



SSUMC Family — Over these last few months we have experienced grief, anger, pain, and fear as we have witnessed the devastating effects of the new pandemic of covid-19 and the continued pandemic of racism. In this season, we are being stretched to be the Church in new and ever-evolving ways. While we have a lot of work to do still as a church, as a nation, and as a world, I am also very proud of the ways our church has stepped up in this season.

As our nation has responded to the recent deaths of George Floyd, Breona Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, SSUMC has renewed our focus on racial justice as a value we uphold, as a part of our very identity as the people of God called SSUMC, and as the work that we are committed to delving into ever more deeply in the weeks, months, and years ahead. On May 31, Pentecost Sunday, we partnered with Grace Episcopal Church to hold a Black Lives Matter protest along Georgia Ave. Stretched between our two churches, over 550 people came to witness and stand in solidarity. We recognize that the call to protest and pray is important but insufficient. As a church, we are committed to doing the long, hard work of change--of ourselves, our country, our community, and our church.

On March 15, we gathered virtually for the first remote worship service, having no idea that come summer we would still be continuing remote worship for the foreseeable future. As your pastor, I didn't know what to expect from remote worship. This isn't something they teach us in seminary! I had no idea how many

would participate or whether or not it would truly feel like worship. On both counts, I have been blown away by the power of the Spirit! Most weeks we have averaged 180-200 people tuning in live on Zoom and another 30+ viewing the service after the fact on our Facebook page. The Spirit has moved in powerful ways through the words shared, the songs sung, the prayers lifted, the testimonies given, and the smiling faces/voices of our family in Christ gathered in this new way. It's not what any of us would have chosen, and yet God has shown up anyway. Outside of worship, hundreds of masks have been sewn, dozens of casseroles prepared, and so many financial gifts given to support our community during these extraordinarily challenging circumstances. This is the Church being the Church!

As we continue in this season of physical distancing, we rely on our weekly enews as our primary means for communicating with you. If you are not receiving this weekly email sent every Thursday, please contact (admin@silverspringumcp.org) our Operations Manger, Kijana Mayfield. Included in this newsletter you

will find a calendar of some of the SSUMC events that will be held in July and August. While the enews will still be the most up to date way to receive all of the happenings of SSUMC, it is our hope that this overview can help you know a little of what to expect during this season in which so much comes unexpected.

If you don't use a computer, you can still participate in worship and some of our events by using a regular phone to call into Zoom. The directions for calling into zoom are enclosed. If you do not have email, please call the church office 301-587-1215 and leave a voicemail with your name and number for me (Rev. Angela) on extension 11 to be added to the call list.

I miss all of you so much and look forward to the time in which we can safely gather in the physical presence of one another again. Please know that I am in prayer for all of you, and the pastors and staff are eager to support you during this time.

Peace of Christ +
Rev. Angela M. Wells



SSUMC SUMMER CALENDAR

DAY	TIME	DESCRIPTION + LOCATION + CONTACT
All Sundays	10am	Worship on Zoom Link on website or call 301-715-8592; Meeting ID: 962 088 152; Password: 318725.
July 1	7pm	Service of Lament & Repentance for Racial Injustice on Zoom* (awells@silverspringumcp.org)
July 5, 19, Aug 2, 16, 30	2pm	Drive In Communion & Food Drive: Sign up via church website (www.silverspringumc.org) & bring your own communion elements. You are welcome to bring donations of nonperishables to support Manna with you and drop them off in a bin under the portico. (awells@silverspringumcp.org)
July 8, 15, 22, 29	10am	"Mars & Beyond" Vacation Bible School (mmatthews@silverspringumcp.org) TO REGISTER GO TO: www.silverspringumcp.tpsdb.com/OnlineReg/117
July 12, 26, Aug 9, 23	11:30am	Racial Justice Meetings: Check website for Zoom* link or call in 301-715-8592; Meeting ID: 875 7803 4514; Password: 8900 (mmatthews@silverspringumcp.org)
July 17	7pm	Game Night on Zoom* (jkidwell@silverspringumcp.org)
July 19	11am	Ice Cream Social: have your favorite flavor ice cream ready to enjoy "together" in chat rooms after worship on Zoom* (awells@silverspringumcp.org)
July 19-31		Silent Auction: To register, view, and bid go to: www.biddingowl.com/SilverSpringUnitedMethodi
July 23	7:30pm	Hymn Sing: Check website for Zoom* link or call in 301-715-8592; Meeting ID: 879 9806 9562; Password: 524750. Submit hymn requests by 7/12 to Mary Ann Willow (mawillow@silverspringumcp.org)
July 28	7pm	Prayer Crane Origami Craft Night on Zoom* (jkidwell@silverspringumcp.org)
August 2	11:30am	Scavenger Hunt on Zoom* (mmatthews@silverspringumcp.org)
Aug 9	10am-12:30pm	Environmental Racism Guest Preacher & After Church Conversation on Zoom* (mmatthews@silverspringumcp.org)
Aug 14	7pm	Team Trivia Night on Zoom* (jkidwell@silverspringumcp.org)
Aug 26	7pm	Prayer Vigil on Zoom* (awells@silverspringumcp.org)

*Zoom links and more info on events is available on our website: www.silverspringumc.org



SSUMC TIPS AND CONTACT INFO

The Pastoral Care Emergency Line: 301-458-0768

Tip for Calling into Worship: If that 301 phone number doesn't work and you have long-distance, you can try one of these alternate phone numbers: 312-626-6799, 929-436-2866, 346-248-7799, 669-900-6833, 253-215-8782. Use the same Meeting ID and Password listed above.

Remote Worship Plan B: If zoom is not functional on a Sunday morning, check your email for information about a worship conference call. The new dedicated conference call line is 701-802-5186 with access code 7722824.