



Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 27, 2025

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE	<i>My Lord, What a Morning</i> (Truuke Ameigh)	Piano
INTROIT	<i>Jesu, Jesu</i> (harm. By Charles Webb)	Summer Choir

WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

by Cat Caya in *Rally*, modified

Our hearts break over what is broken, but we refuse to give way to cynicism and despair.

We will call forth God's kingdom of shalom in prayer.

Words of contempt come up in too many places, but may we not comply to hatred with silence.

We will respond with wisdom and grace.

We want our children to have a better world, learning to speak truth and see humanity, so they can be peacemakers, prophets, and healers.

We will raise them in love.

Many of our siblings suffer in silence, fearing their stories will not be believed.

We will listen to their stories.

The groaning does not stop, and the headlines bleed, making us weary as we cry out and weep.

We will lift our voices with acts of life and hope.

* HYMN

God Made from One Blood

2170 (black book)

OPENING PRAYER

by Walter Brueggemann, modified

Gracious God, we are among your called. We have heard as you have addressed us in the deep places of our lives. We thank you for the call, for the burden of that call, for the risk that goes with it, for the joy of words given us by your growing spirit, and for the newness that sometimes comes from our word. We are, on most days, a hard mix of true prophet and wayward voice, a mix of your call to justice and our hope for your shalom. Here we are, mixed but faithful, compromised but committed, anxious but devoted to you. Use us and our gifts for your newness that pushes beyond all that we can imagine. May your word be enfleshed among us. Amen.

ANTHEM

Christ, Your Words of Love Confound Us
(Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)

Summer Choir

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:20-23, 27-28 (64 NT)

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

MOMENT OF TEACHING

We welcome children of all ages to participate in Worship in the Fellowship Hall. At 11:00 a.m., Grades K-5 are invited to Children's Worship in Rm. 161 to encounter God in story, song, and play. Our Nursery, located in Rm. 160, is open for Pre-K and younger during both services and Sunday School.

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Genesis 18:16-32 (14 OT)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!
Thanks be to God.

* HYMN

I Will Speak for Those Who Have No Voice
**I will speak out for those who have no voices;
I will stand up for the rights of all the oppressed;
I will speak truth and justice;
I'll defend the poor and the needy;
I will lift up the weak in Jesus' name.**

**I will speak out for those who have no choices;
I will cry out for those who live without love;
I will show God's compassion
to the crushed and broken in spirit;
I will lift up the weak in Jesus' name.**

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.**

OFFERTORY

Panis Angelicus
(César Franck)

Ian Lane, tenor

* DOXOLOGY

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

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

2241 (black book)

* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

BENEDICTION

Blest Be the Tie That Binds
(arr. Lowell Mason)

Summer Choir

POSTLUDE

Finale in F
(Charles-Marie Widor)

Piano

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by
...Stuart & Sylvia Woodcock in honor of our 64th wedding anniversary.
...Terri Morgan in honor of Jean & Richard Morgan on their wedding anniversary.

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 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

LIGHTING THE WAY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



THIS WEEK
160 Commitments

Committed - \$1,241,887
Unpledged contributions - \$118,350
Total committed & unpledged - \$1,360,237

THIS WEEK AT WUMC



BACK-to-SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

For many years, our church has provided school supplies for children living in a section of the Highland Park neighborhood. To simplify the process, we're providing an opportunity to purchase backpacks and supplies for specific Middle and High school students.

To participate, *starting TODAY*, you'll take an apple from the table in the Welcome area, print your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet, and purchase items listed on the back of the apple. Each apple will note the child's gender and grade, so supplies appropriate to their age can be purchased. You could partner with a friend or a small group to support a child. *Return purchases to the WUMC Collection Closet by August 11.* Be sure

to include the apple with the supply list in the backpack. Questions? Contact Deacon Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org, and he'll get you connected to Terry McKenna of Local Outreach.

THE TABLE – Sunday Night Service

July 27 @ 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall

The Table, our Sunday evening worship experience, provides dinner each week! Join us for a warm meal, conversation, music, and a welcoming worship environment.

ELEVATE YOUR FITNESS

July 28 and July 30 @ 9:30am in the Atrium

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

THE BOOK OF JAMES: WHAT YOU DO MATTERS

5 Sundays beginning TODAY, 9:30-10:30am in Rm 174

Join the Marvin Willard Sunday School in a joy-filled, fresh study of the book of James and discover the genuine markers of true faith, new practices of spiritual maturity, and how much the God of heavenly lights treasures you. To get connected to the class leaders, contact Deacon Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org

DIGITAL MINIMALISM BOOK STUDY - on Zoom

6:30-8:00pm on July 31, August 14 & 28

Join in this summer adult book study for families with Children and Youth. Zach Griggs will lead an exploration of author Cal Newport's philosophy of Digital Minimalism to intentionally choose technologies that enrich our lives and relationships and happily release those that do not.

While this book does not discuss the implications of technology's influence on our faith, we will discuss how our Christian discipleship calls us to be intentional with our time, choose life-giving connections, and live into healthy rhythms of rest as individuals and families. Our time together will include discussion on helping our kids set boundaries with technology, healthy relationships in person and online, and how to prioritize what is most important among a sea of possible choices. Visit the link to register and order your book: <https://tinyurl.com/fam-min-study>

Visit our Classes page www.williamsburgumc.org/classes for more info.

CHANGES TO SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Aldersgate/Fellowship Class - *Fellowship Hall*

Marvin Willard Class - *Room 174*

Searchers Class – *Youth Room 180*

Walking the Footsteps – *Conference Room 352*

Perspectives Class – *off for the summer*

Bishop McKendree – *off for the summer*

Godly Play – *Room 161* Nursery – *Room 160*

Summer Choir – *Room 173*

Looking for Sunday morning worship parking? Did you know you can park in the back of the lot that is labeled W&M staff parking? Only on Sunday.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Our goal is to help our children become true disciples of Jesus Christ by building relationships with them, being examples for them and teaching them God's Word.

CHILDREN K - 5TH GRADE: We believe God is reaching out to all of us, no matter how young we might be! We offer faith formation for our youngest disciples through Sunday Nursery and Children's Worship, monthly Messy Church, and monthly events for fun and fellowship. We also offer a well-rounded music program, a vibrant preschool and music school, and welcome Cub Scouts through our doors each week.

YOUTH 6 - 12TH GRADE: 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 that connects our individual stories with God's Story that is still unfolding. We study the Bible, learn spiritual practices, and respond through creative expression and intentional mission with our neighbors in Williamsburg and beyond.



MESSY CHURCH

August 12 @ 5:30pm WUMC

Join us for August's Messy Church where the theme will be "The Garden of Blessing" — a joyful celebration of God's love growing in our hearts! It's completely FREE and open to all kids in our community — bring a friend and come ready to grow, play, and be blessed! There will be crafts, music & movement, free meal, worship skit, playtime fun, faith & friendship. Let's dig deep and grow together in God's love!

RENEW YOUTH: EXTREME SCAVENGER HUNT

August 17 @ 12:30 Meet in Youth Room

For our last event of the Summer, we'll disperse in Colonial Williamsburg for a scavenger hunt. Use the clues and your smartphone to hunt for waypoints, hidden boxes, and surprises around the CW. There will be prizes for the winning team, as well as each competitor. Use your skills to track down a great end to the Summer!



NOW HIRING

ECMS is seeking a talented, enthusiastic, and nurturing Early Childhood Music Teacher to join our team on a part-time, contract basis. The ideal candidate will have a strong musical background, experience working with young children, and a passion for creative, play-based learning. Classes typically involve singing, movement,

rhythm games, and use of simple instruments in a group setting with children and their caregivers. Click the button for more information and for instructions on how to apply.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEETINGS

GET TO KNOW YOU GATHERINGS

Our new Lead Pastor, Rev. Brian Johnson, wants a chance to get to know YOU by hearing from you about yourself and our church. Our current offerings for these listening sessions are FULL, but we'll be scheduling a few more gatherings soon. So be on the lookout or contact Deacon Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org or 757-229-1771 to get on a waitlist should anyone back out.

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Visit our website to explore current offerings for the classes, small groups, and studies. Whether you're looking to deepen your faith, connect with others, or find a study that fits your schedule, this page has something for everyone. Additionally, you can check out our 'Attend An Event' page. Use the filters, such as "Adult," "Small Group," or "Sunday School," in the Full Calendar view to quickly find events that interest you and get a snapshot of what's happening in our community. To get connected to the class leaders, contact Deacon Troy Sims tsims@williamsburgumc.org.

REALM IS COMING! A New Chapter in Connection and Communication

Over the past year, a team of Williamsburg UMC members and staff has been hard at work exploring a better way to stay connected as a church family. After months of research, conversations with churches across the country, and in-depth comparisons, we're excited to share that we've chosen a new church management system: **REALM**.

Tom Justice led a small committee of WUMC members in conducting thorough due diligence—reaching out to congregations both locally and nationally to learn what worked (and what didn't) in real church settings. Their findings were compiled into a detailed comparison of options, which our staff then used to identify which platforms best met the needs of our ministries and day-to-day operations. **REALM** quickly stood out as the clear choice.

With **REALM**, we're gaining a powerful yet user-friendly system that will make it easier to:

- Communicate with your groups and teams
- RSVP for events and sign up for volunteer opportunities
- Update your own contact information and family profile
- Give online and track your giving history securely
- Access a digital directory of fellow members (you choose what's visible!)

Our implementation process begins this month, starting with data migration and staff training. From there, we'll move into a three-month phased rollout—bringing in early

adopters to help test features, offer feedback, and support a smooth transition for everyone. We're committed to rolling this out in a way that feels peaceful, simple, and supportive, and we'll be offering plenty of guidance and tools to help you get comfortable with Realm. Stay tuned for more updates and opportunities to explore the platform for yourself. We truly believe Realm will help us deepen our relationships, strengthen our ministries, and make it easier for every member of our church family to stay informed and engaged. We can't wait to show you what's ahead!

RESPITE CARE GARDEN PARTY

September 12



Join us for a fun afternoon featuring a gourmet lunch, live music, and a raffle packed with exciting prizes—all to support the vital work of our Respite Care Program. Lunch tickets are limited, so early reservations are encouraged. Raffle tickets can be purchased in advance or at the event, and you do not need to be present to win. Use this QR code to buy tickets online OR pick up a registration form at Connection Corner.

WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

CARE COMMITTEE Provides rides to your doctor and aide when you are ill. For August, please contact Karen Red (757) 532-6893 and Nathalie Bacskey (757) 604-7279 at least 2 days in advance to arrange for assistance.

LOCAL OUTREACH SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS Thank you for the generous response to our Summer Meals for Kids food collection. We will continue to collect juice boxes, no sugar added fruit cups, fruit snacks, granola bars, cheese cracker packs, snack-sized cookies, crackers, chips, pretzels, Rice Krispy treats, and Zip-loc sandwich bags. Please place items in the WUMC collection closet labeled Summer Meals for Kids. Checks made out to WUMC/memo Summer Meals for Kids are appreciated. Needed: Cookie bakers in August. Thanks!



CREATION CARE TEAM TIP

Avoid liquid-filled plastic bottles to reduce emissions, which come from transporting both the bottles' number and weight. Instead, purchase tablets for laundry, dishwashing, and other cleaning products. You can also avoid single-use plastics by taking your containers to be refilled at **Fill Happy** on John Tyler Highway.

EXPLORE OUR MINISTRIES



MEN'S MINISTRY 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

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

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

We offer faith formation to our youngest disciples through Sunday Nursery, Godly Play Sunday School, 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.



LOCAL OUTREACH 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/globaloutreach

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.



STEPHEN MINISTRY williamsburgumc.org/connect/care-support is a specialized ministry in our congregation that trains and empowers lay members to provide one-on-one, confidential, Christ-centered care to individuals facing various life challenges. While our pastors will always be at the forefront of crisis care, the needs of our community often exceed what they can provide alone. Whether it's the loss of a loved one, a difficult transition, or a prolonged period of stress, our Stephen Ministers are here to offer emotional and spiritual support.



MUSIC MINISTRIES 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 and 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

RESPIRE CARE williamsburgumc.org/respice-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

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

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: Troy Sims, Madison Ailinger, Zach Griggs

Director of Worship Arts: Lou-Anne Smith

Organist: Tom Marshall

Readers 8:15: Sylvia Woodcock **11:00:** Susan Sallwasser

Acolyte 8:15: Linda Upshaw **11:00:** Johanna Foley, James Foley

Greeters 8:15: Judi French, Fran Hermance **11:00:** Mike Motes, Theresa Motes

Ushers 8:15: Roy Geiger, Janet Henke, Russ Henke, Chalonnies Hoover, Tom Justice, Monty Mason, Michael Johnson, Cindy Garman-Squier, Dan Squier **11:00:** Drew Alexander, Val Dobson, Van Dobson, Walter Hall, Greg Johnson, Bonnie Knizatko, JD Tressler, John Tressler

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

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July 20 Worship Attendance	Total	519
In Person 11:00am		244
In Person 8:15am		156
Virtual		88
The Table		31

Deadline for bulletin submissions:
Monday, 5:00 p.m. (note change)
Please submit to Nancy Reynolds
nreynolds@williamsburgumc.org.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Madison Ailinger, **Pastor of Congregational Care** (x114)

Mary Ellen Baker, **Finance Manager** (x106)

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

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

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

Brian Johnson, **Lead Pastor** (x110)

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

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

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

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

Ellen Simon, **Bookkeeper** (x116)

Troy Sims, **Minister of Discipleship** (x108)

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

Rick Viancour, **Facilities Manager** (x101)

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)



CONNECT

WEBSITE

WILLIAMSBURGUMC.ORG

INSTAGRAM

@INSTAGRAM.COM/WILLIAMSBURGUMCVA

FACEBOOK

@FACEBOOK.COM/WILLIAMSBURGUMC

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

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(757) 229-1771