

# NATIONAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Wesley Campus  
5312 Connecticut Ave. NW Washington DC  
December 31, 2023



## 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 welcome card 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)

WiFi Password: Welcome!

<b>GATHERING MUSIC</b>	<i>Kwanzaa Is Calling</i>	In Process
<b>PROCESSION</b>	<i>Ise Oluwa</i>	Malcolm X Drummers and Dancers
<b>WELCOME</b>		Belva Newsome
<b>OPENING SONG</b>	<i>Seven Principles</i>	In Process
<b>OPENING PRAYER</b>		Paula Pree
<b>SHARING THE PEACE</b>		Paula Pree
<b>LIBATION</b>		Nana Malaya
<b>DRUM and DANCE</b>		
<b>LIGHTING of CANDLES</b>		
Umoja (Unity)	1 Corinthians 12:12-14	Belva Newsome
Kujichagulia (Self-determination)	Philippians 4:8-9, 11-13	Belva Newsome
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<i>Lift Every Voice and Sing</i>	UMH 519
<b>LIGHTING of CANDLES</b>		
Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility)	1 Corinthians 12:21-26	Thomas Laryea
Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics)	Acts 4:32-37	Thomas Laryea
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<i>Work</i> – Bob Marley	Wesley Choir
<b>LIGHTING of CANDLES</b>		
Nia (Purpose)	Psalms 139:1-6	Larry Hoke
Kuumba (Creativity)	Genesis 2:7-15	Curtis Pree
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<i>I'm Going to Live so God Can Use Me</i>	TFWS 2153
<b>MEDITATION</b>	<i>Faith and Kwanzaa</i>	Rev. Dr. Rachel Livingston
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<i>I Remember, I Believe</i>	In Process
<b>COMMUNION</b>		
<b>OFFERING</b>	<i>Bridge To You</i>	Wesley Choir
<b>PRAYER of COMMITMENT</b>		

**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.**

**BENEDICTION**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **New Members Class: All Newcomers Welcome!**

**On Sunday, January 7, 12:30-2 PM**, there will be a class for those who wish to join National UMC. The class will be in-person only. We'll meet in the library at the Metropolitan Memorial campus. The class will cover what it means to be United Methodist, what it means to be part of National UMC, and ways you can connect with the life of the church. Lunch will be provided. RSVP: [JCraswell@NationalChurch.org](mailto:JCraswell@NationalChurch.org)

### **United Methodist Women Recognition Brunch**

Join National Church's UMW on 13 January at 11:00 am in Wesley's fellowship hall for the annual Recognition Brunch. During the brunch, we will celebrate the significant contributions of individuals whose work during 2023 has improved lives within our Church and broader community. Additionally, we will welcome babies born or adopted within our Church family and remember with gratitude those who died this past year. One doesn't have to be a UMW member to attend. All are welcome!

### **Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday Features NUMC Author Debbie Hines**

Sunday, January 15th, 9am | Metropolitan Memorial Campus, 11AM | Wesley Campus  
10AM Dialogue with author in Metropolitan Great Hall

In *Get Off My Neck*, Debbie Hines draws on her unique perspective as a trial lawyer, former Baltimore prosecutor, and assistant attorney general for the State of Maryland to argue that US prosecutors, as the most powerful players in the criminal justice system, systematically target and criminalize Black people. Hines describes her disillusionment as a young Black woman who initially entered the profession with the goal of helping victims of crimes, only to discover herself aiding and abetting a system that prizes plea bargaining, speedy conviction, and excessive punishment above all else. In this book, she offers concrete, specific, and hopeful solutions for just how we can come together in a common purpose for criminal justice and racial justice reform. (*from MIT Press review*)

### **NUMC Leadership Retreat: Newly Nominated Leaders Encouraged to Attend!**

Saturday, January 20th 10am to 2pm (Lunch provided)

Metropolitan Memorial Campus Vestry

Part One: Orientation for new and returning leaders

Part Two: 2024 Budget Review

**Please RSVP: 202-363-4900** In-person only