



Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785

Life From Dry Bones



Meeting Jesus: Transforming Encounters with Grace Week 5

MARCH 22, 2026
8:15 and 11:00am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

- PRELUDE *Schmucke dich, o liebe Seele* Organ
(Johannes Brahms)
- WELCOME
- INTROIT *Adoramus te, Christe* Sanctuary Choir
(Théodore Dubois/arr. Liebergen)
- *CALL TO WORSHIP
The Lord brought the prophet Ezekiel to a valley of dry bones and asked him,
“Can these bones live?”
O Lord, only you know.
We know our own valleys of death, moments of despair,
and seasons of hopelessness.
Nevertheless, we dare to worship. Nevertheless, we gather in hope.
In the face of hopelessness, Jesus called Lazarus to come out from the tomb.
In the face of despair, Jesus promises to lead us into new life.
Jesus calls Lazarus to come out of the tomb.
Jesus calls us to step into new life.
The Spirit brings life to the valley of dry bones.
The Spirit brings life to the barren places in our lives.
Jesus is calling us.
The Spirit is moving among us.
We worship the God who breathes new life to a world in need.
We worship the God who brings life from death.
- *HYMN *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* 117 (red book)
- OPENING PRAYER adapted from a prayer written by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley
Compassionate God,
the wind of your Spirit is the very sign of life for all who long for you.
One breath from you and we are rescued from the arid valley of dry bones,
given muscles and sinews and joy with which to praise you, and filled with
the holy hope you grant to all your faithful children. Let our whole lives
be filled with the life-breath of the Spirit, that what has lain dormant
may burst into bloom, and even the darkness of death might be overcome
by the light of your resurrection and new life. Amen.
- ANTHEM *Come Find His Rest* Sanctuary Choir;
(Dan Forrest) Jenn Staggs, solo
- FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Ezekiel 37:1-14 (806 OT)
The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.
- SPECIAL MUSIC *Lord I want to be a Christian* Youth Music (11:00)
(arr. Anthony Williams)

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 11:1-3, 17-45 (104 NT)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"Life From Dry Bones"

Rev. Brian Johnson

*HYMN

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

420 (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.**

APOSTLES CREED

882 (red book)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Elegy

(Frederic Chopin/Lani Smith)

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	<i>There Is a Balm in Gilead</i>	375 (red book)
*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		
CHORAL BENEDICTION	<i>Kyrie Eleison</i> (James Rivers)	Sanctuary Choir
POSTLUDE	<i>Psalms 19</i> (Benedetto Marcello/ed. Schrader)	Organ

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.*

NEW FAMILY MINISTRY CHECK-IN STATION

We're excited to launch a new Family Ministry Check-In station in the Atrium for Sunday mornings! If you have kids in the Nursery or Children's Worship, at any worship hour, visit the computer kiosk to check them in for the programs they will attend. This helps us know when children are present and gives our guests a way to provide us with an emergency contact and allergy information. The station will also print out a name tag for your child and a matching security tag for their adult to use at pickup time. Please plan to visit the check-in kiosk so someone from Family Ministries can show you the new system!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELEVATE YOUR FITNESS March 23 and 25 @ 9:30am | Atrium



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

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.



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

Join us for 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. We are accepting **candy donations** (any nut-free candy, please!) to help stuff Easter Eggs. Please drop candy off **TODAY** in the Collection Closet by the Atrium. Thank you for your help.

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

Join us Thursday, April 16, 7:00pm. Dinner will be provided or we will go somewhere fun! Contact Pastor Madison mailinger@williamsburgumc.org

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

THANK YOU

The family of Lou Chatfield sends heartfelt thanks to everyone for their thoughts and prayers for Lou during her long illness and for the family after her passing. Your presence in her life and at her service are greatly appreciated. Additional thanks to those who helped prepare the wonderful reception.

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

How Much Water Do You Use?

Have you ever wondered how much water your household uses each day? The Water Footprint Calculator watercalculator.org can help you estimate your current water use and offer practical tips for reducing it. You can also learn more about your household's water use by reviewing your monthly

water bill. On average, an American family uses more than 300 gallons of water at home each day. Small changes can make a big difference in conserving this precious resource.

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

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

CLASSES

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

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!



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

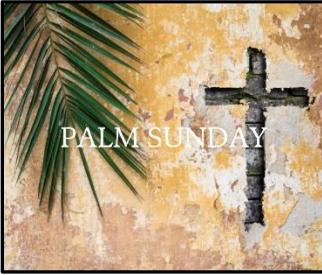
Donations can be made via our collection plate on Sundays, mail, or the church office Mon - Fri. Your generosity is deeply appreciated and makes a real difference in the lives of those we serve!



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.

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	521
In Person 11:00am	240
In Person 8:15am	140
Modern Worship 9:30am	63
Online	78

Deadline for Bulletin Submissions: MONDAY, NOON
Please submit to Nancy Reynolds
nreynolds@williamsburgumc.org.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-737740, Williamsburg UMC CCLI #3168974 CCS/WCL #12349. All rights reserved.

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

WILLIAMSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
500 JAMESTOWN RD | WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185
(757) 229-1771