

WILLIAMSBURG UMC WEEKLY ENOTE FOR DECEMBER 6, 2018:

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

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Cathedrals take a long time to erect — sometimes hundreds of years. This has been true since the first gothic cathedrals began to rise in the Middle Ages about the 12th century. You'd think that modern construction methods would quicken the process. But this is not always the case. Just take a look at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York City. After 125 years, the cathedral is still not finished! St. Paul suggests that as Christians, we are projects on the way to completion. Will we ever be "complete"? Rev. Jones will preach on, "Will We Ever Be Perfect?" The Scriptures are Philippians 1:3-11 and Luke 1:68-79. 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: "Active Waiting"

Read Psalm 27

Psalm Prayer:

You offer us a refuge amidst the trials of life. May our waiting prepare us to see glimpses of your face, even as we long for the full appearance of your goodness throughout all the earth. Amen.

Rueben P. Job, Norman Shawchuck, John S. Mogabgab, "A Guide to Prayer for All Who Walk with God."

SUNDAY EVENTS

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

- Aldersgate Class (Wesley Hall): Advent Study, "Names of the Messiah – Almighty God."
- Fellowship Class (Room 103): Continue with International Lesson Series
- Searchers Class (Room 171): Advent Study, "The Redemption of Scrooge."
- World Religions Class & Bishop McKendree Class (Room 102): Advent Study, "Down to Earth."
- Marvin Willard Bible Class (Room 174): Advent Study, "The Thrill of Hope."

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

Youth

- Sunday: Join us in the Youth Center at 9:30 am for an encounter with a woman at a well, another one of Jesus culture-upsetting moments.
- Sunday Night: We're baking cookies for firefighters! Join us from 3:00 pm in the Wesley Foundation House next door to WUMC.

Advent Devotionals

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

“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

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.

THIS WEEK

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! Attention Messy Chefs: We need homemade Christmas cookies. Questions, contact Cindy Banek, 229-1771.

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 12: Glazed baked ham, cheddar cheesy potatoes, vegetable, roll and dessert.

Kitchen Team: Bishop McKendree Class

Senior Pastor’s Advent Bible Study

“The Cast of the Christmas Drama,” Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:30 pm & 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.

“Paws for Stress” at the Wesley Foundation

Calling all bakers! The Wesley Foundation needs home-made cookies for its annual de-stress event for college students. All William and Mary students are invited to the Wesley House (next to WUMC) on December 12 for cookies, hot chocolate and puppies and some exam relief. Cookies may be brought to the Wesley House by 4:00 pm.

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 continues through December 16.

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.

Contributions

According to the IRS rules, any donation recorded for 2018 must be dated December 31 or earlier and must be delivered to the church by December 31. Exception: mail to the church and be postmarked December 31 or before. Donations postmarked January 1 or after (even if check is dated in December) will be recorded as a 2019 donation. With end of year vacations and holiday closing of the church, please direct any questions about your 2018 contributions to Nethea Calloway by noon December 21 (229-1771).

UPCOMING EVENTS (12/16/2018 - and beyond)

Children’s Ministry Christmas Sweater Party

Break out that Christmas sweater (ugly or fancy) and join us Sunday, December 16 for games, crafts, cookie decorating and caroling! The party will be held in Room 302 during the Sunday School hour and continue into Worship Place (please note the location change). Come get in the Christmas spirit with us! Questions? Contact Martha Hernandez (229-1771).

Special Recharge Events on December 19

- Service of Hope and Light: 5:00 pm, Sanctuary
- Recharge Dinner: 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Special ReCharge Advent Activity: “Carols ‘Round the Chrismon Tree”

Following the ReCharge dinner on December 19, join us at 6:30 pm for our annual tradition of caroling around the Chrismon Tree in the church atrium. Led by the dynamic team of Andy Glascott and Anthony Williams, we will sing, read scripture and reflect upon the birth of Jesus. And because Christmas is always about expecting the unexpected, we will also enjoy a few new twists on some of the old songs! Hot chocolate and homemade Christmas cookies will round out our festivities, so please bring your family and friends to attend this all-age joyous occasion!

National Homeless Person's Day Memorial Day 2018

On December 21 at Williamsburg Christian Church, join with other Williamsburg community groups, faith communities, service providers, and individuals to honor the lives of homeless people who have died of conditions directly related to their homelessness. We will begin promptly at 6:00 pm and end at 6:30 pm. Programs and candles will be available for all in attendance. If possible, bring a food item for FISH Inc.

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.