

# Warwick Weekly

Sunday, December 15, 2024  
Third Sunday of Advent

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

## This Week At A Glance

### December 15 - Today

9:00 PM Worship - Contemporary (CC)  
10:00 AM 2nd Chance Sale (Rm 18)  
10:15 AM Sunday School  
11:15 AM Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)  
11:30 AM Denbigh Christian (CC)  
12:15 PM 2nd Chance Sale (Rm 18)  
6:00 PM Children & Youth Ministries  
6:00 PM Advent Study (Rm 10)  
8:00 PM AA Mtg (Rm 20)

### Monday, December 16\*

9:00 AM Meals on Monday Prep (FH)  
12:00 PM Meals on Monday Serve (FH)  
6:00 PM Upward Practice (CC)  
7:30 PM Choir Practice

### Tuesday, December 17\*

9:30 AM Shekinah Prayer Time (Sanctuary)  
6:00 PM Cub Scouts (FH)  
6:00 PM Upward Practice (CC)

### Wednesday, December 18\*

10:30 PM Bible Study (Rm 21)  
6:00 PM Family Dinner Church (FH)

### Thursday, December 19\*

6:00 PM Cub Scouts (FH)  
6:00 PM Upward Practice (CC)

### Friday, December 20\*

### Saturday, December 21

3:30 PM Live Nativity (outside)  
6:30 PM Live Nativity (outside)

\* Meals on Wheels Pick Up Location

For event and room reservations please email Rodney Wise at [facility.manager@wmumc.org](mailto:facility.manager@wmumc.org) to receive a Facility Use Agreement

## This week's message will be based on Hebrews 7:1-10 Week 3: What Gift Can We Bring? Our Gifts

Our gifts can be diverse and reflect our particular circumstances. Some gifts may be material possessions, and others may be monetary. We have been called since the days of Abraham to give one tenth of the fruits of our labor, our wages, back to God. This week we see how these gifts meant to honor and glorify God also serve as testimony, a witness to the reign of Christ, our God and King.

## Outdoor Christmas Nativity with Live Animals

We are hosting a Christmas Nativity with actors and live animals next **Saturday, December 21st**. Look for the "stable" on the field side of the main parking lot. We will have a child friendly format from 3:30 to 5:30 PM and a more traditional story format from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. The story will be narrated while visitors enjoy a cup of hot Cocoa or apple cider. There will be animal petting time for the children following the story narrations.

Help us bring the true blessing of Christmas to our church this year and invite your friends to participate. We still need help with parking guides, greeters and luminary helpers (to help set them up around the facility and break down after the event.) There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex, Gathering Area and Sunday School rooms.

*We would like to thank everyone who donated sets of lights for our outside display—it is beautiful! If you have not yet seen it at night time, please take a moment to drive by and check it out. Huge thanks to Mel and Chris Hofler who put up all the lights as well as the construction of the stable for the nativity display!*

We still have some 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. They are located in the Narthex for you to pick up. We also have fliers around the church to help promote the event.

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 sign up on one of the sheets.



{ 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



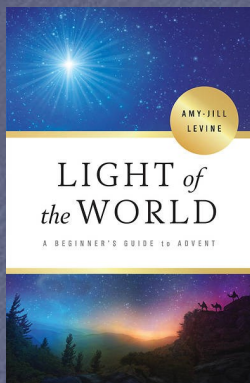
## Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Pastor Sarah is teaching the Wednesday Morning Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 AM. Join us any Wednesday in room 21 - just bring your Bible and be ready to learn. There will be no class on 12/25 and 1/1.

## Advent Book Study With Pastor Sean

There are no more books available, but you are welcome to join in the last 2 weeks of the Advent Study in Room 10 at 6:00 PM. We are using the book "Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent," by Amy-Jill Levine. 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.

This book study provides a rich and challenging learning experience for a small group.



## 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!

Reach out to Linda Brooks at 757-880-4622 to see how you can help.

### 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 one of our pastors along with 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/or 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 or Judy Claus at 757-570-4532.

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

## 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 games & Cheerleading begin in January. We still need many hands to help with this amazing program. Please reach out to Sharon Ellis or Kerry Blazek. Basketball knowledge is not required.
- \* Assist the children and youth on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. See page 3 for more information or reach out to Sharon Ellis (children) or Kerry Blazek (youth) to learn more.
- \* Greeters/Ushers are needed for both the 9am service and the 11:15 AM service, reach out to the church office or the pastors.
- \* We are in need of people to help count offerings on Sundays after the 11:15 AM 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 required. We will train you. Please reach out to Mary Ann Hoye if you would like to know more (757-218-1021).

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

## Honduras Medical Mission Team Needs Members

Medical and non-medical folks are needed to complete a "Friends of Barnabas" team going to Honduras on our next trip scheduled for February 15th to the 22nd, 2025. Prayerfully consider becoming a member of this group, sponsored by Main Street UMC in Suffolk and Warwick Memorial UMC, as it provides medical/dental/eye care to five mountain villages. God may be calling you to this very mission. The experience is both rewarding and life changing.

You can also help by donating new toothbrushes that you may get from the dentist and are not going to use or you can make baby slings and/or menstrual pads - see <https://www.fobf.org/supplies> for patterns and directions. For more information or to volunteer, please contact co-leader Carlos Liceaga at Carlos.Liceaga@gmail.com or 757-768-2223.

## We Would Like To Hear From You!

We are inviting you to help us increase our awareness of our Family of Faith's Sunday morning schedule. You will find a short, five (5) question survey at this link. If you need to complete it via hard copy, please let the office know, as we have paper copies available. We will let you know the results once we have compiled the data. Thank you, in advance, for your time and assistance! If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Sarah or Pastor Sean.

Survey Link: <https://forms.gle/qCstdwAvQQzto95G6>

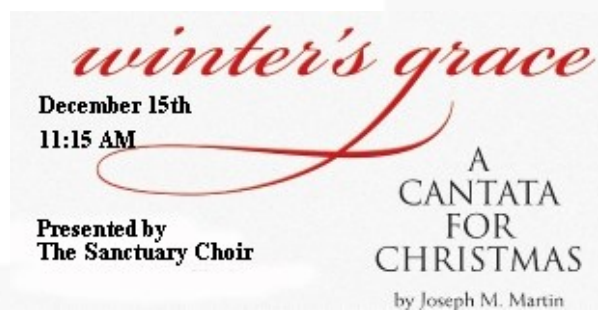


Our Children's Fellowship Coordinator, Sharon Ellis, and our Youth Director, Kerry Blazek, work together to plan fun and exciting ministry time every Sunday evening for our children and youth during the school year.

Children's Fellowship is open to students in 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades (Children's) and our Youth Fellowship is open to students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. They meet on Sunday evenings, 6 – 7:30 PM for a time of learning through lessons, fellowship 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 [cutyrgal@cox.net](mailto:cutyrgal@cox.net) Kerry Blazek (Youth Ministry) 757-310-9891 or email [kerryblazek@gmail.com](mailto:kerryblazek@gmail.com)

**NOTE:** Children and Youth will have game night tonight. Christmas party has been rescheduled. 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 Youth.



Each year, as winter takes hold and covers our days with its silent wonder, we are called to reflection. As the shadows grow longer and the nights deepen, we gather in our chapels of faith seeking the comfort found in the assurance of God's Word. We light our candles of hope. We sing our songs of gathering. We read the ancient words of the prophets and cling to every promise like a quivering leaf on a fading branch.

Join us today, at 11:15 AM in the Sanctuary for our Sanctuary Choir to present "Winter's Grace" by Joseph Martin.



Tuesday, December 24th we will offer 2 unique worship services. Our 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship in the Celebration Center will have our live band singing joyful Christmas music and a special Christmas Eve message. Our 8:00 PM Traditional Worship will be in the Sanctuary with our choir, a solo from Heather Sreves and a special Christmas message. Both services will close with candlelight.



## Save the Date

Our next 5th Sunday is scheduled 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 water, juice, coffee & tea.

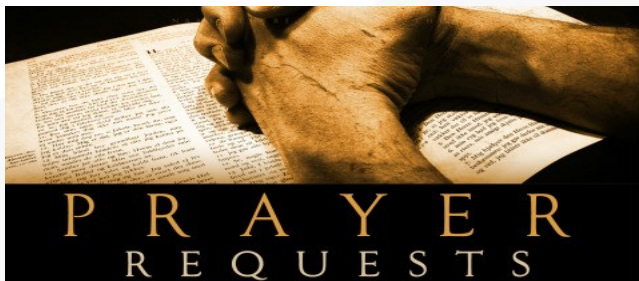


Next Senior Fellowship Book Club will meet on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM. Location is yet to be determined. The book they are reading is "A Paris Apartment" by Michelle Gable.

Based on the fascinating true story of a treasure-stocked Parisian apartment opened for the first time in seventy years.

April Vogt, Sotheby's continental furniture specialist, is speechless when a Paris apartment shuttered for seventy years is discovered in the ninth arrondissement (district). Beneath the cobwebs and stale perfumed air is a goldmine, and not because of the actual gold (or painted ostrich eggs or mounted rhinoceros horns or bronze bathtub). First, there's a portrait by one of the masters of the Belle Epoque, Giovanni Boldini. And then there are letters and journals written by the very woman in the painting, Marthe de Florian. These documents reveal that she was more than a renowned courtesan with enviable décolletage. Suddenly April's quest is no longer about the bureaux plats and Louis-style armchairs that will fetch millions at auction. It's about discovering the story behind this charismatic woman.

The book for the March club will be "Flight Patterns" by Karen White. Details to follow in February.



## 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](mailto: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.

## 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 @ 9:30 AM on Tuesday mornings for community time of prayer.
2. Join Zoom for Prayer time at 1:00 PM - 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, January 6,**

**at 9:00 AM at Vancostas** on Warwick Blvd. Stop by and enjoy breakfast and fellowship with this fun group!



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:pastorsarah@wmumc.org) or [pastorsean@wmumc.org](mailto:pastorsean@wmumc.org).*

## Prayer List

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

Ruth Ritenour (Mennowood) \* Betty Palmer (Hidenwood) \* 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 Hoyer's relative) \* Delores F. Lewis (Alvia's mom) \* Mark Crockett (Cheryl Pruitt's cousin) \* Kevin Moorehead \* Will Davis (Josie Cole's Brother) \* Ann Pulsifer (Amanda Blake's Mother in Law) \* Stella Ramsey \* Kelly Flick \* Michelle Love for the passing of her brother, James \* and all those who are grieving or sick - God knows!

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

## Attendance Numbers (12/8)

9:00 AM: in-person: 74  
Online Weekly Views: 373  
11:15 AM: 55  
Online Weekly Views: 286  
Sunday School: 48  
Dinner Church 12/11: 56

## Come and Be Social With Us . . .



Instagram



Share your QR code so others can follow you  
TikTok



Facebook

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

## Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church

**Rev. Sarah Wastella**  
Senior Pastor

[PastorSarah@wmumc.org](mailto:PastorSarah@wmumc.org)  
757-234-8952 (direct office line)

**Rev. Sean Gray**  
Associate Pastor

[PastorSean@wmumc.org](mailto:PastorSean@wmumc.org)  
757-234-8962 (direct office line)

38 Hoopes Road | Newport News,  
VA 23602

[WMUMC.org](http://WMUMC.org) | 757.877.2270  
Open Office Hours 9am—2pm Mon-Fri  
or by Appointment

**Church Office (Zena):**

[warwick.memorial@wmumc.org](mailto:warwick.memorial@wmumc.org)

**Facility Manager (Rodney):**

[Facility.Manager@wmumc.org](mailto:Facility.Manager@wmumc.org)



## Last Chance Craft Sale

Visit the "Bazaar Gift Shop" in room 18 (middle hallway) for last minute shopping. Sharon Blake will be there for sales from 10am to 11:15am and after the traditional worship service from 12:15 to 1:00 PM.



## Upward Basketball and Cheerleading

Upward practices have started. 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.

## Watch us on YouTube

Don't forget you can watch both of our worship 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.



## 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.



**Please Note—Due to the Upward Practice schedule, the next Pickleball open play day on the calendar is tentatively for Friday, December 20th from 6 to 8:00 PM.**

## OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

- **9am Contemporary Worship Service in the Celebration Center streamed on Facebook**
- **10:00 AM Adult Sunday School Classes (begin between 10am and 10:15am)**
- **11:15 AM Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary streamed on Facebook**
- **6:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner Church in the Fellowship Hall**

## 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](http://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: Pasta \* Egg Noodles \* Cereal \* Canned Fruit \* Pancake Mix \* any shelf stable foods are welcome \* hygiene products \* cleaning products.**

**Shoe collection will return again in the spring. Please hold any shoe donations until we get updated collection 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 at (757) 874-4836. 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 Hoyer 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.



### Advent Devotionals

There are a number of different Advent devotional books throughout the church, the Upper Room, St. Stephens Ministry, and others. Please pick them up and enjoy some quiet devotional time every day during the holiday season.

