



# Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785



*"Return of the Prodigal Son," Rembrandt van Rijn*

*Etching, Dutch, 1636*

this son of mine was **dead**

and is alive **again**

he was **lost**

and is **found**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**MARCH 30, 2025**

# ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

*Gaudio Exsultans*  
(Valerie W. Stephenson)

Jubilate Ringers

WELCOME

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

from 2 Corinthians 5

Friends, Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all.

***He died for all, that we who live should no longer live for ourselves,  
but for him who died for us and was raised again.***

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.

***If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone,  
the new is here!***

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

***that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ,  
not counting people's sins against them,  
and has committed to us the message of reconciliation.***

\* HYMN

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

UMH 400 (red book)

OPENING PRAYER

We dare not admit it Lord,  
but we keep a close account of the wrongs done to us.

***We decline to find your Image in our neighbors.  
We cling to indignation and hurt,  
and prefer to ignore the linkage between your forgiveness of us  
and our embrace of those whose beliefs or actions offend us.***

***We do not want to remain as we are, Lord,  
but wonder how we can ever change***

God of reconciling Grace, hear our deepest thoughts, the sincere admissions of our hearts...

[a time of silent Confession]

Today, O Lord, we receive your forgiveness, and seek that same spirit for our lives.  
This we pray in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**





## 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**

**Mar 30 @ 12:30pm Youth Room**

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



## **Grief Support**

**Mar 30 @ 3:30pm room 174**

Find support fellowship and hope among others experiencing grief.



## **The Table – Sunday Night Service**

**Mar 30 @ 5pm in Fellowship Hall**

A relaxed, welcoming space where we gather as a community to share a meal and explore our faith together through guided conversations.



## **Elevate Your Fitness**

**Mar 31 & Apr 2 @ 9:30am in Fellowship Hall**

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



## **Give Up Complaining for Lent**

**Mar 31 @ 7:00pm room 206**

What if you could give up complaining this Lent and turn that complaining-energy into action?



## **Pastors' Bible Study**

**Apr 2 @ 7pm room 103 and Apr 3 at 10:30am via Zoom**

Join Pastors Dave, Meghan, and Troy in taking up the spiritual practice of encountering, sinking into, and deeply engaging with one psalm each week during Lent and Holy Week.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & MEETINGS

**WELCOME BABY WILLIAMS!** We are thrilled to welcome a precious new addition to our Williamsburg UMC family! Mr. Anthony Williams, our Associate Director of Music Ministries & Worship Arts and Director of Early Childhood Music School, and wife Annalena recently celebrated the arrival of a beautiful baby girl, Athena Kouri Williams.

**LIGHTING THE WAY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DINNERS:** Join us for one of three special "Lighting the Way" dinners as we celebrate our accomplishments and shine a light on our plans for the future.

- Wednesday, April 23 at 6:00 PM
- Thursday, April 24 at 6:00 PM
- Friday, April 25 at 12:00 PM



**Scan to RSVP or visit:**  
[tinyurl.com/campaigndinner](https://tinyurl.com/campaigndinner)

**DIRECTORY UPDATE:** A committed team of WUMC disciples has generously dedicated countless hours to ensure we have a wonderful, accurate, and beautifully crafted Directory. We can't wait to share it with you this summer!

**NEW STUDY!** Join the Searchers Sunday School in seeking to understand God's desire for our lives by unpacking your experiences alongside those of the apostle Paul. Visit our Classes page ([www.williamsburgumc.org/classes](http://www.williamsburgumc.org/classes)) for more info. *6 Sundays beginning April 27, 9:30-10:30am*

**CARE COMMITTEE:** Provides rides to your doctor and aide when you're sick. Please contact Mary Liz Sadler (757 229-8063) and Fran Hermance (757 229-8857) at least 2 days in advance to arrange for assistance.

**W&M STUDENTS:** If you're a student and interested in reading during our Good Friday 7pm service, please contact Pastor Ryan at [rslarock@wm.edu](mailto:rslarock@wm.edu) with questions or to schedule a tour.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Churchwide Fellowship Breakfast April 12. Join us to learn more about The Disappearing Islands of the Chesapeake Bay. Visit our events page to learn more, [www.williamsburgumc.org/events](http://www.williamsburgumc.org/events).

## MEETINGS

**Sunday, 3/30**

12:30pm The Table Discussion Group

**Monday, 4/1**

UMM Planning Meeting 5:30pm

**Tuesday, 4/2**

Ruth Simpson Circle 10:00am

# 2025 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. 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

- **Church World Service**

This ministry is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. Fourteen denominations (including the UMC) work together through this initiative. Your gift will be sent to support their work in Tanzania supporting families as they create food security and stable incomes.

*Learn more:* [www.cwsglobal.org/our-work/africa/tanzania](http://www.cwsglobal.org/our-work/africa/tanzania).

- **Good Shepherd Community School, Zambia**

This community school of in Ng'ombe Compound and surrounding areas in Lusaka, Zambia has been a passion of WUMC's own Jeanne Niebel since 2004. It educates children and supports their spiritual development while providing resources like technology and books.

- **UMCOR Global Initiatives**

UMCOR is a humanitarian organization that provides for the mental, physical, and spiritual needs of people around the world reeling from natural and human-made disasters. This ministry assists the most vulnerable people affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to their race, religion or status. This year's offering will focus on needs around the world. *Learn more:* [www.umcmision.org/umcor](http://www.umcmision.org/umcor).

## LOCAL INITIATIVES

- **Housing Partnerships**

Since 1985, this organization has served the Williamsburg community and surrounding neighborhoods to ensure that everyone has a safe, warm, and dry home. To accomplish this goal, they use a volunteer-driven approach to repair the homes of the area's most impoverished residents, especially the elderly and the disabled. *Learn more:* [www.housingpartnerships.org](http://www.housingpartnerships.org).

- **Latisha's House, Virginia**

This organization provides a long-term, transitional housing program for adult, female survivors of sex trafficking and offers individualized support to empower them to build a bridge from their traumatic past to a positive future.

*Learn more:* [www.latishashouse.com](http://www.latishashouse.com).

- **William & Mary Food for All**

This group supports the William & Mary Campus Food Exchange and swipe drives (providing additional meals for students throughout the year. It continues and expands these resources to serve students, faculty, and staff who may face issues of food access. *Learn more:* [foodforall.pages.wm.edu](http://foodforall.pages.wm.edu).



**Give online today**  
**[tinyurl.com/2025-lenten-gift](https://tinyurl.com/2025-lenten-gift)**



# 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 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 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 regular 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 embody Christ's love beyond our walls. We firmly believe that faith is not merely a personal journey but a transformative reality that compels us to be in mission to 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.

# TODAYS SERVICE LEADERS

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

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

**Organist:** Tom Marshall

**Readers 8:15:** Mike Starry **11:00:** Dianne Colestock

**Acolytes 8:15:** Hawley Mason **11:00:** Alison Foley Jr. Acolyte Johanna Foley

**Greeters 8:15:** Judi French, Steve Tingen **11:00:** Kathy and Gary Drake

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

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

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March 23 Worship Attendance	Total 403
In Person 11:00am	261
In Person 8:15am	142
Virtual 11:00am	76
The Table	25

**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)

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)

Ginger Palmore, **Respite Care Onboarding Consultant** (x118)

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

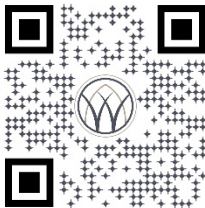
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## FACEBOOK

@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  
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