

# THE INFORMER MARCH

Spotsylvania Sunday School Union Newsletter

Vol. 2026 #1

## From the President's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, with this New Year upon us, I send a sincere Happy New Year prayer on behalf of the Union officers and myself to our member churches, their pastors, leadership, and members. As our Union's executive board plans and outlines its work and services for this new year, we encourage and invite your ideas and suggestions regarding needed opportunities for leadership development workshops and seminars for adults and for our youth.

Thank you to our Program Chair and every member of the Program Committee for a job well done with Dr. King's breakfast in January and our Black History program in February, your dedication, planning, and servant leadership helped make these annual events meaningful and successful for all. The Union has a new monthly fundraiser on the planning table, and it is called Bingo! Yes, we will have Bingo in the Ross Memorial building at the Parksite monthly. The dates and times will be available soon. So, get ready for an evening out to socialize and fellowship with your family, friends, and neighbors in the communities. Our organizational chain is strengthened when we are truly linked and working together.

The next program scheduled will be on March 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 1 pm in the Ross Memorial Building at the Parksite. This will be a beneficial Trustee workshop for all our Union churches' trustees. We invite all area churches' trustees, and anyone interested to attend this workshop. According to the workshop facilitator, Rev. Dr. Samuel Oliver, Jr., it will be beneficial for all church officers.

Our Union's first General Meeting of this year will be at Beulah Baptist Church where Rev. Dr. W. David Lee is pastor starting at 10am. I hope to see all of you there.

May God continue to bless the Union and each of us in this New Year.

Peace, love and unity,

*Sister Carolyn Chew, President*

## GENERAL MEETINGS SCHEDULE – 2026

<b>March 29</b>	<b>Beulah</b>
<b>May 31</b>	<b>Branch Fork</b>
<b>August 30</b>	<b>First New Hope</b>
<b>November 29</b>	<b>Little Mine Road</b>

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Individual (Jan-Dec Calendar year)	\$20.00
Lifetime	\$125.00

If you have not renewed your membership or would like to become a new member, I invite you to do so by attending our upcoming General meeting at Beulah Baptist Church on March 29, 2026, at 10 am. Or you can mail your check or money order payable to: SSSU.

Mailing address:  
SSSU Membership  
PO Box 78  
Thornburg, VA 22565

## Parksite Rental Updates

The Parksite is open from Sunday to Saturday, so if you are planning any type of family gathering or reunion, please contact Trustee Brenda Dobbins - **826/203-0502**. For a Rental agreement go to our website:

[www.spotsylvaniasundayschoolunion.com](http://www.spotsylvaniasundayschoolunion.com)

**Reminder: All Union churches can rent the Parksite for a full day for FREE once a year! Have you reserved your date yet?**

All checks or money orders should be made payable to: SSSU (Spotsylvania Sunday School Union)  
A fee of \$50.00 will be charged for any returned check and must be paid by money order. **Do not submit cash.**  
Mailing address:

SSSU  
PO Box 78  
Thornburg, VA 22565

*HAPPY EASTER!*

## UNION ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

### SPOTSYLVANIA SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION SCHOLARSHIP

Now available on our website:

[www.spotsylvania.sundayschoolunion.com](http://www.spotsylvania.sundayschoolunion.com)

Or contact Assistant Secretary Trustee Sharon Taylor  
at: [sssunion120@gmail.com](mailto:sssunion120@gmail.com) for a copy.

The deadline for mailing your application is May 1, 2026.

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#### TRUSTEE WORKSHOP

**Saturday, March 14, 2026 – 10AM – 1PM**

In the Ross Memorial Building at the Parksite  
7543 Courthouse Rd. Spotsylvania, VA 22551  
Workshop Facilitator – Rev. Dr. Samuel Oliver  
From Mt. Hope Baptist Church

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#### SHINE & SHOW BIKE & CAR SHOW

**Saturday, May 2, 2026 - 11AM – 5PM**

At the Parksite: 7543 Courthouse Rd, Spotsylvania  
Pop-up Tents, Cornhole Games & Horseshoes  
Welcome! Food Available – Fried Fish dinners & more!  
More Info: Dana Gray – (540) 220-0118  
Rod Gray – (540) 408-2090  
Brenda Dobbins – (826) 203-0502  
**FREE Admission** -- Music - DJ BOE

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#### SSSUNION GOLF TOURNAMENT

**Monday, June 22, 2026 – 7:30AM**

**Registration is now available on our website:**

[www.spotsylvaniasundayschoolunion.com](http://www.spotsylvaniasundayschoolunion.com)

Cost: \$90.00 per golfer or \$360.00 for team of four

Location: Lee's Hill Golf Club

10200 Old Dominion Parkway, Fredericksburg, VA  
We challenge the Union's member churches, pastors,  
members, and neighbors to purchase a sponsorship  
package starting at \$100.00 to \$1,000.00.

Available on our website.

Looking forward to seeing many of you on the green!

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The Union celebrated its annual Black History program  
on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Parksite. The theme  
this year was: "We Can't Forget".

Below is an excerpt from our Black History program guest  
speaker – Dondrae Maiden, Esq.

So, if we are going to honor the past and claim the  
future, let me offer three commitments—simple, but not  
easy.

#### **Commitment #1: Remember with honesty—including the struggle**

We do not need watered-down history to feel  
comfortable.

We need the truth to be free.

Remember the victories – yes.

Remember the costs.

Remember the unsung names.

Remember local stories – like the Black churches right  
here in Spotsylvania who organized to educate Black  
children when the system would not.

Because honest memory gives you gratitude and  
backbone at the same time.

#### **Commitment #2: Reach for excellence—and be willing to sacrifice for it**

Our ancestors made excellence a form of resistance.  
They dressed up for school because dignity mattered.  
They learned twice as hard because opportunity was  
limited.

They built institutions because nobody was going to  
hand them one.

And they did it all while sacrificing comfort, safety, and  
sometimes their very lives.

Excellence is not perfection. It is faithful effort—even  
when it costs you something.

So, whatever you touch—parenting, preaching, teaching,  
law, medicine, business, art, trades—touch it with  
excellence.

And understand real excellence requires sacrifice.

#### **Commitment #3: Rebuild community—because we rise together**

We are living in an era that tries to isolate us—every  
person alone, every family on an island.

But our survival has always depended on "we."

We need mentors who do not just criticize young people  
but guide them—who sacrifice their time to pour into the  
next generation.

We need elders who do not just reminisce but invest—  
who sacrifice their comfort to stay engaged.

We need leaders who do not just speak but serve—who  
sacrifice recognition to do the real work.

We need churches, schools, civic groups, fraternities,  
sororities, nonprofits, and neighborhood circles that  
collaborate instead of compete.

Because we rise higher when we rise together.

And that requires sacrifice – the sacrifice of ego, the  
sacrifice of credit, the sacrifice of "my way" for "our way".  
If you have been tired – tired of the headlines, tired of  
the setbacks, tired of the extra burden Black people  
carry – I need you to hear this:

Do not you quit.

Your fatigue does not cancel your future.

Your tears do not erase your strength.

Your frustration does not mean you have lost.

Thank you for reading and sharing this article.

***"LET US NOT FORGET  
OUR HISTORY!"***

## CHURCH NEWS AND UPDATES

### Mt Zion

#### *Double Honor Weekend Special Commemoration*

*\*February 28 and on March 1, 2026*



The Historic Mount Zion Baptist Church of Spotsylvania, Virginia, cordially invited the entire church community; local and statewide to join us in celebrating a significant milestone: the 30th Pastoral Anniversary of our beloved Pastor, Reverend Dr. Charles W. Wormley, Sr., and Reverend Dr. Patricia A. Wormley. This anniversary represents three decades of unwavering faith, visionary leadership, and dedicated service. Celebrating this anniversary highlighted decades of faith, leadership, and service. We honored Pastor Wormley's legacy with those touched by his ministry. The Double Honor Weekend commemorated with a formal luncheon on February 28, 2026, at Salem Fields Community Church in Fredericksburg, VA, marking this notable occasion with distinction. The event included a keynote address by Reverend Lloyd Fox, Pastor of Enon Baptist Church, Temple Hills, Maryland. All were cordially invited to participate in this significant tribute, expressing profound appreciation for Pastor Wormley's three decades of exemplary leadership, spiritual guidance, and dedicated service. A highlight of this milestone will take place on Sunday, March 1, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. during the 30th Pastoral Anniversary Worship Service. We were privileged to welcome Reverend Dr. John W. Kinney, esteemed theologian, preacher-teacher, and Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Beaverdam, Virginia, as our Guest Preacher. His presence enriched our worship experience and offered insightful guidance for reflection in the celebration. Minister Eric Armstead & The Celebration Choir provided awesome and inspiring music that filled our gathering with praise, thanksgiving, and great joy.

#### **Annual Missionary Day**

Sunday, March 22, 2026  
11:00 AM

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**Sept. 5, 2026**

MZBC 100 Remarkable Women in White

### Sylvannah

#### Christina McCurdy

Congratulations to our Winter graduate Christiana McCurdy who graduated from George Mason University on December 18, 2025, with a degree in Biology and minor in Chemistry. Christiana kept the faith and prayed to make it through her college journey. She also enrolled in an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

course where she studied and passed the national certification exam. She is now a certified EMT!! Chrissy is planning to enroll in a Master's course in the fall, on her journey to medical school acceptance. Congratulations Chrissy!



*Christiana is the daughter of Deacon Jarvis and Trustee Sharon McCurdy; Granddaughter of Peggy Tyler and Great granddaughter of Harry & Christine Tyler*



Our very own Dr. Deborah Frazier, member of the Spotsylvania Board of Supervisors-Salem District, presented the Monks with flowers and a Welcome Reading during their stop in the county. The Monks walked over 2,300 miles in their Walk for Peace from Texas to Washington D.C.

(Photo credit: Walk for Peace-Official Community Facebook Page).

Join our worship experience with our treasured Pastor and first lady -- Rev. & Mrs. Dennis Woodard, Sundays 11:00 a.m.-- 5th Sunday services are virtual. Mid-week service is virtual on Wednesday evenings.

Join us on Sunday, March 22, 2026, for our first University/College Jersey Day. What doors did higher education open for you and your family? Join us wearing a jersey/outfit highlighting your college of choice. (Bring the family!!!)

EASTER at Sylvannah, Sunday April 5th at 11:00 a.m.

**CHURCH NEWS AND UPDATES**

**Zion Hill**



Youth Choir

They did a great Black History presentation

Watch our Facebook page and website for dates for upcoming events:

- Annual Tea Party
- Yearly Workshop (last year was Robert's Rules)
- Easter Service - Mental Health
- Upcoming Senior – Ja'Rell Dayshaun Harris

Black History Month  
 Honoring  
 Spotsylvania Deputy  
 Margarida Figueroa  
 For her Outstanding  
 Dedication to the  
 Community



Community Free Vegetables for 2026  
Date to be posted

Deacon Percy and Mrs. Flossie Lewis will be joining their family in Georgia. We wish them well!

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**COMMUNITY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NAACP UPDATES**

**Special Election on Redistricting  
April 21, 2026**

Early voting begins	March 6
Deadline to register	April 14
Deadline to request a ballot mailed	April 10
Two Saturdays open for Early Voting	April 11 & 18
Early voting ends	April 18

**ON ELECTION DAY VOTE AT YOUR PRECINCT**

Early voting – Monday-Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm  
Two Thursdays before election – opens until 7pm

Your Vote is your Power  
Your Vote is your Protection  
Your Vote is your Voice

**COMMUNITY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The John J. Wright Alumni Association (JJWAA)**

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION** is now open and available! Mailed responses must have a valid Post Office date stamp by March 30, 2026. (Check changes in the U.S.P.S. date stamp regulations). You can find the JJWAA scholarship / stipend eligibility criteria and application at [jjwalumni.org](http://jjwalumni.org). JJWAA membership is the first criteria. See JJWAA Scholarship and Membership links on the JJWAA website menu. Blessings to 2026 seniors, all students and school staff!

**JJWAA Friends and Family Day Cookout**

Date: Saturday, July 18, 2026  
Time: 12:00 Noon to 5:00 pm.  
Location: SSSU Parksite beside John J. Wright Cultural Center

Mark your calendars and enjoy great food - yes, fish hotdogs and burgers, grilled on site. New this year is the Best Dish Contest. Enter your fully cooked favorite dish for a cash prize! Details will be added to the JJWAA website soon. [jjwalumni.org](http://jjwalumni.org) Plan a fun day to enjoy games and camaraderie with friends, family, classmates, and community! Please remember to bring hygiene products and school supplies for Hope House donations. Blessings upon Blessings, Shelby Robinson, JJWAA President  
JJW Class of 1968  
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**John J Wright Educational and Cultural Center Museum**

The Museum is having its first Back in the Day All Adult Prom March 28<sup>th</sup> from 6-10pm  
Tickets: \$65.00 are on sale until March 13th  
Exact cash or check only at the door.  
Dress code: Semi-formal  
Delicious Food  
Live Music  
Join us for a Night to Remember!

March Museum hours for Fridays:  
March 6, 13, and 20 - Hours are 2-5pm

Saturdays - open regular hours 10am – 1pm  
March 7, 14 and 21

Submitted by Rene Beverly, Director  
John J Wright Museum