

January 2018

# THE WARNER MEMO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Epiphany



[January Calendar](#)

# FROM THE PASTOR

## This Season

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

I love that song. As a matter of fact, I love just about all of our Christmas carols. And I love singing them in church. Perhaps, that's why it always hits me the day or week after Christmas that it's almost over. The Christmas season has pretty much come to an end, and we probably won't be singing another Christmas carol for another 11 months!

Just so you know, I'm not talking about radio carols. You know, roasting chestnuts while it snows. I'm not talking extras parties, Santa caps or going in debt either. I don't dislike all that, but I don't miss it either. What I miss is our season, church, the one we mark first during Advent with purple candles, and then with the story of Jesus' birth and all those wonderful carols. That season comes and goes pretty fast. Christmas Eve through Epiphany is all, sometimes only including one Sunday.

Now, I know we often start Christmas early. I know we deck the halls before the 24<sup>th</sup>. I know I preached about Mary on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. And I know we sang carols in Advent. But then the big day comes, and as long as it took to get here (remember seeing the ads even before Thanksgiving), it clears out so quickly. I thought about that the other night after our beautiful candlelight service. I also talked with some of our leaders, and was glad to hear we were all in agreement. The tree is NOT coming down just yet. I've also decided that my crèche will remain in place in my office. And yes, we will be singing some more carols, Warner.

Listen, as I write this article we're staring down the New Year. But in the church, well, we've still got the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas Day and Epiphany of the Lord (which is actually on a Saturday this year, but we're going to mark it on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>). So don't

take down those trees, lights and wreathes just yet. Figuratively speaking, of course. Perhaps, literally. The point is, we're about to hear a little more of the greatest story ever told. The story of how God's only Son came to be with us. God loved us so much that he moved into our neighborhood, church. And frankly, in a world where we hear so much bad news, I love hearing this Good News.

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.  
G-l-o-r-i-a in excelsis Deo! G-l-o-r-i-a in excelsis Deo!*

Peace and Goodwill,  
Rev. Todd

## WORSHIPING TOGETHER

### **Sunday, January 7th**

*Epiphany Sunday/Lord's Supper*  
Isaiah 60:1-7, Matthew 2:1-12  
"Baby Shower"



### **Sunday, January 14th**

*Second Sunday after Epiphany/Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday*  
Matthew 2:13-23  
"Called Out"

### **Sunday, January 21st**

*Third Sunday after Epiphany*  
Luke 2:41-52  
"Call and Response"

### **Sunday, January 28th**

*Fourth Sunday after Epiphany/Ordination and Installation*  
Mark 1:1-13  
"Just the Beginning"

***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!***

# WORSHIP AND MUSIC

**The flower chart for 2018 is now posted outside the church office.** Please sign up for your favorite dates! The cost of the flower arrangements remains \$40.

**We thank everyone who donated poinsettias for the Christmas season.** The sanctuary

looked especially nice. Be sure to place your check for the flowers (\$10 each) in the collection plate and mark the memo line “flowers”. We also thank



everyone who participated in both of the Christmas Eve services. The services were quite different, involved lots of participation from the congregation, and were both very special.

**And while we are thanking people, we want to thank the youth for taking on the service project of placing the cones and parking signs on Connecticut Ave. before Sunday service.** This may seem like a small project, but for many of us who usher these objects are too heavy to lift. So it really is a big project, deserves a big THANK YOU and should help more people to feel comfortable to volunteer as ushers!

*Thank You*

**The need for ushers, greeters, liturgists, and counters continues as the new year begins.** Please bring your calendars and check the charts outside the office door to see where you can help.

**BIG NEWS! We finally have large print versions of our pew Bibles available.** In the past we have had large print copies of many versions of the Bible but not the New Revised Standard Version that we use in our pews. Two copies are now located on the ledge on either side of the sanctuary. Please use them and then return them to the ledge after the service. Be sure to let anyone who might benefit from these large print Bibles know that



they are available. Also, help make people aware of our large print Sunday bulletins that include the hymns being sung each Sunday.

**We are looking for someone experienced with upholstery work.** The two chairs in the chancel which have beautiful handmade needlepoint seats are in need of cushion replacement. It is not a big job for someone who knows how but experience helps. Is this a job YOU could do? Or does anyone have a recommendation for someone who could do this?

**Worship & Music Commission is looking forward to the New Year and would love to have more people join us.** We meet on the first Sunday of the month after church during the winter months and on the first Monday evening of the month during the rest of the year. This year is an especially good time to join us if you are interested in looking at our time of worship together - what we do, when we do it, why we do it, and more.

--Kay Gorman

## BUILDING AND GROUNDS

### **New Building Access**

In early January, we will be updating the exterior access to our building. The cylinders of the exterior locks will be changed and staff will have a key for power-loss emergencies. The present "church key" will continue in use for interior doors. A new entry system will be installed at the Washington Street door and the LCYC door on Calvert Street. It will allow access via a plastic fob or a code instead of a metal key. Just hold the fob near the access pad and the door will unlock briefly. The door will lock upon closing. You can exit all doors of the church at anytime.

On Sundays, for special events and group meetings, the doors can be unlocked from the inside to allow for unimpeded access to the building. During church business hours, ring the doorbell and an

intercom at each of the two doors will alert the church office, pastor, and LCYC offices with a doorbell and allow 2-way communication. The door can then be unlocked remotely from the office. You can still ring the old-style doorbell at the Calvert Street door by the church office. Video cameras at the two intercom locations may be added at a later time.

People who need access to the building at times when the church office is not open can request a fob from the church office. There will be a \$10 deposit, which will be cheerfully refunded when you return the fob.

These measures are being taken proactively to update our security to current standards for the increased protection of our staff, our students, and our facility.

### **Sand for Use on the Walkways**

Be Careful! It's the season for ice and snow, so buckets of de-icing salt and sand have been deployed at several doors. **DO NOT USE SALT** on the concrete on the east (Calvert Street) side of our building or the Sanctuary steps and patio--the new concrete will be damaged!!



In those places, clear the snow/ice manually and use sand (in buckets) for traction. Like last year, we have a service company contract to clear snow/ice when accumulation is greater than 2 inches. We will need volunteers to clear walks for less snow. When needed, June will contact volunteers by email and phone.

--June Eakin

## COMMUNITY – MISSION



### A Joyous Joy Offering Update

The Commission to the Community is happy to report that as of this previous Sunday, December 17, our Warner congregation has donated \$1,205 to the Christmas Joy Offering to assist retired church staff in need and to support the education of future church leaders at Presbyterian affiliated colleges. The Joy Offering welcomes all donations during Advent and Epiphany. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

### Gifts Brought to the Angel Tree

Generous members of Warner, thank you for the many lovely and thoughtfully chosen gifts which have appeared in and around the box on the piano in the social hall. (Whether our Angel Tree was visible there or, as it sometimes was, hidden behind the curtain on the stage.) Next year we hope to set up the tree in the library where it won't need to be moved.



As I write this, Christmas is still five days away, but already I have several large bags full of gifts which will certainly gladden the hearts of the children who receive them at Interfaith Works, and by our giving them to the children of the poor, who are certainly counted among “the least of these,” we also give them to the Christ child.

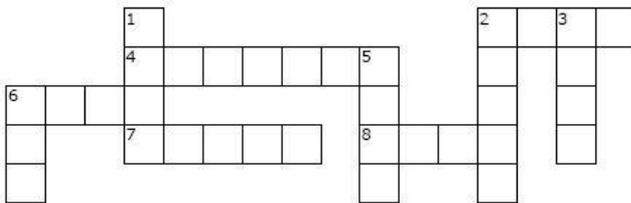
*“Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”* Matthew 25:40, (NRSV)

With gratitude to those who purchased the gifts, and to the children and youth who made angels to decorate the tree. May you experience comfort and joy throughout the holy season.

--Ina Rae Kramer

# The Visit of the Magi

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.  
Matthew 2:11 (NIV)



## ACROSS

2. The wise men who visited Jesus and Mary and Joseph shortly after Jesus was born
4. A substance that is burned to produce a sweet smell
6. To come into existence by birth
7. Presents which are given without cost to the one receiving them
8. A twinkling point of light in the night sky

## DOWN

1. A male ruler of a country
2. A sticky substance with a strong smell which is used in making perfume
3. A valuable, shiny, yellow metal used to make coins and jewellery
5. The direction which is opposite to west
6. To kneel or bend the head or body forward as a show of respect

MAGI  
GIFTS

BOW  
EAST

STAR  
BORN

GOLD  
MYRRH

KING  
INCENSE

# ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

## Commission to the Community Sunday Speaker Series! on Environmental Legislation

Sunday, January 21, 1:30 PM – 3:00PM

Organized by WMPC's Environmental  
Stewardship Team, Featuring presentations by:



Nora Leccese: Interim Associate for Domestic Poverty and  
Environmental Issues, PC(USA) Office of Public Witness (OPW)

Emily Wirzba: Legislative Representative, Sustainable Energy &  
Environment at Friends Committee on National Legislation (FNCL)

Avery Davis: Program Manager, DC/MD/VA Interfaith Power and  
Light (IPL)

Learn more about federal and state environmental policy,  
including:

- The protection of sacred sites with national monument status,  
and environmental justice as it relates to indigenous rights.
- The bipartisan house climate solutions caucus. Read about the  
FNCL's new center to host bipartisan dialogue, promoting this  
work <https://t.co/Mrg8iDhf7z>
- The Maryland Clean Energy Jobs campaign, which has three  
primary facets: (1) Increase the Renewable Portfolio Standard  
(RPS) to 50% by 2030, (2) provide increased funding for clean  
energy jobs programs benefiting minority populations, and (3)  
remove trash incineration from the RPS. Read more about the  
campaign here: <https://www.cleanenergyjobs.org/>

The event will also include a hands-on training that energizes and  
informs us about speaking to elected officials about policy that  
impacts creation.

--Submitted by Dave Grace

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## Christmas is cookie-time

We enjoyed another wonderful evening of carols and cookies. The following Sunday we filled 26 tins with cookies provided by the congregation. Thank you! The tins were delivered to church staff and the homebound.



**On Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> there are two PW activities to choose from:**

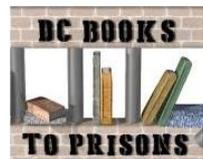
**1. The NCP Prayer Breakfast is 8:30-12:30** at Christ Presbyterian Church in Fairfax. Start the New Year in a meaningful, prayerful



morning in community with caring women. Therese Taylor -Stinson, author, spiritual director, and retreat leader will deliver the keynote on the theme of “Journey to Justice: Listening, Praying, Responding”. Come listen to personal stories from women who have suffered from

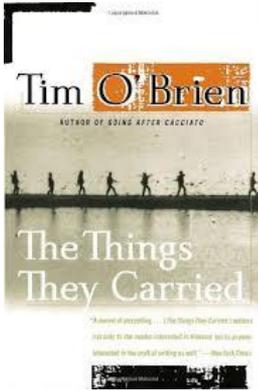
various injustices. We will carpool, so contact Sue Burns if you’d like to attend.

**2. DC Books to Prisons is open on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at Foundry United Methodist Church in D.C.** This outreach to



prisoners across the USA is a rewarding experience, especially for those who love to read. Donations of softcover books are always welcome, especially dictionaries. Contact Madalena Aspiras if you’d like to come along or donate. ([madalena.aspiras@gmail.com](mailto:madalena.aspiras@gmail.com))

## Book Club



The January meeting of the PW Book Club will be **Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**. We are looking forward to meeting again, since our last gathering in November. Our book for January is, **“The Things They Carried”, by Tim O’Brien**. From the web: “... Only a handful of novels and short stories have managed to clarify, in any lasting way, the meaning of the war in Vietnam for America and for the soldiers who served there... he captures the war's

*pulsating rhythms and nerve-racking dangers. But he goes much further. By moving beyond the horror of the fighting to examine with sensitivity and insight the nature of courage and fear, by questioning the role that imagination plays in helping to form our memories and our own versions of truth, he places "The Things They Carried" high up on the list of best fiction about any war.”* If you would like the book list or have any questions, please reach out to Lisa Smeallie.

## Fair Trade Goodies

Yum! We’ve got Equal Exchange coffee, tea, and chocolate. If you’d like to buy some before our sale in February, please contact JoEllen LaPrade.

## Your Warner Cookbook Recipes

The recipes are trickling in for the new Warner Cookbook. Have you prepared a dish, baked cookies, or fed your fellow Warnerites? Please send your recipe to Lisa at [lcsmeallie@comcast.net](mailto:lcsmeallie@comcast.net) or drop off a paper copy to the PW mailbox in the



church office. Did you try the peppermint eggnog punch at the cookie reception?

## Contributions to PW

Our 2018 budgeted income of \$1,365 depends on your contributions. A regular monthly or quarterly offering is a healthy habit for you and our PW mission work. *“A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great.”* Proverbs 18:16 NIV

**PW Coordinating Team (PWCT)** meets **Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.** in the Trinity Room.

**Joy Circle** meets **Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** in the church library to study Lesson 7: “According to the Non-Canonical Gospels” in the Bible study, *Who Is Jesus?* Background scripture: Matthew 1-2, Luke 1-2. Leader: Sue Burns

## Our Bulletin Board

Take a look at the Presbyterian Women bulletin board outside the church office. It’s always changing, you don’t want to miss Sheri’s artistic creations!



**The 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held August 2-5, 2018, in Louisville, Kentucky.** 2018 is also the year that PW celebrates its 30th anniversary! The 2018 Churchwide Gathering registration book is available

now! Yes, registration opens on January 15, 2018, but planning (and daydreaming) begins early! And the booklet has all the information you need to envision, plan and promote all the Gathering has to

offer! You can [download the registration book](#) or [order a copy](#). If you've ever attended, you know it's an exciting and inspiring event That every Presbyterian Woman should attend at least once! Scholarships are available. Contact June Eakin if you're interested.

## WARNER PEOPLE

### January Birthdays

- 2 Holly Trout
- 3 Cam Pinkus, Babs Sausser, Kate Zimmerman
- 5 John Locher, Andrew Och
- 6 John Morris
- 7 Clementine Trott, Douglas Victory
- 9 Janet Tennent
- 10 Ben Cope
- 13 Rev. Thomas Woodward
- 14 Rich Kuzmyak
- 15 Kathy Stell
- 18 Sue Maddox
- 20 Angela Goolsby
- 21 Max Carroll
- 22 Lill Gardner
- 25 Virander Datta
- 26 Kyle Smeallie, Usha Soni
- 27 Jackson Trott
- 29 Norm Carlson
- 30 Donna McNeil
- 31 Hilary Bragg



**You're Invited to See *Alive Inside*, January 6, 7:30 p.m.**

Coming to the Warner Social Hall theater--*Alive Inside* by filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett—a joyous documentary chronicling the transformative power of music for people with dementia, mental illness, and physical issues, and the illuminating interviews with medical experts and the patients' families.



This uplifting movie follows a volunteer who is providing individualized music for patients in nursing homes and elsewhere, and shows the revitalizing experience of music for these patients. WOW! Music brings a human connection and healing that medication does not.

Please mark your calendars and invite your friends for **Saturday, January 6, 7:30 – 9:00 pm.**

*The movie is free, courtesy of our co-sponsor, Montgomery Hospice.*

**February 2018 MEMO Issue**

Please submit your completed article to [memo@warnermemorial.org](mailto:memo@warnermemorial.org) by **Saturday, January 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!

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*Please see bulletin boards outside the Main Office*

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