



*Williamsburg*

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785



**APRIL 5, 2026**  
**EASTER 8:00 and 11:00am**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## ANNOUNCING THE RESURRECTION

*We begin worship as that first Easter began – in the dark.*

*We open with a depiction of Mary going to the tomb on Easter morning looking for Jesus.*

*At the end of the reading, you will be invited to respond. Your part is in the bold.*

So Mary Magdalene went quickly and announced to the rest of the disciples,  
“I have seen the Lord, he is risen!”

**He is risen indeed!**

\*HYMN

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

302 (red book)

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is Risen!

**He is Risen Indeed!**

Christ is Risen!

**He is Risen Indeed!**

Christ is Risen!

**He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Amen!**

WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God,**

**we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have failed to be an obedient church.**

**We have not done your will,**

**we have broken your law,**

**we have rebelled against your love,**

**we have not loved our neighbors,**

**and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

**Free us for joyful obedience,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

[a time of silent confession]

Hear the good news: Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us. By God's great mercy, we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 20:1-18 (114 NT)

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

“Christ is Risen!”

Rev. Brian Johnson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

*Sing for Joy, Alleluia!*  
(Jonathan Willcocks)

Sanctuary Choir  
brass, timpani, organ

\*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!**

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 Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**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; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Those who prefer to remain in their seat may do so; simply notify an usher, and they will make sure the elements are brought to you. You may go forward to receive communion when an usher dismisses your row. You will be able to choose between dipping the bread in the cup or receiving an individual cup of grape juice. You may return to your seat via the side aisle once you have received. Persons requiring gluten free elements may obtain these at the station at the front or have it brought to them in their seat.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION (Please join in the singing:)

|       |   |                |
|-------|---|----------------|
| HYMNS | <i>Up from the Grave He Arose</i>         | 322 (red book) |
|       | <i>Christ Is Alive</i>                    | 318 (red book) |
|       | <i>Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise</i>    | 312 (red book) |
|       | <i>He Lives</i>                           | 310 (red book) |
|       | <i>The Strife Is O'er the Battle Done</i> | 306 (red 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 *Hallelujah Chorus*

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Easter Carillon* brass, timpani, organ  
(Robert J. Powell)

# 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 church for worship 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!

## 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). We have reached the end of Lent, but you are still able to give to support these amazing ministries as they practice resurrection in our community and beyond.

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](http://williamsburgumc.org/lentenoffering)  
Thank you!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ELEVATE YOUR FITNESS April 8 @ 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.

*The following Easter Flowers are given in memory of:*

*Judy Angles and Kevin Angles from Gordon Angles*  
*Faye Holt, Margaret Phillips and Patsy O'Callaghan from Rex & Jana Bishop*  
*Bonnie Brothers from Roger Brothers*  
*Ralph & Phoebe Stephens; Mahlon & Blanche Bruss from the Bruss family*  
*Becky Covey from Dr. & Mrs. Don Cherry*  
*Jo Cooper from the Cooper family*  
*Elwood & Dorothy Crossan from Bob & Cindy Crossan*  
*Manya Daniel from Doug and Gloria Daniel*  
*Sarah Dodson from Ed Dodson*  
*Dr. Jack Donley from LoAnn Donley*  
*Terry Donnelly from Nancy Donnelly*  
*Peter Emanuel and Vivian Golding from Judy Emanuel*  
*Larry Tinberg from Demasi and Boutell family*  
*Greg Whitley from Grace Swadley*  
*Glenn Feagin from Barbara Feagin, Laurie and Kevin*  
*Gifford & Lucille Arntson; David & Mary Lou Griffin from Jim and Suzan Griffin*  
*Our Parents Page Sperry, David & Georgia Hagy; Siblings Pamela Sperry Bendyk & Roger Hagy from Gary, Beth & Emily Hagy*  
*Our Parents and Lois Yates from Russ and Janet Henke*  
*Jim Hewitt; Joe & Venita Allen from Deborah, Virginia, Jimmy and Joey Hewitt*  
*Lester W. Higbee, Jr. from Dorothy J. Higbee*  
*Walter & Geneva Hall from Walter Hall II*  
*Betty Jessie from Evelyn Jessie*  
*My Parents Joseph & Helen Knizatko from Bonnie Knizatko*  
*Richard Kohler from Kathy Kohler*  
*Our Parents & Our Daughter Grace from Martin and Barbara Monteith*  
*Jessica Pasquarello Vashaw & Joseph Pasquarello from Cheryl Pasquarello*  
*John & Helen Davis from Dorayne Peitsch & Fiona*  
*Margaret Perkinson from the Perkinson family*  
*Bob & June Porterfield; Leslie Feriman from Richard and Rita Porterfield*  
*Henry & Dorothy Smith from Rita and Richard Porterfield*  
*Richard Prosl from Carol, Elizabeth & Karen*

*Joe Pumilia, Pauline Blake* from Barbara Pumilia  
*Brian Currier* from Searchers Sunday School Class  
*Lou Chatfield* from Searchers Sunday School Class  
*David Clegg* from Searchers Sunday School Class  
*Our Parents* from Hugh Siggins & Penny McClellan  
*My Mother Mary Burritt* from Gail Starry  
*My Sisters Suzanne & Melanie* from Mike Starry  
*Mary Walker* from Judy Talley  
*Carolyn Thompson* from Richard Thompson, Robin & Bryan Pruett  
*Roy & Drew Welty* from Rita Welty & family  
*David Ziskind* from Betsy & family

*The following Easter Flowers are given in honor of:*

*June Brantley* from Bob, Joy and Gwendolyn  
*Dick & Becky Morgan* from Bob & Cindy Crossan  
*Tom & Gayle Justice* from Roy & Wendy Geiger  
*Linda Upshaw* from Roy & Wendy Geiger  
*My WUMC Family* from Emily Hayden  
*Pastor Madison Ailinger* from Byron & Julianne Long  
*The Wonderful Music Program at WUMC* from John Williams & Damarius Marion  
*Monty Daniel* from Doug & Gloria Daniel  
*Church Staff* from Margaret Merhoff  
*Our Granddaughter Mia* from Martin & Barbara Monteith  
*Ministers & Staff* from Ray & Virginia Morgan  
*Robert & Marilyn Casey* from Dick & Peggy Soulen

*Those contributing towards the Easter lilies for today's service may pick them up after the conclusion of the 11:00 a.m. service. Thank you!*



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

## **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CIRCLES**

Our Circles are open to all! Please visit any of our circles and join in a time of sisterhood and service.

**Heritage Scott Circle** will meet April 7, 9:45 pm Rm 303. We hope to have a program about the church's Global Outreach programs.

**Sisters in Grace** will meet April 14, at 1:00pm in Room 309. Our program will be a time of in-reach and outreach.

**Sisters in Mission** will meet April 21, 5:00pm in Room 309.

## **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. Register at [tinyurl.com/chhf-walk](http://tinyurl.com/chhf-walk). Stop by the table in the Atrium today for more information.



## **MESSY CHURCH: CARE FOR ALL CREATION**

**Tuesday, April 14, 5:30pm WUMC**

This month, we're partnering with the WUMC Creation Care Team to celebrate Earth Day. We'll explore stories from the Bible to see how God loves the world--all of creation and everything in it--and invites us to be partners in caring for all that God has made. The Creation Care Team will lead us in activities to help us learn how to reduce, reuse, repurpose and make choices to reduce our impact on the planet.

## **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](mailto: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](http://tinyurl.com/2026-womens-retreat)

## **CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, April 18, 8:30 - 10:30am**

Join us in Fellowship Hall for the Churchwide Fellowship Breakfast while learning about Virginia's First People and their lasting impact on the culture of Virginia. Our speaker, Jim Griffin, will share insights on the earliest human inhabitants of Virginia and the significant contributions these groups made to the region's vibrant heritage.

A full breakfast will be served by the men of our church, featuring breakfast casseroles, sweet rolls and breads, fresh fruit, juice, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate. The cost is \$10.00 per person, with all proceeds supporting church ministries and outreach. Reserve your spot at [tinyurl.com/wumc-umm-breakfast](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-umm-breakfast)

## **PIZZA WITH THE PASTORS**

**Sunday, April 19, 12:15-2:00pm | Rm 303**

**Followed by optional building tour**

New to WUMC? Grab a slice and say hi! Pizza with the Pastors is a casual, quarterly gathering after the 11:00am service to meet our pastors, connect with others, and ask questions about life at WUMC. No pressure — just pizza and people. For more info, contact Deacon Troy Sims

[tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org). Register now at [tinyurl.com/pizza-pastor](http://tinyurl.com/pizza-pastor)

## **PREPARE/ENRICH COUPLES WORKSHOP**

**Saturday, April 25, 9:00am-5:00pm | WUMC**

Married or engaged couples are invited to take part in a Prepare/Enrich Couple Workshop led by Rev. Chesla T. Nickelson, M.Div, MAMFT. This workshop helps couples strengthen connections, navigate challenges, and thrive in their relationships. *Costs:* \$10 for lunch (payable to WUMC); and \$35 for an online assessment (payable to Prepare/Enrich).

Questions? Contact Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org). Learn more or register at [tinyurl.com/wumc-couples](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-couples)

# 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, contact Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org)

## **THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS AND THE ORIGINS OF CHRISTIANITY - Marvin**

**Willard Sunday School 4 Sundays beginning April 12, 9:30-10:30am | Rm 174**

They called themselves the "Poor," "Poor in Spirit," "Way," "Brethren," and "Sons of Light" -- all names adopted Jesus' followers in the early church. New research is revealing how the messianic expectations and apocalyptic theology of the Essenes may have played a role in shaping the beliefs and practices of the early church. Hap White will lead this study. For more info contact Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org)

## **THE BOOK OF ACTS - Pastors' Bible Study**

**Wednesdays, April 15-May 20, 7:00-8:30pm | Rm 171**

**Thursdays, April 16-May 21, 10:30-12:00pm | Zoom**

You're invited to journey with Pastors Brian and Madison (and the early church) through the book of Acts. There we read the story of the early church as they told the story of Jesus and put God's love into action. The book provides a model for a church that is not afraid of change and that is passionately committed to loving and serving its neighbors. The primary text will be the Bible, following the reading plan that we are encouraging the congregation to read. For more info, contact Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org) Register at [tinyurl.com/pastors-acts](http://tinyurl.com/pastors-acts)

# 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 April Coordinators are Betsy Ziskind (757) 291-3635 and Jan Boykin (757) 565-2950. Call at least 2 days in advance for assistance. To join this team of folks who care for others, email Pastor Madison [mailinger@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:mailinger@williamsburgumc.org)



## CREATION CARE TEAM

Celebrate Earth Day by reducing waste, conserving energy, and protecting nature. Top actions include using reusable bags and water bottles, switching to energy-efficient LED light bulbs, planting native trees, biking or walking instead of driving, and composting to lower our carbon footprint.

### Introducing Coffee Cup Composting at WUMC

In an effort to support the Green Church Initiative (GCI) of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, the Creation Care Committee (CCC) at Williamsburg United Methodist Church is excited to introduce a composting initiative at our Sunday morning coffee station. The GCI is a covenant congregation program that empowers a local church to live out its faith, given the Biblical mandate to care for and be good stewards of all that God has so lovingly created.

With a small grant from Endowment, CCC has arranged for a local business, Fill Happy, to compost our coffee cups and lids each week. Some of this compost will be used around our church. Starting April 12, you can help us by emptying any coffee, tea, or other liquid you don't finish into one of the green pitchers at the coffee station and then place your paper cup into the marked recycle container. Thank you in advance for your patience and support as we implement this program.

## LOCAL OUTREACH

The next Kairos event will be held at Lawrenceville Correctional Center April 22 - April 26. Local Outreach's involvement will be to bake cookies, make placemats and pray for the participants. Come by the table in the Atrium April 12; sign up to make cookies and pick up a bag containing the instructions/recipe. Cookies need to be delivered to the church on April 19, 20, or 21 by 4:00pm. We appreciate your help with this ministry.

## 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](mailto:banek1@cox.net) If you are interested in serving the 8:15 or 11:00am services, contact Betsy Harrison [betsyTharrison@gmail.com](mailto:betsyTharrison@gmail.com)

# CHILDREN AND YOUTH

At WUMC, our goal is to help Children, Youth, and their families grow as disciples of Jesus Christ through nurturing relationships, practicing an active faith, and connecting their stories with God's Story. For the full calendar of events, including monthly Youth outings, Messy Church, and other events in Family Ministries, visit [tinyurl.com/wumc-fm-cal](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-fm-cal)

- Children
  - Nursery: open 8am-12:30pm for children who are Pre-K and younger
  - 9:30am: Pre-K Children's Worship and Godly Play (K-3rd) during worship after the Children's Message
  - 11:00am: Children's Worship for Pre-K and K-3rd during worship after the Children's Message
- Youth: every Sunday, 12:30-2:00pm for lunch, faith discussion, spiritual practices, creative expression, and mission

## MARCH 29 ATTENDANCE

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Worship Attendance Total..... | 656 |
| In Person 11:00am.....        | 259 |
| In Person 8:15am.....         | 219 |
| Modern Worship 9:30am.....    | 76  |
| Online.....                   | 102 |

### Deadline for Bulletin

**Submissions: MONDAY, NOON**

Please submit to Nancy Reynolds  
[nreynolds@williamsburgumc.org](mailto: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.

# 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](http://williamsburgumc.org/articles) to read stories about the difference your giving makes in our community and beyond.

## 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**  
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