



ST. COLUMBA'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CONNECTIONS

December 22, 2024

8 am in the Nave
9 am in the Nave
9:15 am in the Great Hall
10:15 am Formation Hour
11:15 am in the Nave

Healing Prayer is available during 9:00 and 11:15 liturgies.

Sunday Bible, Coffee & Conversation at 10:15 am in-person in room 212 and on Zoom. All are welcome.

Sunday Forum at 10:15 in the Nave
Songs of Advent: Mary and Hannah



CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANTS
11AM, 4PM

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
6PM, 8PM & 10:30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
12PM



Refugee Response

On Saturday energetic St Columbans moved the recently arrived Mahmoodi family of four from Afghanistan into their new home in Silver Spring.

We appreciate the generosity of so many Columbans who donated beds, chairs, pots and pans, and everything needed to start their new lives in America.

As we prepare for Christmas please keep the Mahmoodi family in your prayers as they begin this new stage of their lives.

Ahmed from Somalia is also beginning his American life through our sponsorship with Rainbow Railroad. Please pray for him as well.

We couldn't do these big tasks without all of you. THANK YOU to all the helpers.

Save the Date!

Friday February 28 at 6:00 pm

On Friday February 28 at 6:00 pm, there will be a reception in the Great Hall as we prepare to say goodbye to Ledlie and Sarah Laughlin. More details to come!

Can We Pray For you?

Submit a Prayer Request

If you feel comfortable submitting a form, visit:
Columba.org/pray-for-me

Receiving Healing Prayer

Healing Prayer Ministers can pray with you on second and fourth Sundays during communion

Pastoral Care

If you need to speak to someone directly,
email: pastoral@columba.org or please call 202-669-4856

Please keep in prayer:

Mark, Fran, Walt, Kate, Casey Krepps, Mary Combs, Paul, Jane North, John Wakefield, Ann Wakefield, Beverly Hudnut, Laura and Jonathan, Josh Thiel, John Nolan; for all those whose lives are torn apart by war and violence

Thanksgiving for:

For our Flower Delivery ministry; for the birth of Philomena to Ethan Heard and Stanley; and for the birth of James to Matt and Elie

Those who have died:

Fred Warnecke, Peggy Wilson, Helena Darnell, Robert O'Harrow Jr

Upcoming funerals:

<https://www.columba.org/upcoming-funerals/>

Are you new? Welcome!

Contact Courtney Hundley
Minister for Member Engagement
chundley@columba.org
for info on how to get involved!

Giving Questions

Contact Heather Beck
Director of Stewardship and Development
Hbeck@columba.org

Scan the QR code to give now!



New Year's Eve Concert

Tuesday, December 31st 6:00 pm

Baroque to Modern, featuring Rosa Lamoreaux, soprano; Grace McFarlane, piano; Anne Timpane, organ; David Timpane, baritone; Michael Bard, guitar; Scott Ambush, bass and Ann Colgrove, harpsichord. The concert is approximately one hour long with reception to follow. The program includes works by Bach, Ravel, Duparc, Prevert, Balbastre, as well as selections from The American Songbook. \$20, the suggested donation, benefits the music program at St. Columba's Episcopal Church. Students are Free. Tickets at the door only.

Last Best Things: End-of-Life Planning For All Generations

Sundays: January 12, January 19, and January 26

12:30 to 2:30 pm in the Great Hall

A three-part series to help ground our thinking about death for ourselves and those we love in the sacred space of our deepest values. These meetings will prompt family discussions to help raise comfort levels about talking openly of these issues and honor death as the natural end of all lives. Anyone interested in preparing for their own death or for a family member's death is welcome. Parents and adult children are welcome to come together, but everyone must register.

A catered lunch will be offered, followed by the presentation and time for questions. The registration fee of \$60 covers lunch each week and some written materials.

Program Details

January 12: Beginning the conversations and overview of planning process, including funeral preparations and burial options

January 19: Financial and estate planning

January 26: Medical decisions and choices around end of life

Questions? Contact Michele Prince: mprince@columba.org or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/LastBestThings2025>



LGBTQ+ Family Weekend

January 24-26th

LGBTQ+ Family Weekend at Claggett Center is an opportunity for families with LGBTQ+ children or parents to experience the transformative power of community! Learn together, enjoy camp activities, and celebrate the beauty of each person! Rev. Adelyn will serve as Retreat Chaplain.

Registration is open, scan the QR code.



Epiphany Service - Wednesday, January 8th 6pm

Come journey with the Magi to find the baby Jesus! The service will begin after Wednesday Night Supper! Bring a friend, bring your family, or pay it forward and buy a meal for someone who may not be able to afford it.

Epiphany Diaper Drive- January 5-12

The Wisemen came bearing gifts for the baby Jesus. We invite you to bring gifts for the babies and families who are clients of the Greater DC Diaper Bank. What do babies need? Check out the list below for ideas! Drop your gifts in the Common on Sundays or Wednesday or at the office during the week.

Suggested gift ideas (new and unexpired): Diapers & Pullups (open packages OK); Formula Baby Food & Toddler Snacks; New and unopened bottles and nipples; Unopened pacifiers; Wipes and Diaper Rash Cream; Cloth diapers; Menstrual products (open packages okay if items are wrapped individually.)

Learning to Talk About Race in America: Participate in a Sacred Ground Circle Dialogue Beginning in January 2025

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a Sacred Ground Dialogue/Study Group in 2025 where you will expand what you know about multiple racial groups, including whites, be exposed to facts uncomfortable but essential to acknowledge, and discern systemic patterns of race discrimination that cross time and groups and have legacies that haunt communities and individuals today. In this film and readings-based course, each class typically involves 8-10 people who meet for 11 sessions every other week to discuss the assigned materials and their own experiences.

Register for
Tuesdays



Register for
Thursdays



Mere Christianity: A Defense Wednesdays, January 15 - February 26

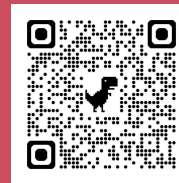
A class led by Joshua Daniel during Epiphany 2025. One of the most popular introductions to Christian faith ever written, CS Lewis' *Mere Christianity* has sold millions of copies worldwide. The book has led to a number of notable conversions to Christianity, including Dr. Francis Collins (former Director of NIH). For more information email Joshua jdaniel@columba.org or register in Realm.

Year End Gifts

We are so grateful for all gifts given to St. Columba's. Gifts given at the end of the year do require specific attention to detail. In order for you to claim a deduction on your 2024 tax return, anything mailed to St. Columba's must be postmarked by midnight Dec. 31, 2024. In order to demonstrate legal compliance, envelope postmark dates will be used to verify any contributions arriving in early January. Credit card gifts also must be posted to our vendor account by midnight on Dec. 31. If you choose to provide gifts of stock or other securities to St. Columba's, it is important to initiate these transactions by mid-December to make certain they are posted to our brokerage account by close of business on Dec. 31.

There is still time to pledge!

Gifts of any size make a difference
in the life of a church.



Scan to give today!