

Warwick Weekly

Extravagant
GENEROSITY
The Heart of Giving

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

Sunday, October 15, 2023

This Week At A Glance .

October 15 - Today

9am Worship - Lampstand (CC)
10:15am Sunday School
10:15am Facebook Service
11:15am Worship Sanctuary
4pm Drama Rehearsal (CC)
6pm Children & Youth Fellowship (CC)
8pm AA Mtg (Rm 20)

Monday, October 16 *

9am Shekinah Prayer Time
9am Meals on Monday
6:30pm Boy Scouts (FH)
7:30pm Choir Practice

Tuesday, October 17 *

9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time
10am Crafts (FH)
11am Staff Meeting (library)
6pm Cub Scouts (27 & 28)
7pm Men's Fraternity Bible Study (Rm 10)
7pm Drama Rehearsal (CC)

Wednesday, October 18 *

10:30am Bible Study (Library)
6pm Family Dinner Church (CC)

Thursday, October 19 *

9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time
10am Drama Light Setting (CC)
6pm Cub Scouts (27 & 28)
6:30pm Yoga (Rm 21)
7pm Drama Rehearsal (CC)

Friday, October 20 *

Meals on Wheels (pick up location)
10am Drama Light Setting (CC)
7pm Drama Rehearsal (CC)

Saturday, October 21

6pm Drama Rehearsal (CC)

* Meals on Wheels Pick Up Location

For all event and room reservations
please email Rodney Wise at
facility.manager@wmumc.org.

Message this Week Based on John 13:34-35

What Happens to God's Love?

A downtown congregation in a moderately-sized community had occasional homeless persons who would ask for handouts. Sometimes street people would be found sleeping on the front steps. The staff developed rules, guidelines, and policies for how to help or where to refer those who asked for help. They had many discussions about the pros and cons of giving cash, vouchers, and addresses of other social agencies.

As the pastor was leaving the church one afternoon, he noticed the part-time custodian carrying out the garbage to the large trash bin in the alley. There was a homeless person sprawled out beside the bin, barely conscious. As the custodian approached the trash bin, he set down the garbage bag he was carrying, pulled out his wallet, and removed a few dollar bills. Without being asked, he walked over to the homeless man and gave him the money, said something, then continued his work and returned to the church. The pastor was amazed and humbled by this extraordinary display of generosity. The part-time janitor who earned less than anyone else on staff gave generously without even being asked, while the staff had spent hours trying to figure out policies and procedures.

The pastor asked the custodian why he gave the money and pressed him about whether he thought the homeless person might misuse the money for alcohol or drugs. "I always do what I can," the janitor answered. "I give them a little money and say, 'God bless you,' because I figure that they are some mother's son, some father's child, and so I give them something. What they do with the money—well, they have to answer to God about that. I have to answer to God about what I do with mine."

Adapted from Practicing Extravagant Generosity Daily Readings on the Grace of Giving by Robert Schnase

Prayer

Gracious God, knowing you is the key to Extravagant Generosity. The more we know you and experience your extravagant love for us, the more we want to bless others by generously giving of ourselves and our resources. As we do, we not only change the lives of others; our own lives are transformed. Show us how we can improve our generosity more and more, so that eventually it becomes as easy and natural as breathing. We ask you to multiply our giving, Lord, so that it touches those who benefit directly from it and those who are only witnesses. Amen.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THANKSGIVING?

Are you interested in joining others for your Thanksgiving meal if you do not have other plans? We are gathering in the church Fellowship Hall at 1PM for a pot luck holiday Dinner. Turkey will be provided. Join us for dinner and a fun time! If you are interested please let Sina Hofler know no later than November 1. Phone—(H)-757-877-6109, (C)-757-869-2960, email-hofler2@verizon.net.



Sunday School Classes

All classes now begin by 10:15am. Children are invited to gather in the Celebration Center following worship or meet in 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



Wednesday Bible Study

You are invited to join us on **Wednesday mornings at 10:30am**. We are currently studying "Journey Through the Bible Volume 14: Romans - Philippians." We still have a few books available and the cost is \$11. Please see Pastor Angie if you need one. This book highlights pivotal points in the scripture, lifting up the Bible's most significant stories, themes, events and people. You are welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am in the library. You can catch up with the reading but you can join in at any time for this Bible Study. For additional information, please reach out to Pastor Angie.

"Meals on Monday" and "Family Dinner Church"

* Free Lunch available on Mondays between 12 noon and 1pm. Pick up from Fellowship Hall side of building.

* Free Family Dinner every Wednesday night at 6pm in the Celebration Center.

Everyone Is Welcome - you can use the invite cards that are around the church to encourage friends, family, or anyone you know to join you for dinner or our Facebook event page. **Special guest speaker on 10/18 will be Rev. Jeff Mingee, Gerry and Gloria Mingee's son.**

Volunteers needed for Meals on Monday (reach out to Linda Brooks at 757-880-4622 or Linda McLawhorn at 757-713-1519) **for making/donating dessert items for 120 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 secured 2 small grants for 2023 to help support both of these ministries, but any additional donations are gratefully appreciated for both programs. You can mark your offering "MoM" or "Dinner Church." Please feel free to invite anyone to either or both events.

You are invited to join us for a great meal, musical entertainment, devotional message brought to us by a pastor or a lay member and plenty of fellowship. 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, in the evening, for worship.

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

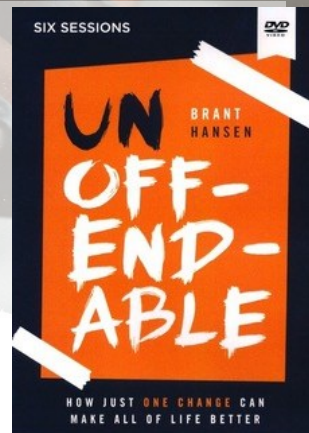


Men's Fraternity Bible Study

Join the Men's Fraternity on Tuesday nights at 7pm in Room 10 for the 6 week study of "Unoffendable" - how just one change can make all life better. Brant Hansen shares practical ways to live life with less stress and more care by becoming unoffendable.

This week will be the 3rd week, but you are welcome to participate.

For more details, contact Gerry Mingee at ggmingee@verizon.net



5th Sunday Fellowship

Join us on Sunday, October 29th, for our 5th Sunday Fellowship Potluck Brunch following the 9am worship service. This our opportunity to meet and mingle during the Sunday School hour as a whole church. Bring your favorite dish to share, coffee, juice and water will be provided.

Our next 5th Sunday Fellowship will be on 12/31/23.



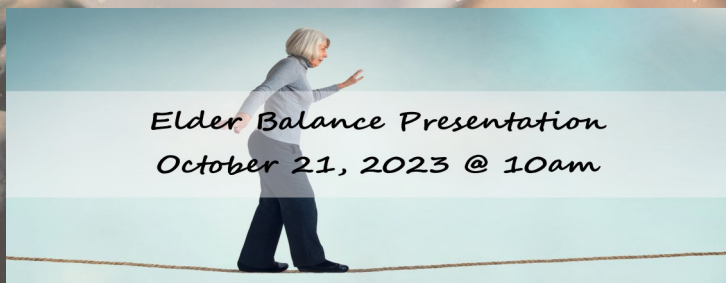
Children and Youth Ministries

Our Youth Director, Kerry, works with our Children's Fellowship Coordinator, Sharon, to host a fun and exciting time every Sunday for the children and youth for the upcoming School year. Our Children and Youth ministry programs meet September to May. The Youth meet in the youth room, while the children meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm. You can follow the youth on their Facebook page (WM Youth) for week to week activities which includes other meetings and activities outside of Sunday Youth Fellowship. Children meet in the Fellowship Hall and Youth meet in the youth room on Sunday evenings at 6pm.

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.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

We have been enjoying some anonymous donations of flowers for the Sanctuary and Narthex over the past few weeks, including the flowers from Pastor Angie's son's wedding before that. It has been so nice to have fresh flowers in our church. If you would like to donate altar flowers at any time—even a nice bouquet from the grocery store—please let Zena in the church office know which week you would like to do so and if there is a special reason for them (anniversary, birthday, etc.) Call the church office at 757-877-2270 or email warwick.memorial@wmumc.org.



Elder Balance Presentation—This Saturday

Our Care Team and Senior Fellowship bring you a continued presentation with more advanced strengthening of core and building for better balance from Ellen Polacheck and Sandy Marcuson.

Saturday, October 21st at 10am in the Fellowship Hall.

This will be an in-person presentation only. The first training is still available on our Facebook page. If you would like to know more, please reach out to Sina Hofler at 757-877-6109.

WMUMC'S Respite Care Ministry

We are here to help! If you need help with buying groceries, picking up prescriptions and bringing them to you, or just need someone to talk to and check up on you, please contact **Sina Hofler at 757-877-6109 (home) or 757-869-2960 (cell)**. We have volunteers who have offered to help other church members who have difficulty going out. If you are in need of any help, please contact Sina. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, you are also invited to contact Sina. May God continue to bless this ministry.

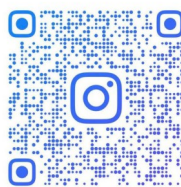
A few members of the Men's Fraternity Group would like to assist the men and women in our church with their home needs. If you need some help with home repairs or safety improvements in your home for medical issues or other reasons, please call the church at 757-877-2270, Frank Blake at 757-876-9799 or Sina Hofler at 757-877-6109.



Trunk or Treat—Next Sunday!

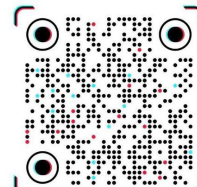
Please bring your car and decorate for our Trunk or Treat event on October 22nd. Please contact Sharon by email cutygrgal@cox.net or cell 757-478-5020. If you cannot help with a car, donations of extra candy are also appreciated. Bags can be left in the church office through Friday, Oct 20th.

Be Social With Us and Spread the Love of Jesus ...



@WARWICKMEMORIALUMC

Instagram



Share your QR code so others can follow you

TikTok



Facebook



Give Now

Church Prayer Requests

Your church family cares about you and your loved ones. We want to stay connected and support each other, so if you have a prayer request and would like one of our pastors to call and pray with you, please email 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. and 9:30am on 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,

November 6, at 9am

at Vancostas on
Warwick Blvd.

Stop by the bulletin
board across from the
Fellowship Hall to see
a group picture of our
fellowship group.



Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church

Rev. Esther Naana Agbosu
Senior Pastor

PastorEsther@wmumc.org
804-580-1504 (c)

Rev. Angie Hoen
Associate Pastor

PastorAngie@wmumc.org
757-234-8962 (office)

38 Hoopes Road | Newport News,
VA 23602
WMUMC.org | 757.877.2270

Church Office (Zena):
warwick.memorial@wmumc.org
Facility Manager (Rodney):
Facility.Manager@wmumc.org

Attendance Numbers (10/8)

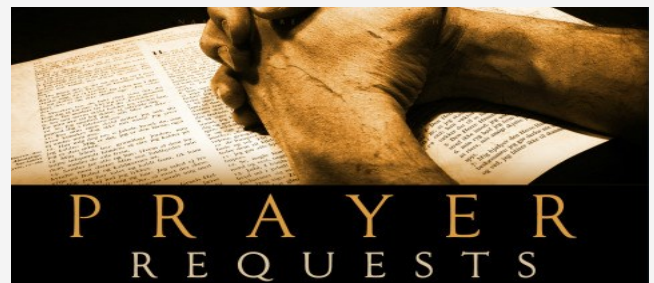
9:00am: 67

10:15am (online): 98

11:15am: 51

Sunday School: 70

Dinner Church 10/11: 73



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. 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 or 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) * Evelyn Bilk (Charter Assisted Living) * Frances Topping (Mennowood) * Nancy Setty * Norma Coleman * Anne Corliss * Marvin & Pat Hill (Barbara Amaker's brother and sister-in-law) * Jim Cole * Clara Reid * Katie Tanner-Barker * Sam Federico, Sr. (Sam Federico's father) * Jim Russell * Tiffany Brandt * Jeff Cox * Marion Bonacci * Sara Manner * Susie Stein (Fern Holley's niece) * Wilma Miller (Sheri Vann's mother) * Chuck and Cynthia Nothstine * Jim Taylor * Barbara Freund * Raye Gwyn (Mary Jackson's mom) * Frank Felice (Dan Felice's Dad) * Gail Henry (Rodney's mother-in-law) * Joy Robinson (her mother and brother are both having medical issues) * Ginny Chappell * Donna Shafer * Lawrence & Cheryl Pruitt * Erin Finley-Orick * Heather Screves * and all those who are grieving or sick.

Deployed Armed Forces: Laura Lomas, Brian Budlove, Lance Sczesny (Michigan, Coast Guard), Tyler Laird (Middle East).



**Warwick Memorial's
Living Word Drama Team Presents:**

Steel **MAGNOLIAS**

BY ROBERT HARLING

Directed by Dave Amaker

Production Dates and Times:

Friday, October 27th at 7:30pm

Saturday, October 28th at 7:30pm

Sunday, October 29th at 2pm

Tickets \$15 in advance or at the door.

Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church | 38 Hoopes Road | Newport News | VA | 23602

757-877-2270 | www.wmumc.org

Extravagant GENEROSITY

The Heart of Giving



2024 Stewardship Campaign

Our stewardship campaign this year is based on the book *Extravagant Generosity, The Heart of Giving* by Robert Schnase. Giving helps us become what God wants us to be. God uses our generosity to reconfigure our interior lives, to create us anew, and to foster in us “the mind that was in Christ Jesus.” As a congregation who is seeking to form people into followers of Christ, we have a responsibility to think deeply, prepare thoroughly, act wisely, and teach courageously about the relationship between faith and money. How does our giving affect our relationship to God? How does our relationship to God affect our giving? How does being a follower of Jesus shape all our behaviors concerning money—how it is earned, spent, saved, and offered to God?

A thread of recurring words from Deuteronomy 6:4-5 forms the biblical basis for this program. In Mark 12:33, “To love God with a whole heart, a full understanding, and all of one’s strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of burnt offerings and sacrifices”, and again in John 13:34, I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other.” The great Shema is expressed in the context of the teachings of Jesus. The central issue is the wholehearted love of our God. In Paul’s letter to church leaders in Corinth, he says giving is proof of our love for our Lord. In the famous verse of our faith about the very nature of God we again see giving explained as an expression of love: “God so loved the world that he gave . . .” The thread is also seen in many other passages.

Generosity, not consumption, is a key value of a meaningful life. Tithing is a relevant theological issue that must be considered. Tithing is first mentioned in Genesis 14:20 “and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand! And Abram gave him one tenth of everything.” But the idea of tithing is not unique to the Old Testament or Mosaic Law. Tithing is found as a key principle in the history of many cultures. This tithe was a one-tenth portion of income or available resources. In the Old Testament, there were three kinds of tithes—A tithe was given annually for the support of the local priesthood “A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord. Whoever would redeem any of their tithe must add a fifth of the value to it. Every tithe of the herd and flock, every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd’s rod, will be holy to the Lord.” This is similar to a church budget. The second kind of tithe, to underwrite the expenses of the three major Jewish festivals of Passover, Feast of Tabernacles, and Feast of Weeks, is found in Deut. 12:5-19 and 14:22-27. The third tithe identified in Deut 14:28-29 and 26:12-15 was taken every third year for local communities to help the needy. Today, this need is addressed by government programs, public charities, like United Way, and benevolent and mission giving in the church. Therefore, the annual average of the tithe in the Old Testament equaled twenty-three and one-third percent of income before any buildings or special offerings. In the New Testament, tithing is mentioned four times, in Matthew 23:23, Luke 11:42; Luke 18:12 and Hebrews 7:4-9. Tithing was the expectation in Jesus’ culture, so it was not necessary for Him to teach it. Paul and John do not provide specific teachings about the tithe, but they strongly address the issues of attitude and motives for giving.

We hope you will join us for the remaining 2 weeks of this Stewardship Sermon Series and prayerfully consider your gifts to the church for 2024. If you are able to return the Estimate of Giving card that was mailed this past week, this will help our Leadership Team to make budget decisions for 2024. It was determined on Tuesday, October 10th, to not have access to the initial funds from our endowment investment at this time, only to use the earnings from those funds. We will place that amount into our budget along with the estimate of giving from the forms that are returned, as well as the non-pledge giving, facility use and rental income. You are welcome to look at our budget at any time, a copy is available in the church library on the shelf above the computer.

If you do not receive your letter and estimate of giving form in the mail, please let the church office know, or pick one up from the table in the Gathering Area or Narthex. They can be dropped in the offering plate on Sunday morning or dropped off at the church office at any time.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church and all of the missions and ministry programs that we continue to provide to serve God.

“Take the things you heard me say in front of many other witnesses and pass them on to faithful people who are also capable of teaching others.” 2 Timothy 2:2