

LENT and EASTER at HERNDON UMC



Reflecting on the January & February

Amidst the surge of the COVID-19 Omnicron variant and several waves of snowy weather, we found hope and joy through other January and February opportunities.

Providing Warm Healthy Meals



Herndon United Methodist Men cooked and delivered breakfast for dinner at the local hypothermia shelter on February 13. This meal of scrambled eggs, turkey sausage, bacon, hash browns, fruit, juices, and snacks is part of Herndon UMC's support of the North County Hypothermia Prevention Program operated by Cornerstones and Fairfax County.

The men enjoy supporting this mission as a team and have made it an annual activity. Thank you to Jim Henderson, Tim Knotts, Fred Kibler, Page Dupstadt, Jon Simons, and Jeff Hagstrom for helping provide meals to those who needed it most on a cold, February night.

A number of other Herndon UMC groups engage in mission in community this way, including women's circles and groups of

friends. If your group is interested in preparing a meal together please contact Beth Czerwinski at neighbors@herndonumc.org. Hypothermia Dinners run December through March each year, and Herndon UMC has already started reserving dates for next year.

Helping Refugees

Our food deliveries to Afghan refugees seem to be winding down as many of the refugees transition to more permanent housing. We are already seeing different opportunities to support this community of new neighbors. We will keep posting opportunities through bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds and in the Herndon UMC app as they arise. Look for this to transition to include supporting Ukrainian refugees through Lent and Easter.

And more...

The hands of many women worked to cut, sew, stuff and deliver 59 heart pillows to Inova Fairfax Hospital to be used by patients recuperating from open heart surgery. If you are interested in helping in this project in the future, please contact women@herndonumc.org.

Scott Bach-Hansen introduced weekly sessions of Real Talk on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/) to help connect our community with what's going on. Find a new episode each Wednesday afternoon. You never know what he will talk about on Wednesday, or who might show up.

Energizing Worship



With new staff bringing new gifts and talents into worship, a single service to focus on, and a relevant sermon series about prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness, creativity abounded in worship this winter. Look back to these worship experiences to relive Spirit-filled prayer, inspired music, and meaningful messages for all ages. These worship experiences are still available on [YouTube](#).

It's not too late to complete your [pledge for giving in 2022](#) or to [share your gifts](#). This information will help church leadership better focus our resources and to align people with missions and ministries that feed their gifts, interests and passions. The forms are linked here and available in the Herndon UMC app **[More >> Forms]**

Upward Basketball | 2022 Season



Are you looking for a God sighting? Come by the Herndon UMC Fellowship Hall (a.k.a basketball courts) on a Saturday in March

between 9 am and 4 pm. Watch as coaches, referees, and many other volunteers give of their time to support a ministry that builds up our community children. See the joy of the players at just being together and having an opportunity to play and learn.

Come back again and again to see how the kids grow in their skills at basketball, in their confidence, in resilience, in sportsmanship, and in teamwork. Upward offers a way to introduce kids (and their families) to Christian values and character development in a fun and interesting way. Find key dates and updates for the season at herndonumc.org/upward.

This ministry serves 140 kids from our community and offers many opportunities to serve and share God's love with area families.



Herndon's United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women are both supporting the Saturday volunteers with meals donated by members. This "Thank you Upward Volunteer" hospitality helps build community in this ministry that serves our community's children.

There are many other ways to support Upward. No basketball skill is required. Check bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds or contact JoAnn Batteiger at upward@herndonumc.org, if interested.

Friends,

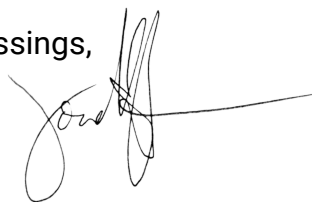
As we enter into March, we are entering not only into a new month, but a new season in the life of our church – the season of Lent. Lent is an opportunity to reflect not only on our lives and where we've been, but also on the ways that God invites us to journey alongside God into the deepest and most poignant parts of our journey now and to come. I'm a big believer that this is a space where we are invited to transformation. Transformation can be a scary word. When I was a child, I would think of this through the lens of the Transformers toys, that start as cars or machines and become these giant superhero-like figures! Sometimes transformation is like this, big and bold and whole.

But other times transformation can happen in smaller pieces. Maybe it is the transformation of an idea, a way of thinking, or a relationship. Maybe it is a shift that is not as much seismic as it is small. I think about this as I see planes landing at Dulles airport. Just a single degree of shift determines whether the plane lands on the runway or on route 28! Small changes can make a big difference in our lives too.

So for you, what will be transformed in you this Lent? Will it be something substantial that causes you to see yourself differently, or will it be something smaller that may go unnoticed in this moment but could make a big difference in where you are headed? I hope you will take advantage of the opportunities to bear witness to transformation in the Herndon UMC community in the coming weeks. God is doing big things amongst us my friends! Our call is to see what God is doing and follow where God is leading.

I'm thrilled to be able to do that alongside you. It is a blessing to be your pastor. Be well in this season of Lent and I will look forward to journeying with you in the days ahead!

Blessings,



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

See the current open opportunities to serve others at bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds

If you sign up online, follow the instructions on the confirmation email to complete your sign up.

Or, sign up in the Herndon UMC App. **Go to Love > Sign up to serve!**

If you don't like either of these options,
look for the clipboards on the Connection Corners or call the office, 703-707-6271.

Serving and Sharing God’s Love

While Upward Basketball and Hypothermia Dinners continue through March. For the Lent and Easter season we are also focusing ahead.



On the Saturday after Easter (April 23), Herndon UMC is hosting a **Rise Against Hunger** event with our partner, Herndon High School. The entire community is invited to participate in this global mission opportunity. All ages and abilities are able to help measure, pack, and label meals that will feed the hungry overseas. More information will be coming, but one way to get involved now is to challenge yourself for Lent. Give up coffee or a meal each day or each week and donate the money to Herndon UMC for Rise Against Hunger instead. The more we raise, the more meals that can be packed.



Another date to save is **National Rebuilding Day on April 30**. This long-time Herndon UMC tradition started as “Christmas in April”. Work with our partner Rebuilding Together to provide a neighbor in need with a variety of critical,

safe and healthy home repairs. Rebuilding Together provides these repairs at zero cost to the residents, who are often faced with diminishing resources and must choose food and medicine over critical home repairs.

As you are doing your Spring cleaning, please remember **The Closet of Greater Herndon**. The Closet accepts donations from 8 am to Noon Monday through Saturday (except Thursdays). The mission of The Closet is to offer the public good quality used clothing, household articles and other items at very affordable prices. After expenses, profits are awarded for worthy projects, including college scholarships to area high schools that directly or indirectly benefit low-income families in Fairfax and Loudoun counties. The Closet also provides clothing and other household effects free to families and individuals referred from several public and private human service agencies.

Updates to Healthy Church Protocols

In February, the Center for Disease Control updated their COVID-19 recommendations for communities. Herndon UMC also made changes to our protocols. Details are available at herndonumc.org/hct. This is exciting news for our community as we enter Lent.

LOW

MASKS ARE OPTIONAL
anyone who wants to mask may do so

MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING
especially in larger gatherings

EATING & DRINKING ARE ALLOWED
inside the building

HYBRID & DIGITAL GATHERINGS
are still encouraged for inclusivity

MAINTAINING VACCINATIONS IS ENCOURAGED!

COVID-19 Community Level for Fairfax County

Worship in Lent



This Lent, our sermon series is titled God and the Good Life. We'll be looking at some of the core philosophical principles of what makes a good life. What we'll hope to discover is a God who, even in the greatest spaces of challenge this creation has to offer, has created people to live well.

Worship with Herndon UMC:

10:00 am Live-streamed Worship*

5:00 pm Relaxed Traditional Worship

If you want to dive deeper into this topic, this series is based on a book called **The Good Life Method**. You are invited to read the book and join Pastor Jonathan in conversation about it on April 13*. Learn more at herndonumc.org.

Help Wanted! There are many ways to help make worship happen for our church family. Contact a staff member to figure out how you might be able to help.

Look for the * to indicates **digital/hybrid opportunities!**
Alternative modes of gathering (i.e. outdoors, expanded digital offerings) continue to be offered.

Holy Week at Herndon UMC

- Apr 10 **Palm Sunday**
Worship at 10 am*
Relaxed Traditional Worship at 5 pm

- Apr 13 **The Good Life Method**
Book Conversation at 6 pm*

- Apr 14 **Maundy Thursday**
Way of the Cross
Walk through devotion for all ages.

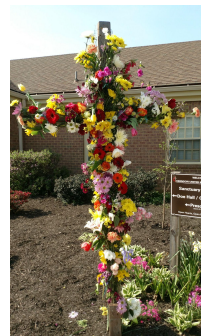
- Apr 15 **Good Friday**
Worship at 7 pm*

- Apr 16 **Holy Saturday**
Easter Vigil at 6:30 pm (outside)
Kid-friendly service of storytelling.

- Apr 17 **Easter**
Sunrise Worship at 6:30 am
Traditional Worship at 8:30 am*
Blended Worship at 10 am*
Relaxed Traditional Worship at 5 pm

Details at herndonumc.org/lent.

Herndon's United Methodist Women will be continuing the tradition of the flower cross for Easter Sunday. **Bring a flower or two with you to worship on Easter to add to this beautiful symbol of Christ's love for us.**



Discipleship Opportunities



Psalms My Lord Said

Take a Lenten journey through the Psalms quoted in the Gospels. Through Easter, we will be sharing devotionals written by a variety of pastors and scholars. This is an opportunity for us to dig deeply into our faith and pay attention to Scripture – and to Jesus – as we move towards Holy Week and Easter. Find the devotions on the website and Herndon UMC app or request an electronic copy from the church office, office@herndonumc.org or 703-707-6271.

Each week you are also invited to join Scott Bach-Hansen in discussing the devotionals in person following the 10 am worship service.

Confirmation

On February 27, six students and five mentors came together as a Confirmation Learning Community. Between now and Pentecost (on June 5), this community will meet weekly to learn about the United Methodist tradition, as well as the different ways that we think and talk about the things we believe, and what it all means in the life of faith. This community is open to students who are currently in 8th grade or higher, and if you're interested in being part of it– it's not too late! Email JoAnn at joann@herndonumc.org for more information.

This is Our Story: Student/Parent Small Group Youth and their parents are invited to gather in person in Room 102 from 7-8 pm on Mondays during Lent for a combined small group that will walk through different scriptures offered in Lent, finding the story of then, and how it connects to our stories today. The group starts on March 7, but newcomers are welcome anytime. For more information or to sign up, email JoAnn at joann@herndonumc.org.

Journey with Jesus*

There is still time to sign up for the Spring women's retreat on March 19. The retreat is over Zoom and is open to women far and near. Robin BeMiller will lead attendees through several Biblical women's stories to assist each woman with her own faith journey. This is an excellent spiritual growth opportunity during the Lenten season. Register at: herndonumc.org/springwomensretreat.

Youth Group (grades 7-12) continues to meet on Sunday afternoons to gather in community, have fun, and learn about God. **Coffee & Convo** may return after Easter. For more information, contact JoAnn at joann@herndonumc.org.

KIDS CLUB (Preschool - grade 6) is meeting during the 10 am worship service. Kids leave worship following the children's message for a Bible lesson just for them. KIDS and families continue to connect at **Java JAM** until Spring Break! Swing by Ridgetop Coffee and Tea ([21631 Ridgetop Cir, Sterling](https://www.ridgetopcoffeeandtea.com)) select Thursdays from 5-6:30 pm and enjoy the warm company with folks around the community! Join the [HUMC KIDS Facebook group](https://www.facebook.com/HUMCKIDS) to keep up on the schedule.

Ongoing Discipleship Opportunities for Adults include: Monday Morning Men*, Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study*, Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study*, and the Esther Women's Bible Study* (Wednesdays). To get connected contact the office, office@herndonumc.org or 703-707-6271.

Growing Spirit-filled Relationships

Are you looking to connect in a small group or community? If you can't find what you are looking for here, please talk to a staff member.

March-May in Music

Our musical groups are back! There are new opportunities for kids, youth, and adults through Lent and leading up to the **Spring Mission Concert: Rise Up!** in early May. The concert highlights the themes of hope and resurrection. (Save the date, Saturday, May 7.)



Special Singing Opportunity

Beginning on Wednesday, March 9, each week at 7 pm, the choir will be practicing a beautiful new anthem commissioned by the family of Roger and Jan Engdahl and composed by Mark Patterson called "Song of Assurance". This anthem will be premiered at the Spring Mission Concert. All voices are welcome to participate in the choir, so please contact Shannon at shannon@herndonumc.org for a copy of the music.

Ukulele Group for All Ages

The ukulele group is now open to all ages. If you are interested in learning to play the ukulele or want to be a part of the group, please contact Margaret Tobat, margaret@herndonumc.org.

Ring for the Season

The handbell ensemble is now practicing on Wednesdays. This is a multi-level group. If you are interested in trying ringing for the Lent and Easter season, contact Shannon Wise, shannon@herndonumc.org.

Monthly opportunities abound. Here are some more that are continuing:

- **Top of the Hill** retirees (1st Thursday)
Contact office@herndonumc.org.
- **United Methodist Men*** breakfast (1st Saturday at Virginia Kitchen or on Zoom) and other evening opportunities. Contact men@herndonumc.org for information.
- Four **United Methodist Women** (UMW) circles. Times, places, and missions vary by group. Interested in finding a group or creating one, contact women@herndonumc.org.

Have an interest that you like to share?

There are other groups for a number of interests--history, book clubs, knitting, crafts, and just being together. If you need help identifying opportunities fitting you at Herndon UMC, please ask a staff member or email welcome@herndonumc.org.

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.**

Over the last two months, the leadership teams for Resource Management, Missions and Ministries, and Strategic Planning, have all met and renewed their commitment to engaging our vision through the identified pursuits—resilience education, music outreach, and intergenerational ministries.

Our relationship with Herndon High School was strengthened as we renewed our formal commitment as a school partner. We are excited about some new opportunities—a joint Rise Against Hunger event (April 23), opportunities for student employment experiences creating a mural and providing a recycling service to us, an art exhibit in our halls, and more.

Upward Basketball is also a great example of an existing program that is both resilience building and intergenerational. It has also offered opportunities for our men and women’s ministries to collaborate and provide hospitality to support the volunteers.

We hope to see these pursuits take off over the coming months. There is more to come. Contact spt@herndonumc.org to get more involved.



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.)

Herndon UMC’s Staff

Pastor

Jonathan Page jonathan@herndonumc.org

Congregational Care & Discipleship

Scott Bach-Hansen scott@herndonumc.org

Student Ministry & Upward

JoAnn Batteiger joann@herndonumc.org

Children’s Ministry

Mallory Hopper mallory@herndonumc.org

Preschool

Anna Schlegel herndonumcpreschool@gmail.com

Worship & Music

Melissa Chavez melissa@herndonumc.org

Traditional Music

Shannon Wise shannon@herndonumc.org

Children’s Music

Margaret Tobat margaret@herndonumc.org

Organist

Luis Gonzalez luis@herndonumc.org

Business & Communications

Julie Albanus julie@herndonumc.org

Office Manager

Jen Score office@herndonumc.org



701 Bennett Street
Herndon, VA 20170
(703) 707-6271