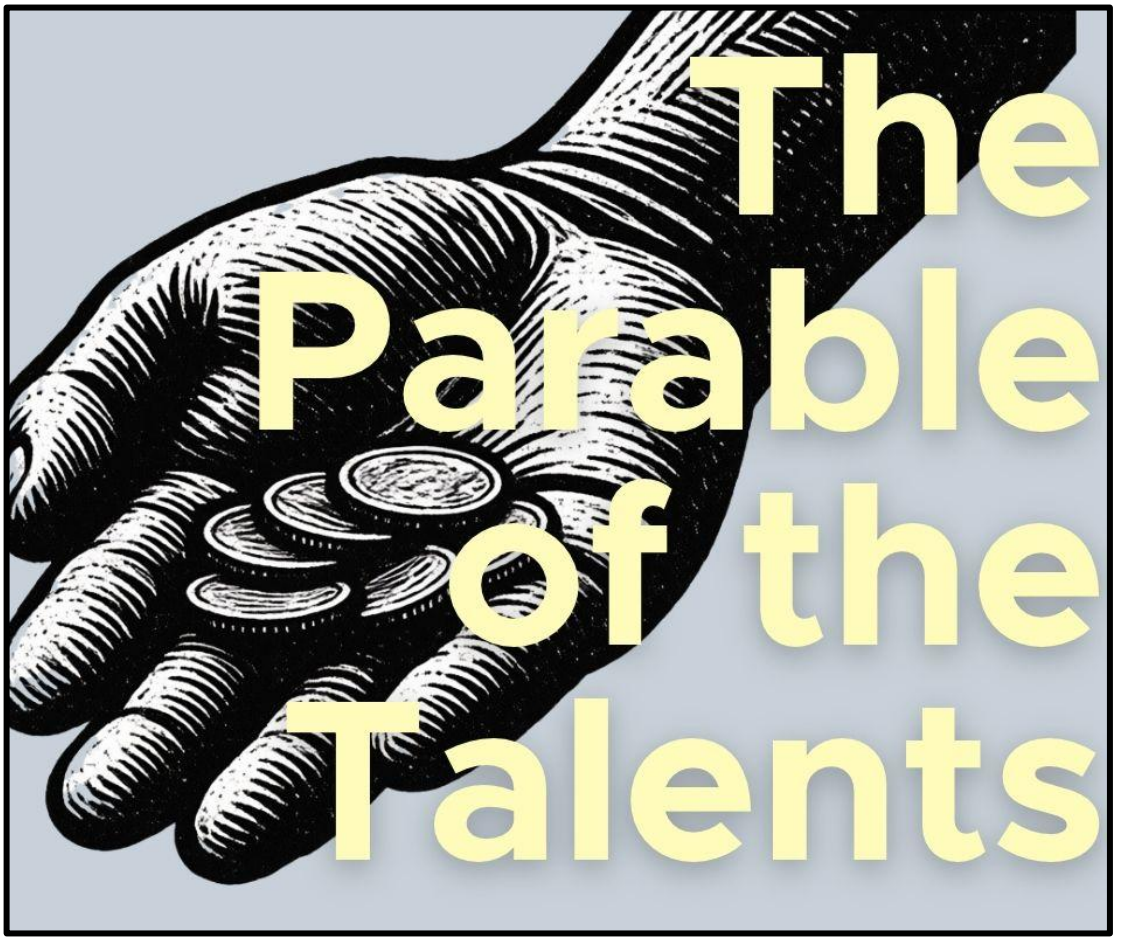
Williamsburg
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
EST. 1785



November 15, 2026
8:15 and 11:00am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE — *Thee We Adore* (arr. Margaret R. Tucker) — Koinonia Bells

INTROIT — *Salisbury Introit* (Mark Patterson) — Sanctuary Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP — adapted from Psalm 123 and Psalm 27

We lift our eyes to God
The Ruler of Heaven.
Just as the eyes of servants attend to their masters' hand,
That's how our eyes attend to the Lord our God.
Have mercy on us, Lord! Have mercy!
Because we have had more than enough despair.
We bring many experiences with us to this time.
Joy and grief, pain and hope.
We long for God to heal us.
We pray for God to give us strength.
We have faith that God will sustain us.
Surely, we will experience the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.
God, draw us into your love today.
Let us worship the Lord who comes to save us!

*HYMN — *Come, Thou Almighty King* — UMH 61

OPENING PRAYER — adapted from *Vanderbilt Lectionary Project*

God of captives and pilgrims, you brought your people home from despair and gave them a land of freedom and plenty. You give gifts to your servants and invite us to spend our lives in the work of love. Look in mercy on us your servants, deliver us from the prison of selfishness and sin, and bring us home to justice, sharing, and compassion, the realm you promised all the world in Jesus Christ the Savior. Amen.

ANTHEM — *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* (Zebulon M. Highben) — Sanctuary Choir

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (205 NT)

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

ECMS MUSICAL CELEBRATION — *I Have Gifts* (Anthony Kouri Williams) — ECMS/Wesley Choir (11:00)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (11:00)

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

We welcome children of all ages to participate in Worship in the Sanctuary. At 11:00 am, Grades K-5 are invited to Children's Worship in the Godly Playroom (215) to encounter God in story, song, and creativity. Our Nursery, located in Rm. 203, is open for Kids 6wks – 4yrs. from 8:00am - Noon.

SECOND READING Matthew 25:14-30 (28 NT)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "The Parable of the Talents" Rev. Brian Johnson

*HYMN *O God We Yearn for Safety*

(Carolyn Winfrey Gillette - tune UMH 545 *The Church's One Foundation*)

O God, we yearn for safety; we long to be secure.
Yet faithful, loving service is what you value more.
You give us what is needed; you love, forgive and save.
Then, sending us to serve you, you call us to be brave.

You give to some ten talents — to others, two or three;
To some you give one blessing to manage faithfully.
For you, O Lord, are loving and don't demand success;
You daily call your people to lives of faithfulness.

You give your church the gospel — good news for us to share.
You give us great compassion for neighbors everywhere.
You give us skills to serve you and loving work to do.
We're blest to be a blessing, and called to risk for you.

O God, it seems much safer to live from day to day,
protecting what you lend us and hiding it away.
Yet all these gifts can't flourish when hidden in the ground;
When we are brave to share them your blessings will abound.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 438

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Will Halstead, Chandler Long, Quinn and Campbell Rogers (11:00)

APOSTLES' CREED

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

MINISTRY CELEBRATION

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY	*Offertory in D* (Lani Smith)	Organ
*DOXOLOGY	*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*	UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING		
*HYMN	*For the Fruits of This Creation*	UMH 97
*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		
BENEDICTION	*Go Out With Joy* (Mark Patterson)	Sanctuary Choir
POSTLUDE	*Go Forth in Faith* (Franklin Ritter)	Organ

The flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory Margaret Perkinson by the Perkinson family.

SERMON NOTES FOR THIS WEEK, NOVEMBER 15, 2026

MESSAGE: *"The Parable of the Talents."*

• 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 • Matthew 25:14-30

THE GOOD NEWS: Jesus does not merely teach the way of justice, mercy, and humility—he embodies it. He walks this pathway with us, transforming and equipping us to live in love. The Christian life is not something we achieve through sheer effort; it is a gift of God's grace.

KEY POINTS

- **Faithful waiting is active.** Jesus invites us to join him in the work of justice, mercy, hospitality, and love.
- **What we do makes a difference.** God invites us to show up and put love into action.
- **Our picture of God matters.** Knowing and learning to trust in God's love frees us to live in joy rather than fear.
- **Jesus gives his whole self for us.** He enters the world's suffering and breaks open our story to bring new life.

QUOTATIONS TO REMEMBER

"We are free to try and fail."

"Jesus Christ has stepped into the story and broken it open in order to save us."

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What gift or opportunity am I burying out of fear?
2. How might trusting God's love change my next step?
3. Whom can I encourage or serve this week?

WELCOME TO WUMC

We're delighted to have you with us! Between services, follow the signs to our Atrium for coffee, connection, and our Kids Corner. We'd love to welcome you and answer any questions you may have. We're honored you chose us to worship with today!

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available in the Narthex (or ask an usher for help). If you have a "t-coil" switch on your hearing aid, simply activate the t-coil switch. If that does not work, use one of the listening devices with a loop instead of the headphones.

FAMILY MINISTRY CHECK-IN STATION

If your children are participating in the Nursery or Children's Worship, at any worship hour, visit the kiosk in the Atrium to check them in for the programs they will attend. This helps us ensure your children's safety by knowing who is present and ensures we have emergency contact and allergy information. The station will also print out a name tag for your child and a matching security tag for their adult to use at pickup time.

MINISTRIES



SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP Potluck Thanksgiving Dinner and Games - November 20, 11:30am -2:00pm | Rm 174

Senior adults are invited to share a Thanksgiving meal with others. Turkey and ham provided; bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share and a game to play. Want to take leftovers home? Bring an empty container.

Fitness Class Monday & Wednesday, 9:30-10:30am | Wesley Hall

HELP NEEDED HOLIDAYS ARE COMING - November 24, 9:00am
Join us on for a morning of decorating, fellowship, and fun. We need a few tall friends who are comfortable on ladders—but everyone is welcome! Register at tinyurl.com/wumc-advent-decorating or contact Debbie Bruss dsbruss@cox.net

KID'S MORNING OUT NEWS

RAY RAY'S PLANTS - November 17, 3:00 – 8:00pm |226 Monticello Ave. 20% of gross sales will go towards the KMO tuition assistance fund. Having kids or grandkids visit soon? The shop is also offering a take home plant activity for $15.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS

SISTERS IN MISSION – November 17, 5:00pm | Rm 309 Collect and complete Samaritan's Purse boxes and write Christmas cards for our senior community visits.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SWEATER DRIVE
Heritage Scott Circle will collect new or gently used sweaters, hoodies or fleeces for children, youth and adults in our community through November 30. Place items in the Collection Closet marked *Sweater Drive*. Items will be donated to FISH.

DISCIPLESHIP NEWS

PASTORS' ADVENT BIBLE STUDY - All the Good: A Wesleyan Way of Christmas
Wednesdays, November 18, Dec 2, 9, & 16, 7:00-8:30pm | Rm 171
Thursdays, November 19, Dec 3, 10, & 17, 10:30-noon | Zoom
Pastor Brian Johnson invites you to experience an Advent journey guided by the practices in John Wesley's means of grace -- practices of piety and mercy (or good works) drawn from the larger Christian tradition. Using the book *All the Good*, each of the four sessions guides participants through reflecting on biblical passages in light of an aspect of Wesleyan means of grace highlighted by illustrations and stories. Register at tinyurl.com/pastors-advent

CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP UMM BREAKFAST November 21, 8:30am | F Hall
Our featured speaker will be Rebecca Glass, Executive Director of the Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (PPCC) in Newport News, Virginia. All are invited - $10 a person - which includes a full breakfast of Pumpkin French Bread Bake, Meat Lovers Casserole, Bacon & Cheddar Quiche, Pumpkin Breads, Hot Chocolate and Coffee.
Register at tinyurl.com/wumc-umm-breakfast

HART MULTIFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE - November 22, 7:00pm
Walsingham Academy (1100 Jamestown Rd)
The Historic Area Religions Together invite you to this 9th annual community-wide Thanksgiving service. Many different faith communities in the Williamsburg area will help lead the service. All are welcome! Contact Deacon Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org

CARE COMMITTEE
The CARE Committee is a dedicated group of volunteer members who provide rides to medical appointments, meals for the sick, and funeral receptions. Our November Coordinators are Carol Schuster (757) 603-2574 and Karen Red (757) 532-6893. Call at least

2 days in advance for assistance. Questions? Contact Karen Red.

DONATE TO SUPPORT THE THANKSGIVING MEAL MINISTRY:
tinyurl.com/wumc-t-giving

CREATION CARE TEAM - Recycle your paper and cardboard.
The effects of recycling a ton of paper and cardboard are impressive: saving 17 trees, 380 gallons of oil, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, and 7,000 gallons of water. What you do adds up.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO USHER 11:00AM WORSHIP
Visit the Usher Table today and find out what your responsibilities would be as a volunteer to usher. We need you! Contact Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org. Thanks.

MESSIAH CONCERT AT WUMC

December 4, 7:00pm • December 5, 5:00pm

Featured Soloists: Sarah Kate Walston, soprano; Cecelia McKinley, contralto; Ian Lane, tenor; Branch Fields, bass

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help with the Messiah Concert December 4, 7:00pm and December 5, 5:00pm. Scan the QR code to volunteer.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY

At WUMC, our goal is to help Children, Youth, and their families become disciples of Jesus Christ through nurturing relationships, practicing an active faith, and connecting their stories with God's Story. Questions? Contact Zach Griggs zgriggs@williamsburgumc.org

- **Children (K–5th Grade):** Faith formation through worship, Godly Play Children's Worship, Messy Church, Tweens Outings, music programs, and more.
- **Youth (6th–12th Grade):** Holistic faith formation through Bible study, spiritual practices, creative expression, and mission opportunities.

Preschool Playgroup today 3:00pm

Youth Group tonight 5:30pm
Friendsgiving: food, fun, gratitude

November 8 ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance Total	608
In Person 11:00am	216
Modern Worship 9:30am	80
In Person 8:15am	137
Online	96
Messy Church	79

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-737740, Williamsburg UMC CCLI #3168974 All

Deadline for Bulletin
MONDAY, NOON
Please submit to Nancy Reynolds nreynolds@williamsburgumc.org.

WAYS TO GIVE

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give..." 2 Corinthians 9:7

SCAN ME

TEXT TO GIVE

"GIVETOWUMC" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. You do not need an account to give; simply text your gift amount in any format ($10, 10, 10.00). Several convenient giving options are available: debit or credit card, ACH — direct from your bank account and Apple Pay and Google Pay. Receipts are sent via email.

CASH/CHECK

Donations can be made via our collection plate on Sundays, mail, or the Church Office Monday – Friday.

GIVING MAKES AN IMPACT

Your generosity changes lives and empowers ministries. To read stories about the difference your giving makes in our community and beyond, visit williamsburgumc.org/articles

OUR CHURCH STAFF

BRIAN JOHNSON, **Lead Pastor** (x110)
MADISON AILINGER, **Pastor of Congregational Care** (x114)
TROY SIMS, **Minister of Discipleship** (x108)
MARY ELLEN BAKER, **Finance Manager** (x106)
ELLEN BUSHMAN, **Director Respite Care** (x118)
JOSH CLAYTON, **Digital Media Specialist** (x107)
STACEY GARDNER, **Director of Congregation & Community Engagement** (x103)
ZACH GRIGGS, **Family Ministries Coordinator** (x109)
KATHLEEN JONES, **Director Kid's Morning Out** (x113)
THOMAS MARSHALL, **Organist** (757) 713-0584
NANCY REYNOLDS, **Engagement and Administrative Coordinator** (x104)
ELLEN SIMON, **Bookkeeper** (x116)
LOU-ANNE SMITH, **Director of Worship Arts** (x105)
GREG WHITESIDE, **Director of Facilities** (x101)
ANTHONY WILLIAMS, **Assoc. Dir. Worship Arts, Director Early Childhood Music** (x115)
PAIGE HOLADAY, **Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation** (757) 229-6832

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