

October 2016

THE WARNER MEMO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

www.warnermemorial.org

[Online Calendar](#)

WORSHIPPING TOGETHER IN OCTOBER

Sunday, October 2

World Communion Sunday

2 Timothy 1:1-6

Luke 17:1-7

“A Spirit Of...”

Sunday, October 9

Psalm 66:1-12

Luke 17:11-19

“Another Good Samaritan”

Sunday, October 16

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Luke 18:1-8

“Encountering Cynicism”

Sunday, October 23

Joel 2:23-29

Luke 18:9-14

“To Whom Do We Pray?”

Sunday, October 30

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Luke 19:1-10

“Unconditional”

Every day of the week, you can help adults and children in our community who are struggling below the poverty level. Please remember to bring cans and boxes of non-perishable food for the **Mid-County United Ministries'** food pantry in Wheaton. Together, we can continue to fill the big wooden “hunger barrel” in the Warner narthex. Thank you!

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear members and friends,

Tremendous strides have been made in recent years to address some of the shortcomings of our church plant. With a building more than sixty years old, there has been a long list of projects for needed work. It is in better shape and more visually appealing than it has been for a long time. Some of the repair and replacement projects along the way opened the possibility for improvements, like when the heating failed on the ground floor, we were able to put in systems that heated and cooled the social hall. Some of these projects have been very expensive. It cost us about \$30,000 to get the concrete work done in front of the sanctuary along with the steps and sidewalks from Calvert Street. We were in danger of that front porch collapsing because the ground under the concrete had dropped significantly over six decades. The front doors and their frame at the front of the sanctuary are in dire need of being replaced – this too will be an expensive job we hope to be able to get done before winter. In the meantime, there was a lightning strike that did some infrastructure damage and a gas leak that had to be repaired.

To address these and other building concerns, we have been fortunate to have had some bequests and special gifts to which to turn. If you haven't put Warner into your will, I hope you will consider it. In a future article, I'll be sharing more of the to-do priority list of building concerns that the Session has on its priority list. In the short term, I hope there will be individuals or families who will make generous gifts so we can continue to help our building be a place that is attractive to visitors and guests as we present ourselves to those who are looking for a church home. I'd be glad to talk with anyone to explore how such a gift might be used.

It is good to keep in mind that the church is not the building. The building is the base for ministry, but the people and our programming are what make up the church.

Our ability to reflect God's generosity in our ministry depends on gracious donations from you. We are thankful for those who have given in big-hearted ways, who enable us to have vibrant programming and a more attractive and functional building. We need that level of support to continue and to increase because we can't be satisfied with just what we have accomplished so far.

Thank you for your great generosity,

Kirby Lawrence Hill

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Parents' Night Out is back by popular demand. On Thursday evening, October 13, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., children, ages three to ten, are invited to *Wonders of Autumn*. The activities for the evening include: a light meal, art, stories, and recreation. Participating families are asked to donate a can of food for MUM food barrel. Space is limited. To sign up, contact Jan Moody, jdmoody3@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY

PRAYER REQUEST FROM HOPE UNLIMITED

Starting October 7, and each morning leading up to Orphan Sunday on November 6, you can receive a devotional email from Hope Unlimited. Join us, and thousands of friends of Hope, to pray for children suffering abuse, exploitation, and abandonment. Add info@hopeunlimited.org to your email contacts, or sign up at <http://www.hopeunlimited.org/contact>.

--Kay Gorman

YOUR "MISSION COMMISSION" IN ACTION:

On Wednesday, September 21, Ruth Brown visited Warner for the first time in three years, sharing a potluck supper we prepared and presenting a slide show on her public health work in the Congo. We have supported her work since about 2011. During this time, she has assisted the Presbyterian Church of Congo to form a coalition for community development: organizations supporting agriculture, public health, small commerce, micro-savings, and targeting widows and at-risk children. Together these organizations have developed a variety of programs to improve the lives of the Congolese people in the Kasai provinces. She told stories of how the Congolese leaders of these various organizations manage to stretch themselves to accomplish an enormous number of tasks.



Ruth showed pictures of malnourished children who are being helped by the Community Health Evangelism (CHE) program and by PRODEK, Program for Development in Kasai (two programs supported by Warner Memorial). The CHE program of ecumenical volunteers work in five small Bible study and community action groups throughout the big city of Kananga, the capital of Central Kasai.

These groups discuss how the scripture is directing them to take action in their communities to provide a more abundant, healthy life for the people. This program is devoted to assisting families of malnourished children under 6 years old. They visit families twice monthly, providing education and coaching for behavior change related to many aspects of children's health, including ensuring that the malnourished children go to the health clinic for an evaluation, assisting the families to learn how to purify drinking water, providing proper sanitation, updating vaccination records, understanding and using family planning methods, practicing proper child feeding methods, and establishing home gardens.

PRODEK staff visit all the family gardens and provide guidance to CHE volunteers and to families about how to enrich the soil and grow more nutritious plants. They teach how to plant and harvest Moringa trees around each of the family homes, and they teach about planting Chaya. The Moringa tree — a super-nutritious source of protein and vitamins — seems to be getting re-established with this current method of promotion. The Chaya is a fast growing, nutritional shrub recently introduced from Latin America.

A story Ruth told relates to the many malnourished children. Traditional belief in the Congo is that, prior to birth, children live in a region of good and bad spirits, and at their birth children can bring either kind of spirit into the world with them. Suspicion falls on children whose family members die or become sick after the birth of the child. Family members may fear the child or not hold or care for the child as often. Once during a Bible study of Matt. 18:1-4, a CHE group was retelling the story, using their Community Health Evangelism methodology. One of the participants repeated the words "Jesus called a child and put him in the midst of them." Someone else said, "That means that Jesus must have put his hands on him!" The pastor said, "Yes, and in the version in Luke, it says that Jesus put him in his lap!" Someone spoke up, "So Jesus wasn't afraid of the children! He loved the children. We are to be like Christ for our communities. We should be holding these children in our arms while we are talking to the parents. We can show them and we do not fear the children. We should show them that there is a greater power than any evil spirit. This power is Christ's love!" This revelation spread through the group, and the next time Ruth went to the five sections of town where the CHE group worked, children came running out to the CHE volunteers with arms up, waiting for a hug!

-- Cory Atwood

“Can God spread a table in the wilderness?” — Psalm 78:19

THE TABLE IS SET. Each year during the month of October, we ask you to make a contribution to Presbyterian Peace & Global Witness Offering, which helps us to help those who labor to “turn swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks.” The Family Tree, headquartered in Baltimore, is dedicated to teaching families how to solve conflict without inflicting abuse on children. The Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (IFC) encourages Washington residents of many faiths to come together to dialogue with each other, and puts on a yearly concert showcasing a wide variety of cultures. The Jerusalem International YMCA (JIY) has a Peace Preschool which Jewish, Muslim and Christian children attend, and for more than 50 years has hosted a holiday party for children of all faiths including orphans and those with disabilities. Some years there are as many as 600 children at the celebration which includes musical entertainment and gifts.

We divide the 25% of the amount we retain from this special offering among these three fine organizations, we then send 75% on to Presbytery, 25% of which is used by Presbytery for Peacemaking efforts, and then 50% is forwarded by Presbytery to PC (USA) for its work nationally.

Your gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering will help more persons accept God's invitation to “Come to the Table of Peace.”

CEO OF INTERFAITH WORKS TO SPEAK AT WARNER

Our congregation has supported of the work of Interfaith Works for many years. Shane Rock, CEO of this respected and multi-faceted organization which seeks to “reduce poverty in Montgomery County by 25% by 2022,” (!) has accepted Warner’s invitation to come to tell us all about current initiatives of this agency.

Mark your calendars! You won’t want to miss hearing what he has to say. The date: Sunday, October 23rd, 12:30 p.m. in the Common Room. Please consider inviting a neighbor, and if you do, please let me know, so that Mr. Rock will bring enough materials to share with everyone.

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

> On All Saints Day there will be a bulletin board of remembrance for those members of Warner who have passed from our midst between November 2015 and 2016. Look for it outside the church office, on the Commission to Community Bulletin Board.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

From the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:23), *“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!”*

The Warner Nominating committee is seeking officers for the coming year. If you receive a call, please prayerfully consider how you can serve the church as a guide, and the spiritual enrichment you will enjoy. As we recently sang together in worship, *“Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.”*

BOARD OF DEACONS

At our monthly meeting on Monday, September 26, the Warner deacons began planning for our annual help for Rainbow Place women’s shelter, located at Rockville Presbyterian Church. We decided that, once again, we will coordinate Saturday dinners in November (with food and help serving from the Warner congregation) for the homeless women at the shelter. Please look for a sign-up chart on an easel in the church’s main hallway starting mid-way through this month.

Warner’s Board of Deacons also leads our church’s continuing assistance of Mid-county United Ministries (MUM). Located in Wheaton, MUM provides help to low income people with food, housing, and counseling. MUM celebrates 20 years of service to the community with their annual fund-raiser dinner on Saturday, October 22, at the Silver Spring Civic Building (7-9:00 pm). The public is invited; donations accepted gratefully. If you plan to attend, please respond by October 12. Contact MUM at www.mumhelp.org for more information.

Please support the Warner Memorial **Deacons’ Fund** by contributing on the first Sunday of each month. You may use the special envelopes in the pew racks.

Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

KenSINGton SINGS! And PLAYS! And RINGS!

A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE LEE RODKEY MEMORIAL FUND

The entire community is invited to Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church for a special musical event! "KenSINGton SINGS! And Plays! And RINGS!" is set for Sunday, October 30 at 4:00 pm in the church sanctuary.

The concert will feature Warner's own Sanctuary Choir and Warner Bell Choir along with organist Sungho Paik. There will also be a number of special guest stars that will help make this truly a community event! You will enjoy music by the Chamber Singers of Kensington's Albert Einstein High School as well as selections from The New Brass Quintet.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church's Lee Rodkey Memorial Fund. The fund was established in memory of longtime Warner member and chorister Lee Rodkey, who was a tremendous supporter of arts activities at Warner. The fund helps to provide maintenance of the church's instruments as well as an ongoing internship position for a Soprano Soloist and Section Leader for the choir.

So come on over to Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church - 10123 Connecticut Avenue in Kensington - for this wonderful community musical event. The concert begins at 4:00, and admission is by free will offering. Parking is available in the lot on the west side of Connecticut Avenue, and there is a convenient crosswalk for access to the church!

BUILDING & GROUNDS

FALL WORK DAY IS UPON US! SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m

Come join your fellow Warnerites for a day of camaraderie as we spend some time maintaining our building and grounds. We will be joined by parents from our LCYC. If you can help to provide lunch for our hard-working volunteers, please contact June Eakin, chair of Building and Grounds. Most projects are cleaning, painting and minor repairs. We have several projects that can be done at other times. Is there anyone willing to give the kitchen stove a good cleaning on

another day? Let me know and we'll provide supplies.

Small repairs are often needed between workdays. We have been calling on a small cadre of handy persons as volunteers, but would like to add names to the list. If you would be willing to be called for occasional needs, please contact June Eakin (301-384-3170) or the church office.

> Our sincere gratitude is extended to those who made donations above their pledge for building maintenance expenses this year. With the blizzard in February and the lightning strike in August, we incurred unexpectedly high bills. You can still contribute at any time by using the envelopes in the pews.

– June Eakin



It is no coincidence that just three days after PW does its Moment for Mission seeking financial support for our local and global mission endeavors, we had an opportunity to meet and chat with one of the individuals, Ruth Brown, whose missionary work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is directly supported by PW here at Warner and across the country. We were so touched, as well, by Ruth's personal and heartfelt thank you to Warner's PW for the PW Thank Offering grants that supported the Human Rights for Widows and the Micro-Savings & Loan Program for Widows in the Congo. How cool is that??

We enthusiastically thank you for the immediate response this past Sunday and continue to emphasize that the need is constant.



Sue Burns, Ruth Brown, and JoEllen LaPrade

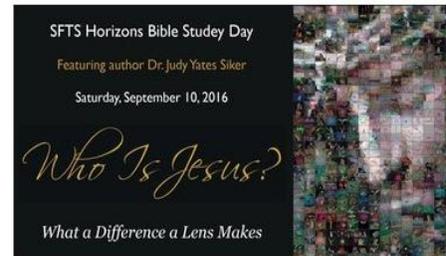
FALL RETREAT AT BON SECOURS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15th



We are all looking forward to our fall retreat at the **Bon Secours Conference Center in Marriottsville, Maryland**. If you have not had the pleasure of attending an event at this locale, you should plan to join us to experience the grounds alone, which include a beautifully landscaped pond, gazebo, and labyrinth surrounded by mature forest, which should be perfect for enjoying peak fall

color. As if that is not reason enough, we have prepared a program that will include spiritual enrichment planned by Jan Moody with a theme of “A Cloud of Witnesses, a session on the “History of the Bible,” led by Lisa Smeallie and an overview of this year’s Bible Study, “Who Is Jesus?” led by June Eakin.

There will be ample opportunity to enjoy not only the chapel and the Sun Porch, where we will be meeting, but to stroll the stunningly beautiful grounds. Cost is \$50 per person and includes breakfast and lunch, as well as the use of the grounds for the day. With assistance from CE, we have limited funds available to provide financial assistance. It is a pleasant 45-minute drive and we plan to arrange for carpooling. You can arrive as early as 8 AM for breakfast and the program will begin with a short worship service in the beautiful chapel. We will close the session shortly before 4 PM. Please contact Sue Burns to find out if there is still space available.



2016-2017 PW BIBLE STUDY: WHO IS JESUS? WHAT A DIFFERENCE A LENS MAKES...

The women of Warner are embarking on a two year Bible study and discussion to help each of us answer the question that Jesus asks, “Who do you say that I am?” The Bible study book (\$8 from the church office) is written to be used individually or in groups.

From the author, Rev. Judy Yates Siker, “I invite you to join me in a journey to expand our understanding of who Jesus was and is. It is not a journey that will result in a simple answer that we all agree upon. It is instead, a journey of our hearts and minds, a journey that we will take together.”

Joy Circle: 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30 pm. in the church library. All are welcome. Circle leader: June Eakin

Reflection Circle: 2nd Sundays at 9:30 am in the Trinity Room, Circle leader: Lora McGlade



MUM – ANNUAL FALL FUNDRAISER SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

Mid County United Ministries (MUM) is an organization that is near and dear to the hearts of many individuals and groups at Warner, of which PW is one. Please plan to attend this fun event on Saturday, October 22nd at the Silver Spring Civic Building and help celebrate its 20th anniversary of service to

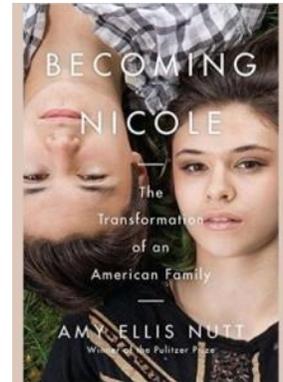
those in need right here in our Montgomery County backyard. Hollywood East restaurant in Wheaton is providing the food this year. There is no cost to attend but donations are most appropriate. So they know you are coming, please RSVP by emailing Larry White at office@mumhelp.org.

2016 -17 PW BOOK CLUB



We will be meeting at Jan Moody's house on Friday, **October 28th at 7:30PM**, for our second book discussion of the 2016-2017 season. Our book this month is, "Becoming Nicole" by Amy Ellis Nutt. From the web..."The inspiring true story of a transgender girl, her identical twin brother, and an ordinary

American family's extraordinary journey to understand, nurture, and celebrate the uniqueness in us all, from the Pulitzer Prize-winning science reporter for The Washington Post. When Wayne and Kelly Maines adopted identical twin boys, they thought their lives were complete. But it wasn't long before they noticed a marked difference between Jonas and his brother, Wyatt. Jonas preferred sports and trucks and many of the things little boys were "supposed" to like; but Wyatt liked princess dolls and dress-up and playing Little Mermaid. By the time the twins were toddlers, confusion over Wyatt's insistence that he was female began to tear the family apart. In the years that followed, the Maineses came to question their long-held views on gender and identity, to accept and embrace Wyatt's transition to Nicole, and to undergo an emotionally wrenching transformation of their own that would change all their lives forever." Please plan to join us for a lively discussion, and as always, having read the book is not a requirement for attendance. Hope to see you there!! ***If there is someone who would like to lead the discussion, please contact our intrepid Lisa Smeallie and let her know.***



While you may have to wait, we could not wait to let you know that our very own Hilary Bragg will be our guest speaker at the PW Annual Meeting, which will be held following worship on **Sunday, November 6th** in the Common Room. We will provide

more information in the November MEMO, but wanted to let you know ASAP so you can plan to join us.



PLANS IN PLACE FOR A NEW COOKBOOK



It is that time again... Lisa Smeallie has agreed to head up the next Warner Cookbook and the first ingredient needed is... recipes and lots of them. Please email an electronic (preferable) version of your favorite recipe to her and if there is an interesting history or story related to it, include that information as well. If you have any questions or if you are interested in working on this endeavor, please contact Lisa directly.



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... don't be shy. Should 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, Kay Gorman, or Charity Singletary.

COMMUNITY

HUNGER MISSION



Thanks to all Warner members and friends who continue to contribute to our monthly “Two Cents –a – Meal” collection. In September, we counted \$84.50 in coins and currency. Combined with over \$183 in August, our discretionary 40% goes to help the Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry program. This collection is on the third Sunday of each month. In October and November, a portion will help MUM. Keep the coins and dollars coming, please!

– Ann Rakow

WARNER PEOPLE

WELCOMING A NEW MEMBER

On Sunday, September 25, Warner's congregation in worship welcomed our newest member, Melissa Ketchum. Melissa is accompanied by her husband, Jim, and their three-year-old son, Henry. In the coming weeks, please extend your greetings and personal welcome to the Ketchum family.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

- 2 Alison Heafitz
- 6 Benjamin Bresee, Max Kuzmyak
- 8 Phil Och
- 9 Michael Carlson
- 17 Lara Brodsky
- 19 Katherine Locher, Daniel Zimmerman
- 21 Mark Bocchetti
- 23 Lisa Smeallie
- 24 Alexander Bannon, Chris McGrath, Brian Whiteman
- 25 Jim Bresee, Paula Simenauer
- 28 Natalie Thompson, Harry Trout
- 29 Kelsey Moody, Ila Trautvetter

NEXT MEMO ISSUE

Please submit articles and notices for the November issue of the Warner MEMO by Tuesday, October 25. 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!

DINING TABLE FOR SALE



Recently, we received a donation of a large Duncan Phyfe dining table (86"L x 48"W) and would like to sell it. The table seats eight with two additional 21" wide leaves increasing seating to ten (107"L) or twelve (128"L). About seven years ago, the table was appraised at \$5,000. We will accept the best offer over \$1,000. If you are interested or know someone who may be, please contact

June Eakin or the church office for more details. You can view the table in the church library.

“It is not what a lawyer tells me I may do; it is what humanity, reason and justice tell me I ought to do.”

-- Edmund Burke, 1775

“First there must be order and harmony within your own mind. Then this order will spread to your family, then to the community, and finally to your entire kingdom. Only then can you have peace and harmony.”

-- Kung Fu-tze (Confucius)

“Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.”

-- Psalm 66:1-2



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.

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- Please see bulletin boards outside the Main Office -

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