

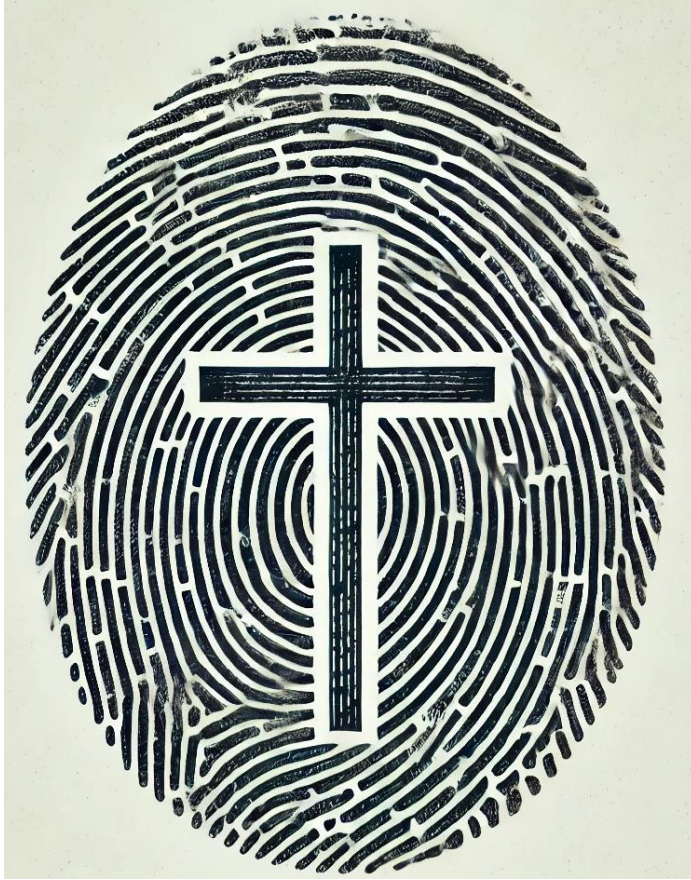


Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785

Welcoming Neighbors - Nurturing Faith - Transforming Our World



Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost - Sunday, September 1, 2024

8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services

PRELUDE *Improvisation on 'I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light'*
(Paul Manz)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP from the Greater NJ Conference of the UMC

God has made us for worship.

God has made us for each other.

We gather to give our hearts and lives to God.

We gather to give our hearts and lives to each other.

We seek genuine faith.

May our faith be expressed in word and action.

We seek to love God and love our neighbor.

May our love be expressed in word and action. Amen.

*HYMN *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* UMH 400 (red book)

OPENING PRAYER from Ministry Matters

Lord of mercy and abundant love, we have gathered here this day to hear your healing words of compassion and to be transformed by your love. You call us to stand for justice, love, forgiveness, hope and peace. You want us to be people who care deeply about others and about this world. Help us to be ready to truly and joyfully serve you, O God. Free us from selfishness and self-centeredness. Lift us to lives of peace; for we offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

ANTHEM *You Make the Sun to Rise* Sanctuary Choir
(Craig Courtney)

MOMENT OF TEACHING

We welcome children of all ages to participate in Worship in the Sanctuary. At 11:00 a.m., Grades K-5 are invited to encounter God in story, arts, and song in the Children's Worship Room. Our Nursery, located in the Education Wing, is open for Pre-K and younger during both services.

SCRIPTURE READING James 1:17-27 (229 NT)

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Beloved Meghan Roth Clayton

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY *Pastorale on 'Dominus Regit Me'*
(Eric H Thiman)

*DOXOLOGY UMH 94 (red book)

**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!**

PRESENTING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

For the Beauty of the Earth

UMH 92 (red book)

A Sung Communion Liturgy for World Communion Sunday

Rev. Beth Quick

Gather, friends, from far and near. Gather, friends - you are welcome.

Come to the table, join the meal God invites us, every one.

Sing together, voices raise to our God this song of praise.

Lift your hearts up to the Lord!

God, we lift our hearts to you.

Give to God your thanks and praise.

It is right to give our thanks.

Sing together, voices raise to our God this song of praise.

God, you made us out of love, each one different, yet like you
we're one people, all the earth many nations, many-hued.

Sing together, everyone! Tell the world what God has done!

Though we are one, we've built up walls, nurtured fears and pain and strife,
in our anger, turned away from the gift of God-breathed life.

Holy God, we turn to you. We repent and start anew.

So you sent your holy child, come to share your reign on earth
breaking all our barriers down teaching us our sacred worth.

Jesus Christ, God's gift of grace! At the meal we take our place.

Jesus shared a meal with friends took and blessed and shared the bread:

"This, my life, I give to you remember when you eat again."

We remember, we give thanks, for the meal of love and grace.

Jesus took a cup of wine shared with friends fruit of the vine:

"In this cup forgiveness find, gift of mercy, gift divine."

We remember, we give thanks, for the meal of love and grace.

Pour on us your Holy Breath. Pour your Spirit on these gifts.

Make them into Christ for us. Make us Christ for the whole world.

God of all, to you we raise this our song of grateful praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895 (red book)

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.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *(Please join in the singing:)*

HYMN 405 *red book* *Seek Ye First*

HYMN 407 *red book* *Close to Thee*

HYMN 408 *red book* *The Gift of Love*

HYMN 410 *red book* *I Want a Principle Within*

HYMN 411 *red book* *Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day*

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN

Be Kind to One Another

(Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)

Be kind to one another, be tender-hearted too —
forgiving one another, as Christ has pardoned you.

Refrain from any gossip, for gossip is a sin.
Be open to new friendships, and welcome people in.

Be kind in all your speaking and hear what others say.

Be open to Christ's teaching, and in all matters, pray.

Be gentle, loving, faithful and keep a humble mind.

Remember what is truthful. In everything be kind.

Be kind within your circle, but look past what you see;

Be kind to those in trouble — the poor, the refugee.

The world is filled with violence; write letters, call out sin!

Don't ever sit in silence and let the evil win.

O God of love, you've taught us. You've shown us what to do:

Be just, commit to kindness, walk humbly here with you.

Your Spirit gives us courage to truly live this way.

May love become our message; may kindness win the day.

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Canzon Arioso

(Andrea Gabrieli)

The flowers in the Chancel are given to the Glory of God in memory of Mary Buckley from Dawni Kissler.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God in celebration of our 67th wedding anniversary
from Dick and Peggy Soulen

****congregation invited to stand***

THIS ALSO IS OUR WORSHIP

Welcome to Williamsburg United Methodist Church

If an event or ministry below captures your interest, we would love to know about it. Please call us at 757 229-1771.

Welcoming Neighbors – Nurturing Faith – Transforming Our World

A Special Welcome to Our Guests

To those visiting with us today, we are delighted to have you worship with us. Please stop by the Hospitality Table in the Connection Corner area after the service, so a team member can provide you with a welcome gift. Come back to be with us again!

Adult Sunday School Classes

The following groups are meeting each Sunday at Church from 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Aldersgate Fellowship: Wesley Hall, **Bishop McKendree:** On Summer Break, **Marvin Willard:** Rm. 174, **Searchers:** Rm. 303, **Walking the Footsteps Small Group:** Rm. 160, **Perspectives:** on Summer Break. To get connected to the class leaders or have questions on any of the Bible Studies listed below, contact Deacon Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org.

Everyone has doubts, and too often we treat doubt as the enemy of faith. But uncertainty doesn't mean our trust in God is lacking. Doubt can be a path to a deeper, richer encounter with God. Join the **Searchers** Sunday School Class September 8, Rm. 303, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. as they *Wrestling With Doubt: Finding Faith* - trust, not certainty; mystery rather than simple answers.

The Gospel according to John offered its first hearers a new language – of being born from above, of living water, of wind and spirit – insights that enhance how we understand the divine, how we experience the world, and how we participate in the mystery of faith. Join the **Bishop McKendree** Sunday School Class for *A Beginner's Guide to the Way, the Truth, and the Life*, September 15, Rm. 102, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. to participate in this study during the Sunday School hour. This important book, led by Rev. Charles Swadley, will use the new book written by Amy-Jill Levine.

Giving

Your giving supports over 90 summer ministries and missions and is only a click away! We now offer convenient online and text giving, so you can give anytime, anywhere – even on the road! Make a one-time contribution or set up **recurring gifts – a great option for those of us traveling during the summer months**. Whether you're donating from the pew or on your way to the beach, your support sustains vibrant ministries that reach those in need in our community and around the world!



For **text giving**, simply send a text message to 757-992-9862 with the amount you would like to contribute (for example, 35). To **give online**, scan our QR Code or visit www.tinyurl.com/WUMCGiveNow. Or give by dropping your offering in the plate or stopping by the church office.

Fall Kick-Off Family Meetings

Children - September 8, 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Room

Youth - September 8, 12:30 p.m. in the Youth Room

Families with children or Youth are invited to meet with Zach Griggs, Family Ministries Coordinator, to hear about the ministries and activities scheduled for this Fall. We will discuss how your students will experience faith formation, how we can grow in friendship with each other, and have time for questions and comments. Snacks provided. We hope to see you there!

Carol Brinkley Memorial Book Club

We will meet September 9, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Our book theme for this month is "Readers' Choice." Chose a book from the book list found here: [ReadingProgram|UnitedWomeninFaith \(uwfaith.org\)](http://ReadingProgram|UnitedWomeninFaith(uwfaith.org)) and be prepared to talk about the book at our meeting. Anyone is invited to join us for discussion! Contact Cindy Banek banek1@cox.net for the Zoom link.

Respite Care 3rd Annual Garden Party

Thanks to your incredible support, the Respite Garden Party scheduled on September 13 has sold all available lunch tickets. Raffle tickets are still available as a way to support this program and may be purchased online or by mailing in your check with the form located on the table in the church entryway.

United Women in Faith Circle Meetings

Heritage Circle will meet September 3, 9:45 a.m. in Rm. 303.

Ruth Simpson Circle will meet September 4, 10:00 a.m. in Rm. 174.

Sisters in Grace will meet September 10, 1:00 p.m. in Rm. 303.

Sisters in Mission will meet September 10, 5:15 p.m. for Messy Church

Friendship Circle will meet September 10, 10:00 a.m. in Rm. 174.

Carol Scott Circle will meet September 10 at 1:00 p.m. in the Resource Rm.

Messy Church



As we transition into the new school year we begin to ask new questions, like who will my friends be? Will I like my classes? Which sports or activities will I do? What will I learn this year?

The people of God have been going through transitions and asking big questions for a very long time. Through all these changes, one thing has been constant: God has always been with us! This month, we'll meet the Prophets and hear how God uses them to guide us through the journey of life and faith both long ago, and today. We hope to see you September 10, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for Messy Church as we discover God's wisdom for this new season! All are welcome for a time of play, worship celebration, and dinner fellowship.

CARE Committee...

...will provide rides to the doctor or will provide help when you are sick. Fran Hermance 757 229-8857 and Judi French 757 810-2925 are the September coordinators. If you need **CARE**, please let the coordinators know at least 2 days in advance to arrange for assistance.

Covenant Bible Study: Creating, Living, Trusting

This is a 24-week, in-depth study of the entire story of the Bible based around the theme of "covenant." Beginning October 20, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. in Rm. 352, we'll learn from our biblical ancestors how to create, live, and trust God's covenant with us, finding ways to live more fully into that Covenant. But more than a Bible study, it's also a time to learn how to do Bible study. No previous study background required, but space is limited. Each participant will need a Study Guide. We encourage you to purchase the guide for yourself (we'll email you links to where it is available), or the church can order you a copy for \$45. Troy Sims will be leading the study. Register now at tinyurl.com/covenant-st-24-25.



Coming Up This Fall

Think about your prayer life. Do you struggle with a short attention span, a restless body, or a tendency to live in your head? Are you bored with the same old prayers? This may be a way to invigorate your prayer life and approach God in a new, meaningful way, bringing a sense of delight into your prayer time. Join Gwen Hinton & Linda Upshaw September 19, 26; October 3, 10 at 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Rm. 206 to learn and practice **Praying in Color**. You will need a copy of the book, *Praying in Color* by Sybil MacBeth, paper, and colored pencils, gel pens or markers. Register now at tinyurl.com/2024-PrayInColor

Several WUMC folks have participated in the BCARE (**Biblical Conversations About Race & Ethnicity**) intentionally interracial discussion groups using the book, *One Blood: Parting Words to the Church on Race* by John M. Perkins. Groups are forming now, and you are invited to register for the 8-week Fall offering. Location and time are TBD, but please register early! Visit tinyurl.com/bcare-fall-2024. Although this is not a WUMC offering, we support this important work in breaking down walls of racism. For more, contact Deacon Troy Sims (tsims@williamsburgumc.org).

Make a "reservation" for a **"Party of 8 Potluck Kick-Off!"** October 13, 12:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Sign up to be grouped with about eight other WUMC folks for a meal – at a local restaurant, in a person's home, or at church. We'd love for your group to meet more than once and maybe pick a different location each time. Each group can choose any frequency or location to share together in food and fellowship. Join in the potluck kick-off to learn more and organize groups! You do NOT have to attend the potluck to participate; simply register online, and we'll work to get you connected. Let Deacon Troy Sims (tsims@williamsburgumc.org) know if you have questions. Register now at tinyurl.com/2024-party-8.

Today's Worship

Worship Leaders: Meghan Roth Clayton, Ryan LaRock, Dave Rochford, Zach Griggs

Director of Worship Arts: Lou-Anne Smith

Organist: Tom Marshall

Acolytes 8:15 Gayle Justice

Readers 8:15: Cindy Banek **11:00:** Linda Rhodes

Greeters 8:15: Connie Magruder, Jeanne Niebel **11:00:** Gary Drake, Kathy Drake

Assisting with Communion 8:15: Ginger Barr, Gwen Hinton, Joy Mair, Terri Morgan
11:00: Nathalie Bacskay, Linda Baker, Johanna Berry, Nancy Donnelly

Ushers 8:15: Roy Geiger, Janet Henke, Russ Henke, Chalannes Hoover, Mike Johnson, Tom Justice, Monty Mason, Dan Squier, Cindy Garman-Squier, Brent Whitaker **11:00:** Grace Bradley, Jen Bradley, Jim Bradley, Greg Johnson, Bonnie Knizatko

Sound and Livestream: Jimmy McCarter, Josh Clayton

Nursery Care Team: Marcella LeGrand, Aubrey Olsen

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License #A-737740, Williamsburg UMC CCLI #3168974 CCS/WCL #12349. Tune: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864 ("The Church's One Foundation") Text: Copyright © 2018 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

The Deadline for *This Also Is Our Worship*: Tuesday, 5:00 p.m. Please submit to Nancy Reynolds.

August 25 Worship Attendance.....	461
In Person 11:00 a.m.....	234
In Person 8:15 a.m.....	149
Online.....	78

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Barbara Blanton, *Finance Manager* (x 355)

Nethea Calloway, *Full Charge Bookkeeper* (x 351)

Josh Clayton, *Digital Media Specialist* (x 256)

Meghan Roth Clayton, *Pastor of Congregational Care* (x 261)

Zach Griggs, *Family Ministries Coordinator* (x 251)

Cornelia Jude, *Director Respite Care* (x354)

Thomas Marshall, *Organist* (757 713-0584)

Laura Pittman, *Director Kid's Morning Out* (x208)

Nancy Reynolds, *Administrative Assistant* (x 252)

Dave Rochford, *Lead Pastor* (x 260)

Michelle Roy, *Dir. of Congregation & Community Engagement* (x 250)

Troy Sims, *Minister of Discipleship* (x 258)

Lou-Anne Smith, *Director of Worship Arts* (x 107)

Rick Viancour, *Facilities Manager* (x 355)

Anthony Williams, *Assoc. Dir. of Worship Arts, Dir. Early Childhood Music* (x 108)

Ryan LaRock, *Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation* (757) 229-6832