

# Warwick Weekly

Sunday, January 15, 2023

2nd Sunday After Epiphany - Human Relations Day

CALLED TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

## This Week At A Glance . .

### January 15 - Today

9am Worship - Lampstand (CC)  
10:15am Facebook Worship  
11:15am Worship Sanctuary  
6pm Children/Youth Ministry  
8pm AA Mtg (Rm 20)

### Monday, January 16

Office Closed in Honor of MLK Day  
Meals on Wheels (pick up location)  
8:45am AARP Training (FH)  
9am NO Shekinah Prayer Time  
9am Meals on Monday Prep  
12pm Meals on Monday Pick Up  
6pm Upward (CC)  
6:30pm Boy Scouts (FH)  
7:30pm Choir Practice (Choir Room)

### Tuesday, January 17

Meals on Wheels (pick up location)  
9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time (Sanctuary)  
12pm AARP Training (FH)  
6pm Upward (CC)  
6:30pm Boy Scouts (Rm 21)  
7pm Men's Fraternity Bible Study (Rm 10)

### Wednesday, January 18

Meals on Wheels (pick up location)  
8:45am AARP Training (FH)  
6pm Family Dinner Church

### Thursday, January 19

Meals on Wheels (pick up location)  
8:45am AARP Training (FH)  
9am Shekinah Prayer Time  
12pm Senior Fellowship Bookclub  
7pm SPRC Team Mtg. (Rm 20)  
7pm Yoga (Rm 21)

### Friday, January 20

Meals on Wheels (pick up location)

### Saturday, January 21

10am Upward Games  
6pm Elk's Hoop Shoot (CC)

*For all event and room reservations  
please email Rodney at  
facility.mamanager@wmumc.org.*

## This Week's Message

### Scripture This Week—John 1:29-42

In this week's scripture, Jesus asks a profound question, a difficult question. It is one that exists in every life and community. It is, however, a question we often avoid or deny. For most of us it is not the subject of everyday social conversation. To face our deepest longings, to acknowledge the emptiness within, to inquire about what is of ultimate importance, that which shapes and forms our lives, just is not polite dinner party conversation. It is too risky. It means we would have to get real, be honest, vulnerable and open. So we talk mostly about what doesn't matter until something happens that does matter – a tragedy, a failure, the loss of a loved one, a challenge that seems insurmountable. That's when the question arises. "What are you looking for?"

Ultimately, that question lies at the core of our discipleship, our relationship with God. How we answer it determines how we live, how we navigate the tragedies and pain of life, and how we relate to God and our neighbor. Even if we never directly ask that question of ourselves we are always answering it. We answer it every minute of every day. We answer Jesus' question by our choices, the decisions we make, the priorities we establish, the relationships we create. We answer his question by the things we have done and the things we have left undone. The words we speak point to what we are looking for. Our life, as a nation, a church, an individual, is the history book that answers Jesus' question. We are not, however, bound by that history. In Christ we are not destined to repeat history. Jesus is always asking the question and giving us the chance to answer anew.

So when Jesus turns and asks his question he is really asking us to be introspective, to be self-reflective, to choose the course for our life. His question is for us not him. Jesus is not asking for our wish list. He is taking us deep into our own heart to discover the reality of our longings, the desires, the emptiness. If we are honest we find that far too often we have lived as homeless people. Too much of our life has been spent making our home in places that are far too temporary, fleeting, and passing.

So . . . What are YOU looking for?

Adapted from [www.interruptingthesilence.org](http://www.interruptingthesilence.org)

## Prayer

Merciful God, you sent your Son, the spotless Lamb, to take upon himself the sin of the world. Make our lives holy, that your people may bear witness to your purpose of reconciling all things in Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen

## “Community Dinner” and “Meals on Monday”

\* Free Lunch available on Mondays beginning at 12 noon until 1pm. Pick up from Fellowship Hall side of building.

\* Free Family Dinner every Wednesday night at 6pm now in the Fellowship Hall.

**Volunteers needed for Meals on Monday** (reach out to Linda Brooks or Linda McLawhorn) **for making/donating dessert items for 100 meals** and **volunteers needed for Dinner Church** (reach out to Judy Claus at 757-570-4532) for help with set up/clean up, cooking, greeting, etc.

We have been awarded some grants to help support both of these ministries for 2022 but any additional donations are gratefully appreciated, especially for Meals on Monday. You can mark your offering “MoM” or “Dinner Church.” Please feel free to invite anyone to either or both events. All are Welcome—you can use the invite cards that are around the church.

**Everyone is invited to join us for musical entertainment, devotional message, fellowship, and communion every Wednesday night. If you are not currently able to join us for church on Sunday or you miss a Sunday, this is a great way to join us during the week for worship.**

Something good happens every week - come and see for yourself and bring a friend!

**Special Concert Event planned for Wednesday, February 15th at 6pm. More details to come in the following weeks.**



## Fifth Sunday Food & Fellowship

Join us the 5th Sunday of January for something a little different - 5th Sunday Fellowship Potluck Breakfast Brunch. In the months of January, April and July, on the 5th Sunday we will not have Sunday School Classes but will enjoy some Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall around 10am for a Potluck Breakfast Brunch. You are invited to bring a dish to share & we will provide refreshments (water, coffee & tea.) A great time to bring a friend to church with you to mingle with our church members, have some time to visit with people you don't get to see very often, and chat with our pastors.

If you would like to volunteer to help with set-up and/or breakdown, please contact Linda McLawhorn.



## Proverbs a Day Challenge

The Men's Fraternity is offering a Bible Challenge for the new year. We are challenging all men to read one chapter of Proverbs a day corresponding with the day's date - 31 Chapters in 31 days. Each Tuesday of January (17,24 and 31) at 7pm we will meet in Room 10 to discuss the chapters read so far.

Each man will be encouraged to bring a verse he selected from each chapter for discussion. All men are invited to join in and attend any one or all of the discussions during January. Everyone is invited to read a chapter a day.

## PORT Volunteers Needed

Just a reminder that PORT is coming. We will host the homeless shelter program the week of February 22nd to March 1st. If you would like to volunteer please reach out to Rodney Wise, facility manager, by calling 757-243-2182 or email [Facility.Manager@wmumc.org](mailto:Facility.Manager@wmumc.org). More details will be posted in the next few weeks about how to sign up for specific volunteer positions.



## Sunday School Classes

All classes now begin by 10:15am. Children are invited to gather in the Celebration Center following worship or meet at room 29 for class to start at 10:15am.

To find out more about a class you would like to attend, feel free to ask one of our greeters or pastors as you exit the service.

Classes are meeting in the following rooms:

- Covenant Class - FH
- Family Faith Class - FH
- Trinity Class - Room 10
- Wesleyan Class - Room 21
- Wired Word/Blessed Mess - Room 20\*
- Young Adults - Room 24
- Children - Room 29
- Youth - Room 22
- Carpenters Class - Room 30

\*Wired Word and Blessed Mess are currently combined.

## BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Eternal God, you called us to be your church in this community and to share your love with all. Open our eyes to see the needs you would want us to see, open our ears to hear the stories you would want us to hear. Grant us a clear vision and equip us for faithful and fruitful ministry in this community through the power of your Holy Spirit.

In Christ's name. Amen.



## Children & Youth Fellowship Groups

### Children and Youth Ministries

Kerry Blazek, our Youth Director, is working with Sharon Ellis, our Children's Fellowship Coordinator to host a fun and exciting time every Sunday for the youth and children this school year. Youth meet in the youth room and children meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm. You can follow the youth on their Facebook page.

If your child would like to participate in children's fellowship activities (age 2 to 5th grade), please contact Sharon Ellis at 757-478-5020. If your child would like to participate in youth ministry activities (grades 6 to 12) please contact Kerry Blazek at 757-310-9891.

### Lay Servant Academy Training

Lay Servant Academy is excited to share its Winter Training that will take place on Friday and Saturday, February 17th & 18th. The course schedule features Michael Beck, originator of Fresh Expressions and a leader in cultivating movements. In addition to this course in Planting Fresh Expressions, additional courses include Fruitful Small Groups, Lay Pastoral Care-Giving, Basic Course, Spiritual Gifts, and Certified Lay Ministry Orientation. Courses are offered in person only at Shady Grove UMC Mechanicsville, VA. Registration and additional information can be found using this link: <https://vaumc.org/layservantacademy/> For questions, you are welcome to email Tianna Durbin, Director of Lay Servant Academy.

### THRIVE Advent Collection

Each year during Advent, the Covenant Sunday School Class looks for a family or charity they can support. This year they chose THRIVE Peninsula. THRIVE made it very easy to decide how to help. The class had a list of 15 items that were most needed to restock their food shelves. We had class members volunteer to provide each of the items. Each member took one item and it was left to the member to decide how many of that item they would donate. The picture shows some of the items that were collected. If the class does this again next year, they will invite other classes to join in. If you are looking for a Sunday School Class, you are invited to check out the Covenant Class. They meet in the Fellowship Hall near the kitchen at 10:15am. Our class is a blend of lecture and discussion and our next book is "Yes Lord I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excellent Excuses."



COMPETE - CONNECT - SUCCEED

## Elk's HOOP SHOOT

A Free Contest for Kids Ages 8 to 13



**Elk's Lodge #315 Hoop Shoot** Contest is open to all children between ages of 8 and 13. This year's event will be held on Saturday, January 21st around 6pm. To learn more about the event, you are welcome to email Richard Means at [Richardmeans1961@outlook.com](mailto:Richardmeans1961@outlook.com). Pre-registration is not required. Open to all children—please invite your friends.

### Senior Fellowship Book Club

Senior Fellowship Book Club's next meeting will be January 19, 2023 at 12 pm at Schlesinger's to review the book, "The Paris Library" by Janet Skeslien Charles.

Paris, 1939 - a young and ambitious Odile Souchet has it all; her handsome police officer beau and a dream job at the American Library in Paris. When the Nazis march into Paris, Odile stands to lose everything she holds dear, including her beloved library. Together with her fellow librarians, Odile joins the Resistance with the best weapons she has: books. But when the war finally ends, instead of freedom, Odile tastes the bitter sting of unspeakable betrayal.

Montana, 1983 - Lily is a lonely teenager looking for adventure in small-town Montana. Her interest is piqued by her solitary, elderly neighbor. As Lily uncovers more about her neighbor's mysterious past, she finds that they share a love of language, the same longings, and the same intense jealousy, never suspecting that a dark secret from the past connects them.

This is a powerful novel that explores the consequences of our choices and the relationships that make us who we are—family, friends, and favorite authors—The Paris Library shows that extraordinary heroism can sometimes be found in the quietest of places.



Please RSVP to Linda Brooks at 757-880-4622 if you plan to attend.

## YOGA

### Yoga Classes

Is a healthy 2023 one of your resolutions? Yes? Then, we can help! Bethany Caddell will be teaching a beginner friendly Hatha Style Yoga class in Room 22 every Thursday @ 7pm. Bethany has been teaching yoga for 11 years and is experienced in the many ways to bring yoga to everyone. Modifications and challenges are both offered to help you in your personal journey toward wellness. Cost is \$12 per class - no pre-registration required, just come!

## Church Prayer Requests

Even though we are back to worshipping together again, we know some people are still struggling with getting out. We are, however, still committed to staying connected as a church. If you have a prayer request and would like one of our pastors to call and pray with you, please email [prayerchain@wmumc.org](mailto:prayerchain@wmumc.org). Someone will be in touch as soon as possible. If you would like the prayer put out to our membership prayer team, please let us know.

## Shekinah\* Glory Prayer Group

*The prayers of the righteous man are powerful and effective.*  
James 5:16

You can participate in the following ways:

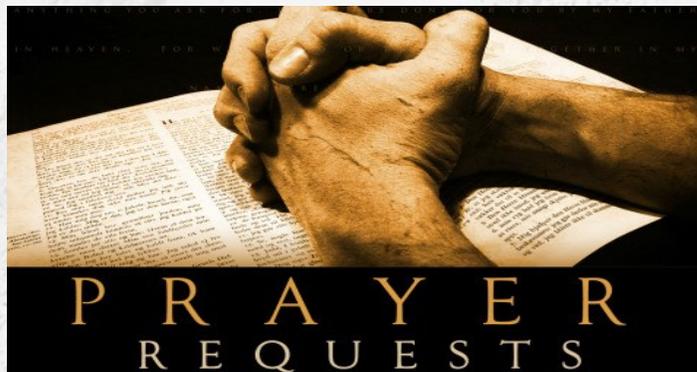
1. Come to the Sanctuary @ 9am on Mon., Tues. and Thurs. for community time of prayer.
2. Join Zoom daily for Daily Prayer time at 1pm. During the week days this is led by one of the pastors and on the weekend it is led by Linda McLawhorn
3. Pray on your own daily with materials.
4. Ask someone to be your prayer partner.

Prayer points include our leaders—national, state and local; our school system; our church—pastors, leadership team, Sunday School teachers, ministers, missions - Upward Basketball and Cheerleading, Meals on Monday, Community Dinner, PORT, youth and children's' ministry programs, shut-ins - and any personal prayer requests.

\*The Glory of the Divine presence

## Senior Fellowship Breakfast Group

The Senior Fellowship Breakfast Group gathers together the first Monday of each month. Next gathering will be **Monday, February 6, at 9am** at iHop on Warwick Blvd.



## Sick? Going to Hospital?

If you are hospitalized, planning surgery, or have become ill, please contact the church office at 877-2270 or by emailing [warwick.memorial@wmumc.org](mailto:warwick.memorial@wmumc.org). If you have an urgent situation, please call **the church office at 877-2270 (9am to 5pm or go to the pastors' phone extensions)**. If you are going to the hospital, please let us know the date, time, and hospital where you will be receiving care. Due to HIPAA regulations, the hospital will not automatically inform the church of your hospitalization. *If you would like some pastoral time with either pastor, feel free to reach out to them by emailing them at [pastoresther@wmumc.org](mailto:pastoresther@wmumc.org) or [pastorangie@wmumc.org](mailto:pastorangie@wmumc.org).*

## Prayer List

Please pray for those at home, in the hospital or care facility: Gordan Chan (The Chesapeake) \* Ruth Ritenour (Mennowood) \* Betty Palmer (Hiddenwood, apt. 428) \* Nancy Setty \* Norma Coleman \* Anne Corliss \* Jim Crittenden \* Marvin & Pat Hill (Barbara Amaker's brother and sister-in-law) \* Jim Cole \* Josie Cole \* Clara Reid \* Katie Tanner-Barker \* Heather Sreves \* Sharon Flick \* Shirley Myall (Zena's mom) \* Sam Federico, Sr. (Sam Federico's father) \* Jim Russell \* Jeff Cox \* Marion Bonacci \* Sara Manner, and all those who are grieving or sick.

**Deployed Armed Forces:** CWO3 Michael Kreider, Cody Early, Laura Lomas, Brian Budlove.

## Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church

**Rev. Esther Naana Agbosu**  
Senior Pastor

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## Attendance Numbers (1/8)

9:00am: 74  
10:15am (online): 74  
11:15am: 55  
Sunday School: 74  
Dinner Church 1/11: 29



**The Lamb of God,  
who takes away the  
sin of the world!**

JOHN 1:29