



PUBLISHED SINCE 1948 FOR THE TOWN OF GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND ~ CHARTERED IN 1904 ~ AUGUST 2015

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

The Mayor and three out of four of the Council Members were present at the July 13 Town Council meeting, with Council Member Stiglitz absent. Eight residents attended — not bad for the summer vacation season.

Glen Echo Park Report

National Park Service Representative Aaron LaRocca updated the Council on the Clara Barton House project. After completion of required environmental impact and historic preservation reviews, the rehabilitation project is in compliance as of June 5 and the construction work is now being bid. The house will undergo roof and fire suppression work. In the future the NPS plans to pursue climate control systems, possibly geothermal. This would require archeology on the flat lawn. The Town will be notified of this.

Meetings are being scheduled to discuss terms

for renewal of the Glen Echo Park partnership agreement between NPS and Montgomery County, which expires in 2016. The participants include NPS and County government officials in the Office of the County Executive. The public will be involved in this process. Mayor Beers emphasized the Council's interest and concern to be involved.

In response to the Council's request, NPS trail crew worked on clearing brush and filling potholes on the Union Arch trail accessing the C&O Canal. Several residents noticed that work but expressed concern for further effort to level out areas where wooden ties are rotting and footing is

hazardous. Aaron will follow up on this.

Aaron agreed to also look into removing overgrowth along Columbia Avenue. The Town will do cut back but NPS needs to clear on parkway land. There are vines entwined in power and telephone lines, which is hazardous.

Edie Springuel mentioned that the Calleva buses coming into the parking lot between 7:30 AM and 8 AM are going too fast and not stopping at the stop sign at University and Oxford. Aaron will take action but would like a written statement that he can send to Calleva, which has a concession contract with NPS.

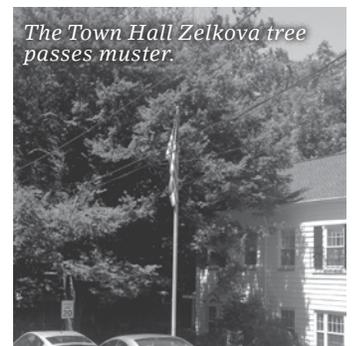
Town Business

The Council discussed the new plantings at the County right of way at the street corners along MacArthur Boulevard. Suggestions were made regarding protecting the plants with stakes, ropes,

signs, or edging with pavers as has been done in Cabin John. There will be follow up with the County on their plans. We may put up stakes in the meantime.

Stacey Malmgren is working on obtaining estimates for repaving the parking lot at the Town Hall/Post Office. We will need to find someone who can work at night or when the Post Office is closed.

Mayor Beers announced that a representative of Pepco will attend the next Council meeting on August 10 to address the cause of the increasing number of power outages. Renny Springuel suggested that an engineer attend to address



The Town Hall Zelkova tree passes muster.

THE ECHO

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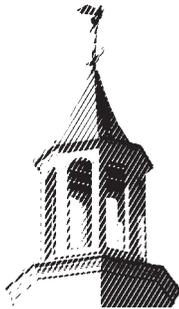
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Next Deadline: August 20, 2015

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be signed. Articles for publication are also solicited. Please send comments about *The Echo* to the editor, the Mayor, or any Council Member. Volunteer reporters are always needed.



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Next Town Council Meeting: August 10, 2015, 8 PM

these "blue sky" outages.

In follow up to the matter of the right of way at the top of Wellesley Circle adding footage to the backyards of 1 Vassar Circle, 6108 Bryn Mawr Avenue, and 5 Cornell Avenue, Mayor Beers reported that the existing legal agreement was not found. Our Town attorney will draft a new lease agreement granting access to the homeowners for an annual rent. The Mayor asked that the chain link fence at the top of Wellesley be replaced with something more suitable. Matt McFarland, prospective owner of 1 Vassar, agreed to come up with a fence replacement plan. McFarland and Jim and Kelly Bohi agreed to the Mayor's proposal for legal agreement.

Council Member Long

reported that the Zelkova tree in front of Town Hall was examined by Bartlett Tree Experts. Despite having lost some branches the tree is in good condition.

Police Report

From June 6 to July 9 there were 38 warnings and 10 citations. The number of warnings is high as they are mostly first-time offenders dropping off summer campers. The MCPD enters violator information into a database. The Town paid \$400 for these services.

Town Expenses

In June, the Town paid \$4,275 to Waste Management of Maryland, \$4,000 to Uneeda Heating and Air Conditioning, and \$3,450 to Lee's Tree Service.

—MARTHA SHANNON

BRIGHT IDEAS DEPT.

Glen Echo, already a close-knit and a pretty idyllic place to grow up, could offer even more to our youngest residents. Given the ever-growing population of small children in town, a playground within the Town of Glen Echo would offer a practical and popular community amenity. Imagine a modestly-scaled, tree-shaded spot in the heart of town where families can gather with their neighbors while children climb, slide, swing, and jump.

There are playgrounds relatively nearby in Glen Echo Park and Cabin John Park, and a small play structure at The Church of the Redeemer. But the playgrounds are far away for the short legs of small children. It's a minor project to pack up necessities and head to the parks with kids in tow.

Despite being a heavy user of the Glen Echo playground, I rarely encounter neighbors there. The play structure at The Church of the Redeemer, while closer,

This is the second year for the Glen Echo Mini Farm Stand, and the crops are starting to come in. The farm stand is shared by me, Henry Barrow, and Curt Wahl, and is now located under the trees in front of Sasha and Eden Haverfield's house at 7314 University Avenue. Many of you have seen Curt's front-yard garden (at 7310 University), this year planted with tomatoes, leeks, collards, kale, and lots of cucumbers. Squash, too, but the squirrels have been raiding some of those.

The rest of the produce we grow at Henry's family's farm in Sykesville, Howard County. The farm has been in Henry's family since 1726, and he grew up there. A large garden is

OUR FARM STAND



Henry's beehives

located within the old stone walls of a previous barn where the cows were fed for over 100 years, so the soil is really rich. Crops include beets, onions, summer and winter squash, cucumbers, three kinds of kale, and the famous heirloom tomatoes.

The tomatoes are started by our tenant, Jody Smith, who is a plant pathologist at the Department of Agriculture. The varieties she grows were originally from her grandmother's garden in West Virginia. The tomatoes are a little slow coming in this year with all the wet weather, but we'll keep you

posted. Henry also has three beehives and is hoping for a nice honey production later this year. Each hive has its own personality—the largest one is very busy and sometimes the bees in that one are a bit aggressive. They especially don't like anyone wearing dark clothes and sunglasses.

Although not officially "organic," we don't use any chemicals on our produce. We send out email announcements periodically when new produce comes in. Payment is by the honor system. A cash box and price list are located on the table. (Keep the cash box under the plastic covering when it looks like rain). If you want to be added to the mailing list, email cbarton@mind-spring.com or contact me in person. —CAROL BARTON



A playground for Glen Echo?

is extremely limited and across busy MacArthur Boulevard.

When I raised this idea at a recent Town Council meeting, I heard concerns about liability, location, noise, and cost. I've researched all of these and believe a playground can be built that will satisfy all these concerns.

I spoke with the Town's insurer and was told that a

new playground would cost the town less than \$100/year to add it to the liability policy. The liability costs do not seem to be prohibitive, upon initial investigation.

Locating a playground in the trolley right-of-way adjacent to the Town Hall maximizes accessibility and offers an adequate setback from residential properties to alleviate noise concerns.

That space is approximately 30 feet wide and 100 feet long: adequate for several play structures and/or activity areas. Preserving the existing trees would provide shade as well as a barrier from MacArthur Boulevard and the bike path.

The potential costs vary widely based on the playground design, as well as installation and maintenance. As a starting point, the initial cost should not exceed \$30,000 – 60,000 and maintenance is presumably very minimal. Many

residents, myself included, would happily contribute time and/or money to the upkeep of a park that would greatly enhance our families' lives.

The scope of work is so small and simple, there is no reason that we couldn't make this idea a reality by next summer. I hope others will join me in urging the Mayor and the Town Council to support a playground in the Town of Glen Echo. If interested, please e-mail me at aaron@aaronhirsch.com. —AARON HIRSCH

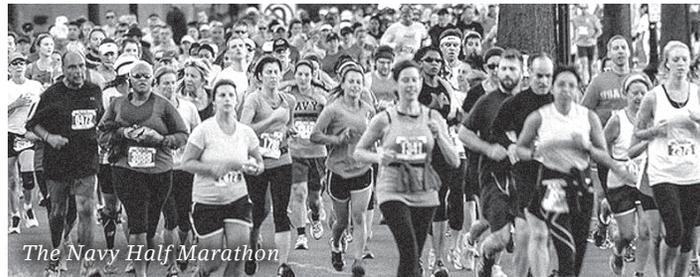
LET'S GET PHYSICAL

If you measure your fitness by the Lululemon motto of “sweat once a day,” Washington summers make us all star athletes. But sometimes you’ve got to get out and exercise, even when you’d rather be soaking in a cold pool, cocktail in hand. There’s nothing like training for an event to motivate you during the hottest days of the year.

Luckily, fall is race season in the Washington area—cooler temperatures and pretty foliage are the reward for slogging through sweaty, humid runs and bike rides all summer. Here’s a roundup of some appealing options for all kinds of racers and riders.

Classic DC Experiences

 The Washington Area Bicycling Association, better known as WABA, sponsors the delightfully rambling 50 States/13 Colonies ride on Saturday, September 12. It’s only open to WABA members and usually sells out quickly (registration opens August 11). The 67-mile route covers every state-named avenue in the District of Columbia, from Mississippi Avenue in far Southeast to the wicked hill of New Mexico Avenue in upper Northwest. I did the ride years ago in the days of paper cue sheets and remember there were a lot of



turns—there are 50 avenues, after all. There’s a shorter option that covers the 13 colonies over the course of about 15 miles. (www.waba.org/50-states-13-colonies)

For runners, there’s the Navy Half Marathon or five  miler on September 20. The half marathon course goes along the National Mall and up Rock Creek Park, while the five mile route circles East Potomac Park. (www.navyhalf.com)

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge 10K on November 8  is another classic experience—and with only three turns, it’s virtually impossible to get off course. There’s a long uphill at the start, but you’re rewarded with great views, no beach traffic, and an equally long downhill after the crest of the bridge. (www.bridgerace.com)

Close to Home

 The American Diabetes Association’s Tour de Cure on September 26 offers 13-, 33-, and 50-mile options. Sporty Glen Echoans might consider the 50-mile route, which follows MacArthur Boulevard both coming and going. Entre-

preneurial Glen Echoans might consider setting up a lucrative lemonade stand. (www.tour.diabetes.org)

The Parks Half Marathon celebrates Montgomery  County parks, with a tree-lined route finishing in Downtown Bethesda. (www.parkshalf-marathon.com)

Bring the Kids

 Start a day in Frederick with the Market Street Mile, then stick around for the Frederick “In the Street” Festival on September 12. Plenty of post-run activities and treats for everyone! (www.frederickmarketstreetmile.com)

More ambitious kids might want to check out the Herndon kids triathlon on September 20. With various    distances based on age, kids can see the payoff of all that time in the pool and riding bikes this summer. (www.active.com/herndon-va/triathlon/races/herndon-kids-triathlon-2015)

Have a Drink

 Some of us need a really tangible reward

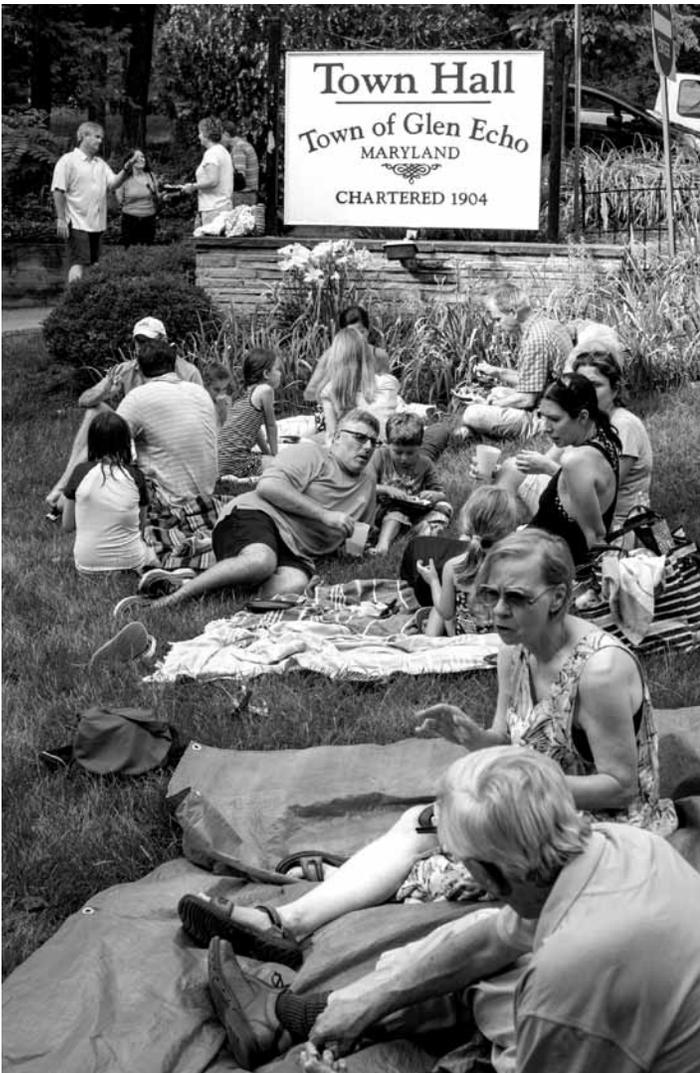
at the end of a race. How about beer? The German School’s Oktoberfest 5k  on September 26 finishes with music, a beer garden, dancing, kids’ activities, and more. (dswashington.org/oktoberfest-run.html)

Cyclists have to travel a bit further to combine riding and drinking, but  the Harrisonburg, VA, Tour and Taste bike ride and beer tasting starts and ends at Brothers Craft Brewery, and the registration fee covers two beers at the finish. There are 25- and 50-mile route options through the pretty Virginia countryside. (www.active.com/harrisonburg-va/cycling/races/tour-and-taste-bike-ride-and-beer-tasting-fundraiser-2015)

For the Ladies

 The Dirty Damsel trail race on October 3 offers 5k, 10k and half-marathon options on the trails of Rosaryville State Park. It’s part of the Zooma race series for women runners. (www.zoomarun.com/dirty-damsel)

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However hot it gets, we’re lucky to have the endless, shady trails of Cabin John Park and the canal to run and bike on these hot days—and cold pools and cocktails to keep everything in balance. —ANGELA HIRSCH
TheEchoActive@gmail.com



The Annual Summer Picnic on July 12 was a big success. Residents beat the heat with Mexican food from California Tortilla and drinks and desserts provided by neighbors. Activities included the slip and slide, which is always popular with the kids, and a bean bag toss, which was a hit with the adults. This year Harvard Avenue was blocked off, so the food and games could take over the street. Residents agreed this was an improvement. Now if we could just do something about those gnats! *Photos by Matt Costello and Patty Sieber*



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Monarch butterflies need our help! These amazing butterflies make an epic multi-generational migration, traveling over 3,000 miles from North America to the mountain tops of the Oyamel fir forests of Mexico. The North American monarch population has declined by 90% over the last two decades.

Their populations are seriously imperiled for a number of reasons including the loss of crucial milkweed habitat, caused primarily by modern agricultural practices. The increased use of glyphosate-based herbicides on genetically modified crops has resulted in major loss of milkweed. Much of America's short and long prairie grasslands, which provided monarchs with milkweed and nectaring habitat, have been converted to farmland. Other causes include illegal logging practices in Mexico, wildfires, and drought. Monarchs are sensitive to climate change, with the loss of habitat as well as weather fluctuation.

HOLLY IN THE IVY



The monarch and its milkweeds have evolved together for hundreds of years. The monarch butterflies lay their eggs on the milkweed foliage since it is the only food source on which the monarch caterpillars can feed. Chemicals in the milkweed plant, cardiac glycosides, eaten by the caterpillars stay in the bodies through metamorphosis. This protects the butterflies by making them poisonous to many predators. Butterflies then get their nectar from the flowers of milkweed and other nectar producing plants.

We can help the monarchs by offering them food, drink, a place to rest, and a milkweed patch where they can lay their eggs. They like puddles where they can drink water and extract minerals from moist areas of the ground. Soil and sand can be put in a pan with water as a way to create a puddle. For resting, flat stones provide places for monarchs to bask in the sun.

Most importantly, we can plant milkweeds. Creating a garden that includes milkweeds will provide multiple benefits and insure plentiful butterflies and other pollinators. The result is a more dynamic garden that is full of pleasant surprises. Here are my top five milkweeds to plant:

Aquatic milkweed (*Asclepias perennis*)

A beautiful plant with pinkish white flowers, it must have wet, moist soil in partial sun to medium shade. Plants grow 1–2 feet tall.

Swamp milkweed

(*Asclepias incarnata*)
With lovely vibrant pink-purple flowers, it likes to grow in wet soils in full sun to partial shade. Grows 4–6 feet tall.

Butterfly milkweed

(*Asclepias tuberosa*)
A gorgeous orange-flowered perennial, it prefers full sun and can grow in poor soils and tolerates drought. Grows 2–3 feet tall.

Showy milkweed

(*Asclepias speciosa*)
Easily grown from seed, the plants are more vigorous in moist soils. Its blue-green leaves have a velvety texture, and its flowers are a lovely rose color with a long bloom period. Grows 2–5 feet tall.

Purple milkweed

(*Asclepias purpurascens*)
Good in dry soil, in a naturalized garden, this plant's flowers are pink to purple. Grows 2–3 feet tall.

Note: When you buy plants at a garden center make sure that they have not been sprayed with systemic pesticides such as neonicotinoids as these would make the plants toxic to monarch larvae. —**HOLLY SHIMIZU**



There are many great organizations dedicated to saving the monarchs. For more information go to:
www.saveourmonarchs.org
monarchwatch.org/
bring-back-the-monarchs

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HAVE YOU HEARD?

The **Bannockburn Dolphins** swim team celebrated an undefeated season, winning their division with the help of some very fast and dedicated Glen Echoans. **Gideon and Gabriela Helf** were both the high point winners for their age groups, and Gideon won the high point award for the entire team and earned a spot in the All Stars Championships. Their parents, **Tom Helf and Michelle Brafman**, were at every meet, serving as announcer, head timer, volunteer "corraller," and altogether great people who make things happen. **Aaron Kraus** was named most improved swimmer. **Zachary Kraus, Cecily McArdle, and Bryna Steele** also swam for the Dolphins. More kudos to the **Steele** family—**Meris** rallied swimmers and parents alike with her motivational weekly emails, and **Kellan** served as assistant coach,

following in the footsteps of older brother **Spencer** (who made a few cameo appearances as a timer during the season). Well done, Dolphins!

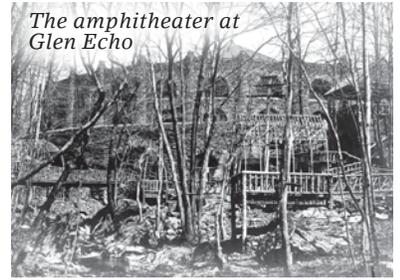
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Aleksandra "Ola" Simpson—the 18-year-old daughter of Wellesley Circle residents **Dave and Mickie Simpson**—is spending three weeks in Poland this summer, after graduating from Whitman and before heading to Kent State University in the fall to study International Relations and Russian. She is participating in an annual program organized by the U.S.-based Polish cultural organization The Kosciuszko Foundation, in which U.S. teachers and college-aged assistants spend time at summer camps in Poland teaching American customs and English to children and teens. Lucky for us, she has promised an article for *The Echo* when she returns.

On July 7th, **Karen Manion**, wife of **Thomas Manion**, the local architect responsible for several houses in Glen Echo, passed away at their home in Cabin John after succumbing to ovarian cancer. Karen will be remembered by her many friends and family for her vibrant, cheerful, and charismatic personality. Our condolences to her family.

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The **Chautauqua Amphitheater**, a national historic landmark in Chautauqua, New York, has been named by the National Trust for Historic Preservation one of its 11 Most Endangered Historic Places after the Chautauqua Institution announced plans to demolish the "Amp" to make way for an "an improved replica of the original structure." The National Trust notes, "Chautauqua transformed American life as the first multi-use retreat in the U.S. that is an arts colony, music festival, village square and summer encampment all in one,



The amphitheater at Glen Echo

spawning dozens of 'daughter' Chautauquas throughout the U.S." including our own historical antecedent in Glen Echo. Glen Echo's Chautauqua Amphitheater (later rebranded as the Midway by Glen Echo Park's post-Chautauqua entertainment entrepreneurs) closed its doors in 1949 and when it was condemned by the Fire Marshall. Learn more about the original "Amp" and how you can engage in its preservation efforts at www.preservationnation.org.

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The date for the annual **Glen Echo yard sale** has been selected! Saturday, October 3, is the day, so start the dual processes of eliminating clutter in your house and clearing space for all the stuff you will buy from



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your neighbors. Participants set up in front of their houses and if it rains bring items to the Town Hall.

Real Estate Report

Carlotta Anderson's house at 38 Wellesley Circle is now on the market with an

asking price of \$870,000. Jim Ford and Beth Rockwell's house at 7300 University Avenue wasn't on the market long before coming under contract. And the McFarland house at 6005 Princeton Avenue has sold for \$898,000. 'Tis the season!



In the summer months, our thoughts turn to cooler foods. Try this cold or room-temperature **herb pasta** alongside grilled vegetables and meat. In your food processor, blend a half cup of olive oil with a couple of shallots, one bunch of mint, one bunch of parsley, one bunch of basil, the juice of one or two lemons, and a

couple of teaspoons of salt, pepper, and sugar. Scrape this pesto into a bowl and add hot cooked pasta.



Mix, taste, season, and keep repeating until you are just eating. This is the perfect side to bring to any friend's barbecue or to enjoy while standing in front of a fan. —EMILY PARSONS

THEY SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

August 3
Colin Koonce, 11

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GOINGS ON

Glen Echo Town Hall Events

FSGW English Country Dance
Wednesdays, **August 5, 12, 19, 26** 8-10:30 PM
free to town residents

August 2 1PM, the C&O Canal Assoc. Board meeting

Glen Echo Park Activities

Free Summer Concerts Thursdays, 7:30 PM
in the Bumper Car Pavilion

August 6 Trio Caliente, flamenco, pop, & Brazilian jazz

August 13 Terraplane, classic rock and blues

August 20 Quiles & Cloud, modern acoustic duo

August 27 U.S. Air Force Strings

August 1 10 AM, walk-in registration begins for Fall/Winter classes; on-line registration begins August 3

August 2 5 PM, is the application deadline for the 45th Annual Labor Day Art Show

Free Art Walk in the Park August 7, 6-8 PM, open studios, artist demonstrations, and refreshments

The Puppet Co.

www.thepuppetco.org; 301-634-5380

Snow White and the 7 Dwarves, through August 9

Dinosaur Desperados, August 13-30

Tiny Tots, select Weds, Sats, and Sundays at 10AM

Adventure Theater MTC

www.adventuretheater-mtc.org; 301-634-2270

Garfield, the Musical with Cattitude, through August 23

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O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

■ SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m.
Adult Forum and Bible Study	9:15 a.m.
Nursery Care	10:15 a.m.
Holy Eucharist	10:30 a.m.
Church School for All Ages	10:30 a.m.

■ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

First Monday of the month (October – June), 7:30 p.m.
Contemplative Service in the Style of Taizé

Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.
Morning Prayer

Wednesday, 12 noon
Holy Eucharist

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