

Contact

January-February



January-February 2015 Edition

Warwick United Church of Christ 10 Matoaka Lane Newport News, VA 23606 www.warwickucc.com 757-599-5164



Moderator's Corner

We are rising to the challenges and facing them head-on

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Whew! The last two months have flown by me. Just a quick update this edition.

An organizational meeting with Leadership Training was conducted in January. New chairpersons for boards and committees were chosen and the work has begun – most of it behind the scenes. Your leaders are committed to bringing fresh ideas and programs to Warwick UCC and have started with the Wee Program.

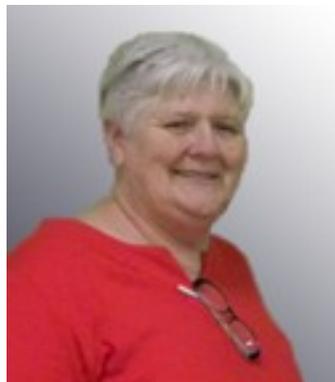
The search committee is running full ahead. The Deacons are reorganizing, Christian Education has revamped its children's programming, and Stewardship & Finance is creating policies and reeling in the finances.

We are not dying, folks! We are rising to the challenges and facing them head-on. As always, we need your help and appreciate your support in attending programs and events, volunteering to help with the upkeep of the church & grounds and attending meetings.

Let us know how we are doing!

Barbara Harvey

Welcome, Sallye Hardy!



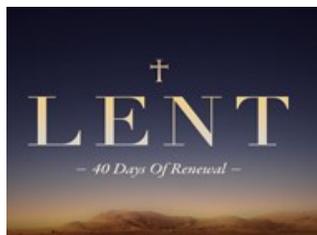
If you have not been to church since January, then you are missing great services provided by Rev. Sallye Hardy, our Transitional Minister. Sallye has preached at WUCC many times and has sponsored many retreats involving our Women's Fellowship.

Sallye has been attending board/committee meetings and sharing a wealth of information and ideas. She has been active in visiting our shut-ins and providing pastoral care to our congregants.

We are overjoyed to have Sallye as our Transitional minister. If you haven't been to church lately, come on back for a visit. I think you'll love the changes.

The Season of Lent

By Sallye Hardy



The forty days preceding Easter Sunday, which this year is April 5th, is a season of the church year called Lent. Lent actually has been an established part of our faith’s history for over seventeen hundred years. It was established to help the ‘faithful’ prepare themselves for Easter – Resurrection Sunday. The intent is to provide us with a designated forty days, to reflect on our lives – live far more simply, give more time to prayer, penance and fasting. Over the years, many people turned the fasting into a time of ‘giving up’ those things which they felt might feel were harmful to them.

What if we worked on forty minutes of prayer for forty days, forty minutes of silence for forty day, or even forty minutes of study for forty days? It could be as simple as sitting in your most comfortable chair and saying “Lord, in your mercy speak to me.” Forty is a big number in our Scriptures.

Noah was on the ark waiting for the rains to subside for forty days. The Israelites wandered for forty days being prepared to enter their promised land. Moses spent forty days on Mt. Sinai being prepared to receive the Ten Commandments. Elijah spent forty days at Mt. Horeb, discerning what God wanted him to do to prepare leadership for a new generation. Jesus spent forty days and nights in the wilderness preparing to begin his public ministry.

Interestingly, the word “Lent” actually means spring or march. When you’re sitting in the midst of a cold winter, it is hard to see all the preparation the earth is doing so spring can march within us. Here at Warwick, may family and friends find ways to be prepared within for the resurrections that are coming within us and our community.

Grace always,
Sallye

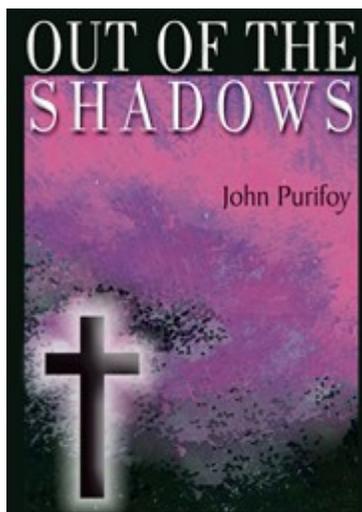
2015 Lenten Series

By Sallye Hardy

Service	Date	Sermon	Old Testament Reading	Gospel Reading
1st Sunday in Lent	February 22	Running on Empty	Psalm 25:1-10	Mark 1:9-15
2nd Sunday in Lent	March 1	Losing My Mind	Psalm 22:22-30	Mark 8:31-38
3rd Sunday in Lent	March 8	Acceptable Anger	Psalm 19	John 2:13-22
4th Sunday in Lent	March 15	How Evil Works	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22	John 3:14-21
5th Sunday in Lent	March 22	Get Me Out of Here!	Psalm 51:1-12	John 12:20-31
6th Sunday in Lent	March 29	Curing an Ear Infection	Psalm 40:5-10	Luke 1:26-38
Sunday of the Palms				
Maundy Thursday				
Easter Sunday	April 5	Choir Cantata		

WUCC Chancel Choir to present *Out of the Shadows*

By Rudy Wilson



On April 5th, during the 11 AM service, The Warwick United Church of Christ Chancel Choir will present an Easter Cantata entitled “Out of the Shadows”. This cantata was created by John Purifoy, concept developed by Geoffrey Lorenz and orchestrated by Rudy Wilson.

Geoffrey Lorenz explains the cantata best with this statement: “The agony and angst of the stirring events of Holy Week textually and musically evolve into the jubilant celebration of the risen Christ in this moving portrayal of the most significant event in all Christendom. The remarkable beauty and sensitivity of John Purifoy’s music deftly captures the extreme pathos contained in the story’s darkest shadows as well as the exhilarating excitement created by the risen Christ. Out of the shadows of darkness, Jesus triumphed. Out of the shadows of death Jesus rose. Out of the shadows of the crucifixion, we are all reborn.”

I invite you all to come and experience this inspirational cantata on April 5, 2015, during the 11 AM service.

Rudy Wilson, Director of Music

Wee Worship Welcomes Children ages 3 – 7

By Kayla Lennon



The “Wee Worship” program is the newly re-invented children’s program at Warwick UCC. This program currently consists of ages 3 – 7 who gather together during the regular worship hour for a time of age-appropriate spiritual formation, character building and learning about tolerance and service. Each Sunday we incorporate praise and worship, a time of listening to stories about God, how we can apply those stories to our lives now in practical ways, and culminating in a time of sharing about our individual lives, snacks, possibly doing some “artsy” fun stuff!

However, Wee Worship does not end on Sunday morning! At Warwick, we want our children to grow up with a healthy and balanced view of the Christian life, so we have three outreach programs planned for the upcoming six months. On Palm Sunday we will be hosting pony rides and a petting zoo for our children and for the community in commemoration of Jesus’ Triumphant Entry.

In early June the beginning of summer will be marked by an all out “community block party” with a cookout and magic show as we celebrate the kids together. Then in August, we will provide an opportunity for the children and their families to become involved with a community service project. By the way, we will also host at least one outdoor family movie night where all are invited to come, bring a picnic and watch a family-oriented movie on the church grounds.

It is a very exciting time and we invite all our young ones, and our young ones at heart, to come out and enjoy!

Kayla Lennon, Children’s Coordinator

Assisting with the Spiritual Need of WUCC

By Linda Manning

Your Board of Deacons is here to serve you, especially with regard to your spiritual needs. Please reach out to us! Your assigned deacon will be contacting you through a phone call, email or snail mail in the coming weeks. The deacons also have specific duties regarding the spiritual life of the church and worship.

Chair of the Board of Deacons: Linda Manning (757-897-7982; wuccdeacons@gmail.com)

Pastoral contact when worship issues arise, provide pulpit fill as needed, oversee and coordinate deacon board responsibilities

Lay Coordinator: Sue Gosser (757-595-0435; skgosser@gmail.com)

Trains and schedules lay readers and offertory participants. We are trying to schedule one person each month to lend consistency to worship. If you are interested in being a lay reader, please contact Sue.

Flower Coordinator: Jan Orr (757-898-4088; jorr22@cox.net)

If you have a special occasion that you would like remembered through flowers on the altar, please contact Jan.

Church Environment Coordinator: Bill Howell (757-240-1305; Bsh-887@verizon.net)

Ensures the church worship area is set up, clean and ready for planned service with correct liturgical colors.

Outreach Worship Coordinators: Sue Gosser (757-595-0435; skgosser@gmail.com) &

Sheryl Wayman (757-570-3836; otegirl@yahoo.com)

Welcomes visitors, updates and distributes Shepherd's list (adding new names and contact information monthly).

Upcoming Events

March 15 th	Congregational Meeting after church – pot luck
March 17 th	Adult Supper Club – 6 pm – The Vineyards at Kiln Creek Shops
March 29 th	Easter program for children
April 2 nd	Maundy Thursday – more info to come
April 5 th	Easter Cantata; more info about sunrise service to come
April 7 th	Communion at nursing homes
April 21 st	Adult Supper Club – 6 pm
May 5 th	Communion at nursing homes
May 10 th	Council working/planning meeting
May 17 th	BASEBALL Sunday – more info to come

Here are YOUR leaders!

By Barbara Harvey

Here are YOUR leaders! Talk to them, ask them questions, get to know your church inner workings.

Chairpersons:

- ◆ Deacons – Linda Manning
- ◆ Stewardship & Finance – Terry Samm-Garris
- ◆ Christian Education/Superintendent – Sue Howell
- ◆ Trustees – Tim Holmes
- ◆ Music – Shirley Vierheller
- ◆ Nominating – Bill Howell
- ◆ Audio Visual – Linda Manning

Your 2015 Church Staff

Transitional Pastor

Rev. Sallye Hardy; email: hardys@alumni.duke.edu; phone: 804-350-1187 (or text)

Music Director

Rudy Wilson; email: rudywilsonliz@gmail.com

Moderator

Barbara Harvey; email: moderator@warwickucc.com

Deacon Chairperson

Linda Manning; email: wuccdeacons@gmail.com; phone: 757-897-7982 (or text)

Communication Manager

Judy Ivey; email: judyivey1@gmail.com

Children's Coordinator

Kayla Lennon; email: klennon@btsr.edu

Nursery Attendant

Emily Blankenship; email: emibug55@yahoo.com

Video Technician

Johnathan Waller; email: Johnathan.waller.90@gmail.com

Pastoral Search Update

The search committee is hard at work. Ten profiles have been received thus far. Two candidates are in the process of sending us video recordings of Sunday services. An additional 5 candidates were reviewed on February 1st.

WUCC is still looking for Wishmakers!

By Barbara Harvey

WUCC is still looking for Wishmakers! We found one, but need more. Here is a list of our wishes:

A wish which came through:

- ◆ **New curtains for the kitchen – Wishmaker is Patsy Gary!!!**



Wishes needing to be filled:

- ◆ **New blinds for:**
 - Sunday school room
 - Meals on Wheels room
 - Choir room
 - Church office
 - Kitchen
 - Pastor's office
 - Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Paint & labor for the church office, children's Sunday school room and Meals on Wheels room
- ◆ New door locks for the front sanctuary doors
- ◆ New glass for the Sunday School building outside door
- ◆ New computer (tower only) for the church office
- ◆ 4 drawer locking file cabinet for the office
- ◆ New sink in the ladies room
- ◆ New church phones. The office phone does not hold its charge and wording/numbers have been rubbed off due to use
- ◆ Contributions to finish the outside painting of the church (1 estimate is \$800-\$900)

Individuals who fulfill a wish will be recognized for their contribution with a plaque displaying their name, year and contribution.

Please consider fulfilling a wish or combining your resources with another individual/family to make our wishes come true.

Souper Bowl Sunday Was a Success!

Thanks to all of you who brought cans of soup and/or made cash donations on Souper Bowl Sunday. We collected 20+ cans of soup and just over \$230 in donations. Our goal for the year is to raise \$1,000 for Thrive (formerly DUCO) an organization which provides much needed services to the poor, including financial assistance. Stay tuned for our next event for Thrive.