

THE COMPASS

August 2026



Thank you for your patience.

Be Flexible

Fellowship Worship Date TBD

FELLOWSHIP WORSHIP

The date that we will be switching to Fellowship Worship is still yet to be determined. With such a large construction project, there are a lot of moving pieces that need to fall into place. We appreciate your patience during this process.

During Fellowship Worship, all of the service times will remain the same. We will continue streaming the Contemporary service at 10:00 AM and the Traditional Service at 11:15 AM.

Remember the Braddock Street proverb, “Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape.”

- Pastor Jason

LAY LEADER REFLECTION

Every Sunday Steve and I attend the 8:45 AM worship service. Every Sunday we sit in the same pew. We have a routine, we are comfortable. How many of you have the same way of entering worship every Sunday morning? You probably can name the folks who sit in front, beside, and behind you. A tiny community with invisible boundaries. Sometime in early August we will all be pulled out of our familiar sanctuary seating and asked to experience worship in a new and perhaps more intimate way. How fitting that we will sit together in the Fellowship Hall for worship, turning off old expectations and discovering anew that God meets us wherever we gather.

My hope for the weeks of August is that Steve and I won't be running on autopilot; that we will sit each Sunday in a new spot and see friends and strangers surrounded by a bright, fresh appreciation of what it means to live in a community where Christ is the guiding center. I pray that when we all return to our cherished sanctuary and sit under the beams of restored lights, we will remember how it felt to embrace new perspectives and appreciation for those who share Sabbath time with us.



Lay Leader
Susan Chesley





BRADDOCK ST. UMC

Social Justice Initiative

EARTH CARE TEAM



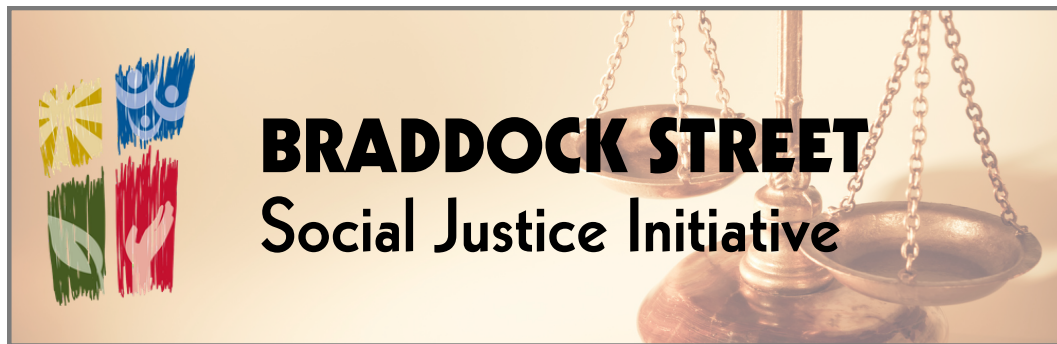
HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH:

DROUGHT CONDITIONS ARE SERIOUS: On June 26, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) continued the state-wide drought advisory, including a drought warning for most of the state. In the Shenandoah region, groundwater levels are classified at an Emergency Level (the most severe level).

Here are some tips for your household to become “water defenders.”

Install a rain barrel: Rain barrels are easy to install and provide “free” water for your gardens and outdoor use. Depending on the size of your roof, a 50 gallon rain barrel can fill quickly. As a general rule, 1 inch of rain on only 100 square feet of roof can yield over 60 gallons. Emptied and stored during the winter, rain barrels can last for years. Rain barrels can be purchased on line or local home improvement stores.

Capture water before it goes to waste: Does it seem like it takes forever for your water to warm up for showers or washing dishes? Don’t let it go to waste. Collect the water in a bucket while it’s warming up and use it for housekeeping chores or watering your garden.



LET’S HELP FILL THE FREEDGE!

Members of the Braddock Street SJI are in conversation with Pastor Tom Stelzl from Montague United Methodist Church about its participation in the Freedge program and how our congregation could help maintain this vital community service. The Freedge is stocked with food and water 24/7 by volunteers from community organizations who address the needs of our neighbors. There are several Freedges located throughout Winchester and Frederick county, with one Freedge located at Montague UMC, very close to Braddock Street. The food donations are from CCAP, Highland Food Pantry, Shenandoah University, Blue Ridge Hospice, Frederick County Schools, and the Laurel Ridge shelter. Pastor Stelzl will present information on the Montague Freedge location during the Oglesby class on August 9th from 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM. He is excited and grateful to Braddock Street and our offer to help keep this program going and growing. As you can see from the photo, the Freedge always needs more food to serve more people in need of the basics. Please plan on coming to the Oglesby class on August 9th and discover how you can help fill the Freedge for our neighbors!



AUGUST SCHEDULE:

August 9 Blessing of the Backpacks

August 16 Promotion/Kick off Sunday

August 23 Regular Schedule

August 30 Regular Schedule



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Director of Children's Ministries

Patty Singhass

patty@braddockstreetumc.org



Join us Sunday, August 9, at all three services for the Blessings of the Backpacks in all three worship services. We will be calling upon students of all ages, educators, everyone engaged in education, and teaching leadership. Bring your backpack, book bags, laptop bags, and totes for a blessing during worship. Join us as we seek God's blessings on a new school year.

Sunday, August 16 is Promotion Sunday. Stay tuned for more information. Due to Fellowship Worship and the ongoing construction projects, we are still working out the details.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Director of Youth Ministries

Kristin Beall

kristin@braddockstreetumc.org



August 2 Summer check-in and devotional at Sweet Frog at 1:00 PM

August 9 During the morning worship services, there will be a Blessing of the Backpacks. Bring your backpack! Then we will be having a Youth Council Retreat Day from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. We will be spending the day planning the youth calendar and events for the coming year. If you are interested in being a part of this, contact Kristin at kristin@braddockstreetumc.org.

August 16 Confirmation Coffee Chats Are you 6th grade – 9th grade and never officially joined the church? Do you want to know more about what it means to be a Christian and part of the church with rotating lessons, serving the community and church and fun retreats? Come find out more! Those eligible for confirmation and their families are invited to an information coffee chat in room 211 at either the 10 AM or 11AM hour to hear details.

August 16 Promotion/Kick off Sunday Party from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - ALL 6th – 12th grade students are invited to come to the home of Greg and Becky Ratlief for a pool party, dinner, and yard games! Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert.

August 30 Confirmation Initiation Sunday!

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Missions Chair

Dave Brewster

dabrews@gmail.com

Exciting things are happening! This year, 76 lunches were prepared for Vacation Bible Camp attendees with the help of volunteers bringing in bread, Cheerios, cheese, Goldfish, oranges, pretzels, and Rice Crispy treats. Another \$122.12 was spent to help round out the meals.



Helping Children Worldwide is sending a shipping container to Sierra Leone and is asking for our help. There is an extensive list of items they are in need of. Braddock St. is committing to sending small flashlights, AA/AAA batteries, small first aid boxes, sturdy work gloves, and examination



gloves. Scan the QR code to see our wish list. The items will be shipped directly to Goldsboro, NC, where the container is located. If you would like to see the full list of items needed, please contact Dave Brewster at dabrews@gmail.com. A team is returning to Sierra Leone to learn more about how the CRC is reuniting homeless children with their families and operations at Mercy Hospital including progress of a mobile vaccination manufacturing laboratory.

The adult mission team recently traveled to western North Carolina from 5/31 to 6/5/26 to aid in recovery efforts resulting from Hurricane Helene damage in September, 2024. Our volunteers joined others from Floris UMC and Front Royal UMC in this mission. We were hosted by four United Methodist churches in Jefferson and West Jefferson, NC who provided housing and several meals. We worked on three sites during this trip. Our primary effort was to help construct a new home for a disabled wheel chair bound couple whose original home was destroyed by the flood waters of Helene. In the area of Ashe County, NC, over 150 homes were destroyed and over 700 homes were damaged. The Western North Carolina United Methodist recovery effort is expected to last 5-6 years with dedicated help by volunteers from around the US. If you would consider volunteering for this ongoing mission, return trips to North Carolina are being coordinated by Floris UMC with a planned trip on 10/11 – 16/26. No construction experience is needed, just bring an open heart and willing hands. The cost of the trip is \$250, half of which will be paid by Braddock Street. If you are interested or for more information, contact Mark Pugh at mpugh4738@gmail.com or Chuck Drake at cebdrake@comcast.net.



BUILDING BRIDGES AT BRADDOCK

Director of Latino Ministries
Margie Hernandez
margie@braddockstreetumc.org



MOVING MURAL

The Moving Mural is coming alive! The children of Building Bridges at Braddock have been busy throughout the year and especially this summer. Sharing what belonging in a community looks like and what a community should include has been their goal. Working with Abi Gomez, SU art professor and Director of the non-profit Arte Libre, our kids expressed their creativity through paintbrushes. We are thankful for the community that embraced our children in order to make this happen. Robert Brock and several men from Westminster Canterbury made and gifted our children the seven panel mural. Lunch and snacks were provided by Emmanuel UMC, Kernstown UMC and the wonderful women of the Deborah -Ruth Circle at BSUMC. It takes a village to care for our children and we could not have done it without our awesome transportation crew that included the Kaspers and Mr. and Mrs. Boltz. Heather Gomez was instrumental in getting our Mustard Seed grant from UMC and she kept our kids engaged during the summer program.

Keep an eye out for the completed project that will be shared first at Braddock Street and then will be shared throughout the Winchester area.



MONDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP

We have met to discuss two books and it has been an opportunity to grow together. We have chosen books that highlight issues that are close to our hearts and we look to the Bible to give us insight.

Our first study was on immigration. It was a wonderful opportunity to grow in our understanding of an emotional issue that touches the lives of our siblings. “The God Who Sees” by Karen Gonzalez opened the door to the heart wrenching truth about immigration through the Bible and today.

We just concluded a much needed discussion on mental health and the church. “Christ on the Psych Ward” was written by David Finnegan-Hosey. In this book, David opens up about his personal journey with mental illness. It offered a hopeful vision on how the church can be in ministry with people suffering and coping with mental illness. We are looking to offer opportunities for our congregation and community to be better equipped to be in ministry and share Christ’s love with our siblings suffering with mental illness.

What’s next? We are looking to engage our congregation in other social justice topics and we are carefully discerning what we will offer in September. We hope you will consider joining us and be a part of a loving group that honors one another, offers kindness, and shares our views respectfully.

-Pastor Ahnna Lise and Margie

DIVORCE CARE SUPPORT GROUP

Are you going through divorce, separation or relationship issues? Divorce Care is starting! DivorceCare’s life-changing support groups welcome people and guide them on the path of recovery after separation or divorce. Over 1 million people have found comfort and hope through this 13 week, video-based series. Join us Mondays from 6:30 - 8:30 PM in room 211 (upstairs next to the Oglesby room). The group begins on October 5th and lasts 13 weeks. Each Monday we will gather for dinner, a video and group discussion. Contact Kristin at kristin@braddockstreetumc.org. For more information or to register, visit www.divorcecare.org.



A WHO DONE IT MYSTERY EVENT

Saturday, November 7th
6:00 - 7:30 PM

The United Women in Faith Invite you to “A Who Done It Mystery Event” Saturday, November 7th from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM. Intrigue and Trickery will be afoot in the Halls of Braddock St. Six characters, six locations, and twelve clues. Delectables will be served in each location as you unravel the evening’s mysteries. Are you up for the challenge? More revelations to come in September. Mark your calendar now!



United
Women
in Faith



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WELCOME DENNIS!



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