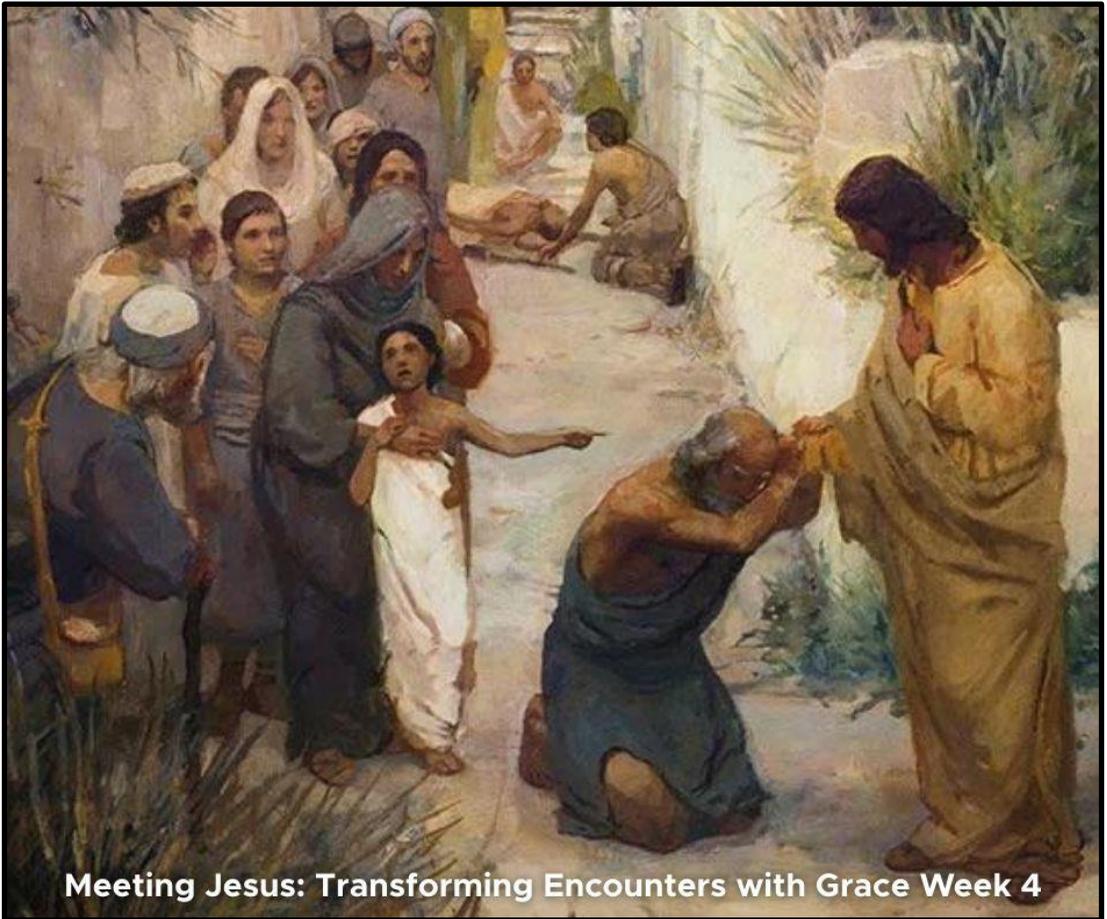




Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785



Meeting Jesus: Transforming Encounters with Grace Week 4

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* Organ
(J. Bert Carlson)

WELCOME

INTROIT *Adoramus te, Christe* Sanctuary Choir
(Théodore Dubois/arr. Liebergen)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Once there was a man who lived in darkness, unable to see the light,
but God opened his eyes.

Lord, open our eyes.

Lord, open our eyes.

Shine your light on us.

Shine your light on us.

Where there is blindness, you bring sight.

Where there is darkness, you bring light.

Your power reigns forever and ever. Amen.

*HYMN *Open My Eyes, That I May See* 454 (red book)

OPENING PRAYER

Glorious God,

**Once there was a man who lived in darkness, unable to see the light
of the world. Yet you came to him with mercy and opened his eyes.**

We confess that we often walk through this world with blindness.

**We fail to see your presence. We turn a blind eye to your will when it
goes against our own. We pretend not to see suffering until it is
on our own doorstep. Lord, open our eyes. Lord, open our eyes.**

**Shine your light upon us. Where our vision has grown dim with fear
and distraction, awaken us again. Awaken us. Awaken us.**

And lead us, step by step, further into the light of your grace. Amen.

ANTHEM *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* Sanctuary Choir
(David M. Cherwien)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 23 (501 OT)
The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Wheels A-Turnin* Wesley Choir (11:00)
(arr. Rollo Dilworth)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Where Children Belong* (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-3 are invited to Children's Worship in the Godly Playroom (215) to encounter God in story, song, and creativity. Our Nursery, located in Rm. 207, is open for Pre-K and younger during both services and Sunday School.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 9:1-12, 14-21, 24-34 (102 NT)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“Does Transformation Have a Cost?” Rev. Madison Ailinger

*HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

451 (red book)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Come, Ye Disconsolate
(J. Bert Carlson)

Organ

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

95 (red book)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*HYMN

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus
(sing twice)

349 (red book)

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Kyrie Eleison
(James Rivers)

Sanctuary Choir

POSTLUDE

Fuga in G minor
(J.S. Bach)

Organ

The Lenten Greenery is given to the Glory of God by JD and Steve Tressler
In celebration of John and Beverly Tressler’s 40th wedding anniversary today.

THIS WEEK AT WUMC



WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We're delighted to have you with us! Between services, 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!

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, you may be able to simply activate the t-coil switch. If that does not work, use one of the listening devices with a loop instead of the headphones. The loops are in the basket next to the devices. Just leave the headphones and plug in the loop instead. *Please leave devices on the cabinet where you picked it up; do not put it back in the basket. That helps us know the batteries need to be charged.*

ELEVATE YOUR FITNESS March 16 and 18 @ 9:30am | Atrium

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



Scan the QR code to learn more about opportunities for you and your family to grow, learn, and find community at WUMC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO OBSERVE LENT?

Visit our new Lenten Practices page for simple, meaningful ways to grow in faith this season including prayer, Scripture, fasting, generosity, and love in action. Head to williamsburgumc.org/lenten-practices for ideas.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP - For Students, Early Career Professionals, And Any of Us Who Are Not Retiring for More Than 30 Years. We Got This!

Every third Thursday March 19 and April 16, 7:00pm. Dinner will be provided or we will go somewhere fun! Contact Pastor Madison mailinger@williamsburgumc.org

CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

March 21, 8:30am | Fellowship Hall Jenny Crain will speak about the Carolina Honduras Health Foundation. Register: tinyurl.com/wumc-umm-breakfast

YOUTH OUTING - ESCAPE ROOM March 22 @ 12:30-2:30pm

reNEW Youth will be testing our puzzle solving skills. We'll eat lunch at church before heading out to a local escape room for a fun and challenging afternoon. We'll split into two groups for two separate challenges. The team who escapes in the least amount of time will win a prize. Cost per person: \$10; 2:30pm pickup at 217 McLaws Circle, Suite 4

MESSY CHURCH - EASTER EGG HUNT March 29 @ 3:00-5:00pm

We're looking forward to a special Messy Church Egg Hunt! Come search the WUMC grounds for over 1,500 Easter eggs after exploring the themes of the Lent and Easter seasons through games, crafts, music, and Bible stories. No cost to attend, and free carnival-style snacks will be available. **Candy Donations:** We are accepting candy donations (any nut-free candy, please!) to help stuff Easter Eggs. Candy may be dropped off in the Collection Closet by the Welcome Desk through **March 22**. Thank you for making this community event possible.

SISTERS IN SPIRIT WOMEN'S RETREAT – LIFE'S A PUZZLE

April 17-19 | Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center, Toano

Life is a puzzle, but thankfully, God helps us put it all together. Rev. Nancy Robinson will lead the retreat. Learn more or register: tinyurl.com/2026-womens-retreat

WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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 March Coordinators are Mary Liz Sadler (757) 229-8063 and Judi French (757) 810-2925. Call at least 2 days in advance for assistance.



CREATION CARE TEAM

One simple and effective way to save water is to use native plants in your garden. Native plants are adapted to local climates and have deep root systems, reducing the need for watering. Many are also drought resistant and can thrive in dry conditions. Find local sources of native plants and a free downloadable guide for southeast Virginia here:

<https://www.plantvirginiannatives.org/plant-southeast-virginia-natives>

WALK FOR A HEALTHY HONDURAS April 12, 1:00pm

Carolina Honduras Health Foundation (CHHF) is hosting a walk to raise funds for a Healthy Honduras. CHHF works with the Dept. of Colón, Honduras to improve health via education, community development, medical referrals, and primary care clinics. Register to walk as an individual or a team, set your goal, and start fundraising. Register at tinyurl.com/chhf-walk

TAKE PART IN A MEDICAL MISSIONS TEAM TO HONDURAS July 10-18

We are looking for doctors, nurses, and non-medical people willing to help. Contact Sandy vanlelived (757) 871-2012 or sandyvanlelived@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS

Your worship experience today is made possible by many volunteers. Greeters, ushers, acolytes, readers, communion servers, communion preparation helpers, watering flowers, Sanctuary preparation, flower coordinator, Easter and Christmas decorating all work to make your worship experience exceptional. Now that the church has added a Modern Worship Service each Sunday the need for volunteers has grown. If you can help in any of these roles for the Modern Worship service, contact Cindy Banek banek1@cox.net If you are interested in serving the 8:15 or 11:00am services, contact Betsy Harrison betsyTharrison@gmail.com

CLASSES

BREAKING DOWN WALLS - A RACIAL JUSTICE WEBINAR

March 17, 7:00-8:30pm | via Zoom tinyurl.com/vaumc-webinar

The WUMC Greater Good Group encourages you to take part in this webinar sponsored by the United Methodist Men and the United Women in Faith of the Virginia Conference of the UMC. This will be a panel conversation to equip participants to live out our mission of unity in diversity - reflecting the reconciling love of Christ in a divided and hurting world.

THE BIBLE WITH AND WITHOUT JESUS - Searchers Sunday School

6 Sundays beginning April 12, 9:30-10:30am | Rm 303

You're invited to consider how Jews and Christians read the same stories of the Bible differently. Using videos and a book by Amy-Jill Levine and Mark Zvi Brettler, you'll compare various interpretations – historical, literary, and theological – of each ancient text, finding deeper understandings of the original narratives and the way they are understood in later times and places. For more info or to get connected to the class leaders, contact Deacon Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org

For more information on classes, contact Deacon Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org

WAYS TO GIVE

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



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). Receipts are sent via email.

CASH/CHECK

Donations can be made via our collection plate on Sundays, mail, 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 to read stories about the difference your giving makes in our community and beyond.

LENTEN OFFERING

Lent is traditionally a time when we focus on committing to spiritual practices to help us grow in faith and love of God and neighbor – even and especially our enemies. An important spiritual practice for the members of WUMC during Lent is living into Jesus' call to give to support those in need (see Matthew 6:2 and 25:31-46).

The Local and Global Outreach Committees have selected the following as a means to live into that call:

GLOBAL INITIATIVES

UMCOR Hygiene Kits
UMCOR Sunday
World Central Kitchen

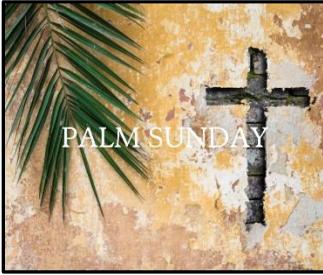
LOCAL INITIATIVES

Edmarc
FISH
VICPP
(Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy)



Learn more and give online at williamsburgumc.org/lentenoffering Thank you!

EVENTS COMING UP



PALM SUNDAY - March 29 | 8:15am, 9:30am, 11:00am

Music, song and dramatic readings will guide us in following in Jesus' footsteps through the gates of Jerusalem, hearing shouts of acclaim, and into the silence of the olive grove at Gethsemane.



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2 | 5:30pm | Fellowship Hall

Join us for an interactive time that combines engaging craft and activity stations, a potluck meal and worship, as we consider Jesus' supper in the Upper Room with his disciples.

GOOD FRIDAY

April 3 | 6:00pm & 7:00pm

6:00pm is a simple service of prayer and quiet. 7:00pm is a service of scripture, music, contemplation, and silence.



SUNRISE SERVICE

April 5 | 6:30am

Join us on the front lawn for our Sunrise outdoor service, where we will welcome the dawning light of Christ's rising.



MODERN WORSHIP

April 5 | 9:30am

On Easter Sunday, WUMC will hold our Modern Worship Service outdoors.



TRADITIONAL SERVICES

April 5 | 8:00am & 11:00am

Join us for dramatic readings, choral and orchestral music, preaching, prayer and song. (**note time change for early service from 8:15 to 8:00am**)

On Easter Sunday, **bring flowers** to adorn the Flowering Cross on the front lawn of the church.

MARCH 8 ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance Total.....	567
In Person 11:00am.....	229
In Person 8:15am.....	117
Modern Worship 9:30am.....	64
Online.....	92
Messy Church.....	65

Deadline for Bulletin

Submissions: MONDAY, NOON

Please submit to Nancy Reynolds
nreynolds@williamsburgumc.org.

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CONNECT



WEBSITE WILLIAMSBURGUMC.ORG

INSTAGRAM @INSTAGRAM.COM/WILLIAMSBURGUMCVA

FACEBOOK @FACEBOOK.COM/WILLIAMSBURGUMC

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.

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, **Respite Care Director** (x118)

Josh Clayton, **Digital Media Specialist** (x107)

Zach Griggs, **Family Ministries Coordinator** (x109)

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

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

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

Michelle Roy, **Communications and Systems Administrator** (x103)

Ellen Simon, **Bookkeeper** (x116)

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

Greg Whiteside, **Director of Facilities** (x101)

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

Ryan LaRock, **Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation** (757) 201-8850

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