



2024 ANNUAL REPORT  
FEBRUARY 8, 2025 - 10AM  
TOWN HALL MEETING  
STEVENSON HALL



## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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**PASTOR, HEAD OF STAFF**  
**JOHN E. MORGAN**

“God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in thee.

In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.

With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,

We own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.” *God of Our Life* Hymn 686, v.1

I see God's hand in this past year and in each new day. I am thankful for the way God has worked through this congregation and me in 2024. This new year we have seen new vitality and energy.

Leading worship is a weekly joy and discipline. I have appreciated our meaningful season of Lent and “Meeting Jesus at the Table” series. We celebrated a glorious Easter Sunday with trumpets and timpani. Advent and Christmas were filled with God's presence. I am thankful for my partners in worship leadership - Worship Ministry including ushers, greeters etc., Rev. Pam Hrcir, Chris Bechtler, Norman Elton, our Chancel Choir, Children’s Choir and Bell Choirs. Melody Dillon has also led us in welcoming children in worship with family Sundays and children's participation.

Moderating our Session is also a blessing. In 2024 we adopted a new format after our retreat study on *Becoming a Blessed Church*, by Graham Standish. Our Session meetings are spirit-filled and intentionally prayerful as we discern God's will for our congregation. We revisited *Becoming a Blessed Church* at our retreat on November 9, 2024. Out of that time we decided to prayerfully consider how we might be “Grounded in God's Purpose.” We will be discerning God's overall purpose for WPC this coming year.

A good deal of my focus and work in 2024 was working with the Strategic Staffing Task Force. For a more detailed overview please see the Administration Ministry annual report. A significant outcome was calling Rev. Pam Hrcir as our installed associate pastor. Staff transitions always bring some anxiety as we adapt to change, but we are so grateful for the way Melody Dillon has enlivened our ministry with children and families. And we look forward to Cory Cathcart’s leadership with youth and college students.

In 2024 another milestone was welcoming our sisters and brothers from our partner church in Guatemala City in April. Their presence at WPC reminded us that we are one in Jesus Christ. Sadly, we decided in 2024 to postpone a trip back to the Holy Land because of the terrible war in Gaza. Because of the tenuousness of the cease fire, we are not planning to return in 2026.

On a more personal note, I completed my three-year term on the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia’s Presbytery Council as moderator. I was able to preach at the April Presbytery meeting as I concluded my term as moderator of the Presbytery. I have been elected to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia for the next three years. Also, I was invited back to preach at Wells Memorial Presbyterian Church in Avalon NJ last May and will return in 2025. I enjoyed a continuing education at Union Presbyterian Seminary with Dr. Brian Blount on biblical preaching in October.

Ellen and I relish being new grandparents and take every opportunity to spend time with our two daughters, their husbands, and Sienna Fae who turned 2 in November. It is hard to believe we have served here 11 1/2 years! I continue to give thanks to God for the privilege to serve you as your pastor, now and in the future.


“God of the coming years, through paths unknown we follow thee.

When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone. Our refuge be.

Be thou for us in life our daily bread,

Our heart’s true home when all our years have sped.” *God of Our Life*, Hymn 686 v.3

Peace,

  
John E. Morgan

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
PAM HRNCIR**

As I prepared this annual report, I realized many people participate in our congregational care ministry. The number of people involved is a testament to our lay leadership and our communal desire to care for one another. Though we are a large congregation (1200 members), I repeatedly hear about how friendly and welcoming we are to visitors, and I regularly see the meaningful ways you provide care and keep me informed of people's needs so I can provide timely pastoral care. In addition, I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as pastor for congregational care. Caring for one another is one of the ways we live and become the Gospel. This congregation is gifted with passionate people committed to sharing God's love for one another and our community.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY**

Stephen Ministry is very active. Nine Stephen Ministers are meeting with care receivers. Ann Schulte and Toby Lane both completed the Stephen Leader training. Our Stephen Leaders are now Becky McKinley, Allen Hogge, Ann Schulte, and Toby Lane.

Judy Austin felt called to step down as a Stephen Leader. We are grateful for her gifts of teaching, leading, and mentoring to bring Stephen Ministry back to WPC, and for overseeing two Stephen Ministry training classes.

This ministry provides Christ-centered care to people in need in our congregation and community. If you know anyone inside or outside our congregation who needs care, please contact Becky McKinley, Allen Hogge, Judy Austin, or me. Stephen Ministers are available to walk the journey with those facing life's challenges.

**PASTORAL CARE**

I am grateful that members of our congregation are becoming more comfortable letting me know who needs care. Members caring for members is one of the best ways for me to learn about people's needs. The deacons are doing a phenomenal job connecting with their families, helping them reengage with the life of the church after the pandemic, and informing me of who needs a phone call or visit.

I started something new at the end of 2023. I asked our Care Connections Team and Continuing Care Community deacons to give me a list of people to visit. I have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know our members apart from immediate pastoral needs. I will continue this approach in 2024.

**GRIEF**

I facilitated three journey groups totaling 15 people. Participants were both members and those from our community. These grief groups are based on the narrative approach of remembering and finding strength from our loved ones' stories. Grief never goes away. Instead, we weave grief into the tapestry of our lives.

We also have a monthly grief support group on the first Wednesday of the month. Bruce Minette stepped down as facilitator and I assumed his role. Thank you, Bruce, for beginning the monthly grief group and providing support and care for all who attend.

In addition to grief support groups, a deacon provides the Stephen Ministry grief books at appropriate intervals and the daily meditation book *Healing After Loss* by Martha W. Hickman. *Healing After Loss* is a favorite among those who have lost loved ones.

**"ROADMAP TO AGING"**

This is a brand-new ministry that began this fall with a luncheon and speaker Dr. Christine Jenkins from the Martha Goodson Center in Williamsburg. Over 80 people attended, and we received mostly positive feedback. The purpose of this ministry is to normalize and embrace aging (we all age) and to provide education and support for people as they enter this period of life.

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For 2025, we are currently working on a couple of workshops and a speaker. We believe we are empowered to live well when we understand what lies ahead spiritually, physically, and mentally. Thank you, Diane Schwarz, Sherry Volk, and Sharon Jones. We welcome others to join the team.

### **UPDATE ON THE BOARD OF DEACONS**

It is a gift to me to serve with our compassionate and committed deacons. Working with Copper Perry moderator, Eric Beckhusen, vice-moderator, and Jo Ann Youhaus, secretary, we are adapting the diaconate model to improve care for our members and allow people to serve with their gifts.

This year we have been working on providing care to those who are less active due to health reasons and reaching older (75 +) members who have not attended in the past year. We identified 56 people, and we are reaching out through phone calls, letters, and visits.

Each year we have a Hail and Farewell potluck during our April meeting. During this meeting, we thank our outgoing deacons and welcome our incoming deacons. I always enjoy the chattiness of this group. It is hard to get their attention to have the actual meeting.

In addition, I annually invite all the new deacons and their spouses to my house for a barbeque. It is a time of getting to know one another. We had our second Hail and Farewell Potluck during which we thanked the outgoing class and welcomed the new class. It was very well attended, and we received many positive feedback responses.

### **MEMORIALS**

I presided over nine memorial services, including my mother-in-law's service. It is a gift to share in the celebration of the life of our dear members and to learn how they lived out their faith. It is always a convicting experience.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

We received 50 new members in 2024. Thank you to our Board of Deacons New Member Ministry Eric Beckhusen, Nancy Archibald, Deborah Rockafellow, and Rodney Lawrence. They organized three new member orientation luncheons which included pictures, bios, introductions to the session and the congregation, and receptions.

The New Member Orientation Luncheon format is working well. We adapt as necessary to make it the most meaningful to those attending. New members sit with elders, staff, and other new members during lunch and get to know one another. Afterward, we watch a video about how to connect with the life of the church. After each section, we stop the video to give an elder time to discuss the specifics of their ministry and how people can get involved. We have received very positive feedback with this approach for new members.

During the orientation, new members fill out an "interest" survey to connect with the life of the church. Thank you to Martha Squire who collects the surveys and then informs the various ministries of people's interests. We encourage ministries to personally invite our new members to their meetings, studies, or service opportunities.

### **MEMBER and VISITOR ENGAGEMENT**

We held the third "What's Next" event in May which gave everyone time to incorporate ideas generated during the workshop and build a consensus for our annual engagement theme. During the workshop, we had an engaging conversation about recruiting versus inviting members to join in the life of the church. The consensus was to invite people personally and through relationship-building to help them connect with our ministries. We also agreed on a theme which is "A Time to Flourish." Overall, we received positive feedback, and we will continue with this format.

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Our fall gathering was an Ice Cream Social at the end of September. Over 100 people attended with a wide range of ages. Positive feedback and we will do this again next fall. Thank you to Bev Whitley for her organizational skills and the Christian Fellowship Team.

Welcoming Visitors. Linda Eaton is overseeing the Welcome Cart and sign-ups. I continue to get positive feedback about having people intentionally looking for visitors and members.

### **WILLIAMSBURG LANDING STREAMING WORSHIP SERVICE**

Seventeen people volunteer to usher at the Williamsburg Landing for the streaming service. Ten people usher at Windsor Mead for the streaming service. Thank you, Linda Eichhorn, Paul Hottinger, and Ray Whitney, for organizing and supporting our streaming ushers.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATIONS**

I completed Soul of Leadership 18-month program through Shalem Institute of Spiritual Formation. We continue to meet each month in clearness committees\*, and I attended the last of four residencies this January in Ammerdown Retreat Center outside of Bath England.

\*Parker Palmer describes the “Clearness Committee,” a method invented by the Quakers, that protects individual identity and integrity while drawing on the wisdom of other people. The Clearness Committee is testimony to the fact that there are no external authorities on life’s deepest issues, not clergy or therapists or scholars; there is only the authority that lies within each of us waiting to be heard.

*\*The function of the Clearness Committee is not to give advice or “fix” people from the outside in but rather to help people remove the interference so that they can discover their own wisdom from the inside out.” Parker Palmer*

### **PEVA**

I agreed to serve on the Commission of Ministry and served as liaison to Kirkwood Presbyterian Church and Hidenwood Presbyterian Church. I am also mentoring Rev. Kristin Rienhold of Stonehouse Presbyterian Church.

**DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES**  
**MELODY DILLON**

I joined WPC in July in this newly created position and have spent the last 5 months getting oriented to WPC, finding my footing, and exploring new offerings for children and families. I am already planning for the 2025-2026 school year and am excited for all this year will hold!

**WPC Family Sundays:** Building on the established routine of 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays being Family Sundays, we expanded on this day to include children in the 11:00 worship service through scripture reading and Embodying the Psalm. During Sunday School, the elementary classes explore the designated Psalm for the week through movement and create motions with which to embody the scripture. During the worship service, the children then lead the whole congregation in this practice of embodiment. I am delighted with how well this new practice has been received by the congregation!

**WPC Family Afternoons:** Following the 11:00 worship service on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, we attempted to establish a routine of enjoying a catered lunch together followed by an activity. We had a very successful event where children of all ages enjoyed various painting crafts! Subsequent activities have not been as successful, but that is part of the process in a new role!

**Preschool Dance & Play:** I offered a 10-week session of creative dance classes for local preschool children, hoping to invite new families into our space and offer an activity that would be accessible for all, with full scholarships offered to anyone who asked. We had a wonderful semester with four enthusiastic children! Special thanks to Faith Schartzter and Karen Lee for helping with these classes!

**Trunk or Treat:** We had Trunk or Treat on October 27 and had a record 29 cars participate! We also asked church members to donate candy for the first time and ended up with such a surplus that we were also able to donate candy to FISH and the Ronald McDonald House after the event.

**Christmas Craft Workshop:** The tradition of a craft workshop before the Williamsburg Christmas parade continued! We also set up a children and family ministries information table outside with the hot chocolate tent and offered free goodie bags full of candy, which was very popular!

**Children's Christmas Eve Pageant and Advent Sunday School:** Rebecca Elton once again took the lead on the children's Christmas Eve pageant which was of course a wild success! It was so fun to see so many kids in the sanctuary acting out the Christmas story. During the four Sundays of Advent, we took a break from our usual Sunday School routine to further explore the Christmas story. Each week all elementary children gathered to practice for the pageant, then we would stay together to hear a Godly Play story about Advent. Following the story, children went back to their classrooms to do a themed craft and discuss and wonder about the story they had just heard. Godly Play is a theologically-rich and creative approach to biblical storytelling and it is an honor to carry forward and build on the tradition of Godly Play that WPC already has.

**Kids Connect:** I was excited to join Kelly Kirkpatrick and a team of incredible volunteers for Kids Connect this semester. This ministry designed to support children during teacher workdays is strong and growing! We had two successful events in the fall semester and will have two more during the spring semester of 2025.

**Middle School:** PYF met weekly on Sunday evenings during the fall semester. We are exploring having the middle and high school groups combined at times and in separate groups at times, but always enjoy dinner together followed by a time of group music led by Chris Bechtler. PYF also enjoyed a lock-in at the beginning of the semester, a trip to a pumpkin patch in October, and a highly successful progressive dinner to kick off the spring semester!

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

CHRISTOPHER BECHTLER

Music awakens worshipers to the presence of God and helps to illuminate the word of God as it is read and preached. Our music ministry leads the congregation in song, offers anthems by vocal and handbell choirs, and inspires the congregation with preludes, postludes, and other special music.

Chris Bechtler, Director of Music; Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music; and Rebecca Elton, Carol Choir Director, lead our music ministry. The music ministry includes seven ensembles and groups:

- Chancel Choir (directed by Chris)
- Joyful Ringers handbell choir (directed by Chris)
- Westminster Ringers (college handbell choir, directed by Norman)
- Youth Choir (middle and high school ages, directed by Chris)
- Youth group music (songs sung during youth group meetings, led by Chris)
- Junior Choir (3rd through 5th graders, directed by Chris and Rebecca)
- Carol Choir (Kindergarteners through second graders, directed by Rebecca)

May the time, talent, and dedication of the professional staff and volunteers continue in 2025.

Guest musical presentations during the year included:

- Aidan Stawasz, cello, on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday
- Brass quartet with percussion on Easter Sunday: B. J. Britt and Dan Honeycutt, trumpet; Charles Anderson, trombone; Jordan Witt, bass trombone; and Lisa Farrell, percussion.
- Music for Two in August, featuring guest musicians:
- Levi Cull, xylophone;
- Yuna Langehennig, flute and piccolo;
- Mark Romig, piano; and
- Thomas Schneider, bassoon.
- Lauren Bristow, violin, for special music on October 6.
- Marco Sardi, string bass, for special music on Rally Day, September 8.
- String quintet on December 15: Samantha Allen and Lauren Bristow, violin; William Hederer, viola; Anna Moyer, cello; and Marco Sardi, bass.
- Sarah Bland and Heidi Bloch, organists, substituting for Norman on occasion.

### **Organ Music**

Organist Norman Elton continued to awaken our senses to the glory of God as he played our magnificent pipe organ at the beginning and end of our worship services and accompanied the choir and congregation in singing anthems and hymns.

### **Adult Choirs**

The Chancel Choir leads worship in both services most Sundays and sings on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Christmas Eve. Chancel Choir membership ranges in age from 18 to 92, including five college-aged singers and one high-school aged singer. The Chancel Choir added several new members to its roster in 2024, and we have also joyfully welcomed back members who had not sung with us in a few years.

In December, the Chancel Choir sang a setting of “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” arranged for choir with strings.

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In March, the Genesis Ringers handbell choir attended the Area 3 handbell festival in Ocean City, Maryland. There we rehearsed and performed music with about 250 other handbell ringers, worked with an experienced handbell director, and enjoyed great fellowship. We plan to go to the same festival in 2025 in Mechanicsville, Virginia.

The Genesis Ringers changed their name to Joyful Ringers and welcomed three new members in the fall of 2024. We rang in worship in the spring, fall, and in December.

### **Youth Music**

The Presbyterian Youth Fellowship gathers to sing after dinner at our weekly meetings. We explore hymns and songs from many time periods and traditions, and we look forward to planning and leading music for the Youth Service coming up in the spring of 2025.

The Youth Choir returned in the fall and presented music in worship in December. The Youth Choir played the prelude and introduced the song for the candle lighting in worship on December 1st.

Seven of our youth played music for the prelude for the family worship service on Christmas Eve. The preludes included:

- Josh Bechtler, snare drum;
- Annie Beckhusen Challener, piano;
- Gabe Beckhusen Challener, piano;
- Haley Elton, flute;
- Jackson Elton, organ;
- Sarah Lowekamp, flute; and
- Lilly Shay, violin.

### **Children's Choirs**

The Carol and Junior Choirs continued to grow in faith and musical experience. They sang in worship several times in the spring and fall, for our Advent and Christmas music.

The children's choirs also helped lead the music in the Family service on Christmas Eve. Rebecca Elton ran rehearsals for the Pageant during the Gather Together time at the beginning of the Sunday School hour. Any child or youth that came to Sunday School in December learned the anthem "Bethlehem Night." The Carol and Junior choirs also learned the accompanying handbell part during their weekly rehearsals.

### **Westminster Ringers**

The Westminster Ringers, our handbell ensemble of William & Mary students, led music in worship many times over the course of the year, playing challenging and interesting music from many different styles. They also performed at Grand Illumination at Market Square, in front of thousands of listeners.

### **Open Door Concert Series**

The mission of the Open Door Concert Series is to nurture community through the presentation of the musical arts.

The Open Door Concert Series concluded its fifth season and began its sixth in 2024. This year, we welcomed a rich and diverse range of artists:

- The Baltimore Consort, early music ensemble, on September 24;
- Aaron David Miller, organ, on April 21;
- Windbourne Singers, folk music vocal quartet, on May 19;
- The National Chamber Winds, a 12-member wind music ensemble, on September 22;
- The Junior Sisk band, bluegrass music, on October 20; and
- The Virginia Handbell Consort in a concert of Christmas-themed music, on December 15.

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This year, 1,639 people attended the concerts, at an average of 273 audience members per concert.

Many enjoyed post-concert receptions in front of WPC's doors at the Richmond Road entrance, and one at the front of the sanctuary, where we shared refreshments and got to meet the musicians.

The Open Door Concert Series is supported financially through donations of its audience members and patrons. About 75% of donations come from WPC members, and 25% from non-members.

Planning for the Open Door Concert series is an ongoing activity. We have most of the 2025–2026 season planned and are already working on the next season. The Open Door Concert Series committee in 2024 included: Tom Bozek, committee chair; Norman Elton, artistic director; Chris Bechtler; Martha Jean Howell; Ellen Morgan; Ford Moseley; Dick Hubbard; Leslie Stacks; Peter Stipe; and Sherry Volk.

**ADMINISTRATION MINISTRY**  
**FAITH SHARTZER (25), MODERATOR**

Members of the Administration Ministry:

- Faith Shartzter, Elder – Moderator
- Sarah Houghland, Elder
- Margie Newcomer, Elder
- Larry Pulley, Elder
- Mark Newcomb
- Marsha Hahn
- Ford Moseley
- Dr. John Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff
- Stephen Foster, Director of Finance and Administration

The Administration Ministry is committed to developing the tools for effective human resource management in its efforts to identify, develop and retain superior staff equipped to nourish, sustain, and grow a vital faith community and support the broad range of ministries of WPC. We purposefully lead and facilitate the communication of long-range strategies, developed through active participation across our church family.

The members of our ministry bring a wealth of experience to our work, extending across fields of accounting and financial management, human resources, law, and corporate management. They have knowledge of WPC, PEVA, and PCUSA organization and leadership. They work closely with Dr. John Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff, and Stephen Foster, Director of Finance and Administration, to provide oversight of personnel and administrative functions.

2024 was a very busy year as we studied the staffing needs of the church, keeping our membership and budget numbers aligned with our ministry priorities. This resulted in several changes in our staffing. With the creation of two new part-time positions (described below), our Director of Education Ministries position was eliminated at year end, and we wished A Williams the very best in his next work and ministry. We are grateful for his eight years of service at WPC.

Major responsibilities and accomplishments in 2024 include the following:

- Proposed and created, with Session approval, a new part-time Director of Children and Family Ministries. We hired Melody Dillon in July for the position. Melody has brought more activity and participation from our young children and their families.
- Proposed and created for 2025, with Session approval, a part-time Director of Youth, College and UKirk Ministries. As of this printing, we have hired Gregory (Cory) Cathcart for the position (effective 1/15/25).
- Received Congregational Approval for the Call and Installation of Rev. Pam C. Hrcir as WPC Associate Pastor for Congregational Care effective January 1, 2025. A formal installation will take place in 2025.
- Conducted pastoral staff reviews. Position descriptions were reviewed and updated as appropriate.
- Reviewed and approved any insurance policy renewals and other facility or personnel requests which impact the Administration budget.
- Reviewed and approved as necessary any Facility Use Requests.
- Continued efforts to strengthen the relationship between the WPC staff and the Administration Ministry members .

The Administration Ministry is grateful to all the staff at WPC and the work they do every day to make WPC an inviting and welcoming church for all.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**  
**SALLIE McLAIN (25), MODERATOR**

**CE Committee**

Sallie McLain, Elder and Moderator – Class of 2025

Jonathan “JD” Due, Elder – Class of 2026

Kelly Kirkpatrick, Elder – Class of 2026

Kathryn Hall, Elder – Class of 2027

Pete Hoyle

Rebecca Elton

Jill Walton

**Staff Representatives**

Melody Dillon, Director of Children and Family Ministries

Gregory “Cory” Cathcart, Director of Youth, College, and UKIRK Ministries

**Education Ministries Mission**

**The Education Ministries of WPC aim to provide safe, welcoming spaces in which people can explore who they are, who God is, and what that means to their lives. We aim to nurture each person so that their faith will be life giving, promoting interconnectedness with others, God and God’s creation, and valuing all of life as an expression of a whole and living faith.**

**Children’s Ministries**

WPC’s Children’s Ministries continues to diversify and deepen faith and fellowship formation.

- Lent: Home Lenten Kits, Shrove Tuesday Crafts, Spiritual Practices for Holy Week, and Smores and Stations Event
- Spring: Bible Awards, Wonderfully Made Night, Mac and Cheese Cookoff
- Summer: Church on the Road boxes, Drop Off Care Packages, VBS
- Fall: Expanded Third (Family) Sunday Offerings, Worked with Worship to expand sanctuary and 11am offerings, Continued WPC Families Events, Continued Kids Connect Camp on teacher workdays
- Advent & Christmas: Advent Celebration & Christmas Parade, Advent Calendar and Crafts for at home, Advent Family Devotionals, Christmas Pageant

Those involved in volunteering with our Children’s Ministries this year included: Alston Brown, Betty Griffin, Sallie McLain, Audrey Davis, Megan Davis, Hayley Scheir, Katie Bechtler, Kayleigh Black, Lilly Brenegan, Cherie Brown, Gini Campbell, Cate McLain, Elaine Riggle, Grey Waddell, Louise Skidmore, Roban Graham, Ellen Maurer, Sarah Houghland, Layton Miller, Parkman Miller, Kristin Sanders, Shanna Due, Sam Due, Jean Felts, Sydney Walker, Pat Underwood, Karen Lee, Stephanie McGuire, Dougie Winthrop, Kelly Kirkpatrick, Phoebe Williams, Rebecca Elton, Josh Bechtler, Laura Bechtler, LaRue Burkey-Hundt, Gary Davis, Josh Hill, Jennifer Lowekamp, Gavin Melott, Elizabeth Padgett, Copper Perry, Ellen Peters, John Richardson, Hans Schwarz, Sydney Scott, Faith Shartzer, Jane Snyder, CW Stacks, Mary Stein, Jill Walton, Rhodes Walton, Summer Kirkpatrick, and Rebecca Caprio.

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## **Youth Ministries**

WPC's Youth Ministries highlights included:

- Spring: Youth Sunday Worship, Youth Retreat to Massanetta, Graduation Sunday, Volunteer Days, Souper Bowl of Caring
- Summer Trips: We went to CROSS in Charlotte for Mission Work and Montreat for Youth Conference and Camp.
- Fall & Advent: Multifaith events and participation in Christmas Eve worship services.

Those involved in volunteering with our Youth Ministries this year include Alston Brown, CW Stacks, Summer Kirkpatrick, Jane Snyder, Jim Kirkpatrick, Judy Austin, Stephanie McGuire, Phoebe Williams, Karen Lee, Jim Winthrop, and Shanna Due.

## **Intergenerational Ministries**

The Christian Education committee continues to focus on strengthening our WPC church family by offering intergenerational opportunities designed to bring members and families from our church and community together.

- WPC Families: WPC Families events are meant for all families, all church members and guests, of all generations! Events are created with the intent to engage and entertain our youngest (and not so youngest) church members, visitors, guests, and their families. 2024 events included:
  - Trunk or Treat: Our Trunk or Treat event was quite successful again engaging many congregational and community participants.
  - The 2024 Advent Celebration was well-attended, once again being offered in the afternoon/evening just before the Williamsburg Christmas parade. This annual event brings in children from the church and from the greater community, allowing families time to connect with each other.
- In addition to these events, we continue to try to make sure that regular churchwide programming and seasonal activities are considered from the perspective of all generations and their needs. This included children's tables at a number of events, zoom lives and YouTube recordings of special services and events for those who were homebound or otherwise unable to join us onsite, at home activities for families and those in continuing care when they couldn't be at events, a community Ash Wednesday event, and worship aids for all ages including worship bags, labyrinths, prayer rocks, prayer blankets, beeswax, and alternative worship spaces.

## **Adult Ministries**

WPC's Adult Ministries continues to serve an ever-diversifying set of needs and interests and has continued to be a motivating factor in the development of WPC's mission and vision.

- Groups which gathered regularly in 2024 included: Presbyterian Women's circles, Men's Squares, four Sunday morning groups, five weekday bible studies, three book studies, three reading groups, two support groups, two affinity groups, two art groups, and at least three faith and fellowship small groups.
- Gather: Young Adults Williamsburg returned to a First Friday schedule welcoming both church members and community members to join us for bowling, wine tasting, dinners, seasonal events, picnic parties and more!

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- Presbyterian Women: Nine current and very active Circles meet monthly from September through May. The annual fall and spring gatherings offered special speakers and collections, which are used to support international PW grant programs. We also continued to sponsor the Gift of Christmas campaign and other programs at WPC, including our Chajul student ministry, Crockpot Ministry, Summer Meals for Kids program, FISH, and Salvation Army collections.

Group Facilitators include: Rebecca Elton, Gina Waddell, Sarah Houghland, Pete Hoyle, Elaine McBeth, Brennan Harris, Rachel Hébert, Kay Allen, Barbara Stirling, Kim Silver, Charlie Slack, Ken Crumbly, Larry Pulley, Gary Davis, Tom Bozek, Jim Kirkpatrick, Ellen Peters, Ellie Renshaw, JoAnn Dettmann, JoAnne Andrews, Sarah Dulaney, Laura Hild, Jenn Wheeler, Debbie Riley, Judy Austin, Margie Ambrose, Joyce Patterson, Joseph Kinard, Sydney Walker, Nancy Archibald, Sarah Avellar, John Morgan, Pam Hrcir, Sarah Akin, Jodie Davis, Anabel Crane, Tom Moul, Lauren Hoak, Cynthia McCraw, Allen Hogge, Alston Brown, Kelly Kirkpatrick, Jen Foster, Phoebe Williams, Lynne Savidis, Dianne Schwarz, Gerry Ward, Debbie Boggio, Pat Underwood, Dawn Schaible, Dorothea Shannon, Catherine Cheney, Kit Ober, Pat Murray, Terri Harris, Lacy McLain, Chris Bechtler, and Nina Parziale.

In summary, 2024 was a year of change and movement. We saw new families, new opportunities, and worked hard as we began to watch our programming overflow. We look forward to the future both with CE Ministries, and with WPC as a whole.

**CHRISTIAN OUTREACH MINISTRY**  
**JIM WINTHROP (25), MODERATOR**

**Outreach Leaders**

Jim Winthrop, Moderator, Elder

Joseph Kinard, Elder

Jim Austin, Treasurer

Nancy Hammond, Denny and Sue Yeingst, Campus Ministry Team Leaders

Dorothy Geyer, Earth Care Team Leader

Nancy Archibald, Global Missions Team Leader

Jim Kirkpatrick, Hunger and Homeless Team Leader

Margie Ambrose, Kirk Krafters Team Leader

Joe Avellar, Prison Ministry Team Leader

Kay Allen, Refugee Resettlement Team Leader

Linda Eaton, Tutoring Team Leader

Judy Austin, Special Offerings Team Leader

John Morgan, Pastor

**Outreach Ministry Mission statement:** Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to witness to the work of God in the world, so that all are nourished in body, mind, and soul.

**Vision statement:** We celebrate every person's unique gifts to serve the children of God throughout the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

Nine teams seek to live out the Outreach Ministry's mission and vision.

**Outreach Ministry Team Reports**

**Campus Ministry Team:**

**Mission:**

To give students a safe and caring spiritual home for their continual growth as adults through worship, education, fellowship, and service within our congregation and beyond.

**Highlights:**

**Spring Semester (January – May 2024)**

- Welcome Back Dinner with baked potato / salad bar January 29.
- Supported students on Campus Ministry Sunday, February 11 with self-serve breakfast and treat bags.
- Throughout the semester, Westminster Ringers were provided with snacks that were continually restocked in the nearby kitchen cabinets for their weekly rehearsals.
- Annual End of Year Cookout at Ukirk member Morgan Davis's home in Kingswood.

**Summer 2024**

- Campus Ministry Team met for planning and reassessment of the ministry's role
- Cleaned and organized the Ukirk room for the start of the college year.

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## **Fall Semester (August - December 2024)**

- Welcomed William & Mary freshmen students on Sunday, August 25, with a reception between worship services in the front courtyard that offered donuts, breads, Watermelon, and information on worship and student opportunities at WPC.
- Welcome Back Dinner catered by California Tortilla was given for 25 W&M students on Wednesday evening, January 28 at WPC.
- W&M Homecoming Parade Watch reception for students and returning UKirk alumni held Friday, October 18 on the WPC walkway facing Richmond Road with s'mores.
- Provided Westminster Ringers with homemade goodies and hot cocoa during their performances at Grand Illumination in Colonial Williamsburg on Saturday, December 7.
- End of semester Progressive Dinner, Tuesday, December 10, held at the Austin and Hancock homes with exam treat goodie bags distributed.
- Campus Ministry was represented by Jane Snyder on the job search committee to fill the newly created part-time position of Director of Youth, College, and Ukirk Ministry.
- With the newly created position of Director of Youth, College, and Ukirk Ministry being a part-time position, "A" Williams' role as staff member and leader of Ukirk was completed on December 31, 2024.

### **Earth Care Team:**

The Earth Care team provides both educational and experiential opportunities for members and friends to learn more about key environmental issues.

Our 2024 theme was how we can be effective in helping our environment. To that end, the team sponsored several events in 2024.

In April, the team hosted a free E-Bike tour of Jamestown Island. The tour included a special presentation on an existing archaeological dig on the island. Nine members participated, including three members of the group visiting from our Guatemala City sister church.

In May, Dr James Perry, Professor of Marine Science at the College of William and Mary's Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), spoke on the topic of environmental justice at the WPC Men's breakfast.

Seventeen members and friends participated in "Clean the Bay Day" on June 1. The team cleaned the shoreline and trails of York River State Park and was also provided with an impromptu nature walk by one of the Park Rangers.

In August the Earth Care team and the WPC Book club members partnered together to read and discuss "*The Hidden Life of Trees*" by Peter Wohlleben. Ten people attended.

In December, the team sponsored an earth friendly craft project as part of WPC's special Advent family event. Stay tuned for our 2025 theme, which is protecting and preserving our "Living Waters."

We always look for new members to join us in providing unique educational opportunities and activities that allow us to enjoy God's creation as well as learn how we can be better stewards of its resources.

### **Global Missions Team:**

WPC's international mission is active in several places in the world and includes the missionaries we help support, our sister churches, and trips taken to show and experience God's love.

Our largest efforts to date have been in Guatemala. We have two sister churches there: Central Presbyterian in Guatemala City and the Presbyterian church in Chajul. Until the pandemic, we had traveled each year to be with them for a week. Since then, we have maintained contact with both churches and were able to go back in June 2023. The team included Linda Eaton, a fluent Spanish speaker. We all noted how much easier and more rewarding the trip was with Linda along. We hope to attract other Spanish speakers before we go again in July of 2025.

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In 2024 a team from the Central Presbyterian Church in Guatemala City came here. It was such a special time as we showed them our church and talked about all we do. They attended an Outreach Meeting to hear a broader scope of what we do. It was so good to be able to give them the hospitality they always extend to us.

In Congo, our missionaries are Inge and Larry Sthresley. Larry is a health liaison who designs and manages the development of health ministries that work from the community level up through the Ministry of Health. Inge's work includes nutrition, home gardening, and clean cook stove missions as well as oversight of the Methodist Presbyterian Hostel, a mission guest house and small conference center. We currently send \$4000 a year in support. In addition, we have a sister church, Lokoro, in Kinshasa where we have been able to send a \$2100 donation each year.

Elmarie and Scott Parker serve in Lebanon. Elmarie is the regional liaison to Iraq, Syria and Lebanon who works to strengthen the relationship between the church in her region and the church in the US, including developing practical ministries and planning learning visits. Scott has been asked by the Middle East Council of Churches, for whom he serves as writer in residence, to lead their efforts in responding to children traumatized by unrest and war in Iraq and Syria who now are refugees in Lebanon. WPC donates \$4000 to their support.

### **Hunger and Homeless (H&H) Team:**

**Mission Statement:** As members of the Body of Christ, the Hunger and Homeless Team enables members of Williamsburg Presbyterian church to support local agencies uniquely qualified to serve those in need, with emphasis on housing and food insecurity, through volunteering and providing financial assistance.

### **Benevolences and Other Assistance Programs:**

**Benevolences:** In 2024 the Outreach budget provided \$50,950 to support local and regional non-profit agencies under the oversight of the Hunger and Homeless team. This summer, as in every summer, a H&H team member validated the need and the amount of the benevolence to the specific agencies.

**Emergency Assistance Grant program:** The Outreach budget supports this modest program, the purpose of which is to help those who have an emergency need for funds. The applicant's need is vetted by a local non-profit agency. In 2024, the program disbursed \$2,400 to enable people to pay utilities and to avoid eviction.

**Leave Behind Bags:** The bags, which contain snacks and drinks, are available in the Welcome Center for WPC members to hand to any person in need whom they see on the streets.

### **Programs and Activities:**

**Community of Faith Mission Winter Shelter:** On December 31 - January 7, 2024 over forty volunteers from WPC staffed the shelter, checking guests in and out, preparing and serving meals, and providing safety and security watches. During the week the shelter hosted an average of 16 guests, both men and women. WPC's partner churches during the week were Stone House Presbyterian, Williamsburg Baptist, First Baptist and Life Church. WPC also provided an evening of volunteers in February to support St. Martin's Episcopal church's shelter week.

**Housing Partnerships:** On June 8 nine WPC volunteers worked on the severely overgrown yard of a home owned by an elderly woman and her disabled daughter. The team cleared extensive amounts of brush, limbs, and debris to facilitate further repairs on the home and to mitigate a community eyesore.

**Summer Meals for Kids Program/Food Drive:** Under the auspices of Meals on Wheels, WPC members provided meals once a week for ten weeks over the summer. These members, working with volunteers from the Community Chapel, made nutritious meals for 265 children. WPC also conducted a food drive in June to collect snacks and drinks for the program, collecting over 1500 lbs of items.

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**Grove Christian Outreach Center:** On September 20, WPC provided 22 volunteers in support of the United Way Day of Caring. Volunteers worked on a variety of projects, inside and outside, as well as some light repair work in the Grove community of Williamsburg.

**Habitat for Humanity – Eastern Shore (VA):** On October 17-19, twelve WPC members participated in this annual trip in support of Habitat.

**Rise Against Hunger:** On November 2, over 200 WPC members and friends worked to package 45,144 meals, achieving the set goal. The team also raised \$18,500 to purchase the supplies. The food packaged will be sent to the Philippines.

**Salvation Army Red Kettles:** On December 11, 15, 18, and 21, WPC members rang the bells to collect donations for the “red kettle” program, helping the Salvation Army achieve a record level of donations in 2024.

**Crock Pot Ministry:** Several PW Circles and other WPC members regularly provide ingredients and recipes for crockpot meals to residents at several Williamsburg-area hotels. Over 250 meals were provided by WPC members in 2024.

**From-His-Hand, Hotels:** Throughout 2024, WPC members prepared and served 187 hot meals to individuals and families living in area motels.

**From-His-Hand, Grove:** Throughout 2024, WPC members prepared and served 350 hot meals to individuals and families in the Grove community.

**FISH:** 2024 was a record year for WPC’s monthly collection of food and other home necessities, as we collected and donated 419 bags. This total was generously supplemented by donations from the Presbyterian Woman’s luncheon in support of FISH and the Priscilla Circle.

#### **Future Opportunities to Serve:**

All of the aforementioned programs and activities will take place in 2025. Opportunities to serve abound!

Additionally, in response to Hurricane Helene, the H&H team is planning a mission trip in the spring of 2025 to Black Mountain NC to help with the rebuilding.

#### **Kirk Krafters Team:**

Kirk Krafters is open to all crafters. We work on our own craft; be it knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, etc. We meet once a month on the second Tuesday at 1:30 in the WPC Library. Our projects typically include knitting things like hats, scarves, lap robes, prayer shawls, baby blankets, and twiddle mitts. We provide these items to members of our congregation and others in the community. Our prayer shawls mainly go to members of our congregation who may need some warmth and comfort in a time of worry or loss. At Christmas we deliver hats, scarves, baby blankets, and lap robes to Fish, Grove, and the House of Mercy. We have also provided children's hats and prayer shawls for our sister churches in Guatemala.

The Kirk Krafters presently have 20 members and we welcome new members all year long. If you are interested in joining us please get in touch with either Margie Ambrose, Hazel Whitney, or Jo Anne Youhas.

#### **Prison Ministry Team:**

WPC participates in the Kairos Prison Ministry at Nottoway Correctional Center (CC) in Burkeville, VA.

WPC volunteers attended two four-day Kairos Weekend Events, May 30 - June 2, 2024, and Oct 31 - November 3, 2024. In addition, they have gone to monthly follow-up meetings for the weekend attendees.

Several WPC members responded to the invitation to attend the June 2, 2024, Kairos Graduation ceremony on Sunday afternoon at the conclusion of the weekend event. The prisoners appreciated the attendees’ presence, the hundreds of homemade cookies, and the WPC prayer partners who prayed for them during Kairos Weekends.

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In 2025 the Kairos Weekend Events are scheduled for June 4 - June 8, 2025, and October 29 -November 2, 2025, at Nottoway CC. Male volunteers are welcome to participate in the weekend event. Closing ceremonies will be June 8, 2025, and November 2, 2025. All (male and female) over 18 years of age are invited to attend; it is a meaningful and moving experience. Watch for announcements in the May and September bulletin announcements.

### **Refugee Resettlement Team:**

It's been a little over three years since WPC began sponsoring the Safi family from Afghanistan. The two children are in the 6th and 7th grade. The father has been working weekdays at a local warehouse. The mother is a homemaker.

To help them with their schoolwork and knowledge of English, WPC has provided weekly tutoring for the children. The children played on Legacy soccer teams for their age group, took swimming lessons this past summer, and attended day camps. The committee provided transportation to these activities.

The children have a working knowledge of English. The parents are struggling to learn. Both have been offered classes and tutoring at Literacy for Life.

The committee has been working closely with William and Mary Law School to file all paperwork necessary for permanent immigration status.

The family has been paying all of their rent and all utilities for the past several months.

### **Tutoring Team:**

Our program is growing. We had nine volunteers tutoring last semester and are expecting twelve to start the 2025 spring semester. We continue to work at Matthew Whaley (MW) Elementary School in the City of Williamsburg. We chose this student body because of its many needs: academic, behavioral or emotional, as well as a lack of support at home. It's also important that MW is geographically close to our building; MW is an important part of our neighborhood.

Spring 2024 was a time of growth. It started to become obvious that much of the help we were giving would not be defined as tutoring but review, further explanation of concepts taught in class, confidence building, and other emotional support. We took a survey of the teachers, staff, and volunteers regarding the program. The results were positive; however, three volunteers with extensive teaching backgrounds lamented the lack of time or permission to tutor specific skills. In the Fall of 2024, a new K-5 reading curriculum was implemented. It has been difficult to put into practice, because it contained vocabulary and concept material not consistent with the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL). I (Linda Eaton) was chosen Volunteer of the Year for MW – given by the Williamsburg-James City School Board.

We finished the end of the 2024 school year with thank you gifts to all staff involved from MW and a gratefulness party for all volunteers at my home. We celebrated the end of the Fall 2024 semester with gifts for students, sparkly poinsettias for cooperating teachers and staff, and stately poinsettias in our sanctuary dedicated to our volunteers. I am grateful to the coordinating team who contributed their insight that guides our path.

### **Special Offerings Team:**

WPC collects two special offerings each year – One Great Hour of Sharing is presented in the spring and Christmas Joy Offering in December.

One Great Hour of Sharing supports three programs- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. Amount collected: \$20,325.

The Christmas Joy Offering provides financial support to church workers and their families who face unexpected needs while the remaining 50% of the offering targets Presbyterian-related schools and colleges and assists students in need of scholarship funding. Amount collected: \$9,090.

**COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY**  
**ELLEN PETERS (27), MODERATOR**

The Communications Ministry has a wide-ranging, varied set of interests and duties. In a nutshell, we try to analyze and improve the ways in which people at WPC communicate, both within our congregation and with the wider community. The members of the ministry are Ellen Peters (Moderator), Sherry Volk (Director), Pastor Pam Hrcir, Tom Bozek, Laura Hild, Roy Knox, Penny Pulley, and Sudie Watkins, along with liaisons Copper Perry (Deacons), Nancy Archibald (Outreach), Pete Hoyle (CE), and Karen Annoni/Jean Scott (Presbyterian Women). Our members are blessed with skills and knowledge in writing, editing, social media, website content management, digital graphics, photography/videography, publicity, advertising, and communications strategy. We are fortunate to have Sherry Volk, Director of Communications and Media, on staff to coordinate our efforts and generally keep us on task.

The Communications Ministry is tasked with informing and connecting people in several areas:

- Coordinating the church communications programs (weekly email, quarterly newsletter, informational postcards, etc.)
- Improving the ways we use technology to communicate—upgrading AV resources such as monitors and microphones, refining the website and other digital resources
- Letting our members know how they can get involved in the life of the church—through fellowship, worship, service, and education
- Making sure different groups within the church are connected and aware of each other’s work, with better communication across our church community. Our aim is to reduce duplicated work across ministries and improve understanding across ministries of their respective programs and challenges.
- Reaching outside the walls of the church to inform the greater Williamsburg community about WPC ministry, missions, and programs
- Supporting WPC as a welcoming congregation—inviting people in the doors and making them feel welcome once they’re here

Below are some projects we completed in 2024:

- Installed new signs: front of the sanctuary building, rear entrance, restrooms
- Created the “Flourish Tree” graphic on the welcome lobby wall
- Reorganized the welcome lobby for more efficient use of event sign-up tables (more to come in this area)
- Replaced laser projector for presentations in Stevenson Hall
- Asked groups in the church to send a liaison to our meetings to improve sharing of needs/ information
- Refined the presentation of the streamed worship service by improving camera angles
- Assisted in planning the Ice Cream Social
- Hosted the Hospitality Tent on Richmond Road for the Christmas Parade

Here are a few things we will be working on in 2025:

- Improving the process for requesting technology for meetings
- Repurposing the old sign from the front of the church to the back parking lot
- Making various areas of the church building more attractive and welcoming, including the library
- Enhancing the versatility of Stevenson Hall for use by meetings, memorial receptions, etc.; to include purchasing new monitors (and gathering input about how different groups would use them)
- Replacing the sanctuary lectern microphone

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Communications is assisted by many groups within the church, helping us to make everyone aware of each other's work and we'd like to recognize them for their help

**Facilities recently helped us with outside signage.** Working together, Communications designed, and Facilities installed, new signs at our entrances to the Sanctuary, Stevenson Hall, the parking lot entrance, and over the Office entrance.

**Communications works with various groups to generate content to promote our activities.** Outreach, CE, Christian Fellowship, Worship, and others help us identify significant events so we can produce seasonal event postcards to be distributed to all church members. Those postcards are helpful in keeping everyone informed about concerts, churchwide celebrations, and Sunday school activities.

**We work with staff members to broadcast our Sunday morning services.** Each week, Communications provides the introductory slides before the service and monitors the website and the audio booth. We recently implemented some improvements in how the streamed service is filmed.

**All Ministries and Deacons help us to communicate our needs and our successes.** We seek to enable all groups to provide content for the website, the weekly email, and the quarterly newsletter, which is how we keep each other informed and supported.

**Our mission is to** increase the visibility and meaning of God's work at WPC. We work to make everyone feel connected as members of Christ's body in the world.

<p><b>ENDOWMENT FUND</b>  <b>HANK VERNON (25), CHAIR</b></p>
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WPC members and staff manage the WPC Endowment Fund. Committee members are Jim Austin, Joseph Kinard, Martha Squire, Al Thomas, and Hank Vernon (Chair). Pastor John Morgan is also a committee member, offering valued pastoral leadership. Stephen Foster provides accounting for Fund assets, and Vanessa Gamble and Martha Reier provide administrative support.

**ENDOWMENT FUND**

- The Endowment Fund was originally established by Session in August 2014 and revised in October 2018 to include three accounts.
- Charitable Account supports worthy organizations requesting funds for programs not currently supported by the WPC budget.
- Ministries Account supports organizations currently included in the WPC annual budget.
- Buildings & Facilities Account supports projects or proposals not covered by the WPC Capital Reserve Fund.

Each year, 4 percent of each Account value, (average of the last three years' ending value) is available for grants. Donors may assign Endowment Fund gifts to or among the three accounts at their discretion. Gifts not assigned by the donor are divided equally among the three accounts. The WPC Session Resolution establishing the Endowment Fund may be obtained from the Church office.

**ENDOWMENT FUND ASSETS YEAR END 2024**

The Endowment Fund ended the year 2024 with assets totaling \$833,131. The Fund was established in 2014 with about \$25,000. By the end of 2018, its value had grown to \$127,200. Then, in 2019, a generous donor offered to match financial gifts to the Endowment Fund up to \$250,000. As a result of the prayerful and generous response of our Church members and friends, the “Gift of a Lifetime” matching campaign during 2019 was a complete success—resulting in donations exceeding \$500,000 being added to the Fund.

<b><u>Year end:</u></b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2024</b>
Total Value:	\$25,000	\$93,500	\$127,200	\$781,800	\$721,413	\$833,131

**2024 Year End Value of Each Account:**

Charitable: \$569,370                      Ministries: \$120,724                      Buildings & Facilities: \$143,037

**INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT**

New Covenant Trust Company (NCTC), the investment management subsidiary of the Presbyterian Foundation, manages all Endowment Fund assets as well as the Carter Scholarship Fund monies.

**TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED IN 2024**

During 2024, a total of 12 grants were awarded totaling \$43,638 and two grant applications were denied. Nine were Charitable grants; one was from the Ministry Account, and two were Building & Facilities grants. Specific grants awarded were:

**From the Charitable Account:**

- **Salvation Army** for a glass door refrigerated merchandiser
- **Grove Christian Outreach Center** for art supplies
- **ARC of Greater Williamsburg** for expenses to deliver client transportation
- **St. Martin Episcopal Church** for Refugee Resettlement
- **Dreamcatchers** for therapeutic riding program expenses

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- **Olde Town Medical** for client medical services
- **Presbyterian Disaster Relief Fund** Recovery costs of Hurricane Helene in North Carolina
- **Ella Fitzgerald Middle School** for student water bottles (submitted by Vanessa Gamble)
- **The Housing Partnership** for subsidizing client utility costs and rent.

**From the Ministry Account** the following awards were granted:

- WPC Men’s Fellowship Breakfast to subsidize costs of catered breakfasts

**From the Building & Facilities Account** the following awards were granted:

- WPC for Architectural consulting on the courtyard/gathering spaces project
- WPC for HVAC consulting

**GRANTS AVAILABLE IN 2024:**

As the fund continues to grow through generous contributions and investment growth the amount available for grants usually increases each year. For 2025 the total grant funds available are \$39,500.

**GRANT APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

The Endowment Committee welcomes applications for 2025 grants. Please contact any member of the committee with questions, to obtain a grant application form, or to discuss options for making a financial gift to the Endowment Fund. Grant requests will be reviewed quarterly in January, April, July, and October each year. Please submit any grant applications to the Church office by the tenth of the month.

**ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS are:**

Jim Austin - austinjc0615@gmail.com

Joseph Kinard - jkinard79@gmail.com

Martha Squire - martha.squire@gmail.com

Al Thomas - allen@thomaspq.com

Hank Vernon, Chair – VernonHLJr@gmail.com

**FACILITIES**  
**DALE TROWBRIDGE (25), MODERATOR**

Ric Cheston

Elbert Fleming, Facilities Manager

Jerry Howell

Michael McBeth

Dale Trowbridge, Moderator

Fred Whitley

The Facilities Ministry's mission, mindful that our church building and premises are a sign of God's presence for our congregation and community, is to demonstrate good stewardship of the church's physical resources as it tends to the maintenance, repair, and renovation of the building, fixtures, furnishings, and property of the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church.

During 2024 and continuing into 2025, the Ministry is engaged in many activities including:

- Handrail repairs and new handrail at the rear entrance.
- Kitchen upgrades continue with ceiling tile replacements and changes to the fixtures.
- Upgrades to LED lighting throughout the church, including the Sanctuary. These upgrades are nearly complete, resulting in less energy usage and a rebate through Dominion Energy.
- Overseeing the replacement of the 3 larger HVAC units that heat and cool the Sanctuary and offices in the Sanctuary building.
- Overseeing the ongoing roof replacement over Stevenson Hall, which should be completed by March 2025, weather permitting.

We would like to recognize the significant contributions made to our committee and the Church by Dennis Sissel. Dennis worked for many years through the construction of new buildings and maintenance of all our systems and structures. Thank you, Dennis!



**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**  
**KAREN ANNONI, PAT MURRAY, JEAN SCOTT, CO-MODERATORS**

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are committed to nurturing our faith through prayer, Bible study, and in building an inclusive community of caring, committed women that witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

Our PW Programs:

- Nine Circles - containing 128 women, monthly meetings for Bible study and fellowship.
- Combined luncheon gatherings in the spring and fall.
- International Mission - supports Chajul, Guatamala, and funds school tuitions for students in the village.
- Local Mission - Each year a different local mission is chosen to support. 2025 local mission is Edmarc Hospice for Children.
- Book Club - offers discussion and fellowship.
- Gift of Christmas – Opportunities for our Congregation to donate to local charities as a part of their Christmas Giving.
- Kitchen Committee – monitoring the needs of the WPC Kitchen.
- The Fluvanna Prison ministry – PW helps donate Christmas gifts which are distributed to the women prisoners each year.

**RESOURCES MINISTRY**  
**ELAINE MCBETH (25), MODERATOR**

Mission – To carry out good and faithful stewardship of the church’s financial resources in accordance with the Spirit. To develop and articulate financial policies and budget proposals that reflect our Christian beliefs that support our church’s ministries.

**Members of Resources Ministry**

Elaine McBeth, Moderator

Gerry Ward, Treasurer

Dick Lee, Asst. Treasurer

Jay Eaton, Elder

Marc Moyers, Elder

Pete Osman, Stewardship

Phil Rockafellow, Internal Financial Review

Hans Schwartz, Capital Reserve Plan

Al Thomas, Legacy Giving /Endowment

Sarah Avellar

Tommy Michaels

Wray Russell

Staff Support: Rev. John Morgan, Head of Staff

Stephen Foster, Director of Finance and Administration

**Accomplishments during 2024:**

- Coordinated fund raising efforts of various church groups during the year, so they did not overlap or conflict.
- Reviewed financial information monthly and compared it with the budget.
  - Provided a Financial Outlook and Status message to Session each month.
  - Provided messages to the congregation in Quarterly Giving Statements.
- Conducted an Internal Financial Review of the financial activities, policies, and procedures at the church determining sound procedures and oversight are in place.
- Managed financial resources of the church, coordinating with our banks and investment partners to assure safe, proper, and efficient holdings of WPC funds.
  - Updated our investment policies for Short-Term Assets and the Capital Reserve Fund.
- Legacy Giving presentations made at the church and remotely.
  - Continue to encourage undesignated LG to WPC through a variety of opportunities.
- Conducted a Level III Study of the Capital Reserve Plan.
- Established a year-round Stewardship Committee
  - Have coordinated offering talks throughout the year to highlight works supported through Stewardship
  - Conducted a Flourishing stewardship campaign.
- Working with every Ministry, prepared a 2025 Operating Budget, fully funding the Ministry requests.
- After 4 years of budget deficits, completed the year with a balanced budget (Praise).
  - While this is good news worth sharing, it was accomplished despite continued shortfalls in income. The shortfall in income was offset by underspending by the Ministries. We ended the year with a surplus that is less than one month’s average electric bill.

## **WORSHIP MINISTRY**

### **BECKY MCKINLEY (27), MODERATOR**

**Mission:** The mission of the WPC Worship Ministry is to support, enhance, and provide a welcoming environment for congregational worship services to all who attend Williamsburg Presbyterian Church (WPC), both members and visitors.

**Members:** The members of the Worship Ministry are committed to sharing the blessings of Christian worship and fellowship. The members are:

Becky McKinley, Moderator  
John Morgan, Pastor  
Rebecca Caprio and Matthew Underwood, Ushers/Greeters  
Ruth Cobb, Flower Guild  
Nancy Hammond, Communion Servers  
Joan Seamon, Communion Preparation  
Harley Stewart, Liturgists  
Laura Bechtler, Sharing Faith with the Children

Rebecca, Ruth, Nancy, Joan, Harley, and Laura coordinate various aspects of WPC worship as noted above and their reports are as follows:

#### **Usher/Greeter Report**

The WPC Greeters and Ushers created a welcoming and caring environment each Sunday morning.

- WPC had a group of 82 members, regular visitors, and friends of WPC serve as Ushers/Greeters during 2024. 22 new members expressed an interest in learning more about the ministry.
- Matthew Underwood joined the Worship Ministry team as co-coordinator of the Ushers and Greeters in October 2024.

#### **Flower Guild Report**

The Worship Ministry's Flower Guild provided flowers to enhance the WPC worship experience all throughout the year.

- There are currently nine members of the WPC Flower Guild.
- The Flower Guild coordinates the weekly presence of flower arrangements donated by WPC members.
- On World Communion Sunday the Guild coordinates members providing home-baked bread for the Communion Table.
- The Guild also provides seasonal wreaths, Christmas and Easter decorations, and decorations for Palm Sunday, Pentecost, and harvest time.
  - The Guild's ad hoc Christmas decorating committee's membership, which decorates the Sanctuary and Stevenson Hall, has risen to fifteen and continues to be a success.
- The Guild coordinates with the Diaconate to provide lilies and poinsettias, donated by the Congregation, to WPC families unable to attend services at Easter and Christmas.

#### **Communion Servers and Communion Preparation Report**

WPC served communion fifteen times during the 2024 calendar year on dates established by Session in its Standing Orders.

- During Sunday morning worship, sixteen servers secured by the communion server coordinator share the Lord's Supper. Servers are members who are active or who have served as Elders or Deacons at WPC or their previous churches. Servers are sought through direct email communication between the coordinator and the Elder or Deacon.

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- Communion was also served at the Lenten lunches. These gatherings included homilies by pastors and staff and roundtable discussion followed by communion at each table. The weekly attendance averaged 40-50 members. These gatherings replaced Wednesday Lenten services at 7 pm in the Sanctuary.
- The Communion Service on Christmas Eve was offered at 10:00 PM. This was a change from previous years when the late Christmas Eve service was held at 11:00 PM.
- In the Spring of 2024, a brief orientation on communion serving details was shared during WPC new Elders and Deacons officers training. To encourage more eligible members to sign up and take part in the serving of communion, information about communion, dates, and early sign up was also distributed through email to all currently serving Elders and Deacons.
- For safety, serving guidelines were revised to include that all servers use the handrails on the stairs when going to and from the communion table in the chancel.
- The Communion preparation team sets up the elements for use on the Communion Table and the balcony for both Sunday services.

### **Liturgist Report**

Liturgists made announcements and scripture readings at 49 Sunday Services with the exception of Campus Ministry, Youth and Children's Sundays.

- WPC had a committed group of 64 volunteer liturgists in 2024, six of whom were new members. Liturgist duties are evenly distributed so that liturgists generally have a ten-month interval between assignments.
- Liturgists are scheduled one month in advance and are sent a reminder one week before the assigned Sunday.
- Invitations to become WPC liturgists were sent to 47 new members during the year. Follow-ups were done as indicated.
- Communications are done almost entirely by email.

### **Sharing Faith with the Children**

Laura Bechtler volunteered to assume the duty of scheduling leaders for the 11 AM worship services and schedules leaders on a monthly basis.

The Worship Ministry welcomes WPC members to participate in any of these aspects of the Ministry's work. For more information or to volunteer to serve, please contact the following:

- Usher or greeter: Rebecca Caprio – [rebecca.graningerpark@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.graningerpark@gmail.com)
- Flower Guild: Ruth Cobb – [cobb797@yahoo.com](mailto:cobb797@yahoo.com)
- Communion Server: Nancy Hammond – [nch10s@aol.com](mailto:nch10s@aol.com)
- Communion Preparation: Joan Seamon – [joanseamon3@gmail.com](mailto:joanseamon3@gmail.com)
- Liturgist: Harley Stewart – [hstewart9@cox.net](mailto:hstewart9@cox.net)
- Sharing Faith: Laura Bechtler – [laurabechtler@gmail.com](mailto:laurabechtler@gmail.com)

**WPC DIACONATE**  
**COPPER PERRY (25), MODERATOR**

The Board of Deacons is well into its new ministry and care team model established in 2023. We have six care teams and six ministry teams led by Copper Perry, moderator; Eric Beckhusen, vice moderator; and Jo Ann Youhas, secretary. The deacons are guided by Pastor Pam Hrnrcir.

There are 30 deacons focused on care for our members at the time they need us. Our work is supplemented by a cadre of volunteers who provide immeasurable assistance.

The deacons are the heart and hands of our church and show God's love by caring for others.

In addition to their service in the care and ministry teams, the deacons also helped with a 90+ Birthday Party celebration for our members over 90 and an overnight bus trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to see *Daniel* at the Sight and Sound Theater.

**CARE TEAMS (6 Teams)**

**Care Connections** (Note: This year the WISH [Welcoming a Child, Illness, Surgery and Hospice] was folded in to Care Connections.)

Harold Herring (2025), Jennifer LaDow (2026), and Suzanne Stuart (2027)

Congregational Team Members – Margie Ambrose and Nancy Moseley

Care Connections ministers to those members who, through unavoidable circumstances, are less connected to the church on a short or long-term basis. Team members and volunteers regularly reach out to these members through phone calls and visits and coordinate meals as needed. Care Connections also coordinates with Celebrations and Concerns and Flower Sharing to provide additional connection and encouragement.

This year we specifically reached out to approximately 60 members who had not attended services for an extended period. We sent cards to all, and attempted to contact all by telephone and to visit those over 80.

**Grief**

Bev Whitley (2027) and Copper Perry (2025)

Congregational Team Members – Bruce Minnett and Toby Lane

The Grief Care team serves as (or assists in coordinating) a family liaison for memorial services. Over the course of a year and beyond, a member of the team reaches out to those who have lost loved ones with cards, phone calls, visits, prayer shawls, Stephen Ministry booklets, and other resources.

In 2024, we provided grief support to nine members. It is rewarding work to show care to the bereaved and to remind them that we care and that the life of their loved one is not forgotten.

*“What a treat to have you visit....and how nice to have the two very helpful books on loss and grief.”*

**Care Teams for Our Continuing Care Communities**

**Brookdale Plus** (Brookdale plus any other smaller communities)

Robin Sabo (2026)

**Patriots Colony**

Sue Rennagel (2025)

**Williamsburg Landing**

Doris Gilfillan (2026)

Carolyn Lodzieski (2026)

**Windsor Meade**

Happy Simmons (2025)

Martha Burian (2026)

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The work of these deacons touches the lives of residents of the continuing care communities every day. Collectively they serve 141 members. They usher at services, serve communion, sing and play the piano, and arrange one-on-one dinners or gatherings for fellowship and to provide opportunities for Pastor Pam to spend time with members she may not get to see on a regular basis. They deliver flowers, send cards and emails, visit, make phone calls, invite neighbors to join them for meals, and provide comfort at times of loss. What an amazing ministry they provide as an extension of our church showing God’s love in community.

This chart shows the number of times they reached out and made contact with the communities they serve:

Phone calls	70+
Visits	80+
Flowers	60+
Gatherings (to include dinners)	26+

*“Many, many thanks for the friendship you showed Mom before she died and the kindness you extended to me.”*

*“Thank you for all you do to make WPC a welcoming church.”*

*“I enjoyed the poinsettia you brought.”*

*“Your visit really perked up my day and made me feel better.”*

From a 101-year-old blind member:

*“Thank you for returning the flower vase to WPC. Also, for bringing the bulletins each week. You do so much.”*

## **MINISTRY TEAMS (6 Teams)**

### **Celebrations and Concerns**

Sarah Horner (2025) and Laura Osman (2027)

The Celebrations and Concerns ministry expresses care, concern and celebration to church members by sending personalized cards and notes. In 2024 we sent 288 cards thanking members of the congregation for their work, acknowledging milestone birthdays, anniversaries, confirmations, graduations, weddings, births and baptisms, as well as welcoming new members. We also acknowledged life events such as illnesses, end of life care, and death.

Celebrations and Concerns relies on sources such as the WPC prayer chain, the church office, pastors, and members to learn of life events. This includes reaching out to members who worship from home or continuing care facilities.

### **Christian Fellowship**

Happy Simmons (2025), Sue Rennagel (2025), Sarah Dulaney (2025), Jim Carey (2027)

Congregational Team Members – Ruth Cobb, Carroll Creech (deceased), Karol Sibley and Cherie Wodarski

*Acts 2:42 – They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer.*

The Christian Fellowship ministry has organized and hosted a wide array of opportunities for our members to gather in fellowship in 2024.

- 51 Coffee Fellowship every Sunday between worship services
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with live music and children's activities
- 3 New Member Receptions
- A Williams' Reception
- Fall Gathering Ice Cream Social
- Dining Together Potluck
- What's Your Next Move Luncheon

These activities are a way for us to gather, get acquainted with one another and new members, and deepen our relationship with God and with one another.

*Melody Dillon, Children's Director reports after meeting with two families about what they love about WPC:*

*"...the families LOVE the fellowship time! More than one family told me that their kids call WPC "the cookie church" and that new families decide to come back after being at the fellowship time. I just wanted to make sure that your whole team knows how much your work is valued and appreciated! Thank you for all you do!"*

### **Flower Sharing**

Laura Bechtler (2025), Leigh Salud (2026), Carol Thomas (2026)

Congregational Team Members – Linda Stewart, Jeri Hardy, Margie Ambrose, Ellen D'Orsogna, Robin Sabo, Ann Schulte, Carolyn Lodzieski, Sue Rennagel, Ruth Cobb, Regina Thek, Sherrie Chappell, Karen Munzel, Jackie Ward, Beth Stabler

Every Sunday our sanctuary is graced with a beautiful arrangement of fresh flowers offered by a church member in honor or in the memory of someone they cherished. After worship services the flower sharing team takes turns rearranging the flowers into smaller arrangements and delivering them to members who could use a lift.

In 2024 we arranged and delivered 221 arrangements and nearly 30 poinsettias. Members who may be experiencing isolation, illness, grief and doubt are reassured that they are not forgotten and that their church cares about them and wants to stay connected. It's a wonderful to visit, bring a smile, and share God's love.

When flower arrangements go out the team adds a card that says:

**These flowers have been in our church where hymns were sung, prayers offered and the Word preached. Now, with their silent message, they come to you with our love and good wishes.**

*"Thanks so much for the visit and the beautiful bunch of flowers. They brightened up my room."*

### **New Member**

Eric Beckhusen (2026), Deborah Rockafellow (2025) and Rodney Lawrence (2027)

The New Member team responds to individuals or families who are interested in becoming a member or learning more about WPC. They connect with prospective members to provide information on programs and activities; invite them to the new member information luncheon to learn and meet others; gather biographies and organize photos for the online directory; and introduce new members at a special coffee fellowship.

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In 2024 we had three new member classes with a total of 53 new members.

February 25	16
June 16	16
October 20	21
<b>Total New Members</b>	<b>53</b>

### **Memorial Receptions**

Rebecca Caprio (2026), Jo Ann Youhas (2025), Karen Lauritzen (2027), Julia Smith (2027)

Congregational Team Members – Linda Eichhorn, Ruth Cobb, Pat Murray, Happy Simmons, Laura Osman, Kathryn Hall, Nancy Moseley, Janie Moyers

The Memorial Receptions ministry team provides comfort and hospitality to grieving family and friends at the reception following the memorial service. The attention to detail and care is beyond compare and provides time to visit, converse, remember and console while the team provides refreshments and a place to show pictures and memorabilia. Memorial receptions are often attended by nonchurch members, so we consider this an opportunity for outreach.

In 2024 there were 13 memorial receptions serving everything from simple punch and cookies to much more elaborate events depending on the family’s preference. A member of the team contacts the family representative, expresses condolences, and guides them through the reception planning process, making suggestions to ease the burden of decision making.

The team arrives prior to the service to set up and stays for clean-up until the last guest or family member is ready to leave. We regularly receive verbal and written appreciation for the care, compassion, thoughtfulness and willingness to serve the team exhibits.

*From a team member –*

*“...the words I hear over and over from spouses, children young and old, grandchildren, siblings, and friends of the deceased are always the same.*

*Those words are **Thank you.**”*

### **Memorial Services**

Ford Moseley (2027), Jack Lassiter (2027), Kathy Chambers (2027), Dave Littell (2025)

Congregational Team Members – Lynn Newcomer, Ric Cheston, Terry Backus

The Memorial Services team assists the pastor and the family with the details and logistics of memorial services. They contact the City, the College and sometimes neighboring churches to ensure adequate parking. Team members reserve family and deacon seating, receive and arrange placement of flowers, ensure the Library is comfortable for family members to gather, greet attending guests and coordinate the guest book at the front and back entrance of the church. John Schoenberger, the WPC audio technician, supports services with streaming and Stevenson Hall visuals.

In 2024 services were held for the following:

**George Oehler** January 21, 2024, 2:00 p.m.  
Family Assistant: Patty and Bob Feely  
Deacons Assisting: Copper Perry, Nancy Miller, Duncan McIver, Dave Littell, Lynn Newcomer, Terry Backus  
Pastor: Rev John Morgan and Rev Pam Hrcir



**Jean Hibbard** January 26, 2024, 2:00 p.m.  
Family Assistant: Robin Sabo  
Deacons Assisting: Duncan McIver, Nancy Miller, Copper Perry, Dave Littell, Lynn Newcomer, Terry Backus  
Pastor: Rev Pam Hrcir

**Kristin Smith** February 3, 2024, 2:00 p.m.  
Family Assistant: Sue Rennagel  
Deacons Assisting: Lynn Newcomer, Nancy Miller, Dave Littell, Terry Backus, Copper Perry, Duncan McIver  
Pastor: Rev John Morgan

**Jean Young** February 9, 2024, 11:00 a.m.  
Family Assistant: Joane Bozek  
Deacons Assisting: Terry Backus, Lynn Newcomer, Copper Perry  
Pastor: Rev Pam Hrcir

**Duncan McIver** April 12, 2024, 2:00 p.m.  
Family Assistant: Copper Perry  
Deacons Assisting: Lynn Newcomer, Terry Backus, Copper Perry, Jack Lassiter, Karen Lauritzen, Nancy Miller  
Pastor: Rev Pam Hrcir

**Richard Curtin** June 1, 2024, 2:00 p.m.  
Family Assistant: Nancy Moseley  
Deacons Assisting: Ford Moseley, Kathy Chambers, Jack Lassiter, Copper Perry, Dave Littell  
Pastor: Rev John Morgan

**Rice Trolan** July 12, 2024, 11:00 a.m.  
Family Assistant: Happy Simmons  
Deacons Assisting: Ford Moseley, Jack Lassiter, Kathy Chambers, Lynn Newcomer, Copper Perry, Ric Cheston  
Pastor: Rev Pam Hrcir

**Donald Darnton** July 12, 2024, 11:00 a.m.  
Family Assistant: Happy Simmons  
Deacons Assisting: Ford Moseley, Jack Lassiter, Kathy Chambers, Lynn Newcomer, Copper Perry, Ric Cheston  
Pastor: Rev Pam Hrcir

**Carroll Creech** July 19, 2024, 1:00 p.m.  
Family Assistant: Happy Simmons  
Deacons Assisting: Ford Moseley, Kathy Chambers, Dave Littell, Copper Perry, Nancy Moseley (assist)  
Pastor: Rev Pam Hrcir

**Samuel Bowlin** August 10, 2024, 1:00 p.m.  
Family Assistant: Sue Rennagel  
Deacons Assisting: Ford Moseley, Kathy Chambers, Jack Lassiter, Copper Perry, Dave Littell  
Pastor: Rev John Morgan

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<b>Fletcher (Sandy) Campbell</b>	August 11, 2024, 11:00 a.m.
Family Assistant:	Ann Schulte
Deacons Assisting:	Ford Moseley, Jack Lassiter, Lynn Newcomer (assisting), Copper Perry, Nancy Moseley (assisting)
Pastor:	Rev Pam Hrcir
<b>Elinore Thuermer</b>	September 11, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
Family Assistant:	Bev Whitley
Deacons Assisting:	Ford Moseley, Kathy Chambers, Dave Littell, Terry Backus (assisting), Nancy Moseley (assisting), Copper Perry
Pastor:	Rev Pam Hrcir
<b>Wilhelmina White</b>	November 24, 2024, 11:a.m.
Family Assistant:	Copper Perry
Deacons Assisting:	Ford Moseley, Kathy Chambers, Dave Littell, Jack Lassiter, Copper Perry, Nancy Moseley (assisting)
Pastor:	Rev John Morgan

### **SPECIAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

Through the leadership of the previous moderator, Janie Moyers, the deacons undertook two outreach activities:

- a 90+ birthday party (suggested by Lee Saxton)
- an overnight bus trip to the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania to see the production *Daniel* (suggested by Dave Littell)

In April 2024, we hosted a 90+ birthday party. The team working on the event invited 44 church members, and 31 attended with their guests of choice. The festivities included fun activities like a cake walk, a competition for the most interesting life, music from the 40's and of course – cake, ice cream and a party hat. Each table was festively decorated, and a host was seated at each table to help with drinks and special requests. Many of those who attended were photographed and the deacons delivered their pictures to them after the party. We got a tremendously positive response including many thank you notes and we hope to have a repeat performance soon!

The *Daniel* overnight bus trip was on October 9 and 10, 2024. A chartered bus with 38 members departed from the church parking lot, stopped along the way for lunch and arrived at the theater in time to enjoy the property before the play. Dinner was arranged for all at Miller's Smorgasbord followed by an overnight stay in Paradise, Pennsylvania. The trip was well received and those who went thoroughly enjoyed it and look forward to planning another trip there.

*“Please thank the Birthday Party organizers for such a lovely lunch and get together! We're also very grateful for the delivery of the photos!”*

**WPC CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**JERRY HOWELL (26), MODERATOR**

Committee Members: Jerry Howell (Moderator), Ric Cheston, Ellen D’Orsogna, Roban Graham, Jay Hardy, Dave McLain, Bev Whitley and Pastor John E. Morgan

The 2024-25 Congregational Nominating Committee is pleased to Nominate 21 Members for Leadership positions in the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church:

- Six Elders for the Class of 2028
- Ten Deacons for the Class of 2028
- One Deacon for the Class of 2026
- Four Members-at-Large to the Congregational Nominating Committee of 2025-26

We thank all those Members who provided thoughtful input to this year’s nominating process and are deeply grateful for the members below who have accepted these important Calls:

*Six Nominations for Elder, the Class of 2028*

- Megan Davis
- Carolyn Morgan
- Pat Murray
- Len Shartzter
- C.W. Stacks
- Greg Walton

*Ten Nominations for Deacons for the Class of 2028*

- Bruce Graham
- Skip Perry
- Cheryl Roettger
- Barbara Smith
- Jack Snell
- Jane Snyder
- Linda Stewart
- Barbara Timko
- Patty Yewcic
- Steve Young

*One Nomination for Deacon to fill a vacancy in the Class of 2026*

- Matilda “T” McLain

*Four Members-At-Large to the Congregational Nominating Committee, Class of 2025-26*

- Jim Kirkpatrick
- Karen Lee
- Nancy Moseley
- Jim Winthrop

## **Elder, Class of 2028**

**Megan Davis** was born in Jacksonville, FL but grew up in Williamsburg. Her family moved here from Michigan in 2008, just in time for her to start Kindergarten. Outside of church, she is actively pursuing a degree in Teaching Education and works in the local school district as a Kindergarten Teacher Assistant. Throughout the years and still currently, Megan stays involved with the church. In 2021 she served as the Youth Elder for one term. At WPC, she is actively involved in the Hunger & Homeless team, ushering, Sunday school, Joyful Ringers bell group, and UKIRK.

**Pat Murray** was born in Connecticut, grew up in Southern California and spent much of her adult life in Hawaii. Most of Pat's career was with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, International Airport and Seaport Inspections, in Honolulu, Hawaii. She retired as the Honolulu Area Port Director in 2002 and she and her husband, Rick, moved to Wisconsin to care for Rick's mother. Pat and Rick later moved to Williamsburg in 2006 and joined WPC in 2009. Since joining WPC, she has served as Deacon in the Christian Fellowship Ministry, Moderator of the Board of Deacons, Usher Coordinator, Co-Moderator of Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team, Chair of PW Membership Committee and Co-Moderator of PW Circle 7. In her leisure time, Pat enjoys listening to music, reading, doing crosswords and being with her little dog, Gracie.

**Carolyn Morgan** grew up in Winston-Salem, NC in the Presbyterian Church. After graduating from Vanderbilt University with a B.A. in Mathematics, she received a M.S. in Mathematics from Wright State University and a PhD in Statistics from Union College. Prior to retiring from Hampton University as Chair of the Mathematics Department, she worked at General Motors and as a statistician at GE Research and Development Center. Carolyn is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and has served on the board of Universities Space Research Association, Epsilon Delta Boule' Foundation (EDBF) and other organizations. After becoming a member of WPC in 2012, she has served as an usher, Deacon, emcee for the Open Door Concert Series, member and co-moderator of Circle 4, and a member of the Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team. Carolyn has volunteered at the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank, serves as an Executive Partner for W&M Mason School of Business, and a mentor for the EDBF Leadership Program and the Links Organization. Carolyn has a son, Eric, and a daughter, Kristin and she enjoys walking and doing crossword and Sudoku puzzles.

**Len Shartzter** professed his faith in Jesus Christ at age 11 and was baptized at Warwick Baptist Church in Newport News, VA. He graduated from West Point in 1977, joined the Army Reserve in 1988, and began his IRS career in 1991 after earning an MBA and CPA license. Mobilized to Afghanistan in 2004, Len was widowed in 2009 and later married Faith, who lost her spouse in 2008. Len has worshipped in military chapels and churches while serving as a deacon three times, most recently at WPC (2020–2023). Since joining WPC in 2014, he has been active as a liturgist, Confirmation and Sunday School teacher, and a member of the Resource Committee, Internal Audit team, and Hunger/Homeless Committee. Now retired, Len enjoys writing, traveling, golfing, bowling and spending time with his six grandchildren.

**C W Stacks** grew up in Davidson, NC and joined WPC in 2018 when he and his wife, Leslie, moved to Williamsburg. He was a high school teacher and coach for 44 years. CW is a member of the Hunger and Homeless, Global Missions, Prison Ministry, and Tutoring committees. He has been involved with the youth group since joining WPC, has been a 2nd family member for a WM student, serves on the Thriving Congregations team, serves as a Stephen Minister, and is a member of the Fellowship Class, Bible and Bacon, and Squares bible study groups. CW helped lead the WPC Journey to the Holy Land in 2023, and will again help lead the next trip which we hope will happen in 2026.

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**Greg Walton** is a military brat who grew up all over the country and moved to Williamsburg in 2016 with his wife (Jill) and 5 kids (Taylor Jane, Jackson, Kayleigh, Rhodes, and Nolan) after switching from active duty Army to the reserves. His family joined WPC in 2016, transferring from Clarksville Presbyterian Church, where Greg and Jill were married. Greg is currently a defense contractor working with the Air Force in Langley AFB. He has previously served as a Deacon and currently works with the Rise Against Hunger program. He also has been singing in the adult choir since joining.

### **Deacon, Class of 2026**

**T Matilda McLain** (filling a vacancy)

### **Deacon, Class of 2028**

**Bruce Graham** grew up in the Richmond area and he and his wife Roban and their family have lived in Williamsburg since 1986. They have been members of WPC since that time. Bruce and Roban have 3 daughters and six grandchildren. Bruce retired from work at NASA in 2019. He has served twice previously as a deacon at WPC and manned the church's sound room, in its various incarnations, for about 20 years.

**Earl "Skip" Perry** and his wife Copper moved to Williamsburg in October from Rockbridge Baths in the Shenandoah Valley where they lived for 10 years after living in the DC metro for most of their working years. They joined WPC in 2020 and Skip serves as a Stephen Minister. Skip and Copper have three adult children and five grandsons. Skip is a retired naval aviator and government contractor. He grew up in Virginia and Minnesota and graduated from the University of Minnesota before living in many places across the country.

**Cheryl Roettger** grew up in Baltimore, Maryland and moved to Williamsburg with her husband, Robert, in 2016. Cheryl joined WPC in 2017 and became a WPC deacon in 2018. Her husband is an active member at St. Bedes Catholic Church and serves as a Joy Minister. They have two adult children and five (soon to be 6) grandchildren who also live in Virginia. Cheryl is a retired elementary/special education teacher. She has served as an elder, Sunday school teacher, and church youth leader in her previous churches. She currently serves as a greeter and assists with the WPC herb garden. Since moving to Williamsburg, Cheryl has become an active volunteer with the Virginia Master Gardeners and the Virginia Master Naturalist organizations.

**Barbara Smith** was born in Chicago, IL but was a Navy Junior and moved all around the country. She married Bob Smith who was in the Army and eventually settled in Williamsburg in 1986. Barbara and Bob joined WPC in 1992. Our children, Kristi and Rob, were baptized at this church. Barbara joined Circle 8 and has been active in the Circle since, serving as Moderator of the Circle for 9 years. Her Circle is active in all the Presbyterian Women's events and fundraisers. Since moving to Patriot's Colony almost 2 years ago, Barbara has made friends with many of the Presbyterians that live here. She found it interesting how many new people there are to meet that attend the 11am service and she didn't know them because she and Bob attend the 9:30am service!

**Jack Snell** grew up in the Chicago area, and has lived in Williamsburg since retirement in 2003. Jack and wife Elizabeth joined WPC shortly thereafter. Jack and Elizabeth have 2 grown children and 4 adult grandchildren who live on opposite coasts. He served as Elder and Stephens Minister at Fourth Presbyterian Church in DC before moving to VA. Jack has been active in small group bible studies for many decades. In Williamsburg he is active in Kiwanis and has volunteered at Grove, Jamestown Settlement, and the James River Association.

**Jane Snyder** was born in Memphis, TN but grew up mostly in Baton Rouge, LA. She is a second generation "PK" whose mother and grandmother were both Presbyterian ministers. Jane started coming to WPC regularly in 2017 while a graduate student at William & Mary. She joined in 2022. Jane works at the Yorktown Public Library. At WPC, she is a youth group leader, plays in the handbell choir, and serves on the Campus Ministry Committee. She has also been a Small Group Leader at the Montreat Youth Conference for several years now.

**Linda Stewart** lived most of her married life in Syracuse, New York. She moved to Williamsburg in October of 2013 to be closer to family. Linda has two grown children and four grandchildren. Since joining WPC in 2014, Linda has served one term as Deacon at WPC. In her previous church, she also served as church secretary, Deacon, Elder, Clerk of Session and on The Committee on Ministry. At WPC Linda volunteers to usher, rearrange the Chancel flowers and set up for coffee hour. She is also a member of Priscilla Circle. Linda enjoys being part of our church family and looks forward to serving on the Deacon Board once again.

**Barb Timko** grew up in Westfield, NJ attending The Presbyterian Church in Westfield where she was active in youth programs and handbell choir. As an adult she joined Presbyterian Women, cooked meals for various in-house and outreach programs and served as an Elder. She graduated from Radford University and enjoyed a career as a systems analyst, working for Exxon and AT&T. Barb met her husband Chuck at work, and they married in 1987. They have three grown children and one adorable grandson. They retired and moved from NJ to Williamsburg where they joined WPC in March 2018. Barb is a member of the Hunger and Homeless Team, kitchen committee, PW circle 5 and PWCT. She coordinates Motel meals and the yearly Eastern Shore Habitat trip, and volunteers weekly at Grove Christian Outreach Center.

**Patricia (Patty) Hile Yewcic** was born in Bell Hospital and grew up in Williamsburg, VA. She attended WPC where she participated in the choir, Girl Scouts and the youth group, attending many youth retreats throughout Virginia. She moved to Chesapeake, VA, in 1983 to begin teaching special education at Deep Creek H.S., where she taught for 27 years. Following retirement in 2010, Patty was an elementary school reading tutor for eight years with the PALS program and worked three seasons at the front desk of the Old Faithful Inn in Yellowstone National Park. She continues to travel often and volunteers at the Big Pink music venue in Hampton, VA, and at First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach. Patty moved back “home” in the fall of 2023 to live closer to her son Steven, DIL Paula, and bonus grandson Duke. On November 18, 2024, granddaughter Gracie was born. Since renewing her membership at WPC on June 16, 2024, she has participated in the Kids Connect program, helped in the nursery, served as an usher and substituted in a Sunday school class. A favorite weekly activity is being a math tutor in a 2nd grade class at Matthew Whaley E.S. (where she attended), through the WPC tutoring program. Patty previously served on the W&M alumni planning board for South Hampton Roads which led to a post with the Williamsburg group in recent months. She continues to serve as president of the John More Association (Scottish/clan Grant), having been elected to that post in 2005 as the first female to hold the position since the JMA’s incorporation in 1890. Patty says, “My father, grandfather and great-grandfather each served WPC as members of the session and it would be my honor to continue our family’s history of service to this church community.”

**Steve Young** grew up in Greenville, SC. He was educated at Clemson University where he earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees in engineering. He is a retired manufacturing executive. Steve and his wife Kathy moved to Williamsburg in 2021. They became members of WPC in 2024. They have three adult children and nine grandsons who reside out of state. In previous churches Steve has served on parish council, festival committees, and as a bingo helper. He served as an usher at their church in Columbus. He and Kathy volunteered last summer making sandwiches and packing lunches at WISC. They attended the recent volunteer seminar and plan to serve where needed.

## 2024 Church Statistical Report



<b>Church</b>	Williamsburg	PIN	23127
<b>Presbytery</b>	Eastern Virginia		
<b>Address</b>	215 Richmond Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23185-3534		
<b>Phone</b>	757-229-4235	<b>Fax</b>	757-253-7737
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:sfoster@mywpc.org">sfoster@mywpc.org</a>		
<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.mywpc.org">www.mywpc.org</a>		

### Membership

Prior Active Members	1021	Adjusted membership	1021
<b>Gains</b>		<b>Losses</b>	
Certificate	16	Certificate	15
Youth Professions	4	Deaths	30
Professions & Reaffirmations	34	Deleted for any Other Reason	38
<b>Total Gains</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>Total Losses</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Total Ending Active Members</b>	<b>992</b>		

### Baptisms

Presented by Others	1	Average Weekly Worship Attendance	519
At Confirmation	1	Friends of the Congregation	258
All Other	0	Ruling Elders on Session	18
		Do you have Deacons?	Yes

### Age Distribution of Active Members

17 & Under	20
18 - 25	37
26 - 40	136
41 - 55	71
56 - 70	150
Over 70	578
<b>Total Age Distribution</b>	<b>992</b>

### People with Disabilities

Hearing impairment	36
Sight impairment	6
Mobility impairment	68
Other impairment	0

### Gender Distribution

Women	605
Men	387
Non-Binary	0

### Youth in Congregation

Age 4 and under	7	Middle School (6th – 8th grade)	9
Elementary School (K-5th grade)	48	High School (9th – 12th grade)	17
		<b>Total Youth</b>	<b>81</b>

### Racial Ethnic

Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian	2	Native American/Alaska Native/Indigenous	0
Black/African American/African	7	White	974
Middle Eastern/North African	0	Multiracial	2
Hispanic/Latino-a	7		
		<b>Total Racial Ethnic</b>	<b>992</b>

<b>Budgeted Income</b>	<b>1,485,879</b>
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<b>Budgeted Expense</b>	<b>1,482,499</b>
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### Receipts

Regular Contributions	Bequests
Capital Building Fund	Other Income
Investment Income	Subsidy or Aid

### Expenditures

Local Program	889,799	Investment Expenditures	0
Local Mission	166,620	Per Capita Apprt	0
Capital Expenditures	246,991	Other Mission	0