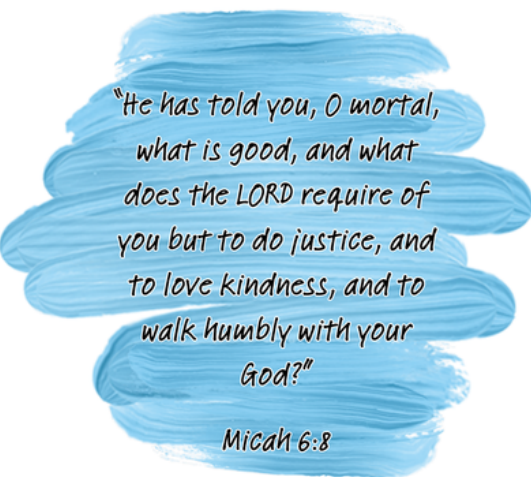


# North Bethesda United Methodist Church

February 8, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Epiphany



"He has told you, O mortal,  
what is good, and what  
does the LORD require of  
you but to do justice, and  
to love kindness, and to  
walk humbly with your  
God?"

Micah 6:8

Prelude

Simon Charette

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. T.C. Morrow

Lighting of the Candle of Peace, Hope, & Justice

Penny Clarke

One: ...The light shines in the darkness.

**All: We stand in this light, unshaken, knowing that the darkness has never overcome the light.**

One: Let us recommit ourselves to walking in Jesus' ways of justice.

**All: Empower us, Jesus, to boldly use the freedom and power given to us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.**

\*Opening Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

UMH 110

Word for All Ages

Suzanne Smedberg

Baptism of Edward Binyah Kesselly II

*First Congregational Response:* **With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Edward with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may grow in his service to others. We will pray for him, that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.**

*Second Congregational Response:* **We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

*Sung Response:* "Child of God" (Mark Miller)

No matter what people say; say, or think about me,  
I am a child, I am a child of God.

No matter what people say; say, or think about you,  
You are a child, you are a child of God.

And there is no thing, or no one

Who can separate; they can't separate you from the truth that you're someone;  
You are family! You are meant to be a child, a child of God!

Prayers of the People

**Faithful God, you have bound yourself to us in love and call us to live as people shaped by mercy. Free us from kindness that is cautious or conditional, and teach us to love as you love. Bless these offerings and bless our lives, that your steadfast love may be made visible through our words and actions. Amen.**



QR Code  
for Online  
Giving

\*Indicates rising in body and/or spirit.

The Lighting the Candle of Peace, Hope, & Justice liturgy is by Rev. Donna Claycomb Sokol. Used by permission.

### Take Note!

- Our Women's Book Group will meet today after worship to discuss ***The Personal Librarian*** by Marie Benedict. All are welcome to join! The group will meet in the Parlor. Email the Church Office to get connected with Monica Dean and Linda Hall, who organize the group.
- Plan to join us for one of our church's most-beloved traditions, the **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper & Talent Show** - Tues. Feb. 17 @ 6pm! Share your talents and take a break from cooking! Sign up for a talent slot during coffee hour. Sing, read poetry, dance, juggle, perform a skit or monologue, etc. or bring in a painting, woodwork, quilt, or other talent to share. Menu: Pancakes, sausages, baked apples, and FUN! Contact Natalie McManus for more info or to sign up - [natvoice@aol.com](mailto:natvoice@aol.com)
- Join us on Feb. 18 at 7pm for an **Ash Wednesday** service as we prepare to enter the lenten season.
- Starting this month, NBUMC's Adult Discipleship team will offer some "reel theology" - a new **Fourth Friday Faith on Film Night** (aka F4)! The plan is for a monthly screening of five films in the Parlor, for ages 18+, from February through June. The theme: "Savior on the Silver Screen," a film and discussion series that will focus not so much on Jesus himself, but the spiritual and moral legacy of Jesus in matters of contemporary culture. We'll watch a wide range of movies, varying in ratings and content. Intrigued? Then please contact Scott Roby at [scottrobby1125@gmail.com](mailto:scottrobby1125@gmail.com). If we have enough interest, we'll begin the study on February 27th with 2025's *The Life of Chuck* (rated R for language). Times TBA!
- You are invited to join a five-Saturday Lenten Breakfast and Bible Study hosted by Rockville UMC. Members of the Hub, which includes NBUMC, are invited! Come to one or all the sessions. On Saturdays from Feb. 21 to Mar. 21, you are invited to join for breakfast and reflection led by lay speakers from 8:30-10:00 a.m. at Rockville UMC, 112 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850. This is a great opportunity to meet members from other churches in our Hub and to deepen your Lenten journey.
- K.U.T.A.M.B.A. is a values-centered ministry created to nurture meaningful connections between our children and the wider congregation. Our value for February is Kindness. Please visit the K.U.T.A.M.B.A. Table during coffee hour for simple activities and ways to engage.

### Staff Contacts

\*Rev. Kara Scroggins, Pastor: [kara@northbethesdaumc.org](mailto:kara@northbethesdaumc.org) (On leave through late April, contact Gwendolyn for information on guest pastor and pastoral care coverage)  
Gwendolyn Daniels, Office Manager: [office@northbethesdaumc.org](mailto:office@northbethesdaumc.org)  
Simon Charette, Director of Music: [simon@northbethesdaumc.org](mailto:simon@northbethesdaumc.org)

