



# FAIRLINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Welcoming. Nurturing. Serving.

September 12, 2021 at 9:00am  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hymn or UMH = United Methodist Hymnal

Congregation reads the **BOLD** print out loud.  
TFWS = The Faith We Sing

## Greeting

## Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we gather in a time of remembrance to confess our sins —  
But we are not sure what to confess.

**We could not imagine. We did not choose. We did not know.**

Yet we know now that, somehow, this event involves *us*— now and here, even in this peaceful place where  
“atrocious” seems a *world* apart, a *word* made for someone else.  
And so we struggle to admit our complicity in sin.

We confess that as a church, and as individuals, we have believed ourselves to be unique and inviolable.  
We have averted our eyes before evil in its myriad forms.  
We have embraced ignorance and indifference, and shunned understanding.  
We have acted as if *different* means *deficient*.

**We have given in to anger.**

**We have admired hostility and revenge, and rejected compassion and forgiveness.**

We are here today, and we have choices before us.

Today we ask that you will help us claim the memories we want to forget,  
and let them guide us.

**Remind us, we pray, to seek Christ’s face in the faces of strangers,  
and among those of whom we don’t approve, and whom we don’t like.**

**Remind us that Christ loves each one equally and unconditionally,  
and that, although we will surely fail, we are called to do the same.**

**Remind us that you are the God of all, not only of some.**

**Forgive us, we pray, when we are less than loving, and mold us into the true sons and daughters of  
your heart, so that all our words and deeds may cry out:**

***Your will be done, in peace. AMEN.***

## Exchange Signs of Peace

### Hymn TFWS 2054

*Nothing Can Trouble*

NADA QUE TURBE

(Sing Three Times: 1<sup>st</sup> Time in English, 2<sup>nd</sup> Time in Spanish, 3<sup>rd</sup> time in English)

### Gospel Reading

Luke 6:27-36, 43-45

“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.”

## Reflections

## Prayers of the People

### The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving,  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

### The Prayer of Our Savior

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### We Receive the Bread and the Cup

**Hymn TFWS 2224**

*Make Us One*

### Dismissal with Blessing



Fairlington  
UMC



September 12, 2021

## New Worship Schedule

9:00am Eucharist in the Chapel  
Bring your own bread & juice

11:00am Worship in the  
Sanctuary & Online  
at [fairlingtonumc.org](http://fairlingtonumc.org)

### Prayers from September 5

Kathleen and Debra, Flor and family, Mary, Sandy, Herb and Grace, Mikey and Leo, Marilyn, Betsy and family, Tim and Bryan, Breanne and family, Benay, Karen, Susan, Patty, Beverly and Jeremy, Shawn, Kim, Kathy, Brad, Carol, Sam, Richard and the Taylor family, Bill and the Briggs family, Kevin and Karl, Ellen and family, Greg, Julie, Marlene, Afghani refugees, families struggling in Louisiana and Haiti, Tracy and Ruby, Audrey and Wendy in their time of loss, Ashley and Angel, Sabrina, Michelle, that Warren has recovered from his surgery.

*Each week in worship and in our church staff meetings we lift up prayer requests that were submitted the previous Sunday. Please send your prayer requests by 8am Sunday for inclusion in the announcements to [prayers@fairlingtonumc.org](mailto:prayers@fairlingtonumc.org) or contact the church office or your pastors with your prayer requests 703.671.8557.*

### MISSION MOMENT: FUMC'S RENT SECURITY DEPOSIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

We welcome Carolyn DeVilbiss to our Sunday Worship to highlight our mission to overcome homelessness by helping to pay security deposits for prospective tenants. You can help by joining the RSDAP Club – see the attached info sheet.

**WHIRLWIND AFGHAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT** Thank you to everyone who has donated towards welcoming our new neighbors. You filled our major donation needs in less than 12 hours. Your generosity is amazing! We have a few additional needs that you can sign up to provide and, of course, your monetary donations will always be of good use. The sign-up sheet is found here. Be sure to check back to see if new items have been added <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FADA622A1F5C16-home>.

**DESTINATION FREEDOM** Join Fairlington UMW Wednesdays, from 7:30 to 8:15pm as we listen to and discuss the recordings of civil rights journalist Richard Durham, whose weekly radio program *Destination Freedom* (1948-1950) educated its listeners on the image of African American society and generated counter-narratives to existing stereotypes. Contact Karlene Masters ([fairlingtonumw@gmail.com](mailto:fairlingtonumw@gmail.com)) for Zoom information. Coming up: **September 15** – The Long Road [Mary Church Terrell, 1863-1954] - <https://bit.ly/2W9dnVo>  
**September 22** – Echoes of Harlem [Duke Ellington, 1899-1974] - <https://bit.ly/386cAY5>.

**THE SEPTEMBER ALIVE! NEWSLETTER is available.** [Click Here](#)

**JOIN THE CHURCH PEW PATROL** Pew organizers are the volunteers who replenish the envelopes and prayer cards, sharpen and replace pencils and redistribute hymnals in the pews. The job only takes an hour once a week and can be done during the day, evening – whenever the church is open. Children can help, too, with parental supervision. With a few more volunteers we can set up a rotation so that each volunteer helps out once a month. Sign up by contacting **Michelle Tello**: [michelle@fairlingtonumc.org](mailto:michelle@fairlingtonumc.org) or 703.671.8557.

**Fairlington United Methodist Church** 3900 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22302 (703) 671-8557  
[info@fairlingtonumc.org](mailto:info@fairlingtonumc.org) ~ [www.fairlingtonumc.org](http://www.fairlingtonumc.org) **Church Wifi:** "FUMC-Access" (password: open3900)



Welcoming . . . Nurturing . . . Serving . . .

## The FUMC Rent Security Deposit Assistance Program

In 2020, FUMC spent \$34,070 helping 118 households move into affordable, safe and secure homes.

As you can guess, the pandemic and the quarantine made many bad situations worse for our neighbors. Here are but a few of the stories behind the numbers.

***A man living on disability income struggled with both the loss of his childhood home and the death of his mother and stepfather from covid. He had saved \$900 toward the \$1550 needed for the security deposit. RSDAP grant helped him to move into his own Section 8 subsidized apartment, "...the only bright thing in my life right now."***

***Last September a home health aide and her child moved into a subsidized apartment. Recently management sent her a pay-or-quit notice stating she still owed \$100 on her security deposit. By then she had no funds and was unable to return to work, having caught Covid. Her unemployment benefits ended as well.***

***A disabled woman was in the hospital receiving cancer treatment. Meanwhile, her landlady sold the house she was renting, forcing the woman to move right away. Fairlington UMC collaborated with Bridges for Independence to help with housing applications and security deposit assistance.***

***A phlebotomist from Missouri was in Alexandria working on contract, living in a residence hotel and sending money home for live-in child care. Her husband was in a long-term nursing facility back home and was unable to care for the children. All of a sudden her child care provider quit and abruptly sent her four children out here to live with their mom. She found her family an apartment she could afford but could not swing the \$1700 security deposit. Our funds and our links with community agencies helped her meet the challenge.***

**Many of our neighbors are trying to cope with  
limited or no income  
medical and health problems  
the pandemic and quarantine  
sudden life events and transitions  
scarcity of affordable housing  
limited availability of rent subsidies.**

**All these challenges can result in a financial crisis, forcing people into precarious, unstable living environments.**

Our stories provide just a few examples of the ways in which Fairlington's *Rent Security Deposit Assistance Program (RSDAP)* collaborates with community service agencies to help families overcome the first barrier to securing and maintaining safe and affordable housing.

The inability to meet the \$1,000 to \$2000 market-rate security deposit requirements means our neighbors can't take advantage of housing vouchers or subsidized rentals. and may quickly result in eviction if delayed payments are not made on time.

Through your gifts to the church and to the FUMC *Rent Security Deposit Assistance Program* we are able to offer one-time grants of up to \$300 toward a security deposit to help homeless and low-income persons move to housing that they can afford in Alexandria and Arlington.

So far in 2021 RSDAP has offered grants to 79 households for a total of \$22,832 — already well ahead of the pace of requests last year. The requests from our community partners continue to come in at record pace while the struggle to find affordable housing continues to grow.

In order to assist during the coming Fall and Winter, we need the continued strong mission response, generosity and commitment of our church family and we need your help now.

### How Can You Help?

**Join the Club!** To help sustain this mission with a consistent source of funding, make a commitment for twice-yearly contributions to the RSDAP fund. We will send reminders twice a year in March and September. Find the sign-up brochures on the Connect boards or sign up [on-line](#). **Designate your contribution for RSDAP Club.**

**Make a donation to the RSDAP fund.** Simply write a check to FUMC with **RSDAP in the memo line**. Or make a one-time contribution online at [fairlingtonumc.org/give/give](http://fairlingtonumc.org/give/give).

**Give by Text:** Text "GIVE" to 205-TXT-FUMC (205-898-3862).

**Make a donation at Worship September 12.** All special donations (both in-person and online) on September 12 will be dedicated to the RSDAP Fund.

**Whenever you are paying your rent or mortgage,** consider writing a check or text a donation for RSDAP each month. Or add \$10 or more to your monthly pledge, and allot it to RSDAP. Ask the church office how.  
~Carolyn DeVilbiss [SecDepositFUMC@gmail.com](mailto:SecDepositFUMC@gmail.com)

Reading your bible with

# INTENTION



## **Sermon Series & Bible Study Begin September 12**

Alongside the sermon series is a new Bible study following the book *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart. More information to follow.

Study of the Bible is critical to our discipleship and growth in our faith journey. But understanding the Bible isn't for the few, the gifted, or the scholarly. The Bible is accessible. It's meant to be read and comprehended by everyone. A few essential insights into the Bible can clear up a lot of misconceptions and help you grasp the meaning of Scripture and its application to your twenty-first-century life. A personal study guide also will be available.

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Sunday, Sept. 12 11am       | Reading Your Bible with Intention: Evil and Injustice<br>Speaker: Rev. Janine Howard                |
| Sunday, Sept. 19 11am       | Reading Your Bible with Intention<br>Speaker: Rev. Janine Howard                                    |
| Wednesday, Sept. 22 10:30am | Weekly Wednesday Morning Bible Group (in person)<br>Leader: Ms. Anne Wilson Room 109 (9/22 – 11/17) |
| Sunday, Sept. 26 11am       | Using Scripture as a Weapon<br>Speaker: Ms. Jackie Weavill  |
| Sunday, Oct. 3 11am         | Reading Your Bible with Intention<br>Speaker: Rev. Christian White                                  |
| Sunday, Oct. 10 11am        | Reading Your Bible with Intention<br>Speaker: Rev. Janine Howard                                    |
| Sunday, Oct. 17 11am        | Reading in Poverty<br>Speaker: Rev. Keary Kincannon   |

For More Information Contact: Rev. Christian White, [christian@fairlingtonumc.org](mailto:christian@fairlingtonumc.org)  
Minister of Congregational Family Life



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3900 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22302 (703) 671-8557  
[info@fairlingtonumc.org](mailto:info@fairlingtonumc.org) ~ [www.fairlingtonumc.org](http://www.fairlingtonumc.org) ~ [www.facebook.com/FairlingtonUMC](http://www.facebook.com/FairlingtonUMC)



| <b>Sun, Sept 12</b>   |   |                              |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 9:00am - 12:00pm      | Kids Club on the Playground                       | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 9:00am - 9:45am       | Morning Eucharist - Chapel                        | janine@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| 9:30am - 10:30am      | Our Journey on the Way - zoom                     | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 10:00am - 10:45am     | Find Your Own Way - Room 114                      | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 10:00am - 11:00am     | Practical Faith Room - 109                        | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 11:00am - 12:00pm     | Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online               | janine@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| 12:15pm - 1:00pm      | Ring Tones - Sanctuary                            | louise@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| 5:00pm - 6:30pm       | Companions in Christ – Wilderness (Rain Rm. 114)  | cweldon2@verizon.net         |
| <b>Mon, Sept 13</b>   |   |                              |
| 7:00pm - 8:00pm       | Women's Small Group via Zoom                      | hokies91@cox.net             |
| 7:30pm - 8:30pm       | Men's Small Prayer Group - Offsite                | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 8:00pm - 9:00pm       | Racial Justice Group - Online                     | amacwilson@gmail.com         |
| <b>Tues, Sept 14</b>  |   |                              |
| 8:30am - 10:30am      | ALIVE! Gardeners and Wilderness Workers           | wilsanne@gmail.com           |
| 5:30pm - 6:45pm       | Alcoholics Anonymous - Women Rm 110               | annlstone525@gmail.com       |
| 7:30pm - 9:00pm       | Staff Parish Relations - zoom or 114              | valbarlva@aol.com            |
| <b>Wed, Sept 15</b>   |   |                              |
| 7:30am - 8:00am       | Men's Morning Prayer Group - Wilderness (FH rain) | clint.stretch@gmail.com      |
| 5:30pm - 6:15pm       | Joyful Ringers - Sanctuary                        | louise@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| 6:00pm - 9:00pm       | Trustees Meeting - offsite                        | clint.stretch@gmail.com      |
| 7:30pm - 8:15pm       | FUMW Discussion Group: Destination Freedom - zoom | karlenemasters@hotmail.com   |
| <b>Thurs, Sept 16</b> |   |                              |
| 6:30pm - 7:30pm       | Jubilate Handbell Choir Sanctuary                 | louise@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| 7:45pm - 9:45pm       | Chancel Choir Sanctuary (temporarily)             | louise@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| <b>Sun, Sept 19</b>   |   |                              |
| 9:00am - 12:00pm      | Kids Club on the Playground                       | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 9:00am - 9:45am       | Morning Eucharist - Chapel                        | janine@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| 9:30am - 10:30am      | Our Journey on the Way - zoom                     | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 10:00am - 10:45am     | Find Your Own Way - Room 114                      | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 10:00am - 11:00am     | Practical Faith - Room 109                        | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 11:00am - 12:00pm     | Sunday Worship Sanctuary & Online                 | janine@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| 12:00pm - 2:00pm      | Youth Program Rm - 306/FH                         | christian@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 12:15pm - 1:00pm      | Ring Tones - Sanctuary                            | louise@fairlingtonumc.org    |
| 5:00pm - 6:30pm       | Companions in Christ - Wilderness (Rain Rm. 114)  | cweldon2@verizon.net         |

### **Worship Team & Staff**

Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Janine Howard, janine@fairlingtonumc.org  
 Minister of Congregational Family Life: Rev. Christian White, christian@fairlingtonumc.org  
 Pastoral Assistant: Jackie Weavill, jackie@fairlingtonumc.org  
 Director of Music: Dr. Louise Wilson, (703) 671-4057 louise@fairlingtonumc.org  
 Cantor: Rev. Tura Foster Gillespie  
 Ushers: 8:30 Fred Geisler 10: Sarah Laryea, Steve Davis, Heather Viehl-Yee,  
 Laurie Willshire, Susan Batchelder  
 Production: Jackie Weavill and Jake Souza  
 Office Manager: Michelle Tello, michelle@fairlingtonumc.org  
 Calendar/Building Use: office@fairlingtonumc.org  
 Administrative Assistant for Publications: Eileen Joyner, eileen@fairlingtonumc.org  
 Preschool Director: Carol Keller, (703) 671-3939 preschool@fairlingtonumc.org  
 Custodian: Yosias Hagos