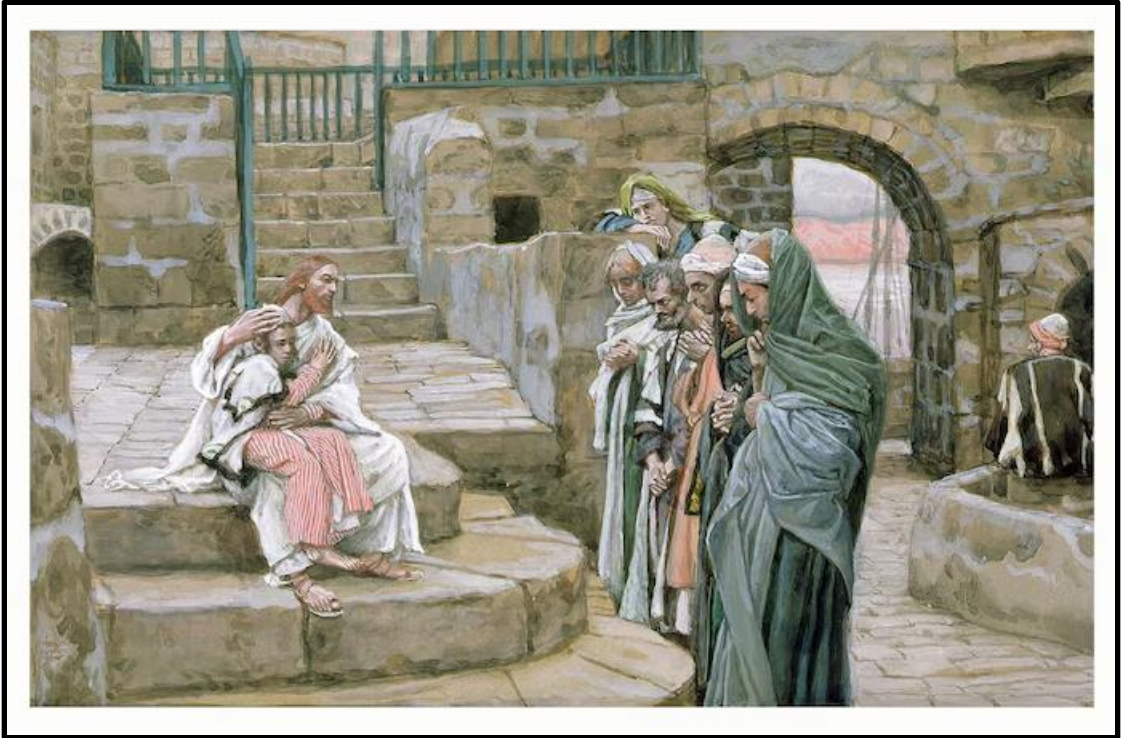




Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785



Jacques Tissot, "Jésus et le Petit Enfant"  
Watercolor over graphite, French, 1887

*whoever welcomes one such child in my name*

*welcomes me*

*Mark 8:29*

*Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost - Sunday, September 22, 2024*

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

PRELUDE *Trumpet Minuet*  
(Raymond Haan)

INTROIT *This Is the Day* Sanctuary Choir  
(Les Garrett)

WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 34  
 O taste and see that the Lord is good;  
 happy are those who take refuge in God!  
**Magnify the Lord with me,  
 and let us exalt God's name together.**  
 Come, O children, listen to me;  
 I will teach you reverence for the Lord.  
**I sought the Lord, and he answered me,  
 and delivered me from all my fears.**  
 Look to him and be radiant,  
 so your faces will never be ashamed.  
**I will bless the Lord at all times;  
 his praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

\*HYMN *When Morning Gilds the Skies* UMH 185 (red book)

OPENING PRAYER  
 God of unsearchable mystery and light,  
 your quiet ways are greater than human strength,  
 and your foolishness brings all of our cleverness to naught.  
**Your humble courage confounds the power we tend to seek and admire.**  
 You call the first willingly to be last, and would make the last, first.  
**You would make the servant a leader, and the ruler to serve all the people.**  
 Pour into our hearts the strange wisdom of your Word and Spirit;  
**that we may seek not just your hand, but your face,  
 and live out your purpose as our own. Amen.**

ANTHEM *Prayer of St. Francis* Emily Hayden, alto;  
(Allen Pote) Sanctuary Choir

MOMENT OF TEACHING  
 We welcome children of all ages to participate in Worship in the Sanctuary. At 11:00 a.m.,  
 Grades K-3 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 Mark 9:30-37 (45 NT)  
 The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE *Broke, Unemployed and 26 Inches Tall* Dave Rochford

\*HYMN

*Who Is the Greatest in the Kingdom*

(Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)

**"Who is greatest in the kingdom? Who among us is the best?"  
The disciples were debating: "In God's reign, who will be blest?"  
Jesus, had those twelve forgotten? Faithful living has a cost —  
and to journey where you'd lead them, they would journey to the cross.**

**"Who is greatest in the kingdom?" The disciples heard your call:  
"If you want to be the first one, you must be the last of all."  
Do not think that high position is a thing that you deserve!  
"If you want to be the first, then, be the first to humbly serve."**

**"Who is greatest in the kingdom? Who will take the throne and reign?"  
Christ, you put a child among them, and you told them once again:  
"If you give a child a welcome, then you also welcome me."  
Faithful service, not ambition, builds up God's community.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

TIME OF TESTIMONY

Angelo Maker, founder Abukloi School

OFFERTORY

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*  
(arr. Stan Pethel)

Sanctuary Orchestra

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 94 (red book)

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*HYMN

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

UMH 121 (red book)

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

BENEDICTION

*Amen*  
(arr. Clarence Dickinson)

Sanctuary Choir

POSTLUDE

Chorale and Alleluia  
(Raymond Haan)

The flowers in the Chancel are given to the Glory of God by Jake and Alison Foley  
in honor of their wedding anniversary.

***\*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!

#### **Get Connected**

Care to get to know the busy life of WUMC better? Are you curious about joining your story with that of our church? We invite you to attend **today** and Sundays, September 27 and October 6, 12:15 p.m. in Rm. 303 and discuss ways to engage with one another in the life and ministry of WUMC. Questions? Contact Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org), Meghan Roth Clayton [mclayton@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:mclayton@williamsburgumc.org), or Dave Rochford [drochford@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:drochford@williamsburgumc.org). Let us know you're coming at [tinyurl.com/wumc-connected](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-connected), but that's not a requirement.



#### **A New Church Family Directory?**

...is long-due! Sign up at the Directory Table in the Atrium after the services today for a photo seating. There is no cost unless you choose to purchase photos.

#### **Pastors' Bible Study**

Join Pastor Dave on Wednesday, September 25, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Rm 103 and Thursday, September 26, 10:30-noon via Zoom for *Set Free to Live Free! - a Thoughtful Consideration of Paul's Letter to the Galatians*, a journey back to the time when the Christian faith was strange, challenging, and radically new. We will spend five more weeks on an intensive study of Galatians, one of the earliest writings of the New Testament. We will consider fundamentally-relevant questions that all humans face: What does it mean to be free? How do you enjoy freedom? How can a person be good...and how good do you have to be to avoid trouble and still be "free?" Paul's Letter to the Galatians is full of wisdom, encouragement - and some rather sharp cautionary notes. No book is needed except your Bible. Discover that the Christian faith is still strange, challenging, and radically new. Questions? Contact Pastor Dave Rochford [drochford@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:drochford@williamsburgumc.org) or Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org). Sign up now at [tinyurl.com/wumc-pastors-study](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-pastors-study)

## 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:** Rm. 102, **Searchers:** Rm. 303, **Walking the Footsteps Small Group:** Den, **Perspectives:** Rm. 171.

Join the **Marvin Willard** Sunday School TODAY in Rm. 174 for a special presentation of "Understanding Islam Today" with Dr. Faraz Sheikh, Hans Tiefel Associate Professor of Ethics at W&M. He'll be leading the class via Zoom. All are welcome.

To get connected to the class leaders or have questions on any of the Bible Studies listed above, contact Deacon Troy Sims at [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org).



## Family Fridays - September 22, 5:30 p.m.

Families with **Children AND Youth** are invited to join us at Kidsburg Playground Pavilion. We'll play games, eat pizza, and spend time getting to know other families in the community. No cost, just scan the QR code to let us know you're coming!

## Generous Giving

We are now two weeks into our stewardship campaign for 2025. To date, we have received 120 Estimate of Giving (EOG) Cards totaling \$ 596,469, moving us toward our goals of 325 cards and \$1,500,000. **We appreciate everyone who has already joined with 100% of our WUMC Lay Leadership Team in returning your EOG Card already.**

**If you have not yet received an Estimate of Giving Card, please pick one up from the pew rack.** You can return your completed card in the offering plate, drop it off at the office, mail it to the church, or submit it online at [www.tinyurl.com/WUMCPledge](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUMCPledge)

**God bless you for your participation through your prayers, your service, your gifts and your witness. Through your generosity you are sustaining 90+ vital ministries and sharing a portion of God's Kingdom to those in need.** In the Williamsburg area you are enabling ministries like the *Lackey Free Clinic, FISH, Society of St Andrews*, and many more. AT WUMC you are enabling *small group ministries* that Gwen Hinton talked about this past Sunday. You are also sustaining ministries around the world like *Abukloj, Churches for Middle East Peace, Famine Relief* and others. **Thank you for your generous support of these and many other ministries.**

Summer often sees a decline in giving, and this year's drop has been larger than usual. **Your continued support is essential to bridge this gap.** As of August 31, our income and expenses are as follows:



\$	1,038,043	Income
(\$)	<u>1,124,919</u>	Expense
(\$)	86,876	Shortfall

**Ways to Give:** For giving by text, simply send a text message to 757-993-9862 with the amount you would like to contribute (example 35). To give online, scan our QR Code or visit [www.tinyurl.com/WUMCGiveNow](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUMCGiveNow) or give by dropping your offering in the plate or at the church office.

## Events, Committees, & Meetings

Sept 22 4:45 p.m. .... The Table  
Sept 23 6:30 p.m..... UWF Exe. Committee  
Sept 24 7:00 p.m..... Church Council  
Sept 27 5:30 p.m. .... Family Fridays  
Sept 28 9:00 a.m..... UWF District Meeting

## CARE Committee...

...will provide rides to the doctor or will provide help when you are sick. Fran Hermance 757 645-5069 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.

## Monday Morning Counters

The Finance Committee is looking for help to count cash contributions made to the church. This would require less than 1 hour on Monday mornings; 2 volunteers are present. This involves counting all the cash, recording those funds and making the deposit at a local bank. We hope to have several people volunteer in order to rotate each week. Interested? Please contact Mike Motes at [3892motes@gmail.com](mailto:3892motes@gmail.com) or 404 791-5279.

## Gratitude Walking Group

Join us at **5:30 p.m.** each Wednesday at the back parking lot entrance of WUMC for delightful strolls down Duke of Gloucester Street in Colonial Williamsburg. We'll kick off our walks with brief moments of gratitude and enjoy being in each other's company! Questions? Contact Linda Upshaw.

## Rethink, Reuse, Reduce, Recycle

Psalms 24:1 reminds us that *'The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.'* Greetings from the Green Team! Our mission is to encourage our congregation to be faithful and loving stewards of God's creation by exploring new, eco-friendly practices at our church. We're excited to bring you a variety of activities that will inspire and educate us in this vital mission. Stay tuned!

## Wesley Foundation Ministry News

A **bake sale** on campus will be held September 27 to benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and we would appreciate donations of baked goods. Contributions may be dropped off at the Wesley House (526 Jamestown Road, next to WUMC) on September 25 or 26. Please be sure to add a note about common allergens included in the baked goods (i.e. Is it gluten-free? Does it contain dairy? Does it contain nuts?). Any allergen-free options would be appreciated.

Wesley Campus Ministry is partnering with Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) for a service trip October 10 - 12 and hope to bring donations of **food** to families in need in No VA. Shelf-stable food such as canned goods, one-box meals, and baking mixes will be donated to NVFS' Hunger Resource Center. Wesley will also be volunteering at a Head Start Center and would appreciate donations of new or gently used **books** for preschool children. There will be bins in the Connection Corner Collection Closet near the rear banner entrance on September 29 and October 6 for easy drop off.

## Coming This Fall

Imagine a small group that meets monthly but includes a time of fellowship with a snack, guided prayer and meditation, discussion of a book (only a chapter or two at a time), and Holy Communion. The purpose of this group is to wait for but trustingly expect to experience Christ in our daily lives as Simeon & Anna once did (see Luke 2:25-38). This is what you are being invited to: ***A Small Group Invitation – Society of Simeon & Anna*** on the second Wednesday of the month, starting October 9. Rev. Helen Casey-Rutland will coordinate this group. Space is limited! Learn more or register at [tinyurl.com/society-s-a](http://tinyurl.com/society-s-a).

Make a “reservation” for the ***“Party of 8 Potluck Kick-Off!”*** taking place October 13, 12:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Sign up to be grouped with about eight WUMC folks for a meal – at a 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; register online [tinyurl.com/2024-party-8](http://tinyurl.com/2024-party-8) and we’ll get you connected. Let Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org) know if you have questions.

***Covenant Bible Study: Creating, Living, Trusting*** is a 24-week, in-depth study 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](http://tinyurl.com/covenant-st-24-25).

***Blessed are the Peacemakers: Creating Hearts of Peace*** 8 Sundays, October 6 - November 10 and January 5-12 *The Anatomy of Peace: Do you remember the last conflict you were part of? Perhaps it was with a difficult spouse, a struggling teenager, or an annoying neighbor. It takes two people to sustain a fight. That means it also takes two to resolve one. But what parts of the disagreement are you responsible for? And better yet, how can you end the conflict peacefully? These are just a few of the lessons we’ll learn in our study of the book The Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of Conflict by the Arbinger Institute. Connecting Scripture with wisdom from the field of conflict transformation, we will chart a course through the many minefields that litter our personal, professional, and social relationships on our way to our own hearts of peace. To get connected to the class leaders, contact Deacon Troy Sims ([tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org)).*

## TODAYS SERVICE

**Worship Leaders:** Dave Rochford, Meghan Roth Clayton, Troy Sims

**Director of Worship Arts:** Lou-Anne Smith **Organist:** Tom Marshall

**Acolytes 8:15:** Gayle Justice **11:00:** Sadie Yaneza, Susannah Naramore

**Readers 8:15:** Mike Starry **11:00:** Dianne Colestock

**Greeters 8:15:** Fran Hermance, Marilyn Riddle **11:00:** Jan Boykin, Lois Cunningham

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

**Sound and Livestream:** Jimmy McCarter, Todd Lindley, Josh Clayton

**Nursery Care Team:** Marcella LeGrand, Aubrey Olsen

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

September 15 Worship Attendance.....	447
In Person 11:00 a.m.....	215
In Person 8:15 a.m.....	140
Online.....	62
The Table.....	30

## OUR CHURCH STAFF

Barbara Blanton, *Finance Manager* (x 355)

Netha 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

## WILLIAMSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

500 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 757 229-1771

[www.williamsburgmc.org](http://www.williamsburgmc.org) "Like" us on Facebook