

January 2016

THE WARNER MEMO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

www.warnermemorial.org

[January Online Calendar](#)

Stay in touch on social media: <https://www.facebook.com/WarnerMemorial/>

WORSHIPING TOGETHER IN JANUARY

Sunday, January 3

Communion

Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:1-5, 10-18
“God’s Word Fleshed Out”

Sunday, January 10

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:15-22
“Up Fired”

Sunday, January 17

Isaiah 62:1-5; John 2:1-11
“A Rejoicing God”

Sunday, January 24

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21
“What and How”

Sunday, January 31

1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30
“Love That Keeps Running”

Every day of the week, you can help adults and children in our community who are struggling below the poverty level. Please remember to bring cans and boxes of non-perishable food for the **Mid-County United Ministries’** food pantry in Wheaton. Together, we can continue to fill the big wooden “hunger barrel” in the Warner narthex. Thank you!

WARNER WELCOMING STATEMENT

All people are of sacred worth and God loves everyone without exception. We welcome all people into our worship, fellowship, membership, and leadership. Believers, seekers, and doubters are all welcome at Warner. We are an affirming and supportive spiritual community that celebrates God’s infinite love, wisdom, and grace through worship, music, education, mission, and fellowship. Though we are all unique, we are united in loving and praising God and in loving each other. We are committed to communing together in such a way that we give witness to Christ’s sacrificial life, redeeming death, and glorious resurrection. Loved and accepted by God, our congregation offers love and acceptance to all.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear members and friends,

A seminary professor who lives in a rural part of northern Georgia, named Barbara Brown Taylor, reflects on where she lives in her book entitled An Altar in the World. She writes, “When I first moved to the land where I live, I shared it with a herd of cows. The first thing I noticed about them was that they were pure white. The second thing I noticed was how predictable they were. With a hundred acres at their disposal, they had worn narrow paths across those acres to their favorite watering holes, shady spots, and clover patches. When they wanted to get from one of those places to another, they lined up single file and followed the tracks they had made across vast expanses of pasture. Some of these tracks were no more than eight inches wide, which is about one-fourth the width of a cow. Yet the cows knew exactly where to put their feet, even without looking.”

She continues: “Since I soon found myself following those same tracks when I walked the land, I think I understand something about why the cows use them. In most cases, the tracks mark the shortest route from point A to point B. Where they do not, that is because the cows have found ways to get where they are going without expending too many calories. In these cases, the tracks avoid both steep climbs and dicey descents, choosing long stretches under leafy tree lines wherever possible.”

The author writes a bit about how the paths allow the cows to unthinkingly head toward their destination. And then she adds, “I am convinced that this is normal human behavior, which means that something extra is needed to override (this cow path practice). Why override it? Because once you leave the cow path, the unpredictable territory is full of life. True, you cannot always see where you are putting your feet. This means you can no longer afford to stay unconscious. You can no longer count on the beat-down, red dirt path making all of your choices for you. Leaving it, you agree to make your own choices for a spell. You agree to become aware of each step you take, tuning all of your senses to exactly where you are and exactly what you are doing.” The author then goes on to describe some of the wonders she discovers when she gets off the beaten path, like wild blue iris, or the round bed in the tall grass where the doe sleeps with her twin fawns at night, as well as the wonders she discovers when she departs her routine behaviors while she is away from the field adjacent to where she lives.

The beginning of a new year is a good time to assess whether we want to stay on the same ‘cow paths’ we have been on. Consider venturing forth and exploring other options in your journey – you might get to see some other wonders which would enrich.

Ready to explore new paths,

Kirby Lawrence Hill

SPECIAL NOTES

COME TO OUR LIBRARY FOR A “BOOK TALK” ON JANUARY 17 AND “POETRY READING” ON FEBRUARY 7

You are invited to come to a book talk on Sunday January 17 in the Warner library at 12:30 pm. Susan Fulton will review *H is for Hawk* by Helen MacDonald. In this book, a young woman tries to counteract her deep mourning at the loss of her father by training a falcon. On Sunday Feb 7 we invite one and all to come following worship and share your favorite love poem in the Warner library.

YOUR TWO CENTS-A-MEAL—COINS, CURRENCY, CHECKS AND ACTION!



On Sunday, December 20, we collected a counted \$340.00, with the discretionary 40% going to Rainbow Place, the shelter for homeless women located in Rockville Presbyterian church. From your donations on the 3rd Sunday of every month, Warner’s two cents and meal project contributes to hunger relief nearby and, through Presbyterian programs, the larger world community. Thanks to all who donate to this effort!

--Ann Rakow

We are re-printing this article from the Nominating Committee, as we each consider the roles we can play in the life of the church during this new year.

“Answering God’s Call”

We are all called to answer God’s call in one way or another, perhaps in several ways. At Warner Memorial church we have many opportunities to answer that call; each of us searches our time and skills inventory to find ways to answer that call.

Each year the Warner Nominating Committee searches for candidates to serve on the Session, the Board of Deacons, and the next Nominating Committee. This year we asking each of you to pray for guidance in how you might answer the call to serve in these ways.

The Warner Memorial Nominating Committee

BOARD OF DEACONS

REVIEWING CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES...AND LOOKING FORWARD

During the holiday season, the deacons delivered Christmas baskets as well as poinsettias to our homebound members. The deliveries not only provide food for the body, but also food for the soul...and provide opportunities to bring a little cheer to our folks who cannot get to Warner.

Do you know that the Board of Deacons does not receive money from the operating budget of the church? We rely totally on donations from members and friends of the church, and the Deacons Fund is collected the first Sunday of every month. Such donations allow us to continue our rich program of extending our ministry of compassion not only to Warner but to the community as well, throughout the year.



On January 31st, the deacons will host the annual "Souper Bowl" luncheon after the 11:00 a.m. service. We will serve lots of varieties of soups along with crackers, cheese, bread, and other accompaniments. Do plan on joining us in the Social Hall. Following the luncheon, please stay for the meeting to discuss Warner's Annual Report.

At our January meeting, we will welcome our new deacons, Chris Robins and Mark Bocchetti. The Deacons new Moderator is Alan Schroeder, and our new Vice-Moderator is Nancy Lawrence Hill. Chris Bragg is continuing as Secretary, and Mary Lou Armstrong is staying as our treasurer.

After four years, I am rotating off the Deacons, so this is my last article for the *MEMO*. I want to thank all my fellow Deacons for their inspiration, dedication and hard work in their ministry to the congregation and community. Serving as moderator for three of those years, it has been my honor and privilege to assist with Warner's ministry of compassion along with this fine group of deacons.

Blessings to all for 2016,

Elizabeth Bunn

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. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP TEAM



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

CLASS WRAP-UP

In the wake of our Environmental Stewardship classes, the papal encyclical “Laudate Sei,” and the U.N. COP 21 agreement, what can we do? In Micah 6:8 we find instruction in “*what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?*” In the PC(USA) document “Power to Change” we are urged, “*Presbyterians can set an important example of stewardship by not only minimizing our energy consumption, but also by pursuing a carbon neutral lifestyle.*” But “*how?*” you ask.

Here are some examples that were presented in our fall classes:

- ✓ If you have financial investments, you may use faith-based investing and seek out those that are socially responsible, either in mutual funds or equities. This means you screen your investments for environmental, social, and governance criteria. SRI screens are often offered by investment companies. Rates of return are often similar to less-responsible instruments. For more information visit:
<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/mrti/>
or <http://www.ussif.org/sribasics>
- ✓ Advocate for change in the public arena. Federal, state and local governments will play a critical role in large changes. One easy way to participate is to be a part of an advocacy group, find links to some on our own website at:
<http://www.warnermemorial.org/pages/page.asp?pageid=357210>.
- ✓ Sign up to receive updates about actions you can take from home. Maryland can be a leader in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. On December 16th, a Maryland climate change panel called for the state to reduce its emissions by 40% compared with 2006 levels in the next 15 years. (Washington Post 12/17/15) Your communications can support this move in our legislature.
- ✓ The third E.S.T. class addressed actions in our own homes with the following examples (*on the next page*):

- Have an energy audit on your home to discover ways to save money and save energy. Available free from PEPCO or a more comprehensive audit by local professionals. There are grants & rebates to help pay for changes.
- Consider rooftop solar panels or purchasing renewable energy as your electric source.
- Use alternatives to toxic chemicals.
- Eat less meat, especially beef.
- Put in conservation landscaping and native plants.

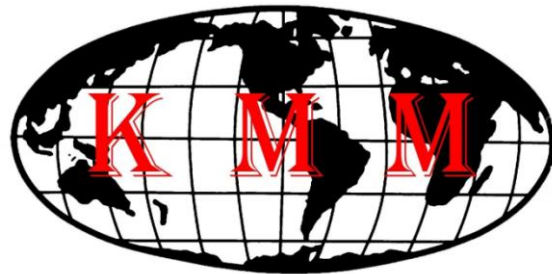
The EST has copies of articles on “light bulb shopping made simple”, “how to get rid of practically anything”, PEPCO programs and rebates, and affordable clean energy, along with others. Just ask June Eakin or Barbara Shaw how you can pick one up.

As an Earth Care Congregation, WMPC seeks not only to take actions in our building, but to help each member be a steward of God’s creation.

* * * * *

Grades K through 4 are invited to join

KENSINGTON MUSIC MAKERS



2016 MINI-SESSION

A fun and interactive music experience featuring singing, percussion ensemble, improvisation and songs from around the world!

The music makers will share their talent during
LCYC’s WINTERFEST 2016!

Led by Warner’s Music Director, Peter Smeallie

Monday, January 25 and Monday, February 1, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 6, 2016 at Winterfest

WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10123 Connecticut Avenue
Kensington, Maryland 20895

To register, or for more information, please contact Jan Moody: (jdmoody3@gmail.com)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



As we say farewell to 2015, fond memories of our Christmas Gathering at Lisa Smeallie's festively decorated home and Nancy Lawrence Hill's piano accompaniment fortify us for the coming New Year. We had a lively evening during which words spoken vied with words sung. Needless to say there was no "dead air"! Nancy had her coat on and was heading out the door when she turned around to play one more song so a latecomer could join in one last carol. Not to mention the numerous delicious cookies displayed and



consumed, which added to the holiday cheer. We all had a great time; you may want to plan now to attend this event next year. We are fortunate to be able to justify the cookie consumption with the knowledge that most of the cookies ultimately wound up in the tins prepared for the Deacon baskets and for Warner's staff.



Many thanks go to all who helped with the annual PW Cookie Reception on December 13th as well as the annual filling of the tins. We had an especially lovely and generous variety of cookies this year, seems like many folks were in the mood to bake.

HOLIDAY GIFT FAIR

When last we went to press we were just about to hold our second annual Holiday Gift Fair. Once again this was a worthwhile event that was well-supported by Warnerites. JVI International did not hesitate to return this year and we are so pleased to support this

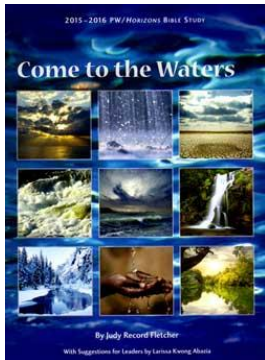


organization that is focused on women's issues globally. Susan Kirk, our JVI liaison reported that sales this year were increased by \$500 over last year and nearly doubled. PW added tea and cocoa mix to the selection of Equal Exchange products sold and extended the sales

throughout the holidays. Thanks again for your support and we also want to remind you that all proceeds are put toward PW mission, local or national.

REFLECTIONS CIRCLE

The next meeting of this circle will be held **Sunday, January 10 at 9:30AM**, location at Warner to be announced. The group is following the 2015-2016 *Horizons Bible study*, “**Come to the Waters**”. So far this has been an intimate gathering but we remain very pleased to be able to provide this option. Please contact Lora McGlade if you have any questions and to obtain your book if you want to have it before the first meeting.

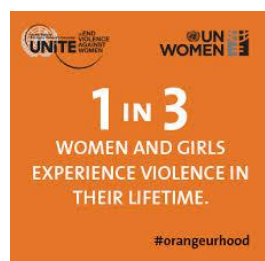
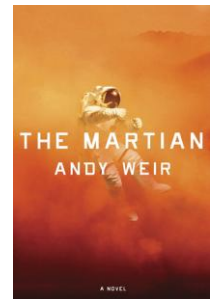


JOY CIRCLE

The Joy Circle will continue its study at the January 2016 meeting to allow members to attend the annual PW Christmas Gathering. The next meeting will be **Tuesday, January 12th at 7:30 PM** in the Common Room/Library and we will discuss Lesson Four: Dangerous Waters—God’s Deliverance. The focus of the lesson is the Israelites crossing of “... the Jordan River; the Psalmist is emotionally and spiritually drowning—everyone needs God’s help. God does not disappoint.” We will “...Consider the ways God saved the Israelites and how God saves us today. Study books are \$9.50 each. Please contact June Eakin, if you have not already done so and plan to buy a study book. We look forward to seeing you!! Nancy Lawrence Hill will be leading the lesson that evening. If you would like to serve as host, please contact June Eakin.

BOOK GROUP

We will be gathering at Ruth Harvey’s home on **Friday, January 22nd at 7:30 PM** to discuss our fourth book of the season, “The Martian”, by Andy Weir. If you would like to bring a snack or beverage, that would be great. From the web, “a truly remarkable thriller: an impossible-to-put-down suspense novel that manages to read like a real-life survival tale.” As always, having read the book is not a prerequisite for participation in our discussion! Please join us.



The United Nations Secretary-General’s Campaign UNiTE, to End Violence against Women, has proclaimed the 25th of each month as “**Orange Day**”—a day to take action and raise awareness about violence against women and girls. As a bright and optimistic color, orange represents a future free from violence against women and girls, for the UNiTE Campaign. Orange Day calls upon activists, governments and UN partners to mobilize people and highlight issues relevant to preventing and ending violence against women and girls, not only once a year, but on the 25th of every month.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NATIONAL CAPITAL PRESBYTERY PRAYER BREAKFAST

NCP-PW will be gathering for its annual **Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, January 30, 2016, 9:00-12:30, at Westminster Presbyterian Church** 2701 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22302. In the event of the need to cancel due to inclement weather, the snow date is Saturday, February 6, 2016. Come to PRAY—silently and with PW Sisters, PRAY to help end women’s poverty. Justice Flows from PRAYER! Registration details and directions to follow! We will likely plan to carpool from Warner. Contact Sue Burns if you would like to attend.



LOCAL MISSION SUPPORT ALWAYS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED!

Thanks for your support of PW this year. By making direct contributions and ordering Equal Exchange products you have enabled us to make donations to organizations such as MUM, Rainbow Place, International Rescue Committee, Brendan Ogg Memorial Fund, World Vision, and Young Adult Volunteers. PW’s budget continues to be derived 100% from your donations. We are so grateful to have not only sustained but increased our local mission projects.

Get connected to other Presbyterian Women in our area on the webpage www.presbyterianwomenncp.org.

NEW IDEAS...

We are always seeking new ideas for activities, projects, etc., that would interest two, three, or more Warner women. All it takes is an email or phone call to one other person to get the planning started... don’t be shy.

Should you have suggestions for new endeavors, please contact any member of the PW Coordinating Team: Sue Burns, Lora McGlade, Karen Cook, JoEllen LaPrade, Lisa Smeallie, June Eakin, Kay Gorman, or Charity Singletary. Note that the next CT meeting is currently scheduled for Saturday, January 23, 2016, at church – ad hoc attendees are most welcome.

SPECIAL NOTES



STEPHEN MINISTRY PROGRAM OFFERS CONFIDENTIAL CARING

Our congregation is blessed to participate in the Stephen Ministry, a nationwide support program. This program provides concerned, confidential listening by trained caregivers. To find out more about Stephen Ministry or to receive such care, please contact Barbara Jaquette (301-593-2875) or Rev. Hill at the church office (301-949-2900).

SIGN-UP CHARTS

Thank you to all who volunteered to greet, usher and donate flowers for our worship services in 2015. If you are able to give of your time to usher, or if you are able to make a flower dedication and donation in 2016, please do sign up on the charts, which are located on the bulletin board to the right of the main office door. Thank you!



DRIVERS WANTED

As we mentioned in recent issues of the *MEMO*, the Warner Board of Deacons is looking for anyone who would be willing to provide transportation on an occasional basis for those homebound folks who are in need of rides to Sunday services. If you are interested, please contact any deacon, or the church office at 301-949-2900.

DONATE TO W.M.P.C. THROUGH AMAZON.COM

If you placed orders through Amazon.com during the Christmas season, you probably saw the pop-up notice about selecting a recipient for Amazon's donation program "AmazonSmile". The program gives 0.5% of the purchase price of the eligible items that you buy, to a charitable organization of your choice. Warner Church is a registered recipient of funds from this program, so please choose Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church, Inc. Thank you!

Thanks to the Outreach and Fellowship Commission for also spreading the word about this program.

FROM THE MEMO EDITORS

**Thank
You**

Thanks to all those people who helped with this newsletter by submitting articles and notices either monthly or occasionally describing church activities and programs, or by helping prepare the *MEMO* for mailing.

WARNER PEOPLE

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Brigid Gillette, Holly Trout
- 3 Ana Pinkus, Babs Sausser, Kate Zimmerman
- 5 John Locher
- 6 John Morris
- 7 Robert Lynch, Clementine Trott, Douglas Victory
- 9 Janet Tennent
- 10 Ben Cope
- 14 Richard Kuzmyak
- 15 Kathy Stell
- 17 Nancy Lawrence Hill, Amy Horman
- 18 Sue Maddox
- 21 Max Carroll
- 22 Lillian Gardner
- 25 Virander Datta
- 26 Kyle Smeallie, Usha Soni
- 27 Jackson Trott
- 29 Norm Carlson
- 30 Donna McNeil
- 31 Hilary Bragg



FEBRUARY ARTICLES

Please submit articles and notices for the February issue of the Warner *MEMO* by **Wednesday, January 20**. To all of our contributors: You may send your material via disk or typed hardcopy to the church office, or via e-mail to memo@warnermemorial.org ... and we thank you for your contributions!

Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

10123 Connecticut Avenue

Kensington, MD 20895

301-949-2900

FAX 301-933-7704

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

- Please see bulletin boards outside the Main Office -

Pastor: Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

Director, Youth & Education: Jan Moody

Music Director: Peter Smeallie

Organist: Sungho Paik

Director, Learning Center for Young Children: Karen Murphy

301-949-2933

Administrative Assistant: Dina Bickel

Stephen Ministry Contact: Barbara Jaquette

301-593-2875

MEMO Editors: Tiff Carroll & Sharon Allen

MEMO e-mail: memo@warnermemorial.org