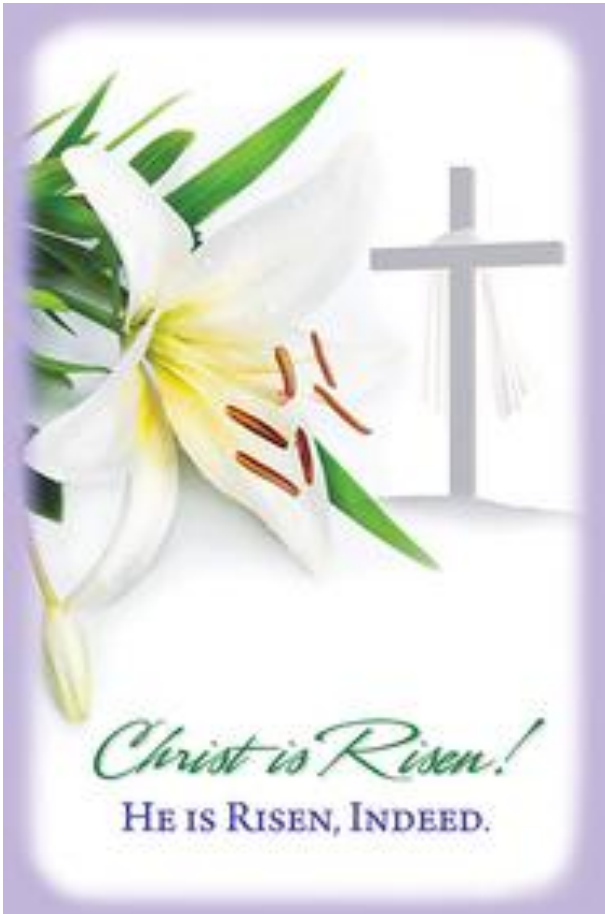


April 2018

THE WARNER MEMO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



[April Calendar](#)

May 2018 MEMO Issue

Please submit your completed article to
memo@warnermemorial.org by **Friday, April 20** in order for the
**Memo team to get it published and distributed
by the first of the month.**

Thank you for your contributions and timeliness!

Please Note: Volunteers needed for the MEMO!

WORSHIPING TOGETHER

Sunday, April 1st (Early Service)

Easter Son-Rise

Matthew 28:1-10

“He Has Been Raised”

Sunday, April 1st (11 a.m. Service)

Easter

Isaiah 25:6-9 & Mark 16:1-8

“Unending”



Sunday, April 8th

Matthew 28:11-15

“Lies”

Sunday, April 15th

Matthew 28:16-20

“Going, Going, Gone”

Sunday, April 22nd

Earth Day

Dave Grace preaching

Scriptures & Sermon TBA

Sunday, April 29th

Luke 24:13-35

“Roller Coaster”

Every day of the year, you can help the M.U.M. food pantry by bringing in cans and packages of non-perishable food for our barrel in the church narthex. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need!

FROM THE PASTOR

Now What?

Throughout my time as a pastor, I've often heard ministers (myself included) ask the following question: *Now What?* Let me say more. Now that we've heard of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, now that we've read about the women at the empty tomb early that morning, now that that we've heard the testimony of those very first evangelists, now that we know that Jesus *has been raised*, now what? That's a good question this time of year. Because it's one thing to know about the resurrection, but it's quite another to live resurrection lives. So now what?

Well, church, the now is where faith meets action. The now is where mind and heart meet words and deeds. The now is where our Christianity becomes more than just something we believe, but something we live. The now is when we begin to really live out our faith in the world as opposed to simply thinking about it in church. So the now is really, really important.

I'll let you in on something, something you may already know but perhaps, don't, that second paragraph I just wrote?--Easy to write; a little harder to do. Especially for those of us who make a living in ministry. Because after it's all said and done, what I mean is, after the Palms have been waved and the cloaks have been laid down, after the Lord's Supper has been served and Jesus has been betrayed and we've left the church all nice and quiet, after we've sung the last verse of "Were You There," and, of course, after we've proclaimed *he has been raised*, well, most ministers that I know just want to go home and go to sleep. Occupational hazard, church, the holidays take it out of you. So after the Christmas candles have been extinguished and the Easter brass has played, most ministers go home, turn on *The Masters* and take a nap.

Seriously, church, I'm not kidding. Well, maybe a little. The Masters doesn't always coincide with Easter, but you get the point. One of our camp and conference centers, Massanetta Springs in Harrisonburg, VA, even offers a "pastor's pastor's" respite for church professionals the very next week. For free, church. A whole

week with nothing planned because they know that there are some folks out there who really just want a bit of rest. But guess what?

Now we get to put faith into action. Now we get to take all that stuff we've heard about being raised and do a little heavy lifting of our own. Don't get me wrong, we all need our rest. And we can take our cue from those first women at the tomb. They didn't run to the tomb first thing, they rested. They kept the Sabbath. But that morning, well, they got up and they got going, church. There's a lot for us to do--all of us--at home, in the workplace, among friends, in our communities, at church too. And now that Jesus has been raised, well, it's time for us to get up and get going, as well. Happy Easter!

Shalom,
Rev. Todd

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Lenten Supper Series

This Lent, a group of about 6-13 people gathered together on five Wednesday nights on a *Journey with Jesus to Jerusalem*. Though, historically speaking, the scripture passages I selected for our study are located in the time after Jesus had already reached Jerusalem, the term "journey" remains particularly appropriate for the 40-day season of Lent; this season is patterned after wilderness journeying such as that of the Exodus and Jesus' time of temptation.

Liturgically, our scripture passages occur between the evening of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

In accordance with the etymological meaning of Lent – in old English – we sought to *lengthen* our spiritual lives together during the solemn time before Easter. We focused on the first events after Jesus's Last Supper announcement of his pending betrayal and death. To aid our imagination and discussion about how we may

discern direction for our journey today in our present context, CE coordinated with Tim Cook to oversee the production of artwork focused on each of the scripture passages for our Lenten Supper series. As indicated, art was contributed by Tim Cook, Sophie deJesus and Charlotte Cook.

The first week, we remembered that Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane. (Matt 26:36-41).

- Jesus’s prayer asked for another way but also aligned his path with God’s plan.
- Jesus asked the disciples to stay



Figure 1 - Prayer, Tim Cook

awake with him in his grief, but they did not.

- In today’s context, we considered ‘offerings to God’ by discerning how our prayers may be an acceptable offering to God.



The second week we remembered Jesus being betrayed at the hands of Judas but by religious authorities more broadly (Mark 14:43-46).

- A kiss, an act of friendship, was used by Judas to identify Jesus to the angry crowd seeking Jesus, who then had him arrested on behalf of the religious authorities.

Figure 2 - Betrayed, Charlotte Cook

- In today’s context, we considered ‘testifying to Jesus’ in terms of how it is ‘costly grace’ to properly testify to Jesus.



The third week we remembered that Jesus was condemned by the chief priests & scribes after being brought to their council (Luke 22:66-71).

Figure 3 - Condemned, Sophie deJesus

- They commanded Jesus – incredulously – “tell us if you are the messiah” (Matt 26:62), condemning themselves in a higher council.

- In today’s context, we considered ‘being the Church’ by discussing how our Presbyterian polity relates to our theology. A particular focus was on how we express unity in the visible church despite the differences that tend to divide us.



The fourth week, we remembered Jesus was denied by Peter three times before the rooster crowed (Matt 26:69-75).

Figure 4 - Denied, Tim Cook

- During the Last Supper, Jesus told Peter he would deny him in this way, and Peter succumbed to the temptation; the morning of Good Friday.

- In today’s context we considered ‘being disciples,’ asking how we should respond to denials of Jesus, particularly our own. What are those denials and what ‘roosters’ call for our repentance?



Figure 5 - Judged, Sophie deJesus

Our final week, we remembered that Jesus was judged by Pontius Pilate (Mark 15:1-5, 15), which is reflected in our Apostles creed – in which we confess that Jesus “suffered under Pontius Pilate.

- Religious authorities handed Jesus over to be judged by the Roman Empire. They accused, so Pilate asked, “Are you King of the Jews?” (Mark 15:2)
- In today’s context, we considered ‘being citizens’ by discerning how to respond to the state’s judgment of people being mediated by differences of religion, nationality, race, ethnicity, and otherwise.

Our Lenten Journey ends and begins at the tomb where Jesus is buried, with the women who had provided for Jesus on the way. Our Lord is thrown into a tomb and a huge boulder rolled to cover the entrance. A guard is called upon to provide additional assurance to keep others out. We know Easter is coming, but not before this 40 day journey; not before death and burial. In this wilderness journey, we feel shut out—like a big boulder is keeping us from Jesus, like a guard keeps us away from the Lord. Lent helps focus our attention on the costliness of our lives of faith, helping us to know the extent of our need for God’s grace. Compiling messages from the scripture passages of our Lenten study, I offer this prayer so that we may continue our Lenten journey on the road ahead:

¹Remain here! ²Stay Awake & Pray! ³Take up your crosses and go testify to Jesus’s resurrection power where people are unjustly condemned- knowing this testimony is costly but God’s grace is enduring. ⁴Repent for your shortcomings; be open to tears for the loss. ⁵Embrace the silence; God is still speaking.

--Submitted by Dave Grace, Dir. C.E.

¹ Though Jesus walks ahead,

² Though we are weary and tired,

³ Though we feel lost,

⁴ Though we stumble,

⁵ Though the world is noisy and the path seems dark,

HE IS RISEN!

EASTER WORD FIND

O N R T K V I A S R W N S T F
S A C I F I E N F A I T H O R
J E S U S C R U O C I F I D G
C M R O A T S C R O S S L I I
M P S S C O N E G S N A O H V
G T O D R R I S I O E V E Y N
M Y A T I I T T V H D I W U E
N T A I F O S L E H E O A V N
L O V E I U A E N I A R E M F
E M T E C S R A N L O I G I V
E B N J E B L E S M L Y H O M
E N C R U C I F I E D C O U R
G E L I A C H R B I S T M E S
E T E R N A L L I F E L R D N
A M A Z I M E S S I A H N G Z

MESSIAH
RISEN
GOD
EMPTY TOMB
FAITH
SAVIOR
FORGIVEN
LOVE

BELIEVE
ETERNAL LIFE
JESUS
VICTORIOUS
CROSS
SACRIFICE
CRUCIFIED





Presbyterian Women

Nurture Faith, Support Mission, Work for Justice & Peace, & Build Community

Gifts of Women Sunday

On Sunday, March 11, we were pleased to have Reverend Dorothy LaPenta (Dottie) back with us again for our special worship service celebrating the “Gifts of Women”. She gave a wonderful children’s sermon on women in religious leadership roles, as well as the main sermon on “Bold Hospitality”: a discussion of the wedding banquet found in Matthew. Even though Dottie will move her membership to the Baltimore Presbytery in accordance with her new position at a church in Crofton, MD, we hope to remain in contact with her.



Spring Gathering of the National Capital Presbytery’s Presbyterian Women at Warner

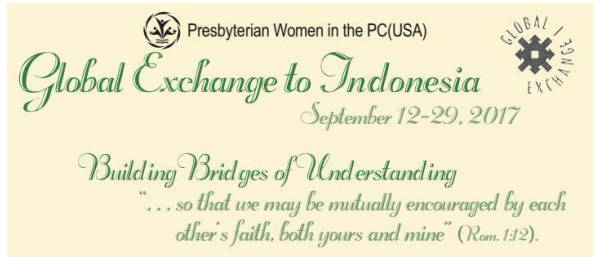


Presbyterian Women of Warner will be hosting the Annual NCP PW Spring Gathering at Warner on Saturday, April 28. Following a light breakfast (8:30 - 9:00) and business meeting, the program will include a presentation on the PW Global Exchange trip that took place in Indonesia in the fall of 2017. We look forward to hearing, first-hand, from those who participated from the DMV area, including two Indonesian Women from our Presbytery.

During worship in the Sanctuary, we will celebrate Communion “Indonesian style”. While we are hoping for a great turnout from Warner women that day, there is another critical need and way for

you to help. As you know for any project, 90% of the work is in the planning and preparation. Hosting the Spring Gathering is no exception; we

will need “boots on the ground” help that day with set-up, break-down, providing hospitality, and making all attendees feel warmly welcomed and oriented. Please see Sue Burns or JoEllen LaPrade if you are interested in attending. As with any similar endeavor at Warner, the fun and enjoyment far outweigh any work.



Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA)

Global Exchange to Indonesia
September 12-29, 2017

Building Bridges of Understanding
"... so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine" (Rom. 1:12).

The poster features a yellow background with a gear icon and the text "GLOBAL EXCHANGE".

NIH Easter Baskets



By the time you read this, many thanks will be due to Sheri Daugherty and all who helped her with filling, wrapping, and decorating Easter baskets to be delivered to the patients and family members at Children’s Inn at NIH. Many church members have enjoyed contributing to this Easter tradition at Warner, and PW so appreciates the continued support. We are sure the kids (young and old) enjoyed “Harriet Rabbit’s” recent visit and “candy-toss”; she has a pretty good arm. It truly is a labor of love.

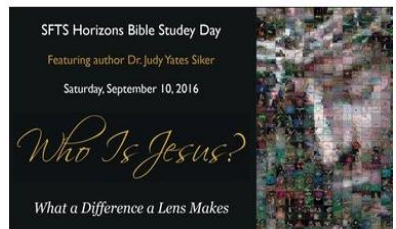
2017 Bible Study: Who is Jesus? What a difference a lens makes....



We are in the final lessons of our two-year Bible study,



“Who is Jesus?”, which we began in September 2016. Last month we focused on Lesson Eight: According to the other Abrahamic Faiths. We will continue the



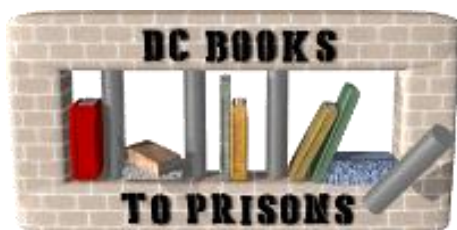
SFTS Horizons Bible Study Day
Featuring author Dr. Judy Yates Siker
Saturday, September 10, 2016

Who Is Jesus?
What a Difference a Lens Makes

The poster includes a colorful abstract image on the right side.

discussion this month as we explore how Jesus is viewed in two other religious traditions: Judaism and Islam. Come and join the discussion on Tuesday, April 10 at 7:30 PM, in the church library. June Eakin will lead the discussion. All are welcome. Circle leader: June Eakin

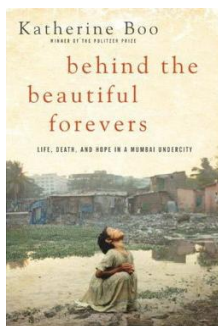
Books to Prisons Ministry



As we announced last month, Warner's Presbyterian Women are continuing a relationship with and support of **DC Books to Prisons**. Our current initiative focuses on collecting children's books that will be provided to children when they visit family or loved-ones at the various prisons. We will collect through Sunday, April 15th. Note that the following items cannot be accepted due to prison restrictions: *no spiral bound books, no pop-ups, nothing glued to the book, such as cloth or glitter, please.*

Please look for the specially marked **Books to Prisons Children's Book Project** box in the hallway near the CE office. If you have any questions please contact JoEllen LaPrade or Lena Aspiras.

April 2018 PW Book Club



Please plan to join us on Tuesday, April 24, at 7:30 in the church library for our seventh discussion of the 2017-2018 season. Our book this month is "Behind the Beautiful Forevers" by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Katherine Boo. It's a non-fiction book which won the National Book Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize among many others. It describes a present-day slum of Mumbai, India, following the interconnected lives of several residents. From "GoodReads": "*In this brilliantly written, fast-paced book, based on three years of*

uncompromising reporting, a bewildering age of global change and inequality is made human...With intelligence, humor, and deep insight into what connects human beings to one another in an era of tumultuous change, Behind the Beautiful Forevers carries the reader headlong into one of the twenty-first century's hidden worlds, and into the lives of people impossible to forget. “

Spring Breakaway

The Bresees have, once again, kindly offered us their lovely mountain home for May 4th-5th this year to leave the hustle and bustle of Montgomery County behind and head for the hills. If you are interested in joining the fun, please let one of the PW CT members know ASAP. Carpools will be arranged as needed. Expenses will cover food and we may also collect donations for Rainbow Place.



Fall Day Retreat



We learned last year that it is never too early to plan a retreat, but it



can sometimes be too late, as we discovered last year and were unable to find a venue for a Fall Retreat. This year we started early and were able to snag our favorite Sun Porch Room at Bon Secours in Marriottsville, MD for **Saturday, September 22nd**. Believe it or not we have already tossed around program ideas. If you have suggestions, please share them with any member of the CT. Most importantly, we urge you to block your calendar and plan to join us. We typically plan to gather around 8:30 AM and finish up between 3-4 PM.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Spring Workday Saturday April 14, for WMPC and LCYC families.

From 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., join in the camaraderie of working side-by-side with your church family and LCYC parents. Everyone is welcome; we'll find a task to match to your abilities! Lunch



will be provided by and for volunteers. Some projects need to be completed on a different day (i.e. clean kitchen) so contact June Eakin (301-873-4794) to choose a project. If you're planning to come, please sign up on the board in the hallway so that our cooks will know how much lunch to prepare.

Please Note: With the coming of warmer weather, please remember to shut windows if you open them!

Social Hall Tables

Please be gentle with the tables in the Social Hall. When setting up, the ring on the leg hinge must be at the bottom of the hinge to prevent collapse. If it won't settle there, don't use that table, set it aside and label it for repair. We will soon need to purchase replacement tables. If you are inclined, a gift to allow this would be greatly appreciated. Each table cost \$110 when we bought them about 8 years ago. –June Eakin, for Building and Grounds

COMMUNITY – MISSION

A Mental Health Service Organization that We Support

A few years ago, after learning about tragic incidents in the news involving people with mental health problems, the Commission to the Community decided to once again give regular support to a local organization that works to help such people. We settled on Cornerstone Montgomery.

Cornerstone Montgomery has a staff of over 300 people trained to treat individuals aged 16 and up that are living in Montgomery County, and dealing with a variety of mental health needs. In the Residential Rehabilitation Program, an applicant is evaluated and given the opportunity to visit the available housing and staff, to determine the location that might provide the best fit for the applicant's particular needs. The goal is to get each person the treatment needed, and to teach him or her the skills required to stay out of the hospital and to live independently.

Since there are far too many people to fit in the supervised residences, there is also a Psychiatric Rehabilitation program for people who live outside of the above Cornerstone residences. People in this program meet with the Cornerstone staff once or twice a week, and receive help with medication management, independent living skills training, and housing support.

There are many other programs under the Cornerstone umbrella. For example, Cornerstone has outpatient mental health clinics in Bethesda, Silver Spring, and in Rockville, serving both members of the above programs and members of the community. There are Residential Crisis Services, housed in neighborhood one-family dwellings for individuals who need help getting through a crisis (average stay of 10 days); this program is the largest alternative in the County to inpatient psychiatric hospitalization. There are also two programs for young people in transition, first, those approaching high school graduation, and second, recent graduates seeking employment, education, and development of longer term goals. For a list of other programs visit www.cornerstonemontgomery.org

Your Commission to the Community has decided that such work deserves our support. Therefore, in March we sent \$350 from our 2018 budget to Cornerstone Montgomery. If you would like to join with the Commission to the Community in dealing with such questions — how best to use Warner's benevolence money to make a difference for people — please speak to Ina Rae Kramer or any other member of the Commission.

--Cory Atwood, for the Commission to the Community

Provide a Birthday Gift for a Poor Child

A reminder that on the occasion of your own birthday, you are invited to celebrate by purchasing a gift for a child who might not otherwise get a gift on his or her birthday, and to add it to the toy box in the narthex.

Periodically, when our toy box is full, someone from the Commission to the Community takes the brand new, unwrapped gifts that have been placed there to the Interfaith Works Clothing Center. There, they are distributed to the children (toddlers to teenagers) of the working poor who utilize the Center to get clothing for themselves and their families, and can receive case management, vocational counseling, and a family mentoring program, among other services.

Interfaith Works impacts more than 16,000 lives a year, and has a goal of reducing poverty in MC to the lowest in Maryland. The organization is making steady progress in its effort to help people learn to lift themselves out of poverty.

Come to the Second Annual Interfaith Concert

Remember last year's benefit concert (at Warner) of choral and chamber music which was provided by a diverse group of musicians representing Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths? Coming up on April 8th, many of the same musicians (including Warner's church choir) and some new ones, will present another *Songs of Life* concert, which will be held at 3:00 pm at Saint Mark Presbyterian Church at 10701 Old Georgetown Road, North Bethesda, MD, 20852. Again, guests are asked for a monetary donation which will benefit Interfaith Works Clothing Center. If you would like to usher, or to help in any other way, please send an email to shirareeves@gmail.com. See you there!

Ina Rae Kramer

–

News from the Kensington/North Chevy Chase Interfaith Consortium for Justice and Compassion

Under the umbrella of the Kensington/North Chevy Chase Ministerium, a fledgling organization of lay leaders exists, made up of members of groups within our neighborhood's religious institutions - groups devoted to helping "the least of these." On March 3rd, it was Warner's turn to host this group.

At earlier meetings we'd shared information about our planned activities (Here at Warner, we post these "invitations" on the Coming Up section of the Commission to the Community's bulletin board), however this time we invited a speaker from Bethesda Cares.

John Mendez, the organization's new Executive Director, a very knowledgeable and compassionate man himself, introduced the 12 of us who attended (representing five different religious organizations) to a segment of society that most of us knew nothing about: the chronically homeless persons who live on the streets in our area. Chronically homeless persons are mostly men, and mostly veterans, and often have been living on the streets for years. They feel safer on the street than inside, although their life expectancy on the street is very short.

Bethesda Cares has two priorities that go hand-in-hand: 1) to get the client to agree to live in an apartment, and then 2) to teach skills that are needed to live inside safely (i.e. the use of stoves, bathrooms, washing machines, door keys, etc.). Only when both are accomplished can the organization begin to address other needs. We gained an appreciation that it takes great skill and devotion to earn a chronically homeless person's trust, and the process can take several years. We were grateful to have had this eye-opening experience; it is one we will not forget. There will be follow-up. Please remember to check the "Coming Up" section of

the Community bulletin board. There are many interesting opportunities for everyone!

Ina Rae Kramer, Chair
Commission to the Community.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Earth Day Earth Care Fair

When: **Sunday, April 22, 2018**, 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Where: Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

What: All ages are welcome to come, learn, and share in a fun event celebrating the ways we care for the Earth. There will be family activities, Give-aways, LED Light-bulb Swap, Plant demos.

This is a community event, so invite your friends and neighbors. You can pick up a flyer from the Social Hall bulletin board or the church office.

Organizations represented:

Montgomery County: Dept. Environmental Protection, Master Gardeners, RainScapes, Weed Warriors; MCBA Beekeeper, MC Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, the Learning Center for Young Children, Warner Youth, and more.

Bring up to three incandescent light bulbs to exchange for FREE LED bulbs.

Visit our website: www.warnermemorial.org and Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WarnerMemorial/>

WARNER PEOPLE

In Memoriam—Ruth Ness

Ruth Ness and her husband Bob were long time members of Warner, who participated joyfully in the life of the church. A memorial service will be held at Warner Memorial on Tuesday, April 3 at 2:00 p.m. There will be a reception in the Common Room, following the service. We keep the Ness family in our prayers.

April Birthdays

- 1 Grace Hill
- 2 Andrew Bresee
- 3 Paul Perkins
- 4 Amy Brammer
- 5 Kathy France, Jeffrey Meredith
- 7 David Roth
- 8 June Eakin, Andrea Moody
- 9 Mary Lou Armstrong
- 10 Helen Dean, Tim McGrath
- 12 John Barber, Karen Buitano, Madison Chase
- 20 John Murphy, Ted Rosche
- 21 Olivia Gillette
- 22 Ray Enright
- 23 Ed Burr, Doris Robbins
- 29 Judy Burr, Lee Perry, Edith Salzberg
- 30 Hati deJesus



Congratulations to Doris Robbins!

Here at Warner, we love to receive and share happy news about our members and friends. The Bowens sent to the church a page from Kindley Assisted Living, which featured our very own Doris Robbins. Residents at Kindley have been so helpful to and supportive of one another that they decided to create an award to celebrate these acts of kindness, and to recognize the various ways an individual has contributed to their community. Doris is their first-ever recipient of the Kindley Good Neighbor Award!

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Home Page <http://www.warnermemorial.org>

Please see bulletin boards outside the Main Office

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Music Director: Peter Smeallie

Organist: Sungho Paik

Director, Learning Center for Young Children: Angela Goolsby

301-949-2933

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