

Resurrection 2026

# THE WARNER MEMO



Christ Resurrected and the Maries at the Tomb (1439-1443) by Fra Angelico

**THE NEWSLETTER OF  
WARNER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

[https://warnermemorial.org/  
Calendar](https://warnermemorial.org/Calendar)

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## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

**“On Christ, the solid Rock, [we] stand; all other ground is sinking sand.”**  
~from the hymn *Our Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

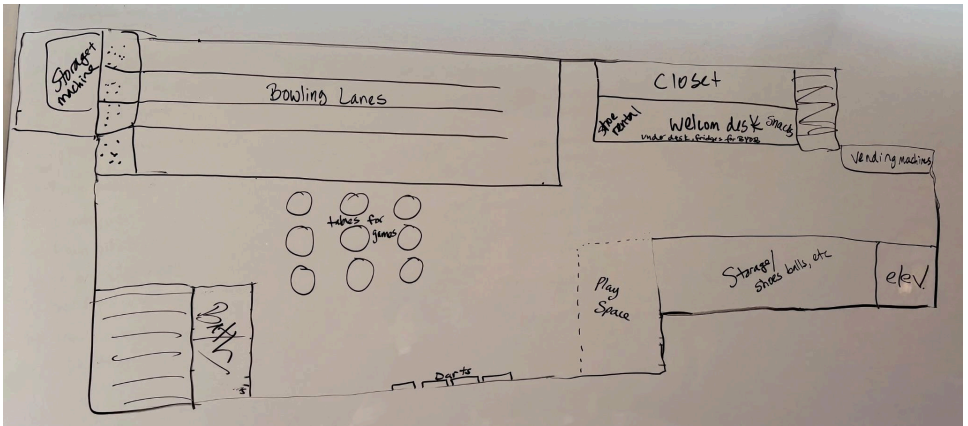
Dear Warnerites,

Since the fall of 2022, I have pursued a Doctor of Ministry degree (Leadership For Wonder: Re-Enchanting Christian Spirituality) with the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, TX and I am thrilled to announce that I have successfully completed this pursuit! My graduation date is set for May 17, 2026 and my family and I will travel to Austin for the weekend to celebrate and walk at the commencement ceremony. While my area of focus was in faith formation and children's literature, the entirety of the program has gifted me with the spiritual practice of paying particular attention to the wonders of God present in the world in which I dwell. After all these years, I can attest to the old adage: wonders never cease!

As you know, the Session is called to the work of spiritual leadership. For the last seven months, spiritual leadership of the Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church has taken the form of prayerful discernment and collaborative decision-making for the future ministry of our church in partnership with the Missional Incubator Program of the National Capital Presbytery.

For background on the process the Session has been engaged in [click here](#), [here](#) (pastors report for the 2025 Annual Report of the Congregation and the primary focus of the annual meeting that was held in January, 2026), and [here](#) (lessons learned in conversations with county officials). If you'd like to go even deeper, you're welcome to explore the minutes of the Session meetings held in the past year. They can be found in the church office.

Picking up where we last left off (after the conversation with the county officials), we reached out to several local neighborhood leaders, including the Town Managers of Kensington for insight to the needs of the community in which we sit. After inquiring about several different income-generating ministry ideas, the Session believes a social space (“third space” in contemporary terms) would be most aligned with our church priorities and the needs of the community. At the stated meeting on March 29, the Session approved an initial draft of a plan for the top floor of our education and administration wing of the building.



The image above shows a sketch of what will be a flexible space for many different populations to enjoy. It includes a four-lane bowling alley, four dart boards, flexible, comfortable seating with 4-top tables for games (such as bridge and mahjong), a kids’ play-space (for when their parents are present), and a hospitality desk to welcome all people to participate. Of course, this is a mere sketch of an idea—it is a place for us to begin. In the coming weeks and months, with the help of the Presbytery, we will engage in conversations with architects and building contractors who will help us live into this calling to loving our neighbors in ways they can feel it.

Dream of dreams: The income generated by afternoon/evening bowling/dart leagues and party rentals will enable us to not only continue the ministries we are currently engaged with (worship, LCYC, mission, fellowship), but expand on them and reach beyond. Wouldn't it be lovely if we could partner with local organizations to provide space for seniors to socialize and connect during the week-days (during school hours)? Or, run tournaments as fund-raisers for our mission partners such as MUM, Rainbow Place, and Beyond Borders? Imagine how many cans of food we *could* collect in future efforts as we reach out into the community. The possibilities are wondrous.

Truth of truths: God's love is steadfast and endures forever. With God's love and grace as our foundation, we will be brave and flexible as we build a new thing. We will be vulnerable to creativity and allow for God's vision of our ministry to unfold among us. The above image is one vision we currently perceive—God only knows what will be in due time.

If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to talk about this project, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any Session member. This is something we are doing as a community—something we are doing together. We all have a part in it. It is important that communication about this remains open and transparent.

God's peace, which surpasses understanding, be with you and may God's resurrection light shine upon the whole world with peace. Amen.

Peace,  
Rev. Dr! J.C. Cadwallader

## BUILDING & GROUNDS UPDATES

**Spring storage clean-up work day** – Please join us on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm to help sort out, organize, and move items currently in storage that we can lovingly pass on to new owners. This is our house of worship, and we could use everyone’s help to clean house. Please let Susan Kline know if you can help.

The biggest new building change at Warner is, of course, the newly painted chancel walls, which look great. We like the look of the plain wall, with the play of light, behind the wooden sculptures. The blue the congregation picked really makes the wooden sculptures pop.



Contractor building work accomplished since the early February:

- Harvey Hottel replaced both valves noted in our January convector inspection survey (room 21 and Trinity Room) and the leaking pressure relief valve in the boiler room on 4/1. They also reset the breaker on the common room right-AC outside-unit since it did not work on 3/29, as part of their spring maintenance.
- *Carpet Yard* came twice - to replace the coffee-stained carpet square in the common room, and to reglue 15-20 carpet squares in the hall and all the common room carpet squares. Since the carpet squares that matched the hall were bought > 10 years ago, they were not as flexible as new ones, so needed regluing.
- *Dragon Scale*, our ground-level-bathroom contractor, came 2/17 and raised the toilet paper holders and grab bars in the newly renovated ground-floor bathrooms.
- *American Energy Master, Inc* replaced the window latch on the room 1 emergency window 2/23.
- *MacIntyre Painting* painted the chancel walls on 3/2 and 3/3.
- 3/19 - *BFPE* fixed the fire alarm panel display in the boiler room that wasn't working during the Fire Marshal inspection. They also inspected the fire extinguishers 4/14.
- Juana buffed the ground floor tile floors and super-cleaned the ground floor bathroom floors over LCYC spring break.

We are so thankful to our volunteers:

- We had a little excitement at church on 2/5 – The left air pressure relief valve on the Trinity room convector was leaking down into the kitchen – thankfully, discovered and problem-solved by LCYC and Meghan. Fortunately, FOM's Santiago was able to turn the valve off to stop the leak.
- Marc-Henri Winter and Steve Dunn took down the dossal cloth and round wooden sculptures in preparation for painting the chancel wall.

- June Eakin cleaned & polished the sculptures and installed-wood of the chancel, and the cross was dusted by the painters, and replaced the missing outdoor cover for the boys' bathroom exhaust fan.
- Barbara Shaw, June & Mark Eakin, Marc-Henri & Beatrice Winter, and Matthew & Daniela Cestone weeded and trimmed in the conservation landscape beds along Connecticut Ave at our spring outdoor work day on 3/14.
- Susan Kline changed the time on the thermostats and the astronomical clock due to the Spring time change and did the monthly fire safety and elevator surveys.
- June and Susan tightened the sanctuary right door handle on the Connecticut Ave side, installed a new filter for the LCYC drinking fountain, and marked all items in the CE office closet to be sold/given away.
- June and Steve Dunn, and then June and Mark Eakin worked on fixing the door closer on the right door to the first floor elevator lobby. They need to give it one more try.
- June and Barbara Shaw bought and planted another Fothergilla shrub, and replaced and transplanted many extra plants that they now know will thrive in the Calvert Place garden from other gardens at church. They continue to maintain the gardens on a regular basis.
- Meghan put new labels on the outside trash bins.

We also appreciate the work recently accomplished by Fountain of Mercy (FOM):

- Painted the bottom portions of the social hall walls, including the cabinets, the north and south walls of the Washington St. stairwell above the main floor, the church office, the kitchen cabinets and south wall, and the Washington St. stair risers.
- Cleaned the stove top and tea kettles, social hall windowsills, louvers, and the social hall and kitchen trashcans.

- Addressed issues that arose from moving the fixtures in the girls' bathroom - smoothed out the remaining unused metal holes in the stalls, which were very rough and sharp, and neaten up the holes in the tiles.
- Tightened the inner workings of the cold-water faucet handle in the boiler room to fix the leak there. This fix did not last long, so Santiago plans to install a new faucet there.

~ Susan Kline

## **COMMISSION for CARE of the CONGREGATION and COMMUNITY**

### **Mission Trip August 2-August 8!**

Plans are coming together for Warner's 2026 mission trip. Warner's mission trips offer an opportunity to help rebuild a community in distress and also to strengthen our community here at Warner. This year, our group will travel again to North Carolina, which continues its slow recovery from Hurricane Helene, and assist families with much-needed home renovations and repairs. The 2026 trip is open to all members and friends who desire to make a difference. Please consider joining us!

The Warner team will stay at the South Carolina Inn in Montreat and work for five days on multiple projects in the nearby area. Projects completed last year included a bathroom renovation, rebuilding a porch and replacing drywall. Working together in small teams, we do what is needed by those we serve. We also gather as a group daily to share our experiences and enjoy each other's company.

The 2026 mission trip will be affordable for all. A substantial portion of the costs associated with the trip will be paid for through your generous pledges as supplemented by contributions designated

specifically for the mission trip. More details will follow about the support that is needed to make this trip possible.

For more information about the trip and to express your interest, please contact Steve Dunn, [stevedunn1919@gmail.com](mailto:stevedunn1919@gmail.com), as soon as possible. We have flexibility in the numbers, but, to ensure that we have lodging space for all, we need to determine the size of our group by the end of April.

## Mid-County United Ministries Celebrates 30 Years of Service to our Community



Warner was a founding member of Mid-County United Ministries (MUM) and, since 1996, our congregation has faithfully supported MUM's mission to assist mid-county residents who are experiencing food and housing insecurity. MUM will celebrate its 30th anniversary this fall, and, we along with MUM's other partners, have an opportunity to reflect on MUM's accomplishments, consider current needs and challenges in

Montgomery County and discuss how Warner can best support MUM's current efforts to alleviate hunger and homelessness in our community.

On April 26, Dayna Brown, the current Executive Director of Mid-County United Ministries (MUM), will participate in our worship service and fellowship hour. In both worship and during the presentation afterwards, Dayna will share information about MUM's multi-faceted approach to serving mid-County residents. Among other things, Dayna will explain how MUM provides critical support through food pantries in its Wheaton office, at Einstein and Wheaton High

Schools, at St. John the Evangelist Church, and at other locations nearby. She will discuss MUM's response to federal layoffs and ICE's enforcement activities, and as well as MUM's efforts to ensure that clients have access to culturally appropriate, healthy food.

Please join us on April 26 in worship and again at 12:30 pm either in person or on zoom.

### **Thank You for your Support of Rainbow Place**

Thank you and your team at Warner Memorial Presbyterian so much for bringing dinner every month for our guests. We served 164 women this season. Volunteers provided 154 meals for 30 each night. If my math is right, serving 28 women every night plus the holidays, 4,300 plus meals were served by our volunteers. Isn't this wonderfully amazing! We appreciate your generosity, kindness and willingness in supporting our mission and our community. Having delicious, healthy food feeds the body but also the soul. Have a great summer and I hope to see you in the fall.



# **Rainbow Place Shelter**

Barbara Goodwin  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Rainbow Place

~ Ruth Harvey

## ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP TEAM

### “Let There Be Light” - a Lightbulb Exchange

On Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup>, to highlight the changing of the seasons and the spring holidays, the Montgomery County Department of Environment will visit our congregation with an event called “Let There Be Light, a lightbulb exchange”. Did you know that incandescent bulbs are no longer sold in the United States because they are so energy inefficient that they cost people more money to keep using them and that compact fluorescent bulbs contain mercury and should be treated as a hazardous waste? This is an opportunity to help us lower the energy costs in our homes. Since lighting accounts for about 12% of our total energy bills, DEP will provide residents with a place to recycle and swap out those bulbs at no cost to you. The representatives will also have information about other ways to save energy at home and programs to benefit residents of Montgomery County.

Bring any lightbulbs on Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup> and receive free LED bulbs. The other two congregations who worship on Sunday are also invited to participate.



~ June Eakin

## LCYC

Support our wonderful preschool with these upcoming fundraising events! Reach out to Liz Zanetti with questions.



LCYC SPRING AUCTION

# BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Online Auction April 25<sup>th</sup> - May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Items will include gift cards to local restaurants and businesses, birthday party packages, unique experiences with LCYC staff, and much more!

Proceeds will support enrichment specials at LCYC as well as the purchase of Big Green Blocks for indoor play days!





## **BabyCat Brewery Fundraiser**

**Sunday, May 31st**

**3 - 5 pm**

BabyCat Brewery will donate 10% of sales to LCYC during this event! Enjoy their handcrafted brews, as well as a selection of wine and cocktails, while relaxing in their family-friendly environment.

~ Liz Zanetti

## LIFE of the CHURCH

The “Life of the Church” Commission (LOTC) meets monthly via Zoom and at our February & March meetings we focused our discussion on the Missional Incubator plans and information shared at the February 8<sup>th</sup> congregational meeting held after worship in the Common Room, where we gathered comfortably while being well-fed by the warm and hearty soups and other treats laid out for the SouperBowl Sunday Potluck. It was the perfect setting for digesting not only a lovingly prepared meal, but the newsy updates regarding this exciting effort that will impact all of us at Warner. As our meeting progressed, we challenged ourselves to complete the following prompt: “ I am hopeful about Warner’s future because... ”

Below are some of the ideas brought forth for how Warner can use its current resources, meaning its building and grounds, location, mission and interests, to reach out to neighbors and meet them where they are and build a neighborly relationship. I’d suggest we consider these, “food for thought”:

### Parking lot:

- Mid-week farm market
- CSA pick-up
- Food trucks

### Church building:

- Pop-up Farm-to-Table dinners
- Chef training (perhaps apprenticing in cafe and pop-up dinners)
- Recital/concert/lecture series in the Sanctuary
- After school and camp programs in healthy eating and gardening
- Cooking classes: healthy eating and celebrity/international chef series
- Exercise classes in the Social Hall or on the third floor
- Bowling alley/community activity center

During our meeting, Chelsea Cook shared her impressions from the Missional Incubator event at Ridgetop Coffee and Tea a few months ago. The reaction of the group was overall positive and encouraging. As leaders, we are excited to promote and support this effort and share our thoughts. Below are our responses:

**Sue Burns** is hopeful about Warner's future because it seems collectively we, as a congregation, are energized to take action, as Graham Bardsley would regularly quote Colossians 1:11 at the end of worship:

“May you be made strong with all strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience and with joy.”

Sue posits, Warner has been examined, run the appropriate tests, relied on experts to study the results and provide not only a diagnosis, but an effective plan of treatment and a hopeful prognosis. The heart and soul of Warner continues to shine and our light will, indeed, overcome the darkness.

### **Kay Gorman**

“I feel hopeful for Warner because everyone pitches in as often as they can. People are kind and optimistic and willing to try and to help, even if they are not sure of the outcome.”

### **Chelsea Cook**

“Warner has been a second family to me since I started attending about 10 years ago. In that time there have been a lot of changes. One constant over the years was a recognition that we needed to make changes, accompanied by a simultaneous paralysis over what changes to make. I'm hopeful that our congregation has embraced the Missional Incubator process and is taking steps toward a new way

forward. The family is small, but full of God's love! Together we can do great things, with God's help!"

**Diane Shcroeder** is , "... hopeful about the future of Warner because it has always been an embracing church and so welcoming to newcomers."

**Lora McGlade** is "... hopeful about the future of Warner because we care about each other as a family and want to continue to do so"

**Claudia Stalker**

"I am hopeful for the future of Warner because I see that we care enough and are willing to address hard topics. Changes that are small or large show that we aren't stuck as we imagine a different version of our church going forward. Through discussion of new ideas we are beginning to see that we can be more inclusive and less rigid and that vision fuels hope."

What makes you hopeful for Warner's future? We encourage all of us to keep abreast of the Mission Incubator process by clicking on the link included in the Community Connection email we receive each week and ask any questions or raise any concerns or ideas to any of the current Session members.

**Peter Smeallie**, our Director of Music, is in the midst of spring cleaning in the church music office, located on the third floor. LOTC approved his request to purchase three new and functional lateral file cabinets to facilitate this effort. With thanks to Dave Daugherty, we are happy to report the delivery and installation of two cabinets, along with the removal of a vintage chalkboard that was limiting wall space.

**Warner Choirs are seeking new voices and ringers!** We warmly invite all members of our church family to consider joining, or simply visiting, our Bell Choir or Sanctuary Choir. Whether you have years of musical experience or just a desire to raise your voice or hands through song,

there is a place for you. Participating in our music ministry is not only a meaningful way to worship, but also a wonderful opportunity to build friendships and grow in fellowship. If you've ever been curious, we encourage you to "pop in" to a rehearsal and see what it's like—no long-term commitment required to explore. Come share your gifts, lift your voice or ring with joy, and be part of something that enriches both our services and our community. Rehearsals for both choirs are typically Thursday evenings in the sanctuary, with Bells meeting at 7PM and the Sanctuary choir meeting at 8:15PM. See you there!!

We continue to rely on volunteers each Sunday to complete the various and sundry tasks that allow us to worship in -person and via Zoom. Please access the [Volunteer Opportunities](#) page on the church website to spur your participation. The need and our thanks are constant to all who so faithfully volunteer their time, talent and treasure.

We continue to seek additional members for our commission. ***Please contact Kay, Chelsea, Diane. Claudia, Lora, or Sue with your ideas, questions, and interest in solidifying plans for the Life of the Church Commission to move forward. We are excited about the work that lies before us and would love to hear from each of you!!***

~ Sue Burns

## Presbyterian Women

Joy Circle continues this year's Bible Study on second Tuesdays on Zoom. We'll meet May 12 and June 9. The last two lessons are focused on finding our identity in Christ.

Book Club's April book is "Madness: Race & Insanity in a Jim Crow Asylum" focused on the Crownsville MD facility. We'll meet at Ruth Harvey's home to discuss the book on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to the first in-person Book Club gathering since COVID! The book for May is "The Wedding People: a novel" by Alison Espach. We'll meet on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Save-the-date for the Book Club planning meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Giving to the [Birthday Offering](#) is a springtime tradition for Presbyterian Women. Since its beginning in 1922, grants from this offering have funded capital investments such as clean water projects, rural medical centers, prison ministries for women and shelters for children. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may *abound in hope* by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13



You may give via the QR code, mail a check in the envelope found on the PW bulletin board or visit [presbyterianwomen.org/give](https://presbyterianwomen.org/give).



*We Belong to Each Other!*

**We Belong to Each Other** - Summer Synod PW Gathering – June 11-14 at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center in Harrisonburg, VA. Worship, sing, craft, learn and play with your PW sisters from Baltimore to South Carolina at the Summer Gathering. Early-bird registration must be post-marked by May 1<sup>st</sup>. We pray and we party! Just ask June Eakin if you want to know more! You can pick up a registration form at the PW Bulletin Board or download it [here](#).

## SESSION UPDATE

Session began its March meeting by focusing on the importance of hope, especially as we move into the discernment phase of the missional incubator project. Elders reflected on Session's spiritual leadership of the congregation and shared that they are inspired by our united desire to move forward in discerning a path for Warner's future. How can we draw the community in so they know Warner as something other than the speed camera church? We keep coming back to the church's mission—Who are we? What do we want to be? How can we serve God and this community?

On February 20, Pastor JC, Susan Kline, Mark Eakin, and Steve Dunn (who is now serving on the Presbytery's Advisory Committee on Church Properties) met with Carlin Beekman, a broker with Foundry Commercial Real Estate. She partners with the Presbytery to consult on development of church properties, with a focus on using them for the purposes of ministry. Ms. Beekman offered advice for the meeting on March 5 with the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services. In her experience, activities that the church considers part of their ministry would be permitted. She encouraged us to ask the county what they would like to see in this space. This is also a question to ask of the Town of Kensington and the church's neighbors. Pastor JC shared her experience in talking with the proximate neighbors. While they initially expressed a desire to preserve the status quo, partially out of concern about increased traffic on the neighborhood streets, they were more enthusiastic about new mission programs when they learned that the alternative is for the church to close and sell the property.

As a final, hopeful action to conclude the meeting, Session members voted to select a color (Benjamin Moore "blue jean") to paint the chancel.

~ Barbara Shaw, elder

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Below is a high-level view of the church’s operating income and expenses compared to the budget, as of February 28, 2026.

	January 2026	YTD 2026	YTD 2026 Budget	% of YTD Budget
Pledge Income	\$53,340	\$77,258	\$37,767	205%
Total Income	\$56,889	\$100,186	\$56,421	178%
Total Expenses	\$40,406	\$76,669	\$70,976	108%
Difference	\$16,482	\$23,517	\$14,555	

Total Assets: \$730,102; Total Liabilities: \$67,458 (AC loan), \$37,002 (borrowed from LCYC).

Per capita income so far: \$1,312. Warner regularly receives less than ½ of the per capita we pay to NCP and PC(USA) each year. Have you paid yours? If so, thank you for your contribution. Warner is responsible for paying \$51.28 per family member for the 2026 per capita.

The Financial Review Team met with A&F in early March and we are making great progress toward the review. A&F was able to provide most materials needed that day and have been providing more as we can make them available.

~ Mark Eakin, Elder and Chair of Admin and Finance Commission



**April and May**

Mary Lou Armstrong

Ed Burr

Judy Burr

June Eakin

Jeffrey Meredith

Ferdinand Addo

Charlotte Cook

Barbara Jaquette

Isabelle Merl

Rohan Puri

Emma Recchia

Alan Schroeder

Barbara Shaw

Claudia Stalker

Beatrice Winter

Marc Henri Winter

## A Note from the Editor:

Greetings, Warnerites!

You may have noticed that recent editions have been less frequent than in years past. We are trying a seasonal approach to the Memo that will hopefully achieve a balance between sharing all that we are doing to share God's love in the world and not overwhelming contributors (and yours truly) with monthly editions.

The seasonal schedule for the remainder of the year will be:

Summer - sent out during the week of 5/24, submissions due 5/22/26.

Back to School - sent out during the week of 8/16, submissions due by 8/14/26.

Fall - sent out during the week of 10/18, submissions due by 10/16/26.

Advent - sent out during the week of 11/15 (due to Thanksgiving), submissions due by 11/14/26.

Please reach out with any questions - [wmpcmemo@gmail.com](mailto:wmpcmemo@gmail.com)

~ Chelsea Cook, Elder, Clerk of Session, and Memo Editor

**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.

**Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church**

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