

May 2018

THE WARNER

MEMO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SPECIAL NOTES

John Morris submitted a copy of the April issue of the Kensington Historical Society Newsletter, which features an article titled “Another Milestone for Noyes Library”. Have you visited or taken a stroll past Noyes Library? Many generations of children have fond memories of their visits to the library. Noyes is also intertwined with WMPC’s history. It was the first meetinghouse of WMPC members and friends, while plans for and construction of a church took place. In 1993, when WMPC celebrated its centennial, Warner church members gathered outside the building to honor our history together with a service. A quote from the staff report of The Montgomery Planning Department was included in the article: *“The Noyes Children’s Library (formerly Noyes Library) is a small historic library in Kensington, Maryland. The Library was founded in 1893 by Crosby Noyes and Brainard Warner as a result of their interest in the movement in metropolitan areas to create small membership-based community libraries.”* Crosby Noyes was the publisher of the Evening Star newspaper, and Brainard Warner was a financier and property developer. The Noyes Library itself has an interesting history, and you can read more about it and other plans, at Noyes Library Foundation’s website: www.noyeslibraryfoundation.org/

... And Now a Word for Our MEMO... Thank you to all who have contributed to this Memo over the years, with informative articles, and lovely photos of events. Please do read each article, to find out what is happening in the life of our congregation.

June 2018 MEMO Issue

Please submit your completed article to

memo@warnermemorial.org by **Sunday, May 20** in order for the

Memo team to get it published and distributed

by the first of the month.

Thank you for your contributions!

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Saturday, May 5th at 2pm

Memorial Service for Joan Bannon

Sunday, May 6th

6th Sunday in Easter

Lord's Supper served

Luke 24:13-35

“Roller Coaster”

[SATURDAY, MAY 12: ALL-CHURCH PICNIC RETREAT, 10-3]

Sunday, May 13th

7th Sunday in Easter

Luke 24:36-48

“You Are a Witness”

Sunday, May 20th

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-13

“Full of Spirit”



Trinity Sunday

Sunday, May 27th

Trinity Sunday

John 3:1-7 & Isaiah 6:1-8

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

[May Calendar](#)

(Click on link to view online calendar)

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!

FROM THE PASTOR

An Update

I heard something recently. And I must admit, both times it made me chuckle. So what was it? --That the Pastor Search Committee was *dragging their feet*. The only problem with that statement, of course, is that there is no pastor search committee...At least, not yet. A fact not lost on those making the statement, by the way.

Early last month, not even a week after we heard that *He has been raised*, the Session came together for a retreat of sorts. Honestly, it was more like an interim assessment. But regardless of nomenclature, starting with bagels, cream cheese, coffee and juice and buttressed by a homemade lunch, your Session spent five full hours considering Biblical mission statements, re-assessing our CAT (Church Assessment Tool) Scan results, hearing from more than 20 one-on-ones completed with members and staff and talking about next steps for the interim period. It was a good conversation.

First and foremost, there are some very positive things happening in and around our church. Satisfaction and energy levels are good, the value of activity beyond worship is very high and hospitality is off the charts. All of this not only shows up on the CAT, I've also heard all about it from you in one-on-one meetings, visits, talks, etc. Over and over, I've heard about the warm welcome that many of you received after walking through the church's doors. It's the reason why many of you now call Warner "home". But there are also some challenges. At least in June of 2016, and yes, our score may change if we take the CAT again; we were less flexible and/or adaptable and more settled. That's something to address. Adaptability is an indicator of health. Of course, challenges aren't always negative. Sometimes, they're just challenges. For example,

while many of you would like to grow in numbers (among young families with children, in particular), some are fine with the church as is. There is also some tension regarding where resources are most needed right now. Should we be focused on more outward concerns or do we need to take care of some internal issues. By the way, regardless of where one falls on that question, it was clear the church was important to just about all who were asked.

In conclusion, we've got some work to do during this interim period. In particular, a focused, intentional, serious study of the church's basic mission is crucial at this time. For that reason, Session will be discussing such a process very soon. And it won't just be the Session doing this work, but just the opposite. It will be an approved team taken from the congregation with a plan involving the whole church in determining our shared mission. So we're almost there, church. Not quite, but almost ready to get that pastor search committee up and running. But first, in order to aid in that process and find the best possible fit for the church, we need to determine where, to paraphrase Frederick Buechner, your passion meets the world's needs. As always, I look forward to it.

In Christ,

Rev. Todd

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Upcoming Events:

May 11, 5:30 pm: Parents' Night Out

May 12, 10 am – 3pm: All-Church Picnic Retreat

June 25-29, 9 am – 12 noon: Vacation Bible School

An Easter Season View of Lent:
Reflecting with Warner Artists
One week after Easter Sunday, the
Lenten Series artists shared the story of
their art

Schedule

12:30 - Context about the Lenten study series

12:35 - Description of scripture / themes – Remembering Maundy Thursday to Good Friday

12:40 – Tim Cook, Charlotte Cook, Sophie deJesus, & Q/A

1:10 - Closing comments/discussion – How do we now view Lent during Easter

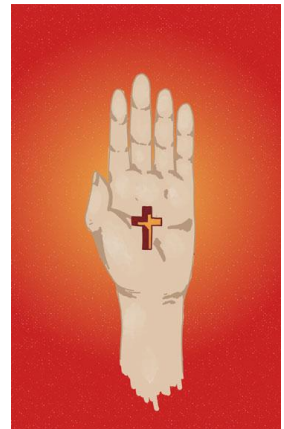
1:18 - Closing Prayer



“Prayer”
Tim Cook



“Betrayed”
Charlotte Cook



“Condemned”
Sophie deJesus



“Denied”

Tim Cook



“Judged”

Sophie deJesus



Presbyterian Women

Nurture Faith, Support Mission, Work for Justice & Peace, & Build Community

Spring is finally here and the PW have been busy worker bees from celebrating the Gifts of Women to helping prepare Easter baskets for NIH, hosting the Annual NCP PW Spring Gathering, collecting books for children through the Books to Prison outreach and SO much more!!!

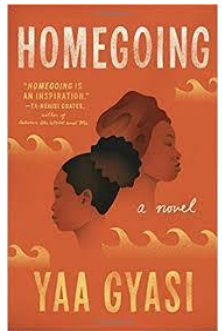


May Book Club

Ghana, eighteenth century: two half-sisters are born into different villages, each unaware of the other. One will marry an Englishman and live a life of comfort in the palatial rooms of the Cape Coast Castle. The other will be captured in a raid on her village, imprisoned in the very same castle, and sold into slavery.

Homegoing follows the parallel paths of these sisters and their descendants through eight generations, both from the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, and from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem. Yaa Gyasi's extraordinary novel illuminates slavery's troubled legacy both for those who were taken and those who stayed, and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation.

Join us **Friday May 26** (location to be determined) to discuss this book. All are welcome, whether you have not read the book, finished it or have read something similar to it. Contact Lisa Smeallie (lcsmeallie@comcast.net) for questions, or to learn more!



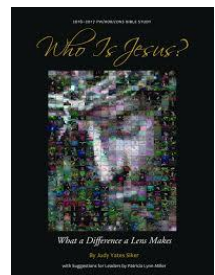
Fall Day Retreat



Mark your calendars and save the date, as we will be spending Saturday, September 22nd at Bon Secours in Marriottsville, MD for our Fall Day Retreat. Program ideas have been planted, but we welcome your ideas and suggestions for this day.

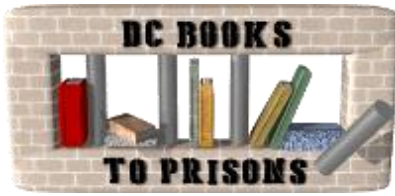
Bible Study

Join us Tuesday May 15th at 7:30pm in the church library to discuss and learn more about "Who is Jesus". Ginny Atwood will lead the



discussion, and if you would like to know more, please contact June Eakin, our Circle Leader.

Books to Prisons Ministry



Spring-cleaning encourages us to take inventory of what we have and what we don't need. If you're looking through your book collections and would like to donate

anything, we will gladly take new or gently-used books downtown to the Books to Prisons project. You are welcome to contact JoEllen LaPrade or Lena Aspiras with any questions regarding books, or learn more about how to partner with the organization and volunteer. JoEllen: roseashore@gmail.com

Lena: Madalena.aspiras@gmail.com For more information about DC Books to Prisons Project, visit their website:

<http://dcbookstoprisoners.org/>

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Please Close and Lock Doors and Windows

Just a reminder that exterior doors to the church must remain closed and locked when our school is open. *Usual school hours are Monday-Friday 9:15-2:45, until June 6, beginning again after Labor Day.* Now that the days are warming, please also remember to close any windows you open! You help keep our building dry, clean, and safe.

Patio Benches in Need of TLC

We have a take-home project for a handy person. If you have some experience with sanding and painting of metal, will you volunteer to repaint one or all of the benches on our patio? Materials and transport of the benches can be provided. Please contact June Eakin if you're the person for this job.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

New Hours for Summer Worship Services

Starting June 17, we will return to starting our summer worship services at 10 a.m. (Our air conditioning is still not working at full capacity.)

COMMUNITY – MISSION AND SPECIAL OFFERINGS

One Great Hour of Sharing



The Commission to the Community would like to thank you for your donations this year for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering which totaled \$1,845! These donations show your willingness to share God's love and blessings with our neighbors-in-need around the world and will provide relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. This is another way that Warner helps support the dignity of all of God's people. Thanks for your heartfelt gifts.

Speaking of Special Offerings... Two Cents-a-Meal

is still being collected on the third Sunday of each month, but our tallies have gone down for many months. Please show your support of this special offering by bringing in your coins each month, and placing them in the bin on the red wagon. Since the early 1990s, Warner has collected this special offering, with a reminder that, at each meal, when each of us places two pennies into our Two Cents-a-Meal coffee or soup tin, we are remembering the "least of these". Two cents per person, per meal can add up to a significant donation to our local and national hunger programs. Please stay



tuned for reminders in the weekly bulletin as to the recipient of that month's collection. Thank you for your long-time support of this program that is near and dear to our hearts.

Want to Be An Angel?

When Abraham Lincoln delivered his First Inaugural Address on Monday, March 4th, 1861, the nation was on the brink of Civil War. In it he said, "We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory will swell when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Today, at a time when many citizens of these United States feel that it is impossible to relate with those they disagree with, or who are actually afraid of those who are different from them, an organization has been formed called Better Angels which is working to restore more than just civility; to actually restore empathy between the divided parts. Three members of the Commission to the Community participated in one of their meetings earlier this year.

Better Angels is holding a "national convention" in Harrisonburg VA, on June 6-8. Participants will be balanced between blues and reds. This is not a "come and see what it's about" meeting. Instead, this is a "work together and plan strategies and activities to make a difference" meeting.

If you would like to see what it's about, please visit better-angels.org and watch the videos. And if you would like a meaningful task that you can sink your teeth into, this is definitely one to consider.

Cory Atwood and Ina Rae Kramer

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Earth Care Fair

On April 22, to honor Earth Day and our commitment as an Earth Care Congregation, Warner's EST hosted an Earth Care Fair on the upper and lower patios outside the Narthex. It featured stations of information on bees, light bulbs, recycling, alternatives to plastic, and



everything you might need to know about native plants and how to take care of your yard and garden, all straight from those who are enthusiastic experts in these "fields" in Montgomery County. There were also displays of LCYC plant projects, a chance to choose and

take home one of many plants that were grown and raised at Warner, or a home-made paper patch of Black-Eyed Susan seeds that were prepared as a Warner Youth project, plus face-painting and a raffle to win a donated rain



barrel! Many thanks to all who visited the booths, folks who came to Warner with their displays and information to distribute at this event, as well as our own members for their active participation during the event!

How Much Food Do We Waste?

Warnerites are learning more and more about the issues of waste in our food system. On April 14, the film "Trash Empire" opened our eyes to the system-wide avenues by which food becomes trash. As his post-graduate thesis work, filmmaker Will Reid spent two years scavenging food and researching its pathways from farms, to stores, to consumers, through legislation, and on to the dump.

Some of his images were just appalling! You can talk with David Grace for more information about the film.

The April 24th, the food section of the Washington Post published an article by Chris Mooney on a recent study of food waste by consumers. The study suggested that the average American wasted one pound of food daily (home and dining). “The study published in the journal PLOS One, did not calculate the resulting greenhouse gas emissions. But prior research has suggested that wasted food, like all food production, contributes to the warming of the planet because agriculture is a key source of fast-warming gases methane and nitrous oxide.”

Both “Trash Empire” and Mr. Mooney’s article point out some similar issues and solutions for consumers. Mooney wrote, “Fruits and vegetables in particular are often trashed due to imperfections and the perception that they are flawed or gone bad.” Large portion sizes and confusion over expiration dates create more waste. One solution to both is education (teaching that a bruised banana can still be eaten) and improved menu planning.

What can we do?

MUM (Mid-County United Ministries) and Manna Food Center now offer classes in cooking, menu planning, and nutrition. MUM now accepts perishable foods in good condition, for example: potatoes, apples.

Several members of our congregation receive deliveries from Hungry Harvest, a food recovery company co-founded by University of Maryland graduate Evan Lutz who writes, “We currently have a team of over 20, with a HQ located in City Garage, Baltimore. Everything we do is driven by the belief that every person has the right to eat healthy and every fruit and veggie grown deserves to be eaten.” Here how it works: Hungry Harvest receives excess food from farmers & grocers and delivers it to subscribers

and food banks. A message regarding a recent delivery, “Broccoli Crowns: Retail changed who they were buying from to a new region, so these were left without a home. Asparagus: A grocery store rejected these because they weren't pretty enough. Mushroom Chips: Ever wonder what happens to the ends of mushrooms when you buy them pre-sliced in the store? They get tossed out. We think that's wasteful, so add these to a creamy mushroom risotto.” You can talk with Ruth Harvey, Susan Bresee, or June Eakin about their experience with Hungry Harvest. <https://www.hungryharvest.net>

[Next is Ina Rae Kramer’s perspective after viewing “Trash Empire”]

**40% OF THE FOOD PRODUCED IN THE U.S. IS WASTED!?!
CAN THAT BE RIGHT?**

An interested audience of 21 assembled in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday night, April 14th, to witness the screening of a film made by a student, Will Reid, as part of his graduate thesis at American University. We were drawn in by Will’s declaration that it was possible for him to have a reasonably balanced diet, and enough to eat to stave off hunger - for an entire year - on what he found in dumpsters outside grocery stores and restaurants. The \$5.50 that he said he spent during that year afforded him a few token food purchases.

Dave Grace, Director of Christian Ed. and a member of the Environmental Stewardship Team here at Warner, planned this event. Thank you, Dave, and thank you EST! As well as inviting Will Reid, who not only created this film but also works with an organization called Food Not Bombs, he asked Derrick B. Owens from Mid-County United Ministries, and Nancy Sushinsky, Director of Rainbow Place to participate in a panel discussion following the film. This panel, who are experts in the area of feeding hungry

people, provided additional valuable information that sparked a lively discussion.

I'm sorry to say that sometimes I over-buy at the grocery store and some food in my refrigerator goes bad before I use it. The items that Will was finding in dumpsters had not gone bad! Obviously he had to have the skill and imagination to do a bit of stir-frying, and he didn't know what ingredients he would find each night, but he often found vegetables, many at the peak of freshness, and also meat or other protein which was still cold from refrigeration, and packaged goods in pristine condition - some not even near their "sell buy" date!

Eye opening "take-aways" from our experience Saturday night:

1. When we go to the grocery store we want to see displays of beautiful, nicely shaped vegetables, and shelves abundantly filled with canned and boxed goods that we can choose from. Grocers must make room for new shipments that arrive at their stores at regular intervals. Very often the discards go in the dumpster.
2. Farmers are paid to over produce unhealthy foods through government subsidies for commodity crops, and right at the farm there is good food that is discarded because it isn't "pretty." While the film noted compositing initiatives – and we later discussed new markets for these 'ugly vegetables' – the filmmaker warned of last resort solutions being promoted over more systematic policy change.
3. Nutritious food is not always the food that is given to feeding programs for the hungry. For instance, after Halloween there is plenty of candy donated, not only by parents who don't want to keep it around the house, but by stores who want it off their shelves as well. It is common at all times of the year for "junk food" to be donated along with nutritious food, and unless the

receiver agrees to take everything brought to them by some donators, they will no longer receive any donations from that source.

4. Sell-by dates are not backed by scientific testing. Rather, sell-by dates are created by the manufacturer who benefits from edible food being prematurely thrown away, as it encourages more purchases and, thus, profit despite inherent waste.

5. The Farm Bill will be up for reauthorization sometime in mid-2019. We can educate ourselves about this important topic, so as to better advocate for the best ways to provide food for our nation.

All members of the panel were both gracious and informative. MUM and Rainbow Place appreciate the contributions that Warner has made of the years to their efforts to help the hungry in our midst, and their representatives thanked us warmly.

Responding to the audience's interest in our government's initiatives to feed the hungry, Mr. Owens has sent links we might want to check out in order to better understand our government's actions to feed Americans. He said: "Here are a few links that you might want to share . . .

(<https://agriculture.house.gov/farbill/>; <https://www.agriculture.senate.gov/newsroom/rep/press/release/senate-ag-leaders-commit-to-bipartisan-farm-bill>;
; <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2018-farm-bill-and-legislative-principles.pdf>). I'm also providing the websites of our local Members of Congress (<https://raskin.house.gov>;
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/contact/>;
<https://www.vanhollen.senate.gov>)"

There is still much to learn, and much to do to make sure that all our people are provided food security so that they can concentrate

on whatever else they need in order to reach their full potential. Keeping that food barrel in our narthex filled with nutritious food is just one thing we do.

With a grateful heart,

Ina Rae Kramer, Chair, Commission to the Community

WARNER PEOPLE

In Memoriam--Joan Bannon

Joan Bannon and her sons, Andrew and Alex, began attending church at Warner in the 1990s, and Joan participated eagerly in many parts of the life of the church over the years as a Deacon, Elder, Usher, Sunday morning counter, Presbyterian Woman, and volunteer on mission trips. Joan had been in declining health in recent months and passed away in April. She has been and will be missed as a member of our church family. There will be a memorial service for Joan on Saturday, May 5 at 2 p.m. We send our love and prayers to Andrew, Alex and other family.

In Memoriam--Edna Wright

Edna Wright had been an active member (and a charter member) of Wheaton Presbyterian Church, and when the church closed its doors in the 1990s, we were blessed to have Edna and others join our church family and continue her active role in church life for many years, always with her warm smile and cheerful attitude. She had not been able to attend church in recent months, and she passed away on April 16. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers. Warner will soon have information regarding services.

Directory Addition

Harrell-Mitchell, Adeline & Keith

3406 Ferndale St.

Kensington, MD 20895

Adeline	04/29	adfomba@gmail.com	240-899-7373
Keith	04/11		703-599-5224
Paula-Nina	09/22		
Prince-Nelly	01/06		
Presley-Nathan	09/15		
Preston-Noel	09/15		
Petrina-Nathalie	03/04		

Directory Update

Charlotte Jackson's current address and phone numbers:

3701 International Drive
 Apt 233 Assisted Living
 Silver Spring, MD 20906
 Cell: 240-204-7038
 Land line: 301-438-6752

May Birthdays

5 Ferdinand Addo	18 Lisa Saltzman, Michael Simenauer
7 Carl Adams, Claudia Stalker, Beatrice Winter	22 Alec Burns, Barbara Jaquette
8 George Bocchetti, Charlotte Cook	23 Aliyah Brammer
11 Phyllis Ewald. Barbara Shaw	25 Taylor Bragg, Marc Henri Winter
12 Marc Brammer	28 Rohan Puri
16 Isabelle Merl	30 Charlotte Jackson
	31 Alan Schroeder

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