

## Susanna Wesley UMC

3900 George Washington Memorial Hwy.  
Ordinary, VA 23131

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 39  
Hayes, VA 23072

### Sunday Services

Traditional at 8:15 a.m.

Contemporary at 10:30 a.m.

**In-Service, Facebook Live  
Drive-In Worship 101.7 FM**

# March 15, 2023



## A Mid-Month Update on the Activities of SWUMC



### A note from Pastor Tom

Were in the midst of the season of Lent. The word Lent derived from the Anglo-Saxon word "Lenten," meaning "spring," Lent is a special period within our community. It's a time of reflection, fasting, and prayer. I know the challenges we all have in our daily lives. It's difficult for many of us to make time to stop what we are doing and be quiet. I know, just look into my study and you will understand. You may not see me slowing down, but I do. I find time when everyone is out of the building to stop and pray. To sit and be quiet, to close my eyes and clear my mind to listen. Listen, listen for what some may ask. To listen for God's voice in the pneuma, the holy wind. Pneuma is the word from which we get the words "Holy Spirit". It's a sacred time of reflection and quiet, and for me, pneuma is a sacred word taken from the Septuagint and the Greek New Testament. In John 3:5, pneuma is the koine Greek word translated into English as "spirit": John writes, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit (pneuma), he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

To be born of the Spirit "from above" requires daily work as the world seems to overtake our heart's desire with the busyness of our lives. And that is what the season of Lent is about. It's a season in which we stop and retake control of our spiritual lives. I encourage you to take time and find a place to stop and be quiet, to listen. When you find that place, space, or time in which the noise of the world is quiet, close your eyes and try to empty your mind and listen for the pneuma, God's voice in the wind and reflect on the meaning of your own baptism. What does it mean for you to be an anointed child of God? Water was sprinkled, poured, or you were immersed in water as an outward sign of the inward grace of God. The grace of God is the love of God poured out upon you. In your baptism a gift was given to you that can never be taken away. But it requires our commitment. For some it is when we were baptized as an adult, and for others it took place when we in our confirmation stood up and confirmed our acceptance of Jesus as our Lord and Savior. But no matter when, the Spirit of God, the pneuma is with you. It is up to you to change. I want to leave you with something to think about. To paraphrase John Wesley's covenant prayer, take time to remember "you are no longer your own, but His. Put yourself to what God wills. Allow God to place you with whom He wills. Allow God to put you to doing His work even when it requires suffering. Let our Lord and Savior put you to work and allow Him to set you aside. Most of all, stand strong to be praised for Him or criticized for doing His work. We are His, not our own.

Blessings, *Pastor Tom*

# Let's Celebrate

**Red Bird Workcamp  
Mission Meeting**  
*after service  
this Sunday*

We will discuss the trip  
and share additional  
information



*21 Missionaries  
are  
going to Red Bird!!*



**Our first Town Hall Meeting**  
Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 a.m.  
**Combined Service**  
followed by a Fellowship Meal

This is a service you don't want to miss. It's our first annual Town Hall Meeting and Worship Service. So, what's a Town Hall Meeting and why are we having one? We have moved to a Simplified Accountable Structure of our church leadership and we want to share the progress we



are making as we vision a new future for Susanna Wesley. We will follow our Worship Service Town Hall with a Fellowship Meal where you will be able to ask questions and share in fellowship with one another. We will provide the fried chicken and drinks. Plan on bringing a side dish or dessert to share. Most of all, pray for an exceptionally beautiful and warm day for this day



of learning and fellowship.



**Chair Yoga**  
**for Beginners/Seniors**  
and those who are recovering from an injury

**Begins**  
**Monday**  
**March 20th til April 24th**  
**@9:30 a.m.**

Join LeeAnn for a 6-week session, 1x/week for 1 hour.

Cost: \$60.00 for the 6-week session. \$12.00/class for drop in

Bring your light hand weights, or cans of equal weight  
Along with your Yoga Blocks if you have them.

**Beginning Thursday, March 16th**  
**6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

GriefShare is for people grieving the death of a family member or friend.  
It is a biblical, Christ-centered grief support group ministry.

**GRIEF**  **SHARE**®

# Mission Outreach Room Room 3 in the Education Wing

Check it out. Stop by our new Mission Outreach Room which is dedicated to the mission activities of our community. There you will find shelves filled with the supplies we are collecting to create the Operation Christmas Child boxes along with other items.



## 2023 Objective *200 Boxes!*

Boxes will be available for individuals to pack throughout the year. Each box should contain a wow item such as dolls, trucks, balls with air pumps, musical instrument, personal care items, a clothing item, accessories, and craft items. If you would like to learn more we suggest going to:

[samaritanpurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/](https://samaritanpurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/)

This is a wonderful website that gives suggestions by age and category.

## Our 2023 budget is \$242,630

## February Giving Report

Budget for February \$20,480 (monthly)

Received - \$23,625.60

Above Budget this month: \$3,145.60



## HVAC Systems Replacement Loan Status

Loan balance as of March 15<sup>th</sup>:

**\$14,9992.26**

# Virginia Annual Conference News

<https://vaumc.org/>



## Kits for Conference

Cleaning Kits (Flood Buckets). Susanna Wesley is also one of the collection points in the conference to receive the kits from other churches.

Annual Conference is in June this year – June 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> to be exact. It will be held in Roanoke this year and one of the ways we support the mission of our conference is through the creation of Kits for Conference. This last year we packed 80 Flood

This year. UMCOR is asking for three specific kits: Cleaning Kits, Hygiene Kits, and the newest kits - Menstrual Hygiene Kits. Information on the Kits is located in the Atrium on the Welcome tables.



Menstrual Hygiene Kits



Cleaning Kit (Flood Bucket)



Hygiene Kit

Beloved, let us

LOVE

one



another,

for



love

is from

God,

and

whoever loves

is born of God, and

knows God.

