

July/August, 2014

THE WARNER MEMO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

www.warnermemorial.org

[Online July Calendar](#)

[Online Aug Calendar](#)

WORSHIPING TOGETHER IN SUMMER

This will begin a sermon series called, “Faith and _____”.

Communion Sunday, July 6

Deuteronomy 6:20-25; Galatians 5:1, 13-25
“Faith and Freedom”

Sunday, July 13

1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Luke 16:10-13
“Faith and Faithfulness”

Sunday, July 20

Mark 9:14-29; John 20:19-29
“Faith and Doubt”

Sunday, July 27

Psalm 8; Genesis 1:1-24a
“Faith and Science”

Kirby is looking for your input for the final two weeks of the sermon series. Offer your suggestions to Kirby that fill in the blank, “Faith and _____”, for our sermons on **August 3 (Communion Sunday) and August 10.**

Sunday, August 17

Guest Minister, Diane Hutchins, Moderator of National Capital Presbytery

Sunday, August 24

Exodus 1:8-2:10; Romans 12:1-8
“Nonconformists”

Sunday, August 31

Exodus 3:1-15; Romans 12:9-21
“Bush Leaguers”

Early Outdoor Worship Service Dates

In July and August, our neighbors at Temple Emanuel graciously offer us their pavilion for our early Sunday services at 8:30 a.m. The dates when we will hold outdoor worship services there this year are every Sunday in July and all but one (the 17th) in August. In case of rain, the early services will be held in the Warner library (in the Common Room).

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear members and friends,

Our congregation's ministry is highly dependent upon volunteers. Those who serve as officers or in many other capacities around here do so without receiving the kind of compensation that puts groceries on the table. But there are some of us who do get paid for our part in the ministry of this congregation. Those salaries enable us to dedicate more hours to our form of service to Jesus Christ through Warner Church.

This may be old news to some, but I want to share the sad news that Kate Carr will be resigning as our music director at the end of August. She has served ably and well, helping us through the transition in this time following John Horman's retirement. Music plays a large role, particularly in the worship life of this congregation (thanks to our many musical volunteers). Kate will be missed.

We are glad that Alina Belenky will continue as our organist. Efforts are being made to find an interim director while a search for our new music director takes place this fall (involving some more of the volunteers around here). God will continue to work to enable good cooperation between those on staff and those who are volunteers so that we will recognize there is plenty of reason for each of us to do what is described in Psalm 104:33 – "I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being."

Amen?

Kirby Lawrence Hill

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTIONS IN TWO PARTICULAR AREAS

Our Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s General Assembly meets every two years to determine policy and budget directives for our denomination. At its 221st meeting in Detroit in June, there were a couple of controversial issues addressed: church practices regarding marriage and divestment from three companies whose products were used in support of Israeli occupation of Palestinian areas. It is important to have factual information about what our assembly did. There is room in our denomination for those who agree or who may disagree with these particular actions. If you would like to further discuss these issues or others of concern, please contact Kirby.

SAME-GENDER MARRIAGE

The 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) agreed to grant pastors discretion in determining whether or not to conduct same-gender marriages in civil jurisdictions where such marriages are legal. The action effectively removes the ban on Presbyterian pastors marrying same-gender couples in those jurisdictions.

“Exercising such discretion and freedom of conscience under the prayerful guidance of Scripture, teaching elders may conduct a marriage service for any such couple in the place where the community gathers for worship, so long as it is approved by the session; or in such other place as may be suitable for a service of Christian worship. In no case shall any teaching elder’s conscience be bound to conduct any marriage service for any couple except by his or her understanding of the Word, and the leading of the Holy Spirit.”

The Assembly — like its Assembly Committee on Civil Union and Marriage Issues — was careful to protect the consciences of pastors on both sides of the same-gender marriage issue.

In addition to the protective language at the conclusion of the authoritative interpretation, the Assembly included a clause in the proposed amendment stating: “Nothing herein shall compel a teaching elder to perform nor compel a session to authorize the use of church property for a marriage service that the teaching elder or the session believes is contrary to the teaching elder’s or the session’s discernment of the Holy Spirit and their understanding of the Word of God.”

The Assembly also approved sending out for presbytery ratification a constitutional amendment to W-4.9001 of the PC (USA)’s *Book of Order* that would change the constitutional definition of marriage from “between a man and a woman” to “between two people, traditionally between a man and a woman.”

DIVESTMENT FROM THREE COMPANIES

The PC (USA) has a long standing commitment to peace in Israel and Palestine. We recognize the complexity of the issues, the decades-long struggle, the pain suffered and inflicted by policies and practices of both the Israeli government and Palestinian entities. We further acknowledge and confess our own complicity in both the historic and current suffering of Israeli and Palestinian. Yearning for justice and reconciliation, the 221st General Assembly (2014) recommends the following:

1. Reaffirm Israel's right to exist as a sovereign nation within secure and internationally recognized borders in accordance with the United Nations resolutions.
2. Declare its commitment to a negotiated two-state solution (two states for two peoples) in which a secure and universally recognized State of Israel lives alongside a free, viable, and secure state for the Palestinian people.
3. Instruct the Presbyterian Foundation and the Board of Pensions of the PC (U.S.A.), to divest from Caterpillar, Inc., Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola Solutions, in accord with our church's decades-long socially responsible investment (SRI) history, and not to reinvest in these companies until the Mission Responsibility Through Investment Committee of the PC(USA) is fully satisfied that product sales and services by these companies are no longer in conflict with our church investment policy. This action on divestment is not to be construed or represented by any organization of the PC (USA) as divestment from the State of Israel, or an alignment with or endorsement of the global BDS (Boycott, Divest and Sanctions) movement.
4. Reaffirm PC (USA)'s commitment to interfaith dialog and partnerships with the American Jewish, Muslim friends and Palestinian Christians and call for all presbyteries and congregations within the PC(USA) to include interfaith dialogue and relationship-building as part of their own engagement in working for a just peace.
5. Call for all foreign aid given by the U.S. government—including aid to Israel and the Palestinian Authority—to be comprehensively and transparently accounted to the American people and held to the same standards of compliance with all applicable laws.
6. Call for church advocacy for foreign-aid accountability to be directed toward its universal adherence rather than targeted for selective application to some recipients and not others.
7. Encourage Presbyterians to travel to the Holy Land, and give broad support to the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities throughout the Middle East.
8. Affirm the importance of economic measures and cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians that support and advance a negotiated two-state solution.
9. Urge all church institutions to give careful consideration to possible investments in Israel-Palestine that advance peace and improve the lives of Palestinians and Israelis.

BOARD OF DEACONS

THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DEACONS

- Did you know that a deacon accompanies Rev. Hill in taking communion to homebound members/friends of Warner? Even during the summer months, communion will be served. If you or someone you know would like to receive communion at home, please contact the church office or your deacon flock leader. Check the 2014 church directory if you are not sure who your flock leader is.

- During the summer months many activities take a hiatus. The work of the deacons still continues. Flower bouquets from Sunday services are delivered and visits to the homebound/ hospitalized members are made. Additionally, monies from the Deacons Fund will still be made available for the purchase of grocery cards for the office to distribute to the needy of the area who seek assistance through the church office.

- Plans are currently being made by the deacons for the church picnic on Rally Day in September. **If there is any Warner member/friend who has a large canopy cover that the deacons could borrow for the Church Picnic, please contact Elizabeth (Libby) Bunn : e-mail: dollface0320@gmail.com** We are also looking into how we will assist MUM (Mid-County United Ministries) with their booth at the Kensington Labor Day festivities.

A few other projects for the fall are also being discussed.

Stay tuned to Sunday bulletins and church e-mails as the time draws nearer.

Have a safe, fun, and happy summer!! See you in September!

Elizabeth Bunn, Moderator

Every day of the week, you can help feed low-income adults and children in our community. During this summer, please bring cans and boxes of non-perishable food for the Mid-county United Ministries (MUM) pantry. Together, we can continue to fill the big wooden **“For I was hungry. . .”** barrel in the Warner narthex, every week. Thank you!

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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

THE 2014 ROAD TRIP TO MONTREAT, NORTH CAROLINA



In the Montreat gift shop there are t-shirts that have John Muir's familiar phrase, "the mountains are calling me and I must go." printed above the Montreat logo. Hannah Cope, Ana Pinkus, and I heard the call this summer to return to Black Mountain, North Carolina to attend the Worship and Music Conference.

It is indeed a place for renewal and opportunities to hone skills and learn new ways of engaging in worship. We spent a week, along with hundreds of adults, youth, and children, from far and near, worshipping, singing hymns of praise, and reflecting on God's charge to serve as disciples in the 21st century. The themes for the week were embedded in the text from the hymn *Rise O Church*. The hymn text encourages the church body to:

"Rise, remember well the future God has called us to receive; present by God's loving nurture. Spirited then let us live."

Grace notes from the week included:

- Vesper services led by staff from the Downtown Church of Columbia, South Carolina
- Ana and friends performing liturgical dance for many of the worship services
- Hannah and friends singing with the adult choir (Ask her how many times she sang the Doxology during the week)
- Beginner Bell workshops
- The excellent preaching each day of The Rev. Dr. Jon Walton, minister from First Presbyterian Church of New York City
- Imaginative and creative liturgy that engaged the congregation in prayer

The week was rich with Spirit filled activities and reminders of the beauty of God's creation. We had daily affirmation of John Muir's assertion that:

"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread

Places to play in

And pray in

Where nature may heal

And give strength

To body and soul”

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2014

The week of June 16-June 20 was filled with the many amazing moments of Vacation Bible School—a special time and place where God’s children of all ages come together in worship, music, Bible study, art, science, and play to discover what the psalmist proclaims to God in Psalm 77: “You are the God who works wonders”. The Christian Education Commission shouts out a big thank you to the staff, participants, and parents who helped to make the week such a wonder filled experience. One of the art projects for the week was a quilt that included the names of all who participated during the week. It exemplifies the VBS spirit of unity and connectedness.

- Jan Moody, VBS Director



COMMUNITY

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

On Friday night, June 20, in the Warner Social Hall, “The Event” – our Warner talent show and fund-raiser – was a great success! The variety of performances and the ice cream social that followed made a first-rate and enjoyable evening. Thank you to everyone who performed, planned, attended and otherwise pitched-in. We collected over \$1,500 toward the upcoming mission trip to Oklahoma. Your donations will help those who are going on the journey and the disaster-recovery projects in Oklahoma that our team will join during the week of July 20-26.

YOUR “TWO CENTS-A-MEAL” –ALWAYS WELCOME!

We will collect your coins and dollars (in the famous red wagon in the Sanctuary) on Sunday, July 20 and Sunday, August 17. If you are available to help us count this monthly offering, please join us after worship – we usually gather to count in the Common Room. Meanwhile, we’re pleased to tell that the “2 Cents-a-Meal” collection on Sunday, June 15 added up to \$401.50! Our discretionary 40% for May and June went toward the hunger program at Shepherd’s Table in Silver Spring. For July and August, we have designated Mid-county United Ministries (MUM) in Wheaton and their food relief program as the beneficiary of that portion to come.

Thanks to all of you for keeping this vital program going. – Ann Rakow

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP TEAM

OUR SHEPHERD’S GARDEN HELPS LOCAL NEEDS

We take produce weekly to the Shepherd’s Table program in Silver Spring from the garden plot on Warner’s grounds. Will you please offer a few hours of your time to harvest, water and dig out weeds as needed? Our chief gardeners --June Eakin and Susan Bresee -- will be happy to show you what to do. It only requires one or two visits a week for a couple of hours. You can find out more by talking with June or Susan. Thanks!

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Many of us are looking forward with excitement to the completion of our building improvements and the new people they may bring into our building. The summer is a good time to get ready for visitors and volunteer opportunities abound. Our need for volunteers includes:

- Clean the heating convectors with brush and vacuum
- Paint the stripes in our parking lot
- Spot clean interior walls
- Organize the Narthex coat closet

Thanks! --Susan Kline, for B & G Commission

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

WMPC FINANCES YEAR-TO-DATE MAY 31, 2014

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual budget
Pledges	118,845.81	115,186.00	285,230.00
Total Income	161,064.63	155,016.33	386,555.00
Expenses	161,064.56	168,846.71	386,555.00
Net Income(loss)		-13,830.38	



OUTREACH & FELLOWSHIP

FELLOWSHIP HOUR SIGN-UP

Openings remain for hosts (individuals, families or groups) to provide Sunday Fellowship Hour treats following worship in late July and August. Please write your name on the Outreach bulletin board in the main hall near the church office. We look forward to these times together, whether in the Social Hall or outdoors on the patio.

WARNER WELCOMES A NEW MEMBER!

On Sunday, June 22, Warner Memorial Church welcomed Susie Sun as our newest member. Susie is a recent college graduate who lives in Kensington and has been attending our worship regularly since January. Her contact information is in the current church address directory, dated February 2014.

WARNER'S "FOOD GROUPS" TAKE USUAL SUMMER BREAK—ALL BUT ONE

During July and August, our two main potlucks – the “Potluck Group” and “Salt Shakers” - are put on hold until September or even October. However, the Breakfast Club, which meets in the Common Room at 7:30 on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, will continue to convene (when possible). If you are interested, we're looking for new recruits. After breakfast, we often read chapters and essays from inspirational book selections.

“The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.” -- Psalm 24:1-2

“Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.” -- Proverbs 3: 3

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Please take time to enjoy and celebrate this Independence Day, July 4th.

Have a safe and respectful holiday!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW SUMMER FUN !



Thanks to the fabulous women at St. Matthew's, we enjoyed yet another wonderful afternoon of fun, food, fellowship on June 14th. We not only fed our bodies, but our minds as we joined in Trivial Pursuit type game focusing on the continent of Africa. We hope to continue what has now become an annual tradition. In the center of the upper-right-handphoto above, you will see a woman, named Helen, who is 102 going on 3. She shared with us that she attended Warner as a young girl and even has a photo of her outside of the old Warner church. Meeting and chatting with her was one of the highlights of the day. In addition to women from St. Matthew and Warner, Sara Parker, from Western Pres and Margaret Washnitzer from 15th Street Pres. Joined in the fun. Both of these women were instrumental in the success of the Sisters Stand and Walk Together program in the NCP.

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN ACTIVITIES



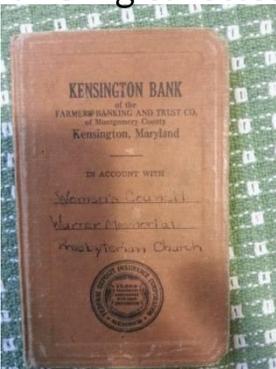
Set aside **September 27th** for the Warner Presbyterian Women's Fall Retreat at beautiful **Bon Secours Retreat Center in Marriottsville, MD**. Planning is underway; the day-long retreat will focus on mindfulness with meditation practice and yoga.



While facilities and food costs have been determined, we will be putting together our own program and trying to keep it as inexpensive, yet enriching, as possible. Look for the final cost per person in the September memo article. Registration and payment will need to be made by early September and we hope you will choose to attend.

COORDINATING TEAM NEWS

It was reported at the PW coordinating team meeting on June 7 that the PW birthday offering collected in May yielded well over \$400.00. Also the CT determined at that same meeting that there will be an archiving event open to all Presbyterian Women of Warner. Ancient materials were found during the renovation of the church that everyone can inspect and enjoy from a time when Presbyterian Women were known as the Missionary Society. Several women have responded with interest, but the more the merrier. Please join us at **10:30AM on Saturday, July**



PMS Bank Book from 1942

JOY CIRCLE

More than 15 Warner women congregated at June Eakin's home on the evening of June 10th to enjoy food, fellowship, and make plans for the 2014 Fall-Winter season of PW. Plans for the Bible Study (second Tuesday evening of each month, in the Common Room) are pretty well set - we will continue our videos series on "Uppity Women of the Bible". Still to be finalized are plans for the Book Group but we have many books from which to choose, many recommended by folks in attendance that night. Please contact Lisa Smeallie, our resident book guru, if you would like a list of the books already on the list of potential selections, have others to suggest, or would like to lead a discussion. The book group dates are not yet set, but we anticipate there will be a variety of offerings to fit your

schedules. 2013 was our maiden voyage with this effort and we are so happy and excited that it has proven to be successful.

REFLECTIONS CIRCLE

Without a defined leader to marshal the members and remind everyone when we were meeting the group sort of fizzled out this past year. It didn't help that we were not that inspired by the latest bible study guide. Karen Cook and Lora McGlade decided to think about regrouping this summer and consider options for continuation or possibly joining the bible study portion of Joy Circle. We would like to keep the bible study group on the weekend. Please contact us if you have ideas for a way forward.

KITCHEN CLEAN-UP

You may recall that a couple of years ago a group of Warner Women spent a day organizing the kitchen and making a list of needed items, after which we held a virtual kitchen shower to provide them. Now we have been approached and asked if we would be interested in spending a morning cleaning up the kitchen over the summer. Not that it is necessarily just a women's job, but we can certainly organize the effort. Please contact Sue Burns if you are interested in helping out to accomplish this task one Friday **or Saturday in July.**

THE EVENT



Warner's PW, disguised as the Presbyterian Mission Society, PMS for short, were well-represented at the recent talent show held to raise funds to support the Warner 2014 mission trip to Oklahoma. We were proud to reprise a version of the Dunlap/Kline families' Happy Warnerite skit. Characters included a teenager, farmer, gym-rat, doctor, beekeeper, baker Hippie, and clam digger!! At this point, this is darn-near a required act at any Warner talent event. Thanks to all who participated! Can you guess who is who?

See you in September!

WARNER PEOPLE

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ginny Atwood
- 3 Susan Fulton
- 4 Edna Wright, Mildred West
- 6 Shelley Swendiman
- 8 James Gorman, Rajesh Puri
- 9 Lawrence Merl, Chris Bragg
- 11 Isabelle Koff
- 12 Helen Hancock, Susan Luff
- 16 Beverly Sceery
- 17 Mary Butts, Lea Gallagher
- 17 Douglas Adams
- 20 Logan Smeallie
- 21 James Hancock, John Horman, Remy Winter
- 25 Alton Harvey, Elizabeth Ford
- 28 Betty Sickinger
- 29 Christopher Burns
- 31 Nicholas Kuzmyak

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Bob Koch, Ruth Ness
- 3 Marlene Montgomery
- 4 Susan Burns
- 7 Louise Koch
- 8 Irene Lee, Carolyn Hollis
- 10 Charity Singletary
- 11 Janice Landfair
- 14 Wilma Dunlap
- 18 Marjorie Parce
- 19 Bruce Parce, Janice Moody, Beth Whiteman
- 20 Robert Vieira
- 21 Walter Victory
- 23 Anne Kirchhoff, Danna Walker
- 24 William Trott
- 26 Robert Brewka
- 28 Pat Brosnan, Jean Noel
- 31 Evelyn Adams

IN MEMORIAM, DAVE CARROLL

David Carter Carroll, older brother of Max, Tiff, and the late Julie Och, passed away quietly on Sunday, June 29, at Suburban Hospital, with several family members at his bedside. He served in the U.S. Navy as a control tower radio operator and shipboard signalman for many years. Dave was 85. He died from cancer, and yet didn't seem to be in much pain. Though not a Warner member, he often participated here in recent years. In addition to family here in Maryland, he leaves a son, daughter-in-law, granddaughter and great-granddaughter, all in Wisconsin. Plans are pending for a memorial service at Warner.

Anchors Aweigh, Dave.

STEPHEN MINISTRY NOTES



Are you interested in serving as a Stephen Minister? This summer, we plan to begin registering folks for a new training class, which should begin in the fall. Please contact Rev. Hill at the Warner Church office (301-949-2900) or Barbara Jaquette (301-593-2875) for more information about becoming a Stephen Minister.

The Stephen Ministry is a nationwide program that enhances the pastoral care of many churches. It offers loving Christian concern in a confidential, one-to-one relationship setting.

SEPTEMBER MEMO ISSUE

Please submit articles and notices for the September Warner MEMO by Wednesday, August 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.

Thanks! We look forward to your contributions!

Meanwhile, have a good and blessed summer!

Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

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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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