



Williamsburg
Presbyterian
Church



Baptism of the Lord
January 11, 2026

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

God of life and new life, you are splendid and strong! Your voice thunders above the sound of loud waters. You sit enthroned above the floods of life. As Jesus heard you speak to him in his baptism, may we also hear you calling us your beloved, through Jesus Christ, your son, our brother. Amen

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John E. Morgan

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Laura Hild

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on *Beach Spring*

Callahan

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

One generation shall extol your works to another,

All: We shall declare your mighty acts.

Leader: They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty,

All: On your wondrous works we will meditate.

Leader: They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,

All: We will declare your greatness.

Leader: They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,

All: We shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

Please rise in body or spirit. The people's responses are in **bold type**.



Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-coil hearing loop. Look for the blue sticker on the pews.

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
 2 The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and
 3 Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new
 4 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -
 5 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love be

dear Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
 bids our sor - rows cease, sings mu - sic in the
 life the dead re - ceive; the mourn - ful wak - en
 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the
 now and ev - er given by saints be - low and

God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace!
 sin - ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.
 to re - joice; the poor in heart be - lieve.
 earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.
 saints a - bove, the church in earth and heaven.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura;

Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

Spanish Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

Korean Trans. © 2001 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

AZMON
CM

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Let us be bold and confess our sins, for God is gracious and always ready to forgive.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God, you show no partiality, yet we are not always as tolerant and accepting. Forgive our intolerance, and help us to see as you see, that we may be found acceptable in your sight through Jesus our Christ. Amen.

*A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

*KYRIE

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

HEAR MY PRAYER

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, an - swer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: God forgives all our sins and promises to bring us to everlasting life. Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA

Gloria

CELTIC ALLEUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

(11:00) At this time any and all children through the 5th grade are invited to come forward for Sharing Faith with Children.

(9:30) STEPHEN MINISTRY COMMISSIONING

Rev. Pam Hrnccir
Rev. John E. Morgan

Tim Dick, Ken Keating, Molly Lawrence, Faith Shartzner

(11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Melody Dillon

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Laura Hild

Still-speaking God, as these words from Scripture are read, may it be to us as if the heavens are opening, and we see your Spirit descending on us like a dove, revealing your love for us as your daughters and sons. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Matthew 3:13-17

This is the Word of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

PSALM 29 (unison)

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendour.
The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over mighty waters.
The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl,

(Psalm continues on the next page.)

and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, 'Glory!'
The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever.
May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 42:1-9

This is the Word of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

New Things Spring Forth

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 286

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally well be translated as "breath" or "wind," so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the "Breath of God." This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (unison)**

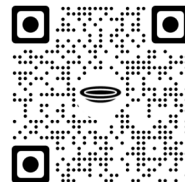
In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued faithful stewardship to WPC. May our offerings continue to help us be the light for our neighbors and our siblings in Christ all over the world. Offering envelopes can be found inside the friendship register book. We invite you to make your offering or pledge payment in one of the following ways:



- Place your offering into the plates as you exit the sanctuary
- Visit mywpc.org/offering or scan the QR code at the right to give online
- Mail your offering to the church office at 215 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

OFFERTORY

Down in the River to Pray

arr. Marc Hafso

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good old way,
And who shall wear the starry crown,
Good Lord! Show me the way.

O sisters, let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down,
O sisters, let's go down,
Down in the river to pray.

O brothers...

O fathers...

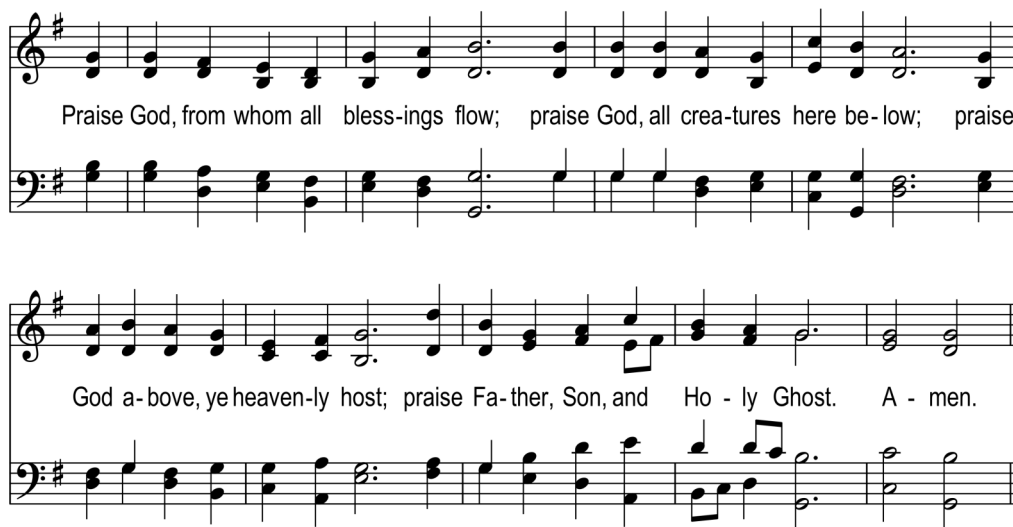
O mothers...

O sinners...

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low; praise
God a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

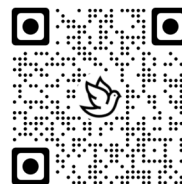
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

*INVITATION AND THE LORD'S DAY GREETING

We are glad you are worshiping with us today! If you are joining us online, please remember to "sign" our online friendship register:

- Click on the "Welcome to WPC! Click here to sign the Friendship Register" banner at the top of the website page
- Visit mywpc.org/friendship or scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.



*HYMN 480

Take Me to the Water

TAKE ME TO THE WATER



1 Take me to the wa - ter. Take me to the wa -
2 I love Je - sus. I love Je -
3 He's my Sav - ior. He's my Sav -
4 Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu -



ter. Take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.
sus. I love Je - sus, yes, I do.
ior. He's my Sav - ior, yes, he is.
jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah to be bap - tized.

This African American spiritual sums up the commitment of a candidate for baptism: the request for the rite, an expression of motivation, and a succinct affirmation of faith. The widening melodic lines build anticipation and give weight to the final phrase of each stanza.

TEXT and MUSIC: African American spiritual

TAKE ME TO THE WATER
Irregular

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata on *Beach Spring*

Fedak

The service of worship concludes after the postlude. The music can be enjoyed or used as an opportunity for prayer. You may remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly and without disturbing those who choose to stay.

❧ NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC ❧

"Down in the River to Pray" is a spiritual that dates to the middle of the nineteenth century. The phrase "in the river" (as opposed to "to the river") is significant, as it signifies going into the water for baptism. Like many spirituals, the song is full of references to scripture that also served as guides for those seeking freedom along the Underground Railroad.

❧ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ❧

The Chancel Flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of their daughter,
Kristi, Barbara's parents, Ruth & Allen Geel and Bob's mother, Mildred Carpenter
by Barbara and Bob Smith.

❧ THOSE SERVING TODAY ❧

PASTOR

John E. Morgan, Pastor and Head of Staff

Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Chris Bechtler, Director of Music

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES AND SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Melody Dillon

GREETERS

9:30am John and Jackie Speigel

11:00am Dick Hubbard, Rebecca Caprio

USHERS

9:30am Eric Beckhusen, Lynn Newcomer, John VanAken, Bruce Graham

11:00am Bob Bolstad, Ruth Cobb, Maxine Cunningham, Kelly Kirkpatrick

LITURGIST

Laura Hild

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Jim Carey, Gail Frey, Ned Frey

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Godwin and Sylvia Jones, Ellen Jones

***WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Peter Moriarty and Ray Whitney

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Dave McLain and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

✧ WPC Elders, Deacons & Staff ✧

*Moderator **Second Chair

SESSION: CLASSES OF 2026, 2027, 2028

Moderator: John E. Morgan Clerk of Session: Diane Schwarz
Administration: Larry Pulley* (26), Margie Newcomer (26), Pat Murray (28)
Christian Education: JD Due* (26), Kelly Kirkpatrick (26), Megan Davis (28), Len Shartzter (28)
Christian Outreach: CW Stacks* (28), Joseph Kinard (27), Carolyn Morgan (28)
Communications: Ellen Peters* (27)
Facilities: Jerry Howell* (26), Ric Cheston (27), Greg Walton (28)
Resources: Marc Moyers* (27), Jay Eaton (26)
Worship: Becky McKinley* (27)

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE:

Joseph Kinard* (26), Jim Austin (26), Martha Squire (27), Wray Russell (28) Mike Smith (28)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: CLASS OF 2025-26

Moderator: Ric Cheston, Kathy Chamber, Jim Kirkpatrick, Karen Lee, Carolyn Morgan, Nancy Moseley,
Jim Winthrop

BOARD OF DEACONS: CLASSES OF 2026, 2027, 2028

Moderator: Eric Beckhusen (26) Vice-Moderator: Julia Smith (27)
Pastoral Advisor: Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor
Secretary: Robin Sabo (26)

CARE TEAMS

Care Connections: Jennifer LaDow** (26), Skip Perry (28), Patty Yewcic (28)
Brookdale and Other Asst. Living: Robin Sabo (26)
Patriot's Colony: Barbara Smith** (28)
Williamsburg Landing: Carolyn Lodzieski** (26)
Windsor Meade: Martha Burian** (26), Jack Snell (28)

MINISTRY TEAMS

Celebrations and Concerns: Laura Osman** (27), Barb Timko (28)
Christian Fellowship: Bev Whitley** (27), Dave McLain (26) Jim Carey** (27), Jane Snyder (28), Steve Young (28)
Flower Sharing: Leigh Sutherland** (26), Carol Thomas (26), Linda Stewart (28)
New Member: Eric Beckhusen** (26), Rodney Lawrence (27)
Memorial Receptions: Rebecca Caprio** (26), Karen Lauritzen (27), Julia Smith (27), Cheryl Roettger (28)
Memorial Services: Ford Moseley** (27), Jack Lassiter (27), Kathy Chambers (27), Bruce Graham (28)

STAFF

Pastoral Staff: John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff; Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care
Program Staff: Melody Dillon, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, Caroline Johnston, Director
of Collegiate Ministries.

Music Staff: Chris Bechtler, Director of Music; Norman Elton, Organist, Assistant Director of Music;
Rebecca Elton, Junior Carol Choir Director

Administrative Staff: Stephen Foster, Director of Finance and Administration; Vanessa Gamble, Church Secretary;
Martha Reier, Administrative Assistant; Sherry Volk, Director of Communications; Barbara Walker, Accounting
Assistant

Facility Staff: Elbert Fleming, Facility Manager; Hugh Jamerson, Sexton

Audio Booth: John Schoenberger, Technician

∞ CHILDREN'S STATEMENT ∞

Children are welcome at WPC! We have Sunday School for all ages at 9:30am and a nursery for children ages 3 and below during both services. Sharing Faith with Children returns to our 11am service. We also have children's worship bags and sensory objects available to be borrowed while in the building. Please ask an usher if you need assistance in locating anything.

The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to The Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know, and let us show them, that they are at home in this house of worship. Parents, feel free to sit near the front where children can see, explain the parts of the service to them, and invite them to learn by watching and copying. And relax, God put the wiggle in children, so don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

∞ YOUTH STATEMENT ∞

All youth in 6th-12th grade are invited to join us every Sunday evening for WPC Youth Group! We meet from 5:30-7:00pm and enjoy dinner, singing, and a variety of activities from Bible study to Gaga Ball.

High schoolers in 9th-12th grade are invited to join for a midweek Bible study that will resume in 2026 on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm. The date will be announced in the bulletin announcements. Please reach out to Melody Dillon with any questions.

∞ FAMILY STATEMENT ∞

Every 3rd Sunday is WPC Family Sunday! During Sunday School, families are invited to gather upstairs in Room 227 for coffee, breakfast treats, and informal conversation and community building. Then, during the 11:00am service, all kids in preschool-5th grade are invited to sit together and help lead the congregation in Embodying the Psalm.



∞ T-LOOP ENABLED ∞

Did you know you can receive amplified sound in the Sanctuary with a t-loop enabled hearing aid? The "loop" signal is strongest in certain pews along the center aisle. Look for the blue symbol pictured here.

∞ SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS ∞

- **In need of one-on-one prayer? Please look for a Stephen Minister in the Fellowship Hall or the church foyer after the morning services.** They will find a private place to talk and pray with you. Just look for the blue Stephen Ministry name tags.
- **The monthly grief support group resumes meeting** the **first** Wednesday of the month, at 10am in room 227 on the second level. During this meeting we check in with one another and occasionally watch videos about a specific grief topic. All are welcome to attend.
- **Caregivers Support Group** meets weekly Mondays at 1:00pm in room 222 on the second level.

✧ PRAYER CONCERNS, JOYS, & TOUCH NOTES ✧

To share a joy or concern, please visit www.mywpc.org, select GET CARE on the menu bar, then PRAYER REQUEST from the drop-down menu. Complete the form and click SEND REQUEST on the bottom of the form. Per your instructions, your request will be shared with our pastors, prayer chain or will be included in the worship bulletin. If the internet is not available to you, please call the church office (757) 229-4235 with your request. The Prayer Chain Coordinator is Jo Ann Youhas*.

If you are in need of a pastor after hours or on the weekend with an emergency request, please contact the Pastor-on-Call listed below for this week. During the week, please call the church office.

Pastor-on-Call

Sunday, January 11 – Saturday, January 17, 2026

Pastor Pam • phrncir@mywpc.org • 757-508-4668

The WPC Family extends its deepest Christian sympathy and prayers to:

- WPC member Mary Swain on the death of her husband, WPC member **Donald “Don” Swain**, who went home to be with our Lord and Savior, **Saturday, January 3, 2026**. A memorial service will be held in our sanctuary at 1:00pm, March 14, 2026, followed by a reception in Stevenson Hall.

Upcoming Service:

- A celebration of life for WPC member **Janet “Jan” Elizabeth Whitcomb Merritt**, who died on September 24, 1015, will be held at 11:00am, **Saturday January 17, 2026**, in our sanctuary followed by a reception in Stevenson Hall. In keeping with Jan’s joyous outlook on life, vibrant colors and cheerful prints are encouraged. Burial will be at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church in McLean Virginia at a later date.

Please pray for:

- Barbara Coughlan, Terry Hancock, Nell Stowe, and families who have recently lost loved ones.

Please pray for those:

- Recovering from various surgeries, who are homebound; who have family and friend concerns, affected by natural disasters, affected by the recent government shut down, serving in the military services and their families; serving our country in leadership roles, experiencing homelessness and hunger; affected by the wars in Gaza, Israel, Sudan, and Ukraine.

❧ ANNOUNCEMENTS ❧

- **Warm Up Williamsburg Soup Fundraiser to Support COFM:** Our partners at the Community of Faith Mission are holding their annual Warm Up Williamsburg soup sale to help underwrite the costs of the winter shelter. For a donation of \$40, participants receive three delicious 12 oz. soups, bread, and a sweet treat, prepared by 19 area restaurants. Participate by pre-ordering at cofm.info/warm-up-williamsburg. Pick-up is Saturday, January 24, between 10am and noon, at the Williamsburg Community Chapel Portico. The event is limited to 200 soup tickets and always sells out. Don't delay!
- **Community Volunteer Opportunity: Night to Shine: February 13, 2026 at Williamsburg Community Chapel.** The Williamsburg Community Chapel will be hosting their 2nd Annual Tim Tebow Foundation Night to Shine in February. This event is held all over the world on the same evening. Originally launched in 2014, the vision is to work with churches to provide an incredible prom night experience, centered in God's love, for people with special needs. **The Chapel is planning for 250 honored guests, and is in need of approximately 600 community volunteers to make it happen.** If this might be of interest, you can learn more and register to volunteer through the Night to Shine website, or by contacting info@nighttoshinewmbg.org.
- **The nursery is closed during the 11am service until January 18, 2026.** Our wonderful college student staff are home on break, so the nursery will be staffed by volunteers and only open from 9:15am-10:45am. Children are always welcome in the service! Thank you for understanding.
- **Join us for PEVA's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. worship service on Sunday, January 18, 2026 at 3:00pm at Wycliffe Presbyterian Church, 1445 N. Great Neck Road, Virginia Beach VA 23454.** The PEVA Chapter of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus, Wycliffe Presbyterian Church and PEVA's Peacemaking Ministry Team are hosting this wonderful service. Interested in carpooling OR riding the WPC bus? Sign-up at the table by the back door. We will leave WPC at 1:30pm.
- **The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, January 26, 2026, at 2pm in Room 220 (and on Zoom) to discuss *American Passage: The History of Ellis Island*, by Vincent J. Cannato.**
- **The Flower Calendar has 7 Sundays left in 2026 that need to be adopted by a donor to enhance our worship.** The dates are **May 3, July 5, August 2, August 23, November 1, November 8 and November 29.** The Master Flower Calendar for 2026 is in the back of Stevenson Hall. Fill in the required information by the date of your choice. Contact Ruth Cobb* if you require further information.
- **Our next New Member Orientation Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, February 15, 2026, immediately after the 11:00am worship service.** Come and enjoy great food and conversation with members and staff as you get to know the people and ministries of WPC. If the Holy Spirit is nudging you to become a part of this church community, reach out to Pastor Pam (phrncir@mywpc.org) after the service this morning.

***Contact information can be found in our online directory.**

You may also contact the church office at 757-229-4235.

More information about the events and announcements listed above can be found on our website at mywpc.org/news or on the church calendar.

✧ THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ✧

SUNDAY • JANUARY 11, 2026

- 11:00am Nursery open during 11am worship service
9:30am Children and Youth Sunday School / Christian Education Wing
9:30am Adult Sunday School / Lower Level Rooms
9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access
11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com
5:30pm WPC Youth Group / Rm 220

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

- 1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 222
1:00pm Presbyterian Women Circle 3 / Rm 220 and Zoom
5:30pm Hunger and Homeless Mtg / LL010
6:30pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Sanctuary

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

- 10:00am Disciple Bible Study / Rm 220
1:30pm Kirk Krafters / Church Library
2:00pm Stewardship Committee Meeting / Rm 220
3:00pm Legacy Giving Team Meeting / Stevenson Hall
5:00pm CE Children's Subcommittee / Rm 227
5:30pm Resources Ministry Meeting / LL010
6:00pm Stephen Ministry Meeting / Rm 220
6:30pm PW Circle 5 - Eunice / Rm 222
6:30pm UKirk Dinner & Dialogue / UKirk Rm
7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

- 7:30am Bible & Bacon Study / Stevenson Hall
10:00am Presbyterian Women's Circle 14 / Rm 227
6:00pm Joyful Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

- 9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning
4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm
5:00pm Christian Outreach Ministry Mtg / LL010

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

- 11:00am Jan Merritt Celebration of Life Service followed by a reception / Sanctuary and Stevenson Hall

✧ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ✧

January 18 • 2nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Pastor John's sermon, "*Enriched in Christ*" is based I Corinthians 1:1-9.

*Services will be live-streamed on mywpc.org & viewable any time
+Service broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com