

Contact



February 2016 Edition

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

Where ever you are on your journey, you are welcome here.



Pastor's Message

February 2015

As I have worked through many situations, issues and beliefs in my life, the following texts from I John has been a guiding star for me:

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God; Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love, does not know God, because God is love.” And the writer continues with this: “Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. “... and now here comes my favorite part: “ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not perfect in Christ.” .. and the final icing on the cake for the love month: “..for anyone who does not love his brother who he has seen, cannot love God who he has not seen. Whoever loves God must also love his brother.”

In a world that often equates showing love with giving gifts, and receiving love with folks doing what makes us happy – this loving stuff is increasingly important for a family of faith. Might we consider:

Loving as an openness to each other's ideas, out of respect for God's working within them. We might show that by supporting their passions and always asking questions NOT questioning them. *I am challenged to listen to evangelical teachers such as Joyce Meyer or even TD Jakes, but both have brought new insights into Scripture and practical faithfulness to my life. On a similar note, I resist metaphysical conversations, but the book “Taking on the Mind of Christ” by Cayce was a life changer for me.*

Loving, as a willingness to engage with folks different from ourselves. We might increase our intergenerational activities, but also our willingness to volunteer in places that are not necessarily in our comfort zone or listen to folks we just know we disagree with. *I remember when I realized that fundamentalists and feminists agree on pornography.*

Loving, as a recognition that we are all God's children, including loving ourselves enough to want to diminish those characteristics that are hurtful to ourselves and others. *I have had to confront areas of my life that are wasteful of my resources, but also my energy or health. Acknowledging my addiction to TV and noise, opened a whole new world to me.*

Finally, loving as a release of FEAR. Let it go, let it go, let it go! If you sense fear, examine it closely. Fear is the opposite of love. Fear is never a good sign. Fear of your own God-created self is absolutely forbidden by love.

So, be your own valentine. Be God's heart to someone else. Give love a new chance.

Your Partner in this loving -

Sallye ♥

In this Issue...

Pastor's Message	... Page 1
Moderator's Corner	... Page 2
Organizational Chart	... Pages 3 & 4
Financial Update	...Page 5
Calendar	... Page 6
Snow Photos	... Page 8
WishMakers	... Page 10

Rev. Sallye has a new email address!

**pastor@
warwickucc
.com**



Moderator's Corner

At our January 3, 2016 Congregational Meeting, we discussed and voted to change the way WUCC governs itself. Our Constitution calls for several Officers, Boards & Committees to be organized and staffed with persons who serve a particular term. Over the past years we had found it difficult to fully staff some boards such as Deacons. Additionally, this model of governing was not working well in that it did not allow everyone to participate on some level without having to serve a 2-3 year term.

In searching for a better model, and after many discussions, the model you see on the following page was developed. I want to assure you that every job/task that had been done through our old board/committee system is incorporated into this model and you can see this on the following page with the WUCC Organizational Chart listing. What this new model is allowing us to do is develop "POPS" (Points of Passion). Individuals can choose where they would like to serve or they can develop a "POP" for an area that they are passionate about and in which we may not be serving.

With only 2-3 exceptions, everyone in the congregation has "signed up" for a Community of service and a particular "POP". No one is obligated to be in a position or a particular term of service. The business of the church is spread out over many "POPS" and no one person(s) is obligated to complete a task on their own or even recruit persons to help – everyone is already on-board.

From conversations I have had with folks, everyone seems excited about this, especially the old Nominating Committee. This new model was voted in by the congregation after suspending several Articles of the Constitution that dealt with our governing process. This is a trial model with no particular end date set. IF it doesn't work, the congregation can rescind it and return to the old model or look for a new model.

What I am asking is for you to look at the next pages which show the Community's and POPS. If you are interested in a POP that already exists, please call the Contact Person listed. If there is no name, just call me. If there is an area that you are passionate about and don't think it is listed or already incorporated, contact any of the Community Facilitators located at the top of the organizational chart, or again, call Sallye or me and we will help you develop your POP.

This new model goes into effect on February 1st. Please give Sallye, me, or any of the Contact persons listed your comments, concerns and/or impressions. Feedback is always welcome and needed to correct our course, if needed.

Barbara J. Harvey, Moderator



"People are often unreasonable and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.

If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

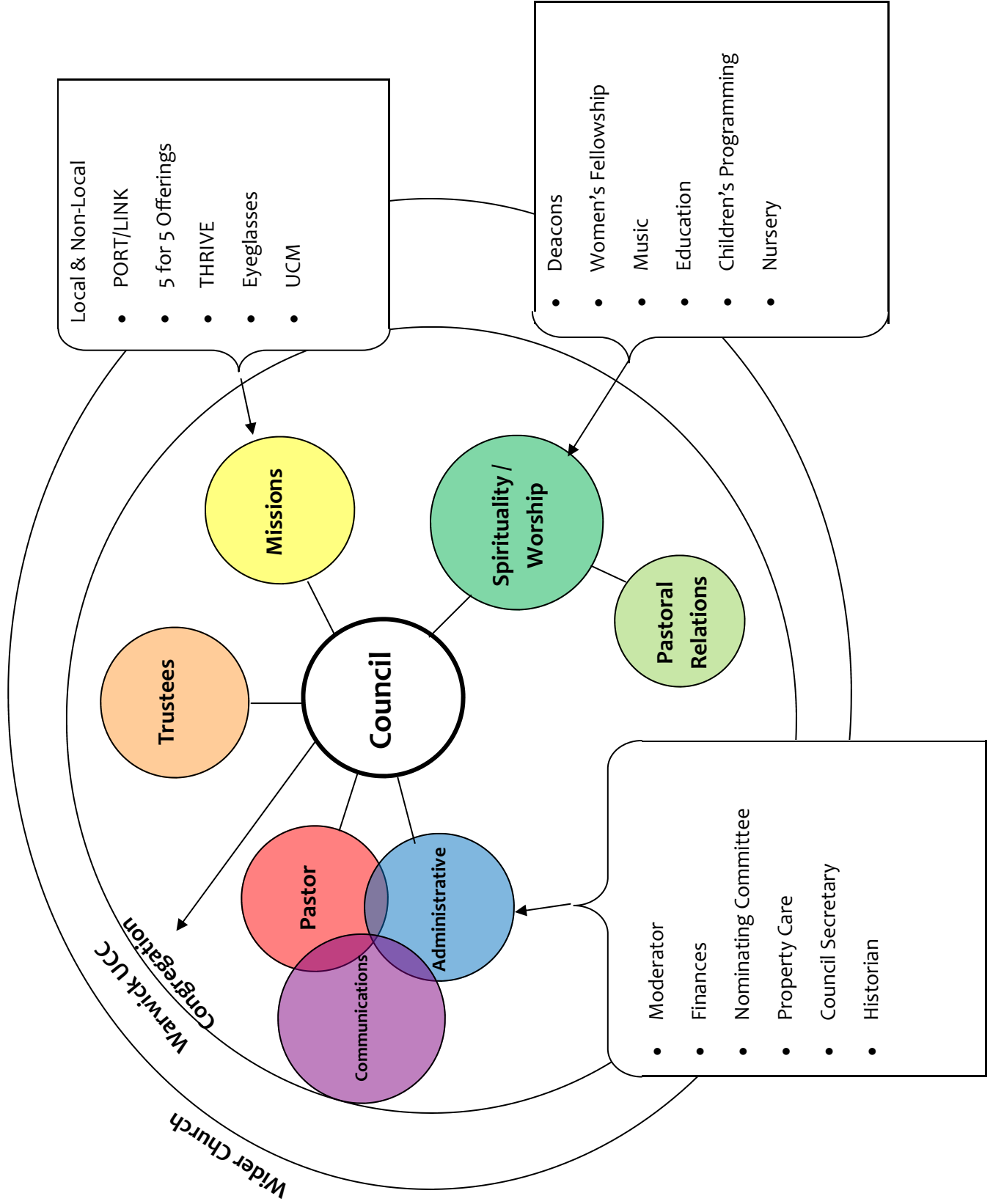
Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.

For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway."

— Mother Teresa



Warwick UCC Organizational Chart



WUCC Organizational Chart with Contact Information

Worship Community

Facilitators: Mark Snell-Cook & ??

Points of Passion (Pops –5)

Adult Spiritual Formation

- *Contact: TBD
- *Adult Sunday school
- *Contact: Brenda Tagge
- *Women’s Studies
- *Advent decorating
- *Reading Group(s)
- *Retreats
- *Adult Studies

Children’s Programming

- *Contact: Courtney Walden
- *Nursery
- *Children’s Music
- *Children’s church

Lay Readers

- *Contact: Sheryl Wayman
- *Scripture Readers
- *Offertory & Offering Thought
- *Altar Management

Ushers/Greeters

- *Contact: Tim Walden
- *Visitor Services

Calling Tree

- *Contact: TBD
- *Emergency communication

Communion Servers

- *Contact: TBD

Missions Community

Facilitator: TBD

Points of Passion (Pops)

Local Missions

- *Contact: Sue Howell
- *Military Community Outreach
- *Riverside Hospital Partnership
- *Deer Park School
- *UCM-CNU
- *LGBT outreach
- *Crop Walk
- *PORT/LINK
- *THRIVE
- *Old Fashioned Pounding
- *Riverside PACE
- *James River Valley Camp
- *Contact: Brenda Tagge
- *Communion at Nursing homes

Nonlocal Missions

- *Contact: Brett Cook-Snell
- *Back Bay Mission
- *Congregational Trips

Recovery Groups

- *Contact:
- *Communication w/groups

Administrative Community

Facilitators: Barbara Harvey; Terry Costello

Points of Passion (Pops)

Outside Property Management

- *Contact: Rodney Thompson
- *Grounds
- *Prayer Garden
- *Outside of Building

Inside Property Management

- *Contact: Terry Costello
- *Kitchen Maintenance
- *Storage Closet
- *Inside of Building

Financial

- *Contact: Terry Costello
- *Counters/Tellers
- * Recording Financial Secretary

Business

- *Contact: Barbara Harvey
- *Mail Distribution
- *Historian
- *Communications
- *Video services
- *Church office management
- *Council Secretary; Nominating

♥ Financial Update

Regretfully, the financial statistics were not available in time for this edition of the Contact. Updates will be sent out within the next few days.

♥ Offering Envelopes

Please use them. If you are a church member or have requested a numbered envelope, please use them. The reason is simple, the weekly counting task for the counters is less complicated and the financial recording secretary's financial data recording is more efficient. Additional information will probably clarify that statement.

At the top of the weekly counters form one finds several lines that identifies the who, what, and how much. These lines cover such things as 12-step groups, flowers, and perhaps your special gifts i.e. plumbing repairs, mulch, organ repair, etc. Below these individual lines are three more lines which contain the **totals** received from Sunday School, Church Loose, and Estimate of Giving and do not include individual information. The form has three copies, one for the treasurer who uses this information to follow budgetary details, one is filed in the church office records cabinet and also includes the "bank deposit form", and one is for the financial recording secretary who also gets the envelopes that contained the weekly contributions. The special gifts information and the envelope content amounts are then recorded on the individual's financial statement. Should you forget your specific numbered tithe envelope, please use a green envelope found in the pew, enter the amount contained therein, and write your number in the upper right corner.

The "numbered envelope" makes the activity more efficient. The weekly counter knows the amount is entered under Estimate of Giving and not Church Loose (which also helps the treasurer) and the financial recording secretary doesn't need to repeatedly look up an individual's number should the individual not have used the numbered envelope. Basically, a numbered envelope recipient receives an annual financial statement needed for their federal and state tax return preparation and the others do not.

One additional item, a check covering more than one item (two or more lines on the weekly form) makes the weekly counters job more difficult.

Thank you for attempting to make both the counters and the financial recording secretary's duty less complex.

Better yet. Meet with Terry Costello, the treasurer, and create an electronic-fund transfer. No more checks, no more envelopes. There are forms in the mail room to do this.

Bucky Holmes

♥ Electronic Tithing

Tired of writing checks each week or month? Tired of forgetting your offering envelope at home? Why not try Electronic Tithing! With a very simple application you can elect to have your pledged funds automatically withdrawn from your account, or credit card, and delivered to WUCC! You can also donate through our website using PayPal!

Contact **Terry Costello** for a form and more information!

♥ Upcoming Events

February 4th	Book Club, 2 pm
February 7th	Communion, Sermon Title: "Differently-abled "
February 9th	Communion to Nursing Homes
February 10th	Ash Wednesday
February 14th	Sermon Title: "A God who answers us."
February 15th	Women's Fellowship, 10 am
February 16th	Adult Supper Club, 6 pm
February 18th	Book Club, 2 pm
February 20th	Spaghetti Dinner & Auction
February 21st	Sermon Title: "A God who wants us."
February 22nd	Deadline for March Contact submissions
February 28th	Sermon Title: "A God who catches us."



♥ Spaghetti Dinner & Auction



Saturday, February 20th!

Annual pasta dinner and auction/fundraiser.

Time to be announced

Menu: Penne pasta and sauce, salad, bread and dessert.

Auctioneer: Steve Harvey



\$10/ Adult - \$5/ kids 10 and under

To contribute items or to volunteer, contact Bucky & Shirley Holmes

Child care will be available.

♥ UCC 101



Wondering about the UCC? Join us for three Sunday sessions and one half-day retreat on Our UCC and what it can mean to be a part of it...

Sundays 8:30 to 9:45 Or 12:30 to 1:45 and we will decide on joined retreat...

Open to anyone, but especially those interested in joining Warwick UCC.

For more information, contact Rev. Hardy.

♥ A Message from Robin Mansfield

Greetings WUCC family!

I am excited to finally be here! It has been wonderful meeting the children and getting to know them the past three or four weeks. What a great start to have between eight to twelve children each Sunday in January.

I have been in conversation with many of you, and with Sallye, about the present and future faith formation of our children, youth and families at WUCC. Though many things discussed will take some time to implement, you will begin to see a few changes very soon. Be on the lookout for the children participating in worship, family gatherings, and inter-generational events. Please know that even if I have not had the opportunity to talk with you directly, I want to know your thoughts and ideas. Feel free to contact me any time. You have my email and phone number.

Most importantly, I want to emphasize this is OUR Children's Ministry. It is not a one person ministry. Nor can all of the work fall on the parents. As a congregation, when children are baptized and brought into our community, we make a commitment to them and their parents to help nurture them in their faith. The nurturing comes, not from money and curriculums, but time spent with the children. Our children's ministry can only be as strong as the volunteers we have to help.

I want to challenge everyone to ask themselves "what role do I play in the lives of our children and this ministry?" After prayerful consideration, I encourage you to look at the signup sheet on the door to the children's room, or contact me, and see the various things you can participate in. It can be as simple as being a person in the room during Children's Church one Sunday, helping with a craft idea or art interest you have. Maybe you would like to help with the Easter Egg Hunt, help a child learn how to acolyte, or help with snacks. These are just a few examples of ways you can be a part of helping our children grow. What a blessing you will be to them, and they will be to you, for we are "One Body" but "Many Members" working together to share the love of God to all.

I am looking forward to what lies ahead for us at WUCC!

In Ministry Together,
Robin Mansfield



♥ A Thank You Note

I appreciate Barbara letting me know of those who have donated to the church in Brads memory; however I know of two others who have given and she has not mentioned. I think there must be miscommunication somewhere.

If you have given and not received a thank you from the family we want to express our thanks and appreciation to you.

Priscilla Jones

Let It SNOW



Nursery Photos by
Lynsie McIlhinney



Meals on Wheels
Photo by Sue Howell



Church Grounds Photos
by Rodney Thompson

Coming together...

♥ Adult Sunday School Class

Everyone is welcome to participate in the discussion of scripture during this season of Epiphany/Lent (Ash Wednesday is on February 10th) as we focus on personal spiritual growth. We meet in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings from 9:45 am to 10:30 am. Listed below is our focus for February.

February 7: Fully Alive

To celebrate the many ways God's glory is revealed in our lives. (Luke 9:28-36, [37-43])

February 14: Sharing Bread on Our Journey

To affirm and practice giving that is grounded in gratitude. (Deuteronomy 26:1-11)

February 21: Trusting God

To affirm trust in God's promises in times of hope and in times of fear. (Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18)

February 28: Praise God Completely

To explore spiritual disciplines that feed our relationship with God. (Psalm 63:1-8)

Come join us even if is only once a month! It is informal but exciting as we share our thoughts in a safe and loving atmosphere.



♥ Adult Supper Club



The Adult Supper Club meets at *Saisaki Asian Bistro and Sushi Bar* on February 16th at 6 p.m. All are welcome to join. Please add your name to the sign-up list posted on the hall bulletin board.

Address: 101 Regal Way, Newport News, VA 23602

Phone: (757) 886-1988

♥ Book Club

The book club will be discussing Fanny Flagg's *Standing in the Rainbow* on Thursday, Feb. 4th, at 2. The book for Feb. 18th will be Billie Letts' *The Honk and Holler Opening Soon*. Any one wishing additional information should contact Brenda Tagge.



♥ Women's Study Group - Circle



All women in the church and their female friends are invited to come to the Fellowship Hall on the third Monday of each month to talk and listen to each other and to explore the rich imagery of water throughout the Bible which helps us understand and articulate our faith. Just as water nourishes our bodies, so the scriptures on water nourish our souls.

Our theme: Come to the Waters

Our lesson for February 15th is titled: Dangerous Waters: God's Deliverance

Scripture focus: Joshua 3 and Psalm 69: 1-3

So circle the date: February 15th and join us from 10 am to 11 am in the Fellowship Hall. See you there, Sue Howell

♥ WUCC is still looking for Wishmakers!

By Barbara Harvey

Wishes needing to be filled (donations and/or labor): *Please designate your donation to a specific wish.*

New blinds (cost approximately \$30 per window)

Sunday school room (4 windows = \$120)

Meals on Wheels room (4 windows = \$120)

Choir room (4 windows = \$120)

Church office (2 windows = \$60)

Kitchen (2 windows = \$60)

Pastor's office (2 windows = \$60)

Fellowship Hall (10 windows = \$300)

Ladies Room (2 windows = \$60)

Men's Room (2 windows = \$60)

If we get the donations for blinds, I'll get them installed



Volunteer to help Barbara clean up the storage closet and the "mailroom" (office outside of Pastor's office) – contact Barbara to set a date

Flooring for bathroom in middle classroom – the bathroom door cannot be closed (\$100)

Paint & labor (or donations) for the church office, children's Sunday school room and Meals on Wheels room (Approximately \$135 for paint for each room, labor NOT included)

Labor – touch-ups in paint needed for the hallway

New door locks for the front sanctuary doors (estimate needed)

New sink in the ladies room (\$210)

New church phones (Set of 3 = \$70). The office phone does not hold its charge and wording/numbers have been rubbed off due to use.

Window Air Conditioners:

Choir Room (\$500)

Church Office (\$380)

Meals on Wheels Room (\$500)

Sunday School Room (\$500)

Nursery (\$500)

Multi-purpose Room (2 x \$300 = \$600)

Window Fund: We've recently replaced 2 "broken-in" windows but we have several more that are seriously cracked or have multiple "beebe shot" holes. We are creating a fund to begin replacing these.

All prices are approximates, and/or ranges. Actual costs may be less.

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

