



## NATIONAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Metropolitan Memorial Campus 3401 Nebraska Avenue, NW | Washington, DC

September 17 at 9:00 AM



“But seek the welfare of the city...for in its welfare you will find your welfare.”

*Jeremiah 29:7*

### Making the Love of God Obvious!

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#### Our Commitment

*We celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.*



#### An Invitation

*As faith awakens in you and you seek to deepen your discipleship of Jesus Christ, we invite you to become a member of National United Methodist Church. Indicate your interest in membership on the attendance registry today and our Minister of Discipleship will extend an invitation to upcoming orientations and then an introduction to the faith community.*

[www.nationalchurch.org](http://www.nationalchurch.org) | (202) 363-4900

### FALL COMMUNITY FEST TODAY!

11 am – 2 pm

Come join us for our Fall Community Fest! We'll have games, food, music, and more. Whether you're looking for a way to connect with your neighbors or just want to have fun with your friends, this is a great event for the whole family and it's free!

### Sunday School Classes

Children:

Little Wonders (PreK-K) Room 206  
Joyful Spirits (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades) Room 203  
Jesus Followers (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades) Room 204

Youth: Room 201

Adults:

In the Biblical Sense, Room 106 and on Zoom  
Questions of Faith, Conference Room in Office Wing.

**PRELUDE**

*Toccata in C major - Johann Pachelbel*

Todd Beckham, organ

*Children are invited to the back of the sanctuary to receive a bell to ring during the Entrance.  
The children will walk with their bells to the front of the church and then return to their seats.*

**WELCOME**

Rev. Janet Craswell

**PRAYER of THANKSGIVING**

Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson

**CALL to OFFERING**

Please register your attendance and write prayer requests at this time.  
Ushers will receive these with the morning offering during the following song. Online gifts may be shared using this QR code. If you would like to join a “Saving Grace” 6-week study on personal finance, contact [communications@NationalChurch.org](mailto:communications@NationalChurch.org) for more information.



**SONG of THANKSGIVING**

*My Life Is in You, Lord*

TFWS 2023

**DEDICATING our GIFTS TO MINISTRY**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks, to the Holy One, give thanks, for God has given Jesus Christ in Love. And now, let the weak say “I am strong,” let the poor say “I am rich,” because of what the Lord has done for us! Give thanks! Give thanks!**

**ANTHEM**

*Come To The Music*  
Composer: Joseph M. Martin

Dayspring Choir  
Kerm Towler, flute  
Todd Beckham, piano

*Celebrate, celebrate!  
Come to the music  
Celebrate, celebrate!  
Come to the dance  
Celebrate, celebrate!  
Sing alleluia  
Celebrate, celebrate!  
Clap your hands*

*Music is the sound of creation  
Crashing sea and mourning dove  
Music is the voice of worship  
Music lifts our hearts above  
Music is our common language  
Music is the song of love!*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Janet Craswell

Young people are encouraged to gather near the chancel steps, exiting to Children's Choir afterward

*Third Graders Receive Bibles:*

**We rejoice in this step in your journey with God.  
We pray God will guide you, your family, and us  
as you use this Holy Bible in your home, in your church school classes, and in our worship.  
We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word. Amen.**

## BIBLE LESSON

JEREMIAH 29:1-14

## MESSAGE for TODAY

Rev. Dr. Rachel Livingston

## INVITATION to DISCIPLESHIP

In this time of meditation and commitment, participants may move to a prayer station around the sanctuary featuring the following options today:

- Left Chapel—Remembering victims of flooding in Libya, the earthquake in Morocco, and of gun violence.
- Right Hallway—Receiving instructions for local Community Service today, loading the Campus Kitchen van.
- Front Altar Kneeler and Pew near cross path—Receiving individual prayer from pastors.
- Seated and Online---Mindful of Deaf Awareness Month, reflect on common misconceptions about hearing loss at <https://hearinghealthfoundation.org/blogs/17-misconceptions-people-with-hearing-loss>

## LORD'S PRAYER

*All participants are invited to gather back together, singing the prayer Jesus taught us.*

## CLOSING SONG

*For the Healing of the Nations*

UMH 428

## BLESSING

Rev. Dr. Rachel Livingston

## POSTLUDE

*Sonata in A major - Domenico Scarlatti*

Todd Beckham, piano

**Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson**, *Senior Pastor*  
**Rev. Janet Craswell**, *Minister of Discipleship*  
**Rev. Dr. Rachel Livingston**, *Pastor of Congregational Care*  
**Angela Pupino**, *Student Ministries Coordinator*  
**Rev. Grayland Snead**, *Director of Music*  
**Todd Beckham**, *Guest Accompanist*  
**Kerm Towler**, *Flute*  
**Greg Denton**, *AV*  
**Katherine, Keiri, and Tirsa Sanchez**, *Media Team*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **Stuff the Van Food Drive, TODAY! 11 am to 2 pm**

Thanks to our wonderful congregation, the church food ministry, called Campus Kitchen DC, has a new cargo van. It will make its debut at the Community Fall Fest today. Help us fill it with non-perishable pantry items that will be distributed to our community partners. We are in particular need of peanut butter, cereal, and canned tuna and chicken. Please no glass, no expired food. Find the beautiful new van in the parking lot and stuff it full.

### **UMW Sunday 2023**

**Sunday, September 24**

**Worship at Metropolitan Memorial and Wesley campuses**

**Luncheon following the 11 AM services, in the Great Hall, Metropolitan Memorial campus.**

- **Next Sunday** we will celebrate the United Methodist Women of National Church. The recently installed Dean of Wesley Theological Seminary Dr. Carla Works will be guest preaching at Metropolitan Memorial campus's 9:00 and 11:00 am services. In addition to leading the Seminary, Dr. Works teaches New Testament studies. Her research interests include the Pauline epistles, the New Testament's use of Israel's scriptures, biblical ethics, and theological interpretation. She holds a Master's degree from Yale Divinity School and a Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary.
- Following Church Services, we will gather in Metropolitan's Great Hall at 12:30 pm for a fellowship luncheon. Baltimore-Washington Chief Administrative Officer will moderate a panel discussion with Dean. Works, Dr. Lucila Crena (Wesley's first Latinx female professor) and a graduate Seminarian student. Everyone (that includes YOU) is welcome!

### ***Saving Grace: A Guide to Financial Well-Being***

This October, you are invited to participate in the six-week course, *Saving Grace: A Guide to Financial Well-Being*. The course is designed to help people of faith create healthy relationships with money and bring their financial lives in line with their faith journeys. We will offer *Saving Grace* in-person at the Wesley Campus on Sunday afternoons beginning October 8<sup>th</sup>. Please register in advance so we can order books, [www.nationalchurch.org/saving-grace](http://www.nationalchurch.org/saving-grace). For more information, contact Rev. Janet at [jcraswell@nationalchurch.org](mailto:jcraswell@nationalchurch.org)

### **Sunday School Registration!**

Please register your children and youth for the 2023-24 Sunday school year. Registration allows us to give our young people a safe and welcoming experience. Use this QR or go to [www.nationalchurch.org/children](http://www.nationalchurch.org/children) to register.



### **Jazz@Wesley Presents VERNY VARELA | September 23, 6:30-8:30 pm**

September is Latin Jazz Month at Jazz@Wesley, and Verny Varela is coming for a visit. A flutist, songwriter, and vocalist, Varela is one of DC's most popular Latin talents. Born in Cali and raised in the "Barrio Obrero," Varela started singing and playing with his father's band, "El Nuevo Son." Now, he tours the world with his energetic and joyful musical renditions of Latin jazz favorites and original compositions. Varela is also a professor at Howard University.