



**Caring for One Another** is an integral part of what it means to be a church family. Please call the church office at 301-270-6777 or email Pr. Hazel Marroquin <hmarroquin@sligochurch.org> with names of any members who need support from the church.

**YA Jam Session:** Sligo YA welcomes all young adults to a Jam Session today, December 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room. This will be a night of worship and an opportunity to praise God while building community. Food will be provided. We hope to see you there!

**Sligo Basketball** registration for Pony (ages 4-10), Peewee (ages 11-13), and Varsity (ages 14-19) have been extended through December 5. You can sign up in the Atrium or online <https://sligochurch.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/162/responses/new> For more information, email Pr. Jonathan Gantt <jgantt@sligochurch.org>

**Youth Xp Christmas Party! December 9 at 7:00 p.m.**  
Join us for the Youth Xp Christmas Party in the Youth Room. There will be games, music, and holiday-themed activities. Don't miss out on the fun! Feel free to bring a friend to celebrate the holiday season together with us!

**Attention, 8th grade Parents!** If you are planning to enroll your children at Takoma Academy, the \$125 application fee for the 23-24 school year is waived from now until 12/31/2023. Even if you are unsure about enrolling your child at TA, it's great to submit the application while it is free. For more information, email <kcollins@ta.edu>

**Music for Mind & Memory** – January 20, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Dr. Alicia Barksdale, Director of Music Therapy at Washington Adventist University, will provide an interactive in-person seminar in the Sligo Church Atrium. Let music rekindle your relationship with God. Space is limited. Register at <sligochurch.org>

**Pathfinder camporee fundraising:** Sligo Pathfinders need your support to raise over \$100K to sponsor our pathfinders and staff to attend the upcoming camporee at Gillette, Wyoming in 2024. You may also contact Amram and Afia Ewoo for additional information <kwame.ewoo@gmail.com>

**Bulletin information deadline is Monday evening!** E-mail information to Kathleen Driscoll <kdriscoll@sligochurch.org>.

**Holiday Office Closure:** The church office will be closed Friday, December 22 through Monday, January 1, 2024 in observance of Christmas & New Year's Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. If you have an emergency, please call 301.980.1009 to reach a Pastor on call. Requests for Year-end contribution statements, etc. will be addressed when the office reopens. Have a safe and blessed holiday celebrating the birth of the Savior and the New Year!

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Consent to use Photographic Images:** Sligo SDA Church films all worship services. Attendance at, or participation in Sligo worship services constitutes an agreement by the participant to Sligo's use and distribution of the attendee's image, voice, or likeness in photos, video, electronic reproduction and audio tapes of such activities.

## calendar of events

**Prayer Gathering via Zoom**  
Wednesdays 7:00 p.m./Sundays 11:00 a.m.

**December 5, Tuesday**  
Takoma Academy Preparatory School,  
Christmas Program, Sligo Church, 7:00 p.m.

**December 8, Friday**  
Takoma Academy High School,  
Christmas Program, Sligo Church, 7:00 p.m.

**December 9, Saturday**  
Waiting Room: Advent II, Sligo Church, 11:00 a.m.

**December 16, Saturday, Communion**  
Waiting Room: Advent III, Sligo Church, 11:00 a.m.

**December 23, Saturday, Christmas Program**  
Waiting Room: Advent IV, Sligo Church, 11:00 a.m.

**December 30, Saturday**  
Worship Service, Sligo Church, 11:00 a.m.

## profile of giving - November 25

**CHURCH BUDGET:** This offering supports all of the worship, nurture, and outreach ministries at Sligo Church. These funds also support projects, insitutions in our local community, church maintenance, and subsidy for Takoma Academy Preparatory School.

Budget YTD	\$529,994
Actual YTD	\$ 487,868
Last Week: November 25	\$ 17,242

**LOVE FOR THE HOUSE:** This offering goes beyond our church budget to support previously unfunded and new ministries, enabling them to grow, connect, dream, lead, and inspire.

2023 Goal	\$140,000
Budget YTD	\$126,525
Actual YTD	\$ 77,188
Last Week: November 25	\$ 1,703

**TITHE:** All funds designated as tithe are sent to the Potomac Conference for support of pastors and teachers; to help fund conference schools; and for ministries worldwide.

Last Year: November 26 YTD	\$1,995,675
This Year YTD	\$2,096,996
Last Week: November 25	\$ 51,006

\*Today's offering, designated by the Global SDA Church, is for the Local Church Budget.

\*All undesignated loose offering goes to Sligo's Church Budget.

## what we believe

We believe God became man in the person of Jesus Christ, saving us from sin by grace through faith. We believe the seventh-day Sabbath was established by God at Creation and honored by Jesus in His earthly ministry as a gift of rest and rejuvenation for all. We celebrate the church as the diverse "new community" forged through the death and resurrection of Jesus, in which all are gifted, all are valued, and all are called. We anticipate Jesus' personal and visible return to earth to raise the righteous dead, make the earth new, and dwell with His faithful children throughout eternity. We live out our love for Jesus by growing in His likeness and by serving our fellowmen.

## how you connect

- Visit [sligochurch.org/connect2ministry](http://sligochurch.org/connect2ministry)
- Take your next step at "Connection Central" in the Atrium
- Fill out a note card (you'll find it in the pew rack in front of you)

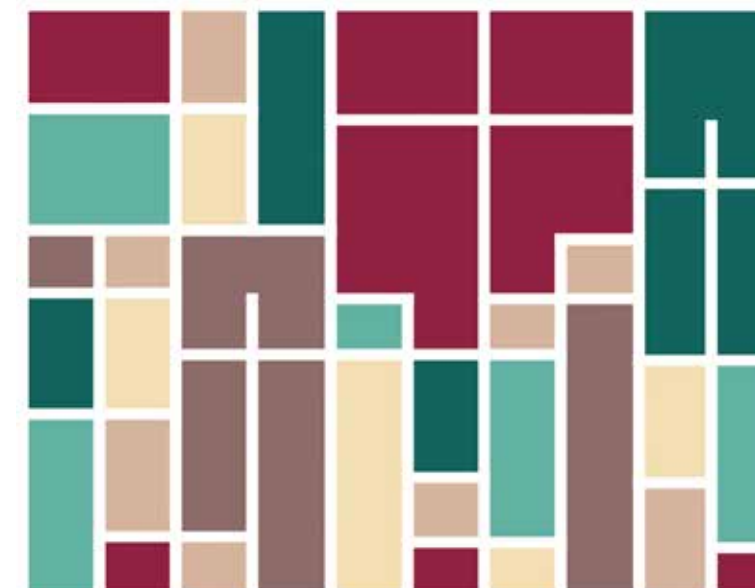


## who can help

CHURCH OFFICE:	301.270.6777
PASTOR ON CALL:	301.980.1009
WEBSITE:	<a href="http://www.sligochurch.org">www.sligochurch.org</a>
SENIOR PASTOR Alex Barrientos, ext. 126	<a href="mailto:abarrientos@sligochurch.org">abarrientos@sligochurch.org</a>
EXECUTIVE PASTOR Pranitha Fielder, ext. 127	<a href="mailto:pfielder@sligochurch.org">pfielder@sligochurch.org</a>
PASTOR FOR CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FAMILY Hazel Marroquin, ext. 116	<a href="mailto:hmarroquin@sligochurch.org">hmarroquin@sligochurch.org</a>
PASTOR FOR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS Jonathan Gantt, ext. 119	<a href="mailto:jgantt@sligochurch.org">jgantt@sligochurch.org</a>
INTERIM PASTOR FOR CHILDREN Gerry Lopez	<a href="mailto:gerrylopez@nadadventist.org">gerrylopez@nadadventist.org</a>
DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP & ARTS Anwar Ottley	<a href="mailto:aottley@sligochurch.org">aottley@sligochurch.org</a>
HEAD ELDER James Gulley	<a href="mailto:gulley7@gmail.com">gulley7@gmail.com</a>
HEAD DEACON Manuel Rosette	<a href="mailto:mrosette@rcn.com">mrosette@rcn.com</a>
HEAD DEACONESS Carol Hooker	<a href="mailto:carol.june.hooker@gmail.com">carol.june.hooker@gmail.com</a>
WAU CHAPLAINCY	<a href="mailto:ministry@wau.edu">ministry@wau.edu</a>
ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES	301.585.6556
Domestic Violence Hotline:	240.777.4000

7700 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

# THE CHURCH at worship



## CHRIST FIRST

DECEMBER 2, 2023  
11:00 A.M.



The Washington Adventist University Church

## OUR MISSION

We seek to grow passionate disciples of Jesus through worship of God, nurture of one another, and outreach to the world.

## THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

### Advent 1

#### we gather in his name

##### Song of Gathering

Good Christians, Now Rejoice / No. 136

##### Welcome & Fellowship

Gerry Lopez

##### Baptism

Alex Barrientos

Obed Funes

#### we honor and praise him

##### \*Hymn of Praise

Angels From the Realms of Glory / No. 119

##### Prayer

Anthony Bethea

##### Advent Candle Lighting

Larmie Nkpe family

##### Anthem

Joy to the World / arr. Frank Kuyakendall

#### we reflect

##### Children's Message

Gerry Lopez

##### Scripture Reading

Eunice Lopez

Jonah 2:1-9 (NRSV)

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, saying, "I called to the Lord out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; how shall I look again upon your holy temple?' The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped around my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the Pit, O LORD my God. As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. Those who worship vain idols forsake their true loyalty. But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Deliverance belongs to the LORD!" Then the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out onto the dry land.

##### Music for Meditation

A Sabbath Hymn / arr. Anwar Ottley

##### Sermon

Alex Barrientos

Waiting for Good News

##### Invitation to Give

Alex Barrientos

##### Offertory

Swing Down, Chariot / arr. Ken Burton

##### \*Hymn of Reflection

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus / No. 204

#### we go to serve

##### \*Benediction

Alex Barrientos

##### +Postlude

Prelude in G / arr. Gottfreid Humilius

##### \*Congregation is standing

##### +Congregation is seated

##### Leading our music today are:

Anwar Ottley, organist  
Charlene Milam, chorister  
Leilani & Adriana Oriola, vocalists for Children's Message

##### Pro Musica of Washington Adventist University

Anwar Ottley, director  
Jidong Zhang, pianist

#### Excerpt from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

- John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

**O come, O come, Immanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.**

**O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
who ordered all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and teach us in its ways to go.**

**O come, O Bright and Morning Star,  
and bring us comfort from afar!  
Dispel the shadows of the night  
and turn our darkness into light.**

**O come, O King of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind.  
Bid all our sad divisions cease  
and be yourself our King of Peace.**

Like cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.

- Proverbs 25:25 (NRSV)

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it is those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

- Desmond Tutu

## THE CHURCH AT STUDY

#### connection central 9:15 a.m.

Connection Central is a space where you can find fellowship and connection. Join us in the Atrium with your family and friends for a light breakfast each Sabbath.

#### sabbath school 10:00 a.m.

Sabbath School offers different groups of study to nurture faith, deepen your spiritual walk, and foster interaction with other believers. Consider joining a class.

##### Sanctuary:

Women of the Word: Front Left

Silver Class: Front Center

Red Class: Back Right

##### Atrium:

Wanderers: Fellowship Hall A

At Jesus' Feet: Fellowship Hall B

##### \*Online:

At Jesus' Feet

Believers and Doubters

Faith and Reason

In Step with Jesus (9:00 - 10:00 a.m.)

Wanderers

Women of the Word

##### Lower Level:

Beginners/Little Friends: 0-3 years old

Kindergarten: 4-5 years old

Youth XP Talks: High School

Glow Study: College and Young Professionals

##### Upper Level:

Primary I & II: Grades 1-4

Juniors: Grades 5-6

Earliteens: Grades 7-8

Faith and Reason

\*For zoom links, please contact the church office.

#### 1st Advent Candle Lighting:

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ, coming again to reign in glory. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice!

Prepare the way of the Lord!

## OUR LIFE TOGETHER



**Let us hear from you!** To write the pastors a note, make a prayer request, or inquire about becoming a member of Sligo Church, please use a note card from the pew rack in front of you.

##### Prayer Requests:

**Families of these deceased:** Marie Flemmer, Ellen Sakai, Robert Maupin, Kit Watts

**For Comfort & Healing:** Martha Romero, Heather Oliver, Anna Rud, Kathy Cherrix, Jane Speight

**Today's Sanctuary flowers are given with love from** Kay, Lindsay & Kyle in celebration of Jeff Dever's birthday on November 30th.

**Celebrating all Sligo volunteers on December 9.** Sligo continues to be a place where all are gifted, and all are valued because of the many volunteers who dedicate their time, give their love, and freely share their gifts. Please join us next week as we share a token of our gratitude and appreciation for your commitment and dedication to our Sligo family.

**Adventist Community Services** is still accepting donations for the holiday season at 501 Sligo Avenue or online at <ACSGW.org>. For more information, call 301.585.6556.

**Toys for Joy:** You can spread joy and make dreams come true for children in our community this Christmas. Stop by the Atrium today to collect names for the families to be adopted for Toys for Joy. This charity event collects toys or money to be distributed to New Hampshire Elementary Public School. Gifts should be brought in by December 9. For more information, contact Anton Dormer at 508.577.0756 or <antondormer@outlook.com>

**HeartLifters invites you to Blue Christmas** on Sunday, December 10, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Sligo Fellowship Hall. For those who have experienced loss and find the holidays to be a difficult time, this service creates a sacred space to reflect and remind each other that God promises us comfort and peace. Join us for brunch following the service.

**Sweet Christmas:** Let's celebrate Christ's birth with sweets from around the world. Bring your favorite holiday treat to share with your church family at a reception in the Sligo Atrium following the Christmas Program on December 23. Fruits, nuts, and vegan and gluten-free desserts are also desired. Please drop off all food items, individually packed and ready to serve, in the church kitchen before 11:00 a.m. on December 23. Label all items with your name and the name of your treat. Go to <sligochurch.org> to sign-up. For more information, e-mail <womensministry@sligochurch.org>.

**Treasurer's Note:** As you think of your year-end offerings, there are several ways by which you can contribute: online giving is available at <sligochurch.org> (click on "Give" and choose your allocation), the Sligo Giving Envelope can be placed in the offering plate during service, or placed in the Church Office "mail slot" during the week, or you can mail in your contributions, postmarked by December 31, 2023. Thank you for your continued and faithful commitment to the Local Church Budget, Love for the House, and Tithe.

**Sanctuary flowers:** If you would like to enhance the beauty of our worship by providing flowers, please contact Kathleen Driscoll at the church office, 301-270-6777, extension 239.