

WILLIAMSBURG UMC WEEKLY ENOTE FOR OCTOBER 2, 2020

IMPORTANT IN-PERSON WORSHIP UPDATE

On October 11, we will resume in-person worship in the Sanctuary with many safety measures in place. Today you should have received an email titled, "Update on In-Sanctuary Worship," outlining the procedures for in-sanctuary worship including the pre-registration process. If you did not receive this email, please contact the church office (229-1771), and that email will be sent to you.

As a reminder, for in-sanctuary worship information, go to the church website:

<https://www.williamsburgumc.org/> and click on the button "In-Sanctuary Worship Registration."

If you chose to continue to worship from home, which we respect and support, the services will be live-streamed via the church Facebook page and website.

THIS SUNDAY WORSHIP

For our final pre-recorded worship service available Sunday, October 4 on the church website and Facebook page (watch party at 10:30 am!), Pastor Meghan preaches a sermon "Rules of Engagement" on Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 -- the Ten Commandments. How does following the law of the Lord help the flourishing of life and the care of community? When can rules get in the way? Can we be a people obedient to God in such a way that brings joy and love to us and all creation? Let's worship together

Stay connected to God and one another through our weekly online worship, available at our church website: www.williamsburgumc.org/worship/online-worship and our Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/williamsburgumc> by 7:00 am each Sunday. Beginning Sunday, October 11, our worship will be livestreamed at 11:00 am and available in recorded format shortly after the service concludes.

"WATCH PARTY"

If you use Facebook to view our Sunday service, consider joining us at 10:30 am on Sundays for a Watch Party, a feature that enables us to interact with each other via written Chat-messages, share prayer concerns, engage or ask questions, and even express our feelings by "Reaction" emoticons. You don't have to have a Facebook account to come and be part of the Party.

WORSHIP BROADCAST ON THE RADIO

In addition to our website, our October 4 worship service will be aired on the radio at 8:00 am on FM 93.5 The Burg and WMBG AM 740.

WORSHIP BY PHONE

Worship for those not On-Line: WUMC now offers Worship by Phone. This service enables those who would rather experience worship without the use of a computer to simply call a dedicated number and listen to Sunday service on any phone. Call (757) 345-2426 to be connected to worship.

PARKING LOT WORSHIP

Parking Lot Worship will take place at 6:00 pm on Sunday, October 4. Thanks to a radio transmitter, we will be able to worship from within our vehicles. Worship will include singing, Scripture reading, prayer, and communion. Pre-registration is required on the church website:

<https://www.williamsburgumc.org/welcome/parking-lot-worship-hidden>.

ON-LINE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Three of our Sunday School classes are meeting online via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am: Searchers, Marvin Willard Bible, and Bishop McKendree. The Searchers are in the second week of their classroom study of "The Color of Compromise." Bishop McKendree is starting "All the Places to Go ...How Will You Know?" by John Ortberg. Marvin Willard Bible Class is studying Adam Hamilton's, "Moses, in the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet." If you would like to join any of these classes, please contact Cindy Banek, cbanek@williamsburgumc.org.

BISHOP WEAVER'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

On Sunday, September 13, Bishop Peter Weaver spoke to a plenary Sunday School class and asked the question, "Who is my neighbor?" His perceptive response, based on the biblical story of "The Good Samaritan," is a teaching we all need to hear. Access this "must-hear" recording here:

<https://www.williamsburgumc.org/grow/christian-education>

PASTORS' BIBLE STUDY

Join us for the Pastors' Bible Study, "Revolutionary Parables: Stories that (Still) Shake the World!" We are convening on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm and Thursday mornings at 10:30 am through October 21/22. No pre-registration required, newcomers welcome! In this time, we will locate a framework for reading the Parables for deeper meaning, as we seek to understand better the way that Jesus' original listeners would have heard them. If you would like a recording of the first several classes, please contact Pastor Dave (drochford@williamsburgumc.org) or (229-1771).

To join the Wednesday evening study by computer, click on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85736045082?pwd=YXdWSHdicTI4SmVFWkROUjEzY3pEdz09>

Meeting ID: 857 3604 5082

Passcode: 049275

Or one tap mobile: +13017158592,85736045082#

Or dial by your location: +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 857 3604 5082

To join the Thursday morning study by computer, click on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83452258121?pwd=b2dCY0Y5RTFDVkwvN2lJcUcyZDVhZz09>

Meeting ID: 834 5225 8121

Passcode: 247093

Or one tap mobile: +16465588656,83452258121#

Or dial by your location: +1 301 715 8592
Meeting ID: 834 5225 8121

YOUTH

Zoom Lunch Breaks on Fridays at Noon

Don't forget! Zoom Lunch Breaks continue every Friday at noon. These are only 15 minutes -- a brief time of Q&A, Scripture and prayer. Check Youth Ministry email for link.

A MESSAGE FROM LOCAL OUTREACH ON THE WINTER SHELTER FOR 2020

For many years our Williamsburg United Methodist Church has enthusiastically offered our church facility as a host site for the Winter Shelter. This year the danger posed by the novel Coronavirus and its transmission in enclosed areas is a safety and health concern that cannot be overlooked. Accordingly, the Trustees made the difficult decision not to offer our church as a host site this winter season.

Other churches in our community have made the same decision. Accordingly, the Community of Faith Mission (COFM), which organizes the shelter program, is working with local hotels to secure rooms for those in need of shelter during this winter season. Our church's Local Outreach Committee is seeking to raise \$5,000 for COFM to defray a part of the motel expense. Local Outreach will provide a donation to this effort. In addition, an anonymous donor from our congregation has stepped forward to help us raise these funds. We are asking church members to contribute to this effort by sending a check to the church office made out to Williamsburg Methodist Church and noting on the memo line: 2020 Winter Shelter Program.

Please consider joining this effort and helping our church extend the warmth of our Christian love to those in need in our community. GWOM will be sending us additional information in the coming weeks regarding how our church can help by providing volunteers and meals.

WINTER COAT DRIVE FOR HEAD START: OCTOBER 1 – NOVEMBER 1

Each October at WUMC is designated as "Winter Coats for Head Start" month. Williamsburg children in the Head Start program need warm coats to wear to school and to play in the winter. The little ones in this pre-school program are 3-5 years old and wear sizes 3, 3T, 4, 4T, 5, and 5T. Head Start is critical for many children as they learn basic skills that will be needed to begin kindergarten. Coats will be collected in the rear parking lot of the church in drive-by style on Saturday, October 10 from 10:00 am – noon and on Sunday, October 18 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Coats may also be dropped in the "Collection Closet" in the church Reception Area.

VIRGINIA INTERFAITH CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY SYMPOSIUM

Williamsburg UMC pastors and members will be attending the online symposium hosted by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy on Wednesday, October 7. You can join too! Link below. The symposium will engage people of faith and goodwill to address the challenges raised by the collision of COVID-19 with the rampant racism of our day. This event will begin with a keynote address by Bishop W. Darin Moore, Presiding Prelate for the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. The symposium will focus on five themes: Honor, Heroes, Health, Healing, and Hope. To join, go to: <https://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org/oct-7-symposium-building-the-beloved-community-in-a-wounded-world/>

CONGREGATIONAL CARE DEVOTIONS

Please check out the Congregational Care page on the church website. Mitzi Cole, the new Minister of Congregational Care, will be updating the page and including short devotionals. To access the video devotions, go to <https://www.williamsburgumc.org/let-us-help/congregational-care>.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS TO CHANGE

The Church Office will be open from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Thursday and 8:00 am - 4:00 pm on Fridays beginning October 5. Exterior doors will remain locked. Visitors, please call the church phone (229-1771) to be admitted at "the Banner Entrance." Masks and sign-ins will be required, so that we can show care for one another's well-being.

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

If you or anyone you know is having a difficult time coping with the economic fallout from the Coronavirus pandemic, please know that organizations are available to help. Visit the church website at <https://www.williamsburgumc.org/let-us-help/need-help> to find out more about assistance.

Prayer Requests: Prayer Chain

The prayer chain is emailed every Friday. If you have a prayer request, please submit it to Lianne Koch via email lkoch@williamsburgumc.org. You may also submit prayer requests from the church website, accessing www.williamsburgumc.org/let-us-help/prayer-rqst-form-hidden. If you would like to be a part of this prayer ministry and receive the prayer chain emails, please contact Cindy Banek cbanek@williamsburgumc.org.

ARE YOU EXPERIENCING PANDEMIC FATIGUE?

Are you feeling exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like isolation, loneliness, anxiety over health, grief due to many different kinds of losses, tension from juggling work, childcare and schooling, financial strain/job loss, uncertainty about the future or any other unexpected challenges? You do not have to face challenges all alone. The Stephen Ministers of our church are ready to help you navigate these difficult times, meeting with you privately to offer care and support. For more information, call the church office (229-1771) and ask to speak with Pastor Dave, Pastor Meghan or Mitzi Cole.

MESSY CHURCH FOR OCTOBER

Our next virtual Messy Church is Tuesday, October 13, and our theme is “Paul and Silas,” based on Acts 16:25-34. Paul and Silas were chained up in a dark jail cell with other prisoners when suddenly a violent earthquake shattered their chains and opened the prison doors. What did Paul and Silas do next? Did they escape or did they stay and tell everyone, including the jailer, about Jesus? Look for our Messy Church video at <https://www.williamsburgumc.org/worship/messy-church> on October 13 for all the answers, plus awesome crafts and games, music and dinner ideas! Remember, Messy Church is a creative, interactive, intergenerational worship experience for everyone. For further information about Messy Church, contact Cindy Banek, cbanek@williamsburgumc.org

WILLIAMSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OPEN STAFF POSITION

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

This person will be responsible for developing and sustaining a comprehensive and robust ministry with youth (grades 6-12) and their families, for creating and implementing ministry with young adults of college age, and for managing the social media presence of the church.

For further details on this open position, visit our church website:

<https://www.williamsburgumc.org/who-we-are/employment>.

NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We are seeking someone to be our new Shepherd’s Fold coordinator. Shepherd’s Fold is our ministry of volunteers who reach out to those church members who are no longer able to attend church. We ensure that those people know their WUMC church friends still care and will maintain contact through visits and calls. Except for periods of pandemics, we deliver at a minimum: small arrangements from Sundays’ altar flowers; devotional materials; and Lenten shoe boxes. For more information on coordinating these efforts with other volunteers, contact Pastor Meghan: (229-1771) or mclayton@williamsburgumc.org or the current coordinator, Vikki DiToto (903-4976) or vikkilynn@cox.net.

VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2021 DELEGATES

Additional delegates from the York River District are needed for the Virginia Annual Conference to be held in June 2021. To apply to be a delegate, please fill out the form located on our website:

<https://www.williamsburgumc.org/news/bishop-conference-messages>.

VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2020 RESCHEDULED

The rescheduled Annual Conference session will take place Saturday, October 31, 2020, from 9:00 am - 1:30 pm.