

Dranesville UMC Newsletter

November 2025

All Saints Day November 1st

In November, we pause to remember the people who helped us follow Jesus. Some of them are famous in church history. Most are not. They are the ones who showed up, prayed for us, brought a meal, taught a class, or listened when we were hurting. They ran their race, and they helped us start ours.

All Saints Day began centuries ago as a way to honor martyrs the church couldn't name individually—a feast for the forgotten faithful. That spirit remains. We don't only celebrate the saints in the Bible. We remember the saints who sat in our pews, who taught our children, who kept this church going through lean years and full ones.

Hebrews says we're "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses" and calls us to "run with perseverance" (Hebrews 12:1–2). I love that picture. It's like we're on the track, and the stands are full. The people who cheered for us in life are still cheering us on in Christ. Their faith didn't end with their last breath. Their love keeps echoing.

At Dranesville, we remember all the saints before us on the first Sunday of each month. We pray together, read names aloud, and hold a moment of silence. It's a simple rhythm that keeps us connected to our roots and reminds us we're part of something bigger than ourselves: a family of faith that stretches back through generations and forward into God's future.

This month, on November 1st, we especially remember the loved ones who have gone before us from this church, visible to the church eternal. Think of the person who taught you to pray. The neighbor who brought you into community. The grandparent who sang



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**Come worship with us
on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.**

**In the Sanctuary
or virtually via Zoom**

**Coffee hour following
worship via Zoom or live**

**Adult Sunday School
at 9:00 a.m.**

*If you would like to join,
please contact us at
office@dranesvilleumc.org.*

All Saints Day November 1st (continued)

hymns in the kitchen. Speak their names with gratitude. Share one short story with friends or family. Pass their faith along when having a meal.

All Saints isn't about perfect people. It's about ordinary people who trusted God and loved well. Even if your relationship with someone who died was complicated or painful, you can still honor what was good and true in them. You can be grateful for one lesson learned, one moment of grace, one glimpse of God's image even if the whole picture was harder than that. All Saints Day gives us permission to remember with honesty and hope.

May we run our race with our eyes on Jesus, and may the next generation find us in the stands, cheering them on. May the memories of past saints spur our lives to journey with joy, hope, and inspiration. May their stories help our stories become future stories in our home, church, and neighborhood so that one day, long after we're gone, someone will remember us and thank God that we ran our part of the race.

Closing Prayer:

God of all the saints, we thank you for the lives that shaped ours. We remember them with gratitude. We carry their faith forward with hope. Help us to live today in a way that honors their witness and points others to you. Through Christ, who unites the church in every time and place. Amen.

Grateful,
Pastor Keith

NEXT STEPS WITH DUMC AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Let's shape the future of our church together! Join the conversation about next steps for our campus on Tuesday, November 18th at 4 PM in the library.

Thanks to everyone for help for apple sauce making last month!!

Fun, fun, fun!!



For our next meeting, the youth and young adults will meet Nov 16th Noon at Chuy's.

I love that place because it's Tex Mex and they give you a lot of food.

Save the Date!

Pastor Keith

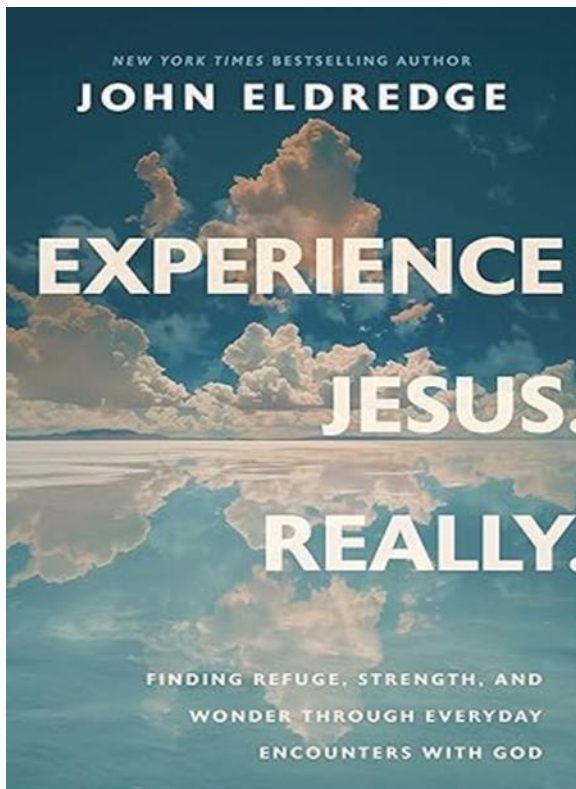
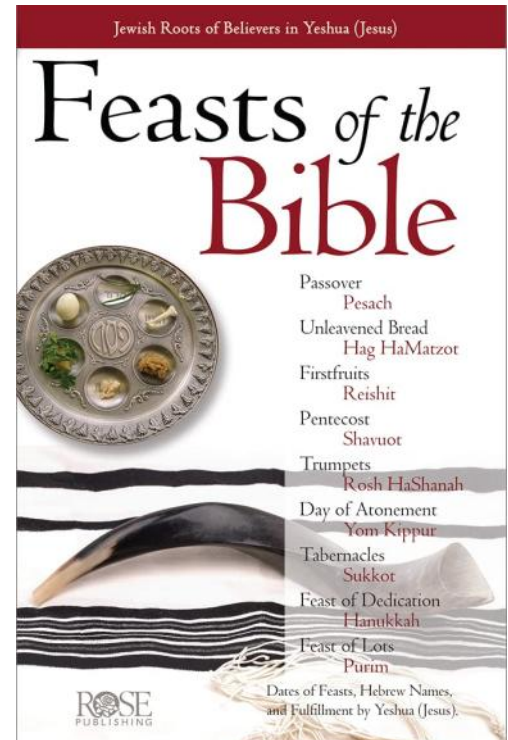
Tuesday and Thursday Bible Study

Dranesvilleumc.org/connect

Tuesday Evening: 7pm OR Thursday Morning: 10am

Feasts of the Bible

The Feasts of the Bible celebrates and explains the meaning behind the biblical feasts and why they are important today. Learn the history and symbolism in the Old Testament, and understand the Jewish roots of Christianity. Hear how to say important Hebrew words and phrases as you find out their meaning and how they point to Christ. Enjoy discovering fascinating facts, such as: *Pentecost* means 50 in Greek. It is celebrated 50 days after Passover.



Adult Sunday School

*Experience Jesus.
Really.*

- In this present age, we are all becoming disciples of the Internet. We are addicted to distraction. We idolize our instant access to a never-ending avalanche of information.
- In *Experience Jesus. Really.*, John Eldredge guides us to a beautiful alternative to the soulless, disenchanted existence you may find yourself living in today.
- Join us in the library or on Zoom at 9:00 for this five-week series starting Sunday October 26, 2025.

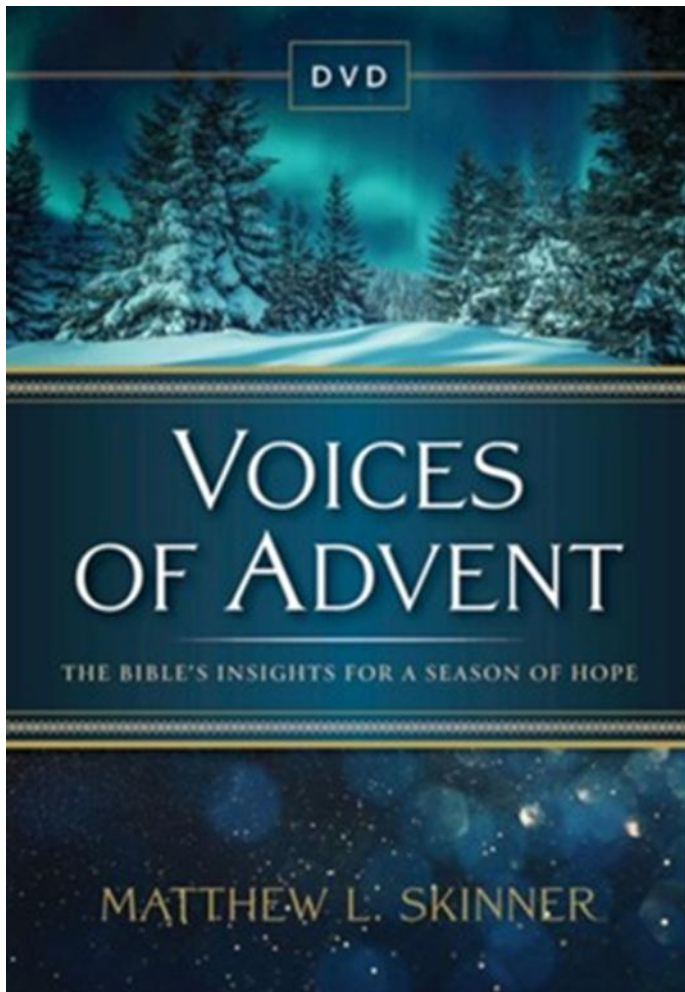
Every Week Join Us In Study and Prayer: Dranesvilleumc.org/connect

Prayer group is meeting virtually via Zoom, Tuesdays at 8:00 am [Zoom link here.](#)

Bible Study: Join anytime.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study: 7 pm Zoom info: [Zoom link for Tues Evening Bible Study](#)

Thursday Morning Bible Study: 10 am Zoom Info: [Zoom link for Thurs Morning Bible Study](#)



Adult Sunday School **Voices of Advent**

Matthew L. Skinner

- Matthew Skinner leads participants through biblical texts and explores how they shape our lives and Christmas celebrations. We listen as Jesus promises to return to us in the future, to John the Baptist as he prepares the way for the Messiah, to the faithful people and poets who anticipate the magnificence of Jesus's birth, and to the angels and visionaries who praise God when Christmas dawns. Listen carefully to the Bible's various perspectives that shape our preparations for Christmas; you'll hear hope in all of them.
- Join us in the library or on Zoom at 9:00 for this four-week series starting Sunday November 30, 2025.

Worship

ADVENT Readers Needed

We would very much like to have families or individuals light the advent wreath candle and read for Advent this year. It is a short responsive reading in the first half of worship and we send the reading ahead of time. We need readers for the four Sundays in Advent: December 7th, 21st and the 24th, Christmas Eve.

If you are willing to participate then contact Pastor Keith or email office@dranesvilleumc.org. We are so grateful for your participation.



Fellowship

Lunch with the Evergreen Group:

November 9th at 12:00 pm in Sterling

at The Bungalow Lakehouse Restaurant.

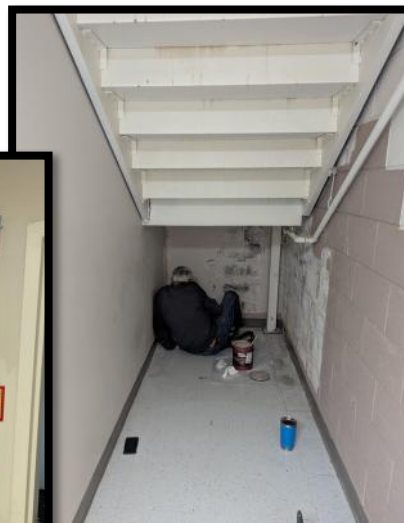
Please see Pete Hause for details and to RSVP or call
703-430-7166.



**From Birthday Parties to
Painting Parties, Dranesville
knows how to come together!**

Celebrating long time member Willard
Gardner on his 100th birthday!

Below, Beth, Jane, Tom and Bill Love Our
Church and are hard at work keeping it in
good shape.



Fellowship



DUMC Book Club—November 12th

The DUMC Book Group met on September 17th and had a great discussion of Kristen Hannah's, *The Women*. Thanks to all participants who made it such a worthwhile discussion, and to those readers who couldn't attend—Next time!

Our next book, *Ladies of the House*, is by Lauren Edmundson, a local author and Professor of Literature at NVCC. We plan to meet on Zoom and at the Church Library at 7:00pm on November 12th. Please let Beth Hitchings know if you plan to participate on Zoom.

We'd love to have a recommendation, and/or if you want to share a book, we've started a small lending table in the Fellowship Hall. We also are looking into possibly purchasing an e-book for the church if interested. Stay tuned for more details.

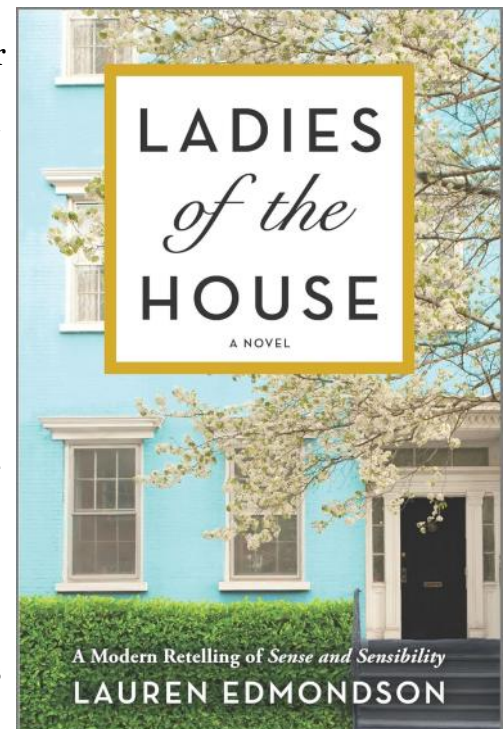
Beth Hitchings, Lay Leader

Set in high-society Georgetown, an irresistible family drama about two sisters and the public scandal that just may lead them to rewrite the rules...

No surprise is a good surprise. At least according to thirty-four-year-old Daisy Richardson. So when it's revealed in dramatic fashion that her esteemed father had been involved in a public scandal before his untimely death, Daisy's life becomes complicated—and fast.

For one, the Richardsons must now sell the family home in Georgetown they can no longer afford, and Daisy's mother is holding on with an iron grip. Her younger sister, Wallis, is ready to move on to bigger and better things but falls fast and hard for the most inconvenient person possible. And then there's Atlas, Daisy's best friend. She's always wished they could be more, but now he's writing an exposé on the one subject she's been desperate to avoid: her father.

Daisy's plan is to maintain a low profile as she works to keep her family intact amid social exile, public shaming, and quickly dwindling savings. But the spotlight always seems to find the Richardsons, and when another twist in the scandal comes to light, Daisy must confront the consequences of her continued silence and summon the courage to stand up and accept the power of her own voice.



Mobile Food Pantry: Next: November 11th

Register online for the latest updates. Join us on the **2nd Tuesday of each month** (light rain or shine) from 9:30 am – 12 pm (or until the food runs out) in the rear parking lot at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church. Join Team Dranesville and wear your Dranesville UMC T-shirts while packing food for those in need. These pictures are from the June 10th LINK MFPs including produce: papayas, pineapple, cauliflower and romaine.

Here's some smiles from the September Mobile Food Pantry!



Mobile Food Pantry—Extra Days to Volunteer

Volunteers also needed to move donated food from Trinity Presbyterian to Christ the Redeemer (Sterling) on **Thursday, November 13th**. TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (651 Dranesville Rd, Herndon).

There will also be a free food distribution at Trinity Presbyterian (Herndon) on **November 22nd**. We need help the day before and the day of the distribution.

MORE LINK



Check out our regular Tuesday and our "Special Distribution" Day from September!



Last year we did Angel shopping for Kids Konnection DC. This picture is a great example to share, because all the gifts are in a larger gift bag, with the Child's picture card clearly visible.

Please remember that if there are some people who are prefer to pitch in with the cost instead of shopping, they can just contact the office, and we will coordinate.

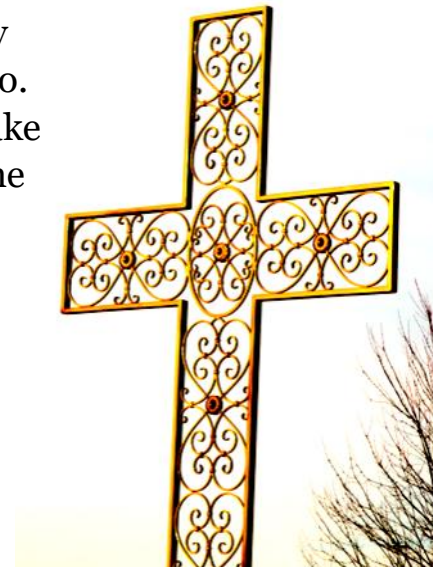
We will have more information on this mission soon along with the due date for the gifts.

Grocery cards collected **Early** for November Donate by November 16th!

Please donate grocery gift cards from your favorite grocery store to give to families in need. Send by mail or drop off at church in the drop box under the Portico. Please, no cards over \$25. If you prefer to write a check, make the check payable to "Dranesville UMC" with "LINK" on the memo.



**\$660 TOTAL GROCERY CARDS
COLLECTED FOR LINK IN
SEPTEMBER!!**

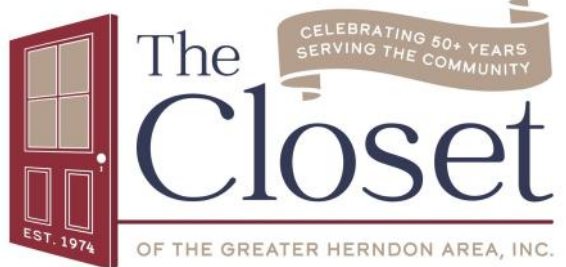




October has been a great month for Scout Troop 1018. We camped at Lake Fairfax where the scouts completed Cooking Merit Badge. This included cooking beef stew in a dutch oven heated with coals from the campfire. The scouts learned about nutrition, food safety, and how to safely chop and prep a for a meal. We also had some engaging meetings including a brush up on First Aid, team building, and a Halloween party. The scouts watched Ghostbusters and had a bake off with many delicious treats. In November, we camp at Sky Meadows and will complete an 8 mile hike up on the ridge. We meet every Monday night at 7:30pm in the DUMC Fellowship Hall. If you now any boys between the age of 11 and 17, they are welcome to join us to learn about the troop.




Yours in scouting, Bill Malyszka
Scoutmaster Troop 1018
scoutmaster@troop1018.org



WINTER WONDERLAND IS COMING!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025
10:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Step into a world of holiday sparkle and cozy finds at our annual *Winter Wonderland Event!* From festive décor to seasonal styles, this special one-day celebration marks the start of the holiday season.

 In preparation for the event, store hours will be adjusted on Saturday, October 11 to 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Visit our website, follow us on Facebook, or check your email for updates leading up to the event.

AART: All Ages Read Together



Enjoy 50% off a great meal at Sedona Taphouse while doing your part for charity. For every HALF PRICE 8 oz. Black Angus Flat Iron Steak, 8 oz. Grilled Chicken, or 7 oz. Grilled Salmon entrée sold, Sedona Taphouse will donate \$1 to our organization!

SEDONA TAPHOUSE

DINE OUT FOR CHARITY

Support expanding access to free preschool for underserved communities in Northern Virginia!

Dine in at any time on:

- Monday, Nov. 3rd
- Monday, Nov. 10th
- Monday, Nov. 17th
- Monday, Nov. 24th

EVERY MEAL IS \$1 DONATED TO AART

KEEP IN TOUCH

WWW.ALLAGESREADTOGETHER.ORG

Here's our Pet Pageant Photo:
There's a special treat if you
can guess whose pet?



An Evening of Humor and Joshua 3



**An Evening with
Ellie Lofaro**

November 14, 2025 at 7 PM
Doors open at 6:30 PM

Ellie Lofaro, gifted author,
inspirational speaker,
and Biblical teacher,
will speak on Joshua 3,
"being an overcomer"
at Herndon UMC,
701 Bennett Street.

Everyone is invited.
(recommended for ages 13+)

Space is limited.
Reserve your
seats today.



Register Today for Ellie Lofaro Event

**SPECIAL EVENT - DON'T MISS OUT -
REGISTER TODAY**

Herndon United Women in Faith is delighted to offer this opportunity to hear from published author Ellie Lofaro on Friday, November 14 at 7:00 PM (doors will open at 6:30 PM). Ellie will share her experience being an overcomer. Her message relates to Joshua 3 and centers on the idea of trusting God to lead us through seemingly impossible circumstances—what she calls "your river of impossibility."

Seating is limited, so register today. Late registration or walk-ins will only be allowed if space is still available.

To register, click here: [bit.ly/
EveningWithEllie](https://bit.ly/EveningWithEllie)

For more information, see the attached flyer. Ellie's presentation will be of interest to you, your spouse, family, and friends. You are encouraged to share this invitation.

As an added feature of the evening, Melissa Chavez is returning to provide music for this event.

In lieu of paying for a ticket, Herndon United Women in Faith invites you to make a free-will donation (suggested \$10/person) to benefit ShelterHouse.

ShelterHouse, Inc. is a community-based, non-profit organization that provides crisis intervention, safe housing, and supportive services to neighbors experiencing homelessness and victims of domestic violence in our community. Learn more about ShelterHouse at shelterhouse.org. 100% of donations made through this link will go to support ShelterHouse: bit.ly/Donate4ShelterHouse

QUESTIONS??

Contact: Sally at Womensevents@herndonumc.org

Or Levenia at uwf@herndonumc.org



Dranesville

United Methodist Church

“Making disciples of Jesus Christ by feeding body, mind and soul.”

November

- 1 Herndon Handbells Festival
- 2 Lay Leader speaker
Daylight Savings Time ends
- 9 Holy Communion
Evergreen Lunch at 12:00 pm
- 11 Mobile Food Pantry
- 12 DUMC Book Club—7PM
- 16 Youth & Young Adult @ Chuy’s
- 18 Next Steps with DUMC Affordable Housing
- 23 Grocery Card Collection
Hanging of the Greens
- 27 Thanksgiving
- 30 First Sunday of Advent

December

- 7 Holy Communion
Poinsettia orders due
- 9 Mobile Food Pantry
- 14 Lessons & Carols
Evergreen Lunch at 12:00 pm
- 21 Even **3** Others Collection
- 24 Christmas Eve Service 6pm
- 25 Christmas Day
- 28 Hymn Sing

GIVE Online!



Every Week Join Us In Study and Prayer:

[Dranesvilleumc.org/connect](https://dranesvilleumc.org/connect)

- ◆ Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School in person and via Zoom
- ◆ Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. Prayer group is meeting virtually via Zoom
- ◆ Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Bible Study is held via Zoom

To get connected to any of the virtual meetings, please contact the church office by e-mailing office@dranesvilleumc.org or leave a message at 703-430-3137 anytime.

Office hours: Tuesday—Friday 8:30 am—12:30 pm