

June 2016

THE WARNER MEMO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Hop on Board This Month's Worship and Events

Including Our All-Church Retreat June 10-11

and Vacation Bible School June 27 – July 1

Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

www.warnermemorial.org

[Online Calendar](#)

WORSHIPING TOGETHER IN JUNE

Sunday, June 5

Communion

Psalm 30; Mark 5:21-43

“Daughters, Be Healed!”

Rev. Ruth Everhart preaching

Sunday, June 12

1 Kings 21:1-21a; Luke 7:36-50

“Debtors”

Sunday, June 19

Luke 8:26-39; Galatians 3:23-29

“Valued”

Sunday, June 26

John 17:6-11, 14-23; 1 Peter 2:4-10

“A Credible Creed? - The holy catholic church”

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.

Every day of the year, you can help the Mid-County United Ministries food pantry in Wheaton. How? 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

Dear members and friends,

There is an old Sufi story about an elderly woman who used to meditate on the bank of the Ganges River. One morning, finishing her meditation, she saw a scorpion floating helplessly in the strong current. As the scorpion was pulled closer, it got caught in roots that branched out far into the river. The scorpion struggled frantically to free itself but got more and more entangled. The woman immediately reached out to the drowning scorpion, but as soon as she touched it, she got stung by it. She withdrew her hand, but having regained her balance, she once again tried to save the creature. Every time she tried, the scorpion used its tail to sting her, so that her hands became bloody and her face was distorted with pain.

A passerby who saw the old woman reaching out to the scorpion shouted, “What’s wrong with you, woman! Why expose yourself to such pain to try to save that ugly thing?” The woman looked into the stranger's eyes and answered, “It is the nature of the scorpion to sting. Why should I deny my own nature, which is to reach out with compassion and care?”

There are times when we seek to show our care for others that we end up getting “stung.” They may reject our efforts. They may relapse into an addiction. It seems that the woman in the story might have used a stick instead of her hand to try to free the scorpion. But a loving compassion makes us a bit more vulnerable.

Did Jesus ever get “stung?” We are called to hold onto our own compassionate and caring identity even when we don't get all of the change we want.

We mustn't stop reaching out,

Kirby Lawrence Hill



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WHAT IS FAITH?

In the letter to Hebrews in the New Testament, faith is defined as **“the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”**

Christian educator John Westerhoff III, in his book *Will Our Children Have Faith?* describes four stages of faith that provide an outline for our growth in the faith. According to Westerhoff faith grows like the rings of a tree, with each ring adding to and changing the tree somewhat, yet building on that which has grown before. He describes four rings of faith that are involved in the growth process:



- I. **EXPERIENCED FAITH** (pre-school & early childhood) — “This is what ‘we’ do. This is how ‘we’ act.” It is a time of imitation... a child prays the Lord’s Prayer without understanding the meaning of all the words.
- II. **AFFILIATIVE FAITH** (childhood & early adolescent years) — “This is what ‘we’ believe and do. This is ‘our’ group/church. It is a time of belonging to a group... still a time which centers around the imitation of what the group does.
- III. **SEARCHING FAITH** (late adolescence) — “Is this what ‘I’ believe?” This is a time of asking questions... not blindly accepting what others have said. This stage of faith is adding the ‘head’ to the ‘heart’ of the earlier states.
- IV. **OWNED FAITH** (early adulthood) — “This is what ‘I’ believe.” This stage only comes through the searching stage. This is the strong, personal faith that one witnesses to and one is willing to die for.

As part of the confirmation process, young people in our church spent time exploring answers to the question, “what is faith?” The 2016 Confirmation Class included Aliya Brammer, Ben Cope, Sophie deJesus, Matthew Koff, and Anne-Fleur Winter. Printed below are some of their statements of faith.

WARNER'S CONFIRMATION CLASS – STATEMENTS OF FAITH

I believe in the Holy Trinity; God three in one.

I believe in God; our father and caregiver.

I believe in Jesus his son, our teacher.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, God's helper, our desire to serve God.

We are their disciples, here to serve God in many ways.

He has asked us to feed his sheep, so we grow and serve food to shelters, including Rainbow Place.

I can help with VBS and I will grow and learn through my community of faith, Warner.

I pray to keep learning and that my community of faith will learn along with me and that we can all grow together and that my community will keep growing in size.

-- Anne-Fleur Winter

I believe God is the most holy one who created all. God is loving towards everyone, no matter their race, gender, or sexual orientation. God will accept anyone who wants to be in faith with him as his own child.

I believe Jesus the son who proclaimed God's beliefs. He is the one who lived and died for our sins. He was the Lord in human form, on the earth.

I believe the Holy Spirit is the invisible savior. It is the spirit of God and he is just as important as God and Jesus.

I believe my community of faith is a place where anyone and everyone is welcome to worship God. A place where the whole community helps each other through highs and lows, whether it's through praying or a nice card of congratulations.

My prayer for my church family is that we continue spreading the peace of the Lord. I pray that we love one another like the family God knows us as. As an important part of Warner

Church, I am committed to living out my faith by volunteering to help under-served communities on behalf of Warner Church. I will do my best to live as a great representative from not only Warner, but the whole Presbyterian Church. After being confirmed into this church, I will still love the Lord and do as he says.

-- **Matthew Koff**

I believe that God is all powerful and all knowing. He created us and the world and sent his son to die for our sins.

Jesus is the messiah and he died to save us. He preached the word of God, and his disciples did also.

The Holy Spirit is the spirit/breath of God and it is in all of us. It helps us serve God.

My faith community is where we can learn and teach the world and where the people believe in the Trinity. It is when we go to church.

My prayer for my church family is that we would be able to help people and teach people the word.

I will live out my faith by volunteering, helping out at VBS and I will donate things to help people.

-- **Sophie deJesus**

(Pictured: Warner confirmands

Anne-Fleur Winter,

Benjamin Cope,

Matthew Koff

and Sophie deJesus,

with Rev. Hill and Jan Moody.)



RESERVE A SPACE FOR THE UPCOMING ALL-CHURCH RETREAT

“Come away with me to a quiet place,
Apart from the world with its frantic pace,
To pray, reflect, and seek God’s grace.
Come away with me. Come away.”

This text from a Mary Nelson Keithahn anthem reflects our hopes for the upcoming all church retreat at Camp Letts, June 10-11. All God's children are invited to come and play, pray, and re-create as part of God's amazing creation. Schedule for the retreat includes a Friday night camp fire with a sing-a-long and s'mores and Saturday morning outdoor worship, and optional activities including canoeing, swimming, hiking, or finding a quiet spot to read and relax.

Cost: \$60 Friday evening through Saturday (no more than \$120 per family) or \$40 Saturday only. Checks, payable to W.M.P.C. with Camp Letts written in MEMO line of check, can be left in the C.E. Mailbox in the church office.

> Camp Letts is located at 4003 Camp Letts Road, Edgewater, MD 21037.

“COME TO GOD’S TABLE” – WARNER’S ANNUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The theme for this year's VBS at Warner Church, June 27-July 1, is “**Come to God's Table Where All Will Be Fed**”. During the week, along with Bible lessons, music, recreation, and snacks, the children will be preparing to present the musical, *Stone Soup*, as the culminating activity on July 1.

Registration and brochures for children can be picked up in the main hallway outside of the C.E. Office or downloaded at: www.warnermemorial.org.



SPECIAL NOTICE – ALL ARE INVITED TO ANDY OCH’S TALK ON AMERICA’S FIRST LADIES

You’re invited to Warner’s Common Room on Sunday, June 12, at 12:30 p.m. to hear Andrew Och’s “author talk” about his new book: *Unusual for Their Time – on the Road with America’s First Ladies*. Andy’s illustrated talk, based on the C-SPAN television series, will include a book signing, with hardcover and paperback editions available for sale. Come, enjoy,

and bring your friends and neighbors!

COMMUNITY

YOUR “MISSION COMMISSION” IN ACTION: THIS MONTH’S NEWS FROM YOUR COMMISSION TO THE COMMUNITY



In May we sent our annual contribution of \$1,500 to Hope Unlimited for Children. We at Warner are pleased to have been supporting Hope Unlimited in Brazil almost since its inception in 1991.

Here’s a review of what they do for street children in Brazil, taken from the website. In the **rescue** phase, the courts refer children who are at mortal risk to Hope, where the children are welcomed with immediate emotional support, psychological and medical care. In the **transformation** phase (four to eight years), the children are guided through educational programs and vocational coursework, while living in a supportive Christian family environment. In the **re-entry** phase, as the students approach graduation they intern with local businesses for a year and live in a transition home for six months. After graduation they continue to receive ongoing support.

Numbers: Hope operates two residential campuses housing 150 children; they also serve 450 preschool children, and have over 50 transitional and graduate homes. Most important, 85% of Hope graduates are in stable living conditions, meaningfully employed and active in a local church.

I wrote them recently and asked what effect the Zika virus has had on their work, and was told: “The Zika virus has had no impact on us at all. A bigger concern has been Dengue fever (we lost a staff member to it) and H1N1[swine flu], which has taken the lives of two individuals very close to the program.” So with our money we also send our prayers.

-- Cory Atwood for the Commission to the Community

THANKS FOR YOUR “TWO CENTS-A-MEAL” GIFTS !

In May, we collected \$132 for Warner’s “2 Cents-a-Meal” program. Our discretionary 40% for April and May went to help the Shepherd’s Table program in Silver Spring for needy people. Please remember to bring in your coins and dollars on June 19. Thanks to all Warner members and friends who donate every month to this effort!

– Ann Rakow

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



SPRING BREAKAWAY

Several Warner women headed for the hills of West Virginia and enjoyed a weekend getaway, for the fourth year in a row, at the Bresee's mountain retreat. The weather was cold and rainy most of the weekend and provided us with a great excuse to cocoon and enjoy each other's



company. We spent the weekend reading, cooking, chatting, eating, laughing and, best of all, nurturing the warm friendships that have developed among us over the years. We happened upon a classic rock radio station and listened to and enjoyed it all weekend. Whether in our 40's, 50's, 60's or 70's – we found common ground singing along to songs from our “youth.”

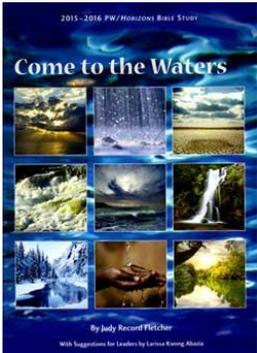
PW BIRTHDAY OFFERING

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the 2016 PW Birthday Offering, collected during May. We appreciate your support of the deserving organizations selected to receive grants this year.



UPCOMING EVENTS THIS MONTH

JOY CIRCLE



Joy Circle will meet **Tuesday, June 14th** at 7:30 p.m. to cover Lesson Nine in the Horizons Bible study, "**Come to the Waters.**" All are welcome to join the discussion. Lesson leader: Sue Burns, Hostess: *TBD*

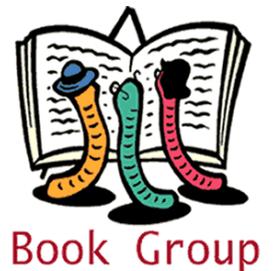
If you are interested in hosting that evening, please contact June Eakin.

REFLECTIONS CIRCLE

Reflections Circle will meet **Sunday, June 11.** The Bible study follows Horizons Bible study, "**Come to the Waters.**" For more information, contact Lora McGlade.

BOOK GROUP

The Book Group is concluding its third season and gearing up for its annual "planning for next year" meeting. We plan to gather at 7:30 on June 17th for this get-together, so stay tuned for more details in upcoming email communication, either from Lisa Smeallie or via the Warner Weekly.



This year's list ran the gamut, including fiction, science fiction, as well as non-fiction and it proved to be, overall, a very popular collection. Please send any suggestions you may have for future selections to Lisa Smeallie, our intrepid coordinator. Can't wait to see what the 2016-2017 season has in store for us.

COORDINATING TEAM MEETING

Fresh Ideas



> The next PW Coordinating Team meeting is currently scheduled for **10:30 AM, Saturday, June 4** at church. We are always seeking fresh 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. If 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 and Kay Gorman.

BOARD OF DEACONS

On Saturday, May 14, members of the Warner Board of Deacons collected nutritious food from shoppers at the Kensington Safeway store to go toward the Manna Food Center's "Smart Sacks" program for needy school children in our county. We garnered nearly 100 bags full of groceries for this annual effort.

Every month, money collected for the Deacons' Fund goes to purchase grocery gift cards at Giant Food Stores. These cards are dispersed to indigent people (including needy families) in our greater community, at the discretion of the Warner pastor's office. Also, some of the Deacon Fund money is earmarked to support our Stephen Ministry program. We wish to thank all Warner members and friends who give to the fund; your generosity makes a difference in many lives. To continue your support, special envelopes are in the pew racks, and there is an emphasis on the Deacons' Fund on the first Sunday of each month.

– Submitted by Tiff Carroll for the Board of Deacons

WARNER'S LEARNING CENTER ACCEPTING FALL 2016 APPLICATIONS

The Learning Center for Young Children (LCYC) here at our church is accepting applications for enrollment in the 2016-17 school year. LCYC is our play-based, co-operative preschool for children ages 18 months to four years. Enrollment forms are available in the brochure racks in the church hallways. For more information, visit our website -- (warnermemorial.org) or call the LCYC office (301-949-2933).

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Every garden needs gardeners and our Warner Environmental Stewardship Team (EST) needs your help to make fresh organically-grown vegetables a reality for the hungry people of Silver Spring. A few dollars of seeds results in many pounds of produce!

June Eakin and Susan Bresee are the lead gardeners and are willing to teach this rewarding activity. Can you offer even one hour a week? Some necessary tasks include weeding, planting, and harvesting. This work goes on until October. Contact June (301-873-4794) if you will be "on call" as a garden helper. Young people can earn SSL hours for school credits.



WARNER PEOPLE

A STEPHEN MINISTER CAN HELP YOU

There are times when God's love is especially precious to us – for example, when we are seriously ill, or we lose a loved one. For someone who will listen and help you (in strict confidence) find the spiritual resources to get through a tough time, call the Stephen Ministry leader Barbara Jaquette (301-593-2875) or call Rev. Hill at the church office.



IN MEMORIAM, RUTH McMICHAEL

On Thursday, May 19, long-time Warner member Ruth P. McMichael passed away at the age of 92. Ruth was a person with quiet, unassuming devotion to family and friends, and to serving God. She will be missed. “Well done, good and faithful servant.” A memorial service and reception were held at our church on Wednesday, June 1st. Please keep Ruth's extended family in your prayers.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2	Michael Kline
3	Cory Atwood
5	Jonathan Koff, Kevin Gallun
6	Bill Jackson
9	Lora McGlade
10	Marilynn Victory
11	Stacey Koff
14	Patrick McGlade, Booth Dunlap, Benjamin Whiteman
16	Bill Burns
17	Jennifer Cope
18	Elizabeth Montgomery, Lindsay Montgomery
19	William Hepp
20	Andrea Robinson
21	John W. Parce, Casey McGrath
24	Carol Andresen
28	Margaret Carroll

NEXT MEMO ISSUE

Please submit articles and notices for the July-August issue of the Warner MEMO **by Monday, June 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!

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- Please see bulletin boards outside the Main Office -

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