

**April 2, 2023**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PASTORAL OBSERVATIONS**

**1. An Update about Sis. Debbie Baugh:** Today, the Baugh family expects Sis. Debbie Baugh to be released to go home under hospice care. The family continues to thank you for the love and prayers that you are sending her/their way. They are requesting that you continue to pray for Sis. Debbie and the Baugh family and respect their privacy during this time.

**2. Thank You from Deaconess Board:** Praise God from Whom all Blessings flows. I am so grateful how God showed His approval of our Deaconess Day service. Even though many things happened that could have derailed or disrupted the service, God was in control. God was truly in this place. It was an awesome service where I know that God was pleased. Thank you to our Deaconess Ministry for providing your great support. Thank you to the Media, Usher, Trustees, and the Steward Ministries. Thank you, Rev. Nelson, for your support and confidence. Thank you Rev. Wanda Polite for your awesome and authentic service as our Worship Leader. Thank you, Rev. Monica, for your prayer over the Deaconesses. Thank you to my husband, Bro. L, Ray Pincham for your constant and unwavering support. Thank you Michele Gaskin for sharing your gift in the design of the certificates and the program. Last but not least, thank you Lomax family who thought it not robbery to support our Deaconess Day Program. Love you all. -- Deaconess Denise Pincham, President

**3. Lomax COVID Policy Changes:** Due to the change in the severity of the COVID virus, effective Sunday, April 2, 2023, the following Lomax's COVID Policy changes will be in effect: 1) Masking is now voluntary; 2) Registering for and signing into events is no longer required for members, but may be required for visitors for special services/meetings; 3) In-person meetings and events are now permitted (subject to event approval); members and ministries are strongly encouraged to continue with virtual/ Zoom meetings as much as possible; for in-person events, ministries should provide some volunteers to help set-up and clean-up for events; 4) Choirs/ensembles members/participants are no longer limited in number; and 5) A decision about how Communion will take will be made by the First Sunday in May.

**4. Easter Lilies:** This year Lomax Church will resume the tradition of ordering Easter lily plants to honor and/or remember loved ones. Each plant costs \$20.00. Sis. Andrea Peterbark is overseeing the order process, and all orders should be submitted by Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

You may place requests by either speaking directly with Sis. Andrea Peterbark, or via an online request form. Sis. Andrea will call anyone who submits a request online to follow up.

**To call Sis. Andrea Peterbark directly:** Call (703) 451-1552 or (703) 568-8511

**To submit an online request, use the following**

**link:** <https://forms.gle/Cd5ZVPy1csHWNir46>

**Payment options:** Check (Make your check payable to Lomax Church. Add "Floral Ministry" to the memo line. You may pay through your envelope or mail it to the church.) or Givelify.

**5. Holy Week 2023:** We are excited share the following opportunities to observe Holy Week this year:

- **Lomax Holy Wednesday** - Lomax and St. Michael's will prepare bags for senior residents of Shelton Apartments, located in Green Valley. On Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 10 am, members of Lomax and St. Michael's will meet at Lomax to prepare the bags. The bags will be delivered on Wednesday at 11 am. We are looking for one or two additional volunteers to prepare the bags. Please provide your name through the church office if you are willing to volunteer.
- **Lomax Maundy Thursday** - Join us for Holy Communion and a service of congregational singing and scripture readings by members of our Class Leaders Board. Bro. Ray Pincham will share a brief meditation as well. This service will take place at 7 pm.
- **Lomax Good Friday** - We are excited to announce the 7 Last Words: The Laity Edition. Seven Lomax lay leaders will reflect on Jesus' final sayings, including: Sis. Debra Byrd, Lay Council; Bro. Fred Peterbark, Trustee Board; Sis. Denise Pincham, Deaconess Board; Bro. Kelvin Parson, Evangelism Ministry; Sis. Veronica Riley, Christian Education Department; Bro. Stephen Roye, Media Ministry; and Sis. Wilma Newby, Steward Board. This service will take place at 7 pm. A flyer is below.

- **Arlington Community Good Friday Service** - The Arlington Coalition of Black Clergy and affiliated churches will have a community Good Friday service at 12 noon, at Mount Olive Baptist Church. Volunteers are needed to serve as both greeters/ushers and sing in the community choir. The choir will rehearse at 11 am immediately prior to the service on Friday, April 7th. **Pastor Nelson is requesting that at least two people volunteer to usher and four people agree to sing in the community choir. Those ushering or singing are asked to wear black or black and white.** Lomax's volunteers are asked to provide your names to Chantel through the church office. A flyer is below.
- **Pastor Nelson Good Friday Preaching Engagement:** Pastor Nelson has been invited to preach one of the 7 Last Words for the "Rush Hour to Calvary 2023" service sponsored by Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church. The service begins at 9 am. In addition to Pastor Nelson preaching, Bishop W. Darin Moore will preach, as well as Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference pastors Rev. Milton Williams, Jr. (Penn. Ave.) , Dr. Brian Relford (Union Wesley), Rev. Scot Moore (Judah Temple), Rev. Mark Thomas (Contee), and Dr. Timothy Freeman (Trinity). **Pastor Nelson would love to have the support of some of the members of Lomax.**

**6. Virtual Fitness "FUN" Workout:** Join the Fitness class on Saturdays at 8:30 am for a "FUN" condensed workout. Bring your water, towel, mat, stretch bands, weights and "Smiles". The line will open at 8:15 am. See you on Saturday, Donna V. Gainey and the CREW!!! Zoom participation information is as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82471371758>  
Meeting ID: 824 7137 17580

**7. Sunday School:** For now, please note that Sunday School will continue to be held via Zoom each Sunday. As a trial period, on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, Sunday School will be hybrid, taking place both virtually and in-person from the Boardroom. You may participate in Sunday School, beginning at 9:30 am, by Zoom as follows:

Join via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89311232668>  
Meeting ID: 893 1123 2668

Dial-In Information: 301-715-8592 or 1-646-931-3860  
Meeting ID: 893 1123 2268

**8. Sunday Worship:** We will have in-person and virtual worship this Sunday, April 2, 2023, at 11 am. Sunday's bulletin and the Prayer and Bereaved List are attached. Virtual worship may be accessed as follows: Lomax's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/lomaxamezionchurch/> or website using the Lomax Live tab at <https://www.lomaxchurchva.com/lomax-live/>.

**9. Intercessory Prayer:** Intercessory Prayer will continue on Tuesday at 6:30 am. Here is the Zoom information to Participate:

Join via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86028580752>  
Meeting ID: 860 2858 0752

Dial-In Information: 301-715-8592  
Meeting ID: 860 2858 0752

**10. Bible Study: Bible Study will resume Wednesday, April 19, 2023, to allow a week to recover from Holy Week, Easter, and the Washington District Conference.**

**11. Washington District Conference:** The Washington District Conference will take place on April 13-15, 2023. Detailed information is attached and a flyer is below. All persons amenable to the Washington District have been asked to register by April 7, 2023. Registration is by Eventbrite only.

**12. April 2023 Health Unit Information:** The Health Unit's health topic is about Talking to Your Kids About Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs. See the attached brochure.

**13. Racial Reconciliation Pilgrimage to Cambridge, Maryland:** St. Michael's is continuing in earnest their journey of studying the racial history of the United States. As an expansion of their understanding of community, they have been learning about the history of lynchings close to home, as well as tremendous liberation borne out of Maryland's Eastern Shore, especially in the examples of Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass.

**Members of Lomax are warmly invited to take part in a pilgrimage to some of these sacred sites on June 3.** Led by the director of the Harriet Tubman Museum, we will experience code songs containing hidden messages for freedom seekers; visit Long Wharf, where kidnapped African Americans were shipped and sold; and significant points of the Underground Railroad, including Pleasant Cemetery, a night-time rendezvous point used by Tubman to start treks to freedom, far from the eyes of plantation owners and overseers.

Transportation to and from Cambridge and during the tour will be by charter bus. We will leave St. Michael's at 8 AM on Saturday morning and return by 5 PM. Participants will need to bring their own bagged lunch. The cost for the day is \$60, but scholarships are available. Please sign up at <https://www.stmichaelsarlington.org/cambridge/> if you are interested in taking part in the pilgrimage, so we can make preliminary reservations. (Lomax members are also asked to provide your name to Chantel, in the office, so that we can know who has registered to participate.)

#### **14. Women's Home & Overseas Missionary Society (WH&OMS)**

**Corner!!!:** As we prepare for the 194th Philadelphia Baltimore Annual Conference May 25-28, 2023, we ask you to consider Leveling Up to purchase a Life Member Stole as a Matron or Patron. Please pay for your Stole by April 9, 2023, by using the church envelope and indicate Life Members Council Stole. The cost for the Stole is: **Red Stole \$40** and **Purple Stole \$100**. Our goal is to Stole at least 14 during the Missionary Candlelight Service, generally on Friday night. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Wilma Newby, Life Members Council Chairman. Thank you so much.

**15. 2022-2023 Conference Year Assessments:** As we approach the May 31, 2023, end of the FY 2022/2023 conference, we are still encouraging members who haven't paid your annual assessment dues of \$350.00 (General Claims of \$265.00 and Quarterly Conference Dues of \$85.00) to please do so. You may submit your assessments through your church envelope, Givelify, or you may see your Class Leader or Sis. Ruthy Brown. Thank you in Advance!