

Contact

November 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.



*You, your household and friends
are invited to*

WARWICK United Church of Christ's 2017

Celebration of All Saints & The Harvest Dinner

Sunday, November 19th

Menu Includes:

Roasted Turkey, Gravy and Mashed Potatoes
Sweet Potato Casserole
Green Beans
Hot Rolls
Perhaps Pumpkin Pies

A Time of Thanksgiving for Our Life Together

Sign-up in the hallway



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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
November 27!**

Upcoming Events

- November 5 Communion Sunday *
Old Fashioned Pounding Begins (see page 5)
Adult Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Youth Choir Rehearsal - 10 AM
Sermon: "Where is Your God" - 11 AM
- November 8 Book Club - 1:30 PM
- November 12 Adult Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Youth Choir Rehearsal - 10 AM
Sermon: "The Price of Oil" - 11 AM
Youth Choir Performance - during service
- November 19 Adult Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Sermon: "Thanksgiving" - 11 AM
Celebration of All Saints & The Harvest Dinner (see cover)
- November 21 Adult Supper Club - 6 PM
- November 26 Adult Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Sermon: "Lifetime Warranty" - 11 AM
- November 27 CONTACT Deadline (send items to wuccupdates@gmail.com)
- December 2 PORT over-night at Peninsula Korean Baptist Church (see page 4)
- December 3 Intergenerational Advent Fair - 3 PM



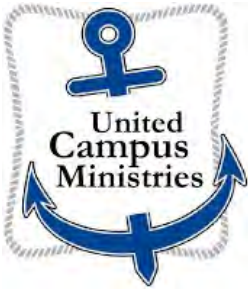
* Gluten-Free Communion Bread is now being used to respect the health needs of many of our congregants.

Adult Supper Club



November 21st, 6 PM
Sal & Mimma's Italian Restaurant
15400 Warwick Blvd.
(757) 243-2802

Choir Notes



The Warwick United Church of Christ Chancel Choir has been invited to participate in the annual United Campus Ministries Festival of Church Music program. This choral celebration of music will take place on November 5th at 3 PM at Christopher Newport University's Pope Chapel. This year's theme is "**Our Hymn of Grateful Praise**" - our expressions of praise and gratitude for all the gifts God has given us, especially those of creation. Warwick U.C.C's Chancel Choir will perform with other Hampton Roads area church choirs to create a mass choir. This mass choir will perform 3 anthems. Warwick's Chancel Choir will also perform one anthem individually. This is definitely going to be a grand celebration with choral music. You won't want to miss it!

The Warwick UCC Youth Choir performs at the regular 11 AM service on November 12, 2017

December 17, 2017: The Warwick United Church of Christ Chancel Choir performs a Christmas cantata entitled "Behold the Star!" Written by Lloyd Larson at the 11 AM Worship Service.

Rudy Wilson - Director of Music

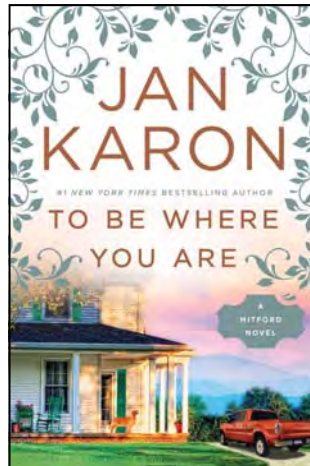


Youth Choir

The Youth Choir will have practice on Sunday mornings, November 5th and 12th at 10 AM and will be **performing** on the 12th during the 11 AM service!



Book Club



**Wednesday
November 8th
1:30 PM**

***Jan Karon's
"To Be Where You
Are"***

All Are Welcome!

In Memoriam



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Rev. Michael O. Christensen, who died on Monday Oct. 23rd, 2017, while on sabbatical in Australia. Pastor Michael was Warwick UCC's Preacher & Teacher from 1999 to 2011. He was most recently the pastor for Hanapepe UCC in Hawaii. We extend our condolences to his wife, Gail, and daughters Jeannine, Rebecca and Ellen and their families.

If you would like to send a note or card to Gail, she can be reached at the following addresses.

Now through November
Gail Christensen
50 Forsyth, Glebe 2037
NSW, Australia

December-January
PO Box 589
Hanapepe, Hawaii 96716

Warwick Finances...

Financial Update as of October 26, 2017

INCOME	
Total Expected Income - All Sources - 10 Months	\$69,579
Received - Year to Date	\$64,472
Expected Offering Income - Pledged & Loose - 10 Months	\$63,079
Received - Year to Date	\$56,648
EXPENSES	
Total Expected Expenses - 10 Months	\$69,579
Spent - Year to Date	\$73,271
MISCELLANEOUS	
Amount sent to any outreach/mission work to date:	\$ 2,988 *
*Pass thru – what we get we send out – not part of dedicated funds. Includes UCC Special Offerings.	
Only \$1099 left to repay the Boiler Grant! Let's Do This!!	

Warwick Missions...

PORT - UPDATED

Warwick has been a faithful partner in PORT, a program where volunteers from interfaith groups work together in providing shelter to our homeless population. This program runs from November to the following March for 20 weeks. Churches volunteer to be a “host” church where they are open as a shelter for seven consecutive days. Partnering churches provide volunteers and meals during the time that they are operating.

Warwick is scheduled to work on **December 2 at 6 PM to December 3 at 6:30 AM** at Peninsula Korean Baptist Church at 972 Harpersville Road in Newport News and on **January 5 at 6 PM to January 6 at 6:30 AM** at St. Jerome's Catholic Church on Denbigh Blvd.

We will be checking in guests, serving dinner, and serving breakfast. We need volunteers for the check in process, serving dinner, staying overnight and serving breakfast. We are able to purchase food at the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank to help defray some food costs. As many of you know, my daughter is a teacher at Woodside, and she has many students that volunteer to work with us in this ministry. (They even show up at 4 am in the morning eager to serve breakfast!)

You may contact me at 570-8343 or email at jrb351@msn.com for any assistance that you may be able to give.

"Whatever you do to the least of my brothers or sisters you do to me" Matthew 25:40.

Terry Costello

Old Fashioned Pounding



Twice Blessed is the Harvest We Share

You are invited to take part in an old-fashioned pounding which will begin on Sunday, November 5th. Many years ago, the community would provide help to families in need by having everyone bring a pound of something for their neighbor. With WUCC's version of this tradition, participating families bring designated items each Sunday over a 6-week period to provide an entire holiday dinner for several families selected by LINK.

Simply bring the designated item with you to church for collection during the offertory. To help you plan your shopping, the weekly items are listed below. You may bring all the items at one time if that is more convenient for you.

Week 1: November 5

2 cans of gravy, 2 cans of broth, large box of stuffing

Week 2: November 12

Box of corn bread mix, can of cranberry sauce

Week 3: November 19

Box of instant potatoes, can of corn, 2 large cans of sweet potatoes

Week 4: November 26

Box of cake mix and icing or brownie mix

Week 5: December 3

2 large cans of green vegetables

Week 6: December 10

Cash donation for turkey (suggested \$10)

Warwick Family...



Robin's Nest

Nov. 19

Children's Contribution to the 3rd Sunday Thanksgiving Luncheon

Our children will be making special "Thanksgiving" place mats and decorations for our Thanksgiving luncheon as their way of sharing their gifts with our congregation. They also are preparing a special prayer of thanks for our meal.



Dec. 3



Intergenerational Advent Fair – 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to come and prepare for the Advent season! Each household will be building their own Advent wreath they can use in their home for the season, as well as making some other Advent crafts and gifts for their family and friends. Dinner will follow. More details to come.

Dec. 10

Children's Advent/Christmas Program – 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Christmas Through a Child's Eyes

The children will be sharing their gifts with us as they tell us about Advent and the Christmas story from their viewpoint.



Dec. 22



Caroling and Chili Supper

The whole congregation is invited to participate as we go caroling in our community neighborhood and bring some Christmas cheer. After warming their hearts, we will meet back at the church and warm our tummies with a chili supper. More details to come.

Warwick Family...

Learning About Joy



School Supply Kits



Photos by Linsey McIlhinney

Fall Festival 2017



Thank You To Everyone
Who Made The Day
A Big Success!



Photos by Linsey McIlhinney

An EVA Experience



On Saturday, October 21st, I went back to the church where Bill and I were married to attend the 48th Annual Meeting of the Eastern Virginia Association as a delegate. Wow, what a change! The building looked freshly painted inside and out, the pews were cushioned, fall decorations were inviting, and the people were cheerfully extending hospitality to all who attended. In the fellowship hall which was an addition to the church, was a painting of Rev. H. S. Hardcastle, the pastor who had presided at my wedding 54 years ago.

Now I didn't expect to see folks that I had known in the day but it was exciting to meet the pastor who is an African American female, Rev. Dr. Luci Fleming, and to learn that other people of color became active members in the church when the downtown church closed.

Other folks that I came to know over the years were also in attendance: Rev. Ernest Hamlin, Rev. Dr. John Myers, Rev. Wayne Gardner, Rev. Curly Stumb, Rev. Sam Askew, Rev. Phil Hardy, David Adams, Susie Keele, Mahalia Jackson, Catherine Crumb, and Rev. Lisa Gaul Griffin. The Southern Conference minister, Rev. Dr. Edward Davis introduced the theme: "For such a time as this." He set the tone for an electrifying speech given by Rev. Dr. Yvonne Delk.

She gave a voice to the book of Ester and pointed out how this queen gave up her position of privilege and challenged the systemic rule of law in order to take responsibility and to stop denying her faith. Using well known quotes: "If you don't stand up for anything, you fall for everything," and personal testimony: "If you don't see my color, you don't see me. If you don't see my color, you don't know my story," Rev. Delk reminded us that we are united by baptism and we can't keep going on with business as usual. We must come to an understanding of our identity as a people of God!

By the time Rev. Delk was finished speaking, the rest of us were standing and applauding with shouts of "Hallelujah!" "Amen!" and then a spontaneous singing of "This is my story, this is my song . . ." Then I attended a workshop on Virginia Organizing which is "dedicated to real people getting involved in the issues that are important to their communities." Issues such as Affordable Health Care, Environmental Justice, School-to-Prison Pipeline, Voter Participation & Restoration of Rights, Immigration Reform & Dismantling Racism, and Affordable Housing. So if you feel empowered to speak up, Tuere East-Brown can teach you how to take action in local, state, and national policymaking. She says that our personal stories are very powerful and she can lead us in making a difference.

Sue Howell

REMINDER:

Daylight Saving Time Ends

SUNDAY

November 5, 2017

2 AM



Vision of a just world underscores clearer UCC purpose, mission

www.ucc.org/news/vision_of_a_just_world_underscores_clearer_ucc_purpose_mission_10242016

October 24, 2016 - Written by Anthony Moujaes



A vision of a just world for all people will guide and shape the future work of the United Church of Christ. It's a vision that the denomination's General Minister and President and unified Board of Directors are prepared to own as part of a refreshed set of Purpose, Vision and Mission statements.

"I can't even begin to express how proud I am of our beloved United Church of Christ for articulating not just a purpose, vision and mission — but this purpose, vision and mission," said the Rev. John Dorhauer, UCC general minister and president.

The UCC purpose statement comes from the Gospel of Matthew: **To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves.**

The vision: **United in Christ's love, a just world for all.**

And the Mission statement: **United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.**

"Every week I travel the globe witnessing what it looks like when the United Church of Christ commits itself to love and justice," Dorhauer said. "I call upon every covenant partner to embrace fully this call to love and justice; and to share with leaders in the church what that expression of love looks like in their ministry setting."

The Rev. Sue Artt, conference minister of the Rocky Mountain Conference UCC and moderator of General Synod 2017, believes the statements resonate with the hearts of progressive Christians and offer a renewed sense of unity to the church. "As spiritual beings created by God to be God's hands in the world, hearing this purpose, visioning mission really articulates our sense of calling as God's servants," Artt said. "It's a deeply satisfying way in which we are called into action."

To craft these statements, the national setting has brought together dialogue partners from the UCC board, national staff, the UCC Historical Council, the Council of Conference Ministers, and youth representatives over the last year, and included survey results from thousands of voices across the life of the denomination. What emerged was a clear focus on the love of God and love of neighbors.

"That love in action envisions a just world for all," Dorhauer said.

Board members overwhelmingly affirmed the statements during their fall business meeting from Oct. 20-22. Said board member Kevin Peterson, "I really appreciate that there is no insider language, and no acronyms. It says a lot to the outside church because it communicates to the wider church. It has God and spirit language that specifically identifies us as Christians."

Pacific Northwest Conference (PNC) Minister the Rev. Mike Denton was enthusiastic about the statements: "I'm considering bringing these to PNC to adopt as their own," he said. "This matches up with much of what we've been discussing, and adopting these would give us the opportunity for a unique sort of alignment. It might be worth more conversation to see if others want to do the same in other settings. I think this could be a way to display healthy covenant and healthy autonomy."



"I liked the way that — in just five words — our vision conveys what we believe so succinctly," said Board member the Rev. Kevin Omi. "I can talk about it in an inclusive manner because the language is inclusive of everyone."

Dorhauer named the Purpose, Vision and Mission statements as one of the most significant pieces of work to date in his call as general minister and president.

"We all bear responsibility for living out our shared mission. We will not achieve our full potential — nor maintain our full capacity for health, vitality, and relevance — without a clear sense of missional purpose and calling. This effort to identify that was a critical step in the direction of our future health and vitality — but it will only matter if we can all find common cause in this and commit fully, with passion, and without reserve to its undertaking."



Lectionary Readings for November 2017

November 5, 2017

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 3:7-17

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37

* Micah 3:5-12

* Psalm 43

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12

November 12, 2017

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Psalm 78:1-7

* Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 - or - Amos 5:18-24

* Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 - or - Psalm 70

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

November 19, 2017

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7

Psalm 123

* Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

* Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

November 26, 2017

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

* Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

* Psalm 95:1-7a

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

* Alternate First Reading and Psalm

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

Mickey Allen	Michelle Flores & Family	Terry P
Anderson Family	Terrie Sam-Garris	Larry Paccone
Mike Barnes	Hal & Marge Giesecking	Ted & Michelle Paccone
Kelly Bennett	Pat Grant	Sasha Patterson
Geraldine Bolden	Barry Graham	Ronda Peffley
Tristian Brown	Rev. Sallye Hardy	Carlos Polanco
Trudy Burdge	Hurricane Harvey Victims	Puerto Rico & USVI
Larry Burns	Dianne Howe	Ryan Family
Ann Charlescraft	Sandra Ingari	+ Lori Sanders
+ Christensen Family	Mike Kelpaul	Jesse Saunders
Tony Colden	Cindy Kilgore	Nancy Simpson
Costello Family	Ann Lange	Will Smith & Family
Kevin Court	Donna Langston	Bob Snaz
Bonnie Dingers	Heidi & Mike Lord	Jeffrey Spielberg
Martha Dunn & Family	John Maclean	+ Spielberg Family
Dvey Family	Mrs. Martinez	Family of Mark Sturgis
Yolanda Earl & Children	Nate Masters	Cynthia Thomas
Emerson Family	USS McCain	+ Thomas Family
Fawn Faulks	+ McMullin & Family	+ Upshur Family
Yvette Ferguson	Audrey Noble	Donal VonGryffin
Aubrey Fitzgerald	Notoella Family	Meredith White
USS Fitzgerald & Family	Miguel O	Rachel York
		Students & Teachers

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