

# Williamsburg United Methodist Church

Welcoming Neighbors - Nurturing Faith - Transforming Our World



First Sunday in Lent - February 18, 2024

8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

*Lonesome Valley*  
(Francis Jackson)

INTROIT

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*  
(French Carol Melody)

Sanctuary Choir

WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 25:4-6, CEB

Make your ways known to us, O God;

**teach us your paths.**

Lead us in your truth – teach it to us –

**because you are the God who saves us.**

We put our hope in you all day long, O God.

**Remember your compassion and faithful love – they are forever!**

\*HYMN

*We Gather Together*

UMH 131 (red book)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

**God of wilderness and water, your Son was baptized and tempted as we are,  
but we have wanted things to remain the same after our baptisms.**

**We have failed to live into Christ's new way. So God, guide us through  
this season, that we may not avoid struggle, but open ourselves to blessing,  
through the cleansing depths of turning to you, walking in Christ's way,  
and the heaven-rending words of the Spirit. Help us to accept your  
freely-given forgiveness in hope of the empowerment you give us. Amen.**

MOMENT OF TEACHING

Children are invited to Children's Worship in Fellowship Hall,  
a place for K- through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade to connect with God in their own ways.

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 9:8-17 (7 OT)

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*Wounded Alleluias*  
(Craig Courtney)

Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:9-15 (34 NT)

MESSAGE

*On Not Returning*

Deacon Troy Sims

\*HYMN

*Deep in the Shadows of the Past*

TFWS 2246 (black book)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYERUMH 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.

MISSION MOMENTKatie Patrick, Grove Christian Outreach Center

OFFERTORYWhat Wondrous Love Is This?Sanctuary Orchestra  
(arr. Brent Roberts)

\*A LENTEN DOXOLOGY

Praise God throughout these forty days.  
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.  
And praise the Spirit who imparts  
God’s love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*HYMNAAs a Fire is Meant for BurningTFWS 2237 (black book)

CHORAL BENEDICTIONThreefold AmenSanctuary Choir  
(Danish)

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDEForty Days and Forty Nights  
(Henry Marcellus Higgs)

The flowers in the Chancel are given to the Glory of God  
in memory of Charlie Red by Karen Red.

At the conclusion of our services, those wishing to hear the Postlude in its entirety are invited to remain seated.  
Please take the opportunity to meet your neighbors.

\*congregation invited to stand

Easter Lilies

You’re invited to provide one or more Easter lilies in honor or in memory of a loved one. Return this form by March 10 to Nancy Reynolds with a check for \$23 payable to WUMC and write “Easter Lilies” on the memo line. Flowers may be picked up after the last Easter Sunday service. Place my gift of Easter Lilies...

In memory of (print)

In honor of (print)

Given by (print)Phone # (print)

# THIS ALSO IS OUR WORSHIP

## Welcome to

### Williamsburg United Methodist Church

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 Table in our Atrium after the service, so a team member can provide you with a welcome gift. Come back to be with us again!

##### Adult Sunday School Classes

The following groups are meeting each Sunday at Church from 9:30–10:30 a.m. Join the **Aldersgate Fellowship**: today for *Seven Final Words from The Cross*, **Bishop McKendree**: Rm. 102, **Marvin Willard**: Rm. 174, *The Passion & Death of Jesus*, **Searchers**: Rm. 309, **Walking the Footsteps**: Rm. 160. **Young Adults**: 12:30 Den.

Join the **Searchers Sunday School Class** February 25, for a 6-session Lenten book study that walks you through God's covenants with Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David, followed by the new covenant established on Maundy Thursday. The Lenten story culminates with an examination of the cross as another example of God's promise for a new world.

Questions relating to Sunday School Classes? Contact Deacon Troy [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org), 757-229-1771 or visit [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-adult-ss](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-adult-ss)

##### Pastors' Bible Study - Lenten Edition

Wednesday Feb 21, 7:00-8:30 p.m. and

Thursday, February 22, 10:30 – noon Zoom Video Conferencing

Join Pastor Dave and Deacon Troy for a 5-week Lenten study, *THE THIRD DAY: Living the Resurrection*, as we connect with the experiences of several witnesses to Jesus' final days, focusing on new life - a new way of life - through the Resurrection. We encourage you to purchase a copy of the participant guide, *The Third Day* by Tom Berlin. For more info, contact Deacon Troy [tsims@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:tsims@williamsburgumc.org). Please, let us know if you plan to attend: [tinyurl.com/wumc-pastors-study](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-pastors-study). All are welcome to any/all sessions.

##### Youth Opportunities

Join us today, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m., for ReNew Youth fellowship. Lunch provided. We hope to see you there!



## **Advanced Care Planning Class**

Join Chaplain Brenda Lee from Sentara Williamsburg on February 21, 12:15 p.m., in Room 174 for a light lunch and counsel on advance care planning. Advance care planning involves discussing and preparing for future decisions about your medical care if you become seriously ill or unable to communicate your wishes. Having meaningful conversations with your loved ones is the most important part of advance care planning. This workshop is an offering of the Healthy Church Team and Congregational Care. Link to register here: Click here to register for the class: <http://tinyurl.com/3m9tuprd>. A Zoom link will be provided.

## **Tables Of Listening: Informed and Thoughtful Conversations about the 2024 General Conference**

For several decades, our global United Methodist denomination has struggled to reconcile differences regarding marriage and homosexuality. As we approach the United Methodist General Conference April 23 - May 3 in Charlotte NC, we have a clear responsibility to foster candid conversations about what the General Conference, as the only body that speaks for the United Methodist Church, will consider as it confronts these issues.

You are invited to join us on any of the following dates to reflect on these issues as we prepare and pray for the legislative work of the Conference. These "Tables of Listening" sessions (with the same format for each) will take place:

- February 23, 6:00 p.m. | Rm. 174 – pizza dinner; childcare provided.
- February 25, 12:15 p.m. | Fellowship Hall – with soup & sandwich lunch provided.
- March 6, 12:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall – bring your lunch; drinks and snacks provided.

At each session, participants are invited to model thoughtful listening as we reflect and share on theological issues regarding sexual ethics.

On March 10, all are invited to gather and hear from Warren Harper our Lay Delegate from WUMC who will attend the General Conference. Warren will share about the legislative proposals to be considered. Watch for more information about the "Tables of Listening" or speak with any of our Pastors to learn more.

**Please RSVP at [tinyurl.com/wumc-listening](http://tinyurl.com/wumc-listening).**

## **Special "Call to Prayer and Self Denial"**

Join the Williamsburg United Women in Faith (WUWF) on February 24, 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for their annual Prayer and Self Denial Service. For more than 150 years, United Women in Faith members have taken action to turn faith, hope, and love into work on behalf of women, children, and youth in every corner of the world.

This yearly event is a faith-filled time when we assemble with lifted hearts and hands to celebrate selfless giving for a common cause and spiritual communion with God. A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial's 2024 offering will support the ongoing climate justice work of United Women in Faith's National Office. We invite our entire church community to join us to gather, pray, reflect, and put your faith into action.

## **Lenten Journey with Henri Nouwen**

Join Rev. Bob Parsons and John Tressler today, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in Rm. 206 for a Sunday Lenten journey with Henri Nouwen, discussing his widely popular book, *The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming*. Influenced by Rembrandt's painting of the prodigal son, Nouwen probes the several movements of the parable: the younger son's return, the father's restoration of sonship, the elder son's vengefulness, and the father's compassion. The discussion will even consider how the wife and mother in this story might have felt. Questions? Please contact Deacon Troy tsims@williamsburgumc.org or 757 229-1771. Register at [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-2024-nouwen](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-2024-nouwen)

## **Carol Brinkley Memorial Book Club**

Would you like to read books that will change your life? If so, join us on March 11, 7:00 p.m. for a book club unlike any others. We meet via Zoom, so no need to travel anywhere except to the comfort of your favorite chair! For our March meeting, we will be discussing, "Beyond Loneliness," by Trevor Hudson, a book about life transformation through friendship with God, prayer with God and service to others. Everyone is invited to join in the discussion! Contact Cindy Banek for the Zoom link or further information, [banek1@cox.net](mailto:banek1@cox.net).

## **Daily Devotionals?**

Wanna receive daily devotionals in your email during special times of the year like Advent and Lent? Visit [www.tinyurl.com/wumc-devotional](http://www.tinyurl.com/wumc-devotional) and share your email address!

## **Elevate Your Health: February Fitness at WUMC**

### **This Week At WUMC**

**Monday, 2/19**

**Church Office is Closed**

4:30 Stephen Ministry

**Tuesday, 2/20**

2:00 SPPRC

5:30 Worship Committee

7:00 Finance Committee

**Wednesday, 2/21**

3:45 Respite Board

February is Heart Awareness Month! Join us every Wednesday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for a fitness class. We'll experience sessions crafted with care, featuring heart-boosting chair aerobics, muscle-strengthening light weight training and equilibrium-enhancing balance exercises. **Who Can Join?** Whether you're a senior seeking a fitness boost or someone simply eager to stay active, everyone is welcome to be part of this wellness journey!

**What to Bring:** Wear comfortable clothes, bring light weights if you have them, and don't forget your water bottles - hydration is essential.

## **CARE Committee...**

...will provide rides to the doctor or will provide help when you are sick. Mary Ann Durboraw 757 871-1455 and Carol Schuster 757 603-2574 are the February coordinators. If you need CARE, please let the coordinators know at least 2 days in advance to arrange for assistance.

## Our Lenten Offering

Our Lent Special Offering recipients are prayerfully designated by the WUMC Global and Local Outreach teams. Please note on your gift that this is for the Lent Special Offering. This year, your additional giving will benefit the following missions:

### GLOBAL OUTREACH

- **UMCOR Sunday** UMCOR is the humanitarian relief of The United Methodist Church, providing physical, mental, and spiritual support to those affected by natural and human-caused disasters. This special offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business" whereas when you give to support a particular UMCOR relief initiative, 100% of the gift goes in support of that need.
- **Hope Center of Latvia** This ministry offers mothers a loving home atmosphere where they can prepare for the birth of their child. It addresses the specific need of not only shelter and food for both mother and child but also how to prepare the women for responsible independent living.
- **Too Young to Wed** Their mission is to empower girls and end child marriage globally. We envision a world where: every girl can decide for herself, if, when and to whom she will marry; girls are free to be children and teens, with access to gender-specific healthcare and all levels of education; and all girls are free to determine the course of their own lives.

### LOCAL OUTREACH

- **Avalon Center** works to end domestic and sexual violence by breaking the cycle of abuse through prevention, education, shelter and support services in the Williamsburg and Middle Peninsula communities. They serve over 1,500 women, children, and men a year.
- **Lackey Clinic** Their mission is to provide skilled, compassionate healthcare and counseling to the medically disadvantaged so that they may know the love of Jesus Christ through loving healthcare, wellness, and hope. Medical, dental, eye, and spiritual care are offered.
- **Grove Christian Outreach Center** Grove focuses on providing food, clothing, and financial assistance to those in need. Programs include: food delivery for homebound seniors; school supply drives; and holiday programs to celebrate family traditions.



***Give a gift now to support these missions  
this Lent: [tinyurl.com/2024-lenten-offering](https://tinyurl.com/2024-lenten-offering)***

## Today's Worship Leaders

**Pastors:** Troy Sims, Dave Rochford, Meghan Roth Clayton, Zach Griggs

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

**Organist:** Tom Marshall

**Acolytes 8:15:** Linda Upshaw **11:00** Ella Bullock

**Readers 8:15:** Warren Harper **11:00:** Barbara Monteith

**Greeters 8:15:** Fran Hermance, Barbara Neary **11:00:** Nancy Donnelly, Will Moore

**Ushers 8:15:** Roy Geiger, Janet Henke, Russ Henke, Chalannes Hoover, Mike Johnson,  
Tom Justice, Monty Mason 11:00: Joanne Lawson, James Jones, George Sallwasser,  
Susan Sallwasser, Buz Wilson

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

**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.

February 11 Worship Attendance.....	569
In Person 11:00 a.m.....	264
In Person 8:15 a.m.....	163
Online.....	92
Messy Church.....	50

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## OUR CHURCH STAFF

Barbara Blanton, *Finance Manager*

Nethea Calloway, *Full Charge Bookkeeper* (x 351)

Josh Clayton, *Digital Media Specialist* (x 256)

Meghan Roth Clayton, *Pastor of Congregational Care* (x 261)

Zach Griggs, *Family Ministries Coordinator* (x 251)

Cornelia Jude, *Director Respite Care* (x354)

Thomas Marshall, *Organist* (757 713-0584)

Laura Pittman, *Director Kid's Morning Out* (x208)

Nancy Reynolds, *Administrative Assistant* (x 252)

Dave Rochford, *Lead Pastor* (x 260)

Michelle Roy, *Dir. of Congregation & Community Engagement* (x 250)

Troy Sims, *Minister of Discipleship* (x 258)

Lou-Anne Smith, *Director of Worship Arts* (x 107)

Greg Whiteside, *Business Manager* (x 355)

Anthony Williams, *Assoc. Dir. of Worship Arts, Dir. Early Childhood Music* (x 108)

Kristina Wolf, *Lead Childcare Provider*

## WILLIAMSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

500 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 757 229-1771 [www.williamsburgumc.org](http://www.williamsburgumc.org)

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