

1st Sunday in Lent

Warwick Weekly

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

Sunday, February 18 2024

This Week At A Glance

February 18 - Today

9am Worship - Lampstand (CC)
10:15am Sunday School
11:15am Worship Sanctuary
11:30pm Denbigh Christian (CC)
5pm Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner (FH)
6pm NO Children and Youth Fellowship
6pm Lent Bible Study (Rm 21)
8pm AA Mtg (Rm 20)

Monday, February 19

Presidents Day—Church Offices Closed
9am Meals on Monday
6pm Upward Practice (CC)
6:30pm Boy Scouts (FH)
7:30pm Choir Practice

Tuesday, February 20*

10am Crafts (FH)
9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time
11am Staff Meeting (Library)
6pm Cub Scouts (27 & 28)
6pm Upward Practice (CC)

Wednesday, February 21*

10:30am Bible Study (Rm 20)
6pm Family Dinner Church (CC)

Thursday, February 22*

6pm Cub Scouts (27 & 28)
6pm Upward Practice (CC)
6:30pm Yoga (Rm 21)
7pm Finance Team Mtg (FH)

Friday, February 23*

12 noon - Room Set Up (CC)
6pm Private Function (CC)

Saturday, February 24

9am Upward Game Day (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 Sermon is based on Luke 4:1-13.

Sermon Title: Good Enough: Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy

The temptation of Jesus Christ in the wilderness by Satan is the perfect event to study at the beginning of Lent. With Ash Wednesday, we began the sojourn of sorrow toward the cross of Good Friday, our road of repentance, reflecting on the reality of our sin. In the temptation, we see Jesus suffering as we do and yet remaining sinless, fulfilling His Father's expectations in our place.

Luke asserts in the first verse of this week's scripture reading that Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit, pointing back to His Baptism in Luke 3:21-22. Both the Father and the Holy Spirit endorse the Son in this inauguration of our Savior's ministry on earth, the Father with the words "You are My beloved Son," and the Holy Spirit by descending to Jesus as a dove. Jesus moves on from this event immediately and dives headfirst into ministry in His temptation.

We are comforted to realize that Jesus endured and conquered temptation specifically for us. He fulfilled God's expectation of a perfect, sinless human. Through faith in Christ, we share in Christ's victory over temptation. Where the people of Israel grumbled against the Lord in hunger, Jesus bore under it for us. Where Adam and Eve obeyed Satan to have what God never intended, Jesus remained pure to offer us what we do not deserve. Where we are quick to test God's promises, Jesus passed the test to bring God's promises to fruition.

Adapted from <https://blog.cph.org/study/digging-deeper-into-scripture-luke-41-13>

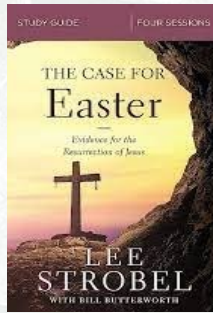
Bazaar and Cookie Walk 2024 Prep Begins This Week

Join the ladies in the Fellowship Hall every 3rd Tuesday of the month beginning with February, this Tuesday, the 20th. Join them between 10am and 2pm to work on craft projects for the bazaar. Bring something to share for lunch and come and have some fun. Reach out to Marsha Six or Sharon Blake with any questions.



Men's Fraternity Bible Study

The Men's Fraternity will begin a four week study this Tuesday, February 20th, called ***The Empty Tomb Changes Everything*** based on the book *The Case for Easter* by Lee Strobel. This study invites you to look beyond Easter traditions, examine the evidence for yourselves and consider why Easter is important to your faith. Bring your Bible. All men are invited to participate. We will meet in room 10 from 7pm to 8:30pm. Questions? Email or call Gerry Mingee at ggmingee@verizon.net or 757-880-9485



Lenten Bible Study - Morning & Evening Options

This year's Lenten study will be based on the book ***Witness at the Cross***, by Amy-Jill Levine. Levine shows how the people at the cross each have distinct roles to play. Each Evangelist presents a distinct picture of the death of Jesus. Each portrays different individuals and groups of people at the cross, each offers different images and dialogues, and so from each, we learn how those meanings and messages cross the centuries to any who would come to the cross today. We are planning the study on Sunday evenings at 6pm from February 18th through March 25th and will be moderated by Pastor Angie and/or Pastor Esther. Please RSVP to Zena at Warwick.memorial@wmumc.org, books are available. The Wednesday morning Bible Study will also be studying the same book so if you miss one evening, you can join on Wednesday.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesday mornings at 10:30am. We started studying ***Witness at the Cross***, by Amy-Jill Levine on Wednesday, February 14th but you are still welcome to join this study group, please reach out to Pastor Angie for a book. You are welcome to join us any Wednesday morning at 10:30am in Room 20. For additional information, please contact Pastor Angie.

{ JOIN US FOR }

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Classes

All classes now begin by 10:15am. Children are invited to gather in the toddler nursery room following worship.

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 - FH
- Family Faith Class - FH
- Trinity Class - Room 10
- Wesleyan Class - Room 21
- Wired Word/Blessed Mess - Room 20
- Children - Meet in the toddler nursery room
- Youth - Room 22
- Carpenters Class - Room 30

"Meals on Monday" and "Family Dinner Church"

* Free Lunch available on Mondays between 12 noon and 1pm. Pick up from Fellowship Hall side of building.

* Free Family Dinner every Wednesday night at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall (beginning 2/21).

Everyone Is Welcome - 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 worship, a little praise and an awesome dinner.

Both of these ministries need our support. If you are able to give a donation to help keep them up and running, you can mark your offering "MoM" or "Dinner Church." 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.

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.

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

Volunteers Needed: We need help with set-up and break down, please reach out to Tim Claus to learn more about how you can help!



What Is A Bridge Church?

Bridge Churches are United Methodist faith communities which are confident they will remain United Methodist. **Bridge Churches** will provide pastoral support, nurture, and opportunities for connection during this time of grief and transition, always in response to each individual's needs, timing, and sense of God's call. These congregations bring no expectation of church membership; rather they offer support based on the needs of each person and community. Such support may include:

- * Individual pastoral care by laity and clergy from the **Bridge Church**;
- * physical space for groups to gather as they consider what faithful next step God is calling them to take;
- * providing information on ministry opportunities in which to engage – or not (there will be no pressure) - these opportunities may include: worship, the invitation to grow in discipleship, small group gatherings, Bible studies, and prayer opportunities as well as participate in mission opportunities to serve through hands-on ministries;
- * assistance in finding and connecting with other individuals and groups displaced by disaffiliating churches, both for grief support and for discipleship and discernment about faithful next steps;
- * help connecting with Conference and District resources to help them discern their next steps as they consider a new church home.



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

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

Check the calendar below for monthly events and reach out to leaders for more information.

Sharon Ellis (Children's Ministry) 757-478-5020 or email cutyrgal@cox.net

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

February 18th TONIGHT—Family Ministries Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner 5–7:30pm

February 25th Family Lesson Night

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.

Kerry has planned a monthly activity for all church members to participate in with our youth, so please stay tuned each month for details.



Upward Basketball Through March 3rd

We are winding down, just 2 more weekends to go—can you believe it??

Thank you to everyone who has stepped up to help with this amazing ministry. Volunteers are still needed for 2/24 and 3/2 for various different jobs including greeting and socializing with our guests, score keepers, half-time devotion readers, helping with concessions and more.

Please reach out to Kerry B or Sharon

E if you would like to learn more about volunteering or just stop by on Saturday to see how you can help out.

Upward recognition Sunday will be on March 3rd. The service that Sunday will be led by our youth group and Kerry Blazek will bring the message during the 9am worship service.

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Endowment Fund Information Notebook

Information regarding the Endowment Fund has been placed in a green notebook in the church Library on the shelf above the computer monitor along with the Finance Team notebook. The Endowment Fund notebook contains the following items:

- * End of Year Endowment Fund Status Report for 2023
- * Latest report from the Virginian UM Foundation where the funds are invested
- * Current Operational Guidelines for the General Endowment Fund
- * Endowment Grant Program Guidelines
- * Original Resolution Establishing the Endowment Committee
- * Church Council Minutes Authorizing the Establishment of an Endowment Committee
- * Operational Guidelines For the Bennett Family Endowment

WMUMC Endowment Grant Program

Active members of Warwick Memorial are eligible for an Endowment Grant for church related training, outreach activities, or ministry activities. All requests must support the mission and vision of WMIMC. The scholarships mentioned below generally are not meant to completely pay for training or a mission trip, but rather to fill in the gap between the funds the person can personally come up with and what the total training/trip will cost them.

Church Related Training - The purpose of this element is to provide scholarship assistance for attending church related training, or to study for the ministry.

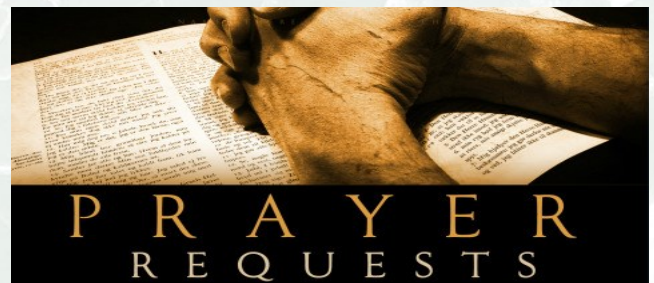
Outreach Element – The purpose of this element is to provide funding to organize, develop, strengthen, or participate in **future** outreach activities. An outreach activity is one that results in someone getting helped **directly** in some way, such as physically or spiritually, within a reasonable amount of time. Although existing outreach activities will be eligible for these funds, priority will be given to “innovative” activities that introduce new or changed methods or areas of church outreach, program or study. Therefore, requests should be for outreach activities that are not normally funded through the annual operating budget of the church. Scholarship assistance to participate in outreach activities is also available under the conditions described in the opening paragraph.

Ministry Element - The purpose of this element is to provide funding to strengthen or expand existing ministries or to initiate new ministries. Ministries include, but are not limited to, preaching, teaching, music, health, activities for children, youth or adults, education, worship, etc. Requests for new ministry funding should be for ministry activities that are not normally funded through the annual operating budget of the church.

For more details about this program and the application process, please call or text Henry Bennett at 757-877-2258 or send e-mail to jhbenn3940@gmail.com.

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. 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

Senior Fellowship Breakfast Group

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

Monday, March 4,
at 9am at Vancostas
on Warwick Blvd.
Stop by the bulletin
board across from the
Fellowship Hall to see
a group picture of our
fellowship group.



Sick? Going to Hospital?

If you are hospitalized, planning surgery, or have become ill, please contact the church office at 877-2270 or by emailing warwick.memorial@wmumc.org. If you have an urgent situation, please call **the church office at 877-2270 (9am to 5pm or go to 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 pastoresther@wmumc.org or pastorangie@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) * Jim Cole * Clara Reid * Katie Tanner-Barker * Jim Russell * Jeff Cox * Marion Bonacci * Sara Manner * Wilma Miller (Sheri Vann's mother) * Chuck and Cynthia Nothstine * Jim Taylor * Barbara Freund * Raye Gwyn (Mary Jackson's mom) * Frank Felice (Dan Felice's Dad) * Joy Robinson (her mother and brother are both having medical issues) * Ginny Chappell * Lawrence & Cheryl Pruitt * Erin Finley-Orick * Bea Hoal * Donna Curran * Gene Osborne * Jeanne Shaffer * Jane Shaffer * Cindy and Doug (Beth Stabnow's friends) * Megan (Christine Dimock's granddaughter) * Ken Marcuson * Judy Hackett * Frank Crispens * Janette Crowder, and all those who are grieving or sick.

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

Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church

Rev. Esther Naana Agbosu
Senior Pastor

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Rev. Angie Hoen
Associate Pastor

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Church Office (Zena):
warwick.memorial@wmumc.org
Facility Manager (Rodney):
Facility.Manager@wmumc.org

Attendance Numbers (2/11)

9:00am: in-person: 69
Online: 102

11:15am: 47
Sunday School: 66

Dinner Church 2/14: 52
Ash Wednesday: 72

