

# Williamsburg United Methodist Church

Welcoming Neighbors - Nurturing Faith - Transforming Our World



*"David Rejoicing Before the Ark," Wood Engraving*

*English, c.1850*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise.*

*Psalm 100:3*

*Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany - Laity Sunday*

*February 23, 2025 - 8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services*

PRELUDE

*Here's One*  
(arr. Evelyn R. Larter)

INTROIT

*Here's One*  
(arr. Don Chilcote)

Jenn Staggs, soprano

WELCOME

Lay Leaders

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Romans 8 and 2 Corinthians 5, 9

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**We walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit.**

The Spirit bears witness with our spirits. Let us now proclaim the promise of God, declared in Holy Scripture.

**Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift: that we are children of God!**

Beloved, now we are children of God; it is not yet fully known what we shall be.

**We know that we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.**

\*HYMN

*You Have Searched Me, Lord, and Have Known Me*  
(Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)

**You have searched me, Lord and known me! All my life is in your care.**

**When I lie awake in evening you are always with me there.**

**When I rise to greet the morning in an attitude of praise,  
what I learn from you is humbling: you already know my ways.**

**Lord, you know the song I'm singing and my words before I pray.**

**You're behind me and before me as I travel through each day.**

**You once knit me all together; you created me by grace.**

**In your eyes, you see and love me as you treasure all my days**

**Lord, I try to learn your wisdom, but I cannot understand.**

**Yet your love is all around me; I am part of all you've planned.**

**Let me sing your praise each morning, let me serve you all day through,  
and in evening, make me peaceful, knowing this: I'm loved by you!**

OPENING PRAYER

from Psalm 139

O God, my frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place.

**When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,  
your eyes saw my unformed body.**

All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

**How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!**

How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them,  
they would outnumber the grains of sand.

**When I awake, I am still with you.**

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

**See if there is any offensive way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting. Amen.**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

*Lord, I Know I Been Changed*  
(arr. Larry Shackley)

Youth Choir

## 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 Children's Worship in the Fellowship Hall to encounter God in story, song, and play. Our Nursery, located in the Education Wing, is open for Pre-K and younger during both services.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 139: 1-5, 7-10, 13-14, 23-24 (pg. 577 OT)  
The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

*The Majesty and Glory of Your Name* Sanctuary Choir  
(Tom Fettke)

## MESSAGE

*To Sing Our Lives as a Song to God* Lay Leaders

## \*HYMN

*He Leadeth Me* UMH 128 (red book)  
(verses 1-3)

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Mike Starry

## 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.**

## OFFERTORY

*Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners* Sanctuary Orchestra  
(Camp Kirkland)

## \*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!**

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## \*HYMN

*Forth in Thy Name* UMH 438 (red book)

## \*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

## BENEDICTION

*Psalm 121* Sanctuary Choir  
(Anthony Kouri Williams)

## POSTLUDE

*Toccata on "Great Day"*  
(Adolphus Hailstork)

***\*congregation invited to stand***

**The flowers in the Chancel are given to the Glory of God by**  
...Mark, Deborah, Natalie & Ava Agee in memory of Charles Dowis.  
...Betty Morgan in honor of her husband Paul Morgan.

# THIS ALSO IS OUR WORSHIP

## *Welcome to Williamsburg United Methodist Church*

### **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:** Rm. 102; **Searchers:** Rm. 303; **Perspectives:** Rm. 171; **Walking the Footsteps Small Group:** Fellowship Hall; **Marvin Willard:** Rm. 174; **Young Adult:** Rm. 180/182

#### **Embracing The Uncertain: A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times**

*Sundays beginning Mar 2, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Rm 303*

Just turning on the news lets us know we are living in uncertain times. Our individual lives are often just as unsteady. Join the Searchers Sunday School Class this Lent to engage and wrestle with life's uncertainties, not ignore them, while following Jesus with courage, hope, and obedience. For more info or to get connected to the class leaders, contact Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org).

#### **Sacred Resistance: A Practical Guide to Christian Witness and Dissent**

*4 Sundays beginning March 2, 6:15-7:30 p.m. Rm 206*

Many wonder how to respond and lead in troubled times. The need for courage to speak out and act is ever-present, because every generation faces a new set of fears and troubles. Join us to discuss things such as: When Christians see something is wrong in our world, how and when should we respond? What historical, biblical, and theological underpinnings can be relied on? How can we take care of ourselves and one another, so that our ministries and lives are sustained? Questions? Contact Pastor Meghan Roth Clayton [mclayton@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:mclayton@williamsburgumc.org) or Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org). Register now at [tinyurl.com/sacred-resist-2025](http://tinyurl.com/sacred-resist-2025)

#### **Mended Hearts of Williamsburg**

On Monday, March 10 at noon, all are welcome to a presentation from the Mended Hearts chapter of Williamsburg. A light lunch will be available. Mended Hearts chapter offers peer-to-peer support, education, and advocacy; helps patients cope with emotional recovery from heart disease; and provides social, emotional, and practical support. Questions? Call Pastor Meghan.

#### **Meetings & Events**

Feb 23	4:45 p.m. ....	The Table
Feb 24	6:30 p.m. UWF Executive Com	
Feb 25	7:00 p.m. ....	Church Council
Mar 1	9:00 a.m. ....	Blood Drive

## Give Up Complaining for Lent

*Mondays, beginning March 10, 7:00-8:00 p.m.*

There's so much to complain about in life, but what good does complaining really do anyway? What if you could give up complaining this Lent and turn that complaining-energy into action? Join Laura Beach and Ema Kossin on a 6-week journey to living complaint-free using Will Bowen's book, *A Complaint Free World: Stop Complaining, Start Living*. For more info or to get connected to the class leaders, contact Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org). Register now at [tinyurl.com/wumc-no-complaining](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-no-complaining).

## Pastors' Bible Study - PAUSE: Spending Lent with the Psalms

*Wednesdays in Lent, beginning March 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m. | Rm 103*

*Thursdays in Lent, beginning March 13, 10:30-12:00 p.m. | Zoom*

Lent is an ideal time to step back and reflect on the deeper movements of the spirit. The season encourages us to consider a different pace - one of slowing down, noticing, reflecting - than what our dominant culture values. Join Pastors Dave, Meghan, and Troy in taking up the spiritual practice of encountering, sinking into, and deeply engaging with one Psalm each week during Lent and Holy Week. Questions? Contact Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org). Register NOW at [tinyurl.com/pastors-lent-2025](http://tinyurl.com/pastors-lent-2025).

## Understanding Your Grief

Find support, fellowship and hope among others experiencing grief. Using Dr. Alan Wolfelt's book *Understanding Your Grief* and the accompanying journal, Stephen Ministry Leader Nancy Rivero will guide you through a 6-week series, beginning on Sunday, March 16 and ending Sunday, April 27, Rm. 174 at 3:30 p.m. We will skip Easter Sunday, April 20. Pre-registration is required at [www.tinyurl.com/wumcgriefgroup](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumcgriefgroup) Questions? Contact Pastor Meghan at 757-229-1771.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sisters in Spirit Retreat – The Cup of Our Life

March 28-30 Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center, Toano

Cost: \$125 per participant – Scholarship available

This retreat is for any woman seeking a more intimate and disciplined life of prayer. Using ordinary cups as an illustration you'll see how each day can become sacred vessels that connect us with life and bring us into closer union with the Divine. Together, you'll explore how the cup is a rich symbol of life, with its emptiness and fullness, its brokenness and flaws, and its overflowing blessings. Rev. Nancy Robinson, former Minister of Discipleship here at WUMC, will lead this retreat for women of all ages. Questions? Contact Pastor Meghan Roth Clayton [mclayton@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:mclayton@williamsburgumc.org) or Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org). Learn more or register at [tinyurl.com/wumc-SiS-2](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-SiS-2).

## Easter Lilies

Stop by the table in the Atrium today, through March 23, and we will assist you with purchasing a lily that will be used to decorate the church for Easter. Thanks!

## CARE Committee

...will provide rides to the doctor or will provide help when you are sick. Mary Ann Durboraw 757 871-1455 and Carol Schuster 757 603-2574 are the February coordinators. If you need **CARE**, please let the coordinators know at least 2 days in advance to arrange for assistance.



**American  
Red Cross**

Community of Giving

## **Williamsburg United Women in Faith**



**American Red Cross**  
Eastern Virginia Region

**Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**9 am – 2 pm**

**Williamsburg United Methodist Church – Atrium**  
500 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Let's serve our community and save lives together.  
Come donate blood.

For an appointment, please visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)  
and use sponsor code **WilliamsburgUMC**  
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

**Save lives and empower your health! In March, the Red Cross will perform free A1C testing on successful donations. Plus, come to give March 1-31 and get a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email.**

## Today's Service

**Worship Lay Leaders:** Dianne Colestock, Harley Knowles, Mike Starry

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

**Reader:** Dianne Colestock

**Acolyte 11:00:** Ella Bullock

**Greeters 8:15:** Brenda White, George White **11:00:** Sandra Gillett, Bettie Morris

**Ushers 8:15:** Roy Geiger, Janet Henke, Russ Henke, Chalonnies Hoover, Tom Justice, Monty Mason, Brent Whitaker, Michael Johnson, Cindy Garman-Squier, Dan Squier **11:00:** Marijane Harper, Bonnie Knizatko, Joanne Lawson, James Jones, George Sallwasser, Susan Sallwasser, Buz Wilson

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

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

February 16 Worship Attendance Total.....	614
In Person 11:00 a.m. ....	329
In Person 8:15 a.m. ....	167
On Line .....	95
The Table.....	23

## OUR CHURCH STAFF

Barbara Blanton, *Finance Manager* (x106)

Josh Clayton, *Digital Media Specialist* (x107)

Meghan Roth Clayton, *Pastor of Congregational Care* (x114)

Zach Griggs, *Family Ministries Coordinator* (x109)

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

Mike Motes, *Temp. Bookkeeper* (x116)

Denise Williams, *Bookkeeper* (x116)

Ginger Palmore, *Respite On-Board Director* (x118)

Laura Pittman, *Director Kid's Morning Out* (x113)

Nancy Reynolds, *Engagement and Administrative Coordinator* (x104)

Dave Rochford, *Lead Pastor* (x110)

Michelle Roy, *Dir. of Congregation & Community Engagement* (x103)

Troy Sims, *Minister of Discipleship* (x108)

Lou-Anne Smith, *Director of Worship Arts* (x105)

Rick Viancour, *Facilities Manager* (x101)

Anthony Williams, *Assoc. Dir. of Worship Arts, Dir. Early Childhood Music* (x115)

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

## WILLIAMSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

# *Welcome to Williamsburg United Methodist Church*

## **INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PART OF WUMC?**

Speak with any of our Pastors, Revs. Meghan Roth Clayton, Dave Rochford or Troy Sims, after the service or call 757 229-1771. They will be delighted to talk with you.

## **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

**Live streaming of worship...** will be available each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. <https://www.williamsburgumc.org/worship/livestream-services>, and the recorded service will be available at <https://www.williamsburgumc.org/worship/sunday-worship> by mid-afternoon Sunday. Upon entering the Sanctuary, understand that we are posting images to our media platforms. If you are uncomfortable with this, please let the ushers know you need to sit in an area away from camera angles. We are happy to accommodate!

**Assisted Listening devices...** are available from the ushers. Those with a “*t-coil*” switch in their hearing aids can simply activate the switch. Please advise an usher if you have this need.

**Need a Quiet Place During Worship?** The Den, located behind the Sanctuary, is open as a quiet place during Worship. It’s equipped to watch worship livestream, has a partitioned feeding area and a diaper changing station for parents and caregivers.

**Nursery Care** is available for Pre-K and younger in Room 207. Our trained and background-checked care providers are ready to welcome your little ones during Worship and Sunday School.

## **CLASSES, GROUPS, AND BIBLE STUDY...**

Please see the church website at [www.williamsburgumc.org](http://www.williamsburgumc.org) for a variety of choices. These are conducted both in person and by Zoom. We are always eager to welcome guests and new friends.

## **MESSY CHURCH**

Messy Church held every second Tuesday, 5:30–7:30 p.m. This is an all-age worship experience that includes crafts, games, Celebration Time and dinner. Questions? Contact Zach Griggs

## **FAMILY MINISTRIES**

We are committed to walking alongside families of all kinds on the lifelong journey of faith. Children are invited to grow in relationship with God and each other through Messy Church, Children’s Worship, and fun fellowship events. Youth meet weekly on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. to have fun, engage current events theologically, respond creatively to scripture, and imagine how God is calling them to mission. Resources are available for parents and caregivers, and Zach would love to talk with you anytime about the joys and challenges of family life. Contact Zach at [zgriggs@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:zgriggs@williamsburgumc.org) to learn more. Interested in Youth Choir? Contact Anthony Williams [awilliams@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:awilliams@williamsburgumc.org)

## **PRAYER**

Contact the church office to speak to a pastor or submit a prayer request via the church website. Prayer concerns will be added to the prayer chain if desired or shared with the pastors and our intercessory prayer group. Prayer cards are located at Connection Corner and in the Narthex.

## **SUPPORT AND CARE**

We are a Stephen Ministry Church and provide trained, strictly-confidential lay pastoral care for our congregation and community. Contact one of the Pastors for information on how you be connected to one of our Stephen Ministers 757 229-1771.