



## WILLIAMSBURG UMC MODERN WORSHIP SERVICE

We are a vibrant, welcoming community that's putting God's love into action in countless ways. To help more people experience that love, we're preparing to launch a new 9:30 AM modern worship service in early 2026.

### What to Expect

This new service will be a casual, family-friendly expression of worship featuring a live band (guitar, drums, piano, and more), weekly communion, and a relaxed atmosphere where all can feel at home. Our beloved 8:15 and 11:00 AM traditional worship services and Sunday School classes will continue just as they are today.

#### How You Can Help



##### Prayers

We believe God is calling us to take this next faithful step. Please pray—for the success of this new worship service, for the launch team, for the leaders and musicians, for those who will attend, and for our whole church community as we seek to follow where God leads.



##### Presence

Your presence matters! We ask for your consistent presence in early 2026 as we launch this new worship service – be ready to help us welcome new people and continue to be a strong community together. You can also commit to attending this service regularly for the first 6–9 months to help build momentum and create a welcoming space for new people. You can do that even while continuing to attend traditional worship at 8:15 or 11:15!



##### Gifts

Launching a new worship service is an act of faith. Your ongoing generosity—through prayer, service, and financial giving—makes it possible for us to step into new opportunities to share God's love and grow together in faith.

### What We Believe

We believe there are people who are looking for a church like ours—people who might be drawn to a different style of worship but who share our desire to encounter the grace and love of Jesus Christ. This new service aligns with our church's strategic plan and supports our goal to reach new people and embrace younger generations while continuing to nurture faith at every stage of life.

We hope this new worship service helps Williamsburg UMC remain a thriving, multi-generational community of worship, connection, and spiritual growth for years to come.



##### Service

We encourage you to invite your friends, neighbors, and coworkers to join you for worship. Help us share the story of what God is doing here at Williamsburg UMC.



##### Witness

We'll need many hands and hearts to make this happen: ushers, greeters, communion servers, and more. If you don't attend Sunday School and are willing to give of your time, your service will help us extend hospitality to all.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

for a full list of questions visit:

[www.williamsburgumc.org/modernworship](http://www.williamsburgumc.org/modernworship)

### Why are we launching a new service?

We feel called to **reach new people**—especially those **who might not connect with traditional worship**. This new service allows us to share the story of God's love in a way that resonates with younger generations and those unfamiliar with church life.

### Will our traditional services change?

**No changes are planned for the 8:15 or 11:00 AM services.** Williamsburg UMC's traditional worship will continue with the same excellence and spirit you know and love.

### Does this impact Sunday School?

This service is **designed for people who aren't currently attending church or Sunday School**. We encourage everyone who's already connected to their class to continue participating as usual.

### When will it start?

We'll begin with a **preview service in December 2025**, followed by weekly preview services (think of these as practice, dress rehearsals, or a soft launch) beginning in mid-January. Our **official launch Sunday will be February 15, 2026**.

### What will it be like?

The **9:30 AM** Modern Worship Service will be held in the **Fellowship Hall**. Music will be led by a **live band**, and communion will be celebrated each week. We're creating a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere that's especially inviting to young families, parents with children, and young adults. The sermon will be the same message shared at our traditional services.

### What happens to The Table

The Table, our Sunday evening dinner church, will **conclude in mid-November 2025**. Over the past year, The Table has been a meaningful space for conversation, community, and worship around a shared meal. It has helped us test new ideas and learn more about what it takes to create welcoming environments for those not currently part of a church. The insights we've gained through The Table have laid the foundation for what comes next.

### Who made this decision?

Beginning in early 2025, **an evaluation team met regularly** to assess how The Table was helping us reach new people. After prayerful consideration, **that team recommended that we build upon what we've learned** and move in a new direction. The proposed plan for a new modern worship service incorporates the most effective elements of The Table while expanding our reach to a broader audience. **This recommendation was endorsed by Church Council in September.**