

WILLIAMSBURG UMC WEEKLY ENOTE FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2018:

Please be in prayer for these events in the life of our church!

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

The tradition in some families at the Thanksgiving Feast is an empty chair. The empty chair stands ready to be filled or to be gazed on as a reminder that no matter how many were already present, there was always room for one more. Sometimes the empty chair is a reminder of a missing family member. Even if there wasn't physically an "empty chair," there was an extra plate and extra portions in case an unexpected visitor showed up. Will there be room for one more at your Thanksgiving feast this year, even the unseen guest we call Jesus? Pastor Bill will preach on "The Empty Chair at Thanksgiving." The Scriptures are 1 Timothy 2:1-7 and Luke 13:22-30. Join us in worship at 8:15 or 11:00 am. Sunday School is at 9:30 am. Stop by the atrium for coffee fellowship and greet your fellow worshippers.

SUNDAY EVENTS

Adult Sunday School Classes (9:30 - 10:30 am)

- Aldersgate Class (Wesley Hall)
- Fellowship Class (Room 103)
- Marvin Willard Bible Class (Room 174)
- Searchers Class (Room 171)
- World Religions Class (Room 101)
- Bishop McKendree Class (Room 102)

All classes are open and welcome new people! Information on any class, contact Cindy Banek, cbanek@williamsburgumc.org or 229-1771.

Youth

- Sunday: Rev. Helen Casey-Rutland will share insights into The Way Forward for the UMC, 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Center.
- Sunday Night: Youth group meets at church. 5:30 - 7:00 pm.

Children's Ministry

- Room 207-Preschoolers
- Room 302-Kindergarten through 2nd grade
- Room 301-3rd grade through 5th grade

Thanksgiving Morning Ministry

Sunday, November 18 is the last day to bring your canned items and checks to church for Local Outreach Thanksgiving preparation.

Thanks!

THIS WEEK

Multifaith Community Service of Thanksgiving

Please join with neighbors of different religious traditions for a Thanksgiving service of prayers, readings, poems, and songs, sponsored by HART (Historic Area Religions Together), a new community multifaith organization. The service will take place on Monday, November 19 at 7:00 pm in the gym at Walsingham Academy (1100 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg). Please bring a nonperishable food item to be donated to FISH. All are welcome!

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias...given in honor or memory of loved ones, are a Christmas tradition at WUMC. This year's poinsettias cost \$20 each or you may make a gift of that amount to the Holiday Flower Fund. Make your check payable to "WUMC." This is the last week to purchase poinsettias; note early deadline - November 21. Form may be found in the "Messenger" or in the Sunday Bulletin.

UPCOMING EVENTS (11/25/2018 - and beyond)

Sr. Pastor's Advent Bible Study

Who were Simeon and Anna? Why did God choose shepherds and angels to announce the birth of the Savior of the world? What do we really know about Mary and Joseph? Join us November 28 through December 13 for this Advent study as we will explore "The Cast of the Christmas Drama."; Wednesday evenings 7:00 p.m. and Thursday mornings 10:30 a.m.

Upcoming ReCharge Advent Study

"The Gift of the Nutcracker," by Matt Rawle November 28 - December 12: 6:10 - 7:00 pm

"The Nutcracker" was first performed in 1892, and quickly became a holiday tradition, one that continues for many families to this day. In "The Gift of The Nutcracker," Matt Rawle takes a look at this Christmas classic in a new way-through the lens of faith. In this four-week Advent study, Rawle uses the iconic tale to help us understand God's greatest gift of the Christ child and of the kingdom Christ came to build. Leader: Cindy Banek. Please register your attendance either online or contacting Cindy at cbanek@williamsburgumc.org.

ReCharge Wednesdays

Join us for dinner every Wednesday night from 5:30 - 6:30 pm. The cost for the meal is only \$6/adult, \$3/child (ages 3-12) with a \$20.00 family maximum. Please make a reservation by completing a dinner form found at Connection Corner or in the pew racks, by calling the church office (229-1771) or online at <https://www.williamsburgumc.org/connect/recharge-wednesday>. Reservations should be received by noon on Tuesday before the Wednesday dinner. ReCharge will not meet this week due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Menu for November 28: meatloaf, whipped potatoes, vegetable, roll and dessert.

Participate in Worship during Advent

Help celebrate the Advent season by participating in worship. A December sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board next to the church den. People of all ages are invited to serve!

Messiah Concerts

Our annual Messiah concerts are early this year! Mark your calendars for Friday, November 30, 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 1, 5:00 p.m. The Handel Orchestra along with soloists Branch Fields, bass; Michelle Trovato, soprano; Phaedra McNorton, mezzo-soprano; and Ian Lane, tenor, as well as the chorus will help bring in the Advent and Christmas season!

Messy Church will be in the Christmas Parade on December 1 with our own special float, "Messy Miracles!" Cheer us on beginning at 9:00 am on Richmond Road at Brooks Street through Merchant Square.

Alternative Giving Fair

Capture the true Christmas spirit in your gift-giving this holiday season! Come to the Alternative Giving Fair where local, national and international organizations will offer opportunities to choose gifts that will make a difference in the lives of others. Sunday, December 2, 9:15 am - 11:00 am and noon - 1:00 pm.

Family Advent Workshop

Join us in Rm. 160 on Sunday, December 2, during the Sunday School hour (9:30-10:30 am) to create items for your family to use throughout Advent. We will make Advent wreaths and "Countdown to Christmas Chains." All supplies provided, but if you have an Advent wreath candle holder from previous years, please bring that to use. To close our time together we will enjoy an Advent story and share our favorite Christmas traditions.

Hat, Sock and Glove Tree

Bring warmth and happiness to children this Christmas season! Do not forget the Hat, Glove, and Sock Christmas Tree located near the front office. Bring in a warm hat or a new pair of socks, gloves, or mittens and help a child experience the full meaning of Christmas! This is a great family activity. All donations will be given to local charities. Collection begins December 2 and continues through December 16.

Annual Charge Conference: Tuesday, December 4, 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall All church members are welcome to attend.

Intergenerational Advent Experiences

December 5, 5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Bring your family or just join with others to experience the special joys of the Advent season! Leader: Pastor Meghan Roth Clayton

Parents Night Out, Friday, December 7, 5:30 p.m. Open to the community. Contact Laura Pittman 229-1771.

Benefit Concert-Respite Care, Sunday, December 9

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Respite Open House, 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Emergency Homeless Center

Winter weather will soon be here, and churches throughout the Williamsburg area, including Williamsburg United Methodist, will be opening their doors to shelter our homeless neighbors. Our week of shelter is December 9-16. We are signing up volunteers now to help with check-in in the evening, dinner, overnight, breakfast, and check-out in the morning. If you, your family, or group would like to take part or if you want more information, please call the church office at 229-1771.

Special Recharge Events on December 19

Service of Hope and Light, 5:00 pm, Sanctuary Recharge Dinner, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall Carols Round the Chrismon Tree, 6:30 pm, Atrium