for everyone and that all are welcome here. Did you notice the altar (pictured on the previous page)? For this series, there was a variety of multicultural elements on the altar, including a globe. Even before this series, we have had music, liturgy, scripture, and prayers shared in languages other than English. We use artwork to help include different expressions. Musical selections have also been expressions of diversity.

During Black American History Month, usually at least one song used in worship each week was intentionally selected to bring to the fore Black composers or music relevant to the Black American struggle for racial and economic justice.



Black American History Month was also highlighted by a testimony from Jomo Johnson on February 23. <u>Jump into worship</u> and learn more about Jomo's faith story and how looking at the world through the lens of diversity helps enhance and reveal God's glory.

Our challenge as a church is to explore how to be more intentional in learning from and growing with the multicultural community in which we exist. As we move forward, as a church, may we see and appreciate the unique and beautiful contributions that each of us can make in serving and sharing God's love. As we reflect on the past two months, we are grateful for the ways God has worked in our midst. And as we now enter into this sacred season of Lent, I encourage each of you to take time to reflect deeply on the themes of our upcoming sermon series, "Everything [in] Between: Meeting God in the Midst of Extremes." Lent calls us to acknowledge the highs and lows of life, embracing both the struggle and the grace God offers in the in-between moments. It's a time to wrestle with the tensions and challenges of life but also to open ourselves to the transformative work of God, who meets us in the extremes.

As we begin this journey on Ash Wednesday, it is a time of waiting as we reflect on the journey of Jesus leading to the cross and ultimately to the celebration of Easter. So I encourage and challenge you to create space for intentional prayer, Bible reading, and self-examination, remembering that these daily spiritual practices help prepare us for the victory of Easter. Let us enter this season with a spirit of humility and anticipation, ready to meet God in deeper ways. May this time of reflection prepare our hearts to fully celebrate the hope and resurrection of Easter with renewed joy and gratitude. We are Resurrection People and Resurrection Church.

Blessings,

Pastor SeongJae

## Growing through Lent

In addition to the usual schedule for worship, there are a variety of additional worship opportunities this season, including Ash Wednesday, Worship & Fellowship Dinners, a 1st Sunday 4 pm worship, the Way of the Cross, Good Friday worship, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunrise.

## **Worship with Herndon UMC**

## 10 am | Every Sunday | Sanctuary & YouTube

Worship together in the Sanctuary every Sunday at 10 am, or join the 10 am service live or later on <u>YouTube</u>.

4 pm | First Sundays | Sanctuary
Once a month, Herndon UMC offers this
evening service at 4 pm on the first
Sunday. Join Pastor SeongJae for this
additional opportunity to worship.

# 6 pm | Third Wednesdays\* | Doe Fellowship Hall

Once a month on Wednesday, come for dinner and fellowship. There is some music and a devotion at 6 pm followed by dinner brought to you by a group supporting a mission or outreach.

\* The March Worship & Fellowship Dinner will support scholarships at Herndon UMC Preschool. The April dinner will be on the fourth Wednesday (after Easter) and will support Health Kits for UMCOR.



As Pastor SeongJae highlighted, the theme of our current sermon series is "Everything [in] Between: Meeting God in the Midst of Extremes." Together, we'll explore different seemingly opposing pairings and how God works in both extremes and the midst of them. Ash Wednesday started with intention and action, and the weeks that follow will highlight stranger and neighbor, faith and works, rest and growth, lost and found, and righteousness and mercy as we move through the gospel of Luke towards Palm Sunday and Holy Week.

There is a devotional to guide you in deeper reflection each week. Because the materials are copyrighted, copies are controlled, and you may need to make a request to receive it if you would like it digitally or if copies are not available in church. There will also be a Visio Divina set up in the long hallway near Doe Fellowship Hall.

Learn more about all of the opportunities to experience Lent, Holy Week, and Easter with Herndon UMC in the pages that follow or at <a href="herndonumc.org/lent-easter">herndonumc.org/lent-easter</a>. There is also a page summarizing the dates to remember on the last page of this newsletter.

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 13 | 8 am & 10 am Our extremes are shouting and silence for this service, which takes you from the high of waving a palm and singing Hosanna to the silence of Christ's death on the cross. Worship at 10 am in the Sanctuary on YouTube.

If you would like to donate flowers to decorate the Sanctuary for Easter in honor or memory of someone, you may do so using the form linked here until April 15th.

# Wednesday and Thursday, April 16-17 $\mid$ 5-7 pm Way of the Cross

Experience Holy Week through this self-paced, walk-through experience exploring Jesus' last hours with scriptures, sensory activities and reflections, and guided prayer. All are welcome at God's table for Holy Communion in the Prayer Chapel as we remember the Last Supper. This activity is designed to be intergenerational and appropriate for all ages.

## Friday, April 18 | 7:30 pm Good Friday | Sanctuary & YouTube

Keeping with the themes of acceptance and resistance, Herndon UMC will offer a service of Tenebrae for Good Friday. Come experience the passion of Christ through the extinguishing of the light.

## Saturday, April 19 | 5:30 pm Easter Vigil Worship, Outside (Door 2)



Bring a chair and sit around the fire for this storytelling worship experience as we keep watch for Easter. A casual, invitational worship experience that is appropriate for all ages.

The **Children's Easter Egg Hunt** will be held on Saturday, April 19 from 2:30-4:30 pm. Planning is still underway. More details to come.

Stay after the Egg Hunt or come early for Easter Vigil and enjoy a simple meal of grilled burgers and dogs (4:45-5:30 pm).



## On Easter, bring a flower for the flower cross.

See how beautiful the cross becomes as we all leave tributes to our risen Lord. This tradition is supported by the Herndon United Women in Faith.

## Easter Sunday, April 20 | 6:15 am Sunrise Worship, Outside (by the flower cross)



Come and watch the sunrise. Bring a chair (and maybe a blanket) and join us outside for this early celebration of the open tomb.

# Easter Sunday, April 20 | 10 am Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube

This is the traditional Easter you remember with Holy Communion. Bring your family and neighbors for this Easter worship experience. This service will also be streamed on YouTube.

## **Growing in Understanding**

If you are looking for other opportunities to learn more about how to live the teachings of Jesus. Here are some of the new opportunities available:

## Join Us for Pathfinders Bible Study: WHY? Making Sense of God's Will

Have you ever asked, "Why does God allow suffering? Where is God in the midst of tragedy?" If so, you're not alone. We invite you to join the Pathfinders Bible Study as we begin our new study, Why? Making Sense of God's Will, by Adam Hamilton. We will wrestle with difficult and painful realities and seek to find answers from a thoughtful, biblical perspective. Through this study, we'll discuss key truths, including:

- God honors our free will, even when we misuse it.
- God never abandons us, especially in suffering.
- God does not cause tragedy, but He brings redemption through it.

Join us as we seek wisdom, faith, and hope together. We'd love to have you. This class meets on Sunday mornings at 11:15 am in room 115/116. For more information, contact Pastor Pam at pam@herndonumc.org

### **Good News Sunday School | Luke**

The next book for the Good News Sunday School class is Luke. The class meets Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 am in room 115/116 and over Zoom. All are welcome! If you would like to join the class for Matthew, please reach out to Mark Lemmons or Dave Young or email <a href="mailto:goodnews@herndonumc.org">goodnews@herndonumc.org</a> for more information.

There are a number of ongoing studies and book discussions. If you are interested in finding a study. Check out this list or speak with a pastor or staff member.

#### Men's Retreat

The annual Herndon UMC men's overnight retreat is being held at the Claggett Center in Maryland on March 7 & 8. Rev. Larry Buxton is leading this year's retreat. Pastor Larry will be presenting insights from his book "30 Days with King David: on Leadership" as well as providing thought-provoking questions for discussions in small breakout groups. Enjoy fellowship from the opening dinner at 6 pm Friday until we depart around 2 pm Saturday.

## Women's Spring Retreat | SENT Saturday, March 29 | 8 am

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you!
As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

-John 20:21

Do you feel like serving God means adding more things to your plate? Do you want to make a difference but wonder how God could use you in this stage of life? Whether at work, at school, on the ballfield, in your neighborhood, or at the gym- what if you could serve God right where you are? Women of all ages are invited to join us at the 2025 Spring Herndon United Women in Faith Retreat as we ponder and explore together how God is calling you to be part of his mission right where you are, as you are. For you are SENT.

Register for \$35 through March 25 at <a href="bit.ly/womensspringretreat2025">bit.ly/womensspringretreat2025</a>. After that, you may register at the door for \$45. This includes breakfast, lunch, and childcare if requested.

## **Growing in Service**

Here are a few ways that you can serve and share God's love with others this season:

#### At Home Communion Visitation Team

Help extend the love and grace of Christ to those unable to attend in-person worship by bringing them the gift of Holy Communion. As part of this meaningful ministry, you'll help ensure our homebound members feel seen, known, and loved.

Serving on this team involves making a few visits once a month on a rotating schedule with others. A brief training will be provided to help you feel comfortable in this role, equipping you to share in a sacred moment of connection and care. Your presence and kindness can be a powerful reminder of God's love and the unity we share as a faith community.

If you feel called to be part of this ministry or if you or a loved one would like to receive Holy Communion at home, reach out to Pastor Pam at <a href="mailto:pam@herndonumc.org">pam@herndonumc.org</a> to learn more.

If you might be interested in sharing gifts in worship—greeting, reading, providing music or running technology—please contact Melissa Chávez, Director of Worship & Arts, at melissa@herndonumc.org.

## Purple Bags for LINK

The "Food and Love" bags allow the Herndon UMC church family to engage in missions with LINK. The bags come back with food on March 9 and will be available again on April 13.

## Mulch Movers 2025 Saturday, March 29, 8:30 am



Please lend your hands to help spruce up our beautiful church property for the Easter season. Wear gloves, and bring your favorite tools and wheelbarrow. The mulch will arrive earlier in the week, so if Saturday does not work for you, email <a href="mailto:trustees@herndonumc.org">trustees@herndonumc.org</a> to see how you can help. All ages are welcome!

## The Herndon UMC Library



If you would be interested in being a part of the team working on organizing the Herndon UMC library, please contact Julie Albanus at <a href="mailto:julie@herndonumc.org">julie@herndonumc.org</a>.

## Sign up for a Mission Team

For year-round missions like LINK and the Closet and seasonal ones like National Rebuilding Day, you can be among the first to know when needs arise by joining the mission group. Sign up for a mission group or contact office@herndonumc.org for assistance.

Shortly after Easter, look for more opportunities to serve: help Naomi Ruth Circle create Health Kits and support National Rebuilding Day.

## National Rebuilding Day Saturday, April 26, 8 am - 3 pm



National Rebuilding Day invites volunteers to work as a team to provide much-needed repairs and enhancements to the home of a neighbor in need. One of the most rewarding aspects of the day is the willingness of so many people to come together and lend a helping hand. Planning is underway for this year's project; stay tuned for more information. Save the date now! Contact Jay Horstman at rebuilding@herndonumc.org for more information.

## Saddle Up! Come to our Texas HoeDown! Wednesday, April 23 at 6 pm



Wear your hat and boots. Come sit a spell, sing along and hear the Word, enjoy some good eats, and strike a pose for some Texas picture fun!

Learn the Texas Two Step from a local dance studio, Latincross!

Freewill donations will go to support UMCOR Health Kits.

## **Growing Spirit-filled Relationships**

Joining a group is a great way to connect at Herndon UMC. Find a list of all Herndon UMC groups in the app and on the website (bit.ly/HerndonGroups). In the app, click Connect >> All Open Groups >> View the list. You can filter the results, join the group, or contact the group leader. You may also contact any staff member for information about groups that may be meaningful to you.

**YoPros** Small Group (6 pm on Wednesdays) YoPro is short for young professionals. If you would like to learn more, please contact Melissa Chávez at melissa@herndonumc.org.

Rumors are there may be a **YoPros Easter Egg Hunt** again this year on Palm Sunday. Stay
tuned for details!

**Top of the Hill**, Herndon UMC retirees meet for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at Noon at Herndon UMC. Learn more or RSVP to Mary Burger at <a href="mailto:topofthehill@herndonumc.org">topofthehill@herndonumc.org</a>.



Herndon's United Women in Faith and United Methodist Men offer various opportunities to connect through our church family. For information, contact <a href="women@herndonumc.org">women@herndonumc.org</a> or <a href="men@herndonumc.org">men@herndonumc.org</a>. Pictured above, Naomi Ruth Circle prepares a January dinner for the Temporary Overnight Shelter.

### **Musical Groups**

There are many musical opportunities, and new members are always welcome!



The **Wesley Choir** practices on Wednesdays at 7 pm. Sing for a Sunday or for a season. Email Melissa Chávez at <a href="melissa@herndonumc.org">melissa@herndonumc.org</a>.

A new **Handbell Choir** is forming in music ministries. Practices are on Sundays after worship. Contact Christopher Simon, <a href="mailto:christopher@herndonumc.org">christopher@herndonumc.org</a>, for information.



**Grace Notes**, an intergenerational ukulele group, practices on Mondays and periodically offers music in worship. Contact Margaret Tobat at <a href="margaret@herndonumc.org">margaret@herndonumc.org</a> for more information about Grace Notes.

## KIDS Club (age 3 - grade 6)



On the first Sunday of each month, kids stay with their families in worship. (Pictured above is the kids' message from worship on Epiphany.) On other Sundays, children are split into two groups for age-appropriate lessons. For information on kids programs, contact Jomo Johnson at <a href="mailto:jomo@herndonumc.org">jomo@herndonumc.org</a>.

## Greetings, Herndon UMC Youth & Families!

The past few months have been an incredible time of growth, fellowship, and fun for our youth group. We've been diving deep into our study, *The 7 Things Every Teenager Should Know*, exploring how biblical wisdom can guide us through life's challenges. Our meetings have been filled with meaningful discussions, laughter, and hands-on activities that bring our faith to life.

## **Planning Our Youth Mission Trip**

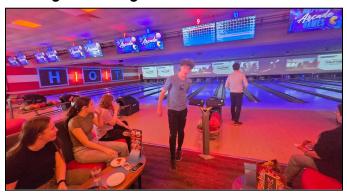
One of the most exciting things happening right now is our preparation for our Youth Mission Trip to North Carolina! Our teens have taken the lead in planning this trip with amazing initiative and servant-hearted leadership. From brainstorming outreach projects to organizing fundraising efforts, it's inspiring to see them embrace the call to serve. Stay tuned for more details on how you can support and pray for this mission!

## **Shoutout to Our Amazing Youth Helpers!**



A special thank you to Brittany and Andrew for their unwavering dedication and support in ministry for our youth. Their leadership, encouragement, and willingness to step up have been a blessing to our group. We appreciate all that you do to make our gatherings meaningful and engaging!

### **Bowling & Bonding**



In February, Youth Large Group hit the lanes for an unforgettable bowling outing, and it was a blast! From impressive strikes to some hilarious gutter balls, the night was filled with laughter and friendly competition. It was a great reminder that fellowship isn't just about Bible studies—it's about sharing life together and creating memories.

## **Looking Ahead**

We're excited for what's ahead in our youth ministry. If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, now is the perfect time to jump in! Keep an eye out for upcoming events, mission trip updates, and more opportunities to grow in faith and friendship.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support! Let's keep building a Christ-centered community where every teen knows they are loved and valued.

Blessings, Jomo K. Johnson Director, Next Generation Ministries jomo@herndonumc.org

## Coming | Summer 2025

Learn more about all the camps and mission trips coming to Herndon UMC this summer as information becomes available at <a href="herndonumc.org/summer">herndonumc.org/summer</a>. Here's some information to get you started.

## Costa Rica Mission Trip | June 7-14

Herndon UMC has partnered with the Costa Rica Mission Project for over a decade. A small team is going again this summer. If you would be interested in going or supporting this team, please reach out to Jay Horstman. Email Jay at <a href="mailto:crmp@herndonumc.org">crmp@herndonumc.org</a>.

## **Youth Mission Trip | July 7-12**

The team is nearly set for this summer service adventure in North Carolina. Look for more to come about ways to support the mission team. For information, contact Jomo Johnson at <a href="mailto:jomo@herndonumc.org">jomo@herndonumc.org</a>.

# True North | Vacation Bible School July 21-25 | 9 am to Noon

Kids ages 3 through grade 6 are invited to join their friends at Herndon UMC on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them he is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!

The cost is \$60 for this summer adventure. Scholarships are available. Please contact Jomo Johnson at <a href="mailto:jomo@herndonumc.org">jomo@herndonumc.org</a>. Register today at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/herndonvbs2025">bit.ly/herndonvbs2025</a>.

There are more camps being planned, including Summer Musical Theatre Camp, Ukulele Camp, and possibly a Summer Handbell Camp. Look for information to come out soon!

#### A Thank You

With a heart full of gratitude, I want to express my deepest appreciation for the outpouring of love, care, and support shown to me and my family following the recent passing of my father.

Your heartfelt messages, cards, and prayers brought immense comfort during this difficult time. I am especially grateful for the grace to step away and be with my family. We were blessed to hold two beautiful memorials, in Texas and New Jersey, where we shared cherished memories and celebrated his life. Thank you as well for your kindness extended to my mom and sister.

Through it all, we hold onto God's promise of a heavenly reunion. Thank you for walking with us in love and faith.

Blessings to you, Pastor Pam

## We are the Church

The church is not the building that we meet in, but the people that gather to share life and to serve and share God's love. Our church mission is the same as the greater United Methodist Church, "to make disciples for the transformation of the world", but we put it in simple terms, believing that God's love is real, active, and for everyone.

## Do you have a skill to offer a leadership team?

Both the Resource Management Team and Trustees will be looking for new members for the coming term (starting in July). If you have knowledge, skills, or abilities in contracts, engineering, maintenance, human resources, finances, or leadership and would be willing to consider a role in the leadership of Herndon UMC, please contact a pastor or team leader.

The Resource Management Team (RMT) is our Council, Staff-Parish Relations, and Finance Team. They meet monthly (on the second Monday). The RMT members include Michael Branson (chair), Pastor SeongJae Jo, Melissa Billman, Marcia Henderson, Madeline Hunt, Cathy McCranie, Al Meilus, Charlie Rothrock, Jim Seevers, Jon Simons, and Steve Thompson. Email the full RMT team at resourcemanagement@herndonumc.org.

Snapshot of Finances (fiscal year to date as of January 31)	
Tithes/Offerings	\$ 362,724
Other Income	85,700
Total Operating Income	\$ 448,424
Operating Expenses	\$ 447,435
Net Income	\$ 989
Total Assets (cash and investments)	\$ 549,496

The numbers above give you a feel for the financial health of Herndon UMC. As of the end of January (7 months into the fiscal year), we are still operating within our income. RMT

continues to watch these numbers and will soon start preparing a budget for the next fiscal year.

In January, Herndon UMC applied for an infrastructure grant from the Northern Virginia District. Thank you to all those who contributed to preparing the application. We should hear whether or not we will receive funding by early April. If granted an award, Herndon must match at least 15% of the funds granted. The grant and matching funds will help pay down the existing mortgage, further reducing the burden on the budget at refinancing and saving us interest in the future. Please be in prayer for a positive outcome.

If you have questions about Herndon UMC finances, please feel free to ask Julie Albanus, Director of Church Operations, <a href="mailto:julie@herndonumc.org">julie@herndonumc.org</a>.

The **Trustees** include Cathy McCranie (chair), Warren Cluff, Jim Delisio, Liz Hamrick, Aramis Lopez, Tim Knotts, Bob Weidlich, and Bill Odio. Trustees meet on the second Thursday of each month. If you have ideas for or questions about church improvement projects, maintenance, or repairs, please share them with a Trustee or with <a href="mailto:trustees@herndonumc.org">trustees@herndonumc.org</a>. This email goes to the secretary and chair of Trustees.

Carpet areas near Doe Fellowship Hall were repeatedly wetted over the last two months, requiring ongoing management. A crack in a roof drainage pipe was located. Mindful of budget limitations, creative volunteers completed a temporary fix. Your financial gifts to and through Herndon UMC help keep our

facility safe and welcoming for our church family and the community.

Building Use by outside groups continues to pick up with increased interest by non-profit sporting groups in using Doe Fellowship Hall. It is important for church ministries to plan ahead for Fellowship Hall needs as much as possible to allow the increased building use income with minimal impact to church ministries.

The Missions and Ministries Team (M&M) meets monthly on the first Tuesday. M&M fosters collaboration and community across generations, interests, and activities. The chair is Jim Seevers, and team members include various staff and lay leaders. Contact the M&M at <a href="mailto:missionsandministries@herndonumc.org">missionsandministries@herndonumc.org</a>.

#### **Calendar and Connections**

The full calendar is in the app (More >> Check the Calendar) and <a href="https://herman.org/calendar">herman.org/calendar</a>.







#herndonumc

There are many ways to know what's going on. Visit <a href="https://herndonumc.org">herndonumc.org</a>, or check the **Herndon**<a href="https://herndonumc.org">UMC app</a>. Follow or subscribe on social media.

Office Hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm, and Fridays, 9 am - Noon. Staff members work a variety of hours and places throughout the community. If you would like to catch up with a staff member, it is best to reach out first, to arrange a time and place to meet.

The Herndon UMC Staff loves to hear from you! Please share your prayers, joys and concerns, and especially your faith stories. We are here to support you!

### Herndon UMC's Staff

Senior Pastor

SeongJae Jo <u>seongjae@herndonumc.org</u>

Associate Pastor

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Music. Assistant Director

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Music, Ukuleles

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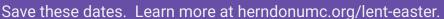


701 Bennett Street Herndon, VA 20170 (703) 707-6271 office@herndonumc.org



## Experience Lent, Holy Week, & Easter with Herndon UMC

## "everything [in] between"





March 5 | Ash Wednesday 7:30 pm Worship Sanctuary & Livestream\*

March 7-8 | Friday-Saturday Men's Retreat at Clagett Center

## March 9 | Sunday

10 am Worship | Sanctuary & Livestream\* 11:30 am Discover Herndon Food and Love Bags Return

## March 10 | Monday

**7 pm** Cherry Blossom Brass Band Concert Doe Fellowship Hall

## March 16 | Sunday

10 am Worship | Sanctuary & Livestream\*

#### March 19 | Wednesday

6 pm Worship & Fellowship Dinner Doe Fellowship Hall

### March 23 | Sunday

10 am Worship | Sanctuary & Livestream\*

### March 29 | Saturday

8 am Women's Spring Retreat at Herndon UMC 8:30 am Spring Workday

### March 30 | Sunday

10 am Worship | Sanctuary & Livestream\*

### April 5 | Saturday

4 pm Virginia Bronze, Ring in Spring Handbell Festival Concert

### April 6 | Sunday

10 am Worship | Sanctuary & Livestream\* 4 pm Sanctuary

### April 13 | Palm Sunday

10 am Sanctuary & Livestream\* 11:30 am Discover Herndon Food and Love Bags Appear **TBD** YoPro's Easter Egg Hunt

April 16-17 | Wednesday & Holy Thursday **5-7 pm** Way of the Cross

## April 18 | Good Friday

7:30 pm Sanctuary & Livestream\*

## April 19 | Holy Saturday

2:30-4:30 pm KIDS Easter Egg Hunt 5:30 pm Easter Vigil Outside (Door 2)

### April 20 | Easter Sunday

**6:15 am** Sunrise Worship | Outside (by cross) 10 am Worship | Sanctuary & Livestream\*

### April 23 | Wednesday

6 pm Worship & Fellowship Dinner Doe Fellowship Hall

### April 26 | Saturday

8 am National Rebuilding Day 11 am Preschool Spring Fair