

Contact

May 2019 Edition

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



Resurrecting Hope: An Easter Message

April 16, 2019

I walk through the world, opening myself up to the daily vagaries of life's unanticipated joy and sorrows. I find myself grateful for a faith that orients itself around one foundational belief: resurrection.

Death did not destroy Jesus. That is my grounding fundament. Like every disciple of the risen Christ, I hear and take to heart the words of Paul who wrote that because of Him "we do not grieve as others who have no hope." (1 Thess. 4.13).

To be sure, we grieve.

We worry.

We fear.

We grow anxious.

We are not immune from any of these powerful and life-altering emotions. In the face of what life can throw our way, we too will succumb to experiences that mitigate our joy. Death, disease, hunger, poverty, injustice, fear, warfare, oppression, famine, natural disaster, climate disruption, political crisis, mass shootings all have their way with us.

They consume our attention.

They steal our joy.

They strip us of some of the happiness and pleasure that would otherwise be ours but for the sufferings we endure in their presence and aftermath.

There is one thing, though, they cannot do: destroy our hope.

The simple belief that death did not contain Jesus grounds us firmly in the horizons of hope. It is perhaps the singular vocational responsibility of the Church, the Living Body of Christ: to procure hope in the face of life's most disruptive and destructive forces.

The simple belief that death did not contain Jesus grounds us firmly in the horizons of hope.

Hope calls us to play the long game.

The long game of hope believes that the wars in Yemen and Syria can end.

The long game of hope believes that peace between Israel and Palestine can come.

The long game of hope believes that our children and grandchildren will again breathe clean air.

The long game of hope believes that the immigrant and the refugee, the strangers and aliens in our midst, will find a new home and be greeted with hospitality and freed from the cages they've been placed in.

The long game of hope believes that entire cities in Zimbabwe and Mozambique and farms in the Midwest destroyed by floods can be rebuilt.

The long game of hope believes that colonial empires can see more joy in restoring equity through reparations than in hoarding wealth accumulated on the backs of enslaved black bodies and displaced indigenous communities.

The long game does not see death as our destiny. It believes that though suffering may endure for the night, joy cometh in the morning. Some new dawns may not arrive as early as others, but we do not lose hope that new dawns are ever before us.

This is where my Easter joy is found: the orientation of hope. It is found in the beating heart of every disciple of Jesus who, once again, will rehearse the remarkable story of his rising from the dead. The miracle of hope in the heart is my Easter joy.

May it be yours as well.

John C. Dorhauer

General Minister and President UCC



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

Due by MAY 28!



Pastor's Corner

My Dear Warwickians,

I am so grateful for my time for you and so honored by our time together this past Sunday. It has been such an honor to 'equip you for good works' with my colleagues, James and Rudy and with you the congregants of this amazing church. I will always hold you in my heart with deep affection.

Our mailing address is 12201 Stonebridge Lane, Apartment 103, Chester, Virginia 23836. When Kathy retires in June, we will be relocating to the Danville area, to be close to family and do the work of Camp Selah.

As always, I covet your prayers and promise you mine.

Grace Always,

Sallye



Calendar of Events



Thu. May 2 7:30pm – 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun. May 5 9:00am – 9:30am Children's PoP Mtg
11:00am – 12:00pm Worship: "Lord, You Know"

Wed. May 8 10:30am – 12:30pm Women's Study Circle - Smithfield Station

Thu. May 9 7:30pm – 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun. May 12 Mother's Day
10:00am – 12:00pm WONDERLAND: Older Kids @ 10 AM, Younger Kids @ 11 AM
11:00am – 12:00pm Worship: "Following the Shepherd"

Tue. May 14 24 Hours **Give Local 757**

Thu. May 16 7:30pm – 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun. May 19 11:00am – 12:00pm Worship: "Make No Distinction"

Tue. May 21 6:00pm – 7:00pm Adult Supper Club

Wed. May 22 11:00am – 12:00pm Book Group

Thu. May 23 7:30pm – 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun. May 26 10:00am – 12:00pm WONDERLAND:
Older Kids @ 10 AM,
Younger Kids @ 11 AM
11:00am – 12:00pm Worship: "The Peace of Christ"

Mon. May 27 Memorial Day

Tue. May 28 10:00pm Deadline for CONTACT submissions

Thu. May 30 7:30pm – 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

SAVE THE DATE!

Hampton Roads 6th Annual Giving Day



24 Hours to GIVE where they LIVE!
www.givelocal757.org / #givelocal757

Be sure to check out the new calendar format on the website!

www.warwickucc.com

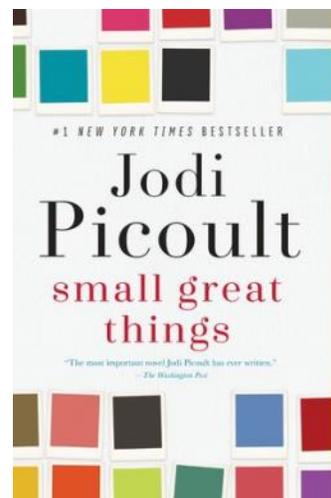
Women's Study Circle

The Women's Study Circle will fellowship and eat lunch at the Smithfield Station on May 8th at 11:30 am. We plan to leave from the church at 10:30 and stop to pick up Priscilla Jones on the way. If you would like to join us, please call Sue Howell (757 508-2610) ASAP in order to reserve a space.



Book Club

Book Club is discussing
Small, Great Things
by Jodi Picoult
on May 22, at 11 a.m.



THRIVE Aims to Raise \$10,000 on May 14th

For the third year in a row, THRIVE will participate in Hampton Road's annual online giving day, Give Local 757, orchestrated by the Peninsula Community Foundation.

This year's event will be held on Tuesday, May 14th from midnight to midnight. Funds raised will be used to prevent eviction and utility cut-off for Peninsula residents facing financial uncertainty. In the last 2 years, THRIVE has won \$1,514 worth of cash prizes through this event, on top of donations.

A special event will be held at THRIVE on May 1st from 8:30am—11am to facilitate early giving, social media sharing, and strategic giving to win cash prizes. If you'd like to attend, RSVP to angela@thrivepeninsula.org.



Mission Fundraiser



**A Free Concert to Benefit
THRIVE**

Friday, May 10 - 7 PM

Hilton Christian Church

100 James River Drive

Newport News

(in the community room)

All donations will go to THRIVE

Doors open at 6:30



A Message From Rev. James

Dear Friends,

It is my great joy to let you know that Warwick UCC is a 2019 recipient of the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship's Vital Worship Grant. We are one of five UCC churches receiving a grant this year. These grants are designed to deepen congregations' understanding of worship and to strengthen the way we worship. Our project for this grant is called "Behold the Beauty of the Lord: Integrating the Arts Into Worship." The Liturgy & the Arts POP will be working on this project throughout the year "to fully integrate the arts in the worship life of the church through collaboration among liturgists, musicians, and visual artists, in order to express and embody the attributes of God and the identity of worshipers' as God's beloved people." Throughout Lent and Easter you have no doubt experienced the richness of the arts in worship at Warwick - the choir's beautiful Easter cantata, the wonderful banners, empty tomb, and risen Christ created by Lynda G., Sue Howell, Liz Wilson, Linda Manning, and others, innovative music composed by Nate Masters, and more. The work of this project will be to integrate all of these art forms and more into a unified whole, to draw us deeper into our experience of God in worship. I look forward to sharing more details in the coming days about this exciting opportunity.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. James



Please read the article on the following page, taken from <https://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/vital-worship-grants-awarded-for-2019-by-the-calvin-institute-of-christian-worship/>

GIVE
aid



GIVE
hope



GIVE
local



MAY
14th

Midnight to Midnight

Vital Worship Grants Program 2019

Worshiping Communities awarded Vital Worship Grants for 2019 by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship

The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship announced today that it will fund 51 Vital Worship Grants projects to Worshiping Communities for 2019-2020 as part of its Vital Worship Grants Program.

These projects have a variety of emphases—visual arts, storytelling, multicultural worship, digital media, the Lord’s Supper, and more—but have as a common purpose a desire to both deepen people’s understanding of worship and strengthen practices of public worship and faith formation.

Kathy Smith, leader of the Vital Worship Grants Team, said, “We are delighted to join with another group of churches, schools and organizations to learn about and engage in new practices of worship. We were grateful for a large number of excellent proposals and are eager to facilitate their learning and ours, regarding worship across North America.”

This year’s recipients include 34 congregations, three elementary and/or secondary schools, two colleges and universities, three seminaries, and nine other groups, including five church collaboratives, two parachurch disability ministries, a military ministry, and a storytelling ministry. They also represent 23 different Christian denominations, 22 states and two Canadian provinces.

Each grant (ranging from \$7,000 to \$18,000) will fund a year-long project beginning in June that promotes vital worship and faith formation. John Witvliet, director of the CICW, believes that the 2019 projects will help the Worship Institute in its goals to enhance the scholarly study of Christian worship and the renewal of worshiping communities across North America and beyond.

“We learn a tremendous amount from these programs,” he said. “We look forward to sharing insights from these projects with a larger audience in our future programming over the next several years.”

This June, project directors and representatives of all 51 grants will gather on Calvin’s campus to dialogue not only with CICW staff, but also with 14 recipients of new grants to Teacher-Scholars as well as recipients the 2018 Worshiping Communities grants, who will come to campus to share the results of their year-long projects at a poster session that is open to the public (5:00-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 26, 2019).

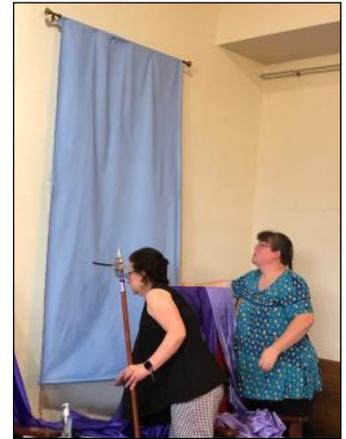
“The grants event is always an energizing time of conversation and sharing stories,” said Smith. “Every year, some attendees are inspired to write their own proposals for new grant projects. We look forward to receiving those applications for the next round of grants” (due January 10, 2020).

Since it began in the year 2000, the Vital Worship Grants Program has now awarded 887 grants to churches, schools and organizations across North America for projects that generate thoughtfulness and energy for public worship and faith formation at the local, grass-roots level. An advisory board of pastors and teachers from a variety of backgrounds assists in the grant selections, and the program is generously supported by Indianapolis-based Lilly Endowment Inc. Founded in 1937, the Endowment’s major areas of programming are religion, education, and community development.

For more information on the grants program, including a complete list of this year’s grants recipients, please see worship.calvin.edu/grants.

Published: April 29, 2019

Warwick Family ...



Photos by Suzanne Howell



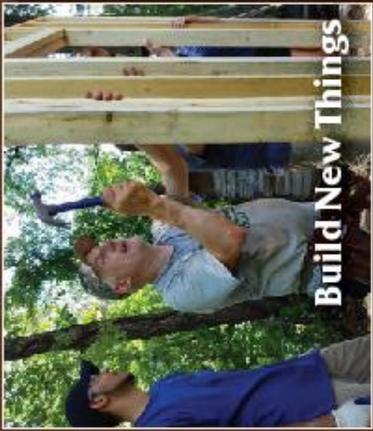
Johns River Valley Camp 2019

Johns River Valley Camp
 c/o Phil Hardy
 PO Box 119
 Collettsville, NC 28611
 336-266-1617 (o/h)
 828-754-7067 (Camp)
 phardy.jrvc@gmail.com
 www.jrvc.org

- Mission Camps
- Classic Camps
- Intergenerational Camps



Go New Places



Build New Things



Make New Friends

2019 Johns River Valley Camp Registration Form

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Home Phone (____) _____
 Cell Phone (____) _____
 Local Church _____
(JRVC welcomes ALL campers. Listing of church is optional)
 Church Location (City) _____
 _____ Female _____ Male
 Birthdate _____
 Fall 2019 Grade _____
 Fee Enclosed \$ _____
 Comments _____
Check Camp to Attend on Opposite Side
 Physical or Dietary Restrictions _____
 Parent/Guardian Signature _____
 Pastor's Signature _____
(optional...required if receiving campership money from local church)

Return completed form with
 \$30 non-refundable deposit to
 Johns River Valley Camp.
 Make checks payable to JRVC.

Johns River Valley Camp www.jrvc.org/

For online registration contact Executive Director at phardyjrvc@gmail.com

Mail registrations to Johns River Valley Camp c/o Phil Hardy/PO Box 119 Collettsville, NC 28611/336-266-1617 (Office)

A Chronological Listing of Opportunities

- ___ Youth (Mission Camp I) June 9-15
- ___ Middle & Senior High (Bridge Builders) June 23-29
- ___ Junior Age (Pioneers/Main Site) June 30-July 6
- ___ Middle High (Ultra/Biking/Main Site) June 30-July 6
- ___ Senior High (Discovery/Main Site) June 30-July 6
- ___ Middle & Senior High (Pathfinders/Main Site) July 7-13
- ___ Middle High (Outpost/Caving) July 7-13
- ___ Junior Age (Classic/Main Site) July 14-20
- ___ Beginners (Main Site) July 14-17
- ___ Youth (Mission Camp II) July 21-27
- ___ Senior High (Outpost/Adventure) July 21-27

Johns River Valley Camp is an outdoor ministry site of Southern Conference, United Church of Christ. Grades are rising (Fall 2019) levels.

In 2019, utilizing the curriculum *Peace Works: Empowering the Next Generation of Peace Makers*, the program will invite campers to learn how to seek peace and justice in their lives and relationships. Our hope is that they leave camp feeling empowered to pursue these lofty goals.

Our Mission Camps in particular urge participants to consider the biblical calling upon our lives to do works of justice and to consider our connections to all of Creation.

Off-site trips are identified in camp program descriptions and follow-up material. Junior campers enjoy hikes on adjacent National Forest Lands, but do not at this level visit more distant destinations requiring vehicle transportation.

A limited number of partial scholarships based on need are available. Inquire with camp for further information.

Site location: 6211 Hwy 90, Collettsville, NC 28611.

Youth Mission Camps

Nestled in the Southern Appalachian Mountains; Johns River Valley Camp offers an ideal setting in which youth and adults can team together to address poverty and environmental issues. Our programs are designed to deepen one's sense of connection to God's world and the people in it. Middle and Senior High Campers will also be given a day off for an off-site activity of tubing on the New River or biking on the Virginia Creeper Trail. Evenings will provide options that include rock climbing, tubing, community building and archery. Team leaders not only offer direction for what we do but insight into why we do it.

June 9-15; Youth Mission Camp I

Projects for this week include home repairs, handicap ramp building, volunteering in the kitchen of a ministry committed to providing healthy food to all people regardless of means and more. On Wednesday the group will take a break and bike the scenic Virginia Creeper Trail. \$460.00 grades 7-12 (Main site)

July 21-27; Youth Mission Camp II

Projects include handicap ramp building, home repairs, environmental protection projects, volunteer in local ministry to the impoverished and more. Participants will take a break on Wednesday and enjoy tubing on the New River. \$460.00 grades 7-12 (Main site)

New Camps ★★★★★

June 23-29; Bridge Builders (Grades 7-12)

A unique opportunity is being offered for the first time. A racially diverse group of youth will be invited into conversations around race. The first three days will be spent at Franklinton Center at Bricks. Wednesday will be a travel day to JRVC. While at JRVC the group will continue conversation and participate in service projects in the local area. Cost \$460.00 (Co-Directed by Elvette Mendez Angulo and Phil Hardy)

July 7-13; Pathfinders (Grades 7-12)

This camp, which is being offered for the very first time, will be housed on the main site. Campers will take several day trips to be immersed in the nearby hiking trails, streams, rivers and water falls of the Appalachian mountains. A mid-week service project will allow campers to practice stewardship of Creation. This camp's objective is to take campers back to nature and an appreciation of it. Cost is \$440.00. (Directed by Rebecca Wrights)

Round Table Rendezvous

Three age groups (See below) share the grounds and meals. This camping experience lends itself to building "big/little sister/brother" relationships. Age specific activities apply as indicated.

June 30-July 6; Junior Age (Grades 4-6)

Camping on the main site these campers will enjoy aquatics, hikes, archery, rock climbing, games, campfires and more. Cost is \$430.00. (Directed by Samantha Jones)

June 30-July 6; Middle High (Grades 7-9)

Camping on the main site these campers will participate in three bike trips highlighted by a trip on the downhill section of the Virginia Creeper Trail in Damascus, VA. If possible, they are encouraged to bring their own bikes and helmets although those will be provided on the Virginia Creeper Trail. They also will enjoy aquatics, archery, canoeing, rock climbing, games, campfires and more. Cost is \$460.00. (Directed by Phil Hardy)

June 30-July 6; Senior High (Grades 10-12)

These campers will stay on the main site. They will explore their own gifts, build community among a diverse group of young people and discover new ways to recognize God in creation. Their experiences will include aquatics, archery, canoeing, rock climbing, games, campfires and more. The week will also include the biking trip on the Virginia Creeper Trail in Damascus. Cost is \$460.00. (Directed by Jason Stump)

Classic Camps

July 7-13 Middle High Outpost/Caving (Grades 7-9)

Campers live in A-Frame units away from the main site enough to truly enjoy an experience in the woods. This week features a canoe trip, hike to waterfall and rock wall climbing. The high point of the week is a memorable caving experience. Cost is \$460.00 (Co-Directed by Elizabeth Schiemann and Lucy Bennett)

July 14-20 Junior Age Classic (Grades 4-6)

While staying on the main site these campers enjoy all the traditional camping activities. They will learn and grow through aquatics, hikes, archery, crafts, rock climbing, games, vespers, campfires and more. Cost is \$440.00. (Directed by Rev. Randy Orwig)

July 14-17 Beginners (Grade 3)

These first-time campers will stay on the main site and be introduced to the experiences of JRVC. Their days will be filled with aquatics, games, crafts, hikes, stories, vespers and campfires. This is a great way to get the next generation of campers started. Cost is \$250.00. (Directed by Elizabeth Horton)

July 21-27 Senior High Outpost/Adventure (Grades 10-12)

These campers are challenged toward growth and community building. Their high adventure activities will include white water rafting on the Nolichucky River and off-site rock climbing in Pisgah National Forest. Cost is \$500.00. (Directed by Kevin Russell)

"We are here to awaken from the illusion of our separateness"

Thich Nhat Hanh



Lectionary Readings for May 2019

May 5, 2019

Third Sunday of Easter

*Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

May 19, 2019

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

May 12, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

May 26, 2019

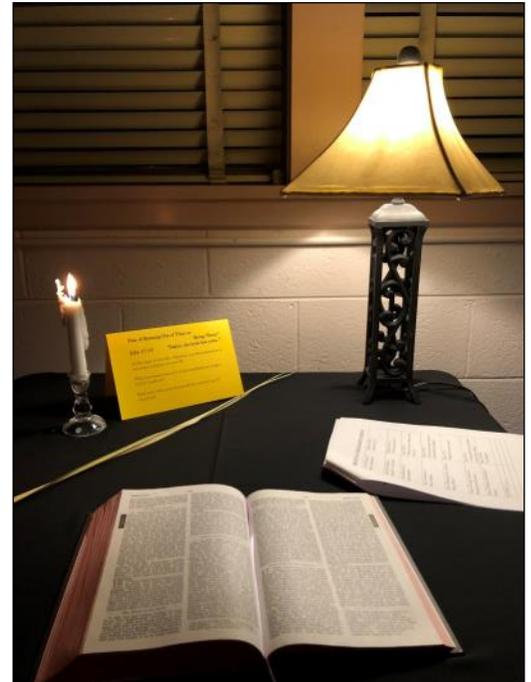
Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

John 14:23-29 -or- John 5:1-9



* During Eastertide a reading from Acts is often substituted for the lesson from the Hebrew Bible. On the Day of Pentecost, if the Old Testament passage from Genesis is chosen for the first reading, the passage from Acts is used as the second reading.

Praying Together...

MARCH 2019

Mickey Allen	Kevin Court	Mike Kelpaul	Elizabeth Sunderland
Anderson Family	Martha Dunn & Family	Cindy Kilgore	Jean Stockman
Lea Avertin	Emerson Family	Ann Lange	Heidi & Shawn
Mike Barnes	Evans's Family	Donna Langston	Sweeney
Leon Bates	+ Yvette Ferguson	Heidi & Mike Lord	Bob Snaz
Kelly Bennett	+ Fitzgerald Family	John Maclean	Jason Spielberg
Nan Bergin	Michelle Flores & Family	Nancy Mayle	Jeffrey Spielberg
Geraldine Bolden	ly	Linda Mann	Gary Takata
Trudy Burdge	Celena Forukem	The Methodists	Cynthia Thomas
Larry Burns	Gloria Franklin	Loraine Palmer	Sedonia Trippel
Carter Family	Dr. Bruce Kauder	Polanco Family	Donal VonGryffn
+ Cassell Family	Grant Mansfield	Audrey Noble	Tim Wayman
Bob Christian	Hal & Marge Giesecking	Larry Paccone	Meredith White
Rebekkah Chriscoe	Terry Sam-Garris	Ted & Michelle Paccone	Rachel York
+ Christensen Family	Pat Grant	Katie Ryder	+ Students & Teachers
Carolyn Clayton	Barry Graham	+ Ryan Family	+ Wilmath Family
Tony Colden	Hall Family	Jesse Saunders	Winter Family
Bonnie Cook	Dianne Howe	Gail Sears	
Costello Family	Sandra Ingari	Nancy Simpson	