

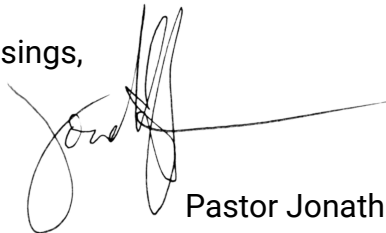
FALL at HERNDON UMC

Friends,

As we approach the fall season, I'm excited to share with you about some of the opportunities we are going to have to grow together in community. Over the last 18 months, the Herndon UMC family has been patient, adaptive, and caring in its approach to the COVID-19 pandemic. While we are not out of the woods yet, I believe that sustaining those approaches while also discovering new ways of togetherness will lead to a fruitful and faithful season in the life of this church.

Amidst all that is transpiring in our world, I find myself continuously grateful for this community of faith. All of you are an inspiration to me, to our staff team, and to neighbors near and far. May we continue **to live the teachings of Jesus so that everyone can experience God's love and grow in Spirit-filled relationships!**

Blessings,



Pastor Jonathan

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

Reflecting on Summer

Summer Worship



It was a treat this summer to be able to **worship outside** on Sunday mornings. This special, bring-your-own-chair service featured wonderful music, meaningful messages, communion every Sunday, and had neighbors stopping by to join in worship.

While **digital worship** has continued to premiere on YouTube and Facebook, a tech team has been practicing livestreaming the indoor service to get ready for Fall. This team needs volunteers. Don't worry, we can train you. Contact office@herndonumc.org.

Maintaining Missional Focus

Over the summer our missional focuses were on Costa Rica Mission Projects and the Closet. These both represent long-standing relationships for Herndon UMC.

While we won't have a mission team going to Costa Rica this year, we continue to support

Costa Rica Mission Projects financially with a total of \$5,000 given to support salaries of the directors and mission work.

The Closet serves locally and can be supported through shopping there, donating goods, and volunteering to help. The Closet is a year-round opportunity for our church family to engage in mission locally.

Sharing Stories

In July, Herndon's United Methodist Women (UMW) held a special evening where members shared stories and personal experiences from Herndon UMC's rich history and spoke about how UMW membership helped them grow in faith and serve and share God's love.

Growing Confidence in Jesus



About ten families participated in Drive-in Vacation Bible School in early August. Counting the volunteers that was almost fifty people ready to Press Play, be together, have fun, and grow in faith.



Five days of Press Play videos remain available on Herndon UMC's YouTube channel, [youtube.com/herndonumc](https://www.youtube.com/herndonumc).

Fall Kickoff | September 12

We are excited to kick off the fall at Herndon UMC on Sunday, September 12! We'll begin with a series called "Together" that is focused on Biblical approaches to community building.



New Worship Schedule

With the kick off we will change to a new worship schedule which previews on September 5. So mark your calendars. Each of the services being offered is unique in style but common in theme.

9:30am Traditional Worship*

Held in the Sanctuary, this service features traditional hymns, choir, handbells, organ, liturgy, etc. alongside relevant, life-giving messages.

* This service **livestreams on YouTube** each week for those who can not attend in-person for whatever reason, and these services remain available on YouTube after streaming.

11:00am Modern Worship "Unplugged"

Located in Doe Fellowship Hall, this service features modern music, worship and messages in a conversational environment, and a relaxed, acoustic setting.

5:00pm Relax and Renew

Now on Sundays! This service features a traditional “hymn sing” each week, weekly Communion, and relevant, life-giving messages in a relaxed atmosphere in the Sanctuary.

Each expression of worship is designed to offer opportunities to connect with God and people. Herndon UMC is committed to offering both in-person and online opportunities.

Look for the * to indicate **digital/hybrid opportunities!**
Alternative modes of gathering (i.e. outdoors, expanded digital offerings) will be used to stay “together” even as circumstances related to the spread of COVID-19 change.

Expanded Discipleship Opportunities

Discipleship is an essential element of the Christian life and these opportunities represent ways that individuals and groups can grow in their faith!

NEW! Pastor-led Bible Studies

Pastor Flor is leading an 8 week book-based study on **Forgiveness*** on Wednesday nights or Friday mornings. Pastor Jonathan is teaching an asynchronous 10 week study on **1 and 2 Timothy****.

**The format for Timothy is a weekly time of teaching with discussion questions for reflection independently or in small groups.

Look for information to come on the **Fall Women’s Retreat** at the Clagett Center on November 5-6.

Look to herndonumc.org for more information about these groups, specific start dates and times, and other activities or contact the church office, 703-707-6271 or office@herndonumc.org to get connected.
Nearly all activities begin after **Fall Kickoff on September 12.**

Other Discipleship Opportunities Include:

- Faith & Fellowship* (Sunday mornings)
- Good News (Sunday mornings)
- Monday Morning Men*
- Tuesday Evening Women’s Bible Study*
- Tuesday Evening Men’s Bible Study*
- Esther Women’s Bible Study* (Wednesdays at 1pm, all digital)

Specifically for Children (Preschool - grade 6)

This fall, **Bible InFUSION videos*** return and premiere each week on YouTube. **KIDS CLUB** will meet bi-weekly, in-person and outdoors on Sundays during 9:30am worship. Participation levels and interest from families will help determine when other activities will resume.

NEW TIME! Youth Group (grades 7-12)

Youth Group is moving to Sunday afternoons at 3:45pm to gather in community and learn about God. Youth and their families are encouraged to worship together at the 5pm service too!

Herndon UMC’s **Young Adults** meet up in a number of different ways throughout the year! Contact JoAnn, joann@herndonumc.org, for more information on what we are up to next!

Find **Read. Ponder. Pray.** weekday devotions on Instagram, Facebook and herndonumc.org.

Fall Missional Focus



Focusing on schools, we are highlighting a variety of opportunities to support our area students and schools including the We Are Herndon 5K/20K, backpack foods for Dranesville Elementary, school supplies for students in need at Herndon High School and growing our Thank God for Tutors team. Learn more at herndonumc.org.

Growing Spirit-filled Relationships

In addition to worship and discipleship, there are opportunities within the life of Herndon UMC to be connected with people, to grow in faith, and to discover God's love in the midst of us all. Some of the opportunities for gathering and growing this fall include:

Music Ministries

NEW! Ukulele Group for students in grades 5-8. Rehearsals are Sundays, times to be determined. All skill levels are welcome. For more information contact Margaret Tobat, margaret@herndonumc.org.

Vocalists and musicians have many opportunities at Herndon UMC. Returning familiar groups include:

- **Wesley Choir**
- **Voices of Truth** (youth choir, **NEW TIME!** Wednesdays 6 pm),

- **Handbells** (**NEW TIME!** Sundays 6 pm)
- **Herndon UNTD** (praise band).

There are also opportunities for making special musical offerings in worship. Contact Shannon Wise, shannon@herndonumc.org.

Popsicles in the Parking Lot continues into the fall. Families, kids, youth, and friends are invited to grab a frozen treat, play on the playground, blow bubbles, draw with sidewalk chalk, and chat with friends from 4-6pm. Check the calendar for specific dates. This is a perfect way to reconnect if friends are looking for an outside, low-risk way to do so.

NEW! Middle School Small Group (for grades 7 & 8) meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Join Mallory and Jo Ann outside at Bready Park (814 Ferndale Avenue) for some fun! If you bring yourself (and a friend or two), we'll bring the snacks!

High School Small Group is back (for grades 9-12). Drop in/stop by on Wednesdays 3-6 pm in the Herndon UMC youth room. Stay for 15 minutes or the whole time. Chill out after the long school day, have a space (and wifi) to do some homework, and connect with others.

Opportunities abound and many gather monthly. Here are some more that are continuing/returning this fall:

- **Top of the Hill** retirees (1st Thursday)
- **United Methodist Men** breakfast (1st Saturday) and other evening opportunities.

- Four **United Methodist Women (UMW)** circles. (Times, places, and missions vary by group.)

Have an interest that you like to share?

There are other groups for a number of interests--history, book clubs, knitting, crafts (UMW), and just being together.

Upward Basketball needs you!



Leadership is working to restart Upward for the 2021-2022 season. This is a ministry that is rich in opportunities to serve and share God's love with area families. No basketball skill is required. If you are interested in helping out the key areas are teams/players, coaches/refs, logistics and spirituality/devotions. Contact office@herndonumc.org if you are interested in learning more.

In Pursuit of Our Vision

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.**

This fall the focus is on rediscovering life in community. If you need help identifying how you could serve and share God's love through Herndon UMC, please speak with a staff member or email welcome@herndonumc.org.



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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