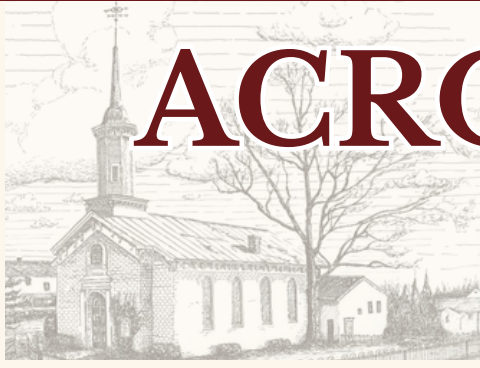




ACROSS *the* PEWS



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SWEATER WEATHER

*"For everything
there is a season,
and a time for
every matter
under heaven."*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1
NRSVUE*

- Pastor Eduardo Carillo -

Wow, it's as if the weather decided to switch gears overnight! The leaves are beginning to fall, and as a good friend would say, "It's sweater weather!"

I'm not sure about you, but this is my kind of weather—cool enough for a stroll, perfect for a hot drink, and just right for enjoying a little extra beauty outside the window.

SWEATER WEATHER CONTINUED

It seems we are always moving, both in the world around us and in our own lives. Personally, I've come to see that embracing change can be a spiritual discipline. Whether you're navigating a job change, watching your children grow up far too quickly, stepping into retirement, or simply trying to find your footing after a difficult season, transitions can leave us feeling a little unsettled.

We often hold tightly to what is familiar because it feels safe. Yet God can use these moments of change to draw us closer to Him, teach us to trust Him more deeply, and remind us that we need one another. Just as the trees let go of their leaves, making way for new life in the spring, we too are invited to release what is behind us and trust the One who holds every changing season in His hands.

And we were never meant to navigate life's transitions alone. God has given us the gift of a church family—companions for the journey who will share a warm cup of coffee, offer a prayer when the road gets difficult, lend a listening ear, and remind us of His constant presence.

So, as you pull out your favorite sweaters and enjoy the beauty of October, take comfort in this promise: while change is constant, our Creator never changes. May this season bring you a renewed sense of peace, deeper connections with friends old and new, and the quiet assurance that you are walking hand in hand with the faithful God of every season.

And maybe, this season, we can grab a cup of coffee together. After all, some of the best conversations—and perhaps even a little of God's work—can happen over a warm cup of coffee.



MIDDLEBURG MAINSTAYS



Sarah Johnson Brissing

Middleburg United Methodist Church should be proud to claim Sarah Brissing as not only one of its congregants, but also as proof that the Church has been successful in helping raise Christians dedicated to helping others. Sarah was raised from birth in our church, with her parents, Mark and Mary Johnson, having been very active church members. She has continued this legacy by being one of the most visible persons in the congregation, always with a warm smile and a helping hand, and has encouraged her three daughters to be active participants at the church as well. Her husband Larry has also been a valued supporter.

Sarah began singing in our choir at age 14, taking advantage of her beautiful voice and vocal training that began at age 12 and continued through college. She sings in the Sunday service every week; organizes the children's Christmas pageant; designs and manages the weeklong vacation Bible school which attracts children from all over the community; teaches Sunday school every week; heads up the church's Christmas caroling in Middleburg; and organizes and produces important fundraising efforts for the Sunday school and the Church, such as the Holy Hot Dog sale during Christmas in Middleburg. It would be difficult to imagine our church without Sarah and our youth program is tops thanks to her.

We owe Sarah a huge thanks for all she does.

Sarah's church activities are just one of the ways she gives of herself to others. During the week, she is a reading specialist at Banneker Elementary School where she has worked with Debbie Edwards, and has also taught both kindergarten and fifth grade there. During the covid pandemic, she used her teaching skills to home-school her own children. She serves on the board of the Middleburg Community Center and is co-president of the Middleburg Library board, engaging in fundraising, programming and connecting these organizations to the schools. She has used her connections to the community's youth to interest them in our vacation Bible school and other activities, and has encouraged new members into the church this way.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Oct. 4**

Interfaith Blessing of the Animals

2:00–3:00 PM

National Sporting Library & Museum

Community faith gathering; pets and animals of all kinds welcome.

Pastor Eduardo will be participating.**Oct. 8 - 11**

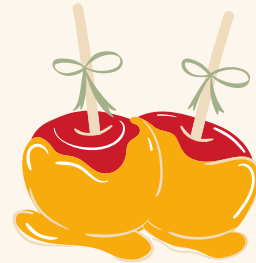
Marshall Fire & Rescue Carnival

Rides, Games, and Food!

Thurs & Fri : 6- 10pm

Sat: 2 - 10pm

Sun: 2 - 7pm

**Oct. 10**

Marshall Day

12:00–4:00 PM

Marshall Community Center

Excellent community event: games, sand art, crafts, live entertainment, demonstrations, food, bounce house, inflatables and community organizations.



CHARGE CONFERENCE REMINDERS

Eastern Location – (Loudoun & Fauquier Counties)

Saturday, October 24th - 10:00 a.m

Round Hill United Methodist Church, 11 West Loudoun Street, Round Hill, VA 20142

Checklist of What Paperwork Your Attendees Need to Have at Charge Conference:

- ☐ Minutes of the Charge Conference (with all signatures except DS)
- ☐ Nominations & Leadership Development List (Be sure you have your Lay Servants included) for each church and for charge if more than one church. This can be the Church Leadership list from Unity or your own in-house list.
- ☐ Make sure the list includes the Annual Conference Member and Alternate (can print from the Charge leadership section)
- ☐ Clergy Compensation Agreement (with all signatures except DS)
- ☐ Housing Exclusion Form (if applicable) (with all signatures except DS)
- ☐ Candidacy Declaration/Continuation Form Signed (if applicable) (with all signatures except DS)
- ☐ Pastor's Statistical Report with List of Names to be read for removal from roll for each church. Separate the names by First Time/Second Time (if applicable)
- ☐ Any Other Business Summary (if applicable)

The Deadline to have all your charge conference paperwork completed in Unity is 10 days before your charge conference

NOTE TO THE TRUSTEES & SPPRC

SPPRC

In June, the Annual Conference body voted to accept CFA's Proposal to the Virginia Conference as presented in the Book of Reports on page 79.

Beginning January 1, 2027, clergy payroll shall be administered through one of three options:

(A) Clergy payroll may continue to be managed **by a paid professional staff** member of the local church.

(B) Clergy payroll may continue to be managed through **an outside payroll** vendor selected and funded by the local church.

(C) Clergy payroll may be administered **by the Virginia Conference Clergy Payroll** managed by the Treasurer's Office **at no additional cost** to the local church.

Trustees

Please note the updated policy from The Virginia Conference for the Minimum Standards for the Parsonage :

H. Utilities

The church/charge is responsible for the cost of heating and air conditioning of the parsonage. In cases where heating and air conditioning are billed as part of the electric invoice, the church/charge **shall cover a minimum of half the electric bill**. In scenarios where Churches/Charges that have parsonages that are heated with gas, the church shall be responsible for a **minimum of half the parsonage's total gas bill**.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, MEETINGS

MUMC BIRTHDAYS

Debralee Beakes - 4th

Janalee Coxwell - 4th

Gavin Earley - 5th

Richard Hannah - 9th

Alyssa Edwards - 11th

MUMC ANNIVERSARIES

Reggie & Gloria Dawson - 2nd

Mike & Debbie Edwards – 14th

Jack & Leah Ferguson - 15th

MUMC MEETINGS

Admin Council

October 15th at 10:30am

Partners in Mission

Every 2nd Thursday at 2pm

Previously United Methodist Women

RUMC BIRTHDAYS

Caroline Haley - 8th

Larry Scheuble - 10th

Erica Cooper - 11th

April Gannon - 20th

Thurston Willis - 30th

RUMC ANNIVERSARIES

Vicki & Jimmy Willis - 18th

RUMC MEETINGS

Admin Council

October 1st at 7pm

Worship

October 26th at 10am

Trustees

October 13th at 6pm