

Contact

December 2018 Edition

Warwick United Church of Christ P.O. Box 120491 Newport News, VA 23612



Advent 2018

Wednesdays, 7 pm - Bible Study: Advent Conspiracy
Thursdays, TBA - Adult Choir Practice
Saturdays, 4 pm - Fireside Worship & Fellowship
Sundays, 9:45 am - Adult Bible Study

Saturday, December 1st

8:00 am Hanging of the Greens begins. Come as early as you can. All are welcome to join in the fun. We will work as long as it takes to turn our sanctuary into a nativity, calling us deep into the Christmas story.
3:00 pm Choir singing at First UCC, Todd's Lane, Hampton.

Sunday, December 2nd

First Sunday of Advent: Hope

Gail & Devin Sears, Lighters

9:30 am Children's POP in Social Hall to complete preparations for Advent Workshop
10:00 am Youth Choir with Mr. Rudy.
11:00 am Worship including Baptism and New Members Joining! Rev. Sallye preaching.
4:00 pm Intergenerational ADVENT WORKSHOP with stable making, ornament making and fun Activities for all ages. Hammers and other tools will be involved! We will create a large Advent wreath for our Children's Wonderland!

Saturday, December 8th

7:00 pm Blue Christmas Service for those whom the holidays are especially difficult.

Sunday, December 9th

Second Sunday of Advent: Peace

Gail Christensen & Family, Lighters

10:00 am Older Kids in Wonderland
11:00 am Worship: Rev. James preaching.
6:00 pm Gabriel's Studio Christmas Concert written and directed by Lynda Giselle

Saturday, December 15th

5 - 7 pm Chili and Caroling and Cider and most likely Hot Chocolate! We will be singing, and jingle bells are provided! A hay wagon for non-walkers will be available. Come enjoy our meandering through the neighborhood...

Sunday, December 16th

Third Sunday of Advent: Joy

Ms. Patsy & Sisters, Lighters

9:00 am Older Kids Christmas Breakfast at IHOP
11:00 am Worship with Adult Choir Cantata
Noonish Christmas Reception for Our Choir! Grateful for a year's hard work!

Monday, December 17th

1:00 pm Senior Saint Christmas Luncheon for all AARP Qualified Members & guests RSVP please. Host: Rev. Sallye.

Sunday, December 23rd

Fourth Sunday in Advent: Love

The Emerson Family, Lighters

11:00 am Worship: Rev. James preaching.

Monday, December 24th

Family Friendly Christmas Eve Service

7:00 pm Lessons & Carols & Communion. Children are welcome to come in their pajamas. There will be some 'friendly beasts' present.

Sunday, December 30th Messy Church where Spirit and Service Opportunities Meet! 11:00 am

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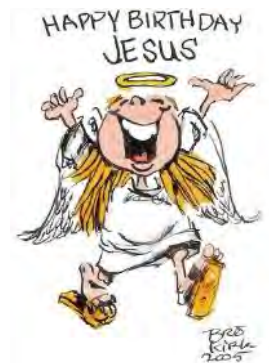
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Have info for the January CONTACT?
Send it to wuccupdates@gmail.com

Due by DECEMBER 26!

Calendar of Events

Sat. Dec. 1	Hanging of the Greens - 8:00 AM Choir performs at First UCC - 3:00 PM Fireside Worship & Fellowship - 4:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 2	Liturgy & the Arts POP Mtg. - 9:00 AM Children's POP Mtg. - 9:30 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal - 10:00 AM WONDERLAND: Younger Kids - 11 AM Worship w/ Rev. Sallye: "Promises, Promises, Promises" - 11 AM
Wed. Dec 5	Book Club - 11:00 AM Advent Bible Study - 6:30 PM
Thu. Dec. 6	Choir Rehearsal - 7:45 PM
Sat. Dec. 8	Fireside Worship & Fellowship - 4:00 PM Blue Christmas - 7:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 9	WONDERLAND: Older Kids - 10 AM, Younger Kids - 11 AM Worship w/ Rev. James: "Preparing for the Child" - 11 AM Council Meeting - 12:00-ish Gabriel's Studio Christmas Concert - 6:00 PM
Tues. Dec. 11	Adult Supper Club - 6:00 PM
Wed. Dec. 12	Advent Bible Study - 6:30 PM
Thu. Dec. 13	Choir Rehearsal - 7:45 PM
Sat. Dec. 15	Chili & Caroling - 5:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 16	Older Kids at iHop - 9:00 AM Worship & Cantata: "Bethlehem's Child" - 11:00 AM Reception - 12:00 PM
Mon. Dec. 17	Women's Group - 11:00 AM Senior Saint Christmas Luncheon - 1:00 PM
Wed. Dec. 19	Advent Bible Study - 6:30 PM
Thu. Dec. 20	Choir Rehearsal - 7:45 PM
Sat. Dec. 22	Fireside Worship & Fellowship - 4:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 23	Worship w/ Rev. James: "Mary's Song" - 11 AM Congregational Meeting - 12:00-ish
Mon. Dec. 24	Family Friendly Christmas Eve Service - 7:00 PM
Tue. Dec. 25	Merry Christmas!
Sun. Dec. 30	Messy Church - 11:00 AM



Follow the calendar on our website: www.warwickucc.com! Send events to wuccupdates@gmail.com

Barbara's Updates

Church Directory Update:

I promised a new, printed church directory by Thanksgiving. Well, I was going to issue it and then thought it would be best to wait until after the Congregational Meeting this month when new church officers are elected, since we list them in the Directory. Look for the printed directory by Jan. 1st. We do have an electronic version which is in an Excel format. If you would like this format, rather than printed, let me know and we'll get it right out to you.

New Hallway Calendar:

A new calendar has been hung in the church hallway. The calendar already has all group meetings and routine events listed. Please consult the calendar before planning/scheduling an event to be sure that there are no other conflicts. ANY activity, meeting, etc. that is to be done at the church should be listed on the calendar.

Barbara H.

Sunday Volunteers for December



Communion Servers: Tim Holmes (lead) and Alayne Jaffee

Counters: Shirley V and Sue Howell

Lay Reader Lead: Terry Costello

Lead Usher – Terry Costello



Adult Supper Club

This month we will be dining at Port Arthur at 6 PM on **December 11th** (instead of on the 18th as previously scheduled).

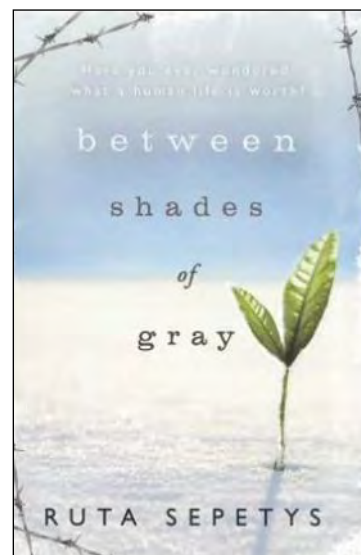
Next month our schedule returns to the 3rd Tuesday of the month, Jan. 15.

Please join us!



Book Club

Book Club meets Dec. 5th at 11 am to discuss Ruta Sepetys' "Between the Shades of Gray."



Financial Update as of Nov. 30, 2018

New Format! What do you think? If you have suggestions please send them to wuccupdates@gmail.com

2018 through November

91% (\$83,888) of budgeted income received

94% (\$86,655) of budgeted expenses used

2017 through November

88% (\$73,242) of budgeted income received

96% (80,029) of budgeted expenses used

Checkbook Balance

through 11/30/18: \$7,845

of which \$4,908

thus leaving \$2,937

is designated funds (\$3,674 reported last month was an error)

in **general funds** for salaries, utilities, & general expenses

Historical Data

2017 – we experienced a \$6,786.48 loss (income – expenses)

2016 – we experienced a \$6,041.88 gain (income – expenses)

2015 – we experienced a \$1,210.00 loss (income – expenses)

Warwick Missions ...

An Old Fashioned Pounding



Twice Blessed is the Harvest We Share

You are invited to take part in an old-fashioned pounding which began on Sunday, November 4th. 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. **We have 2 weeks remaining:**

Week 5: December 2

2 large cans of green vegetables

Week 6: December 9

Cash donation for turkey (suggested \$10)

Mitten Tree



Mitten Tree? Not this year – instead, a Circle of Warmth beginning Sunday, Dec. 2nd!

Our tree was needed for the sanctuary decorations, so we will have a huge wreath outside the children's room for you to bring mittens, adult gloves and warm hats to. All these items will be distributed through PORT or THRIVE! When the wreath is full – we will refresh and start again! Any questions ask Rev. Sallye or Amanda Bartley

A Message from Rev. Sallye

In the next weeks, we will have lots of opportunities to work hard, worship well and enjoy often the presence of each other. One of the ways we show our gratitude for God's gifts is to participate, to honor, to celebrate the offerings of each other. Simply put, we can be present!

I hope you will consider attending each week a part of your church's life together. I know the hearts of our Liturgy and the Arts POP, the heart of our choir, the heart of those who are creating a advent sanctuary beyond anything you might even imagine. They are hearts who love God and who love you.

Our Children's POP is presenting several opportunities for you, your kids, your grandkids to learn and enjoy this holy season. You will do your children a favor to bring them. You will be giving their future a gift, Raising a spiritual child includes having them participate in intergenerational activities that talk about the transcendent.

Ways have been prepared for you to participate in this season of our church's life. Your friends are always welcome. We hope for your participation as you prepare for receiving Christ in new ways.

For over three years now, I have looked forward to my time at Warwick. The best part is seeing you. My core belief is when I see you, I also receive Christ. That my friends, is a great present you give to me!

From my heart, thank you!

Sallye



Church Community Post Office

Beginning Sunday, Dec 2nd

Save postage and time! Just bring your Christmas cards for church folks to the church and place them in our post office, right outside the pastor's office. On Christmas Sunday, December 23rd, they will be bundled and delivered – either to you who are present or to those who can't physically be with us.

There will also be some blank cards if you want to write a quick greeting to someone in the church.

If you have extra blank cards, please bring them as well, so others might use them. Any questions ask Terry Samm Garris.

When writing out your Christmas greetings, please don't forget our shut-ins!

Peggy Cassel
8131 Cool Summer Drive
Mechanicsville VA 23111

Donna Langston
Coliseum Park Nursing Home
305 Marcell Road
Hampton VA 23666

Jeffrey Spielberg
708 Tanbark Drive
Newport News VA 23601

Lilian Co
6329 Centerville Road
Williamsburg VA 23188

Joseph Pikul
15 Pauline Circle
Newport News VA 23602



Preparing the Sanctuary



Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Blue Christmas Worship Service

Saturday, December 8 - 7:00pm

For many the holidays are less "the most wonderful time of year" than a difficult and challenging time. Amid the glitz of celebrations, there is often little time for reflection. This special worship service is designed with those for whom the holidays are challenging, in mind. Join us for this time of quiet, contemplation, hope, and healing.



Sometimes, we forget to acknowledge how difficult a time the Christmas season is for many folks. The focus on joy, family, and gift giving can remind us of past hurts and loss, and of what we don't have. If this resonates with you at all, join us on Saturday, December 8 at 7 PM for a Blue Service. This will be a more contemplative service that will hopefully give us all a nice break from the hustle and bustle of this time of year. Please join us!

Bethlehem's Child - A Christmas Cantata

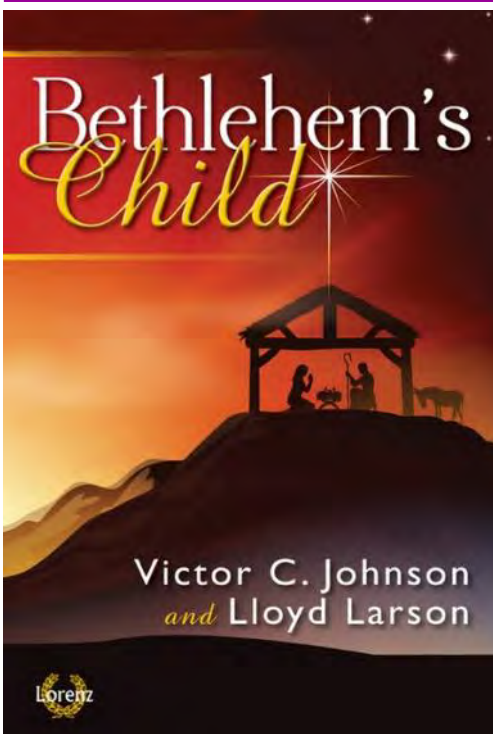
Sunday, December 16 - 11:00am

The Chancel Choir of Warwick United Church of Christ will present a cantata entitled "Bethlehem's Child". This cantata was written by Victor C. Johnson and Lloyd Larson with Orchestration by Larry Shackley.

Warwick United Church of Christ is located at 10 Matoaka Lane, Newport News, Virginia. If you are familiar with the area of Newport News, you'll find the church on the corner of Jefferson Avenue and J. Clyde Morris Blvd.

Bethlehem's Child is a cantata that celebrates the wondrous miracle surrounding the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Using a blend of familiar and original music, a scripturally based narration with full orchestration, "Bethlehem's Child" is certain to fill the hearts of all believers with a sense of wonder and joy in God's goodness. On December 16th, at Warwick United Church of Christ during the 11AM worship service, let the Child of Bethlehem awaken the child inside of you and celebrate "Bethlehem's Child" with our Chancel Choir!

Rudy Wilson – Director of Music, Warwick UCC



Warwick Events

Senior Saint Christmas Luncheon

Monday, December 17 - 1:00pm

A lovely, simple lunch for all you who are AARP qualified will be served Monday, December 17th at 1:00. We will be informal, festive and a bit fun – so come enjoy.

It will help to know if you're coming, so please RSVP to Rev. Sallye.

Guests are welcome.



Coming Together ...

Fireside Worship & Fellowship



Join The Liturgy and the Arts POP every Saturday through Advent, from 4 to 6 PM, for a time of worship and fellowship around the fire! Throughout the Advent Season, we will be singing, praying and opening our hearts to what God has for us through the 5 senses. So bring a chair or 2, some warm clothes, and something to roast in the fire! Contact Nate Masters with any questions, natesmasters@gmail.com

Women's Group

The Women of the Church are invited to attend a discussion group concerning a Toltec Wisdom Book: The Four Agreements by Don Miguel Ruiz.

The Four Agreements are: Be Impeccable with Your Word, Don't Take Anything Personally, Don't Make Assumptions, and Always Do Your Best.

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall on the 3rd Monday of November, December, March and April at 11 am -12 noon.

If you are interested, please contact Sue Howell (757-508-2610). I have purchased 4 extra copies of the book which is easy reading and we can pass them around. If you prefer your own copy, Barnes and Noble usually has some in stock. Just ask a clerk, she took me straight to them since I didn't find them where I thought they would be.

Sue Howell





Beginning on Wednesday, November 28, we will join in an Advent Bible study, *Advent Conspiracy: Can Christmas Still Change the World?* Are you tired of how consumerism has stolen the soul of Christmas? This year, take a stand! Join the groundswell of Christ-followers who are choosing to make Christmas what it should be—a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth that enriches our hearts and the world around us. Advent Conspiracy shows you how to substitute consumption with compassion by practicing four simple but powerful, counter-cultural concepts.

Join us Wednesdays at 6:30pm.



Wednesday, November 28: WORSHIP FULLY

Nearly every character in the Christmas story that encountered the Christ Child responded in the same way: worship. Let's make the conscious effort to reorient our hearts toward Christ. Christmas began with worship, may it end with worship.



Wednesday, December 5: SPEND LESS

In our hearts we know mindless consumption is not the way to celebrate Jesus. But spending less does not mean spending nothing. Rather we will thoughtfully evaluate what companies and causes we support through our purchases.



Wednesday, December 12: GIVE MORE

The best gifts celebrate a relationship. They require our time and our energy. Relational giving means that we think about the other person—who they are and what they care about.



Wednesday, December 19: LOVE ALL

Christmas is a chance to move closer to those in crisis. We will love others as Jesus has loved us. The poor and hurting of our world can be reached by God through the way we choose to celebrate Christmas.

Books will be available for purchase for \$10. Please contact Rev. James at jasdarnellucc@gmail.com or 202-560-3246 if you are interested in attending.

The Works of the People

Throughout Advent, The Works of the People (aka Announcements) will be projected once again.

We will not be having a time of spoken announcements at the beginning of the service.

If you have any special announcements, send them to Terry C. at jrb351@msn.com, and if you would like a slide on Sunday morning, let Nate know! natesmasters@gmail.com



DECEMBER 2018

1. GIVE SOMEONE A HUG OR COMPLIMENT	2. LET SOMEONE IN FRONT OF YOU IN LINE	3. BUY A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE COFFEE	4. HOLD THE DOOR OPEN FOR SOMEONE	5. GIVE A FRIEND OR LOVED ONE YOUR FULL ATTENTION
6. DONATE A CHRISTMAS PRESENT TO A CHARITY	7. TELL A JOKE TO MAKE SOMEONE SMILE	8. DO SOMETHING KIND FOR YOURSELF	9. HIDE A HAPPY NOTE FOR SOMEONE TO FIND	10. DONATE UNWANTED BOOKS TO CHARITY
11. TAPE SOME MONEY ON A VENDING MACHINE	12. SMILE AT A STRANGER OR 2, OR 15	13. GET IN TOUCH WITH AN OLD FRIEND OR RELATIVE	14. LET A CAR IN FRONT OF YOU IN TRAFFIC	15. WRITE OR SEND A THANK YOU NOTE TO SOMEONE
16. SMILE AND THANK SOMEONE WHO SERVES YOU	17. TELL SOMEONE YOU LOVE THEM	18. PAY FOR A STRANGER'S COFFEE	19. OFFER TO HELP SOMEONE	20. FEED ANIMALS (BIRDS, DEER, ETC.)
21. DONATE UNWANTED CLOTHES TO CHARITY	22. DO SOMETHING UNEXPECTED FOR SOMEONE	23. GIVE A TREAT TO YOUR POSTAL CARRIER	24. DO SOMETHING KIND FOR YOURSELF	25. REFLECT AND RECORD HOW MUCH JOY THIS SEASON BROUGHT YOU

ADVENT OF KINDNESS

