

Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church

Where All the People are Ministers of Christ

Our vision is to seek to live and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to nurture persons of all ages and circumstances for faithful discipleship, and to transform faith into service to others.



“The Ends of The Earth!?”

October 11, 2026

Rev. Nancy Robinson, Guest Pastor

7801 Church Lane, Toano, Virginia 23168

757-566-0162

Adult Sunday School begins at 9:15 am

Worship begins at 10:15 am

Welcome to our worship service! Mt. Vernon has been worshipping our Lord and serving the Greater Williamsburg Community since 1887. If we can be of any assistance to you, please let us know.

*** Please stand, as you are able.**

Welcome to Worship!

During worship, the entrance nearest the parking lot is locked. If you need a restroom during the service, facilities are located in the hallway directly behind the chancel. You can access this hallway using the side door next to the piano.

Let's Get to Know Each Other:

We invite everyone to wear a nametag today so we can greet you warmly by name. If you are visiting with us, or if your name tag is missing or needs a correction, please fill out the request form on the clipboard right by the name tag rack. We would love to make a permanent nametag just for you!

A Word for Families with Children:

Children of all ages are a vital part of our worship, and we do not offer a separate nursery or childcare. Please do not worry about wiggles or noises; your presence is a blessing to our church family.

Connect with Pastor Meghan:

As Pastor Meghan settles into her new role, she is eager to get to know everyone. Whether you prefer a quick phone call, a cup of coffee, or a casual meeting at the church, please reach out to schedule a visit. You can contact her directly at **meghanclayton@vaumc.org** or at the church phone at **(757) 566-0162**.

Invitation to Serve:

Our church thrives when we lead together. If you feel called to serve, please connect with Pastor Meghan to see where your talents fit best.

Your Giving Makes a Difference:

Thank you for your faithful support of Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church. Your generosity helps us worship, serve our neighbors and share Christ's love in our community and beyond. Here are different ways to give:

- **During worship:** Place cash or a check in the offering plate as it is passed.
- **Online:** Give securely through <https://mtvernontoano.org/give>
- **By mail:** Send to 7801 Church Lane, Toano, VA 23168.
- **Drop off:** Deliver your offering during office hours

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost/Miracle Sunday

October 11, 2026

10:15am

“The Ends of The Earth!?”

Worship Leader

Jeanne Fulks

*Please stand as you are able. Please read in Unison in **Bold**.

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude & Meditation

Lila O’Sullivan, Guest Pianist

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Words:

May we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit, who forms us as disciples of Jesus Christ and calls us to love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously. May we listen for where Christ is calling us to say “yes,” trusting that God can work through us to transform the world.

*Introit

UMH #593 v.1, refrain

“Here I Am, Lord”

*Call to Worship:

Family of God, like Peter, James, and John, Jesus calls to us from the shorelines and the sidelines of life. Will you leave everything behind and follow? **Yes, we will follow!**

Jesus calls us to work together, to build up the Body of Christ as we mature in faith. Will you leave everything behind and follow? **Yes, we will follow!**

Jesus calls us to grow, to become disciples formed in the likeness of Christ. Will you leave everything behind and follow? **Yes, we will follow!**

Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us! **Today, we choose once again to leave everything behind and follow Christ, who forms us as disciples, that we may live as disciples who transform the world. Amen.**

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, January 2026.

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance:

Gracious God, you call us to follow Christ beyond what is familiar and comfortable. Yet too often we allow fear, doubt or complacency to keep us from answering your call. Forgive us when we put limits on your love or believe our gifts are not enough. Open our hearts to your Spirit. Give us courage to say yes when you call, faith to follow where you lead and love to share the good news with all people.

Hear the good news: Christ calls us, equips us and goes with us. We are forgiven, renewed, and sent into the world in love.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Passing of the Peace:

As Christ's disciples, we are called not only to receive God's peace but to share that peace with one another and with the world. Before we are sent to the ends of the earth, we begin by offering Christ's peace to those gathered here. The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

*Hymn of Praise

UMH #77

"How Great Thou Art"

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

First Reading

Worship Leader

Acts 1:1-8

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 28:18-20

The Message

Rev. Nancy Robinson

"The Ends of the Earth!?"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn of Meditation

TFWS #2120

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

*Affirmation

UMH #881

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the People and the Church

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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 Moment: A Blessing for Lila O'Sullivan, Guest Accompanist, Theresa Kaufman, S/PPRC Chair

Friends, we give thanks for the gift of music and the people God calls to help lead us in worship. For several months, Lila O'Sullivan has faithfully shared her gifts with us as our guest accompanist, helping us sing, pray, celebrate and worship together. As we prepare to welcome new members of our

music ministry, we pause to offer our gratitude and our blessing. Let us pray.

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for Lila and the gifts she has shared with this church. Thank you for Lila's willingness to step into this season of transition. Thank you for her care, patience and musical gifts. May she know how deeply her ministry among us has been appreciated. We bless Lila for the road ahead, and we trust in all she does, she will be a blessing. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to Give

Offertory

*Doxology:

UMH #95

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him,
all creatures here below; praise him above, ye
heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
AMEN**

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, receive these gifts and use them to strengthen your church, serve your people, and transform the world. Form us into faithful disciples who give generously, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously, trusting that you can multiply all that we offer for your purposes. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*Sending Hymn

TFWS #2130

"The Summons"

*Benediction:

May God, who forms you in the image of Christ, bless you with perseverance to answer Christ's call each day.

We say, "Yes," to following Jesus.

As you leave behind everything that holds you back, may you have the courage to step forward in faith.

We say, "Yes," to living as disciples of Jesus Christ.

May God empower you to live as Christ's disciples, transforming the world through love, justice, mercy, and hope.

We say, "Yes," to being Christ's hands and feet in the world.

Go forth in the grace of God, the love of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

We will go forth and live as disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, January 2026, modified.

*Postlude

About Guest Pastor Rev. Nancy Robinson

Thank you Rev. Nancy Robinson for being our guest preacher. Rev. Robinson brings more than three decades of United Methodist mission experience in local, national, and global settings. She served as a General Board of Global Ministries missionary in Sierra Leone, where she helped equip pastors, evangelists, and lay leaders and served in theological and Christian education. She has also served as a Global Mission Advocate for the Southeast Jurisdiction and more recently as Global Missions Coordinator for the Virginia Conference, connecting Virginia churches with missionaries and global mission partnerships. The daughter of Methodist missionaries, Rev. Robinson was born and raised in Zimbabwe and has continued a lifelong commitment to accompanying and equipping the global church. She is now retired and enjoys family life and gardening.

Announcements/Missions

- **Choir Starts This Week!:** Thursday, October 15 from 12:30-1:30. Join us in the sanctuary as we “Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.” No experience necessary, just bring: your willing heart, your desire to learn, your commitment to serve and your love for the Lord.
- **Thanksgiving Meals:** We are working with Grace Table (PGO) to help them put together Thanksgiving meals. We have committed to providing canned corn and green beans. We need 100 cans of each to help fill the plates of those in need. Cans can be left in the designated box inside the front entryway. Thank you!
- **Pastor’s Hours:** Rev. Meghan’s current office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am-noon. Please try to call before coming for a visit as she may have had a schedule change. She is happy to make an appointment for other days or times, please call the office 757-566-0162 or email meghanclyton@vaumc.org.
- **Bridge Group:** Bridge meets at 10 am and 6:30 pm, Tuesdays, Fellowship Hall all are welcome.

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The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, Abingdon Press

The Spiritual Wisdom of the Gospel for Christian Preachers and Teachers, Liturgical Press

The Daily Study Bible commentary series, Westminster Press

The New Interpreter’s Bible commentary series, Abingdon Press