



# Fairlington UMC Council Quarterly Update to the Congregation—July-September, 2020

**FUMC VISION:** *FUMC welcomes all to a nurturing faith community that serves God by serving others*

**Church Council** (*Anne Wilson, Chair*): approved transition to Simple Governance structure to begin January 2021, approved clergy salaries for 2021, and approved Nominations for 2021. The Council's annual planning meeting on September 20 identified audio-visual technology infrastructure and strategic alignment of strategy and mission as priorities for the next 2-3 years. Additionally, the Council recommended that missions and outreach more closely match assets with community needs while developing leadership to nurture deeper spiritual growth within our church family and friends.

**Finance Committee** (*Randy Nuckolls, Chair*): "Thanks to all for your continued financial support of Fairlington during these challenging months of the pandemic. As is typical during the summer months, we saw a slight reduction in giving in July and August. While our yearly budget remains generally on track for the year, I encourage everyone to review the giving statements sent to you a few weeks ago to ensure that your giving thus far this year is consistent with your pledge. As we go into the final quarter of the year, extra contributions would be appreciated and put to good use to support our staff, programs and mission outreach. More than ever we encourage your support to help Fairlington answer the call to assist those suffering and the many needs for help in our community."

**Trustees** (*Clint Stretch, Chair*): A new, more flexible contract was negotiated with Jan-Pro for cleaning services. The contract allows the church to adjust the number of hours of cleaning service we purchase within a range. This will mean that we can adjust the level of service as building use varies with the pandemic and other factors. To contain cleaning expenses and deal with COVID-19 the trustees developed—with input from the Healthy Church team and others—new room use protocols that include maximum occupancy limits, which have been posted. To support the reopening of the Pre-school and the Campagna Center numerous maintenance issues were resolved in the education wing, and room 308 was repainted. The trustees also finalized an agreement with the Fairlington Presbyterian Church's contractor for use of some parking space during their affordable housing construction.

**Chapel Renovation Update** (*Lana Hurdle and Carol Hunter, Co-Chairs*): Work continues on the Renovation of the FUMC Chapel. The new floors and ceilings have been installed; the wiring for Information Technology and audio-visual access are in place; 90 percent of the painting has been completed; and the two new storage cabinets have been installed. Next week ceiling speakers will be installed. The new windows have been chosen and ordered and are due to arrive in October. The final portion of the project will be a new wall feature that will use wood from two of our previous Chapel pews. The rest of the pews have all found new homes: four have been requested from church members, and twelve will be given to Capital Area Woodturners, a non-profit that provides education on turning techniques, wood finishing, safety practices, tools and related equipment. The altar furniture, including the lecterns, have been claimed by local churches through Pastor Janine's Clergy Net contacts. We expect the chapel renovation project to be completed in October.

**Staff Parish Relations Committee** (*Ashley Moore, Chair*): Recommendations for clergy compensation packages have been completed and approved by Council. They will be presented to the District Superintendent during the October 1 Charge Conference.

**Healthy Church Team** (*Andrew Hunter, Chair*): The Team completed and disseminated guidelines for re-opening our church in the context of Virginia Conference of the UMC requirements. Outdoor Sunday morning Eucharist began Sept 13 with social distancing and mask-wearing. Wednesday morning Eucharist at 8:30am in the Van Dorn Habitat continued.

**Missions and Outreach:** The COVID-19 pandemic has created a “pandemic of problems” for those already struggling to stay afloat – work hours have been reduced and jobs eliminated; unemployment benefits, where they exist at all, have been curtailed; illnesses directly and indirectly related to COVID-19 have grown along with medical bills, intensifying housing and food insecurity. All of these problems have a deep impact on the marginalized in our community. FUMC has been responding by working collaboratively with City of Alexandria programs and Arlington to address issues related to potential evictions, food security and support for refugees and immigrants through three key programs: **Rent Security Deposit Assistance program, ALIVE!**, and **West End Lazarus Ministry**. The generosity of our congregation has made an important impact in the lives of many.

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the demand for FUMC’s **Rent Security Deposit Assistance program**—the only one of its kind in Alexandria and Arlington—to help with grants to families who have been unable to continue payment plans for security deposit balances negotiated during moves earlier in the year. Reduced financial circumstances have prevented them from meeting these obligations, and they face eviction if unable to clear these debts. Expenditures through July 26, 2020 of \$14,808 represent 52 households served.

FUMC augmented support for **ALIVE!** through the Walkathon that exceeded its \$60,000 overall goal – FUMC was the second highest contributor. The church made additional contributions of fresh produce from the FUMC garden, household supplies, and 1,043 face masks for ALIVE! clients.

Since May 1, FUMC has contributed to food, household supplies and diapers for 891 households in the **West End Lazarus Ministry** in collaboration with Christ Church, Alexandria. As part of refugee-specific support through West End Lazarus FUMC contributed 25 watermelons for a virtual picnic for refugees on August 9. Picnic baskets were also delivered to individual families. Contributions to the pastor’s discretionary fund for COVID-19 relief have also supported these ministries.

We have provided space use for training US Census workers.

**UMW** (*Karlene Masters, President*): “Fairlington UMW continues to be faith, hope and love in action during this time of social distancing. Many of us participated in virtual **walk-a-thons for Rising Hope UMC** and **ALIVE!** and are preparing silent auction gift baskets for **Just Neighbors’** annual Lady Liberty Birthday Bash on October 17. Ongoing Zoom meetings include our **quarterly book discussion group** and a **Wednesday evening group** that is currently listening to podcasts about African American leaders and discussing their influence on #BlackLivesMatter. Finally, our **annual nuts sales and White House Christmas ornaments fundraising efforts** will be conducted online beginning October 1. Details coming soon.”

**Reconciling Ministry Network** (*Mark Elder, Chair*): A meeting with Virginia Conference reconcilers took place on September 28 to discuss reconciling vision through 2021.

### **COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:**

|                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Council Chair, Anne Wilson           | wilsanne@gmail.com              |
| Finance, Randy Nuckolls              | crnuckolls@gmail.com            |
| Staff-Parish Relations, Ashley Moore | amacwilson@gmail.com            |
| Trustees, Clint Stretch              | clint.stretch@gmail.com         |
| Lay Leader, Gerry Hebert             | ghebert@campaignlegalcenter.org |
| Lay Leader, Janese Bechtol           | janesebechtol@hotmail.com       |

*All Council meetings are open to everyone except the September off-site planning meeting.  
Council meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of January, March, May, October at 7:30pm in room 110.*

|                       |   |                                |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Sun Oct 18th</b>   |   |                                |
| 9:00am - 10:00am      | Morning Eucharist in Wilderness (rain site: Fellowship)         | chenda@fairlingtonumc.org      |
| 10:00am - 10:30am     | Kids Club via Zoom  | christian@fairlingtonumc.org   |
| 10:00am -11:00am      | Our Journey on the Way via Zoom                                 | christian@fairlingtonumc.org   |
| 10:00am -11:00am      | Parents' Sunday Class via Zoom                                  | christian@fairlingtonumc.org   |
| 11:00am -12:00pm      | SUNDAY Worship ONLINE   | christian@fairlingtonumc.org   |
| 3:00pm - 4:30pm       | Chapel Preview - STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY                             | stewardship@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 5:00pm - 6:30pm       | Young Adult Meeting Playground (Rain Location: Fellowship Hall) | chenda@fairlingtonumc.org      |
| <b>Mon Oct 19th</b>   |   |                                |
| <b>Tues Oct. 20th</b> |   |                                |
| 12:00pm - 1:00pm      | Noontime Gathering  | Janine@fairlingtonumc.org      |
| 7:30pm - 8:30pm       | Finance Com. 113  | crnuckolls@gmail.com           |
| <b>Wed Oct 21st</b>   |   |                                |
| 12:00pm - 1:00pm      | Noontime Gathering  | Janine@fairlingtonumc.org      |
| 7:30pm - 8:15pm       | FUMW - Discussion Group: Red Summer of 1919 (Part 2)            | KarleneMasters@hotmail.com     |
| <b>Thurs Oct 22nd</b> |   |                                |
| 12:00pm - 1:00pm      | Noontime Gathering  | Janine@fairlingtonumc.org      |
| <b>Fri Oct 23rd</b>   |   |                                |
| <b>Sat Oct 24th</b>   |   |                                |
| 2:00 PM               | Funeral for Al Ross   | janine@fairlingtonumc.org      |
| <b>Sun Oct 25th</b>   |   |                                |
| 9:00am - 10:00am      | Morning Eucharist in Wilderness (rain site: Fellowship)         | chenda@fairlingtonumc.org      |
| 10:00am - 11:00am     | Our Journey on the Way via Zoom                                 | christian@fairlingtonumc.org   |
| 10:00am - 11:00am     | Parents' Sunday Class via Zoom                                  | christian@fairlingtonumc.org   |
| 11:00am - 12:00pm     | SUNDAY Worship ONLINE   | janine@fairlingtonumc.org      |
| 3:30pm - 5:00pm       | Chapel Preview - STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY                             | stewardship@fairlingtonumc.org |
| 5:00pm - 6:30pm       | Young Adult Book Study on the Playground                        | chenda@fairlingtonumc.org      |



## Fairlington United Methodist Church

3900 King Street / Alexandria VA/ 22302/703.671.8557 / info@fairlingtonumc.org <https://www.fairlingtonumc.org/>  
[www.facebook.com/FairlingtonUMC](https://www.facebook.com/FairlingtonUMC)

### Clergy and Staff

Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Janine Howard, janine@fairlingtonumc.org  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Chenda Innis Lee, chenda@fairlingtonumc.org  
Minister of Congregational Family Life: Rev. Christian White, christian@fairlingtonumc.org  
Director of Music: Dr. Louise Wilson, 703.671.4057 louise@fairlingtonumc.org  
Cantor: Rev. Tura Foster-Gillespie A/V Production Support: Jacob Souza  
Youth Programs: Jessai Canaday, youth@fairlingtonumc.org  
Office Manager: Michelle Tello, michelle@fairlingtonumc.org  
Calendar/Building Use: office@fairlingtonumc.org  
Assistant for Publications: Eileen Joyner, eileen@fairlingtonumc.org  
Preschool Director: Carol Keller, 703.671.3939 preschool@fairlingtonumc.org  
Custodian: Yosias Hagos  
District Superintendent: Rev. Jeffrey Mickle Bishop: Rev. Sharma D. Lewis