

# Williamsburg United Methodist Church

Welcoming Neighbors - Nurturing Faith - Transforming Our World



"The Prodigal Comes Home,"  
English woodcut, John Everett Millais, 1864

*take hold  
of the life  
that is truly life*

1 Timothy 6:19b

September 17, 2023

8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary  
16th Sunday after Pentecost

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PRELUDE

*Chorale: Lobe den Herren*  
(Johann Walther)

INTROIT

*Clap Your Hands*  
(Eleanor Daley)

Sanctuary Choir

WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 69

I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.

**This will please the Lord more than an ox,  
more than a bull, with its horns and hooves.**

The poor will see and be glad; you who seek God, may your hearts live!

**The Lord hears the needy  
and does not turn away from those who are imprisoned.**

Let heaven and earth praise him,  
**the seas and all that move in them.**

\*HYMN

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*  
(verses 1-3)

UMH 139 (red book)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You know, O Lord, that at times we cannot resist the impulse to look to our own narrow interests. In seasons of uncertainty or instability,

**we are tempted to wonder about your providence.**

**We hesitate to live out your Good News before others,  
and meditate less upon your strength than on our unmet desires.**

Forgive us, Lord. Orient us again by your steadfast love.

Hear now our effort to put before you whatever would hold us back...

*[a time of Silent Confession]*

With God is forgiveness, a generous measure of the love that may transform us into a generous and thankful people. This we pray in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Lawrence Conrad Van Ornum

(11:00)

Born April 7, 2023

Son of Joel and Megan Van Ornum

CONGREGATIONAL PLEDGE

Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care Lance whom we this day claim as a member of the family of God.

Will you endeavor so to live that this child may grow in the knowledge and love of God, through our Savior Jesus Christ?

**With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Lance, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.**

SUNG RESPONSE

*God Claims You*  
(sing "Lance" for child's name)

TFWS 2249 (black book)

MOMENT OF TEACHING

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

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (211 NT)

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*What a Fellowship*  
(David Cherwien)

Sanctuary Choir

MESSAGE

*At the Core of Us*

Dave Rochford

\*HYMN

*Give Thanks*

TFWS 2036 (black book)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 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

*Variations on Blessed Jesu, We Are Here*  
(Johann Walther)

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 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!**

\*HYMN

*Jesus Calls Us*

UMH 398 (red book)

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Little Fugue in G minor*  
(J. S. Bach)

The flowers in the Chancel are given to the Glory of God in celebration of  
Monty and Pamela Mason's 22nd wedding anniversary.

# THIS ALSO IS OUR WORSHIP

If an event or ministry below captures your interest, we would love to know about it.  
Please call us at 757 229-1771.

## Welcoming Neighbors – Nurturing Faith – Transforming Our World

### A Special Welcome to Our Guests

To those visiting with us today, we are delighted to have you worship with us. Please stop by the Hospitality Station in our Atrium after the service, so a team member can provide you with a welcome gift. Come back to be with us again!

### In-Person and ZOOM Adult Sunday School Classes

The following groups are meeting each Sunday at Church or ZOOM from 9:30–10:30 a.m.

**Aldersgate Fellowship:** Wesley Hall – *Twelve Baskets Leftover* with Hasbrouck Hughes

**Bishop McKendree:** Rm. 102 - will study the *Book of Acts* featuring Mickey Efird

**Marvin Willard:** Rm. 174 - *Journey Through the Bible: Exodus-Deuteronomy*

**Searchers:** Rm. 309 and ZOOM - *Revival: Faith as Wesley Lived It* Meeting ID: 879 6350 3829 | Passcode: 595342

**Walking the Footsteps:** Rm. 160 - A Small Group experience for a deepened understanding of the Christian journey of faith.

**Contemporary Christian Life:** Rm. 171 - A Small Group experience focused on finding healthy boundaries in life.

Questions? Contact **Deacon Troy Sims** [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org) or 757-229-1771.

### Church Membership

You are invited to a 4-part *Get Connected* series in Rm. 309 beginning today *after* the 11:00 a.m. worship. *Get Connected* helps new and prospective members find ways to engage in life at Williamsburg UMC. Please bring a bag lunch on the first three dates September 17, September 24 and October 1. On Sunday, October 8, we will enjoy a potluck meal. Learn more or register at [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-connected](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-connected)

### United Women in Faith

Join the United Women in Faith today at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for our New Member Celebration. We will enjoy an afternoon tea, the introduction of new members and fellowship in addition to hearing from Dr. Amy Quark and Jackie Bridgeforth Williams of the Village Initiative! The Village Initiative is a local organization formed to promote unity and education while building a bridge between local schools and parents. They work with WJCC schools to address the achievement gap and the disproportionate percentages of expulsion and suspension of minority Youth. This important topic not only concerns the citizens of Williamsburg James City County but is also a priority of the United Women in Faith!

### Table of 8

Ever wanted to become more acquainted with others at WUMC? We'll have a *kick-off potluck meal* for "**Table of 8**" today at **6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall** to learn more and organize groups! Questions? Contact Deacon Troy Sims 757-229-1771.

## September Events

Sept 17	Noon.....	Intro to WUMC- <i>Get Connected</i>
	2:00 p.m. ....	United Women in Faith Membership Celebration
	6:00 p.m. ....	Table of 8
Sept 19	5:30 p.m. ....	Worship Committee
	7:00 p.m. ....	Finance Committee
Sept 20	4:00 p.m. ....	Respite Board
Sept 23	9:30 a.m. ....	Rise Against Hunger Meal Making Event
Sept 25	7:00 p.m. ....	UWF Board
Sept 28	10:00 a.m. ....	Memorial Garden

## Widows and Widowers Small Group

Have you ever considered going out to eat but you chose not to go because you are alone? Would you love to have a person or group to go out with? You could talk, laugh and enjoy the occasion a little more. If participating in a group like this is something that sounds interesting, bring a bag-lunch and join the first get together September 28, 12:30 p.m. in Rm. 174. Questions? Contact Deacon Troy Sims [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org) or 757-229-1771. Register at [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-w-lunch](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-w-lunch).

## Covenant Bible Study

This is a 24-week in-depth overview of the entire story of the Bible based around the theme of "covenant." We'll learn from our biblical ancestors how to create, live, and trust God's covenant with us, finding ways to live more fully into that Covenant. Held on Sundays, beginning September 24, 2:30-4:00 p.m. in Rm. 352. Contact Leader Deacon Troy Sims 757-229-1771, or [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org) Register now at [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-cbs](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-cbs).

## Walking With Gratitude and Praise

Please join Linda Upshaw and Betsy Harrison at the church parking lot banner entrance on September 27 at 5:30 p.m. for a walk down Duke of Gloucester Street. Each Wednesday night, our walk will begin with gratitude and praise and will conclude with the same. Walk at your own pace and enjoy the company of friends in faith. No need to RSVP, just arrive in time to leave the church at 5:40 p.m. *We will not walk in the rain.*

## Eat with Joy

Food is often a source of concern and worry. We can become preoccupied with new diet fads or trendy exercise routines. But what if God intended for us to delight in food? On Sundays, October 1 - November 12, Mary Kaiser, former parish nurse, will lead a 7-week study on the text **Eat with Joy** during the Sunday School hour 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Rm. 206. Register at [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-eat](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-eat) Questions? Contact Deacon Troy 757-229-1771.

## Children and Youth News

Rise Against Hunger Meal Making Event – Saturday, September 23

Movie Night – Friday, September 29, 6:00 p.m.

For additional information, contact Zach Griggs 757 229-1771

## **Jesus in the Gospels**

This 30-week Next Generation Disciple Bible study beginning Wednesday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. in Rm. 352, invites participants to examine all four Gospels (Mark, Matthew, Luke and John) side-by-side to discern similarities and differences, while focusing on the life and teachings of Jesus and how these were understood by those four authors. We'll encounter the Jesus who is both hard to ignore and hard to "put in a box". You are encouraged to have taken *Disciple I* or *Covenant Bible Study* prior to taking *Jesus in the Gospels*. Questions? Contact Deacon Troy Sims 757-229-1771. Learn more or register at [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-jitg](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-jitg)

## **Pastor's Bible Study: Heresy! The Forging of the Christian Faith**

Join Rev. Dave Rochford and Jeff Marston to examine the controversies, challenges, and showdowns that the early Church faced as it confronted questions as to who Jesus is and how we ought to live in response. Begins October 11 – November 15, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and Thursday, October 12 – November 16, 10:30-12:00 p.m. via Zoom. For more information or to register, contact Rev. Dave Rochford [drochford@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:drochford@williamsburgumc.org) or 757-229-1771 or visit [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-pastors-study](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-pastors-study).

## **Understanding Your Grief**

Find support, fellowship and hope among others experiencing grief. Using Dr. Alan Wolfelt's book *Understanding Your Grief* and the accompanying journal, Rev. David Hindman and Stephen Ministry Leader Nancy Rivero will guide you through a 5-week series, beginning on Sunday, October 22 and ending Sunday, November 19, Rm. 174 at 4:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required at [www.tinyurl.com/wumcgriefgroup](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumcgriefgroup) Questions? Contact Pastor Meghan at 757-229-1771.

## **Stroke Prevention Workshop**

Church member Mary Kaiser, who has a background in neurological nursing, will lead a workshop on stroke prevention and resources on Thursday, October 26, noon to 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Stroke is one of the most misdiagnosed conditions in healthcare. The workshop will provide easy to remember information. Mary will also include a spiritual framework and encouragement for our health prevention efforts. Light lunch provided; registration required and information forthcoming.

## **College Student/Young Adult Study**

"Before you tell your life what you intend to do with it, listen for what it intends to do with you," writes Parker Palmer. College-age young adults are invited to explore themes of identity, purpose and vocation in a short-term book study on *Let Your Life Speak*. Pastor Meghan and church member Dr. Steve Nichols will co-lead this small group from October 15 to November 19. We will meet after the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the Den and enjoy some brunch refreshments. Questions? Contact Meghan Roth Clayton 757 229-1771 or register at [www.tinyurl.com/youngadultstudy](http://www.tinyurl.com/youngadultstudy)

## United Women in Faith Fall Festival

Mark your calendars now for the Fall Festival on November 4, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Get ready to explore an exciting array of booths featuring jewelry, Christmas greens, jams and jellies, quilts, and much more. Indulge in treats from the bake sale and enjoy a delightful selection of coffee, tea, and cider. Don't forget to pose at the holiday photo booth and stay for a delicious lunch.

### Fall Festival Collections

**Jewelry Donations:** Never underestimate the power of a good piece of jewelry! If you have items you're ready to part with, please consider donating them for the festival!

**Revamp Your Holiday Theme:** If you have any gently used items that you no longer need, we are ready to give them a new home! *We cannot accept garlands, artificial trees, or larger items this year.*

Please bring all donations to the closet adjacent to the Connection Corner Desk by October 14. Be sure to label them for the **Fall Festival**.

### CARE Committee...

will provide rides to the doctor or will provide help when you are sick. Fran Hermance 757 229-8857 and Judi French 757 810-2925 are the September coordinators. If you need **CARE**, please let the coordinators know at least 2 days in advance to arrange for assistance.

### Church Finance Manager

Williamsburg United Methodist Church is seeking a Finance Manager, who will be responsible for the daily financial activities of the church. This is a salaried position working 24+ hours per week. For more information about qualifications and how to apply, please contact Mike Starry at mstarry49@gmail.com or Anne Hardister ahardister73@gmail.com

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### Today's Service

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

**Director of Worship Arts:** Lou Anne Smith **Organist:** Tom Marshall

**Readers 8:15:** Linda Upshaw **11:00:** Lisa Rochford

**Acolytes 8:15:** Hawley Mason **11:00:** Grace Bradley

**Greeters 8:15:** Barbara Neary, Steve Tingen **11:00:** Lois Cunningham, Jessie Boudreaux, Lainey Boudreaux

**Sound and Livestream:** Jimmy McCarter, Lily Alexander, Woody Sherman

**Nursery Care Provider:** Kristina Wolf

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The Deadline for *This Also Is Our Worship*: Tuesday, 5:00 p.m. Please submit to Nancy Reynolds.

September 10 Worship Attendance.....	461
In Person 11:00 a.m. ....	202
In Person 8:15 a.m. ....	119
Online.....	80
Messy Church.....	60

# *Welcome to Williamsburg United Methodist Church*

## **INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PART OF WUMC?**

Speak with any of our Pastors, Revs. Meghan Roth Clayton, Dave Rochford or Troy Sims, after the service or call 757 229-1771. They will be delighted to get to know you.

## **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

### **Live streaming of worship...**

will be available each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. <https://www.williamsburgumc.org/worship/livestream-services>, and the recorded service will be available at <https://www.williamsburgumc.org/worship/sunday-worship> by mid-afternoon Sunday. Upon entering the Sanctuary, understand that we are posting images to our media platforms. If you are uncomfortable with this, please let the ushers know you need to sit in an area away from camera angles. We are happy to accommodate!

### **Assisted listening devices...**

are available from the ushers. Those with a "*t-coil*" switch in their hearing aids can simply activate the switch. Please advise an usher if you have this need.

### **Need a Quiet Place During Worship?**

Next to the Chapel, the Den is open as a quiet place during Worship. It's equipped to watch worship livestream, has a partitioned feeding area and a diaper changing station for parents and caregivers.

### **Nursery**

Care is available for Pre-K and younger in the Seedlings Room 207. Our trained and background-checked care providers are ready to welcome your little ones during Worship and Sunday School.

## **CLASSES, GROUPS, AND BIBLE STUDY...**

Please see the church website at [www.williamsburgumc.org](http://www.williamsburgumc.org) for a variety of choices. These are conducted both in person and by Zoom. We are always eager to welcome guests and new friends.

## **MESSY CHURCH**

Messy Church held every second Tuesday, 5:30–7:30 p.m. This is an all-age worship experience that includes crafts, games, Celebration Time and dinner. Questions? Contact Zach Griggs

## **FAMILY MINISTRIES**

We are committed to walking alongside families of all kinds on the lifelong journey of faith. Children are invited to grow in relationship with God and each other through Messy Church, Children's Worship, and fun fellowship events. Youth meet weekly on Wednesdays during the school year to grow as disciples through study and service, and to have fun together. Resources are available for parents and caregivers, and Zach would love to talk with you anytime about the joys and challenges of family life. Contact Zach at [zgriggs@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:zgriggs@williamsburgumc.org) to learn more.

Interested in Youth Choir? Contact Anthony Williams [awilliams@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:awilliams@williamsburgumc.org)

## **PRAYER**

Contact the church office to speak to a pastor or submit a prayer request via the church website. Prayer concerns will be added to the prayer chain if desired or shared with the pastors and our intercessory prayer group. Prayer cards are located at Connection Corner and in the Narthex.

## **SUPPORT AND CARE**

We are a Stephen Ministry Church and provide trained, strictly-confidential lay pastoral care for our congregation and community. Contact one of the Pastors for information on how you can be connected to one of our Stephen Ministers 757 229-1771.