

Warwick Weekly

Sunday, December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent

CALLED TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

This Week At A Glance

December 1 - Today

9am Worship - Contemporary (CC)
10:15am Sunday School
11:15am Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)
11:30pm Denbigh Christian (CC)
6pm NO Children & Youth Ministries
8pm AA Mtg (Rm 20)
6pm Advent Study (Rm 10)

Monday, December 2*

9am Meals on Monday Prep (FH)
9:30 Cookie Baking & Decorating (CC)
12pm Meals on Monday Serve (FH)
6pm Upward Practice (CC)
7:30pm Choir Practice

Tuesday, December 3*

9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time (Sanctuary)
9:30 Cookie Baking & Decorating (CC)
10am Crafts (FH)
1pm Staff Meeting (library)
6pm Cub Scouts (FH)
6pm Upward Practice (CC)

Wednesday, December 4*

9:30 Cookie Baking & Decorating (CC)
10:30am Bible Study (Rm 21)
6pm Family Dinner Church (FH)

Thursday, December 5*

9:30 Cookie Decorating (CC)
10am Bazaar Set-up (CC)
6pm Cub Scouts (FH)

Friday, December 6*

1pm Bazaar (CC—no cookies)

Saturday, December 7

9am Bazaar & Cookie Walk (CC)

* Meals on Wheels Pick Up Location

For event and room reservations please email Rodney Wise at facility.manager@wmumc.org to receive a Facility Use Agreement

This week's message will be based on 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 Week 1: What Gift Can We Bring? Prayers

Our Advent journey to the annual celebration of the arrival of the Christ-Child will center around the promise we made when we joined the church. Members of the United Methodist church pledge to support the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. Those gifts are not just for the local church or the global denomination but for Christ, our Lord. He is able to take our offerings and transform them into blessings and a means of grace for others. So join us as we begin with the gift that can be done from any where and at any time: prayer. Perhaps you have not fully appreciated the power of your own prayers. Come and see as we illuminate the mighty power you have!

Outdoor Christmas Nativity with Live Animals

We are hosting a Christmas Nativity with actors and live animals on **Saturday, December 21st**. We will have a more child friendly format from 3:30pm to 5:30pm and a more traditional story format from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. The story will be narrated while visitors enjoy a cup of hot cocoa. There will be animal petting time for the children following the story narration.

Help us bring the true blessing of Christmas to our church this year and invite your friends to participate. We are still in need some people to play different parts such as Mary, Joseph, Shepherds and angels. You can do one or both performances, no acting skill required. There is no speaking required for these parts.

We have yard signs available for you to help us promote this event. We hope you will place one in your front yard for your neighbors to see (see Linda McLawhorn, or Zena in the Church Office) and we have fliers to help promote the event.

We also need volunteers on the day of the event to help navigate the traffic in the parking lot.

So if you would like to be a part of this new, fun event for our church, please reach out to Linda McLawhorn at 757-713-1519 or the volunteer sign-in sheets around the church.



{ JOIN US FOR }

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School Classes

All classes now begin by 10:15am.

To find out more about a class you would like to attend, feel free to ask one of our greeters or pastors as you exit the service.

Classes are meeting in the following rooms:

Covenant Class - Fellowship Hall

Trinity Class - Room 10

Wesleyan Class - Room 21

Wired Word - Room 20

Youth - Room 22

Carpenters Class - Room 30

Children - invited to gather in the toddler nursery room following worship

Free Lunch and Dinner - Join us!



Meals on Monday -

* Free Lunch available on Mondays between 12 noon and 1pm. Pick up from Fellowship Hall side of building. Volunteers are needed for food preparation, delivery (as they come up to the door) and cleaning up. Many hands make light work!

Family Dinner Church

* Everyone is welcome to dinner - you can use the invite cards that are around the church or our Facebook event page to encourage friends, family, or anyone you know to join you for a little Devotional worship, a little praise and an awesome dinner.



Join us for a great meal, musical entertainment, devotional message brought to us by a pastor or a lay member and plenty of fellowship. If you are not currently able to join us for church on Sunday or you miss a Sunday, this is a great way to join us during the week, in the evening, for worship.

To help with set-up, cooking, Clean-up and breakdown for Dinner Church, please reach out to Tim Claus to learn more about how you can help, or, just come and join us! You can reach him by email at tjclauscw4@gmail.com

Something good happens every week - come and see for yourself and remember to bring a friend!

Please remember that you are welcome to extend an invitation to community members to either or both events. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to Linda Brooks at 757-880-4622 or Linda McLawhorn at 757-713-1519 for Meals on Monday or Judy Claus at 757-570-4532 for Dinner Church.

Ministry Opportunities

Are you feeling called to help? Then, we need you! We have a few ministries within the church that need a few extra hands:

* Upward Basketball/Cheerleading is coming up and we need help with many things. Please reach out to Sharon Ellis or Kerry Blazek.

* Assist the children and youth on Sunday evenings from 6pm to 7:30pm (see page 3 for more information or reach out to Sharon Ellis or Kerry Blazek)

* Greeters/Ushers are needed for both the 9am service and the 11:15am service, reach out to the church office or the pastors.

* We are in need of people to help count on Sundays after the 11:15am service. We need a volunteer for the 3rd Sunday of the month and two volunteers for the 4th Sunday of the month. No finance experience is necessary, computer knowledge is helpful but not necessary. We will train you. Please reach out to Mary Ann Hoyer if you would like to know more (757-218-1021)

Please reach out to the church office at 757-877-2270 to learn more about where you can help.



Mark your calendar for our annual Christmas Cantata presented by our Sanctuary Choir. **Sunday, December 15th, 11:15am** Sanctuary Worship Service.



Tuesday, December 24th we will offer 2 unique worship services. Our 5pm Contemporary Service will have our live band singing joyful Christmas music and a special Christmas Eve message. Our 8pm Traditional Service will be in the Sanctuary with our choir, a solo from Heather Sreves and a special Christmas message. Both services will close with candlelight.



Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Our Youth Director, Kerry Blazek, works with our Children's Fellowship and Family Ministries Coordinator, Sharon Ellis, to host a fun and exciting time every Sunday for our children and youth during the school year.

Students in 1st – 5th grades (Children's) and 6th – 12th grades (Youth) are invited on Sunday evenings, 6pm – 7:30pm for a time of fellowship, learning through lessons, and fun with games, crafts and teamwork.

Feel free to reach out to leaders for more information: Sharon Ellis (Children's Ministry) 757-478-5020 or email cutygrgal@cox.net Kerry Blazek (Youth Ministry) 757-310-9891 or email kerryblazek@gmail.com

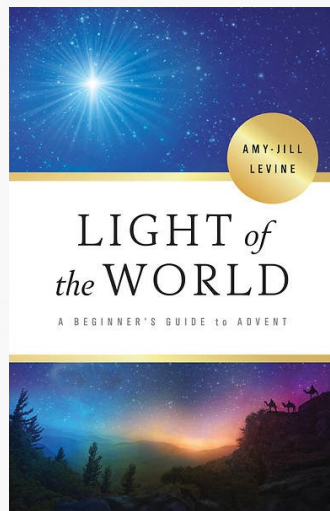
NOTE: Youth and Children will resume meetings on 12/8. 12/15 is the Christmas party. If you would like to come and help on Sunday evenings, we are always thankful for new Volunteers - come and have some fun and help with the faith journey of our Children and help to develop our family ministry program.

Advent Book Study With Pastor Sean

Pastor Sean will begin our Advent Book Study tonight, Sunday, December 1st at 6:30pm in the Library.* We will be using the book "*Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*," by Amy-Jill Levine. She explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. Join her as she traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt.

The book provides a rich and challenging learning experience for this small group. Books will be available from the church office beginning November 18th so you have time to read the first chapter before December 1st.

*NOTE: Will meet at 6pm in Rm 10



Watch us on YouTube

Don't forget you can watch our services on our YouTube channel - search for Warwick Memorial UMC, Newport News, VA and subscribe to our page to be notified when a new video is posted.



Contribute Your Homemade Soup to Send Our Mission Team to Honduras

You can sign up to contribute your homemade soup for the lunch to be provided during the Saturday December 7 Cookie Walk at Sunday School, at the bulletin board in the gathering area of the Celebration Center, or by sending an email to carlos.liceaga@gmail.com with the name of your soup. It will be used to raise funds for the medical mission team this church is sending to Honduras next year. You can bring your soup that morning before 10 am or drop it off Thursday or Friday night. If you drop it off, please put it in one of the church refrigerators and label it with the date and "Honduras".



Friday, December 6... 1pm to 6pm
Saturday, December 7... 9am – 4pm

Just a few more days . . .

Annual Bazaar and Cookie Walk
Get ready for Christmas with gifts, decorations, and cookies!

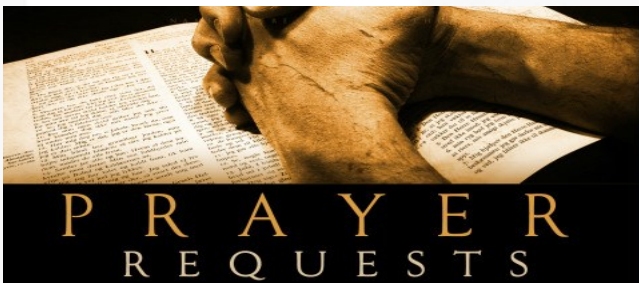


Cookies – Thank you for saying "Yes!" and agreeing to bake cookies for the Cookie Walk (Saturday only). Trays for you to borrow are available TODAY (Please bring cookies to the Fellowship Hall kitchen on Dec 6) Monetary donations are also appreciated - Cash or Checks (made payable to WMUMC with "Cookie Walk" on the memo line) may be left in an envelope and placed in the new dropbox beside the office or put in the offering plate.

Crafts – If you have handmade items for our Craft Sale or gently used seasonal items for our Attic Treasures, please bring them to the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday (Dec 3) or the Celebration Center on Thursday (Dec 5) when we will be setting up for the sale. We want to include your donation!

Fliers – Please take a few fliers to share with friends, co-workers, and neighbors..... help us spread the word!





Shekinah* Glory Prayer Group

The prayers of the righteous man are powerful and effective.
James 5:16

You can participate in the following ways:

1. Come to the Sanctuary @ 9:30am on Tuesday mornings for community time of prayer.
2. Join Zoom for Prayer time at 1pm—Saturday and Sunday only, led by Linda McLawhorn
3. Pray on your own daily with materials.
4. Ask someone to be your prayer partner.

Prayer points include our leaders—national, state and local; our school system; our church—pastors, leadership team, Sunday School teachers, ministers, missions - Upward Basketball and Cheerleading, Meals on Monday, Community Dinner, PORT, youth and children's ministry programs, shut-ins - and any personal prayer requests.

*The Glory of the Divine presence

Senior Fellowship Breakfast Group

The Senior Fellowship Breakfast Group gathers together the first Monday of each month. Next gathering will be **Monday, December**

2, at 9am at Vancostas on Warwick Blvd. Stop by and enjoy breakfast and fellowship with this fun group!



Church Prayer Requests

Your church family cares about you and your loved ones. We want to stay connected and support each other, so if you have a prayer request and would like one of our pastors to call and pray with you, please email prayerchain@wmumc.org and someone will be in touch as soon as possible. If you would like the prayer put out to our membership prayer team, please let us know.

Sick? Going to Hospital?

If you are hospitalized, planning surgery, or have become ill, please contact the church office at 767-877-2270 or by emailing warwick.memorial@wmumc.org. If you have an urgent situation, please call the church office at 757-877-2270 and go to the administrative assistant extension (rolls to cell phone) or leave a message on the pastors' phone extensions.

If you are going to the hospital, please let us know the date, time, and hospital where you will be receiving care. Due to HIPAA regulations, the hospital will not automatically inform the church of your hospitalization. If you would like some pastoral time with either pastor, feel free to reach out to them by emailing them at pastorsarah@wmumc.org or pastorsean@wmumc.org.

Prayer List

Please pray for those at home, in the hospital or care facility:

Gordan Chan (The Chesapeake) * Ruth Ritenour (Mennowood) * Betty Palmer (Hiddenwood) * Frances Topping (Mennowood) * Nancy Setty * Norma Coleman * Anne Corliss * Marvin & Pat Hill (Barbara Amaker's brother and sister-in-law) * Katie Tanner-Barker * Jeff Cox * Vince & Marion Bonacci * Wilma Miller (Sheri Vann's mother) * Chuck and Cynthia Nothstine * Barbara Freund * Bea Hoal * Lorie & Cheryl Pruitt * Cindy & Doug (Beth Stabnow's friends) * Megan (Christine Dimock's granddaughter) * Ken Marcuson * Judy Hackett * Lori McCormick * Lonnie Frye, Sr. (Mary Ann's brother) * Carol DeGreen (Mary Ann Hoye's relative) * Delores F. Lewis (Alvia's mom) * Mark Crockett (Cheryl Pruitt's cousin) * Kevin Moorehead * Will Davis (Josie Cole's Brother) * Joy Robinson * Ann Pulsifer (Amanda Blake's Mother in Law) * James Hardy (Michelle's brother) * Donna Moore (Michelle's mother) * Stella Ramsey (for the passing of Paul Ramsey) * and all those who are grieving or sick - God knows!

Deployed Armed Forces: Laura Lomas, Lance Sczesny (South Carolina, Coast Guard).

Attendance Numbers (11/24)

9:00am: in-person: 69
Online Live: 16
Online Weekly Views: 201
11:15am: 72
Sunday School: 63
Dinner Church 11/27: 50

Come and Be Social With Us . . .



Instagram



TikTok



Facebook

For a full copy of the Warwick Weekly, check your email, or message Warwick.memorial@wmumc.org to be added to our email list.

Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church

Rev. Sarah Wastella
Senior Pastor

PastorSarah@wmumc.org
757-234-8952 (direct office line)

Rev. Sean Gray
Associate Pastor

PastorSean@wmumc.org
757-234-8962 (direct office line)

38 Hoopes Road | Newport News, VA 23602

WMUMC.org | 757.877.2270
Office Hours 9am—2pm Mon-Fri
or by Appointment

Church Office (Zena):

warwick.memorial@wmumc.org

Facility Manager (Rodney):

Facility.Manager@wmumc.org





Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Pastor Sarah is teaching the Wednesday Morning Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am. We are currently studying Genesis. Join us any Wednesday in room 21 - just bring your Bible and be ready to learn.



Upward Basketball and Cheerleading Ministry

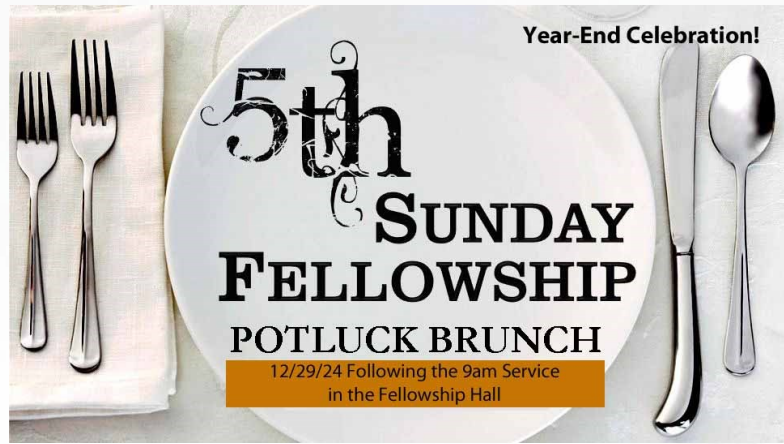
Upward practice started this past week. We are still in need of many hands to make this ministry successful. If you feel called to help in ANY way, please reach out to Sharon Ellis or Kerry Blazek. Games will begin in January. Volunteers are needed to help with coaching, score keeping, timing, concessions and more. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up here <https://registration.upward.org/UPW86928/volunteer> and one of the coordinators will reach out to you.



Please Note—There will be no Pickleball this week. We will post next days for open play as the schedule allows.

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

- **9am Lampstand Modern/Contemporary Worship Service in the Celebration Center which is also streamed on Facebook**
 - **10am Adult Sunday School (begin between 10am and 10:15am)**
- **11:15am Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
- **Wednesday Community Family Dinner Church at 6pm**



Save the Date

Our next 5th Sunday is schedule for December 29th. We will not have Sunday School Classes but will enjoy some Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall for a Potluck Brunch. You are invited to bring a dish to share (enough for approximately 10 to 15 people). We will provide refreshments (water, juice, coffee & tea.)

Attendance Record Keeping . . .

To help us keep track of attendance (and visitors) please sign in on your way into worship in the Lampstand and use the pew attendance pads in the Sanctuary. If you bring a friend, please have them provide us with a phone number or email address so we can reach out to them to thank them for attending worship (a mailing address would be great too, but, to start with, at least an email address.) If you watch on line, please say hello in the chat box that we know you were there, if you watch it as a replay, please say "#replay Hello" so we know you checked out the replay. Thank you for helping us with this. It's important to keep up with our guests and our visitors.

If you bring a visitor or notice a visitor/guest, we have welcome bags in the Narthex and Gathering area which visitors are welcome to take - just a little gift from us with some information about our church.

Ways to Give to WMUMC

This is just a reminder of the options to give to WMUMC:

1. In the offering plate on Sunday (envelopes are available in the welcome table in the CC and in the pews in the Sanctuary.)
2. Via BillPay direct from your bank.
3. Drop off your offering to the church office any time.
4. Give securely on line by credit card at www.wmumc.org.
5. By card in person on Sunday (look for Mary Ann or Vanessa) or scan the QR code on the bulletin.
6. Gift of stock to WMUMC - you can avoid paying capital gains taxes giving this way. For information to do that, contact VAUMF at telephone number (804) 521-1121.

If you have questions about how to give to WMUMC, reach out to the church office, Jim Corliss, finance chair, Mary Ann Hoye, finance secretary or contact the church office.

Food Collection For THRIVE



On the first Sunday of the month we invite you to bring your food donations for THRIVE Peninsula. However, you are welcome to bring donations into the church any Sunday, or drop them off at the church office during the week for our monthly collection. We transport the donations to THRIVE on the first Monday of the month. Thank you for your continued support.

Current needs: Spaghetti Sauce * Pasta Noodles * Ready Meals * Canned Fruit * Cereal * Canned Meats * Canned Vegetables * any shelf stable foods are welcome * hygiene products * cleaning products are also needed.

Shoe collection will return again in the spring. Please hold any shoe donations until we get more details.

RESPIRE CARE



WMUMC'S Respite Care Ministry

We are here to help! If you need help with buying groceries, picking up prescriptions and bringing them to you, or just need someone to talk to and check up on you, please contact **Sina Hofler at 757-877-6109 (home) or 757-869-2960 (cell)**. We have volunteers who have offered to help other church members who have difficulty going out. If you are in need of any help, please contact Sina. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, you are also invited to contact Sina. May God continue to bless this ministry.

A few members of the Men's Fraternity Group would like to assist the men and women in our church with their home needs. If you need some help with home repairs or safety improvements in your home for medical issues or other reasons, please call the church at 757-877-2270, Frank Blake at 757-876-9799 or Sina Hofler at 757-877-6109.

First Aid Kits

There are First Aid kits throughout the facility. If anyone is injured or just needs a band-aid you can locate a first-aid kit pretty quickly. There is one with each of the AED's which are located in the Narthex by the sanctuary and in the gathering area at the Celebration Center (by the door where the serving line exits the kitchen). Also, each kitchen has a first aid kit in it (the Fellowship Hall kit is behind the door going into the Fellowship Hall.) The church office also has some band-aids available in the drawer of the center counter.

Other On-Going Events & Programs:

*** The United Methodist Men** Fresh cooked peanuts are available for purchase in the church office for \$6 a quart. Remember that they make great gifts! They are always in need of new volunteers to help with this ministry. If you are interested, please contact the office for details or reach out to Jim Hackett. Thank you for continuing to support this ministry. They give back to help many ministry programs within the church as well as the Cub Scouts and THRIVE Peninsula. (please remember to return any jars to help keep the cost at \$6.)

*** The United Women of Faith:** The ladies Circles meet monthly September to June. If you are interested in knowing more about United Women of Faith or joining one of the 2 Circles, please contact Mary Ann Hoye or Linda McLawhorn. Please reach out, or, look at the calendar on the Warwick Weekly to be sure you don't miss out on the meetings.

*** The Church Library:** A wonderful wealth of various resources. You can always check to see if our library has a resource you are looking for by visiting our site at <https://wmumc-ind.kari.opalsinfo.net/bin/home> and search the inventory before coming to check out the book. A QR code for faster searching will be available soon. We also set out free books for our Dinner Church guests to take so any donations of books you have read or devotional books to share are greatly appreciated.



Sweet
treats &
beautifully
crafted
gift
ideas!



Christmas Bazaar & Cookie Walk

Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church

38 Hoopes Road | Newport News | VA

www.WMUMC.org

Friday, December 6th



1pm-6pm (crafts only)

Saturday, December 7th

9am - 4pm (cookies & crafts)

Christmas Nativity With Live Animals



Saturday, December 21st

3:30pm Child Friendly Version

and

6:30pm Traditional Version

Narrated Christmas Story, Animal Petting,
Hot Cocoa, Carols and More

All are invited to this free Christmas event.

Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church | 38 Hoopes Rd. | Newport News