

4th Sunday in Lent

Warwick Weekly

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

Sunday, March 10, 2024

This Week At A Glance

March 10 - Today

PORT
9am Worship - Lampstand (CC)
10:15am Sunday School
11:15am Worship Sanctuary
11:30pm Denbigh Christian (CC)
6pm Children and Youth Assist PORT
6pm Lent Bible Study (Library)
8pm AA Mtg (Rm 20)

Monday, March 11*

PORT
9am Meals on Monday
2pm Mary Freeman Circle (FH)
6:30pm Boy Scouts (FH)
7:30pm Choir Practice

Tuesday, March 12*

Final night of PORT
9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time
11am Staff Meeting (Library)
6pm Cub Scouts
7pm Evangelism Mtg (FH)

Wednesday, March 13*

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

Thursday, March 14*

6pm Cub Scouts (27 & 28)
6:30pm Yoga (FH)
7pm Admin Core Team (FH)

Friday, March 15*

Saturday, March 16

* 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 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sermon Title - Good Enough: We Often Believe We Are the Problem

Jesus' parables were never just interesting stories, rather He told them to make a point to His hearers, then and now. Think about the young man in this week's parable, do you see yourself in him? Have you taken what God has generously given you and just run off? Have you left God's house to find your own brand of freedom? Are you despairing? Are you lost? Then repent (remember that from last week?) See your condition for what it is, sin. Realize that you can't live on your own and that you need Him. He has riches beyond what you see, and He wants to give them to you because you are His child. Yes, you may have run away, you may have said that you can make it on your own, but He still waits for you to come home.

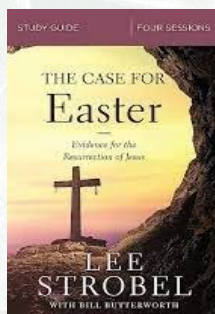
Look at the father in our parable, which if you didn't know already, is God. Jesus says, **"While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him."** His father was waiting for his wayward son and when he sees him, he doesn't wait for him to get home, he runs to hold his boy once again. The son thought he had to earn his father's care by working as an employee, but not with this father. This father restores the young man's sonship. The father, extravagant once before, now gives away his wealth again. He commands that the best robe be put on his son, a ring on his finger, shoes on his feet. He throws a huge party and invites friends and family. And while all this is good, what the father shows most of all is his extravagance in forgiveness. Yes, his son hurt him but that pales in comparison to the love he has and the relief he feels his son is home safe and sound. There's no talk of the past, just forgiveness.

Isn't this wonderful? It is, and not just because the father loves his son, but because this is how God looks for you. Our Father waits for you to come by yourself and when He sees you coming, He rushes to hold you in His forgiving arms. What you've done in the past, matters. You sinned, you rebelled, you offended your Father, but He doesn't hold your sins against you because Jesus took care of it all. His death satisfied the Father's anger and now you are forgiven. You are welcomed home as one of His children. And even though God blessed you before, the blessings that come now are worth so much more. You receive the wealth of forgiveness; you receive your eternal inheritance. It's yours! Christ earned it and now He gives it to you. And when you come home, all of Heaven will rejoice! Whenever a sinner repents, whenever the lost find their way home, whenever the dead live again, remember that there's a celebration in Heaven that is second to none.

Adapted from an article on <https://lakeviewemmanuel.com>

Men's Fraternity Bible Study

The Men's Fraternity have started a four week Lenten study called *The Empty Tomb Changes Everything* which is 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. It's not too late to participate, all men are invited and welcome. **We meet in room 10 from 7pm to 8:30pm on Tuesday evenings through March 26th.** 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 is 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 meeting on Sunday evenings at 6pm 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 them on Wednesday morning.

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.



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



Special Offering

Lenten Offering 2024

This year, our Lenten offering will go to benefit 3 of our in-house ministry programs. - Meals on Monday "MoM", Dinner Church "DC" and our Family Ministries program. MoM is currently preparing and serving approximately 120 lunch meals every Monday to families in our community. DC, which is our Community Family Dinner, serves a hot, home cooked meal for dinner every Wednesday, along with an encouraging message and musical entertainment as we fellowship with the friends of our community. Many of our guests have become regular church visitors to Sunday worship as well as Wednesday night worship. Our Family Ministries has now encompassed our children's fellowship, youth and family ministries into one - Family Ministries. Every month in 2024, the children and youth will host an intergenerational event for all of our church members to participate in. This began last year with the Turkey Escape Room & Pie as well as the Christmas Gingerbread House & Donuts event. Recently they hosted a Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner event. All funds raised for Family Ministry will help them to host an amazing Easter Egg Hunt, Vacation Bible School week in June, youth mission trips, and much more.

All Lenten special offerings will be divided equally between the 3 ministry programs or you are welcome to choose just one to support (please mark your offering envelope with the chosen ministry if you wish to do that.)

We thank you in advance for your generosity to all of the mission and ministry programs.



MEN'S FRATERNITY SPRING BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 6th
Guest Speaker: Dave Amaker
8am to 9:30am

Men's Fraternity Breakfast

You are invited to our Men's Fraternity Spring Breakfast on **Saturday, April 6th 8am to 9:30am** in the Celebration Center. Breakfast provided at no charge and all men are invited. You are welcome to bring a friend. This is free, however a love offering will be collected to support Meals on Monday. Guest speaker will be Dave Amaker. This is a celebration of the risen Christ meeting with the fishing disciples, providing a miracle catch and telling them "Come and have breakfast." If you would like to know more about Men's Fraternity, please contact Gerry Mingee at ggmingee@verizon.net.

PORT (People Offering Resources Together) Shelter

Annually we host the PORT homeless shelter program once a year for one week.

We began hosting this past Wednesday through the morning of March 13th.

This local homeless shelter program is organized by LINK and splits the weeks from November through the end of March between local churches who host the program for one week at a time. Other churches who are not able to host the program step in to help provide meals and volunteers during 5 of the 7 nights. This year we are hosting 2 of the nights (this means we prepare and serve the dinner and breakfast. We host tonight, Sunday, the 10th and Tuesday, the 12th.) Our youth and boy scout troop will be helping tonight, if you would like to stop by and check it out to see how you can help next year, you are invited to do so. We are also hosting on Tuesday night and you are welcome to come by and help out where needed.

For more information, please call the church office at 757-877-2270 and leave your name and number so our facility manager, Rodney Wise, can contact you (his extension is 123 or his direct line is 757-243-2182)

On average, we house between 60 and 80 homeless men, women and children. We open the doors at 6:30pm and serve breakfast at 6am before they leave the property each morning (Thursday to Wednesday) for the day.

We will welcome donations of new or gently used clothes as well as new packs of men's and ladies underwear in all sizes. Feel free to drop off any donations to the church office no later than 4pm on Tuesday so they can be moved to the next church hosting the program next week.

It is truly a blessing for our church to be able to participate in this program, but we do need lots of volunteer assistance. We pray that you can help.



Join us for EASTER



Join us for the Easter season this year and invite friends to celebrate the Hope that comes with Easter.

We will celebrate Holy Week beginning with a special Maundy Thursday service followed by Good Friday. Saturday will be a fun Easter Egg hunt for the children before the blessings of Easter morning on Sunday, March 31st with our sun rise service hosted by our youth.

Palm Sunday, March 24th: Worship at 9am and 11:15am.

Thursday, March 28th: Maundy Thursday Worship in the Sanctuary at 7:30pm.

Friday, March 29th: Good Friday Worship in the Sanctuary at 7:30pm.

Saturday, March 30th: Easter Egg Hunt for children of all ages. Promotional fliers will be available soon. 10am to 2pm.

Sunday, March 31st: Easter Sunday - Sun Rise service on the lawn by the cross at 6:30am, followed by breakfast in the Celebration Center, hosted by our youth.

9am Modern Contemporary Lampstand Worship in the Celebration Center - high energy, modern Christian music led by our Lampstand Band and worship leader. This service is streamed to Facebook and YouTube.

11:15am Traditional worship in the Sanctuary with age-old hymns and anthems led by our choir and music directory.

Many things are being planned by our Worship, Connect and Evangelism teams to make all of these events meaningful, fun and blessed. Please plan to join us and invite friends and family to one or all of these events.

Gifts and Offerings

Please remember that we no longer have a "building fund" to donate to. Any offerings marked "building fund" or on the line "other" on the offering envelope will automatically be applied to our Operating Budget. Thank you for your attention to this issue.



Blood Drive

Warwick Memorial UMC

Fellowship Hall
38 Hoopes Rd.

April 27, 2024

9am to 2pm



BLESSED ARE YOU

*who need a gentle reminder that
even now, even today,
God is here,
and somehow,
that is good enough.*



Yoga Classes

Yoga classes are held on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm. All are welcome, no pre-registration required. The cost is \$12 per class. Classes are beginner friendly and work with any level. This class is a good place to start for those new to yoga. The instructor is Bethany Caddell and you can contact her by email at Bethanycaddell@christianyogastudio.org or through www.christianyogastudio.org.



Save the Date

Join us on **Saturday, March 16th at 1pm** on the church lawn by the cross. Bring your animals to be blessed, all sizes and species are welcome. Just remember to bring them in carriers or on leashes or leads. The service will be outdoors and if it rains, it will be postponed to a later date.

Church Library

Are you looking for a particular book, or would just like to see what our library has to offer? Feel free to scan this QR code which will now lead you to the church library on-line. Look up a book to see if we have it and then get directions to locate it in the library. You are welcome to check out books and return at your convenience. If you would like to donate books for the library to use or to give away to our Dinner Church guests, feel free to leave any donations on the table in the library.



Come and Be Social With Us ...



@WARWICKMEMORIALUMC

Instagram



Share your QR code so others can follow you

TikTok



Facebook



Give Now

"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.

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!



WARWICK MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRESENTS:

ATTIC TREASURES

And *Spring* Artisan Fair

APRIL 27TH 2024
9AM TO 3PM

- * Bring Your Treasures - Old, New, Handmade & Repurposed
- * Shop for Treasures, Gifts & Special Treats

Shop a wonderful assortment of gently used housewares, décor, furnishings, clothing, accessories and more! Our Sale will also include a selection of local artisans selling hand-made, high quality art, craft and repurposed items along with some popular business vendors.

38 HOOPES ROAD | NEWPORT NEWS | VA
WWW.WMUMC.ORG | WARWICK.MEMORIAL@WMUMC.ORG
CONTACT US AT 757-877-2270 FOR A SELLER APPLICATION.



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

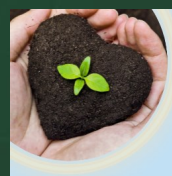
* March 10 - No Meeting—Helping with PORT

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.



Come join the fun!!! WMUMC book club is for all 50+ folks (however, we do not really age discriminate, so if you are not yet 50 but love to read, you are still welcome to join us!) Join us for the next book club gathering on **Thursday, March 21st at noon** at Tuscany Ristorante Italiano. The book we are reading is "Between Sisters" by Kristin Hannah. Meghann Dontess is haunted by heartbreak. Twenty-seven years ago she was forced to make a terrible choice, one that cost her everything, including the love of her sister, Claire. Now, Meghann is a hotshot divorce attorney who doesn't believe in intimacy-until she meets the one man who can change her mind. Claire Cavanaugh has fallen in love for the first time in her life. As her wedding day approaches, she prepares to face her harsh, judgmental older sister. It is the first time they have been together in more than two decades. Over the course of a hot Pacific Northwest summer, these two women who believe they have nothing in common will try to become what they never were: a family. The book for May will be "The Boys from Biloxi" by John Grisham. Please RSVP to Linda Brooks or mark here that you will be attending.



ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Planting the Seeds For
A Faithful Legacy



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 Virginia 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.

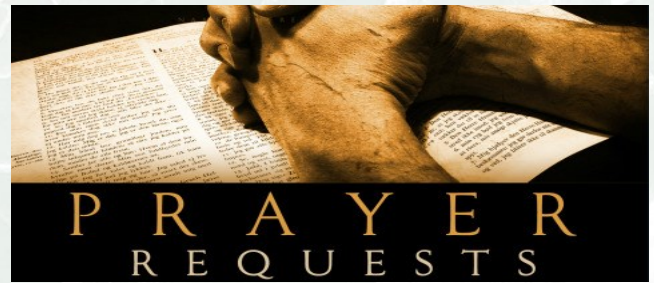
Ministry Element - The purpose of this element is to provide funding to strengthen or expand existing ministries or to initiate new ministries. Ministries include, but are not limited to, preaching, teaching, music, health, activities for children, youth or adults, education, worship, etc. Requests for 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, April 1, 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) * 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 * Bea Hoal * 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 * Kendra Hoffer * Lori McCormick, 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

PastorEsther@wmumc.org
804-580-1504 (c)

Rev. Angie Hoen
Associate Pastor

PastorAngie@wmumc.org
757-234-8962 (office)

38 Hoopes Road | Newport News, VA 23602
WMUMC.org | 757.577.2270

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

Attendance Numbers (3/3)

9:00am: in-person: 112
Online: 406
11:15am: 47
Sunday School: 64
Dinner Church 3/6: 50



The Prodigal Son by Harold Copping