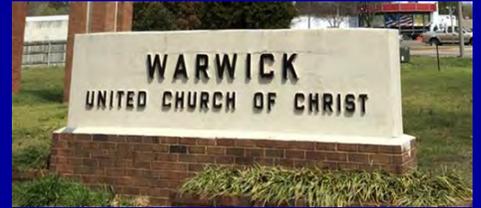


Contact

July 2017 Edition



Warwick United Church of Christ P.O. Box 120491 Newport News, VA 23612 www.warwickucc.com 757-599-5164

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



Pastor's Message

... and then there is THIS ...

I have been blessed by many most excellent teachers. One of the most important lessons I ever learned was from a retiring professor, Dr. Harmon Smith, over thirty years ago. Dr. Smith taught us that if we got our 'theology' right – the rest would follow. If we are grounded in good truths, even at our worst moments, new ways of dealing, new ideas, new possibilities could emerge. If we don't we can spend a lot of our life, creating lives that won't last us through the most difficult moments.

One of the goals of an interim minister is to help a church ground itself – clarify its core beliefs and therefore, how it will live its life together. This is done through sacred conversations – formal and informal. It is done sitting around fires, standing in hallways, sitting in pews – shared experiences.

It is also done through study. Study of the Holy Scriptures, study of our current realities, study of ourselves. Knowledge and wisdom go hand in hand.

Living faithfully, involves our whole selves. Our congregants' lives are very complex. Some of us are living with aging issues – our knees are giving out – but our hearts are not. Many of us have huge, chronic health issues – some are fighting for their very life, way to young. Our work responsibilities, our family responsibilities, our own inner life care can be overwhelming. But if we can maintain our core confidence that God loves us, God is within us, God is our advocate, our salvation, our friend THEN however long we are together we can LOVE each other in ways that matter.



My core theology is simply this: God is love. Love wins. Love creates a desire to be present with each other. Love creates a desire to create more love in our current world. Love allows me to accept myself as I am, while continuing to grow.

Love requires "my head, my heart, my hands" work to create loving relationships.

In this summer month of July, may love win in your life. I will miss being with you, I will daily be loving you.

Love always,

Sallye

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Have a photo or news item you want to share in the next issue of the CONTACT?

Send your info to
wuccupdates@gmail.com

Due by July 26!



Upcoming Events

- July 2 Communion Sunday
- July 7 Strategic Planning POP Meeting at the church - 7 PM
Performing Arts Camp at Camp Selah (through 7/9)
- July 9 Worship - 11 AM
LuLaRoe fundraiser
- July 16 Worship - 11 AM
- July 18 Adult Supper Club - 6 PM (See below)
- July 23 Worship - 11 AM
- July 26 CONTACT deadline (Send items to wuccupdates@gmail.com)
- July 30 Picnic in the Park



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

Adult Supper Club



July 18th, 6 PM

Vintners Cellar Winery & Restaurant of Yorktown

1213 George Washington Hwy – Suite C

(757) 223-4261

Picnic in the Park

July 30th

Service starts at 11 AM, Picnic to follow.

Deer Park, Pavilion #1

Bring a dish to share and a chair!

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, & Beverages Provided!





Choir Notes

Our Presidents and Their Hymns



I was visiting a good friend of mine in Dallas, Texas a few months ago. I noticed a book on his living room table entitled “Presidential Praise” written by C. Edward Spam and Michael E. Williams, Sr. I immediately picked it up and began reading. This book inspired me to reveal to our congregation the favorite hymns of our Presidents of the United States. For the next several months, we will sing the favorite hymn of our Presidents. Since hymns have been so significant in the lives of people throughout the history of Christianity, there is reason to believe that hymns have affected the leaders of our nation. I look forward to revealing the favorite hymns of the Presidents of the United States from George Washington to the present time.

Rudy Wilson – Director of Music



THRIVE News

I volunteer for THRIVE Peninsula, a local charitable group that ministers to the poor. A company buys the shoes collected by THRIVE and sends them to “shoeless” populations (Haiti and others) for entrepreneurial activities to create businesses. Obviously, the money collected helps the local poor. The picture below shows a kindergarten class at a local school that had collected “a lot” of shoes and I went there to pick them up. These children will probably remember this for the rest of their lives. Impressive.

Bucky





Financial Update

SORRY! Updated numbers were not available for this issue of the Contact. We'll make sure they are updated for next month!



Building Update

Here is a quick update of some of the things that have been happening in and around the church building:



- The one AC unit for the sanctuary has been fixed. Luckily for us it was a burnt fuse which tripped the breaker. However, our units are VERY old and will need replacing in the near future. I am looking into an annual maintenance contract so we can catch potential issues before they happen. This cost will be built in to the next budget.
- Our AC unit for the Fellowship Hall needs to be looked at and possibly needs repairs. Currently the condensation is dripping from our overflow pan in the attic versus the hose at ground level. The unit will be looked at this week and hopefully there won't be a huge issue.
- We had recent plumbing issues in the ladies bathroom. Thanks to Bucky for calling and meeting the plumber at the church. We believe the issue has been resolved.
- As you may know, we've had a bug issue for quite some time. We are currently looking into getting an annual contract with a pesticide company for routine sprayings. This cost will be built into the next budget.
- The Council voted to hire a new church janitor. Applications will be taken for the job and outside cleaning contractor bids will be sought. If an individual is hired, a thorough contract will be drawn up and a thorough background check will be done prior to hiring. In the meantime, Terry Costello's son Ben is providing janitorial services.

If you see any issues with the building/grounds please contact me as soon as possible. I am also looking for volunteers who would like to help with the Building/Grounds POP by making calls to vendors, meeting contractors at the church, etc. Please contact me if you can help.

Barbara Harvey





Robins Nest



We have officially kicked off summer at Warwick UCC! Our Summer Kick Off fundraiser on June 25 was a big success! Kids and adults alike had fun eating hot dogs, snow cones, and all kinds of homemade sweets. But the biggest “hit” was throwing pies at Pastor Sallye. Thank you for supporting our children’s program. Almost \$400 was raised!! None of this would have been possible if not for your participation and the hard work of many of our parents. A big thank you to Courtney & Tim Walden, Lysie & John McIlhinney, Amanda & Michael Bartley, Amanda Masters, and Pastor Sallye.

This month our Children’s Church is taking on a new flair! The children will be divided into two groups, ages 4- 6 and ages 7- 10, each group with a different learning theme. With July being National Picnic Month, “Little Robin”, aka Robin Armstrong, will be sharing some popular “picnic” miracles and stories with the younger group. The older children will be with me learning about how and why we worship in anticipation to begin staying in worship service the first Sunday in August.

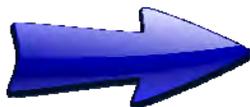
Let’s not forget, with summer comes Vacation Bible School! We will be having a camp out theme this year and learn “S’more About Jesus”. VBS will be in August. Dates will be announced soon as the children’s POP will be finalizing things this week.

Robin

Summer Kick-Off Fundraiser



More Kick-Off Fun on the Next Page!



Photos by Rodney Thompson



Summer Kick-Off Fundraiser (continued)



Happy Summer!



Landscaping



The Butterfly Garden Planting Continues



Photos by Linda Manning



New UCC logo reflects, complements denomination's Purpose, Vision, Mission Statements

June 06, 2017

Written by **Staff Reports**

Beginning with General Synod 2017 in Baltimore this summer, the United Church of Christ will begin the transition to a new logo for the denomination. The logo, last re-designed in 2004, has been updated to reflect both tradition and innovation within the church as it faces the challenges and opportunities of Christian witness in the coming decades.



The new logo's design and colors are intended to complement the graphic representation of "**A Just World for All**," developed to illustrate new Purpose, Vision, and Mission Statements adopted by the national setting of the church last fall.

Those statements were finalized at the **October board meeting**, adopted following a denomination-wide survey in 2016 and are summarized by the words "A Just World for All."

"I have been traveling around witnessing the work of our churches," said the Rev. John C. Dorhauer, UCC General Minister and president, "and what we are doing will not change. What will change is our ability to tell the story more fully, and to narrate the impact of a mission we are all collectively engaged in. We are hoping to deepen the sense that we are all in this together; and that together we make a profound difference in our world."

The new logo's colors were chosen to work with both 'A Just World for All' and the '3 Great Loves campaign — Love of Children, Love of Neighbor, Love of Creation,' which will be rolled out during General Synod in Baltimore (June 30 – July 4). Blue has replaced red, with black retained as the second color, in the new design, to visually and symbolically represent Creation elements of water and earth.

The phase-in of the new logo begins with its first appearance on the July 2017 – December 2018 UCC Desk Calendar, in the mail to churches this month, and will continue with its introduction at General Synod, where attendees will see the new logo on the screen in the Plenary Hall, in Synod materials, and on identity merchandise in the Exhibit Hall.

Following Synod, the next phase of the transition will be the appearance of the new logo on a completely re-designed and re-organized UCC website, and streamlined KYP (Keeping You Posted), the denomination's weekly e-zine. These changes will take place in early October.

The new logo retains an updated version of the traditional element of the UCC comma — a much-loved and widely used emblem of the United Church of Christ introduced as part of the "God is still speaking," identity campaign. That campaign quoted a line from Gracie Allen that her husband George Burns found among her papers after death. In a letter addressed to him were the words, "George, never place a period where God places a comma." A variation on that line, along with the graphic comma, has been used since 2004 as a symbol and shorthand way to refer to "continuing testimony," or the ever-unfolding nature of God's word for new times.

The new primary UCC logo consists of an updated comma emblem and the words "United Church of Christ." "God is still speaking," remains as the UCC's tagline, and the new logo may be used with or without the tagline.

In addition to the comma, the UCC retains its original emblem for use by congregations and other entities of the denomination: the traditional "cross, crown, and orb" graphic, including the words "That they may all be one" (John 17:21), which dates from the founding of the United Church of Christ in 1957—a statement of the UCC's intent to be a "united and uniting" church.

"It's never easy to move on from a familiar and well-known logo—especially in the church, and especially when the old logo meant 'God is still speaking' to many of us," said Tina Villa, UCC communications director. "While those words are as fresh as ever—which is why we are retaining them—our logo itself needed a visual update. And it needed to reflect the new directions the church is headed in, while not abandoning the core beliefs that anchor us: 'God is still speaking,' and 'that they may all be one.'"



Lectionary Readings for July 2017

July 2, 2017

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14
 Psalm 13
 Jeremiah 28:5-9
 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
 Romans 6:12-23
 Matthew 10:40-42

July 16, 2017

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34
 Psalm 119:105-112
 Isaiah 55:10-13
 Psalm 65:(1-8), 9-13
 Romans 8:1-11
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 30, 2017

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29:15-28
 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b -or- Psalm 128
 1 Kings 3:5-12
 Psalm 119:129-136
 Romans 8:26-39
 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

July 9, 2017

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
 Psalm 45:10-17 -or-
 Song of Solomon 2:8-13
 Zechariah 9:9-12
 Psalm 145:8-14
 Romans 7:15-25a
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 23, 2017

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 28:10-19a
 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
 Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 -or-
 Isaiah 44:6-8
 Psalm 86:11-17
 Romans 8:12-25
 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Prayer List (Names given verbally are spelled to the best of our ability)

Mickey Allen
 + Anderson Family
 Kelly Bennett
 Mike Barnes
 Geraldine Bolden
 Xavier Bonano
 Tristen Brown
 Rosemary Brownrigg
 Larry Burns
 Ann Charlescraft
 Tony Colden
 Costello Family
 Kevin Court
 Bonnie Dingers
 + Dvey Family
 Yolanda Earl & Children
 Emerson Family
 Fawn Faulks
 Yvette Ferguson

Michelle Flores & Family
 Pat Grant
 Barry Graham
 Harold Hall
 Sandra Ingari
 Mike Kelpaul
 Cindy Kilgore
 Ann Lange
 Donna Langston
 Heidi & Mike Lord
 Mrs. Martinez
 Nate Masters
 + McMullin & Family
 Donald Messersmith
 Audrey Noble
 Miguel O
 Terry P
 Larry Paccone
 Ted & Michelle Paccone

+ Polanco Family
 Carlos Polanco
 Greg Ryan
 Terrie Sam-Garris
 Jesse Saunders
 Nancy Simpson
 + Will Smith & Family
 Bob Snaz
 + Jeffrey Spielberger
 + Spielberger Family
 Cynthia Thomas
 + Thomas Family
 + Upshur Family
 USS Fitzgerald & Family
 Donal VonGryffin
 Meredith White
 Kathy Young
 Rachel York

+ Pray for the families who have lost love ones in the past year.