

## **WILLIAMSBURG UMC WEEKLY ENOTE FOR NOVEMBER 29, 2018:**

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

### **WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY**

We hear much about the cloud nowadays. In today's world, we associate the cloud with our computers, that is, the Internet resides in the cloud. In the Bible, clouds are symbols of mystery and of the presence of God. At the beginning of the season of Advent on our way to Christmas, the Gospel of Luke tells us that we, "will see 'the Son of Man' coming in a cloud with power and great glory..." On Sunday, Rev. Jones will ask, "Who Owns the Cloud: Google or God?" Join us in worship at 8:15 or 11:00 am. Sunday School for all ages is at 9:30 am. Stop by the atrium and enjoy our Chrismon Tree while you have a cup of coffee and greet your fellow worshippers.

### **On the Road of Discipleship: Advent Prayer for Hope**

Read Isaiah 9:2 and John 8:12

Pray: Loving God, we thank you for the hope you give us. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by being open to seeing the light of Christ in others. We ask this in the name of the one who gave us the gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you, God, for your immeasurable gift. Amen.

## **SUNDAY EVENTS**

### **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.

### **Help Fill Stockings for the Salvation Army!**

Our Children's Sunday School is going to stuff stockings for the Salvation Army, and we need your help! We need small items for children and older adults to put in the stockings. Here is our list: Socks, baby bibs, books, combs, brushes, small toys (cars, trucks, etc.) coloring books, crayons, pens, markers, nail polish, chapstick, travel-size toiletries, small dolls, flash cards, action figures, manicure kits, toothbrushes. Please bring all items to the collection bin in the atrium by Sunday, December 2 at 9:30 am. Questions, contact Martha Hernandez, 229-1771.

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

- Fellowship Class (room 103): Continue with International Lesson Series
- Searchers Class (room 171): Advent Study, "The Redemption of Scrooge."
- World Religions Class and Bishop McKendree Class (room 102): Advent Study, "The Thrill of Hope."

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

## Youth

- Sunday: Join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for the Alternative Giving Fair.
- Sunday Night: Grand Illumination in Colonial Williamsburg. We'll be taking donations for youth missions for parking in the church parking lot. Youth – please join us at 4:00 p.m.

## Advent Devotionals

Copies of our 2018 Advent Devotionals are available in the Narthex, Atrium and at Connection Corner.

## THIS WEEK

### Annual Charge Conference: Tuesday, December 4, 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall

All church members are welcome to attend.

### Calling Disciples for “Disciple”

You have gifts for ministry, and God isn't finished with you yet. Learn what that means in 2019 through “Disciple One: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study,” an opportunity for an in-depth encounter with God's Word. Led by Rev. Helen Casey-Rutland and Rev. David Hindman, this is an opportunity for life transformation and growth in Christ. An Information Session will be held Wednesday, January 2, 6:30 pm, and the 17-week study begins January 9. Register now by contacting Cindy Banek (229-1771) or email, [cbanek@williamsburgumc.org](mailto:cbanek@williamsburgumc.org)

### 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.

### Silver Saints in December

The Silver Saints will meet at the club house at Windsor Meade on Wednesday December 5 at 12:00 pm for our annual Christmas Party. As usual please bring one dollar to pay for the ham and a side dish or dessert to share. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift with a value of approximately \$10. Please call Shirley Leyland at 757-906-4537 and let her know if you plan to attend. The Silver Saints is a fellowship group for anyone aged 50 plus, and we welcome new people who would like to join us. If you have questions, please call Eloy Villa at 757-564-0083.

### 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 <http://www.williamsburgumc.org/connect/whats-happening>. Reservations should be received by noon on Tuesday before the Wednesday dinner.

Menu for December 5: Chili (not hot) with all the fixings, cornbread and dessert.

Kitchen Team: World Religions Class

### **Senior Pastor's Advent Bible Study**

"The Cast of the Christmas Drama," Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:30 pm and Thursday, 10:30 – 11:30 am

Now through December 13

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? This study will explore those people who were part of the birth of Christ.

### **ReCharge Intergenerational Advent Experience**

December 5, 5:15 – 6:00 pm: "Deck the Halls"

Come learn about and celebrate the season of Advent! We will begin in the Sanctuary at 5:15pm for a brief, simple, fun and intergenerational worship experience including songs, prayer and teaching about Advent. Following the 15-minute worship, head to the Atrium to create some take-home Advent items and enjoy ReCharge dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Leader: Pastor Meghan Roth Clayton.

### **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.

### **United Methodist Men's Benefit Breakfast**

A Benefit Breakfast, hosted by the United Methodist Men (UMM), will be held on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. A full-course breakfast will be served, followed by "Musical Moments for Christmas", featuring student winners of Williamsburg Music Club's Grant-In-Aid Auditions. Everyone is invited to attend! Please make reservations by December 4, contacting John Tressler (757-259-1193 or [jdthokie@msn.com](mailto:jdthokie@msn.com)). Cost of the benefit breakfast is \$10 per person, with net proceeds going to the UMM Scholarship Program for local divinity school students and other Outreach Ministries.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS (12/9/2018 - and beyond)**

### **"The Power of Music" Respite Benefit Christmas Concert**

Sunday, December 9 from 3:00-4:00 pm

Respite Open House with cookies and punch from 4:00-4:30 pm

### **Messy Church in December**

Our next Messy Church will be on Tuesday, December 11 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. We will celebrate Christmas the Messy way, so be sure to join us for snow balls, Christmas tiles and Nativity story stones – and some new play equipment! Our theme is "Christmas" and how God's unconditional love is spoken to us in John 3:16-17. We will also serve our annual Christmas dinner with baked ham and all the trimmings! Questions, contact Cindy Banek, 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

### **Banner Entrance Improvement Plans**

The banner entrance improvements will begin on January 2, 2019. The improvements, designed to make the church more welcoming, will address safety (trip) hazards in the entryway, provide additional needed seating for church members and visitors, and improve communications by integrating digital information.

### **The United Methodist Women's (UMW) Book Club**

The UMW Book Club will not meet in December, however we are reading, "One Simple Act," by Debbie Macomber, which we'll discuss at our January meeting. It is from the 2013 Reading List in the Social Action category.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry Returns**

Beginning in January, the Prayer Shawl Ministry will begin meeting two times a month. We will meet Wednesday, January 9 and Thursday, January 24 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm in the church den. All are welcome, from beginners to those with experience in knitting and crocheting.