



The Season of ORDINARY TIME

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AUGUST 10, 2025

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

God of grace, who are we that you should care for us? Yet you surprise us with grace, infuse us with hope, and teach us a better way. Make us ever more faithful, and ever more grateful, as we watch for the coming of your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John E. Morgan

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

John Spiegel

PRELUDE

Fugue in C

Buxtehude

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: The heavens declare the righteousness of God.

All: The earth declares God's beauty.

Leader: From the rising of the sun to its setting

All: God's word shines forth in glory.

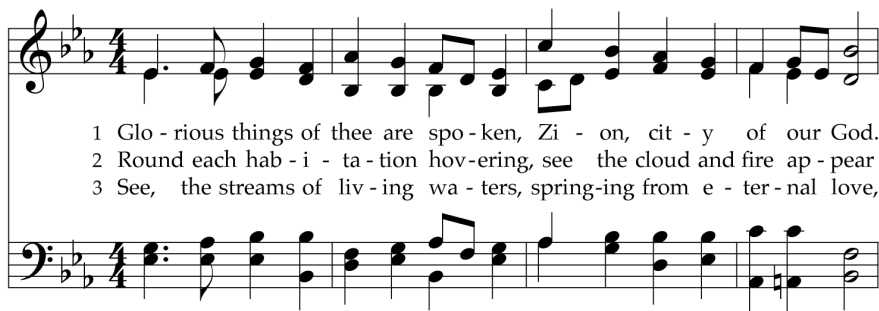
Please rise in body or spirit. The people's responses are in **bold type**.



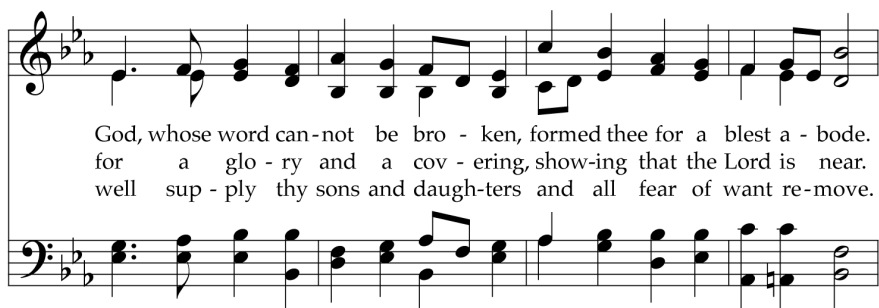
Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-coil hearing loop. Look for the blue sticker on the pews.

HYMN 81*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken**

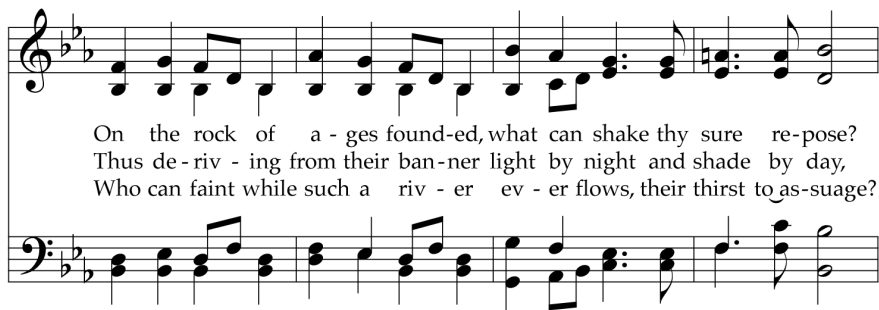
AUSTRIAN HYMN



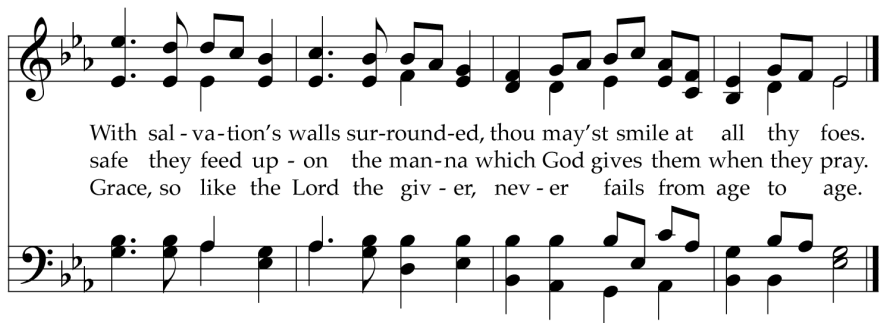
1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20–21 with allusions to several other passages.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: My brothers and sisters, remember that God loves us; therefore by the mercy of God, let us cease to do evil and learn to do good.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God, you call us to do good, seek justice, and care for those in need, yet how often we place our own comforts above compassion for others. Forgive us, we pray, and cleanse us from these and all our offenses through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

*KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

Weaver



*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: God is merciful and kind; though our sins are like scarlet, they become like snow. Be at peace, for your sins are washed clean by the goodness of God.

*GLORIA

Glory Be to the Father

Weaver



**At this time any and all children through the 5th grade
are invited to come forward for Sharing Faith with Children.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

John Speigel

God of Hope, by faith we know that you created the world, and that what is seen is made by things that are not visible. Open our eyes to your presence among us that we may hear your word with clarity and a sureness of hope, as we follow you in all righteousness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

John Speigel

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 50:1-8 (responsive)

Leader: The mighty one, God the Lord,
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**All: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.**

Leader: Our God comes and does not keep silent;
before him is a devouring fire
and a mighty tempest all around him.

**All: He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:**

Leader: Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

**All: The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge.**

Leader: Hear, O my people, and I will speak,
O Israel, I will testify against you.
I am God, your God.

**All: Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;
your burnt offerings are continually before me.**

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Homeland"

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 340

This Is My Song

FINLANDIA



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Lloyd Stone; stanza 3, Georgia Harkness, alt.

MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933, alt.

Text St. 1–2 © 1934, ren. 1962 The Lorenz Corp.; St. 3 © 1964 The Lorenz Corp.

Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 The Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

FINLANDIA
11.10.11.10.11.10

(Hymns continues on the next page.)

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: FROM HEBREWS 11:1-3 (unison)**

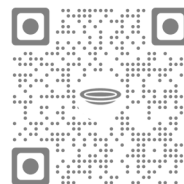
Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued faithful stewardship to WPC. May our offerings continue to help us be the light for our neighbors and our siblings in Christ all over the world. Offering envelopes can be found inside the friendship register book. We invite you to make your offering or pledge payment in one of the following ways:



- Place your offering into the plates as you exit the sanctuary
- Visit mywpc.org/offering or scan the QR code at the right to give online
- Mail your offering to the church office at 215 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Heart Ever Faithful J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Ellen Peters, soprano

My heart ever faithful,
Sing praises, be joyful,
Thy Jesus is near!

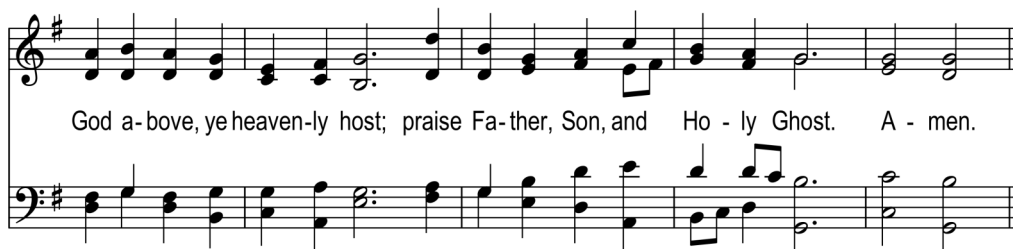
Away with complaining,
Faith ever maintaining,
My Jesus is here!

My heart ever faithful,
Sing praises, be joyful,
Thy Jesus is here!

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH



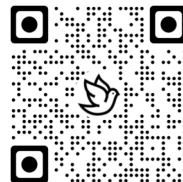
***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

***INVITATION AND THE LORD'S DAY GREETING**

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. If you are joining us online, please remember to 'sign' our online friendship register:

- Click on the *Welcome to WPC!* Click here to sign the Friendship Register banner at the top of the website page
- Visit mywpc.org/friendship or scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.



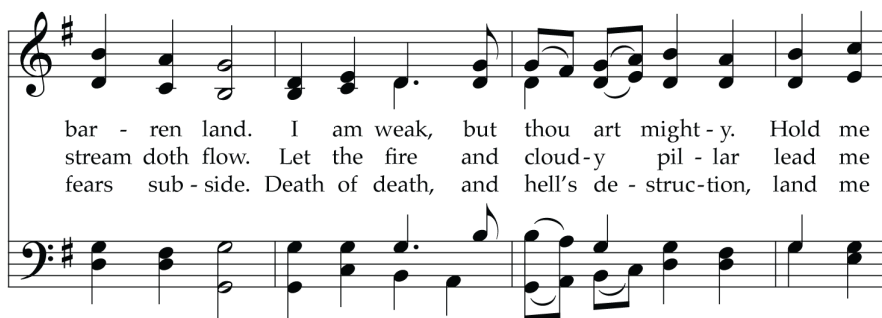
***HYMN 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

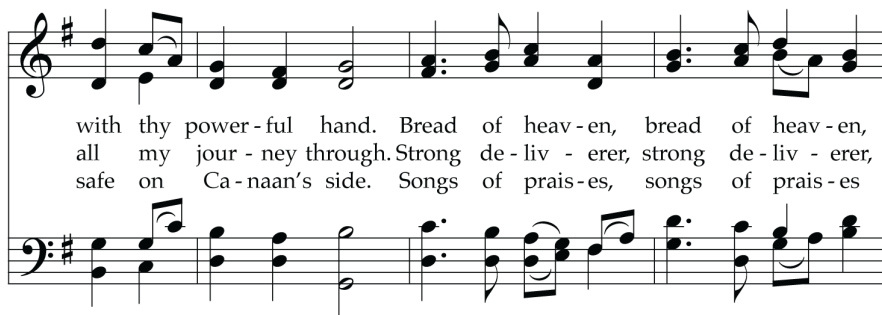
CWM RHONDDA




1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud-y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc-tion, land me



with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es



feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Toccata and Fugue in F

Buxtehude

The service of worship concludes after the postlude. The music can be enjoyed or used as an opportunity for prayer. You may remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly and without disturbing those who choose to stay.

✧ NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC ✧

After the past two weeks featuring the flute and string sounds of the pipe organ, today we move on to the *principal* stops. The principals produce the “typical organ sound”, not as imitative of orchestral instruments as some others. They are particularly useful for the baroque music of German composers such as Bach and Buxtehude, whose compositions often consist of multiple, independent musical lines that need to be heard clearly. Our prelude and postlude are by the influential organist and composer, Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707). He greatly influenced the composer of our offertory anthem, J. S. Bach (1685-1750). The younger Bach was so impressed by Buxtehude’s talents that he traveled by foot over 250 miles to hear and meet him.

✧ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ✧

The flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Winthrop and Dr. & Mrs. George J. Oliver, Jr.
by Dougie & Jim Winthrop.

☞ THOSE SERVING THIS MORNING ☞

PASTOR

John E. Morgan, Pastor, Head of Staff

Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Ellen Peters, Soprano

PROGRAM STAFF AND SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Melody Dillon, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

LITURGIST

John Speigel

GREETER

9:30am Liz Favre, Ann Schulte

11:00am Gerry and Jackie Ward

USHERS

9:30am Matthew Underwood, Pat Underwood, John VanAken, Carolyn Lodzieski

11:00am Bob Bolstad, Ruth Cobb, Kathryn Hall, Ric Cheston

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Jim Carey, Eric Beckhusen, Patty Yewcic

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Martha Jean and Jerry Howell

***WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Ray Whitney and Peter Moriarty

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Matt Slack and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

∞ CHILDREN'S STATEMENT ∞

Children are welcome at WPC! We have a nursery for children ages 3 and below during our 9:30am service. Also, during our 9:30am service we have Sharing Faith with Children. There are children's worship bags and sensory objects available to be borrowed while in the building. Please ask an usher if you need assistance in locating anything.

The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to The Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know, and let us show them, that they are at home in this house of worship. Parents, feel free to sit near the front where children can see, explain the parts of the service to them, and invite them to learn by watching and copying. And relax, God put the wiggle in children, so don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

∞ T-LOOP ENABLED ∞



Did you know you can receive amplified sound in the Sanctuary with a t-loop enabled hearing aid? The "loop" signal is strongest in certain pews along the center aisle. Look for the blue symbol pictured here.

∞ SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS ∞

- **In need of one-on-one prayer? Please look for a Stephen Minister in the Fellowship Hall or the church foyer after the morning services.** They will find a private place to talk and pray with you. Just look for the blue Stephen Ministry name tags.
- **August monthly grief support group: Due to Pastor Pam's vacation schedule, the August meeting will be held the second Wednesday of the month, August 13** at 10am in room 227 on the second level. During this meeting we check in with one another and occasionally watch videos about a specific grief topic. All are welcome to attend.
- **Caregivers Support Group Summer Schedule:** During July and August, 2025, the Caregivers Support Group will meet on Mondays, July 14, July 28 and August 11, August 25 in room 222 at 1pm. The Caregiver Support Group will resume their weekly meetings on September 8, 2025.

✧ PRAYER CONCERNS, JOYS, & TOUCH NOTES ✧

To share a joy or concern, please visit www.mywpc.org, select GET CARE on the menu bar, then PRAYER REQUEST from the drop-down menu. Complete the form and click SEND REQUEST on the bottom of the form. Per your instructions, your request will be shared with our pastors, prayer chain or will be included in the worship bulletin. If the internet is not available to you, please call the church office (757) 229-4235 with your request. The Prayer Chain Coordinator is Jo Ann Youhas (handbellringer2@gmail.com). Please notify Jo Ann when you would like to remove your name from the prayer chain.

If you are in need of a pastor after hours or on the weekend with an emergency request, please contact the Pastor-on-Call listed below for this week. During the week, please call the church office.

Pastor-on-Call

Sunday, August 10 – Saturday, August 16
Pastor Pam • phrncir@mywpc.org • 757-508-4668

Upcoming Memorial Services:

- Penny Pulley: Friday, August 15, 2025, 2:00pm
- Doris Gilfillan: Saturday, August 23, 2025, 11:00am
- John Smith: Friday August 30, 2025, 1:00pm

All the services will be live-streamed at mywpc.org. The service bulletin will be available for viewing under the note tab the day before the service.

A reception will be held in Stevenson Hall after the services.

Please pray for those:

- Families who have recently lost loved ones, recovering from various surgeries, who are homebound, who have family and friend concerns, affected by natural disasters, country in the military services and their families, serving our country in leadership roles, experiencing homelessness and hunger, affected by the wars in Gaza, Israel, Sudan, and Ukraine.

🌀 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🌀

- **The monthly Grief support group will meet Wednesday, August 13 at 10am.**
- **Is God calling you to serve WPC in a new way?** Would you like to help someone in our church family who is going through a tough time? Please reach out to Pastor Pam, phrncir@mywpc.org, Toby Lane*, Becky McKinley* or Ann Schulte* about being a Stephen Minister. No prior training required.
- **Fall Roundtable Pulpit Registration is Now Open.** The Roundtable Pulpit is a 5-week group that meets with Pastor John to discuss the upcoming Sunday's scripture and help shape the sermon. No special qualifications are needed—just a willingness to engage and explore the text together.
 - ♦ **Dates:** Tuesdays, September 9, 16, 23, 30 & October 7
 - ♦ **Time:** 7:00–8:30pm in the Church Library
 - ♦ **Group Size:** Limited to 15 participants

Together, the group explores the scripture for the coming Sunday, offering perspectives that help shape the sermon preached by Rev. Morgan. These conversations promote a collaborative, public forum of theology and deepen our shared witness to God's presence in our lives and world. Sermons will be posted online after they are preached, and feedback is always welcome. **WPC members and non-members are welcome.** Past participants are encouraged to join again! To register or learn more, email Pastor John, jmorgan@mywpc.org.

- **The WPC Endowment Fund Web Page has been enhanced.** On the church website (mywpc.org), click on Serve, and then Endowment Grants for an overview of the Endowment Fund and the 2025 endowment grant status; how to give a gift to the Endowment Fund; and how to obtain Endowment Grant application forms. These forms are in both fillable, for online submission, and printable formats. If you are aware of a need at a local charitable organization, consider completing and submitting a Charitable Account Grant Application. Since the WPC Endowment Fund inception in 2015, over \$168,000 in grants have been awarded!
- **Interested in the Deacon Flower Sharing Ministry?** Come learn more about this meaningful ministry! A short class will be held after the 11am service on Sunday, August 17 in the Sanctuary. Volunteers with the *Flower Sharing Ministry* lovingly rearrange the Sunday flower arrangements from the Retable and deliver them to members of our congregation who are bereaved, ill, homebound, or simply in need of a thoughtful visit and a reminder that they are cared for. It's a beautiful way to brighten someone's day—and we'd love to have you join us! If you're unable to attend on August 17, please contact Linda Stewart* to arrange a more convenient time to learn more.
- **UKIRK is back! Our fabulous UKIRK students will be returning soon, and we need your help!** Starting Tuesday, September 2, we're looking for volunteers to provide meals for about 15 students before their "Dinner & Dialogue" gatherings. You're warmly invited to stay, share the meal, and get to know these amazing young adults. If you're interested, sign up at mywpc.org/ukirkdinner, or reach out to Megan Davis* with any questions. We hope to see you there!

- **Volunteers Needed for Meal Sharing Ministry:** Would you be willing to periodically make or deliver a meal to someone experiencing a life event such as welcoming a new baby or recovering from a medical procedure? Meals can be homemade or purchased. You may want to provide the meal and take it to the church for delivery or deliver it yourself. Please contact Copper Perry* if you have any questions. She is also available to listen to your ideas.
- **WPC Book Club: Mark your calendars and plan to join us. In August we will hold a joint evening meeting with the Earth Care Committee on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 7pm in Room 220 (and on Zoom).** We will discuss the classic Beautiful Swimmers: Watermen, Crabs and the Chesapeake Bay, by William W. Warner.
- **Notes for Our Students and Teachers: Help to fill the Flourish Tree with words of encouragement.** The school year is almost here, and our Flourish Tree in the back lobby is ready to bloom with encouragement! Church family—write a quick note to cheer on our students and teachers as they head into a new year. Students and teachers—stop by and grab a message that speaks to you. Keep it as a little reminder that your church is cheering you on every step of the way. **Look for the colorful backpacks in the Friendship Register pads Sunday morning or in the basket under the Flourish Tree.**
- **Backpack Blessing: It's time to go back to school and we want to send you off with prayers and blessings!** All students (PreK-grad school!) and teachers are invited to join us for the **annual Blessing of the Backpacks at both 9:30am and 11:00am on August 24.** You are encouraged to bring your school bag or backpack for a blessing and a special backpack tag. Then stick around for the Back-To-School Bash at 12:30am to celebrate a great summer and get excited for the school year!
- **Back-To-School Bash: Join us on August 24 for a community Back-To-School Bash from 12:30-2:30!** We will have a bounce house, games, popcorn, snow cones, and more! This event is taking place in collaboration with Williamsburg Baptist Church next door. This is a great opportunity to bring friends and neighbors. The annual Blessing of the Backpacks will take place at the 9:30am and 11:00am services prior to the Back-To-School Bash. Contact Melody Dillon (mdillon@mywpc.org) with questions or to volunteer.
- **Volunteers Needed to Help at Grove Christian Outreach Center on United Way Day of Caring: WPC's Outreach Ministry is sponsoring a work day at the Grove Christian Outreach Center as part of the United Way Day of Caring on Friday, September 12 from 8:30 to 2:30.** There are indoor jobs (shopping with neighbors, organizing the clothing closet, and painting) and outdoor jobs (pressure washing, weeding, trimming and yard cleanup). If you can help us in this worthwhile endeavor, please contact Tom Moul* and let him know if you would like to work inside or outside. Thanks for volunteering!
- **SAVE THE DATE: Rise Against Hunger. Saturday, September 27, 2025, 11am-3:30pm. Learn more at mywpc.org/rah.**

- **Preschool Dance and Play – Fall Session Registration Now Open:** Children ages 3–5 and their parents are invited to join us this fall for WPC's 10-week Preschool Dance and Play program! **Experience fun, movement, and connection every Wednesday at 1:30pm, September 10–November 12.** The program is taught by our Director of Children, Youth, and Families Ministries, Melody Dillon. Cost: \$95. Learn more and register at mywpc.org/danceandplay. Questions? Contact Melody at mdillon@mywpc.org.
- **Our next New Member Orientation Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, October 5, 2025, immediately after the 11:00 a.m. worship service.** Come and enjoy great food and great conversation with members and staff as you get to know the people and ministries of WPC. If the Holy Spirit is nudging you to become a part of this church community, reach out to Pastor Pam (phrncir@mywpc.org) after the service.
- **The Hunger and Homeless Team** is hosting a fall work weekend at Habitat for Humanity's Eastern Shore site on October 9-11, 2025. Space is limited. Contact Chuck Timko* to sign up.

∞ ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE ∞

- **Upcoming Office Schedule & Bulletin Deadlines:** Vanessa Gamble, our Church Secretary, will be out of the office from Monday, September 1 through Friday, September 12, 2025. **Worship bulletins for Sunday, September 7, 2025 and Sunday, September 14, 2025, will be prepared and printed in advance.**

Please email any announcements you would like published in bulletins for September 7 and/or September 14 to publications@mywpc.org no later than noon on Monday, September 25, 2025.

Thank you for your cooperation and timely submissions!

*Contact information can be found in our online directory.

You may also contact the church office at 757-229-4235.

More information about the events and announcements listed above can be found on our website at mywpc.org/news/ or on the church calendar.

❧ THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ❧

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

9:30am ONLY Nursery open during 9:30am worship service

9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access

11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Listen at FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com

MONDAY, AUGUST 11

1:00pm Caregiver Support Grp / Rm 255

5:30pm Christian Education / Rm 220

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

12:00pm In-Person Staff Meeting / Stevenson Hall

2:00pm Safi Tutoring / Rm 255

2:00pm Stewardship Committee Mtg / Rm 220

5:30pm Resources Ministry Mtg / LL010

7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

7:30am Men's Bible & Bacon Study / Stevenson Hall

8:00am Summer Meals for Kids / Kitchen

10:00am Finding Hope Grief Support Group / Rm 227

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning

5:00pm Safi Tutoring / Rm 255

5:00pm Worship Ministry Mtg / LL010

7:00pm Deacon Mtg / Rm 220

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

2:00pm Penny Pulley Memorial Service / Sanctuary and Stevenson Hall

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

❧ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ❧

August 17, 2025 • 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor John's sermon, "*The Great Cloud*," will be based on Hebrews 11:29-12:2.