

Callings

in Church of the Saviour

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RECOVERY CAFÉ DC IS THE OWNER OF A NEWLY ACQUIRED PROPERTY LOCATED IN SOUTHEAST DC



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Chief Operating Officer

By Jacqueline Conerly

We are humbled to say, that after months of negotiations (and \$2.5 million dollars). Recovery Café DC is the owner of a newly acquired property located in Southeast DC!

In collaboration with Anacostia Economic Development Corporation (AEDC), a leading District of Columbia non-profit economic development organization, Recovery Café DC will jointly develop a mixed use building with 8000SF of café-style space on the ground floor, and approximately 36 units of new affordable housing on the top floors.

Recovery Café DC and Anacostia Economic Development Corp. have an incredible plan for this site that will benefit the community by bringing its much-needed program services, as well as more affordable housing to the neighborhood.

Thank you to all who have supported us, encouraged us and prayed for us. More to come.

Our Cafe's Mission

Recovery Café DC is a healing, transformative recovery community for all who have been traumatized by addiction and other mental health challenges, homelessness and incarceration.

Our Work

Recovery Café DC believes that regardless of past trauma, addictive behaviors or mistakes made, everyone deserves a chance to “get back up and try again”.

Our program is designed to help people maintain recovery, build resiliency and a quality of life. Program components include: Recovery Circles, School for Recovery, Spiritual Development and Employment Assistance

We teach and model ways for people to manage mental health, maintain sobriety, and build community.

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Recovery Café is part of an emerging network based on the original Recovery Café, founded by Killian Noe in Seattle.

Editor's Corner | For Love of This World

Thank you for all
your kind words and
2020 contributions,
for *CALLINGS* and
InwardOutward.org.
We so appreciate
your support!



As the Season of Lent begins, traces of snow linger on trees in Rock Creek Park and green shoots are poking up in the yard, reaching for Spring. Downtown, barriers around the Capitol remain after the frenzied attack of January 6, but the plywood window-coverings are gradually coming down as National Guardsmen leave for home. After the collective trauma of the covid pandemic was finally acknowledged with a beautiful memorial service, and the Inauguration took place without incident, cautious hope is in the air.

Along Columbia Road, Church of the Saviour ministries are reaching out. The Potter's House is open for book sales and pre-ordered food; the Festival Center is offering noon prayers, a 4-session class and Third Thursdays teach-ins on Zoom; the Eighth Day Community has a new focus on anti-racism, and Jubilee Housing continues to offer scheduled learning labs for children still schooling from home. Out at Dayspring, Overlook Retreat is again taking reservations, compost bins are being built for community use, the TAME Coalition website just went live (tamecoalition.org) and the Retreat Mission Group is experimenting with online silent gatherings.

In preparation for the February silent retreat, I have been spending my time with Julian of Norwich, a 14th century mystic who lived through successive waves of bubonic plague – which may have killed HALF of England's population in her lifetime. On what she thought was her own deathbed, Julian had a series of “showings” which revealed not God's judgment, but God's intense love for this world. Later, she entered anchorite solitude, where she spent the next 30 years pondering that revelation of divine love and offering hope to all who came for her wise counsel. In a day when the church preached doom and condemnation, Julian saw all of creation knit together in the very womb of God as Mother.

As Lent begins, we too are invited to turn inward. This period of enforced enclosure offers us time for reflection – if we will take it. Although hunger, income loss, and covid deaths have touched our wider church community, food delivery and direct financial help has also deepened our life together. Elders who do not drive at night have joined online classes. New people have been attracted to online worship, and some are challenging our commitment expectations. How to hold the center and still provide a radical welcome will continue to be a challenge for all of our Church of the Saviour communities.

Looking back, I am particularly grateful for the outpouring of financial support that we received as 2020 drew to a close. We now have money in the bank for another year of *CALLINGS* and the website, InwardOutward.org. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Looking ahead, we hope for God's love to flourish in new ways. We can see the signs of it already – in the good news that Recovery Café has set down roots in Anacostia and will be providing space for low-income housing as well as a welcoming community for those in recovery. It will take faith, hope and fundraising as well to make it happen but like Julian of Norwich, we can trust that “All shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.”

Marjory

Marjory Bankson
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The Church of the Saviour Council

Bread of Life • Dayspring Church • Eighth Day • Festival Church • Friends of Jesus
Jubilee Church • New Community • Seekers Church

Deeply Affordable Housing



Jubilee provides deeply affordable housing, as opposed to “affordable housing,” as a way to highlight the very-low income residents served. Two-thirds of our units are dedicated to residents earning less than or equal to 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI), or just \$34,000 for a family of four. Almost all households earn less than or equal to 60% AMI.

This is in contrast to “affordable housing,” which as defined by HUD extends all the way to 80% AMI. This includes individuals making up to \$65,000. While there is a need for affordable housing at every level, over 60% of residents at or below 30% AMI spend more than half of their income on rent.

This is a community that faces significant barriers to living in DC, and includes households exiting homelessness, workers earning minimum wage, seniors and persons with disabilities living on fixed incomes, and many more

The Year in Review

By Candace Tyler

Jubilee Housing didn't just survive 2020, we thrived. We couldn't have done it without the gifts of our partners and friends. Last year, your support allowed Jubilee Housing to continue providing deeply affordable homes, at a time when having a home was so important.

Because we could not meet in person safely, we had to think creatively about how to spread holiday cheer to our community. Through your donations, we raised \$40,000 and were able to provide direct monetary support to 284 Jubilee households during the holiday season!

And not just during the holidays, all throughout last year you showed up in unbelievable ways. Here are a few ways your investments in justice housing eased the challenges of 2020 for the Jubilee community:

- 552 Jubilee residents maintained safe, stable, affordable housing
- 454 community members received extra support when they needed help
- 188 residents received 1,017 meals during the pandemic
- 60 students used extra academic support during the pandemic
- 46 people leaving prison moved into safe, supportive transitional homes
- 21 new residents have joined a loving, thriving community
- 14 students received Jubilee to College scholarships
- Over \$100,000 in direct financial support was provided to residents through meals, rent support, and gift cards

Festival Center Events

On Wednesdays, February 24-March 17 we are partnering with the Festival Church on the Jerry Parr Lecture Series, featuring the book **Without Oars**, by Wes Granberg-Michaelson and facilitated by Marjory Bankson.

March 18: AnaYelsi Velasco-Sanchez will lead our Third Thursday Teach In on becoming an Anti-Racist in a racist world

On Tuesdays in April (6th, 13th, 20th, 27th) Mark Van Steenwyk, the Executive Director of the The Center for Prophetic Imagination, will lead the class, Prayer and Activism.

April 15: Jennie Gosche of 8th Day Church will lead our Third Thursday Teach In and will focus on her photography of the polar bears in the Arctic and the need to slow global warming.

October 15-16 we are teaming up with Bread of Life Church to host a two day virtual retreat on Sabbath Economics with Ched Myers leading us.

All of these classes and teach ins are virtual and we will have more details (like sign up links) on our website in the coming days.

Dayspring Fireside Chats

Through the tender mercy of our God, with which the Dayspring from on high has visited us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Luke 1:78-79

We all love the sacred land of Dayspring. But what do we know about the ecosystems of this sacred land? Earth Ministry brought the “back story” during four Fireside Chats January and February.

Gale Quist and Jim Hall brought the story of water- ponds (Merton and Alice’s), lake (Lake of the Saints), streams (Dayspring and The Stream with No Name).



Lake of the Saints



Alice’s Pond



Merton Pond



Dayspring Creek



Rocks



Soil



Fields

Jim Hall covered stories of rocks (Old Barn foundation), soil (early days farming), and fields (and grasses).

Nat Reid and Rachel Rudy presented on trees- old, new, diversity.



Older woods



New river birch



Bluebird box



Red fox

Cheryl Hellener and Brian Higgins shared about fauna- birds (bluebirds, thrush, hawks, etc.) and animals (deer, coyote, fox, etc.).

Ash Wednesday at Dayspring



On Ash Wednesday you're invited to gather, reflect, wander Dayspring land and give voice to your Lenten intentions. We will begin at Earthen Hands Potting Shed at 2 pm for a brief reflection and time of writing to make room for something new. You'll then be invited to release what you have written into the fire and to carry some of the ashes in a small clay pot of your choosing on a wander with Dayspring land.

At 3 pm we will gather in the garden's ceremonial circle to offer ashes to the soil, compost made ready for the seeds to be planted in days to come. From there we will walk together to the pavilion for the closing of our time together for an anointing with the ashes created from elements collected from the surrounding fields, forests, gardens and meadows.



Gather...Wander...Share...Be Anointed

Remember you are earth and to earth you shall return...

Attendance is limited because of COVID 19. Please RSVP to EarthenHandsatDayspring@gmail.com or call Rev. Jean Brown at 540-230-1760 to attend. Once registered, we can keep you up-to-date on event information, including COVID compliance, what to bring, directions, parking information and weather-related changes.

This event is free. Donations are always welcome!



Plan Your Next Event at Dayspring

Melanie Springer is the mother to be. In the picture to the left, with all of us in front of the Potting Shed: from left to right: Laura Hoffmann, Melanie's sister; Joan Brown, grandmother; Jean Brown, liturgist, and Aunt Susan Hoffman, Melanie's mother.

Contact Jean at:
EarthenHandsatDayspring@gmail.com 540-230-1760 to plan and schedule your event.



New compost bins have been constructed by Earthen Hands at Dayspring with a grant from 8th Day Community and the Permaculture Project. Up to 35% of food in high-income economies is thrown out by consumers. Rather than generating methane, as decomposition in a landfill would, the composting process actually converts organic material into stable soil carbon and makes it available to plants...and can aid carbon sequestration. (Drawdown, The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed To Reverse Global Warming, ed. by Paul Hawken). All good news as we look at ways to change the amounts of carbon put into the atmosphere. Composting- Creating good soil from food scraps...something we have within our power to change.



Dayspring Offers Online Silent Retreats

Dayspring is experimenting with online silent retreats. While this one will have happened by the time you read this, watch for another on the second Saturday of March.

Julian of Norwich: Wisdom for Today

An Online Retreat Day from Dayspring Silent Retreat Center

Have you ever pondered the size of an oak tree when holding an acorn in your hand? Or seen God as a comforting mother? If so, Julian of Norwich may be the 14th century spiritual guide for you. If not, she may simply surprise you with hope and gladness in this time of pandemic isolation.

In 1373, at the age of 30, Julian had a near-death experience which revealed to her the unified field of divine love. More than a decade later, she took the radical step of becoming an anchoress, attached to the Church of St. Julian in Norwich. There she spent the next 30 years pondering, praying and writing her interpretation of those visions.

As the Plague ravaged England and heretics were burned at the stake, Julian saw the wholeness of God beyond the contemporary chaos around her. In the face of desolation and destruction, she could still affirm, "All shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well."

On this retreat, we will let Julian's life and writings be our guide to reflect on our own lives and beliefs.

Leader: Marjory Zoet Bankson, Church of the Saviour Council Chair, Steward of Seekers Church and seasoned spiritual guide.

- **Date:** Saturday, February 13, 2021
- **Time:** 10am-4pm Eastern Time
- **Fee:** \$50 suggested, pay what you are able. Payment instructions shared upon registration.
- **Registration:** email Nat Reid at: office@dayspringretreat.org

Dayspring Silent Retreat Center
11301 Neelsville Church Rd., Germantown, MD 20876
(301)916-1131
www.dayspringretreat.org

Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing

By Gail Boss

Gayle Boss has written 24 “stories for Lent” which are even more appropriate for this extended season of isolation during the covid-19 pandemic. Titled *Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing*, it is a heart-breaking account of individual species that are disappearing from this earth. The vignettes are tellingly grouped as “the hungry,” “the sick,” “the homeless,” “the poisoned,” “the hunted” and “the desecrated.” Each entry brims with accurate information and the sheer beauty of God’s complex creation. She ends the book with a glimmer of hope, a resurrection story.

Like her earlier book, *All Creation Waits*, Gayle’s luminous prose is anchored by the original wood-cuts of David G. Klein, an award-winning graphic artist and printmaker. Together, David and Gayle offer “vivid accounts of an ark-full of wild lives in danger,” as the poet, Luci Shaw, describes *Wild Hope*.

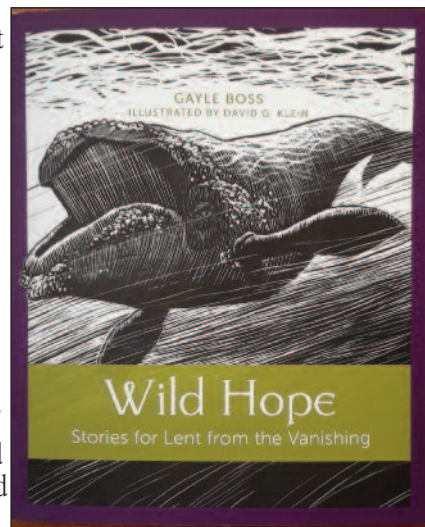
Arriving at Church of the Saviour in 1980, Gayle and her husband were members of the Eighth Day Community until they moved to Michigan, where they live now. Just before the planned book launch at the Potter’s House, Gayle preached at Eighth Day. She said that the first working title was not “*Wild Hope*,” it was “*All Creation Groans*,” from Romans 8:22, because that is all she expected to hear from her investigation of mass extinctions around the globe. In her sermon, she related how the title began to shift:

I didn’t expect to see or hear in all that groaning any impending birth—any new life. To my surprise, as I did my research, I kept finding signs of birth, of new life, of hope—the wild hope that calls into being the things that are not. I found people around the globe in love with species from orangutans to olms, devoting their lives to them under conditions that would do most of us in, giving these species a shot at resurrection.

Editor: Although I wrote a review of this book last year, just as the pandemic shut down a planned book-signing at The Potter’s House, I am repeating this review to highlight its value now, as our enforced isolation begins to change. It is true that despair lurks beside each page, but I am humbled by the fragility and resilience of these wild creatures. And surprisingly, I have found myself strangely hopeful that the pandemic may bring new awareness that we are all part of a luminous web of life. There are things we can do to change the tide of destruction. As St. Paul wrote to the Romans, “All creation groans in this one great act of giving birth. (Rom 8:22).”

This is a book to share with your children and grandchildren, as well as cynical friends who will scoff at any notion of hope for the vanishing. It will touch them all. The book is dedicated “For the scientists and conservationists devoted to Earth’s wild creatures.” Hopefully, that means all of us.

Order your copies of *Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing* (Paraclete Press, 2020) by going to the Potter’s House website: pottershousedc.org and click on Book Sales.



Related Ministries

The following ministries have grown from churches and mission groups of The Church of the Saviour. Each is independently organized.

Academy of Hope • Becoming Church • Bethany, Inc. • Bokamoso Foundation • Caroll Café • Christ House • Columbia Road Health Service • Cornelius Corps • Cornerstone • Dayspring Earth Ministry • Dayspring Retreat Center • Dunamis Peace Institute • Faith & Money Network • Family Place • Festival Center • For Love of Children • Hope and a Home • Institute of Radical Reconciliation • Inward/outward • Joseph’s House • Jubilee Housing • Jubilee Jobs • Jubilee JumpStart • Kairos House • L’Arche • Liberation School • Life Asset Credit Union • Life Pathways • Manna, Inc. • New Community ArtSpace • New Community for Children • O.N.E.DC • Overlook Retreat House • Potter’s House • Recovery Café • Samaritan Inns • Sarah’s Circle • Sign of Jonah • Sitar Arts Center • Wellspring Conference Center

Callings

Church of the Saviour
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Washington, DC 20009

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Special Events

See pottershouse.org and
festivalcenterdc.org for their current
event listings.

Feb 17 | Ash Wednesday Gathering, 2-4pm at Dayspring

Earthen Hands Ministry, led by Jean Brown and Kolya Braun-Greiner. Reserved spaces only to ensure safe spacing.

Feb 24-Apr 17 | "Without Oars, Life as Pilgrimage," Parr Lecture Series class with Wes Granberg-Michaelson, facilitated by Marjory Bankson. Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm on Zoom. Register online at FestivalCenterdc.org.

Feb 28 | Fireside Chat "Fauna at Dayspring," see description on page 4.

Mar 9 | Reunion Summit – Grassroots Re-entry Gathering, 3:00-4:30pm on Zoom. The gathering is free but pre-registration is required



Mar 18 | "Becoming Anti-Racist in a Racist World," led by AnaYelsi Velasco-Sanchez. Third-Thursday Teach-in. Register online at the Festival Center dc website.

Apr 4 | EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE for Church of the Saviour on Zoom, 6:30am.

Apr 6, 13, 20 & 27 | "Prayer and Activism," led by Martin Van Steenwyk, Executive Director of The Center for Prophetic Imagination. Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm on Zoom. Register online at FestivalCenterdc.org.

Apr 15 | "Polar Bears and Arctic Warming," led by Jennie Gosche. Third Thursday Teach-in. Register online at the FestivalCenterdc.org website.