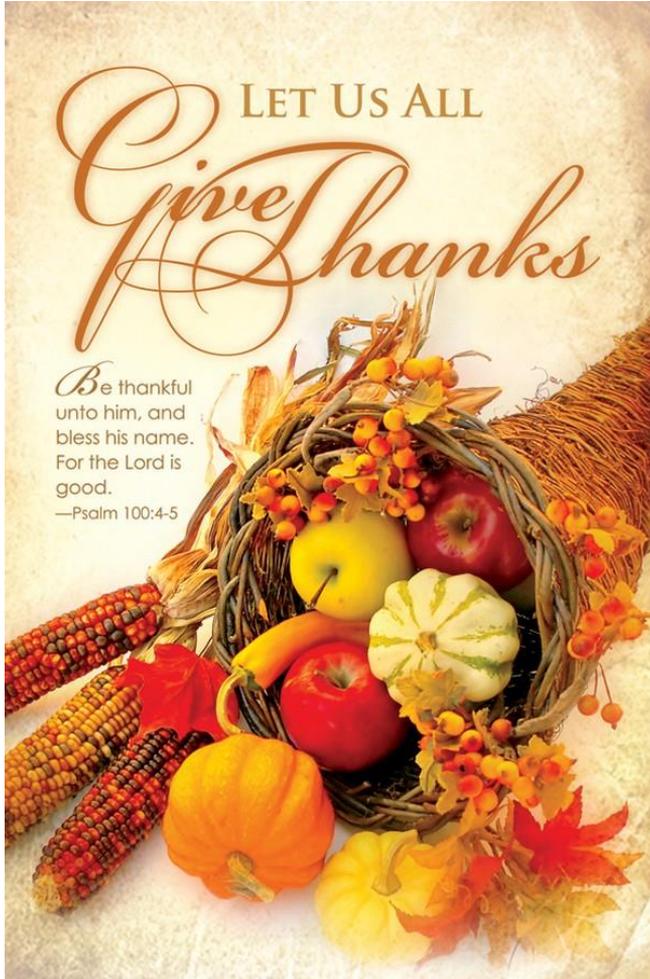


November 2017

THE WARNER MEMO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



[November Calendar](#)

WORSHIPING TOGETHER IN NOVEMBER

[Please note that this is a tentative schedule of scriptures and sermons.]



Sunday, November 5th

*All Saints' Sunday/Lord's
Supper
Hebrews 11
"By Faith"*



Sunday, November 12th

*Guest Preacher
Scriptures and Sermon TBD*



Sunday, November 19th

*Pledge Sunday/Harvest Brunch
Philippians 4:4-7 & Luke 17:11-19
"Thanksgiving Hummus"*

Tuesday, November 21st @ 7:30pm

*Kensington/North Chevy Chase Ministerium Thanksgiving Service
St. Paul's United Methodist Church*

Sunday, November 26th

*Reign of Christ Sunday
John 1:43-51 & Psalm 139:1-18
"All Knowing, All Loving"*

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

Why Give?

A few years ago, in preparation for a stewardship season similar to the one we started on Sunday, October 22nd, I read J. Clif Christopher's book, *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate: A New Vision for Financial Stewardship*. As a former pastor who has worked extensively on the spiritual discipline of stewardship and a consultant who now works with all sorts of charitable organizations, his work is full of insight.

One of the "aha" moments in the book deals with why people give. It's actually pretty simple, and yet many of us still miss the point. Basically, there are three reasons people give: *belief in the mission, regard for the staff and fiscal responsibility*. By the way, that first reason is by far the most important. People give to organizations they believe in. They give to organizations that they believe are changing lives.

So let me tell you why my family and I will give to Warner Memorial. Because we believe in the church's work. I'll be honest, fiscal responsibility and regard for the staff are important, but mission is most important. Plus, as a pastor who is paid by the church, I've always felt that giving to a general fund poses a bit of a conflict. But we do believe in the mission, and we know that our giving will change lives. Here are a few examples . . .

Worship. Each week in our worship service, the Word of God is proclaimed. That alone is reason enough to give. But more than just the reading of Scripture and preaching or hearing a sermon, God's praises are sung, prayers are lifted up and people fellowship with God and one another. All of these things change lives. I know this personally, and I plan on supporting it personally.

Outreach. Here, I could give any number of examples. But I want to talk about a few of the programs I've heard about during the past couple weeks: mission trips, serving meals at *Rainbow Place* and

providing grocery cards to neighbors in need. I know these are just a few of the programs that Warner is engaged in, but I'm already a believer, church. So count me in. As I said in my last sermon, I read somewhere that *Warner Feeds People*. Well, that's a mission I can support (especially after worship on Sundays).

Care. Again, I've only been here for a short while, but your care for one another is pretty obvious. People check up on one another, sometimes each other. Members and friends pray for their church family. Folks enjoy each other's company. And when somebody is missing, they are genuinely missed. And there's a whole lot more to it than just that. Once again for the third time, that is both a mission I believe in and a mission worth supporting.

Well, only so much can be said in a newsletter article, but that's a good start, I think. I look forward to supporting our ministry at Warner Memorial during my time here, and I hope you'll continue to do the same.

In Christ,
Rev. Todd

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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A schedule of upcoming gatherings for different age groups

Key: ## = tentative ** = children and youth

Youth:

Nov 9--Trip to Johnson's Plants (Early Release School Day)

Dec 1--Parents Night Out **

Dec 27--Ice-skating and Brookside Gardens Light Show

Young Adults:

Nov 13--Social Meet ##

Nov 18--Rainbow Place Service

Dec 11--Social Meet

Dec 16 (morning)--Wreath laying @ Arlington Cemetery ##

Adults:

November Adult Study: "Revisiting the Protestant Reformation in its 500th Year"

(See following articles for more information)

Youth Kickoff Retreat, a success!

On September 21st, five youth (middle & high school) met for a fall retreat. Meeting at Warner, we crafted a group covenant and considered the difference between needs and desires to determine what the real treasures are in our lives. Next, we went for a day at the park, and played basketball and a game of Badminton (thanks to the Winter's for setting this up!). During rest time, the youth authored self-addressed letters that will be returned to them in one year's time. Before returning to Warner, and concluding in song, we enjoyed lunch at Old Town Market.

Young Adult Kickoff at the Renaissance Festival



On October 14th, the Warner Walkers – a ~20-30s group formed for service and fellowship at WMPC – met for a social trip to the Renaissance Festival. The trip brought together about ten of us, and included both longtime

Warnerites as well as new friends. The highlights were watching jousting, comedy routines, and acrobatics. The group will continue with two monthly meetings: both service and social.

On October 28th, six young adults assisted with a ministry providing Books to Prisons, and on November 18th, we will cook and serve for women staying at Rainbow Place.



Upcoming Adult Study: "Revisiting the Protestant Reformation in its 500th Year"

October 31, 1517 is the date of an event credited as the beginning of the Protestant Reformation: Martin Luther's posting of his famous 95 Theses on the door of the *Schlosskirche* (Castle Church) in Wittenberg, Germany. For this reason, this site is included in the 'Luther Memorials' UNESCO World Heritage Site. **During the first three Wednesdays in November (@ 7:30PM)**, I will be hosting an adult study to 'revisit the Protestant Reformation in its 500th year.' Presbyterian identity is a Reformed identity, but what does this mean for us here and now? Sessions require short background reading with questions prompting discussion for seminar format meetings. Please email Dave Grace (dce@warnermemorial.org) to RSVP.

--Dave Grace, Dir. C.E.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

The Fall Workday is Saturday, Nov. 4, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., with plenty of jobs outside and in. If you missed out on this opportunity to spruce up our facility, contact June Eakin for a list of jobs.

Warner artists: You could design a decorative transom for our new Sanctuary doors. We hope to install a decorative metal sheet on the area over the new doors. We are considering whether to go with a simple pattern or a custom image. We are asking for concept drawings that express the history and spirit of our congregation and/or Christian symbols. Once a concept is chosen, we would contact a local metalworker for design and production. If you'd like to participate, please contact June Eakin at june.eakin@mac.com to get an architectural drawing. We'd like to receive concepts before the end of the year.



Did you know our building is equipped with a portable AED? This automated medical device can save a life in a cardiac emergency. Anyone can use it; you turn it on and it will announce instructions on what to do. It will only deliver an electric shock if it senses the appropriate condition. The AED should be brought to the scene of any major health emergency at our facility, since sudden cardiac arrest is unpredictable and time is critical. It is located in the hallway in the center of the building, next to the coat rack outside the main and CE offices near the sanctuary, in a white case mounted on the wall. It's equipped for both adults and children.

--June Eakin

COMMUNITY – MISSION

Your Commission to the Community Supports MUM



MUM, the Mid-County United Ministries, is a local hunger program with a very close relationship to Warner. MUM began in 1996, after Rev. Drew Tyler, then pastor of Wheaton Presbyterian Church, found a homeless woman who had spent the night in the church building, and decided that the local poor were not being offered adequate help. With initial financial help from Interfaith Works, Rev. Tyler hired Warner's Diane Schroeder to be the director of MUM. Diane immediately called on Warner members to volunteer, and several of those early MUM workers are still in our congregation.

MUM began as a food pantry located in a closet. It has grown until it now serves an average of 20 clients every day, each with two shopping bags of food. In addition to providing food, MUM helps many people whose utilities are about to be turned off. MUM also helps prevent people from being evicted because their rents are overdue, and it assists people in getting necessary medical prescriptions. In all, MUM serves people in need in three zip code areas: Wheaton, Kensington, and Silver Spring.

The food barrel in the foyer of our church is maintained by the Deacons, who regularly take food that has been donated there to MUM. Various Warner members support the annual food drive for MUM at the Kensington Safeway. And we in the Commission to the Community regularly dedicate a portion of the **Two Cents-a-Meal** offering to MUM. This year that portion comes in October and November. **This month, when you see the little red wagon, please think of the work that MUM does, and give generously.**

--Cory Atwood, with thanks to retired director Diane Schroeder

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.”
--Psalm 46



Recently we all have been consumed by the news of hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, the earthquakes in Mexico, and the fires in California, Montana, Oregon and Washington seeing and reading of the life changing damage to so many communities. These catastrophes strike us with the magnitude of the relief efforts needed in these areas and often make us question how we can help those who have lost family members, homes, and jobs.

It may provide you with some comfort that the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) program that we support every spring through our One Great Hour of Sharing, and through designated gifts, is the emergency response and refugee program of the denomination, committed to the long-term journey to recovery of communities adversely affected by a crisis or catastrophic event. The PDA enables congregations and mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to witness the healing love of Christ through caring for these communities.

Your contributions have enabled Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to:

- Provide training and disaster preparedness for presbyteries and synods.
- Work collaboratively with church partners and members of the ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together) internationally and nationally with other faith based responders.
- Connect Partners locally and internationally with key organizations active in the response such as the United

Nations, National Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster, World Food Program, Red Cross, FEMA and others.

- Deploy National Response Team members to affected presbyteries to offer assistance when needed.

As you know, PDA also provides “boots on the ground” assistance in many areas. Warner mission trips have been part of that effort in places like New Orleans, Oklahoma, and New York just to mention a few recent examples of PDA funds supporting relief efforts for national disasters. Characteristically, Warner has, and continues to respond with great generosity. As one who has family ties to some living in the Gulf region that have been affected by flooding there, and as someone who has participated in and sometimes headed up our Mission Teams responding to disasters, I am grateful.

Dr. Laurie A. Kraus, Coordinator of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance tells us that when we “think of disaster survivors, refugees, and global partners as kin, extended family to be welcomed home with joy... we recognize that we are all family, affected by the needs or suffering of any family member, always ready to make room, to dig deeper and make a way for all to live with dignity and recover a life of wholeness and meaning...Jesus is not far off or lonely; he is in the midst of us, God-made-flesh, reminding us all that we are one, that God’s image is in each of us, demanding that the urgent need of anyone who suffers is the urgent need of Christ, compelling our response.”

If you would like to make a contribution to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program you can do so by placing your donation in the collection plate on any given Sunday. If that donation is by check, you can make it out to “Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church” and indicate that your donation should be directed to “PDA” on the memo line. You can also further direct your donation to hurricane, earthquake or forest fire relief. By making your donation through Warner you will receive confirmation of your donation with your statement of annual giving at year’s end.

--Ty Bragg, Commission to the Community

BOARD OF DEACONS

Deacons' Work at Warner--Rally Day, MUM, Smart Sacks, Rainbow Place, and visiting homebound members



I am writing to talk about what the Deacons at Warner Church have been doing this year. Recently, the twelve Deacons organized the Rally Day lunch in September after church, with help from many other Warnerites. The day before, we baked cookies and cakes, and made salads.

Before church on Sunday, we carried eleven large tables and chairs-- enough for 90 people-- outside. We covered the tables with green, purple, blue or gold plastic table covers, and then had to tape them down because of the strong winds that day. We picked sunflowers, orange marigolds, and golden black-eyed Susans from the church gardens and put them in vases on each table. Three charcoal grills cooked plentiful hotdogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers. Ken-Gar church members brought even more food, and joined Warner members for the lunch. We filled the tables with conversation and laughter.

Feeding people is also the purpose of three other Deacon activities. On Labor Day, we worked together to set up and staff the Mid-County United Ministry (MUM) booth during the Kensington Labor Day parade and celebration. Many children came to the booth with their parents for the free lollipops and fountain pens. They got information about donating food and funds for MUM's food and other services to the community. Last spring, Deacons collected food at Safeway for the Manna Smart Sacks program, which sends good food home in backpacks for children who otherwise do not have enough to eat over the weekends when they don't get school breakfasts and lunches. In November and February, the Deacons were coordinators of food given by our church members for Saturday dinners at Rainbow Place, a women's homeless shelter in

Rockville. While at Rainbow Place, we often heard comments and compliments about how much the women appreciated and enjoyed the food from Warner members.

We have also enjoyed visiting church members with flowers and church bulletins. Each Sunday, Deacons have taken flowers donated by church members to our church friends who can't come on Sundays or are in the hospital or a recovery or rehabilitation facility. We've had many good conversations. Just before Christmas, we delivered baskets of fruits, candies, and cookies freshly baked by the Presbyterian Women at Warner. Just after Christmas, we took the same people poinsettias that had just decorated our church. Sometimes members who get flowers and Christmas baskets have sent notes after the visits, and we have shared them at our monthly Deacon meeting on the first Monday of each month. At-home members also have enjoyed pink, yellow, and white Easter Tulips and Azaleas contributed by many Warner members and delivered by Deacons.

As a Deacon, I've been fortunate to share many good times with my fellow Deacons and all those I've visited and served. But we couldn't do what we do without the support of our wonderful Warner members. Thank you all for your prayers, participation, and generosity.

--Susan Bresee

SPECIAL NOTE FROM LCYC:

Dine out on Wednesday, November 15th and help LCYC at the same time. The Chipotle in Kensington will host a fundraiser from **4-8:00 p.m.** Dine in or carryout, tell them you're with LCYC, and the school will get 50% of the before-tax profit . . . plus you don't have to make dinner! Closer to the date, I will have a flier that will go out. Folks can carry the flier in and show it at check-out.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



Our new season of championing for the care of our planet is off to an enthusiastic start! We met after worship on October 8, and talked about the efforts we are maintaining, what plans we can put together in the coming year, and the ways we can mentor other congregations, friends and neighbors who would like to be better stewards of our worlds' resources. At our meeting, June summarized our Earth Care Certification and described how the Environmental Stewardship Team (EST) works through the various commissions. Through approval from various groups at Warner, we have a rain barrel, eco-friendly landscaping, native outdoor plants, a vegetable garden, recycled and recyclable paper, sensors for the bathroom lights, energy-efficient air-conditioning units, energy-efficient window blinds, and containers for collecting various recyclables.

Here are areas in which we are building and maintaining our outreach and activity: **Shepherd's Garden** (our garden from which we serve Shepherd's Table): We currently have two gardeners, and the youth will have a part of the garden as their own. We will still need more folks to help maintain our patch. *Are you interested in helping to care for our Shepherd's Garden?* **Warner's Commissions:** We have EST representatives assigned to a few of Warner's Commissions. They will visit the commission meeting occasionally (2-3 times each year) to encourage Earth Care activities, share EST actions and get input for recertification. **Communication:** We will use social media and neighborhood "Listserves" to promote to the wider community (Wheaton/ Kensington/Bethesda/Silver Spring) what WMPC is doing as an Earth Care Congregation (ECC). **NCP:** We agreed to recommend that WMPC request the National Capital Presbytery to concur with the most recent overture on fossil fuel divestment. To learn more about this action, please read this article: <https://www.fossilfreepcusa.org/facts-action/why-divest/> **ECC Renewal:** We will renew our certification at the beginning of the new year (no later than February 15). To learn more about the ways that Presbyterian churches are encouraged to participate in

reducing waste, please visit this page:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-care-congregations/>. To learn more about what we are doing as an ECC, visit our page on the WMPC website:

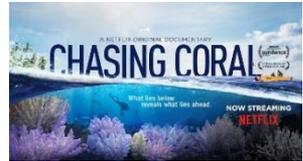
http://warnermemorial.org/pages/page.asp?page_id=142902

The EST will meet again in mid-January—all are welcome to come!

--Sharon Allen

Warner Hosts *Chasing Coral* Screening

On September 23rd, Warner's Environmental Stewardship Team hosted a successful screening of the new film *Chasing Coral*. Coral bleaching has become a major problem and is one of the most obvious ways climate change is already damaging the creation God entrusted to us. As our release of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases continues to increase, warming of the climate has caused more frequent and severe ocean heatwaves that cause corals to eject the algae that live in their bodies and provide them with their food. This film follows a team of film makers, engineers, and scientists as they attempt to use time-lapse videography to capture corals as they undergo the transformation from healthy to bleached to dead during the recent global coral bleaching event. Warner's own Dr. Mark Eakin appears in the film and served as one of the films' Chief Scientific Advisors. The audience was entranced with the beauty of the coral reefs and shocked by the damage humans are causing. After the screening, the audience of 59 people (about half of whom were guests from the surrounding communities) enthusiastically participated in a post-film question and answer session featuring Dr. Eakin. A second screening was held the next evening at St. Mark Presbyterian Church, with a similar sized crowd and Q&A session that some Warnerites attended. The Environmental Stewardship Team is considering additional film screenings in the future. Let us know if you have suggestions.



--Mark Eakin



At the NCP Presbyterian Women's Fall Retreat nine Warner women joined with others from across the Metro area. The NCP PW theme of Mission Possible is based on Micah 6:8, *"What does the Lord require of us? Act for Justice, Show constant Love, Live humbly with our God."* We heard from Rev. Jimmie Hawkins about the role of the PC(USA) Office



Make Your Voice Heard—Letter-writing at the fall retreat (all three photos)

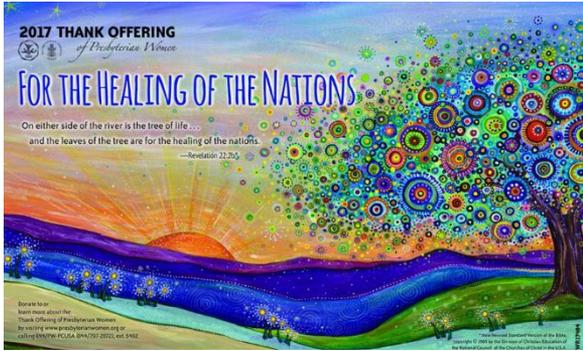
Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, PCUSA-OPW and Judy Wenig, NCP-PW

of Public Witness, and wrote letters to support the Trafficked Persons Protection Act that is up for re-authorization. Then we attended workshops on PW Leadership or Mission Partnerships. The music for worship was led by the Christian Women's Fellowship of Gaithersburg PC, Rev. Lucy Der-Garabedian gave the meditation and we shared communion. For lunch afterwards, we discovered the friendly service and tasty food at the Cuban Corner restaurant.

PW Thank Offering

Since 1888 Presbyterian women have joyfully expressed gratitude for God's blessings by sharing their resources with people in need.

The Warner Presbyterian Women will collect the 2017 Thank Offering throughout the month of November.



offering (checks payable Presbyterian Women WMPC) in the special Thank Offering envelope and place it in the offering plate or deliver to the church office.

Envelopes can be

found on the PW bulletin board and in the brochure racks. In 2017—thanks to your generous giving to the 2016 Thank Offering—15 projects (10 national and 5 international) will receive grants from the Thank Offering. The Thank Offering provides food and water, alleviates homelessness, provides educational opportunities, promotes health, and improves the lives of women, children and men throughout the world in many ways.

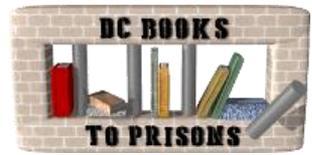
Warner's PW Annual Meeting is Sunday, November 12 at 12:30

All are welcome join us at the Warner Presbyterian Women's Annual Meeting. After reviewing our budget and electing officers, we will host a presenter, Michelle, from our latest mission partnership: DC Books to Prisons, and their parent organization, The Washington Peace Center. Come find out more about this project and how you can make your actions count. Feel free to bring refreshments from Fellowship Hour.

Harvest Gift Fair

While we're enjoying the Harvest Brunch, we can shop to make a difference. PW is once again hosting a Gift Fair with items from Justice Ventures International, Equal Exchange and Tim Cook holiday cards. Bring your wallet on **Sunday, November 19** to shop Fair Trade and to benefit PW and Justice Ventures International (JVI), who works to fight human trafficking.

Our next visit to the DC Books to Prisons library collection is planned for the morning of **Saturday, November 25th**. Contact Lena Aspiras if you'd like to join us at Foundry United Methodist Church.

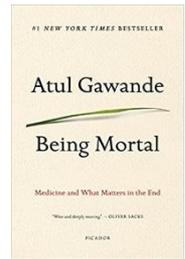


Neat and Tidy – that's now the closet of the Social Hall. Nine intrepid and hard-working ladies cleaned, sorted, and labeled

the contents of this closet. What a difference teamwork makes! New brighter lights make it possible to read labels and find things easily.

PW Book Club

November's selection is Being Mortal by Atul Gawande. "In his bestselling books, Atul Gawande, a practicing surgeon, has fearlessly revealed the struggles of his profession. Now he examines its ultimate limitations and failures-in his own practices as well as others'-as life draws to a close. Riveting, honest, and humane, *Being Mortal* shows how the ultimate goal is not a good death but a good life-all the way to the very end." **We will meet to discuss the book at the Eakin's home on Friday, December 1st at 7:30.** As always, all are welcome to join us whether or not you have read the book!



The next meeting of the Coordinating Team will be Tuesday evening November 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the church library.

Joy Circle Bible Study- Tuesday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the church library. Kay Gorman will lead Lesson 6 "According to Hebrews" of the Horizons Bible study "Who Is Jesus?" Join us! Please read the lesson beforehand if possible.

WARNER PEOPLE

SPECIAL NOTE:

We would like to express our deep appreciation and thanks to all those at Warner who have sent cards and expressed their sympathies at the passing of Alan's father. Your support and caring are heartwarming to us.

Alan and Diane Schroeder

New address and phone number:

Joan Bannon
11620 Kemp Mill Road
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-649-7414

November birthdays

- | | |
|----|---|
| 2 | Lois Buitano, Ina Rae Kramer |
| 4 | Harold Shaw |
| 6 | Madalena Aspiras |
| 8 | Laura Avery |
| 9 | Thomas Bocchetti |
| 10 | Susan Bates |
| 11 | Kate Addo, Ajay Soni |
| 12 | Shervonne Johnson, Major Williams |
| 15 | Marie Rosché |
| 19 | Karen Murphy, Jeffery Simenauer |
| 20 | Sheldon Butts, David Daugherty |
| 22 | Steven Kline |
| 25 | Kenyon Kramer |
| 26 | Simon Winter |
| 27 | William Kirchhoff, Peter McGrath, Shannon Stalker |
| 28 | Simran Puri |

December MEMO Issue

Please submit your completed articles to
memo@warnermemorial.org, by **Monday, November 21.**

Thank you for your contributions!

Please Note: Help wanted!

Would you be willing to take part in any step of the Memo editing process? If you are interested in working on the monthly Warner Memo, please contact Sharon.

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Please see bulletin boards outside the Main Office

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Music Director: Peter Smeallie

Organist: Sungho Paik

Director, Learning Center for Young Children: Angela Goolsby

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