

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



One Another

Show Us

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

4201 FAIRFAX DRIVE, SUITE 1, ARLINGTON, VA 22203

We Gather

Prelude Waltz in A-flat, Op. 39, #15 (J. Brahms)

Welcome

(Scan the QR code for digital connection card)



*Song "Gather Us In" TFWs #2236, v.4

*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather for worship because Jesus invites each one of us to find our place in God's family.

People: There is a seat at the table for all.

Leader: Jesus reminds us that love begins at the table, in simple acts of caring.

People: God's love is our source and our strength.

Leader: Because we are loved, we are free to love others.

People: We are called to see those around us as Jesus sees them.

Leader: Beloved by God, and beloved by us.

People: Beloved by God, and beloved by us!

*Song "All Who Love and Serve Your City" UMH #433, vv. 1-3, 5

Prayers of the People

Leader: In your love, hear us.

People: Lord, fill us with your love.

*Please stand in body or spirit.

**Beloved, let us love one another
Beloved, let us love one another with love
that comes from God.
Beloved, let us love one another
Beloved, let us love one another with love
that comes from God.
Let us love one another,
so let us love.**

We Hear

Anthem "Searcher of Hearts" (J. Purifoy)

Children's Sermon

Prayer of Illumination "The Gift of Love" UMH #408, v. 3

Scripture John 14:8-14 (Common English Bible)

Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father; that will be enough for us."

9 Jesus replied, "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been with you all this time? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I have spoken to you I don't speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me does his works. 11 Trust me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or at least believe on account of the works themselves. 12 I assure you that whoever believes in me will do the works that I do. They will do even greater works than these because I am going to the Father. 13 I will do whatever you ask for

*in my name, so that the Father can be glorified in the Son. 14
When you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.*

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Show Us”

We Respond

Sermon Reflection Questions

1. When it is hard to “understand” what is going on around us, can we find a way to move into loving action as an antidote to “stewing” about all of it?
2. What is your relationship to “trusting” the goodness of God, and our own capacity to love one another?

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Giving our gifts to God and passing the peace



To donate online please scan the QR code.

To give cash or check please put your donation in the basket in the front of the sanctuary next to the baptismal font.

*Doxology (to the tune of LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

**Praise God, the Source who makes us one,
Praise Jesus Christ, beloved Son.
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Our gifts we give as we've been led,
all bodies, minds, and spirits fed.
Help us show love,
Here as above,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Prayer of Dedication

We Go

Announcements

GOAL: Go Out And Love

John 14:12 **“I assure you that whoever believes in me will do the works that I do. They will do even greater works than these because I am going to the Father.”**

*Song "Majesty, Worship His Majesty" UMH #176

*Benediction

*Sung Benediction "Walk with Me" TFWS #2242, v. 4

Postlude St. Anthony Chorale (formerly attributed to F.J. Haydn)

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Liturgist	Dainty Ignacio
Reader of the Word	Sharon Lovering
Pianist	Greg Capaldini
Preacher	Brian Lamb

Assistive Listening Available

You can now connect your Bluetooth-enabled hearing aids directly to our sound system using the *ListenWIFI* app on your smartphone. Look for laminated signs at the sanctuary entrances for simple setup instructions. Need help? Just ask a greeter or staff member—we're happy to assist!

*Please stand in body or spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Guest Preacher Brian Lamb to CUMC

Central United Methodist Church is pleased to welcome Mr. Brian Lamb as our guest preacher this Sunday. Brian is a certified candidate for ordained ministry and is in the process of applying for provisional membership as a deacon.

He is a graduate of West Virginia University (2009) and Wesley Theological Seminary (2018). His ministry focuses on youth, and he currently serves as a Business Teacher and Yearbook Advisor in Spotsylvania, Virginia. He attends Wright's Chapel UMC in Ladysmith, where he volunteers with their youth program.

With a passion for preaching and connecting with people of all ages, Brian looks forward to sharing the Gospel message with us this Sunday.

Pastoral Care

Pastor Sarah will be on vacation September 17–21. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact Rev. Beth Anderson, Senior Pastor of Leesburg UMC, at 804-930-7627.

Men's Group – Fellowship & Games this Sunday

All men of Central are invited to our monthly Men's Group gathering. This is a relaxed time to share laughs, build friendships, and strengthen one another in faith. We'll enjoy board and card games together and good fellowship. Bring yourself, invite a friend, and feel free to bring a snack to share. These gatherings are a great way to grow in community with other men of the church, encouraging each other as we live out our faith in daily life. Join us today from 3–5 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Come Home to the Table

Join us Sunday, October 4, following worship for a Homecoming Potluck as we close our Love One Another worship series. On World Communion Sunday, we'll gather around the table, share a meal, and welcome longtime members, new friends from Arlington Temple UMC, and anyone who would like to join us.

Bring a dish to share—and, if possible, bring the recipe, too! We'll be collecting recipes to create a hospitality guide for sharing the love of God with our neighbors. Mark your calendar. We hope you'll join us!

2026 White House Christmas Ornaments for Sale

CUMC is again offering the official 2026 White House Christmas Ornament, celebrating the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding.

The brass ornament features enamel detailing, a 24-karat gold finish, the Declaration of Independence on the front, and the Betsy Ross flag and modern Stars and Stripes on the back. It includes a red, white, and blue ribbon and keepsake gift box.



Ornaments are \$24 each with orders accepted September 13–October 11. Make checks payable to Central UMC, with “ornaments” in the memo line, and give them to the church office or Pat Barham. All proceeds support our annual Health Kit mission.

Questions? Contact the church office at office@cumcballston.org or 703-527-8844.

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Find Your Place to Serve at the Ministry Fair

Join us after worship on Sunday, October 18, for our Ministry Fair! Connect with ministry leaders, explore ways to share your gifts and talents, and discover a place to serve. Opportunities include the Community Café, children's ministry, Men's Group, and Sunday roles such as Reader, Liturgist, and tech volunteer. We're also kicking off our "World Series of Stewardship" that Sunday! Everyone is invited to wear a baseball shirt to worship as we celebrate the start of our stewardship season.

Tables will be set up in the fellowship hall after worship. Come browse, ask questions, and find your place to serve!

Support Steve in the Annual CROP Walk

Steve Barham will once again walk in the annual CROP Walk on behalf of Central. This year's walk will take place on Saturday, October 17, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Presbyterian Church on Carlin Springs Road.

If you would like to support Steve's walk, please make your check payable to CWS.CROP and give it to Steve.

25% of the money raised through the CROP Walk stays right here in Arlington to help support local needs. Thank you for supporting Steve and helping make a difference in the fight against hunger!

The First 15 Course – Emergency Preparedness Training

Join us Monday, October 19, 6:30–9:00 PM for The First 15, a free emergency preparedness and response training offered in partnership with Arlington County Emergency Management. This hands-on training prepares participants to respond during the critical first minutes of an emergency, before first responders

arrive. Topics include emergency planning, emergency kits, effective 9-1-1 calls, situational awareness, psychological support, and basic first aid/bleeding control.

Open to all and especially valuable for those involved in church ministries, hospitality, and community outreach. No cost to attend. Reserve your spot by contacting the church office at 703-527-8844 or office@cumcballston.org.

Virtual Bible Study

The Tuesday Bible Study led by Carroll Ellis Cobb has just begun a study of the book of Job. The group meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. The Bible study is open to everyone – young and not-so-young, single and married, those who've studied the Bible a lot and those who've never been in a Bible Study at all – all from the comfort of your home.

So, if you are interested or have questions, please contact the church office at office@cumcballston.org.

Sunday Parking Garage Reminder

The underground parking is available for all worship attendees on Sundays—no key fob or permit needed during worship hours!

- Enter the driveway between the church/Unity Homes building and First Down Sports Bar (off Fairfax Drive).
- Use the garage entrance on the right side of the driveway.
- Park in any space marked "Church."
- Follow the signs to the church elevator and come on up!

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Join the Prayer Chain

“Carry each other’s burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ.”
— Galatians 6:2

Be part of a ministry of care, hope, and encouragement through prayer. Our Prayer Chain email goes out weekly, and more often as needed for time-sensitive requests, so that our church family can lift one another up.

Want to pray for others? Need prayer? Write your request on a Connect Card and place it in the offering basket, or email office@cumcballston.org. Your prayers matter. Together, we carry one another’s burdens in love.

Serve in Worship: Liturgists & Readers of the Word

Interested in serving during our worship service? We’d love to have you join us! Consider serving as a Liturgist to help lead parts of our worship service, or as a Reader of the Word to share God’s Word with our congregation. Both are wonderful ways to participate in worship and serve our church community. If you’re interested in either opportunity, please see Pastor Sarah or email her at pastor@cumcballston.org to sign up or learn more.

Stay Connected Throughout the Week!

Scan the QR code to visit our website for worship livestreams, sermons, podcasts, newsletters, volunteer opportunities, upcoming events, and more. You'll also find links to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube for inspiring messages, church updates, and behind-the-scenes moments from our church community.

🎵 Join the Choir! 🎵



Do you love singing? Come share your voice with our choir! We welcome all skill levels and would love to have you be part of our harmonious community. Practice sessions are at 9 AM on Sunday in the 2nd-floor music and meeting room.

Please reach out to Greg in person or send a message to conductor@cumcballston.org if you're interested and let your voice be heard!

Considering Membership at Central UMC?

At Central, all are welcome to worship God and serve others. You don't need to be a member to take part in the life of our church. Still, for many, church membership is a meaningful step in growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Membership is a commitment to support the ministries of Central with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

If you're discerning this next step in your faith journey, we'd love to talk with you. For more information, contact Pastor Sarah at 703-527-1783 or pastor@cumcballston.org.

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