

December, 2013

THE WARNER MEMO



Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

www.warnermemorial.org

Online December Calendar

WORSHIPING TOGETHER IN DECEMBER

Sunday, December 1

First Sunday of Advent
Communion

Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44
“The Dawn”

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 3:1-12
“Prepared For Whom?”

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent
Ephesians 3:14-21; Luke 2:8-14
Special Music – Vivaldi’s *Gloria*

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1:47-55
“Joy in Unlikely Places”

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Services

Early Service -- 7 pm ; Communion -- 11 pm
(Music Prelude at 10:30 pm)
Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20
“A Child”

Sunday, December 29

Rev. Bruce Bowen Preaching

Please remember to support the many programs we have at Warner which help our community in a variety of ways. You can...

- ... Make a donation to the Deacon’s Fund on the 1st Sunday of each month.
- ... Bring coins for Two Cents-a-Meal on the 3rd Sunday of each month.
- ... Bring non-perishable food to our Hunger Barrel for M.U.M., any time.

Please read further to find out about other ways you can be involved at Warner and in the community.



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Members and Friends,



We are moving into a month when music fitting the season plays the biggest role of anytime during the year. With our new hymnal, “Glory to God,” we will have our old favorites along with some new expressions (that may become favorites in the years ahead). Before we get into the Christmas music, think of the tunes of some of the most popular Advent hymns. Such hymns as “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” “Creator of the Stars of Night,” and “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night” each have tunes that express a longing, a yearning. Advent is a season when we express our deep desire for the fullness of God’s presence to make things right externally and internally. The Christmas hymn tunes typically sound quite different from the Advent hymns. Some that celebrate the birth of the Christ child vary from being quiet and reflective to joyous and full-volume. “Away in a Manger,” “What Child Is This,” and “Silent Night, Holy Night” fall in the first category. “Joy to the World,” “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” and “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” fit into the latter.

The variety of tunes of these hymns speaks to the range of experience we have over the four weeks of Advent and in the celebration of the birth of our Lord. As we think about Advent candles to be lit and greenery to be hung, many of us are filled with a richness of memories and anticipation, joy and poignancy. The assortment of music helps give expression to a range of feelings and to a breadth of theological concepts. Think if there was only one tune we could use for any Advent or Christmas hymn. Or imagine that the words could only be expressed in an absolute monotone. That wouldn’t work, would it?

There will be ample opportunity for listening and singing during this month of December. Many different feelings will be evoked. I hope and pray that you won’t have a monotone Advent and Christmas, but will let the richness of the music match the richness of the meaning to have your heart and soul dance in response.

With anticipation and joy,

Kirby Lawrence Hill

BOARD OF DEACONS

DECEMBER UPDATES FROM THE BOARD OF DEACONS

The Warner deacons would like to thank all Warner members and friends who prepared dishes and served at Rainbow Place shelter. The women there are always appreciative of the delicious homemade meals that are prepared, and they also enjoy the company of the servers from Warner. If you missed signing-up in November, we will be serving again in March. Stay tuned in 2014!



HOLIDAY BASKETS


Once again this Christmas season, the deacons will be delivering holiday baskets of fruits, teas, candies, homemade cookies (baked by the Presbyterian Women) and other good stuff to homebound members and friends of Warner. We will be assembling the baskets on the third Monday of December in the Social Hall. Over the years, these baskets have brightened the season for those folks who are unable to attend Sunday services. The deacons enjoy planning, assembling, and delivering these baskets of holiday cheer!

If you have not already received one, the new Warner grocery tote bags are still available. Each Warner household is entitled to one complimentary bag. Any extra bags you may wish to have are \$1.50 each. This money goes back to the deacons' fund to help further our programs that assist those in need. We on the board thank all who have generously donated non-perishable groceries to the MUM barrel. Thanks also go to Deacon Paul Perkins who is always generous of his time and energy, delivering the groceries to the MUM pantry.

Stay tuned to the January MEMO for news of winter activities of the deacons including information about our Soup Luncheon...

The Board of Deacons wishes you and yours a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2014! We thank you for your support in 2013.

-- Elizabeth Bunn, Moderator

 Please support the Warner Memorial Deacons' Fund by contributing on the first Sunday of each month. You may use the special envelopes in the pew racks. Please give generously to help our neighbors in need.

WORSHIP & MUSIC



PLEASE DONATE POINSETTIAS

Advent has started and we will soon be enjoying the beauty of poinsettias in our sanctuary. If you would like to join the angels who donate these plants, please sign up on the poinsettia chart in the hallway near the office. The plants are \$9.50 each again this year. There will be 8 white poinsettias and 24 red to sign up for. You may designate whether you wish to take the plant home after the Christmas service or have it delivered to a homebound member of the congregation. Please put your check for the plant in the offering plate and indicate “flowers” on the check. **Thank you!**

There is still time to dedicate a new hymnal to a loved one. Christmas is coming and a dedication would make a nice gift for a special friend or family member. Forms are in the office, or you may put a check (\$20) in the offering plate along with a note with the person’s name and “in honor of” or “in memory of.”

One of the nice features about our new large print hymnals is that the music is included instead of only the words (as in our former versions). We encourage anyone who would benefit from larger words and music to simply ask an usher for one of the large print notebooks, which will contain the music for the day. – Kay Gorman

COMMUNITY

JOY OFFERING

Through the **Christmas Joy Offering** -- a special offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA) -- we help retired Presbyterian clergy, staff, and their families who find it hard to make ends meet. We also help with scholarships for students who attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

Donations may be made during Advent using the Joy Offering special envelopes in the church pews and by sending money or a check to Warner Memorial Presbyterian with a memo notation designating your donation for the “Christmas Joy Offering.”



TWO CENTS A MEAL FEEDS NEIGHBORS IN NEED, NEAR AND FAR

On Sunday, November 17, we collected \$135 for this hunger relief program. The local portion of the offering will go to MUM (Mid-County United Ministries), to help stock their food pantry in Wheaton. Warner and MUM have worked together for years, and we have at times contributed both food to go on their shelves and money for particularly needed items. In December, the local portion of our Two Cents-a-Meal offering will again go to MUM, so if you forgot to drop in your two cents or more, you have another chance on December 15.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SPREAD WARMTH WITH SOCKS FOR CHRISTMAS!

Throughout December, Warner Memorial Church is offering the following remix of a familiar line from the classic book, "Twas the Night Before Christmas":

"... The stockings were hung on the mantel with care
In hope that warm new socks would soon be there"

Here is how you can help to make this happen:

Beginning on Monday, December 2, all Warner members and friends are invited to take home a stocking hung on the mantel located on the stage in the Warner Social Hall. No later than December 21, exchange the paper stocking for either a pair of new adult women's socks and/or a pair of new socks sized for pre-schoolers, either white or blue (the school we are donating socks to is a Charter School where children wear uniforms) --- and leave them in the box marked **Christmas Stockings**, located on the stage in the Social Hall. The adult socks will be given to the women of Rainbow Place Shelter and the children's socks will go to the pre-schoolers of Crossway Community in Kensington.

***SAVE THE DATE ***

On Saturday, December 7, from 6:00 until 9:00 pm, the Christian Education Commission of Warner Church is hosting a "**Parents' Night Out.**" This event will be supervised by Jan Moody, along with other adults and the Warner Youth Group. Activities for the evening will include dinner, winter crafts, games, and the video "Charlie Brown's Christmas." Children ages 4 to 10 are invited. Cost: a donation of canned food for the pantry at Mid-County United Ministries in Wheaton.

Please sign up by December 2 ! A Sign-Up sheet will be posted on the LCYC bulletin board. Space is limited and we will not be able to accommodate walk-ins. For more information, contact Jan Moody at jdmoody3@gmail.com.

On December 8 and 15, Rev. Ruth Everhart will lead the adult Sunday School class at 9:30 am in the Common Room. She invites us to see "Bethlehem through a Pilgrim's Eyes."

Ruth Everhart writes:

"It's easy to be sentimental about Bethlehem. But what was that manger really like? What is Bethlehem like now? Come along on an armchair pilgrimage to Israel's West Bank. We'll tour a rock cave in the shepherds' field that slopes between Bethlehem and Jerusalem (Dec. 8). We'll explore the Church of the Nativity, which has been the scene of bloodshed between Israelis and Palestinians (Dec. 15). We'll ask what it means that the birthplace of the Prince of Peace is still torn by conflict."

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

COOKIES, COOKIES... CALLING ALL COOKIES!



On **Sunday, December 15**, the Presbyterian Women will host the **Christmas Cookie Reception** after the worship service. Do you have a cookie you bake only at this time of year, or an irresistible recipe? We need cookies for the Fellowship Hour that day and also to fill the tins for the homebound baskets. Bring your cookies to the kitchen before worship that Sunday. The suggested amount is three dozen but any amount will be welcome. Cookies that aren't consumed that Sunday or used in the Deacon's tins will be served the following week at the women's Christmas Gathering.

PLEASE BRING COOKIE TINS! We are seeking small/medium sized Christmas-theme cookie tins. Each year our Deacons deliver baskets of cheer to our homebound members, including fruit, tea, and a tin of cookies baked by members of the church. We are collecting tins that can hold 12-20 cookies. Please bring new or gently used cookie tins to the church office before Dec. 10th.



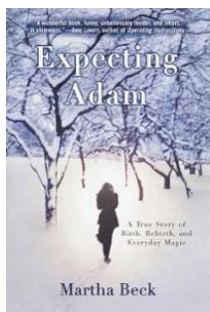
USHERING IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON



Women of Warner are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Tuesday, December 17th, when we will happily gather at Lisa Smeallie's house at 7:00 pm, to enjoy not only holiday cookies and wassail, but also a festive **sing-a-long**. This is always a fun event and a good beginning to the season of holiday festivities. As Joni Mitchell said, the more out-of-tune voices the better! We would love to have all Warner Women join us, this is not limited to those who participate in Circles - we are an inclusive and welcoming bunch. If you are unable to make cookies for the Sunday reception, feel free to bring a dozen to the party. Also, any baker who is willing can email the recipe to Lisa at: icsmeallie@comcast.net ahead of time or bring a copy to the party. Copies will be provided to anyone interested.

2013-14 BIBLE STUDY

Reflections Circle will be meeting on **Sunday, December 8**, in the Warner parlor from 9:30 to 10:30 to continue discussion of the *Horizon's* Bible Study, "An Abiding Hope." **Joy Circle** will finish up the book of Ruth in the series "Uppity Women of the Bible" in February 2014.



The next meeting of the newly formed **Women's Book Group** is slated for **Tuesday, January 14th, at 7:30PM in the WMPC library**. We will be discussing "Expecting Adam: True Story of Birth, Rebirth & Everyday Magic" by Martha Beck. From the web, "... Put aside your expectations. This "rueful, riveting, piercingly funny" (Julia Cameron) book is written by a Harvard graduate -- but it tells a story in which hearts trump brains every time. It's a tale about mothering a Down syndrome child that opts for sass over sap, and it's a book of heavenly visions and inexplicable phenomena that's as down-to-earth as anyone could ask for. Please plan to join us. Our host that evening is June Eakin.



We are returning to the Claggett Center for a Winter Retreat in Adamstown, Maryland. The dates are **January 17-19, 2014**; the program, “God’s Magic Kingdom,” is planned and coordinated by Rev. Monique Ellison and Barbara DeLorenzo, both from St. Christopher's Church (Episcopal) in Linthicum, Maryland.

There will be worship, small group work, and free time to enjoy Claggett environs; no formal program after dinner on Saturday. There is a 22-person limit. Lodging and meetings will be in Doll cottage. Accommodations are double occupancy bedrooms with shared bathrooms. The cottage is handicap-accessible. The \$190 fee includes two nights and all meals from Friday 5:00 pm to Sunday 11 am. The fee for one night only is \$145. Contact June Eakin or register directly through: <https://www.claggettcenter.org/register.php>. We will carpool! Adamstown is about 45 minutes away, near Sugarloaf Mountain. Begin the New Year by joining women from many churches for worship, small groups, Bible study, and fellowship as we ask, “How do we see God’s Kingdom and keep our faith strong in today’s world?”

Do you have an idea for an outing or activity that may be of interest to other women at Warner – dinner and a movie, field trip to Hillwood or other museum, weekend walking group, cooking class, knitting class, serving at Rainbow Place...?? The PW Coordinating Team is open to any ideas you may have and look forward to hearing from you. It just takes one person and one idea to get started.



Several of us gathered at **Charity Singletary’s** home on Friday, November 8, and had a spirited discussion about Khaled Hosseini’s second book, “A Thousand Splendid Suns.” While we spent much of the time talking about our reaction to the book, we also enjoyed tasty treats and fellowship, not the least of which was having Charity share photos of her wedding, which took place in Afghanistan, where she lived for several years with her husband Jim.



We had an enthusiastic turnout for our **Annual Meeting** on Sunday, November 10, in the Warner Common Room. We elected a new slate of PW officers for 2014. Lora McGlade and Nancy Lawrence Hill will continue their respective terms as Vice-Moderator and Treasurer. Karen Cook will be our new Secretary and Sue Burns will be the Moderator. We approved an annual budget, reminding all who attended that Warner’s Presbyterian Women is self-funded and relies on contributions from all members of Warner.



The highlight of the meeting was the splendid presentation by Emma Clark, who shared her experiences in Africa and the Middle East and left us all with much to ponder, especially coming on the heels of our book group from the previous Friday evening.

HEAPS OF THANKS TO THE “GAGS”



The men of Warner, also affectionately known as GAGS, graciously and enthusiastically provided a feast for all of us when they hosted the Fellowship Hour on Sunday, November 10, allowing those of us who attended the PW meeting to do so with full and happy stomachs.

Thanks to Bill and Blake Landfair, Ty Bragg, Mark Bocchetti, Harry Trout, Peter Smeallie, Bill Burns and anyone else who helped with this effort. We really appreciated it!



SPECIAL NOTE – WE HAVE A “KITCHEN ANGEL”



There is a kitchen angel among us and she is Judy Agee. Judy joined Warner a couple of years ago, when she transferred from St. Matthew Presbyterian Church after moving from Leisure World into the Kensington area. In addition to participating in Bible Study and PW activities, Judy took it upon herself to help -- virtually every Sunday following the Fellowship Hour -- in Warner's kitchen by

faithfully washing dishes. This is no small feat! She is very stealthy, but if you want to let her know how much we appreciate her and her hard work, please stop by the kitchen one Sunday. Thank you, Judy! -- Sue Burns and Hospitality Committee

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Thanks to all who participated in Work Day on November 9th. We prepped and painted the bone white part of the LCYC hallway (+ put the bulletin boards and heat register back on the walls), fixed a leak in the roof, covered a hole in the wall where birds were entering, cleaned out the window wells and the sump pump, re-set the playground shed so that it was level, washed almost all the windows on the ground floor, trimmed some trees, moved some bushes, burned out a stump, put rubber tips on chair legs, installed 3-prong electrical sockets on the upper floors, replaced light bulbs, polished silver, moved furniture, painted a few chairs, cleaned in the LCYC rooms, and provided lunch for 20 or so volunteers. If you missed helping out on this gorgeous day, and still want to contribute to the effort, talk with Susan Kline about a few jobs that still need to be done. Again, thanks to all!

Submitted by Susan Kline

NOTE: In the Warner Social Hall, the stage curtain needs tender, loving care when pulling it open or closing it. The curtain is 25 years old, has held up well through plays and talent shows, Boy Scouts and small children. When on stage, looking at the audience, the pull cord is on your right. When it is pulled quickly, the cord gets off track, making it impossible to traverse. By using both hands on the two cord lengths and pulling gently and slowly, it will keep it on track and should prevent it from fraying any more. Thank you. (Submitted by Sheri Daugherty)

WARNER'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTIES

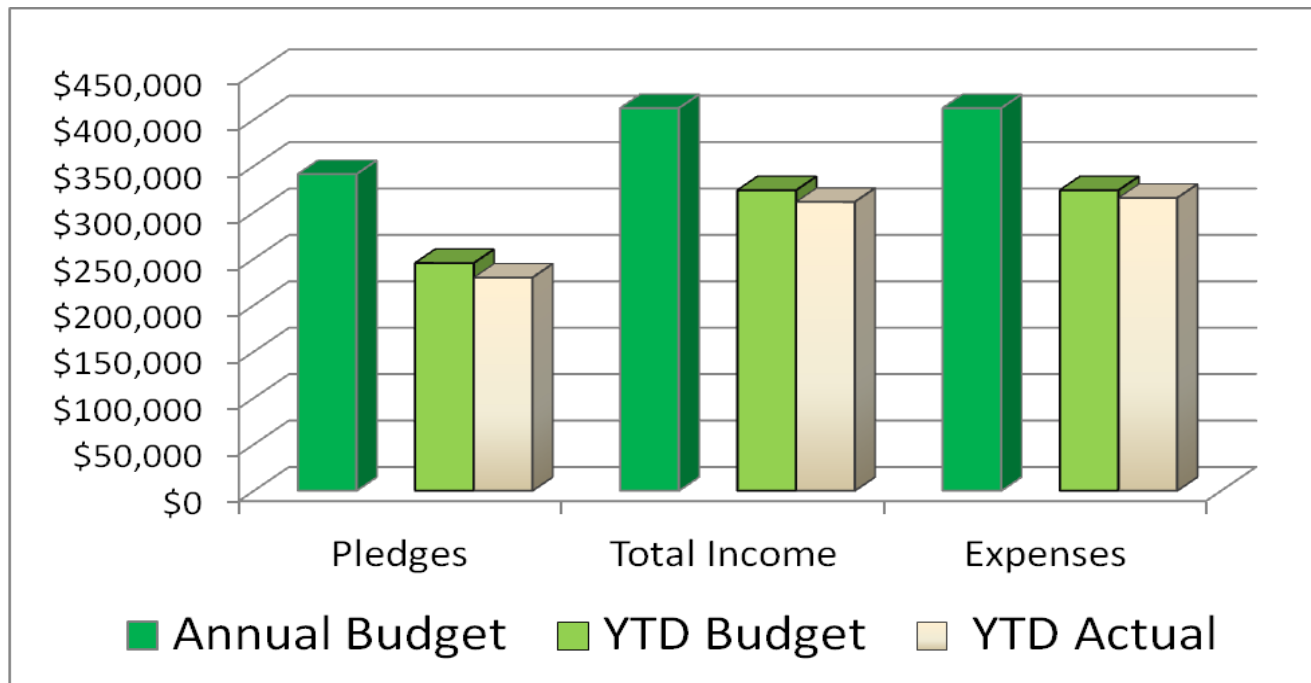
The Salt-Shakers are holding their Christmas party and gift exchange at the Daughertys' home at 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 7.

The Potluck Group will hold their Christmas party and gift exchange on Saturday, December 21, at 7 p.m. at the Kirchhoffs' home.

STEWARDSHIP

WMPC FINANCES YEAR-TO-DATE-- October 31, 2013

	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Pledges	\$341,309	\$245,427	\$229,755
Total Income	\$412,460	\$323,927	\$311,313
Expenses	\$412,460	\$323,927	\$315,619
Net Income(Loss)	\$0	\$0	-\$4,306



It's not too late! If you haven't yet completed your 2014 Time & Talent questionnaire and pledge card, please bring them to worship on Sundays or leave them in the church office any day that we're open.

Thank you!

As we approach the end of the year, if you have questions about your current pledge or anything else on your 2013 statement, please write to me: llorracs@hotmail.com. Thank you. Sharon Allen

WARNER PEOPLE

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Scott Bunn
- 3 Mark Eakin, Carol Fineman, Ginger Kleinguenther
- 4 Mary Barber, Ty Bragg
- 11 Ted Human, Varsha Datta
- 14 Mary Landfair, Simona Letizia
- 17 Brian Eakin
- 18 Andrei Pinkus
- 19 Sharon Daugherty
- 20 Brad Hill
- 21 Leigh Cook
- 22 Laura Kline
- 24 Jordan Hill
- 25 Tim Cook, Vol Moody
- 26 James Smith
- 27 Bill Landfair, Donald Stalker
- 28 Mary Cameron, Eric Adams
- 30 Loyce Bowen, Susan Middleswarth
- 30 Cynthia Firman
- 31 Calvin McGlade

A Note of Thanks from the Carrolls

Dear Warner Friends,

Many thanks for the kind words and lovely flowers. We were touched by your thoughtfulness. We love you all! Again, thank you!

With all our love, Yours in Christ, Margaret and Max

(Note: On Sunday, November 3, Warner celebrated years of contributions to activities by Max and Margaret, who still come here when possible from their new home in Sykesville, Maryland.)



DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY MEMO ISSUE

Please note that the deadline for submitting articles and notices for the November Warner Memo will be **Friday, December 20**. To all of our contributors: You may send your material via disk of typed hardcopy to the church office, or via e-mail to memo@warnermemorial.org. ... and we thank you for your contributions!

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- Please see bulletin boards outside the Main Office -

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Music Director: Kate Carr

Organist: Alina Belenky

Director, Learning Center for Young Children: Karen Murphy

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Administrative Assistant: June Eakin

Nursery Attendants: Robin Feller & Shannon Stalker

Stephen Ministry Contact: Barbara Jaquette

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