

# Warwick Weekly

Sunday, December 8, 2024  
Second Sunday of Advent

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

## This Week At A Glance

### December 8 - Today

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

### Monday, December 9\*

9am Meals on Monday Prep (FH)  
12pm Meals on Monday Serve (FH)  
2pm Mary Freeman Circle (Amaker's)  
6pm Upward Practice (CC)  
7:30pm Choir Practice

### Tuesday, December 10\*

9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time (Sanctuary)  
1pm Ramsey Memorial Service  
6pm Cub Scouts (FH)  
6pm Upward Practice (CC)

### Wednesday, December 11\*

10:30am Bible Study (Rm 21)  
3:30 Libre Dance Rehearsal (CC)  
6pm Family Dinner Church (FH)

### Thursday, December 12\*

6pm Libre Dance Performance (CC)  
6pm Cub Scouts (FH)  
7pm Trustee Meeting (Library)

### Friday, December 13\*

6pm Libre Dance Performance (CC)

### Saturday, December 14

9am Upward Practice (CC)  
6:30pm Private Event (CC)

\* 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 Job 2:7-8,11-13 Week 2: What Gift Can We Bring? Presence

When our friends and loved ones suffer loss, experience grief, or need to navigate difficult situations, we want to offer comfort, but are often at a loss for words. We want to ensure them they are loved and supported, but do not want to offer empty platitudes. In these situations, the gift of our mere presence may offer comfort far and beyond any words can express. In the life of the church our simple presence can be an incredible gift to the effectiveness of different ministries. Join us this Sunday as we explore just how we can all offer comfort and support through simply showing up and being present.

## 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 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. Our character spots have been assigned—thank you to those who have volunteered. We still need help with parking guides, greeters and luminary helpers (to help set them up around the facility and break down after the even.)

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.





{ 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.

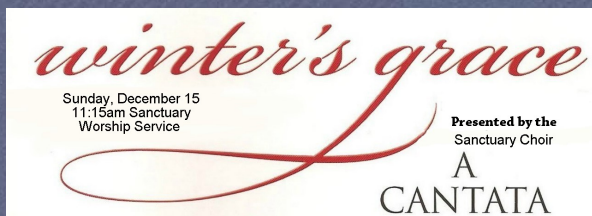
Classes are meeting in the following rooms:

- 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 10:30am. Join us any Wednesday in room 21 - just bring your Bible and be ready to learn. There will be no class on 12/11, 12/25 and 1/1.



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



Tuesday, December 24th we will offer 2 unique worship services. Our 5pm Contemporary Worship will have our live band singing joyful Christmas music and a special Christmas Eve message. Our 8pm 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.

## 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](mailto: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 Hoye 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.





## 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 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 evening for our children and youth during the school year.

Students in 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades (Children's) and 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cutygrgal@cox.net)

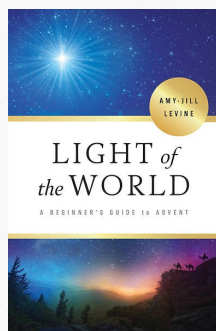
Kerry Blazek (Youth Ministry) 757-310-9891 or email [kerryblazek@gmail.com](mailto:kerryblazek@gmail.com)

**NOTE:** Youth and Children will have a regular meeting tonight, 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 began our Advent Book Study last week. There are no more books available, but you are welcome to join him each Sunday in Advent in Room 10 at 6pm. We are 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.

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



## 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.)



## Thank You and Second Chance Sale

Bazaar/Cookie Walk – Many thanks!

A big "Thank You!" to everyone at Warwick Memorial who had a part in making the annual Cookie Walk and Bazaar a big success! You baked thousands of cookies, helped make wonderful crafts, cooked peanuts, moved tables, made delicious food for breakfast and lunch and shopped enthusiastically!

The proceeds from Bazaar sales will benefit United Women in Faith and United Methodist Men's missions, and the Honduras Medical Mission Team. This year, Cookie profits will provide Trustees with extra funds to go toward needed security upgrades, boiler repairs, new hallway carpeting, and Fellowship Hall kitchen improvements and replenish the Aesthetics K Account for special projects around the church facility.

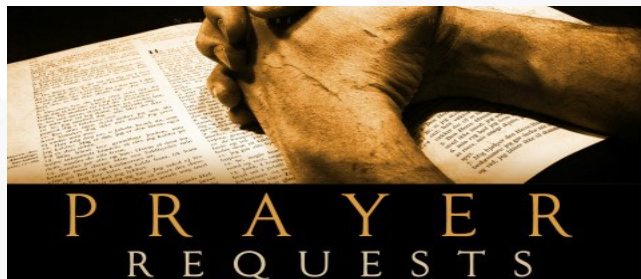
P.S. Still need a gift or two? After the Contemporary worship service today, the "**2nd-Chance Sale**" will be open in the Celebration Center until 11:00 (many handcrafted items are still available for purchase!)

## 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.







## 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 @ 9:30am 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

## 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 Hoye'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) \* James Hardy (Michelle's brother) \* Donna Moore (Michelle's mother) \* Stella Ramsey \* and all those who are grieving or sick - God knows!

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

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



## Attendance Numbers (12/1)

9:00am: in-person: 86  
Online Live: 12  
Online Weekly Views: 147  
11:15am: 74  
Online Weekly Views: 136  
Sunday School: 63  
Dinner Church 12/4: 50

## 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  
Office Hours 9am—2pm Mon-Fri  
or by Appointment

**Church Office (Zena):**

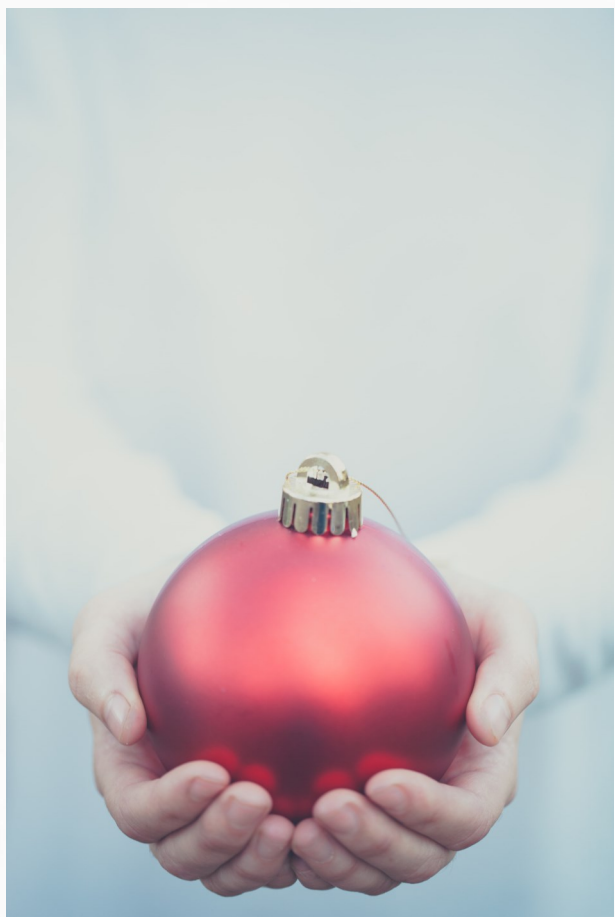
[warwick.memorial@wmumc.org](mailto:warwick.memorial@wmumc.org)

**Facility Manager (Rodney):**

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







## Upward Basketball and Cheerleading Ministry

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.

## 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 days will be Tuesday, December 23rd and Thursday, December 26th from 6pm to 8pm.**

### 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**

## 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: 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.

