

NOVA'S WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM APRIL 6:

Calendar:

Monday, April 7 — Women's Journey Group meeting, 4:00-5:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Tuesday, April 8 – Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.– ongoing study group with John Veldhuis on Zoom.

Sunday, April 13, Palm Sunday – gather in open area outside the room in which liturgy is held.

Thursday, April 17 – Holy Thursday celebration, 6 p.m. at Center for Spiritual Enlightenment.

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday observance at 8 p.m., Kenmore Middle School.

Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday liturgy at 10:15 a.m. in the cafeteria area of Kenmore.

Sunday, May 4 – Discussion of Emma Violand-Sanchez's book "Dreams and Shadows" following liturgy.

Heartfelt congratulations from the community to Daniel and his fiancée, whose engagement was announced at liturgy today!

Here is the "go fund me" link for the family of Christina's student, that she announced during today's liturgy:

[Donate to Support a family separated by Trump's cruelty. organized by Amy Fischer](#)

The Nova Women's Journey Group will meet tomorrow from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. Gloria Mog will send out a link. This group will continue to meet on the first Monday of the month.

NOVA's Holy Thursday celebration will be held on Thursday, April 17, at the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, 222 North Washington Street, Falls Church, where we held the Christmas Eve liturgy. If you are new to NOVA, this is a full liturgy that includes washing of feet and a shared meal. Because of the seated meal, reservations are necessary. You can make your reservation [here](#) before April 12. Please plan to arrive by 5:45 so that we can begin on time. Parking nearby can be tricky and the easiest might be the second and third levels of the Kaiser Permanente garage on Park Avenue, just 1/2 block across Washington Street from the venue.

Easter Sunday's liturgy will be followed by an agape. Please plan to bring finger food such as fruit, cheese, canapes or desserts to share.

Food donations for AFAC – Each Sunday, please continue to bring your donations of boxes of cold cereal, peanut butter and pop-top cans of low-sodium soup, vegetables, beans, tuna, etc. All of your donations will be delivered to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), which Nova has supported for more than 30 years. AFAC is serving more than 4,000 families every week. The group has noted that with rising food costs, it has been harder to get adequate supplies of canned food.

FROM MARCH 30:

Calendar

Tuesdays — Bible study with John Veldhuis at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Wednesday, April 2 – Procession and vigil for Gaza begins at 5:15 p.m. at the White House.

Saturday, April 5 — Hands Off rally at noon at Washington Monument.

Monday, April 7 — Women’s Journey Group at 4 p.m. on Zoom.

Thursday, April 17 – Holy Thursday celebration at 6 p.m. at the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment.

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday observance at 8 p.m. at Kenmore.

Sunday, May 4 – Discussion of Emma Violand-Sanchez’s book “Dreams and Shadows” following liturgy.

Through May 18 – Coaching available through International Coaching Federation.

Announcements:

NOVA’s joint liturgy with PAX on Sunday was welcomed by all. Our liturgy space at Kenmore was filled with resounding prayer of the congregations and music of the joined choirs. At least 38 people were on Zoom, about double the usual number. Leaders from both communities say they will answer the call for more joint liturgies. One already is scheduled Aug. 31.

Join a procession and vigil for Gaza at 5:15 p.m. this Wednesday, April 2, from the White House to New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, where Rev. Dr. Munther Isaac will launch his new book, “Christ in the Rubble.” More info and RSVP [here](#). Rev. Isaac will also be at Busboys and Poets in Anacostia from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1.

Hands Off rally: Shane MacCarthy is organizing NOVA and PAX communities to gather together to participate in this rally next Saturday, April 5, at the Sylvan Theater on the grounds of the Washington Monument. Shane says: “The name of the Rally is derived from the fact the current Administration is taking everything they can get their hands on – our health care, our data, our jobs, our services – and daring the world to stop them. We are accepting that dare!” Meet between noon and 12:30 pm at the main entrance – the south side, facing Madison Drive and the Washington Monument - of the African American Museum. We will then, together, join Rally participants at the Sylvan Theater beside the Washington Monument. The nearest Metro Stop is Federal Triangle. Please be aware, there is no proper seating in the Sylvan Theater. So, bring proper seating or a ground cover. Contact [Shane](#) for more information.

The new Nova Women’s Journey Group next meets from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Monday April 7. Gloria Mog will send out a Zoom link on Sunday afternoon. After that, the group will meet the first Monday of each month.

NOVA’s Holy Thursday celebration will take place at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 17, at the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, 222 North Washington Street, Falls Church, where we held the Christmas Eve liturgy. If you are new to NOVA, this is a full liturgy with washing of feet and a shared meal. **Because of the seated meal, reservations are necessary.** You can make your reservation [here](#) before April 12. Please plan to arrive by 5:45 so that we can begin on time. Parking nearby can be tricky and the easiest might be the second and third levels of the Kaiser Permanente garage on Park Avenue, just 1/2 block across Washington Street from the venue.

NOVA's co-chairs are sending a **letter to the Arlington County Board** regarding ICE in Arlington. You can read it below.

Coaches around the U.S. and the world offer pro bono coaching between April 1 and May 18. If you or someone you know would like to have a partner in thinking through decisions, possibilities, next steps or how to take care of yourself in these chaotic times, reach out to Kate Doherty at kate3doherty@gmail.com. If I can't provide the coaching myself, I'll connect you with someone else in my International Coaching Federation network who can. The offer is for up to 3 free hours of coaching over the next few weeks.

Food donations for AFAC — Finally, please keep those boxes and cans coming: boxes of cold cereal and cans of tuna, vegetables, beans, or other items. All of them get taken to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), which Nova has supported for more than 30 years. AFAC is serving more than 4,000 families every week. The group has noted that with rising food costs, it's been harder to get adequate supplies of canned food. Bringing a can or two of pop-top, low-sodium vegetables along with your box (or two or three) of cold cereal will help.

Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. Archer Heinzen is planner for the community-led liturgy. The scribe is Judy Christofferson who needs all announcements in written form. Thank you for doing that!

Letter to Arlington County Board:

Dear Mr Chairman and Members of the Arlington County Board,

We write on behalf of the NOVA Catholic Community to express our alarm over the detention and transfer of Georgetown fellow and Arlington resident, Dr. Badar Khan Suri, by US Immigration And Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Dr. Suri appears to have been taken from his home and deprived of his freedom and his visa in retaliation for his advocacy for Palestinian rights in contravention of his free speech and due process rights under the U. S. Constitution. We call upon the Arlington County Board to review our local government's policies to assure that they are protective of the legal and constitutional rights, as well as human dignity of all who are present in the county.

We have two issues that we ask you to address.

First, we note that the Arlington "Trust" policy, while intended to limit the cooperation of the Arlington police department with ICE, nevertheless includes, in Section 7, circumstances in which the ACPD may contact immigration authorities:

- o An undocumented immigrant has been identified as a gang member and is wanted, or arrested for, a violent felony or a criminal street gang offense.

- o An undocumented immigrant “gang member is arrested for a felony offense or is a confirmed gang member, where circumstances indicate notification to federal immigration authorities is prudent to maintain community safety.”
- o An undocumented immigrant is arrested on suspicion of terrorism or human trafficking.

Dr. Suri was legally in the United States, not undocumented nor a gang member, but his case illustrates the danger of the Trump Administration’s determination to act swiftly to remove targeted persons in utter disregard for their constitutional rights. Rather, those very rights are regarded as an impediment to actions they regard as urgent. Recall that a reported 137 persons identified as “Venezuelan gang members” were spirited out of the country, during the pendency of a court hearing of the matter, and probably in defiance of a court order. Also, reportedly, Immigration enforcement detained 214 people in Northern Virginia between March 1 and 13. Some local news outlets and organizations reported that some of these arrests took place in Arlington, but ICE hasn’t released any localized numbers.

Consequently, it is imperative that the county revise the Trust policy to eliminate the Section 7 provisions that place persons who are “wanted”, “arrested” or “suspected”) in jeopardy of precipitous action and denial of their legal, constitutional and human rights, and even transported to a detention facility in a far away state or foreign country.

We are cognizant of the sheriff’s status as a constitutional official independent of the County Board, but we also suggest that the board make its views known and offer its support in the event the sheriff elects to protect the rights of detainees.

Second, Arlington is rightly renown for its openness to input from its citizens in the development of governmental policy. We note, however, that at this time of heightened anxiety for immigrants, there exists no designated forum for our immigrant and refugee neighbors to air concerns about their lives in Arlington or to provide targeted input to the county manager or county board. We note that the current climate and recent incidents highlight the need for the establishment of an Advisory Council for Refugee and Immigrant Concerns.

We continue to be grateful for your leadership and guidance of our community. Thank you for your attention to these serious issues.

Sincerely,

Meg Tuccillo, Co-Chair

Jeanne Clarkson, Co-Chair

NOVA Catholic Community

Arlington, Virginia

FROM MARCH 23:

Calendar

Tuesdays — Bible study with John Veldhuis, 7:30 pm on Zoom

Monday, March 24 - NOVA Women’s Journey Group

Sunday, March 30 — Joint liturgy for Nova and Pax communities at Kenmore followed by an Agape

Sunday, April 6 – Nova Book Group after liturgy

Announcements:

Joint Liturgy with Pax on Sunday, March 30 at Kenmore with Agape to follow. If you wish to contribute to the Agape, please contact Sally and let her know what you are bringing. Thank you!

Nova Book Group will meet at Goldschmidts after liturgy on Sunday, April 6 to discuss James by Percival Everett. If you plan to attend, please notify Cathy by Sunday, March 30.

From Gloria Mog: The new Nova Women's Journey Group will be meeting on Zoom this Monday, March 24 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Gloria will send out a Zoom link on Sunday afternoon. This meeting will be a reflection on where we are at in our Lenten journey this year as well as discussion of how to best use our monthly time together. The following meeting will be two weeks later on April 7 and after that, on the first Monday of each month.

From Kate Doherty: Coaches around the US and the world offer pro bono coaching between April 1 and May 18. If you or someone you know would like to have a partner in thinking through decisions, possibilities, next steps or how to take care of yourself in these chaotic times, reach out to me - kate3doherty@gmail.com. If I can't provide the coaching myself, I'll connect you with someone else in my International Coaching Federation network who can. The offer is for up to 3 free hours of coaching over the next few weeks.

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Next Sunday is the Fourth Sunday in Lent, also known as Laetare Sunday (wear PINK or ROSE if you'd like!). The planners will be Charley Miller, OFM and Michael Kane. The scribe will be Markie Harwood who needs all announcements in written form. Thank you for doing that!

FROM MARCH 16:

Calendar

Tuesday — Bible study with John Veldhuis, 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Saturday, March 22 – Zoom meeting on synodality at 2 p.m. Contact Clyde if attending.

Sunday, March 23 — discussion of Pope Francis' letter to US bishops, after liturgy at Kenmore.

Sunday, March 30 — Joint liturgy for Nova and Pax communities, at Kenmore.

Sunday, April 6 – Nova Book Group after liturgy.

Announcements:

Discussion of pope's letter on March 23 — Nova will be discussing Pope Francis's letter sent last month to the US Catholic bishops about the need to support refugees and migrants. The

discussion will take place at Kenmore following liturgy. If you want to read the text of the pope's letter, go to [this link](#).

Joint Liturgy with Pax on Sunday, March 30 at Kenmore with Agape to follow. If you wish to contribute to the agape, please contact Sally.

Nova Book Group will meet at Goldschmidts after liturgy on Sunday, April 6 to discuss James by Percival Everett. If you plan to attend, please notify Cathy by Sunday, March 30.

Dr. Seuss Fans: watch for an email from Helen Michie about an upcoming Dr. Seuss dialogue.

Food donations for AFAC — Finally, please keep those boxes and cans coming: boxes of cold cereal and cans of tuna, vegetables, beans, or other items. All of them get taken to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), which Nova has supported for more than 30 years. AFAC is serving more than 4,000 families every week. The group has noted that with rising food costs, it's been harder to get adequate supplies of canned food. Bringing a can or two of pop-top, low-sodium vegetables along with your box (or two ... three) of cold cereal will help. If you shop at Giant, go to their website to redeem only 10 reward points for a free canned vegetables, soup, or beans, or 25 points for a bag of dried beans or lentils. They make it easy and free to add AFAC donations to your cart every week.

Next Sunday is the Third Sunday in Lent. The planners will be Quinn Connors O.Carm, and Ted and Carolyn Miller. The scribe will be Linda Christie who needs all announcements in written form.

FROM MARCH 9:

Upcoming events/Dates to remember

Tuesday — Bible study with John Veldhuis, 7:30 pm on Zoom

Wednesday — Digital Dialogue on immigration, from Media Justice, 7 pm on Zoom

Saturday — VOICE action at Alexandria City Hall, 9:30 am

Sunday, March 23 — discussion of Pope Francis' letter to US bishops, after liturgy at Kenmore

Sunday, March 30 — Joint liturgy for Nova and Pax communities, at Kenmore

Announcements

1) Visit Scott Spaine in hospital — Jeanne Clarkson suggested that we consider making a weekday visit to Scott Spaine, who is sick and in the hospital. Because he has a respiratory infection, it's necessary to wear a mask and gloves. He is at Virginia Hospital Center, in Room 801. Jeanne said it would be good to check with Yaneth (Scott's wife) before dropping by at the hospital.

2) Bible study continues Tuesday — John Veldhuis said he will continue with Bible study on Zoom, focusing on the book of Genesis. The sessions are on Tuesday nights, starting at 7:30. For more info or for the Zoom link, contact John.

3) Media Justice "dialogue" on immigration Wednesday — Dianne Carroll wanted us to know about a "Digital Dialogue" that the group Media Justice will hold Wednesday night at 7 pm on Zoom. The title of the session is How State and Corporate Collusion Fuels ICE's Deportation Machine. To register for the Zoom link, go to this URL: bit.ly/DigiDialogue312 For a complete description of the session, see the end of this email.

4) VOICE action in Alexandria for affordable housing — Nancy Veldhuis asked that we consider coming to Alexandria City Hall on Saturday at 9:30 am to support VOICE as the group lobbies the Alexandria City Council for a reliable stream of funding for affordable housing in the city. The city hall is at 301 King Street, in the middle of Old Town Alexandria.

5) Books for Women's Prison Book Project — Pat Sodo said she will continue taking donations of used books (or CDs or DVDs) next Sunday at liturgy at Kenmore. She noted that only paperbacks get sent to the women's prison book group; but it's fine to bring hardbacks or old CDs and DVDs. She takes those to a used bookstore for credits to get suitable paperbacks.

6) Discussion of pope's letter on March 23 — Jeanne also let us know that on Sunday March 23 Nova will be discussing Pope Francis's letter sent last month to the US Catholic bishops about the need to support refugees and migrants. The discussion will take place at Kenmore following liturgy. If you want to read the text of the pope's letter, go to this link.

7) Garden work for Ronaldo — Tom Clarkson reminds us that Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work. His schedule at Target varies, so it's best to call him directly at 731-618-1459 to set up a time and day. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click here for directions to his home.

8) Food donations for AFAC — Finally, please keep those boxes and cans coming: boxes of cold cereal and cans of tuna, vegetables, beans, or other items. All of them get taken to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), which Nova has supported for more than 30 years. AFAC is serving more than 4,000 families every week. The group has noted that with rising food costs, it's been harder to get adequate supplies of canned food. Bringing a can or two of pop-top, low-sodium vegetables along with your box (or two ... three) of cold cereal will help.

The presider and planner for next Sunday's liturgy will be Francis Gargani, CSsR, and Pat Sodo. The scribe for announcements will be Cathy Goldschmidt, who (as always) needs written copies of announcements made. — submitted by Phil and Alicia Cackley

(Dianne's full announcement)

Media Justice "Digital Dialogue"

How State and Corporate Collusion Fuels ICE's Deportation Machine

Wednesday, 3/12 at 7PM

RSVP - bit.ly/DigiDialogue312

Over the past week, the Trump regime has increased attacks against migrant communities, targeting northern Virginia with raids by ICE and other federal agencies, working with Big Tech corporations and Big Media propaganda to promote the violent rightwing agenda. This is just the latest example of what's been made possible by decades of public officials colluding with the private prison industry and tech corporations to expand the incarceration and deportation system, along with a media propaganda machine, that's now at the disposal of Trump.

Join us for, How State and Corporate Collusion Fuels ICE's Deportation Machine, a Digital Dialogue with organizers and movement lawyers who will be breaking down how communities are resisting the latest attacks from the Trump regime, the role that public officials have played in expanding the weapons he's using, and how propaganda fuels the cycle of violence against migrant communities. We'll also hear about ways organizations are taking action and how you can support them. Join us!

FROM MARCH 2:

Calendar:

Wednesday, March 5 -- Ash Wednesday service at the Clarksons, 2635 Wooster Ct, Vienna, 22180, at 2:00 PM. Please RSVP to: Clarkson.Jeanne@gmail.com..

Monday, March 24 - Nova Women's Journey Group will meet from 4-5:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Sunday, March 30 - Liturgy with the Pax Community at Kenmore.

Sunday, May 4 - Discussion of Emma Violand-Sanchez's book following liturgy.

Following Communion at today's liturgy, Dan Altman of Northern Virginia RAFT (Resettling Afghan Families Together), briefly discussed the accomplishments as well as the challenges faced by this local nonprofit that, since 2021, has helped approximately 300 Afghan families get settled into their local residences by finding and delivering furniture and providing other household needs. Volunteers have also assisted these families in registering their children for school, in obtaining health care and driver's licenses, and in many other ways. Currently, several members of our own community are helping Afghan newcomers improve their English language skills. Locating housing and helping with rental costs is an ongoing challenge RAFT. To learn more about RAFT and how you may be able to help, visit www.novaraft.org.

From Tom Clarkson:

1. NOVA DIRECTORY: Last Thursday, Feb. 27, Tom sent out a draft copy of the March 2025 NOVA Directory. If you didn't receive that email, please tell Tom by email and he'll send it again: toclarkson@gmail.com. Please review the entries for your family if you haven't already and tell Tom if any corrections are needed. No need to reply if your entries are ok.
2. POSTPONING DISTRIBUTION OF JOBS GUARANTEE FLYERS ON MARCH 6: Given that the Dems in Congress are in a super crisis mode, Tom is postponing this for a couple of months. He'll be in touch with all those who volunteered when he's rescheduled it.
3. GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO: Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work, however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call Ronaldo directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home.

Nova Women's Journey Group: Thirteen Nova women participated in the four-session Women's Winter Retreat facilitated by Gloria Mog using the materials from Jan Richardson's "Women's Christmas Retreat 2025." The group met from January 13-February 3 using a combination of meditation, poetry, art, journaling, sharing and readings to explore themes of the woman's journey, blessings, deep rest, courage, etc. All found the experience nourishing and inspirational and a decision was made to continue meeting once/month on Zoom and to open

up the experience to all the women of Nova. Gloria volunteered to provide the Zoom platform but facilitation will be shared. The first meeting will be held Monday, March 24th, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. After that, the group will meet on the first Monday of every month at the same time. The Zoom link will be sent out via the Nova listserv, no need to sign up.

Emma's Book: Emma's memoir *Dreams and Shadows An Immigrant's Journey* will be published in mid-March. Emma is taking orders. For NOVA members, the price is \$20.

Check out Emma's website (www.emmaviolandsanchez.com) regarding dates where she will also be selling her book at specific locations. Currently it is not being sold on Amazon.

Food for AFAC: As always, don't forget to bring boxes of cold cereal and other food donations to the liturgy at Kenmore on Sundays. NOVA has been connected with the Arlington Food Assistance Center for all of the nonprofit's 35-year existence. AFAC is now serving more than 3,700 families every week. Please remember to bring a box or two of cold cereal, or peanut butter, canned tuna, canned soup (in pop-top cans), plain pasta or canned beans.

The March 9th liturgy will be the First Sunday of Lent. The planners are Gino Correa, OFM and Helen Michie. The scribes will be Alicia and Phil Cackley, who will need any announcement in writing.

FROM FEB. 23:

Calendar:

Fri., Feb. 28 - Economic Blackout Day

Sun., March 2 - Bring a Friend to NOVA Sunday and Agape

Thurs., March 6 – visit Capitol Hill with Tom C to drop off flyers

Mon., Mar. 24 - Nova Women's Journey Group 4-5:30 on Zoom

Sun., March 30 – Liturgy with Pax at Kenmore

Sun., May 4 - Discussion regarding Emma's book following liturgy

Announcements:

Bring a friend to church — Jeanne Clarkson asked us to consider bringing a friend to liturgy on Sunday, March 2, when the Peace and Social Justice team will be the planners. She said this was "not to proselytize" and noted that there would be an agape that day. For more information, contact Jeanne or Meg Tuccillo.

From Sally Keyes: She suggests those bringing food items to the Agape March 2 kindly let everyone know what he/she is bringing.

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rest, courage, etc. All found the experience nourishing and inspirational, and decided to continue meeting once/month on Zoom and to open up the experience to all the women of Nova. Gloria volunteered to provide the Zoom platform, but facilitation will be shared. The first meeting will be Monday, March 24, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. After that, the group will meet on the first Monday of every month at the same time. The Zoom link will be sent out via the Nova listserv, no need to sign up.

Please consider participating in the hopefully national Do Not Buy Anything Day, also known as an Economic Blackout Day this Friday, Feb. 28th. If you must purchase something, try to do so from a small, independent and local business.

Nova Men's Group meets on the last Friday of every month. Tom Clarkson sends a link and a reminder every month if you wish to participate.

Anita Martineau is still looking for 12-inch squares of all-cotton fabric for a Nova quilt she is making. This will be a good use for those pieces you were saving for "some day" projects that never happened. Bring them to Anita or Victoria next Sunday.

From Steve Ruth, Jeanne Clarkson and Joe Keyes: Urge two Republican representatives to continue to refuse reductions in benefits for the poor. Rep. GT Thompson, head of the House Agriculture Committee, (<https://thompson.house.gov/> or 202-225-5121) has stated that he is against reducing benefits like SNAP. Here is his [statement](#). Pennsylvania Republican Rob Bresnahan (<https://bresnahan.house.gov/> or 202-225-5546) has taken a similar independent stand. Story [here](#) – third segment down. Please consider complimenting these two Republicans for their stand, with a short email. This week, the House will be considering the Senate budget blueprint, which includes huge cuts.

From Catherine Loveless: Register here for [A Conversation with David Brooks & Judy Woodruff](#) on Democracy at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25 at Mount Vernon and on Zoom. Free.

Meg announced that plans are underway for a NOVA Movie Night at the Keyes' home, specific date to be determined. The still fairly new film Conclave is being considered. It just won Best Picture at the UK version of our Academy Awards.

Also from Meg: We are thankful to Nico Islander for his thoughtfully crafted land acknowledgement. Planners, please use this wording at the beginning of your liturgy program:: It is during this time that with hope and humility we acknowledge the efforts of elders past and present who continue to fight to reclaim the land which has been taken from them. Today we gather on the ancestral lands of the Nacotchtank, Kanawha, and Pamunkey people as well as other tribes that formed part at any time of the Powhatan Confederacy.

From Emma: Her memoir Dreams and Shadows An Immigrant's Journey will be published in mid-March. Emma had a signup sheet after liturgy and is taking orders. For NOVA members

the price is \$20. Please check out Emma's website (www.emmaviolandsanchez.com) re dates where she will also be selling her book at specific locations. Currently it is not being sold on Amazon.

From Carmela Ormando: Here is the information on the book, Unbuild Walls. This is part of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) NoVa's Study and Struggle book group. The gathering will be at my home (4107 N 34 St) on Sunday, March 2, 3-5pm. There is also a virtual option. Please register at the tinyurl from SURJ. Here is a recent talk she gave on why immigrant justice needs abolition: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jtg5YpYHeCs>

Scheduled Nationwide Protests:

- Friday, February 28 - Hit Them In Their Profits - Economic Blackout Protest NO SPENDING FOR 24 HOURS
- March 7-14 - Oligarch #1 Protest: Amazon - NO BUYING FROM AMAZON
- March 14 - NATIONAL STRIKE - All workers, businesses and higher education organizations

From Linda Christie: Thirty lonely but beautiful actions you can take right now which probably won't magically catalyze a mass movement against Trump but that are still wildly important: <https://thewhitepages.net/p/thirty-lonely-but-beautiful-actions>

From Tom Clarkson:

1. Please let Tom know if you can help distribute flyers to Democrats' offices on Capitol Hill on March 6, around 11:00 AM. With 25 volunteers delivering the flyers it should take about an hour. We also need 25 people to call the offices and tell them we're coming. So far we have 5 callers and 6 Distributors. If you want to know whether you're one of those, Tom sent you an email.

2. GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO. Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work, however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call Ronaldo directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

Food for AFAC — Remember to bring boxes of cold cereal and other items for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy every Sunday. The number of Arlington residents who experience food insecurity is high and, given the actions of the new federal administration, that number is likely to grow. While boxes of cold cereal are good, you can also bring peanut butter, low-sodium canned beans or vegetables, canned tuna or other protein-rich items.

Next Sunday is the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Gino Correa, OFM is the presider and the planners are NOVA's Peace and Social Justice Committee. The scribe will be Judy Christofferson who needs all announcements in writing.

FROM FEB. 16:
Calendar:

Sat. Feb. 22 — Nova synod group meeting, 2 pm, on Zoom
Sun. Feb. 23 — VOICE annual meeting, 3-5 pm, Woodbridge
Thurs. March 6 – visit Capitol Hill with Tom to drop off flyers
Mon. Mar. 24 - Nova Women's Journey Group 4-5:30 on Zoom
Sun. March 30 – Liturgy with Pax at Kenmore

Announcements:

Clyde reminds us of the **update of Synodal Process** information on Saturday, February 22 at 2 PM. Hear how the synodal process is gathering steam throughout the world, and what NOVA can learn from this. The link for joining in this update is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81954153258?pwd=TVJqdmdPaDhaYmFKaGJ5MjFkRUJRoQT09T> The session will be recorded for later viewing, but if you can, please come and participate!

VOICE annual meeting Feb. 23 — Nancy Veldhuis asked Nova members to consider attending the VOICE annual meeting on Sunday Feb. 23, from 3 to 5 pm, at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1400 G Street, in Woodbridge. VOICE expects to set its 2025 organizing plans and handle other key business. If you can go, please sign up with VOICE, using [this link](#).

Bring a friend to church — Jeanne Clarkson asked us to consider bringing a friend to liturgy on Sunday March 2, when the Peace and Social Justice team will be the planners. She said this was "not to proselytize" and noted that there would be an agape that day. For more information, contact Jeanne or Meg Tuccillo.

Drop off flyers on Capitol Hill with Tom Clarkson on Thursday, March 6. Refer to Tom's email of 2/15 for details and contact him if you wish to participate.

Nova Women's Journey Group: Thirteen Nova women participated in the 4-session Women's Winter Retreat facilitated by Gloria Mog using the materials from Jan Richardson's "Women's Christmas Retreat 2025". The group met from January 13-February 3rd using a combination of meditation, poetry, art, journaling, sharing and readings to explore themes of the woman's journey, blessings, deep rest, courage, etc. All found the experience nourishing and inspirational and a decision was made to continue meeting once/month on Zoom and to open up the experience to all the women of Nova. Gloria volunteered to provide the Zoom platform but facilitation will be shared. The first meeting will be held Monday, March 24th, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. After that, the group will meet on the first Monday of every month at the same time. The Zoom link will be sent out via the Nova listserv, no need to sign up.

Nova Men's Group meets on the last Friday of every month. Tom Clarkson sends a link and a reminder every month if you wish to participate.

Anita Martineau is still looking for 12-inch square pieces of all-cotton fabric for a **Nova quilt** she is making. This will be a good use for those pieces you were saving for "someday" projects that never happened. Bring them to Anita or Victoria next Sunday.

Garden work for Ronaldo — Tom Clarkson asked that we consider using Ronaldo Vail (father of a family from Guatemala that Nova is working with) for garden work. He works at Target, however his schedule varies. Please call Ronaldo directly at 731-618-1459 to set up a time for him to come help with projects you may have. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

Food for AFAC — Finally, please remember to bring boxes of cold cereal and other items for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy every Sunday. The number of Arlington residents who experience food insecurity is high and, given the actions of the new federal administration, that number is likely to grow.

Next Sunday is the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. Archer and Jim Heinzen are the planners for the Community Led Liturgy. The scribe will be Linda Christie who needs all announcements in writing.

FROM FEB. 9:

Upcoming events/Dates to Remember

Sun. Feb. 16 — Nova book group meeting, after liturgy, the Goldschmidts' home

Sat. Feb. 22 — Nova synod group meeting, 2 pm, on Zoom

Sun. Feb. 23 — VOICE annual meeting, 3-5 pm, Woodbridge

Announcements

1) Nova book group meets next Sunday — Cathy Goldschmidt reminded us that the Nova book group meets after liturgy next Sunday (Feb. 16), at the Goldschmidts' home. The book being discussed will be *The Women*, by Kristin Hannah. If you are planning to go, you should have let Cathy know earlier today.

2) VOICE annual meeting Feb. 23 — Nancy Veldhuis asked Nova members to consider attending the VOICE annual meeting on Sunday Feb. 23, from 3 to 5 pm, at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1400 G Street, in Woodbridge. VOICE expects to set its 2025 organizing plans and handle other key business. If you can go, please sign up with VOICE, using [this link](#).

3) Bring a friend to church — Jeanne Clarkson asked us to consider bringing a friend to liturgy on Sunday March 2, when the Peace and Social Justice team will be the planners. She said this was "not to proselytize" and noted that there would be an agape that day. For more information, contact Jeanne or Meg Tuccillo.

4) Jim Coriden's passing — Meg announced that a longtime member of Nova's padre cadre, Fr. Jim Coriden, passed away on Saturday morning. Jim was a canon lawyer who taught at the Washington Theological Union and was well known as a canon law expert. He wrote a number of books, including *An Introduction to Canon Law*. Meg recalled that Jim came to support her and other Nova members at a meeting several years ago with staff in the bishop's office, when the diocese was making uncomfortable inquiries about Nova's status as an intentional eucharistic community. "He was a savior for Nova," Meg said.

5) Garden work for Ronaldo — Tom Clarkson asked that we consider using Ronaldo Vail (father of a family from Guatemala that Nova is working with) for garden work. He works at Target, however his schedule varies. Please call Ronaldo directly at 731-618-1459 to set up a time for him to come help with projects you may have. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

6) Food for AFAC — Finally, please remember to bring boxes of cold cereal and other items for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy every Sunday. The number of Arlington residents who experience food insecurity is high and, given the actions of the new federal administration, that number is likely to grow.

The presider and planners for **next Sunday's liturgy** will be Fr. Francis Gargani, CSsR, and Steve and Diana Ruth. The scribe for announcements will be Cathy Goldschmidt, who needs written copies of announcements made. — submitted by Phil and Alicia Cackley

FROM FEB. 2:

Calendar

Tuesday, February 4: 7:30 p.m., Zoom meeting of Bible Study Group.

Sunday, February 16: The Nova Book Group will meet to discuss "The Women" by Kristin Hannah following the liturgy.

Saturday, February 22: Synod Group Meeting at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom

Sunday, February 23: Voice Annual Meeting

At a general meeting following liturgy today, the community approved \$150,350 in annual commitments for 2025. More information about these commitments will be on the website soon.

In the wake of the tragic Jan. 29 air crash over the Potomac River, the Capital Region Community Foundation has partnered to launch a crisis response fund to aid impacted families, first responders, and nonprofit organizations supporting recovery and healing. You can donate [here](#).

By popular request, John Veldhuis reports that the Bible Study group will change from meeting on Wednesdays to Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. Please note that the next meeting is on February 4. The group will continue its study of Jesus and the Eucharist, Chapter 4, which is a fascinating and very informative explanation of the importance of this celebration in our church

The Nova book group will meet after liturgy on Sunday, February 16 at the Goldschmidt home to discuss "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. If you plan to come, please notify Cathy before next Sunday, February 9.

NOVA Synod Group: Under the leadership of Clyde Christofferson, a group of 12 NOVA members met via Zoom on Saturday, January 18, to discuss the final report of the 2024 Synod meeting in Rome. The group proposed potential follow-up actions and decided to hold another

meeting on Saturday, February 22nd, at 2:00 p.m. at the same [Zoom link](#). All community members are welcome to attend. Email Clyde if you would like to attend this meeting.

Quilt Project: Anita Martineau would like to make a Prayer Quilt for NOVA members who are ill or just need a lift during a difficult time. It would be passed from person to person and signed by NOVA members as well as members who benefit from it. The main purpose of the quilt is to reflect the powerful, loving spirit of our community. If you would like to contribute a 12" x 12" 100% woven cotton square (a colorful material preferred), please give your squares to Anita at next Sunday's liturgy (Feb. 9). Solids or small prints are best. If anyone has sewing skills and would like to help make the quilt, please let Anita know. For people who attend liturgies via Zoom, Anita's mailing address is: 300 South Harrison Street, Arlington, VA 22204. Her email is: anitamartineau@verizon.net

GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO:

Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) is available for garden work, however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call Ronaldo directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

Food for AFAC: As always, don't forget to bring boxes of cold cereal and other food donations to the liturgy at Kenmore on Sundays. NOVA has been connected with the Arlington Food Assistance Center for all of the non-profit's 35-year existence. AFAC is now serving more than 3,700 families every week. Please remember to bring a box or two of cold cereal, or peanut butter, canned tuna, canned soup (in pop-top cans), plain pasta or canned beans.

The February 9th liturgy will be the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The planners are Ted Keating, S.M., Kate Doherty and Nico. The scribes will be Alicia and Phil Cackley, who will need any announcement in writing.