



# NATIONAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Wesley Campus  
5312 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, D.C.

September 24th at 11:00 AM

*Making the Love of God Obvious*

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United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION



United  
Women  
in Faith

## **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 | [communications@nationalchurch.org](mailto:communications@nationalchurch.org)

Wi-Fi Password: Welcome!

## FAITH COMES TO US AS SEED

**PRELUDE and PRAISE**

*Bridge to You*

Wesley Choir

**WELCOME/PRAYER/PASSING the PEACE**

Paula Pree

\* **SONG of PRAISE**

*Wonderful Words of Life*

UMH 600

**CALL TO OFFERING**

Rev. Janet Craswell

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.



**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Tu Amor* – JonCarlos Velez

Tanner Carlson

\***DEDICATING OUR GIFTS to MINISTRY**

Sandra Brown-Eguez

**Sing: Praise God from whom all blessings flow!  
Praise God all creatures here, below.  
Praise God above the heavenly host,  
Praise Father, son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Pray: Work through us and our gifts Lord, so what comes to us as seed, goes forth as flower.  
And what comes to us as flower, goes forth as fruit**

## FAITH BLOSSOMS

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Dee Dee Parker Wright

Young people are invited to join the leader near the children’s area at this time.

**BIBLE LESSON**

JOHN 4: 1-26

Kerfye Robinson

**SERMON**

*Give Her Her Water*

Crystal Buffington

## DISCIPLES’ LIVES BEAR FRUIT

**INVITATION to DISCIPLESHIP**

Rev. Janet Craswell

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## HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Janet Craswell

*\*All are welcome to come to the table to receive the gluten free bread and grape juice of the sacrament.*

## LORD'S PRAYER *(please feel free to pray in the language of your heart)*

*(English)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and glory forever. Amen**

## \*CLOSING SONG

*Oh Happy Day*

Insert

by Edwin Hawkins, Edward Rimbault, Phillip Doddridge

## BLESSING

Crystal Buffington

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rita Guenther

## POSTLUDE

*Cry of My Heart*

TFWS 2165

Crystal Lynette Buffington, daughter of Alahna Kellough and Tyrone Buffington, was born on May 31, 1986 in San Diego, California.

At a young age Crystal accepted both Christ and her call to ministry. Though her ministerial path had not been made clear, she continuously said yes to the subtle whispers of the Holy Spirit.

At the age of thirteen Crystal Buffington joined St. Stephen's Church of God in Christ in San Diego, CA, where she sat under the leadership of Bishop George Dallas McKinney and Dr. Jean C. McKinney. It was here that her gifts and call to ministry began to grow.

Crystal graduated from North Park University in Chicago, Illinois in 2012 with a B.A. in Communications and a Minor in History. While attending North Park as an undergrad Crystal founded and established her first 501 c 3 organization— Our Village, Our World Inc. Her nonprofit helped provide children with intercultural learning experiences through service-learning projects.

The organization's first service-learning project took place in Wangige, Kenya with the Caroline Wambui Mungai (CWM) Foundation. Our Village, Our World was able to help finance a library for the Caroline Wambui Mungai orphanage and provide each child with new shoes and school supplies.

Education and holistic care for children has also been a part of her vocational journey, as she comes from a great lineage of educators. Crystal currently works as a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School (with ten years of teaching experience).



Crystal's seminary journey at Wesley began in the Fall of 2019. She is currently pursuing her Master of Divinity. Most recently her studies took her to South Africa, Cape Town where she worked closely with over 40 churches to educate church leaders on best practices for becoming a trauma-informed church, as well as exploring policies regarding sexual abuse, misconduct, and domestic violence.

After graduation it is her hope to continue in this line of work, helping church leaders to better understand their pastoral, ethical and moral responsibility in addressing these types of issues.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **UMW Sunday | Sunday, September 24**

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

In 1972, United Methodist Women first became the women's mission organization as part of The United Methodist Church's Board of Global Ministries. And in 2012, The United Methodist Church General Conference voted to make United Methodist Women's national policymaking body autonomous. A new autonomous body adopted a new name.

Today, the organization marks a beginning of a new era. As United Women in Faith, we stand ready to not only continue our legacy but forge courageous new paths. We will go wherever we are needed, without hesitation, because the needs are great but our power, our resolve, and our faith are even greater.

We are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children, and youth, we act for justice and transform communities.

We face the realities we see in the world, even when they are not the ones we would like to see. However, our goal is not to bear witness simply to harm but also to God's love by acting boldly to change those harms.

Bold action, like faith, takes courage. Our bravery is inspired by God's love and our powerful commitment to improve the lives of women, children, and youth. United Women in Faith works for justice through compassionate service and advocacy to change unfair policies and systems that harm women, children, and youth—from racial and gender injustice to economic inequality, climate issues, and more.

To learn more about the local expression of United Methodist Women-United Women in Faith, contact Heidi Holgate at [hholgate1@gmail.com](mailto:hholgate1@gmail.com)

- Following church services, we will gather in Metropolitan's Great Hall at 12:30 pm for a fellowship luncheon. Baltimore-Washington Chief Administrative Officer Rev. Erica Robinson-Johnson will moderate a panel discussion with Dean Works, Dr. Lucila Crena (Wesley's first Latinx female professor), and seminarian Crystal Buffington. You do not have to be a UMW member to come to the luncheon. Everyone (that includes YOU) is welcome!



### **Grate Patrol TODAY!**

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship to make sandwiches and pack lunches for the monthly Grate Patrol, a Salvation Army program that serves meals to the homeless of DC every night.



### **Fall Community Fest at Wesley Campus | October 8<sup>th</sup> 12:30 – 3:00 pm**