

June 2018

THE WARNER MEMO



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**In this issue: New Worship Time, V.B.S., Summer Fellowship, Fall
Mission Trip, PW Retreat**

FROM THE PASTOR

Ordinary Time?

For those of you who follow the church's liturgical calendar (yes, the church has its own calendar), you know that we just entered into what is sometimes called "Ordinary Time". This is the longest season in our ecclesial calendar. It starts after Trinity Sunday and runs all the way to Christ the King Sunday, lasting six months this year.

But is this time ordinary? And no, I'm not talking about our church calendar any longer. I'm talking about the big picture time (or times) we find ourselves in, Warner. Which are hardly ordinary. You see, for the established mainline church (meaning us), ordinary is people knowing all about the above. It's churches following the lectionary (a three-year series of weekly worship readings intended to provide an overview of the Word without focusing on any texts too often). Ordinary is the Book of Order and Robert's Rules. It's committee meetings and stewardship campaigns and traditional worship. I could go on and on. But while many of our mainline friends and Presbyterian brothers and sisters hang on to such things, for the rest of the world, well, these things aren't so ordinary.

Now, don't get me wrong, there's nothing wrong with traditional worship or order in the Body or church meetings or liturgical seasons, etc. But let's be honest, a whole lot of people outside of these four walls (not to mention quite a few within them), don't even know what half of those words even mean. And if that's you, no worries. I never knew all this stuff either. At least not until I became deeply involved with a church, left for seminary and then got even more entrenched. But quite frankly, and I'm just being honest now, this is not the passion behind my ministry, not the wrenching in my gut, not the enthusiasm in my call to preach and teach. No, that comes from God's Word, from Jesus, from the stirring of the Holy Ghost.

Let me get to the point. This is no ordinary time in our life together! Back in the '50s maybe. Back in the day, our church was pretty

ordinary. A church in every neighborhood was one of our sayings. Large and growing congregations were common. A highly regarded place in the public sphere was one of our drawing points. Not any longer. Nope, to quote Bob Dylan, “*the times they are a changin.*” This is no ordinary time.

Look around you and what do you see? Not just a Baptist, Episcopal, Methodist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Congregational or Reformed church (often depending on which part of the country you used to live in) and perhaps, even a Greek Orthodox Church and Jewish Synagogue, but a church on almost every corner. And not just churches, but hundreds of different faith communities. Not to mention a whole bunch of people who not only don’t know Jesus, but don’t know any faith. All sorts of different people out there, church.

And I know, church. When Izzy was first born I used to take her for walks all the time. And within a few blocks of our home were folks from every race, orientation, religion, you name it. The world is changing. And fast! Just think about how much your phone can do (calendar, email, texts, maps, internet, newspaper, recorder, camera, note pad, weather channel, Bible, etc.). It’s my Walkman and my Yellow Pages, two things Izzy will never use, by the way. And those are just a couple examples of how life is changing.

Yet we’re still calling it “ordinary.” At least some of us are. Hoping visitors will come to us, rather than us going to them at other times of the week. Seriously, do we really expect a whole bunch of people to walk through our doors on Sunday morning, join the institution, start tithing and then volunteer for committee work, maybe serving on a board down the road? I guess that used to be “ordinary.” Nowadays, it’s extraordinary. Different time and place we find ourselves in, church.

So, am I discouraged, distressed, disheartened, distraught? No way! As a matter of fact, if I’m really honest with you, I’m excited. Sure, it’s tough. Really tough, in fact. So much change so fast, it’s downright dizzying. And quite difficult to adapt. But you know what? The church was never supposed to be an institution, it’s a movement. And the church was never supposed to be a part of the

empire, but a counter to all that. The church isn't a club, it's the Body of Christ in the world. And this extraordinary time we live in, this extraordinary world we find ourselves serving, what a wonderful opportunity to get back to what it's really about, what it's always been about: *following Jesus; loving our God with everything we've got and loving our neighbors as ourselves; doing unto others as we would have them do unto us; doing justice, loving mercy and walking humbly; serving the least of these...* And yes, I could go on and on... Because that's our call, that's our mission, that's our "extraordinary" for this extra ordinary time.

Peace,
Rev. Todd

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 3rd

Acts 2:22-40

"Look Who's Preaching"

Sunday, June 10th

Acts 2:41-47

"Visionary"

Sunday, June 17th (Note: 10 a.m. worship begins for summer!)

Rev. Lucy Der Garabedian, Guest Preacher

Sunday, June 24th

Acts 3:1-11

"Pick Up Lines"

Please Support Deacons, Two cents-a-Meal, M.U.M. !

Please support the work of our Deacons by contributing to the **Deacon's Fund on June 3rd**. Please also fight hunger in our community and across the nation by bringing your coins for **Two Cents-a-Meal to the red wagon on June 17th**; and 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

Mark your calendar!

Starting June 17, our services will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Have you noticed the new section in our weekly bulletins?

Rev. Todd is including three questions relating to his sermon. The section is titled “Something to think about...” It’s easy to forget the importance of what we hear in church. These questions can help us continue our church experience on our way home and throughout the week ahead.

Ushering News

At a meeting in April we talked about ways to make it easier for people to help with this important ministry. One thing we have noticed is that nobody wants to be the captain of the ushers; the captain column on the sign-up sheet is almost always left open! So, there will no longer be a captain position; instead, there is an USHER TEAM. Each person will do their favorite jobs and check them off on the duty sheet after they have completed the jobs. Two people are asked to sign up for the early jobs, and two people for the after-service jobs. So, what are the “jobs”? They are easy! Before church, take out the communion service, offering plates, flower jardinière, and microphones from the closet in the Trinity Room and put them in the sanctuary. Take the box of bulletins from the office and put it in the narthex. Get glasses of water for the pastor, liturgist, organist, and choir director. Turn on the lights in the sanctuary. After church, put everything away, pick up any papers left in the pews, turn off the lights, empty the water glasses and wash them, and lock all the church exit doors. There are also a few duties during the service such as collecting the offering. YOU CAN HELP, and YOU ARE NEEDED! Experienced ushers will always help show you where things are and how to do everything. Please consider signing up for any Sunday you will be attending church.

Thank you.

--Kay Gorman

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Get ready for Vacation Bible School!

CE is continuing the annual practice of holding Vacation Bible School, welcoming children, age 4 - 10, for a week of music, worship, Bible study, recreation, art, and mission. We will meet June 25 through June 29, from 9:00 until NOON.

The VBS theme is Abundance Orchard via the Society of St. Andrew



CE is seeking WMPC volunteers to help!

First and foremost, we need to spread the word. Tell families about it and share our VBS 2018 flyer ([here](#)) and registration link ([Registration Form](#)).

Second, we need adult leaders and youth counselors / teacher assistants. Adults are needed to decorate our spaces as well as to facilitate arts & crafts and snacks; still others are needed for sharing about mission work, and to help with general child care needs. Youth, 11 and older, are also needed – one as a mascot, perhaps– and are eligible to receive Student Service Learning (SSL) credits. Please contact dce@warnermemorial.org if you are interested in serving in one of these roles.

The curriculum focuses on Old Testament passages involving hunger and feeding the hungry, highlighting God's providence.

Here is a brief outline of our schedule for the week:

Focus Text	Theme	Description	Day
Genesis 18: 1-15	Hospitality	Abraham & Sarah prepare a meal for unexpected guests	25 th
Genesis 25:29-34	Trickery	Esau sells his birthright for a bowl of stew	26 th
Exodus 13:3-10	Obedience	The Hebrew people eat a quick meal before leaving Egypt	27 th
Exodus 16	The Miraculous	God provides manna and quail in the desert	28 th
1 Kings 17:8-16	Hunger	A poor mom shares her food with Elijah	29 th

COMMUNITY – MISSION

Save the Date for Warner’s Fall Mission Trip — With a Special Surprise Guest

Rather than working in the brutal summer heat, the Commission to the Community has shifted the timing of our annual Mission Trip. **Save the date of November 4th-10th for our trip to Florida.** We will most likely be helping folks in Southwest Collier County including Everglades City, Dublin, and Naples where the impact of Hurricane Irma was greatest. We may also work to improve living conditions for migrant farm workers. Either way, we will be in southwestern Florida with our former member and mission-trip regular Doug Seeley. Plan to join us!

--Mark Eakin

We are Thankful! Your Donations Will Send 2 Children to Camp this Year!

Warner family, every year when you make your pledges to the church, a part of it goes to the benevolence budget which the

Commission to the Community has the privilege of distributing to causes that we believe you, and the Lord, want supported.

For several years now, the CTC has earmarked a portion of the funds to send to The Salvation Army to provide a scholarship to send a DC inner-city kid to camp for a week.

Recently we heard from Major James N. Hall of the Salvation Army. Following is an excerpt of that letter ~

“Remember the fun of going to camp - eating around a campfire, learning new sports and crafts, making new friends?

“Those were the ‘good old days.’ You’d be saddened to see some of the kids who come to camp now. They’ve known violence, abuse, neglect at home. No wonder they are fearful, wary and unsure.

“It is a joy to see them leave camp with big smiles and happy hearts. They’ve discovered the great outdoors and they’ve learned what it means to be loved and cared for without fear.

“Right now, hurting children are waiting to hear if they can attend summer camp. Would you be able to help them? We promise to continue doing the most good possible with your gifts.”

Included with his letter was a handwritten note that touched our hearts.

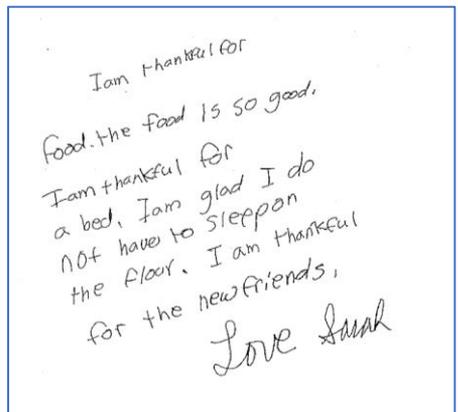
“I am thankful for food. The food is so good.

I am thankful for a bed.

I’m glad I do not have to sleep on the floor.

I am thankful for the new friends.

Love, Sarah.”

A handwritten note on a piece of paper, enclosed in a blue rectangular border. The text is written in cursive and matches the text in the previous block. It reads: "I am thankful for food. the food is so good. I am thankful for a bed, I am glad I do not have to sleep on the floor. I am thankful for the new friends, Love Sarah".

*I am thankful for
food. the food is so good.
I am thankful for
a bed, I am glad I do
not have to sleep on
the floor. I am thankful
for the new friends,
Love Sarah*

So, the Commission decided that we would increase our contribution, providing camp scholarships for two children, rather than just one.

--Ina Rae Kramer, Chair, Commission to the Community

Refugee Ministry Network Forming

The number of refugees is now comparable to those after World War II, as daily news items make clear. Because of the severity of the humanitarian crises that arise in relationship to this issue, a Refugee Ministry Team has been hard at work for a year or more, and now has completed all the steps necessary so that a Refugee Ministry Network (RMN) can form within our Presbytery. As soon as at least seven churches choose to participate, the Network will be ready to start acting.

The goals include: to encourage and assist congregations that are working to improve the lives of refugees resettling in the area; to coordinate with other organizations that have a similar purpose; to educate congregations about the refugee situation; and to advocate for the newcomers in need.

There is no explicit commitment of time or activity required of any church that joins the network, and each National Capital Presbytery (NCP) Network receives an annual budget provided by the Presbytery Mission Coordinating Committee. In this case, \$5,000 will be made available to the RMN once seven churches have officially joined.

The Commission to the Community is reminded of the Biblical commandments to love the foreigners among us, to love our neighbors as ourselves, to feed the hungry and thirsty, to welcome the stranger, and of Jesus's example to reach out to the outcasts. Therefore, those present at our last meeting unanimously recommended that Warner sign on to be counted among the first seven. At their meeting on May 21 the Session endorsed this.

If anyone would like to learn more about this, please contact Ina Rae Kramer. A copy of the group's charter can be sent to you.

--Cory Atwood, for the Commission to the Community

SPECIAL NOTES: June Calendar Highlights

June 1, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.: Shop at Politics & Prose on Connecticut Ave and mention Books for Prisons at checkout; BFP will receive 20% of the sale.

June 3: Last day of Sunday School for children and youth

June 10: Last day of Sunday School for Adults; New members class begins after worship

June 17: Worship will begin at 10 a.m. (through the summer)

June 25-29 (9 a.m. – noon): Vacation Bible School

Please be sure to check out the bulletin boards outside of the main office, where you may find opportunities to be involved in the life of the church or the community.

[June Calendar](#) (Click on link to view online calendar)

July / August 2018 MEMO Issue

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

Thank you for your contributions!

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.



Pictures Tell It All...

National Capital Presbytery PW Spring Gathering

Warner's women banded together in April to plan and host the annual National Capital Presbytery Spring Gathering. The adage, "Many hands make light labor", certainly applied as we shopped, baked, decorated, put up signs, and set up audio and visual equipment in preparation for the big day. PW, nationwide, celebrates its 30th anniversary this year and Warner was proud to be hosting the festivities. We were treated to Barbara Allen's narrative and slide presentation about her Global Exchange Mission Trip to Indonesia in the Fall of 2017. Members of the Indonesian American Presbyterian Church in Derwood, MD enhanced our worship service that day, April 28th, with an Indonesian processional dance, music and traditional communion elements, ginger tea and cassava. Sheri made the PW bulletin board "Spring-y" and extra-welcoming, as did the rest of the crew who had the Social Hall decorated very festively, and prepared a tasty breakfast

which awaited our guests. Thanks to all who contributed and participated, with special thanks to two honorary PW: Dave Daugherty and Bill Burns.

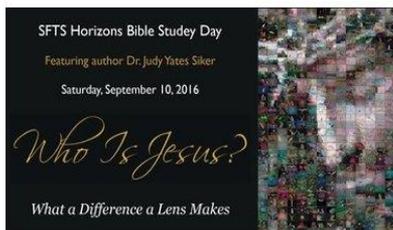
PW Spring Breakaway #6



While some mark the coming of Spring by the opening of the cherry blossoms, the return of the catbirds, etc., Warner Women look forward to their, now annual, trek to Berkeley Springs and the Breeses' lovely mountain home. When we are lucky, it coincides, as it did this year, with the redbuds abloom along Route 522 and surrounding woods. We had a small group this year, but neither that nor the rain dampened the warmth and fellowship experienced all weekend. We came away with the sense that we had not only discussed, but solved, all the problems in the world.

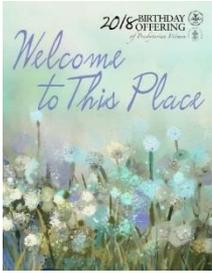
2017 Bible Study: Who Is Jesus? Concludes... What and Who lie ahead?

Several of us met on May 15th to conclude our two-year study of the Horizons Bible Study, "Who Is Jesus?". All agreed that taking our time made this a very meaningful and enjoyable endeavor. September will be here before we know it, so the task at hand now is two-fold... choosing a curriculum/topic to study and seeking a new leader for Joy Circle. June Eakin has been our leader for more than four years and has indicated it is time to pass the baton to the next person. Please ponder these decisions and let us know your thoughts ASAP. We need to allow sufficient time to order materials. As a reminder, the current schedule has Joy Circle meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month, September-June, at 7:30 p.m. in the Common Room/Library. **In lieu of a June meeting, we will instead gather for**



dinner at a nearby restaurant on Tuesday, June 8. Stayed tuned for details. All are welcome.

2018 PW Birthday Offering



Presbyterian women have a long tradition of caring for others and helping those in need. Ever since Hallie Paxson Winsborough, in 1922, challenged each member of the Woman’s Auxiliary of the PCUS to give a penny for each year of her life as a “birthday gift” for Miss Dowd’s School for Girls in Japan, the Presbyterian Women’s Birthday Offering has helped fund mission projects that improve the lives of women and children around the world. While the projects and donation amounts have changed, Presbyterian Women’s commitment to improving the lives of others has not. We continue to need broad, consistent support from Presbyterian women and others to continue funding mission projects – last year we were overwhelmed by Warner’s generosity – those pennies are adding up even though none of us is getting any older!

This year, we will answer the call to show Jesus’ love to the world, not just by offering our prayers, but also by providing financial assistance to three projects that will establish “welcoming places” for those in need of shelter, spiritual retreat, or protection from harm here in the US as well as internationally.

Cottage Village, a Tiny-house Community for Low-income Residents, in Cottage Grove, Oregon

Cottage Village will provide quality, affordable housing and a safe, structured social community for individuals and families with low or very low incomes. They will use the PW grant to help build 13 tiny houses (defined as having less than 400 sq. ft.) and a central shared-use area that will serve as a compassionate and protective community for vulnerable rural citizens.

Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health, in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, will use their grant to make it possible for the Presbytery of Honduras to purchase the Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health near Tegucigalpa. Originally

established by Presbyterian mission co-workers, the retreat center will be managed by Presbyterian women in Honduras. It will offer international hospitality for retreats, workshops and mission teams from the PC(USA), Solar Under the Sun and Living Waters for the World.

The Dwelling Place Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota was established in 1998 to provide for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of women and their children following their escape from a violent partner. Transitional housing, education, food, clothing, trauma-informed support services, programming and mentoring for women are all part of the mission of The Dwelling Place. This Birthday Offering grant will help The Dwelling Place purchase a vacant lot where they will construct a multi-use building with spaces suitable for large and small group programming, one-on-one case management, safe living space and staff offices. With the additional building, The Dwelling Place will be able to serve even more women and children who are seeking safety.

As we take a moment each year to let you know how donations will be used, it continues to resonate that there is no paucity of worthy projects... how fortunate that we are able to help!

Please consider how you can support this national PW effort. You can use the special birthday offering envelopes, or simply make a check payable to WMPC PW and record "Birthday Offering" in the Memo line. Since we are getting a bit of a late start this year, we will be happy to accept your donations starting today and throughout the month of June. As always... thanks for your support!

2018 PW Book Club Season Ends... Looking Forward to Next Year

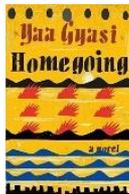
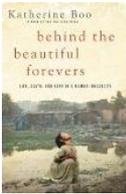
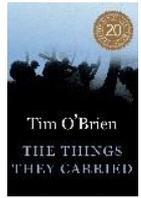
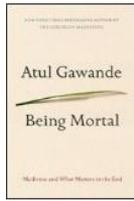
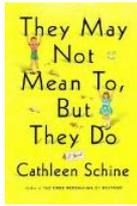
Book Club
selection

Pre-production planning is key to the success of any project or event in our lives. Thanks to Lisa Smeallie and others who have made recommendations for next year's list, our work for the 2018-2019 book selection "project" is already underway. Some of us had an opportunity to do a pre-screening during our recent weekend in

the mountains. Lisa traveled across Montgomery County to various libraries to secure copies of ~30 books for us to peruse as we whiled away our weekend. Based on these “early voting” returns, it will be a tough decision to make our final picks... Lisa’s algorithm for finding potential titles from which we will choose is so refined that very few, if any, were excluded that weekend. We will gather on Friday evening, 7:30 p.m., June 22nd, at Lisa Smeallie’s abode. Hope to see you there!

The problem with a good book is you want to finish the book but you don't want to finish the book.

Look what we read this year...



PW Coordinating Team (CT) Meets

The PW CT will meet next on **Sunday, June 3rd**, following worship. Please grab a bite to eat and then join us in the Trinity Room.

Fall Day Retreat



It's only just summer...and you may not be thinking about fall, but PW is.



We urge you to block **Saturday, September 22nd** now, so you can join us in the favorite Sun Porch Room at Bon Secours in Marriottsville, MD that day for a

Warner Women's retreat. Now that we know where we will be, the PW CT is busy planning the "order of the day". Stay tuned for more details regarding the program and costs, which we hope to include in the July/August Memo. We typically plan to gather around 8:30 a.m. and finish up between 3-4 p.m.

Books to Prisons Wish List

On behalf of DC Books to Prisons, which Warner's PW has been supporting, I want to say thank you to those of you who donated new or used children's books and magazines earlier this year. They will be distributed to the visitation rooms in Federal prisons, for use by young children visiting their incarcerated parents, visits that often involve a lot of waiting. Having books available to help pass the time eases the strain of what is often a difficult visit.

For those of you who would like to continue to help PW provide reading material to prisoners, here is a list of the types of books most needed: ****Because postage is a major expense, paperbacks are preferred**** (Without stains, writing/highlighting, tears or spiral binding)

- ✓ Dictionaries (esp. English or Spanish-English) -- the #1 request!
- ✓ **Current** almanacs & other reference/factual material
- ✓ How to draw guides & drawing paper
- ✓ Self-help books, esp. personal finance, starting a business
- ✓ Sci fi, fantasy, suspense, mystery
- ✓ **Current** (since 2016) GED preparation material, esp. math
- ✓ Science
- ✓ History, both US & the world
- ✓ American Indians, Mayans, Aztecs, Mexican history
- ✓ African American, Latin American, and classical history
- ✓ Spanish language learning materials and novels
- ✓ Physical and mental health, exercise
- ✓ Puzzles (crosswords, sudoku, etc.) & cartoons (e.g. Far Side, Garfield)
- ✓ Blank journals to write in
- ✓ Westerns, military & urban fiction
- ✓ Sign language learning

Don't have many of the requested materials on your bookshelf? Guess what--DC Books to Prisons has an Amazon Wish List! There you can purchase from the most up-to-date requests and learn why those particular items are a priority. Go to Amazon, click on Accounts and Lists-->Find a List or Registry--type DC Books to Prisons and it should come up. If you purchase from Amazon, you can add Books to Prisons to 'Your Friends' to enable direct shipping to them at: DC Books to Prisons, c/o United Methodist Foundry Church, 1500 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036. Please be sure to include your name and email address with your order so that your gift can be acknowledged. Books to Prisons thanks you for your support. Please contact JoEllen LaPrade if you have any questions about DC Books to Prisons.

Fellowship Teams and Summer Volunteers



Thanks to all who have contributed to and participated in the Sunday Fellowship Hours this past year. The “team” approach seems to be going strong. The final rotation will end June 24th with Team #5 hosting that day.

Because Warner Hospitality appears to have no “off switch”, we will begin our Summer “volunteer” approach starting Sunday, June 30th. As in years past, we will look forward to a simpler reception following the 10 a.m. worship service in the Social Hall, each Sunday, **if** we have someone or “someones” who have signed up to host.



Please consult your social planner and Fellowship “friends”, find a Summer Sunday you may want to host, and let us know ASAP either by emailing Sue Burns or signing up directly on the schedule for **June 30th through September 2nd** posted on the Outreach & Fellowship bulletin board. We encourage you to be creative, consider hosting as a family, or as a group, or reach across your Food & Friends teams. We look forward to hearing from you!!!

--Sue Burns

WARNER PEOPLE

Edna Wright

A brief graveside service for Edna Wright will be held on Saturday, June 9 at 10 a.m., at Washington National Cemetery (4101 Suitland Rd, Suitland, MD 20746). All are welcome to attend.

Directory Updates

Dave Grace

1820 Clydesdale Pl. NW, **Apt 107**
Washington D.C. 20009

effective June 11:

Kathy Stell

Kimball Farms
235 Walker Street, Apt. 301
Lenox, MA 01240
413-637-7131

[We give Kathy Stell our best wishes, a fond farewell and hope she enjoys her new home. She has been a long-time, active member of Warner, and her presence in church will be missed.]

June Birthdays

2 Michael Kline	16 Bill Burns
3 Cory Atwood	17 Jen Cope
5 Henry Ketchum, Jonathan Koff	18 Elizabeth & Lindsay Montgomery
6 Bill Jackson	19 William Hepp
9 Lora McGlade	24 Carol Andresen
10 Marilynn Victory	27 Tito Fojo
11 Stacey Koff	28 Margaret Carroll
14 Booth Dunlap, Patrick McGlade	

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

Interim Pastor: Rev. Todd Sutton

Director of Christian Education: Dave Grace

Director of Music: Peter Smeallie

Organist: Sungho Paik

Director of Learning Center for Young Children: Angela Goolsby

301-949-2933

Office Manager/Administrative Assistant: Dina Bickel

Sunday Morning Preschool/Nursery Aide: Shervonne Johnson

Warner Weekly: outreach@warnermemorial.org

Warner MEMO: memo@warnermemorial.org