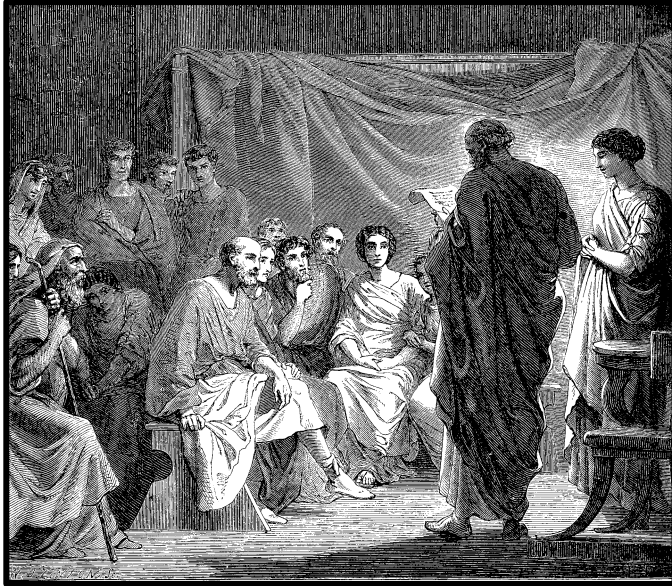




# Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785



Attribution: "Listening to an Epistle from Paul," William Linton  
Woodcut Engraving, American, 1859

*you are a letter from Christ  
written not with ink  
but with the Spirit of the living God*

*2 Corinthians 3:3a*

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 4, 2025**

# ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

*A Taste of Cana's Wine*  
(David Evan Thomas)

Organ

WELCOME

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Every day I will bless you, and praise your name for ever and ever.

**One generation shall laud your works to another, declaring your mighty acts.**

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,

**to make known to all people your mighty deeds,  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

**The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.**

\* HYMN

*At the Font We Start Our Journey* TFWS 2114 (black book)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

adapted from Rev. Nathan Williams

God of grace,

we confess that we are more eager to receive your mercy  
than we are to extend your compassion to others.

**We ask for what we need**

**without considering whether we hold what someone else needs.**

**We seek your forgiveness**

**but are inclined to hold grudges against others.**

**We want you to lead us away from evil,**

**but prefer that you send us where we want to go.**

By your forgiving grace, we want for something greater, truer than this.

**We choose to give generously, beyond that which we easily can spare;**

**to forgive even those who have yet to ask for forgiveness;**

**to pray that your Kingdom come, though its ways are strange to us;**

**to follow you wherever you choose to lead us.**

[a time of Silent Confession]

Lord, make our daily bread into the bread of life,

and the vessels from which we drink into the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

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 and Sunday School.

ANTHEM

*Amazing Grace*  
(arr. John Ness Beck)

Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 3:1-4

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

“Dead Letters, Living Letters”

Dave Rochford

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A TIME OF TESTIMONY

Russ Henke

OFFERTORY

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*  
(Gilbert Martin)

Organ

\* 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

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*[The minister continues this prayer of thanksgiving, concluding:]*

And so, with your people on earth

and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy*  
(UMH 21 red book)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full – full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

*[The minister continues the prayer, recalling the institution of the Lord's Supper, concluding:]*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*Christ has died*  
(UMH 22 red book)

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

**By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,  
and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory  
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.**

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,  
**all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.**

*Amen*  
(UMH 22 red book)

**Amen, amen, amen, amen.**

**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

Those who prefer to remain in the pew may do so; an usher will bring elements to you when the time comes. Those wishing to come forward may either stand or kneel as they receive bread and juice, pray and then return to their seats by the side aisle. Persons requiring gluten-free elements may obtain these at the rail or from our ushers in the pew.

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

*Pass It On* HYMN 572 (red book)  
*Gather Us In* HYMN 2236 (black book)  
*We Are Called* HYMN 2172 (black book)  
*Together We Serve* HYMN 2175 (black book)  
*Make Me a Servant* (sing 2 times) HYMN 2176 (black book)

## \*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  
 as those illumined by your Spirit, to give ourselves for others,  
 in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

\*HYMN *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* TFWS 2171 (black book)

## \* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Fanfare for Organ* Organ  
 (Daniel Burton)

The flowers in the Chancel are given to the Glory of God by  
 ...Kathy Kohler & Carol Maviglia in memory of our parents Mildred and Stanley Wood.  
 ... Grandparents Rachel and Henry Fowler for the March 3, 2025 birth of Henry William  
 Schroeder, son of Michelle Fowler and Bill Schroeder and big sister Hazel.

\* ***Congregation invited to stand.***

***Please take the opportunity to meet your neighbors! At the conclusion of our services,  
 those wishing to hear the Postlude in its entirety are welcome to remain seated.***

## ***NEW HERE?***

We're delighted to have you with us! After the service, follow the signs to our Fellowship Area 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!

## **WAYS TO GIVE**

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



### **TEXT TO GIVE**

TEXT YOUR GIFT TO 757-992-9862. You do not need an account to give; simply text your gift amount in any format (\$10, 10, 10.00). Receipts are sent via email.



### **CASH/ CHECK**

Donations can be made via our collection plate on Sundays or the church office Mon - Fri. Your generosity is deeply appreciated and makes a real difference in the lives of those we serve!

### **Giving Makes an Impact**

Your generosity changes lives and empowers ministries. Visit our Resources page at [williamsburgumc.org/articles](http://williamsburgumc.org/articles) to read inspiring stories about the difference your giving makes in our community and beyond.

### **GIVE VIA OUR APP**

Scan the QR Code to download for Android and iPhone

# THIS WEEK AT WUMC



## **ReNEW Youth Group** **May 4 @ 12:30pm Youth Room**

Join us for lunch, faith exploration, and fun from 12:30 – 2:00pm.

## **Multi-Faith Dialogue Event** **May 4, 2:30-4:00pm at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, 1333 Jamestown Rd.**

Area Religions Together (HART) for an afternoon of storytelling, solidarity-building, and dialogue. We'll explore how our religious traditions can empower us to stand up for ourselves and others, promote kindness, fairness, and respect. RSVP at [tinyurl.com/multifaith-may4](https://tinyurl.com/multifaith-may4)



## **The Table – Sunday Night Service** **May 4 @ 5pm Fellowship Hall**

New at The Table: Dinner is Provided!

The Table, our Sunday evening worship experience, just got even easier to attend and invite a friend to! We're now providing dinner each week — no potluck dishes needed. Join us for a warm meal, casual conversation, music, and a welcoming worship environment. Whether you're new to faith, returning after time away, or just looking for a different kind of Sunday evening, there's a place for you at The Table. Come hungry — for good food and real connection!



## **Elevate Your Fitness** **May 5 & 7 @ 9:30am Fellowship Hall**

Come experience sessions crafted with care, featuring heart-boosting chair aerobics, muscle-strengthening light weight training, and equilibrium-enhancing balance exercises.

## **Service of Hope & Healing** **May 7 at 6:00pm WUMC Atrium.**

A quiet, contemplative service intended to bring peace and comfort for those enduring loss or other challenges. Similar to the Service offered in the Advent season, this service is a space to seek God's light and love, encouragement in community, and healing of our hearts. All are welcome.

## **Teddy Bear Tea Party May 10**

Join us for a fun, family-friendly Teddy Bear Tea Party benefiting Kid's Morning Out! Come in your Sunday best, bring a stuffed friend, and enjoy tea, crafts, and activities. Tickets are \$15 at [tinyurl.com/TeddyBearTea2025](https://tinyurl.com/TeddyBearTea2025). Can't attend? Consider donating a "Non-Attending" ticket to help make this event accessible to all.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & MEETINGS

## **NEW STUDIES!**

THE GOSPEL OF MARK - Walk with the Marvin Willard Sunday School Class through the earliest existing source for the life of Jesus with revered scholar Amy-Jill Levine. Study begins May 4, 9:30am.

AN ANTIPHON: ST. PAUL AND A. NEVALNY - Aldersgate Fellowship Class topic for May 4, 9:30am.

Visit our Classes page ([www.williamsburgumc.org/classes](http://www.williamsburgumc.org/classes)) for more info.

**CARE COMMITTEE:** Provides rides to your doctor and aide when you're sick.

Please contact Mary Liz Sadler (757) 229-8063 and Betsy Ziskind (757) 291-2950 at least 2 days in advance to arrange for assistance.

## **HANDS ON MISSION WEEK | May 17–22**

Join the United Women in Faith for a week of meaningful service and connection! From writing notes to missionaries and creating placemats for Kairos Prison Ministry, to sorting donations, organizing outreach supplies, and sharing lunch with residents of Latisha's House—there are opportunities for all ages to get involved.

**Volunteer Opportunities Include:** Sorting donations at Habitat Restore, cleaning candleholders, supporting Grove Christian Outreach, hosting a picnic with Latisha's House, crafting and games with The Arc of Abilities

**Can't join in person?** Donate food, household items, or clothing to support local missions. Full details and sign-ups will be available soon. Please **contact Grace Holloway** [gracewholloway@gmail.com](mailto:gracewholloway@gmail.com) with questions.

## **CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST | May 17, 8:30am Fellowship Hall**

Our breakfast will host members of the WUMC Creation Care Team who will speak about this growing ministry of our church and the older Green Team ministry it is replacing. RSVP by May 15 to [griffinjc1@aol.com](mailto:griffinjc1@aol.com). The cost of breakfast is \$10 per person.

## **GUNS TO GARDENS | May 31, 11:00am – 2:00pm WUMC Parking Lot**

Williamsburg United Methodist Church and the James River Chapter/VICPP (Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy) invite all to give any unwanted guns to be safely dismantled and forged into garden tools. Safety will be a top priority: donors, please place unloaded guns to be donated in the trunk of your car; donors, must be present while the gun is being dismantled. No ammunition will be accepted. At the event, a blacksmith will demonstrate turning gun parts into a garden tool. Questions? Contact Pastor Dave or Deacon Troy. Thanks.

## **CANDLE BURNING CEREMONY | June 7, 10:00am WUMC Parking Lot**

WUMC United Women in Faith will hold a Candle Burning ceremony as a fund raiser for missions. This ceremony memorializes loved ones who have passed and honors living friends and family. For each \$0.60 donation the candle will burn for one second.

Questions? Please contact Susan Griffin 757-207-9565 or [Susangriffin@yahoo.com](mailto:Susangriffin@yahoo.com)

# EXPLORE OUR MINISTRIES



## **Men's Ministry** [williamsburgumc.org/adults/men](http://williamsburgumc.org/adults/men)

United Methodist Men is a fellowship committed to the growth and expansion of the church's mission. Our Purpose is to provide a supportive fellowship for men seeking to know Jesus Christ, grow spiritually, and help others find a welcoming place for Christ in their hearts and lives



## **Women's Ministry** [williamsburgumc.org/women](http://williamsburgumc.org/women)

We are a community for women who find deep meaning in relationship to God and each other. We understand that life is often packed full of activities and obligations — from juggling jobs to taking care of family. That's why we offer a space that combines study with meaningful fellowship and outreach opportunities.



## **Youth Ministries** [williamsburgumc.org/youth](http://williamsburgumc.org/youth)

As students grow and mature, we believe faith should grow and deepen with them. Our WUMC ReNEW Youth Group is designed to offer holistic faith formation for students in 6th- 12th grade. We study the Bible, learn spiritual practices, and respond through creative expression and intentional mission.



## **Children's Ministries** [williamsburgumc.org/children](http://williamsburgumc.org/children)

We offer faith formation to our youngest disciples through Sunday Nursery and Children's Worship, monthly Messy Church, and monthly events for fun and fellowship. We also offer music programs, a vibrant preschool and music school and welcome Cub scouts through our doors each week.



# EXPLORE OUR MINISTRIES



## **Local Outreach** [williamsburgumc.org/local-outreach](http://williamsburgumc.org/local-outreach)

Our Local Outreach committee serves as the cornerstone of our commitment to embodying Christ's love beyond our sanctuary walls. We firmly believe that faith is not merely a personal journey but a transformative force that compels us to engage with the world around us.



## **Global Outreach** [williamsburgumc.org/global-outreach](http://williamsburgumc.org/global-outreach)

Our global initiatives range from missionary sponsorships and disaster relief efforts to educational and healthcare projects. These endeavors aim not only to meet immediate needs but also to lay the groundwork for sustainable development and spiritual growth in communities around the world.



## **Music Ministries** [williamsburgumc.org/music](http://williamsburgumc.org/music)

We eagerly experience God through diverse types of music. More than 150 adults, children, and Youth participate in our ensembles and share their musical gifts with our congregation. You'll find a wide range of opportunities tailored for all ages in our WUMC Music Ministry.



## **Join A Class or a Small Group**

[williamsburgumc.org/classes](http://williamsburgumc.org/classes) and [williamsburgumc.org/small-groups](http://williamsburgumc.org/small-groups)

Studies and Small Groups help us grow spiritually and relationally, reflecting Jesus' example of teaching within community. Sunday school, Bible studies, and various short or long-term studies provide opportunities to learn from Christ and each other. Small groups, intentionally limited in size, foster deeper conversations, mutual support, and accountability. Together, we journey toward understanding our lives, faith, and relationships more deeply.

# OUR CORNERSTONE MINISTRIES

## **Respite Care** [williamsburgumc.org/respite-care](http://williamsburgumc.org/respite-care)

This weekday afternoon ministry of Williamsburg United Methodist Church is open to all faiths and non-faiths. Our program provides time off for family members who care for dependent seniors by offering a safe, engaging, and nurturing environment where their loved ones can enjoy social activities, music, and companionship under the care of trained staff and volunteers.

By supporting both seniors and their caregivers, Respite Care fosters a sense of community and ensures that no one has to navigate the caregiving journey alone.

## **Early Childhood Music School** [williamsburgumc.org/ecms](http://williamsburgumc.org/ecms)

ECMS is a weekday program offered to the community-at-large. Weekly classes in music and movement are taught by internationally certified early childhood music specialists. Through playful, engaging activities, children develop a strong foundation in rhythm, melody, and coordination while also enhancing their cognitive, social, and motor skills. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate, creating a shared musical experience that fosters deeper connections and a lifelong love for music.

## **Kids Morning Out** [kidsmorningout.org](http://kidsmorningout.org)

KMO is dedicated to providing a nurturing environment for children aged one to four. Our program fosters each child's social, emotional, cognitive, physical, and spiritual growth, while creating a support system for caregivers. Through age-appropriate activities, we aim to demonstrate God's unconditional love for all children.

Our classes are divided into four age groups: Sprouts (young toddlers), Seedlings (twos), Saplings (threes), and Sycamores (fours). Each class is designed to meet the developmental needs of the children, providing a balance of structured learning and free play.

# TODAYS SERVICE LEADERS

**Worship Leaders:** Dave Rochford, Troy Sims, Zach Griggs

**Director of Worship Arts:** Lou-Anne Smith

**Organist:** Tom Marshall

**Readers 8:15:** Russ Henke **11:00:** Scottie Boyd

**Acolytes 8:15:** Linda Upshaw **11:00:** Aaron Yaneza

**Greeters 8:15:** Fran Hermance, Marilyn Riddle **11:00:** Jan Boykin, Jess Marston

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

**Communion Servers 8:15:** Bo Bohannon, Gayle Justice, Terri Osborne, Rita Welty **11:00:** Nathalie BacsKay, Linda Baker, Cindy Banek, Karen Red

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

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April 27 Worship Attendance	Total 504
In Person 11:00am	261
In Person 8:15am	117
Virtual 11:00am	92
The Table	34

**Deadline for bulletin submissions:  
Tuesday, 5:00 p.m.**

Please submit to Nancy Reynolds  
nreynolds@williamsburgumc.org.

## OUR CHURCH STAFF

Barbara Blanton, **Finance Manager** (x106)

Ellen Bushman, **Director Respite Care** (x118)

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, **Provisional Bookkeeper** (x116)

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

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

Dave Rochford, **Lead Pastor** (x110)

Michelle Roy, **Director 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. Director Worship Arts, Director Early Childhood Music** (x115)

Ryan LaRock, **Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation**



# CONNECT

## WEBSITE

WILLIAMSBURGUMC.ORG

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## INSTAGRAM

@INSTAGRAM.COM/WILLIAMSBURGUMCVA

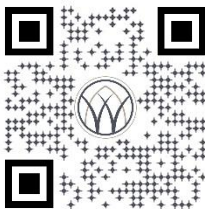
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## FACEBOOK

@FACEBOOK.COM/WILLIAMSBURGUMC

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## SIGN UP FOR UPDATES!



WANT TO STAY CONNECTED?  
SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAIL LIST FOR THE  
LATEST NEWS, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND  
WAYS TO BE INVOLVED AT WUMC.

WILLIAMSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
500 JAMESTOWN RD | WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185