

Grace United Methodist Church
Sunday, February 28, 2021

Celebrating Black History Month



“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” – Barack Obama

Bishop LaTrelle Easterling
Washington Area Resident Bishop
Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Johnsie Cogman
Washington East District Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Rodney T. Smothers, Lead Pastor

Virtual Order of Service

10:00 a.m.

February 28, 2021

2nd Sunday in Lent

Purple

Liturgist: Minister LaVerne West

- Greeting and Opening.....Minister LaVerne West
- Announcements and Community Concerns.....Minister LaVerne West
- Call to Worship and PrayerMinister LaVerne West
- Worship through Song....."Lift Eve'ry Voice and Sing" James Weldon Johnson".....Ps. 148: 13 (KJV)
Psalmist Team
- Scripture...Old Testament Lesson: Deuteronomy 20:1,16-18 New Century Version (NCV)..... Minister LaVerne West
- Worship through Giving.....Minister LaVerne West
- God of all, you love us and have claimed us. As you blessed Sarah and Abraham, you have invited us into the blessing of connection within the family of humanity whom you continue to bless. We give our tithes and offerings in celebration of the depths of our blessing and pray that they will strengthen the church across the world to bless all your children. In the holy name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray in gratitude. Amen. (Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16)
- Introduction of Guest Preacher.....Minister LaVerne West
- Black History Moment.....The Accomplishments of Stacey Yvonne Abrams.....Kaliyah Fletcher
"Ain't Going To Let Nobody Turn Me Around", African American Folk Song (Civil Rights "Freedom Song")
- Spotlight Moment.....Young Adult Ministry Video
- Worship through Song....."We Shall Overcome"-Inspired by Rev. Charles Albert Tindley's "I'll Overcome Someday"
I John 4:4 (NKJV)
- Sermon....."Some Things Must Die Before We Can Live for Christ".....Reverend Sandra Smith
- Invitation to Christian Discipleship.....Reverend Sandra Smith
- Worship through Song....."We Offer Christ"..... Bishop Paul Morton- Composer
II Corinthians 5:19,20 (NKJV)
- The Sending Forth.....Reverend Sandra Smith

CCLI 11196878

Guest Preacher

Reverend Sandra E. Smith



Sandra E. Smith is a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

She is currently affiliated with Grace United Methodist Church, Fort Washington MD, where Rev. Dr. Rodney Smothers is the senior pastor.

Under the Baltimore-Washington Conference, Rev. Smith served in pastoral ministry for a little over a decade, retiring in June 2019. Her theological studies and pastoral training were attained from Wesley Theological Seminary through its local pastors' program. She attained a B.A. in Liberal Studies from the American University, Washington DC.

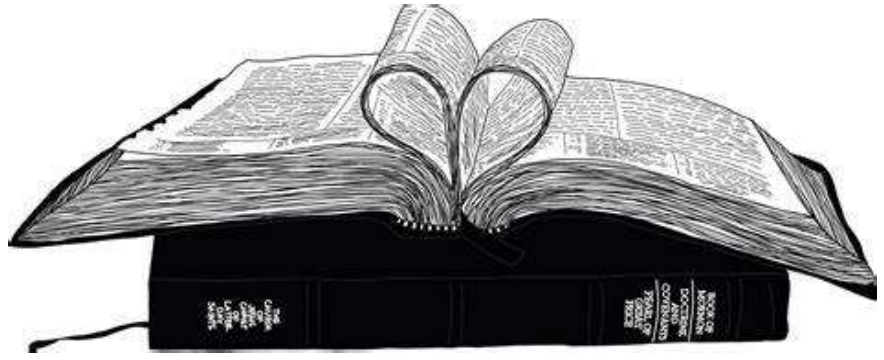
She has a passion for sharing the Word of the Lord, witnessing of her faith and assisting persons in spiritual, physical or material need.

Rev. Smith grew up in the former St. Thomas Methodist Episcopal Church, Baden Maryland, now Christ United Methodist Church, Aquasco, Maryland. There she responded to the Lord's call to ministry under the pastorate of Rev. Conrad D. Parker.

Her secular work, in administration, in the legal field spanned the executive, judicial and legislative branches of the federal government, and private legal firms.

Poised to follow wherever the Lord leads, Sandra will "[n]ever be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God" (Corrie Ten Boom).

Scripture Reading



Old Testament Lesson:

Deuteronomy 20: 1, 16-18 New Century Version (NCV)

20 When you go to war against your enemies and you see horses and chariots and an army that is bigger than yours, don't be afraid of them. The LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, will be with you.

16 But leave nothing alive in the cities of the land the LORD your God is giving you. **17** Completely destroy these people: the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, as the LORD your God has commanded. **18** Otherwise, they will teach you what they do for their gods, and if you do these hateful things, you will sin against the LORD your God.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

During February, Grace will celebrate the accomplishments of African Americans. This Sunday, we will recognize the historic achievements of Stacey Abrams. Remember celebrating Black History is an everyday occurrence!

210 CORIDOR LENTEN SEASON 2021

On Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 7 p.m., Pastor Judith Bennett, Alexandria Chapel UMC will host the Lenten Service. Please refer to the Lenten Schedule flyer in the back the bulletin for the Zoom information. Every Wednesday from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m., there will be a service hosted by Pastor Kermit Moore, Providence Fort Washington. This one hour service will be held for persons who are unable to attend the evening services.

VIRTUAL ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Adult Virtual Sunday School is held each Sunday from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Meeting ID: 831 1655 6781, Passcode: 546205, dial by your location +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.). Minister DaMali Goings is the facilitator. Youth Sunday will be held today at 2 p.m.

BUSY BEES SENIOR MINISTRY

We invite you to join the Busy Bees Senior Ministry every Wednesday at 11 a.m. for their virtual bible study. Meeting ID: 871 5720 8655, Passcode: 584941. Dial by your location +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.).

PRAYER SERVICE

During the Lenten Season, prayer service will be held on Wednesday from 6 – 6:45 p.m., via teleconference. Please dial in by calling 425-436-6316. Your access code is 775903#. If you don't have a mute button on your home phone, please dial *6 to mute. When you wish to speak, unmute by dialing *6.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The Young Adult Ministry is excited to announce our first virtual worship service that has been posted to Grace's YouTube channel under the title "Grace United Methodist Church of Fort Washington Young Adult Worship Service 02/27/2021." We invite you to join us as we reflect on weathering the Pandemic from the Young Adult perspective while exploring the topic "Hope in the Midst of..."

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

The Lenten Bible Study is held every Thursday from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. This study is based on Bishop Sharma Lewis' book, Journey to Transformation 2021. Biblically-based, this study will carry you through the Lenten season with understanding and affirmation of Jesus' love for us. If you plan to participate in this excellent study, please copy the link below to your web browser to register for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZAude6rpjlsE9BSRG7HpooZK7exgZuWy5y>

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

STACEY YVONNE ABRAMS



Stacey Abrams is a lawyer, politician, author, and voting rights activist. In 2018, she was the first African American female of a major party, the Democratic Party, to run for governor in Georgia. She almost won, except the state leaders purged and eliminated thousands of black voters from the rolls.

Instead of simply getting angry and doing nothing, Stacy became the founder of Fair Fight Action which fights for free and fair elections. She is credited with getting out the black and young vote that helped elect two senators – the first black man and a Jewish man - to Congress from the state of Georgia, which gave the Democratic Party the majority in the Senate. These two votes, because of Stacey Abrams, will give President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris the ability to accomplish goals that benefit all American people. Voting rights demands and legislation always have been front and center in America's history. For far too many years, over 150 years, African Americans have had to fight for the right to vote. They have been denied, beaten within an inch of their lives, jailed, spit upon, kicked, tortured, fired, and blackballed--but still they have marched on for the right to vote. Yet, despite the intimidation, African Americans have been determined that nobody and nothing would turn them around! Even today, in states across America, after the 2020 elections, legislators are making every attempt to violate voting rights and deny a black race the ability to easily cast votes that impact their lives.

Stacey Abrams is a woman of vision and courage. We congratulate her on recently being nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize for her voting rights advocacy.

UMC Mourns the Death of Rev. Junius Dotson

Posted by on Feb 25, 2021 By *Erik Alsgaard**



The Rev. Junius B. Dotson, the top executive of Discipleship Ministries, died Feb. 24 after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 55.

Dotson told his staff and board Jan. 28 that he was battling pancreatic cancer, according to reports from United Methodist News.

[Discipleship Ministries](#) is one of 13 general agencies of the church, helping local church, district, and conference leaders fulfill “the shared dream of making world-changing disciples,” according to its website. It is based in Nashville, Tennessee.

“Despite the low percentage of survivors, I am determined to fight,” he said in a statement announcing his diagnosis. “I intend to beat the odds. I also plan on working as long as the Lord allows.”

Dotson held multiple denominational leadership roles in addition to helming Discipleship Ministries since July 2016.

He also is one of 16 church leaders who negotiated [the Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation](#), the widely endorsed proposal that seeks to resolve the longtime United Methodist debate over homosexuality through a denominational split. As part of the negotiations, Dotson represented multiple centrist advocacy groups that seek greater freedom in church policies related to same-sex weddings and gay ordination.

Bishop LaTrelle Easterling of the Baltimore-Washington Conference served with Dotson on the Protocol proposal.

“My heart breaks that we have lost such a deeply devoted and wise leader, especially at this time in the church’s history. My thoughts and prayers extend to his ex-wife, Christina, and his children, Wesley and Janelle, as we know they mourn the passing of their loved one,” Bishop Easterling said.

“Junius took Discipleship Ministries to an entirely new and profound height and offered bold visionary leadership to the denomination and beyond,” the bishop added. “His loss will reverberate throughout the connection and will be felt for some time.”

Bishop Easterling said she enjoyed the opportunity to work with him on The Protocol.

“Junius had a deep grounding in the hope of resurrection, and though we mourn, we also embrace the hope and promise of our resurrected savior,” the bishop said. “I found him to be a deep disciple, creative, and hope-filled. He had a great sense of humor and brought levity at just the right moments.”

Prior to his serving Discipleship Ministries, Dotson was Senior Pastor of Saint Mark United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kansas, where he was instrumental in transforming the 3,500-member church into a multi-campus congregation.

Dotson received his undergraduate degree in political science, with a concentration in economics, at the University of Texas at Arlington. While attending UT-Arlington, he was president of the local chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, the nation’s oldest African-American fraternity. Dotson began his graduate work at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, and earned his Master of Divinity degree from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California. He was ordained in June 1992.

Funeral arrangements are pending. **United Methodist News contributed to this story.*

Tags: [dotson](#), [obituary](#), [protocol](#), [bishop statement](#), [junius dotson](#)

Back to the Basics

The Essentials of Reconciliation

210 Corridor Lenten Services
7:00 PM

✚ **March 3, 2021**

Pastor Judith Bennett, Alexandria Chapel UMC

✚ **March 10, 2021**

Pastor Keith White, Smith Chapel UMC

✚ **March 17, 2021**

Pastor Cindy Banks, Indian Head/Shiloh/Chicamuxen

✚ **March 24, 2021**

Pastor Darryl Mason, Metropolitan UMC

✚ **Every Wednesday there will be a 1:00 pm service hosted by
Pastor Kermit Moore, Providence-Fort Washington**

*This will be a one-hour service for those persons who are unable to attend
the evening Lenten services.*

Zoom Meeting Information:

<https://zoom.us/j/93517751951?pwd=ZStaVVgYvNW5WYUZOWHBveXcwUT09>

Meeting ID: 935 1775 1951

Meeting Passcode: 001511

Dial In Number: 1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 935 1775 1951

Meeting Passcode: 001511

Ways of Giving

“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of ^{la}necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NKJV)

Making an Electronic Giving Contribution:

You are invited to use GivePlus (Give +) mobile app. If you prefer texting is your thing and you want to text your TITHES, text the amount you want to give to 301-433-7385.

NOTE: Texting to this number is for TITHES/Offerings ONLY!!! If you have any questions, Sister Angela Williams at 301-203-0974.

Mail Your Gift:

If you are writing a check, always complete an envelope with any donations made to the church in order for the donation to be included in your year-end contribution statement. Please enclose your giving envelope in a standard mailing envelope. Make checks payable to Grace United Methodist Church or Grace UMC.

Grace United Methodist Church
11700 Old Fort Road
Fort Washington, MD 20744



United Methodist Church

"The Grace Place...sharing God's grace with everyone."

11700 Old Fort Road ▪ Fort Washington, MD 20744

Rev. Dr. Rodney T. Smothers, Lead Pastor

Church Office: 301-292-7828 | Fax: 301-292-4834 | Parsonage: 301-292-0160
Email: gumcsecy@verizon.net | Website: <http://www.gracefortwashington.org>

We are in the process of expanding our virtual and conference call capabilities for our administration, education, and ministry opportunities. Watch this page for upcoming updates.

VIRTUAL ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

VIRTUAL YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Second and Fourth Sunday - 2:00 p.m.

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Virtual Online Worship Service
On YouTube at Grace UMC Fort Washington, MD

HOLY COMMUNION

First Sunday, Virtual Worship Service and
2 p.m. via teleconference, 425-436-6316, access code 775903#

PRAYER SERVICE (TELECONFERENCE)

Wednesday - 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
425-436-6316, access code 775903#

VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

Busy Bees (Senior Bible Study)
Wednesday - 11 a.m.
Bible Study
Thursday – 7 p.m.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION 24/7 HELPLINE 1-800-272-3900

MEMBERSHIP

If you have moved, changed your phone number, name or
want to schedule a baptism, please contact the church office.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Office Assistant: Wanda R. Wheeler

REV. DR. RODNEY T. SMOTHERS, LEAD PASTOR

Contact Information: Cell: 301-741-2710 † Email: pastorrodgfw@gmail.com