

Contact

March 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

Palm Sunday, March 20th

You are cordially invited to join the membership of Warwick United Church of Christ. There is no annual fee, only an expectation that you will offer your gifts for the mission and maintenance of the congregation's witness and work

Membership is based on your intention to follow the teachings of Jesus.

Benefits include:

- Safe place to explore who you are and who God is within you.
- Access to good news you can use, every single week at no charge.
- Access to good study opportunities, at no charge.
- Access to amazing music weekly, at no charge.
- Pastoral care available upon request. There are no copays.
- Trained professionals available to help guide your spiritual journey.
- Access to serve others in ways that matter.
- Unconditional love and acceptance.
- 24/7 Spiritual care hotline.
- Lots of food.

For more information or to arrange your own membership please call or text:
Rev. Sallye Hardy 804-350-1187 or Email: hardyrev@yahoo.com

Sallye

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Roof Reading Reverend

To honor a lost Super Bowl bet, our interim pastor, Rev. Sallye will be reading the entire New Testament from the roof of Warwick, beginning at 5 a.m. on the Saturday before Easter.

It will take about 12 hours.

The reading will be aloud and recorded.
The reading will happen rain or shine!

Want to be involved? Read from the roof yourself?
Provide a 15 minute break for Rev. Sallye!
Provide snacks: Peanuts, bottle water, breakfast or lunch?

Signage: Hold out signs on J Clyde Morris Corner indicating what's being read at any given time...

Want your family Bible to be a part of the reading?
Provide it and at a designated time, Rev. Sallye will read from it – maybe your first, your child's, your parent's or grandparent's?

Warwick's life is centered in Scripture. This takes it to a new level :0)



Moderator's Corner

Greetings everyone.

This month I want to introduce you to our new Council. Names of members and their leadership positions in the church are listed below.

As a review, our denomination (United Church of Christ) does not have a governing hierarchy. UCC churches govern themselves, hire ministers & staff and determine their own style of worship. However, there are support systems in place to support all churches as needed. I will discuss this in another issue.

So, WUCC has adopted a new governing model (there are 2 charts on the bulletin board in the hallway illustrating the model). With this model, the congregation will still meet twice annually and will be the church body which approves the church budget and church officers (Moderator, Treasurer, Financial Recording Secretary, Historian, Council Secretary & Trustees). The congregation will also have to approve any changes in our Constitution. Except for special circumstances where the congregation should be advised, the Council will make all governing decisions other than basic administrative items.

With our old model, it was clear who was part of the Council based on our Constitution. With the new model, we have nothing definitive and therefore I have been asked many questions.

So, based on the new model, the positions below will comprise the Council and those individuals in those leadership positions will serve as the Council as long as they volunteer to be in the selected leadership role.

Enjoy the rest of the Contact.

Barbara J. Harvey, Moderator

Council News

We have put together a new Council based on the new governing model. Council members will come and go as leadership positions change.

- Barbara Harvey (Moderator)
- Terry Costello (Treasurer)
- Alayne Jaffe (Financial Recording Secretary)
- Rodney Thompson (Historian)
- Tim Holmes (Trustees Rep)
- Mark Snell-Cook (Worship Community Facilitator)
- Sue Howell (Local Missions POP)
- Brenda Tagge (Adult Spiritual Formation POP and a local Mission POP)
- Joe Emerson (LGBT POP)
- Brett Cook – Snell (Non-local mission POP)
- Tim Walden (Ushers/Greeter POP)
- Courtney Walden (Children's Programming POP)
- Sheryl Wayman (Lay Readers POP)



Financial Update as of February 23, 2016

Data provided by Terry Costello

INCOME	
Total Expected Income - 2 Months	\$12,216.00
Received - Year to Date	\$ 9,090.00 (as of 2/23/16)
	\$ 3,126.00 less than budgeted for 2 months
Pledged Income - 2 Months	\$ 9,332.00
Received - Year to Date	\$ 7,606.00 (as of 2/23/16)
	\$ 1,726.00 less than budgeted
EXPENSES	
Total Expected Expenses - 2 Months	\$13,240.00
Spent - Year to Date	\$ 9,097.00 (as of 2/23/16)
	\$ 4,143.00 less than expected
Amount sent to any outreach/mission work to date:	\$ 319.00*
	*Pass thru – what we get we send out – not part of dedicated funds.
CURRENT FUNDS	
Checkbook Balance	\$ 7,581.25

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

March 3rd	Book Club, 2 pm
March 6th	Holy Communion*, Sermon Title: "A God Who Forgives" With a Special Offering for OGHS (see pg. 5)
March 6th	Hot Dog Lunch & a Movie, 12:30 pm
March 8th	Communion to Nursing Homes
March 13th	Sermon Title: "A God Who Creates All Things New"
March 15th	Adult Supper Club, 6 pm
March 17th	Book Club, 2 pm
March 20th	Palm Sunday, Sermon Title: "A God Who Needs Us" With Guest Musician and Reception of New Members
March 21st	Women's Fellowship, 10 am
March 24th	Holy Thursday, The Last Supper and A Service of Shadows , 7 pm
March 25th	Good Friday
March 26th	Easter Vigil Saturday, "Roof Reading Reverend" (see cover)
March 27th	Easter Sunday, Sunrise Service, 7:30 am, followed by breakfast at Angelo's
March 27th	Easter Cantata and Holy Communion*, 11 am



* Gluten-Free Communion Bread is now being used to respect the health needs of many of our congregants.

Choir News



March 27, 2016 will be a very special day at Warwick United Church of Christ. During the 11 AM service, the Warwick UCC Chancel Choir will present an Easter Cantata entitled: "Resurrection Joy! Jesus Lives! This cantata is a compilation of anthems I selected from the Warwick UCC music library to help tell the Easter Story. The narration has also been compiled from the scriptures of the bible.

The choir would like to invite you to join them at Warwick United Church of Christ on 10 Matoaka Lane in Newport News, Virginia, in order to take you on a musical journey from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. Hopefully, as you listen to the music, you will imagine the images of hope gained, hope lost and hope reborn. Come, hear the narration and songs depicting Christ's triumphant ride into Jerusalem, Jesus being put on trial, the Lamb of God condemned to death, crucified on Golgotha's hill, buried in a dark tomb, only to rise on the third day to become our Resurrection Joy!

Mark your calendar now! I surely would not want you to miss our annual Easter Cantata celebration entitled: "Resurrection Joy! Jesus Lives!"

Rudy Wilson – Director of Music

RESURRECTION JOY! JESUS LIVES!



One Great Hour
OF SHARING

2 Corinthians 8:13-15

www.onegreathourofsharing.org

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Sunday, March 6th there will be a special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing. The following reflection is from the OCWM organization and the national UCC website.

Walk the Extra Mile

In a world where communities are being displaced by the catastrophes of war, famine, and natural disasters, the Church is called to reclaim the spiritual discipline of solidarity. Christians are summoned to adopt and live out a “theology of acompañamiento [accompaniment],” in the words of the theologian Roberto Goizueta. As natural, economic, and political forces disrupt and uproot communities, the Church is called to stand in solidarity with those who seek to move beyond the trauma of displacement toward a promise of healing and peace.

The story of Ruth is ultimately about this solidarity. Naomi and Ruth were very much like today’s refugees: they never chose to move from country to country, rather, it was imposed upon them by forces beyond their control. They lived in a society where the patriarchal economy meant that a woman’s livelihood was entirely dependent on her male relationships (father, husband, even son). Yet when that system failed them, Ruth chose solidarity with Naomi over despair, and accompanies her mother-in-law to pursue a livelihood for both of them.

This option for accompaniment is truly a biblical principle that saturates the pages of scripture. From God who is present with Hagar in the desert and calls her to remain close to her son Ishmael (Genesis 21), to the Parable of the Sheep and Goats where the criterion for judgement is that of compassionate accompaniment (Matthew 25), to St. Paul’s exhortation that Christians should “rejoice with those who rejoice [and] weep with those who weep” (Romans 12:15). This promise to walk together is mutual and reciprocal, where both parties are in need, and both experience the real power that emerges from the spiritual discipline of solidarity.

Ruth’s promise to Naomi defines what solidarity authentically entails, and it stands as a challenge for Christians today to walk with refugees as they build new homes in strange lands.

Through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, we, as the body of Christ, have opportunity and power to help those who are living in despair as refugees. If refugees had the choice to return home, many would not have a place to return because their home most likely has been destroyed—either burned, severely damaged, or is still an unsafe place to live.

This year as you consider your gift to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, for one moment, think of what it would be like to not have a place to call home, and then make your very best gift. Let us make Ruth’s promise our own. Let us live out the call of solidarity with all people, especially those displaced by disaster, war, and famine.

Thank you!

—Interpretation by José Francisco Morales Torres

A Message from Robin Mansfield



The compass is one of the oldest navigational tools still being used. When combined with a map, a person can choose their destination, find the direction they need to take, and follow their navigational tools to reach their chosen location. Seems simple, right?

You may ask, why not just use a GPS? Wouldn't that be easier? Yes, in today's world of "easy is better", you would think a GPS would be the best tool to use, but what would you do if you were in a deep forested area and your GPS couldn't pick up the signal to the satellite? Oh yeah, that might not work. Then what would you do? The old tried and true magnetized compass may come in handy even though it may be a little more work. Since the compass will always point to true north, if you know the direction you need to take, you can still reach your final destination.

One thing to be point out, when using any navigational tool you always need a DESTINATION. If you have no place in mind to go, no point to reach, no goal to achieve, then you will just be walking around aimlessly and possibly reach nothing.

How many times have you heard others, maybe even yourself, complain about not being satisfied where they are in life? Maybe even at church, wanting to see more happen but not sure how to get there.

The truth is if you want it bad enough, then chart out your course. Set your "compass" on a goal, dream, or destination and make a plan how to achieve it. Sure there will be things that may blow you off course every now and then, because some things we cannot change. It will take a lot of hard work. But if it is something you desire, you can change how to reach that prized destination.

I have met with the Children's POP group and talked with many people in the church. There are some desires of things wanted in the church, but how do we get there? We set our goals and work toward them. It will be hard work. We will all have to work together. But if we keep our eyes on the goal we will reach the destination. Let's not just settle for a church life that is "good enough". Let's make it the best life possible! And here we go.....

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| March 6 | Church Family Hot Dog Lunch & a Movie – 12:30p.m.
*Everyone is invited after church for hot dogs and to watch a movie. During the movie, the Children's POP, and any others interested, will be meeting to discuss our goals for the children, youth and family life. |
| March 20 | Flowering a Cross for Easter – Children will be working on this during Children's Church. |
| April 3 | Easter Egg Hunt & Celebration – 12:30p.m.
*Everyone is invited for light finger foods and an Easter Egg Hunt to continue the celebration of Easter! |
| May 15 | Pentecost Celebration – 12:30p.m.
*Everyone is invited for a pot-luck lunch and lots of fun activities to celebrate the birthday of the church. And of course there will be cake and ice cream! |

Children's Church Topics for the Month of March:

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|----------|--|
| March 6 | The Blind Man Healed |
| March 13 | Lazarus |
| March 20 | Jesus Entry in Jerusalem & will be flowering the cross |
| March 27 | Easter-What it means? |

In Ministry Together,
Robin Mansfield



National Youth Event– July 26-30, 2016



National Youth Event (NYE) is a spirited quadrennial event centered on faith, leadership, service and social justice first inaugurated in 1980. It is celebrated as the largest denominational gathering for the United Church of Christ with an expected attendance of 4,000 participants.

Believe hails as our 2016 theme, but it is not a query. It is a charge, responsibility and call to action. The scripture Hebrews 11:1 captures the heart of this charge, "Now faith is the confidence that what we *believe* will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see." We invite our amazing still speaking youth to believe in themselves as leaders of faith sharing in the infinite work of our Lord in a diverse world calling each of us to serve.

NYE 2016 will bring many firsts for this youth inspired gathering, including hosting the event on a non-college campus for the first time in NYE history! In 2016, we proudly partner with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a sister denomination, to jointly host NYE! It will be the first National Youth Event that will invite families and non-youth visitors to attend.

We have worked hard to keep costs reasonably low while also offering amazing value for the gathering experience centered in faith, leadership, social justice and service. For five days and four nights, the cost is \$549 per person (double occupancy) or \$599 per person (single occupancy).

NYE 2016 is substantially discounted for the value of participating in five days and four nights of programming which includes housing, most meals, snacks, park access, Wi-Fi and local ground transportation! The program offers a generous discount by more than 60% which is unmatched for a week at any theme park!

So What's Included in This Amazing Experience?

1. Youth inspired programming dedicated to faith, leadership, social justice and service!
2. 5-days and 4-nights of exclusive housing and recreation at Walt Disney World's Coronado Springs Resort.
3. Park access to Disney's theme parks: Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Hollywood Studios & Animal Kingdom
4. 8 Meals & Daily Snacks (PLEASE NOTE: Friday is a full day in the theme parks. All meals on Friday are on your own and not included.)
5. Free Wi-Fi
6. Local Ground Transportation for service projects and social justice outreach.
7. Free roundtrip airport shuttle between Orlando's International Airport (MCO) & Coronado Springs Resort.

And so much more!

For more information visit the website: <http://www.uccpages.org/nye/> or ask Robin Mansfield.

This would be a great time of fun, fellowship, work-ship, and worship!

The Penne Pasta Auction



What a night! As we plan such an event, we always are apprehensive regarding the number of persons who will show up at the door. Too few is discouraging and too many is scary because of our limited space. How many will attend - we advertised ourselves on the "street sign"? How much penne pasta (meat sauce and/or marinara sauce) and how many tables, etc., etc.? Questions, questions?



The exact number of persons who attended (people were coming in and out of the room to view the auction items) is not known but it is estimated that some thirty-plus (with several children and many new persons) were there. Many people brought some very "nice" things for the auction and a nursery attendant was there so that those with children could have fun.



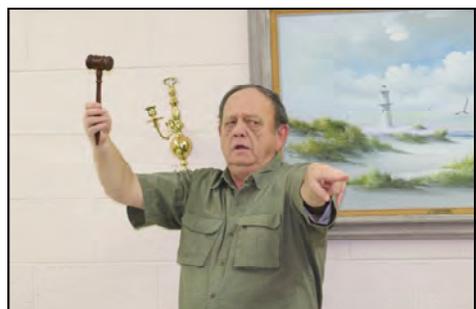
The evening was humorous and uplifting. Thanks to those who purchased and served the food and a special thanks to Steve Harvey, our fun lifting auctioneer, whose efforts were largely responsible for the \$1711 the church received to support its future.



Thanks to all who participated!!
Bucky Holmes



Photos by Rodney Thompson



Coming Together...

Adult Sunday School Class

Everyone is welcome to participate in the discussion of scripture during this season of Lent/Easter as we welcome the events and people that mark turning points in our lives. We meet in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings from 9:45 am to 10:30 am. Listed below is our focus for March.

March 6: Returning to God

To explore forgiveness, grace, and reconciliation in the parable of the prodigal.
(Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32)

March 13: God's Fresh Ways

To explore both the receiving and giving of extravagant love. (John 12:1-8)

March 20: Palm/Passion Sunday

To explore together the stories of Holy Week. (Luke 19:28-40 and Luke 22:14-23:56)

March 27: Easter Day (No Sunday School Class since choir will be getting ready for Cantata)

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 Dinner Club enjoyed a social time Feb. 16th at Saisaki Asian Bistro. Anyone wishing to join the fellowship of good food and great company is welcome to sign up for the March 15th outing at Joe and Mimma's (NN).

Photo by Brenda Tagge

Book Club

The book club will discuss *Jacob's Oath* by Martin Fletcher on Thursday, March 3rd at 2:00. We will discuss *A Week in Winter* by Maeve Binchy on March 17th at 2:00. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to join us! For more information, contact Brenda Tagge.



Coming Together...

March 6th: Hot Dog Lunch & a Movie!

Church Family Hot Dog Lunch & a Movie – 12:30p.m.

Everyone is invited after church for hot dogs and to watch a movie. During the movie, the Children's POP, and any others interested, will be meeting to discuss our goals for the children, youth and family life.

Please Join Us!



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 March 21st is titled: Stormy Waters: Faith

Scripture focus: Matthew 14:22-33

So circle the date: March 21st and join us from 10 am to 11 am in the Fellowship Hall.

See you there, Sue Howell

Volunteer Opportunity

Help Wanted: Meals on Wheels

The Peninsula Agency on Aging is desperately in need of additional volunteers for Meals on Wheels.

The number to call is 246-1905 or call Sue Howell if you have questions about the program.



Linking Seniors & Services since 1974



UCC Back Bay Missions Trip

Mississippi Missions Trip for 2017

All information for this article is either paraphrase or quoted from the Back Bay Missions website at: <https://thebackbaymission.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

Join me in preparing for a 2017 missions trip to the Mississippi Delta. The UCC Back Bay Missions is an outreach in the Biloxi area providing housing restoration, emergency food pantry, and homeless day care assistance. Trips are one week service trips scheduled through the Back Bay Missions organization. Fees for the trip include a \$200 group fee and per person fee of \$175 for materials and housing. Not included in the fees would be transportation costs and grocery costs for community meals.

The 2016 dates are all reserved, are opportunities to serve are limited to the following open dates in 2017:

April 23-29

September 10-16

September 17-23

October 15-21

October 22-28

November 12-18

November 26 – December 2

December 3-9

December 10-16

December 17-23

Opportunities to serve include:

Housing Restoration



Volunteers serve those seeking improved housing conditions by engaging in construction and rehabilitation tasks at a variety of skill levels including electrical and plumbing, carpentry, insulation, drywall, painting,

roofing, flooring, deck building and demolition. You'll learn about housing and poverty from Mission staff and develop construction and leadership skills. You may also have the opportunity to speak to homeowners.

Emergency Assistance

Volunteers serve our emergency assistance clients by staffing the food pantry on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. During this time, you will learn about the program and the people it serves from Mission staff and clients.



The Micah Day Care Center



Volunteers serve Micah Day Center guests by running laundry equipment, cleaning the showers between each use and monitoring the supply room on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. During this time, participants will learn about homelessness

on the Gulf Coast from Mission staff and through conversations with our guests.

Accommodations:

Fees for the trip included dormitory accommodations which include common areas to dine and prepare community style meals.



For More Information:

Contact Brett Cook-Snell at 757-754-6175, bretth-cook@mail.com, or see me at church. Our first and most urgent priority is to schedule a week to serve as dates fill quickly.

WUCC is still looking for Wishmakers!

By Barbara Harvey

We had additional wishes fulfilled this month.

Patsy Gary made a donation towards replacing blinds in the Choir room; her donation may even go a little further and allow us to replace blinds in another room. I'll be sure to update everyone.

Rodney Thompson, Courtney Walden, Alayne Jaffee, Rev. Robin and I cleaned up/out the old Children's Sunday school room. This room will now serve as a church meeting room for activities such as: Adult Sunday School, Council meetings, study groups, Women's Circle, etc. Thanks to those mentioned for spending a late Wednesday afternoon with me to get this done.

Rodney Thompson and Courtney Walden helped me clean up and rearrange the storage closet. Thanks again to you both.

Kim Gradine and Dahlis Atkins have a friend who donated paint for the new church meeting room. And we have free labor from the US Navy who will do the painting in 1 day. Thanks Kim & Dahlis and please thank your friend. The labor is being provided by Angela Harvey's significant other. Stay tuned for a painting date.



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

New blinds (*cost approximately \$30 per window*) **If we get the donations for blinds, I'll get them installed**

Sunday school room (4 windows = \$120)

Meals on Wheels 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)

Volunteer to help Barbara clean up 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 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 have a cracked window in the sanctuary. Yes, one of the big ones. We received 2 quotes and will be using Precision Glass. Once the estimate is solidified, we will have the work done. The cost is \$475 for glass and labor, compared to the \$925 from Binswanger).

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.