

April 9, 2023
ANNOUNCEMENTS & PASTORAL OBSERVATIONS

1. Final Arrangements for Sis. Debbie Baugh: The Baugh family is still in the process of making final arrangements. The tentative date for the Celebration of Life for Sis. Debbie Baugh is April 29, 2023. The date is subject to change. Once final arrangements are made, the office will share them. Please continue to keep the Baugh family in your prayers.

2. Lomax COVID Policy Changes: Effective Sunday, April 2, 2023, Lomax's COVID Policy changed as follows: 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.

3. Easter Lilies: This year Lomax Church resumed the tradition of ordering Easter lily plants to honor and/or remember loved ones. A list of names is attached.

4. Good Friday 2023: Today, April 7, 2023, at 7 pm join us for Lomax's 7 Last Words: The Laity Edition service. 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.

5. 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 1758.

6. Sunday School: This Sunday, April 9, 2023, at 9:30 am, the Conference Room will be open for those wishing to participate in Sunday School prior to Resurrection Sunday service. This Sunday you may participate in Sunday School both in-person and via Zoom. Zoom participation information is 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

7. Resurrection Sunday Worship: Please join us and invite someone to worship with us this Resurrection Sunday. We will have in-person and virtual worship this Sunday, April 9, 2023, at 11 am. Sunday's bulletin is 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/>.

8. 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

9. 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.

10. Washington District Conference: The Washington District Conference will take place on April 13-15, 2023. Detailed information was provided last week. A flyer is below. **All persons amenable to the Washington District have been asked to register by today, April 7, 2023.** Registration is by Eventbrite only.

11. News from the Pews/Lay Council: Please make plans to join us for the next Lay Council Meeting on Sunday, April 16th 2023, at 2:00pm. We will discuss the Katherine S. Burrell Lay Council Leadership Award, the selection criteria, process, and a nominee(s) from Lomax. The Zoom invite is listed below:

Join Zoom

Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81870456485?pwd=WGw3TWVBdWRvZlsQIFxZnBoeWkwUT09>

Meeting ID: 818 7045 6485

Passcode: 407151

Dial-in Information: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

12. A Community Prayer Request: For about the last year, some of Lomax's seniors have been receiving flower arrangements from Ms. Lisa Hernandez's class at the Arlington Traditional School. These bouquets have been very well received by our members. Given the times that we are living in, Ms. Hernandez has requested that we all keep the students in her class and school in our prayers. Please say a special prayer for our students as well as everyone connected with our schools. Thank you for your special attention to this request.
-- Brenda Cox

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!