



Colesville United Methodist Church

52 Randolph Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

A Community of Faith in Action

OUR VISION

We seek to be a captivating beacon of God's Light to the community that draws people to Christ and provides spiritual sustenance and wholistic support to people's lives.

OUR MISSION

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Rev. Dr. Michael W. Armstrong, Pastor

Mrs. Paulette Wright, Lay Leader

Rev. Dr. Ianther Mills, Tidal Basin District Superintendent

Mrs. Sherrill Cole, District Administrator

Bishop LaTrelle Easterling, Resident Bishop

Worship Service | August 23, 2026 | 10 AM

Prelude begins at 9:45am

Worship In-Person or Live on YouTube

Join us in person or virtually on YouTube for our Live-stream Sunday
Worship Service

Visit our website at www.cumc.org and select watch online
or visit us on youtube at: [@colesvilleumc1330](https://www.youtube.com/@colesvilleumc1330) under live



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admin@cumc.org



301-384-1941



www.cumc.org

Sunday Worship Service | Back to School Sunday
Worship August 23, 2026

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”
Proverbs 3:5–6 (NRSV)

Prelude

The Nature of Praise Medley
(arr. by Dino)

Curtis Richardson

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Thaina Rakotondranisa

Liturgist: A new season is before us, filled with opportunities to learn, grow, and become.

All: We trust in the Lord with all our hearts.

Liturgist: Whether we are entering a classroom, a workplace, a new chapter, or simply another day—

All: God is with us on the journey.

Liturgist: When the road is clear and when we do not know what lies ahead—

All: We will acknowledge God in all our ways.

Liturgist: People of God, young and old, students and teachers, workers and retirees, let us worship the One who directs our paths.

All: We come to worship, ready to learn, ready to grow, and ready to follow God!

Unison Prayer

All: God of wisdom and grace, we thank You for bringing us into a new season. You have created us with minds to learn, hearts to love, gifts to share, and lives that can make a difference. As students return to classrooms and campuses, teachers return to their work, families begin new routines, and all of us continue the journey of life, remind us that we never travel alone. Teach us what we still need to learn and faith to trust You when we cannot see the road ahead. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Opening Selection

Following the Lord's Way

Enam Creighton-Randall

Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: No matter our age, there are lessons God is still trying to teach us. Yet sometimes we refuse to listen, resist change, or trust our own understanding more than God's wisdom. Together, let us confess.

All: Merciful God, forgive us when we believe we already know enough. Forgive us when pride keeps us from listening, fear keeps us from growing, and comfort keeps us from changing. Forgive us when our words discourage rather than encourage, when we judge rather than understand, and when we fail to see those who need our compassion. Give us teachable spirits, open hearts, and renewed minds. Help us learn from our mistakes, grow through our experiences, and follow more faithfully in the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: The good news is that God does not give up on us. God's grace meets us where we are and leads us toward who we are becoming. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and given another opportunity to learn, grow, and begin again.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Offertory Prayer

All: Gracious God, We thank You for the blessings You have entrusted to us. As students return to classrooms and all of us enter new seasons of learning and growth, remind us that everything we have—our time, our talents, our resources, and our lives—belongs to You. Receive these gifts and use them to strengthen Your Church, serve our community, nurture our young people, and share the love of Christ with the world. In Jesus 'name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND THE CONGREGATION

Pastor: Today we celebrate our students and educators, but we also recognize something important about the Christian life: none of us are ever graduates from being a disciple. To be a disciple is to be a learner. So today we bless those returning to school, those who teach and support them, the families who surround them, and this entire congregation as together we continue learning what it means to follow Jesus.

Students of every age, may God bless your minds with curiosity, your hearts with compassion, and your lives with purpose.

All: May God guide us and keep us.

Pastor: Teachers, administrators, and school personnel, may God give you wisdom, patience, creativity, and strength.

All: May God renew them and encourage them.

Pastor: Parents, grandparents, guardians, and families, may God give you patience when days are difficult and peace when you must entrust those you love into the care of others.

All: May God strengthen and sustain us.

Pastor: And Church, may we never stop learning, never stop growing, never stop asking questions, and never stop seeking God's wisdom.

All: Teach us, O God, and guide us in Your way. Amen.

Pastoral Announcements and Welcome

Scripture **1 Samuel 3:15-19**

Hymn of Meditation	Praise Medley	Enam Creighton-Randall
		Michael Onojeta
		Thaina Rakotondranisa
		Tsongaina Rakotondranisa

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Sermon	Good Trouble	Rev. Raygan D. Rogers
		New Bethel Baptist Church

Intercessory Prayer

Liturgist: God of every generation, today we bring our whole church family before You. We pray for the child entering school for the first time and the student beginning their final year. We pray for those going away to college and those staying close to home. We pray for teachers preparing lessons, administrators making decisions, staff members caring for buildings and meals, and everyone whose work helps young people learn and grow.

Protect our schools. Let them be places where children are safe, valued, challenged, encouraged, and given opportunities to become all they were created to be.

We pray especially for students who are afraid, lonely, bullied, struggling academically, facing difficulties at home, or wondering whether they belong. Place people in their lives who will see them, encourage them, and remind them of their worth.

But God, do not only bless our young people. Bless all of us. Teach us to keep learning. When we think we know everything, give us humility. When the world changes around us, give us courage to grow. When younger generations challenge us, help us listen. When older generations share their wisdom, help us listen. Teach us across generations so that children, youth, young adults, adults, and seniors may walk together as one family of faith.

We remember those who are sick, grieving, lonely, struggling financially, searching for employment, caring for loved ones, or carrying burdens known only to You. We pray for communities affected by violence and injustice and for people throughout the world longing for peace.

God, there are lessons life teaches that cannot be found in any textbook. Teach us how to love more deeply, forgive more freely, serve more faithfully, seek justice more courageously, and trust You more completely. In every classroom and every season of life, be our Teacher and our Guide.

Let us pray together as the Lord taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

All: 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; and 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Benediction

Liturgist: As we leave this place and enter a new season, remember: Some of us are going back to school. Some are going back to work. Some are entering places we have been many times before. And some are walking into situations we have never faced before.

All: But wherever we are going, God is already there.

Liturgist: So trust in the Lord with all your heart. When we do not have all the answers—**All: We will trust God.**

When the road ahead is uncertain—

All: We will trust God.

When you are learning something new—

All: We will trust God.

When life teaches us lessons we never expected to learn—

All: We will trust God.

Liturgist: Students, go and learn. Teachers, go and inspire. Families, go and encourage. Church, go and serve. And all of us—young and old—go knowing that we are still growing, still becoming, still learning, and still being transformed by the grace of God.

All: We will trust in the Lord and follow wherever God leads.

Liturgist: Go in peace, go in wisdom, and go in the presence of God.

All: Amen.

Postlude

Toccata on "Hyfrydol"
(arr. by Douglas E Wagner)

Curtis Richardson

Reverend Raygan D. Rogers

Raygan D. Rogers is a dynamic and prophetic proclaimer of the Gospel who presents the message of Christ in a innovative way. A transplant from Chicago, IL—she made the DMV her home after completing her Bachelor's degree from Howard University. She currently serves as the Children & Youth Coordinator at New Bethel Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Dexter Nutall. Called to ministry from a young age, she has made it her mission to introduce this generation to the God of the Bible and to infuse them with the courage and boldness to have sincere and authentic relationship with Christ.

Rogers is an ordained reverend, registered nurse, leader, preacher, and teacher. She is also a devoted daughter, friend, and a woman of great faith. She lives by two simple mottos: "Follow Jesus" & "Whatever you do, don't quit". Her favorite verse is Hebrews 11:16 "Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them." Raygan is an encourager, an energizer, and an innovator called to share her wisdom and faith with those who need it.