

# Warwick Weekly

Sunday, August 27, 2023

## This Week At A Glance . .

### August 27 - Today

8am Lampstand Band Rehearsal (CC)  
9am Worship - Lampstand (CC)  
10:15am Sunday School  
10:15am Facebook Service  
11:15am Worship Sanctuary  
8pm AA Mtg (Rm 20)

### Monday, August 28 \*

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

### Tuesday, August 29 \*

9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time

### Wednesday, August 30 \*

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

### Thursday, August 31 \*

9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time  
6:30pm Yoga (Rm 21)

### Friday, September 1 \*

Meals on Wheels (pick up location)

### Saturday, September 2

\* Meals on Wheels Pick Up Location

For all event and room reservations  
please email Rodney Wise at  
[facility.manager@wmumc.org](mailto:facility.manager@wmumc.org).

## Message this Week Based on Mark 1:9-13a

We know that being tested is a way Scripture interprets the experience of hardship which comes to those committed to God. Mother Teresa wrote in her journal at the end of her life that for many years she had not felt the presence of God but that she continued her work knowing it was true to the Gospel. For us, too, divine care and protection are there even though we may feel they are absent.

We experience “testing” in various ways. Laura Waters’ book *BeWILDered* is an example. She explains how, after a toxic relationship and crippling bouts of anxiety, she set out to walk Te Araroa, 3,000 kilometres of raw, wild, winding, mountainous trail the length of New Zealand from North Cape to Bluff. Laura was tested not only by the treacherous terrain but by her self-doubt and anxiety. She learned how to trust her gut and judgement. She emerged “rewilded” and transformed.

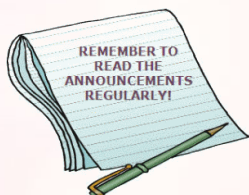
As you know, during the season of Lent we take time to pause, reflect and recommit our lives. In Mark 1:9-13, where river and wilderness permeates the baptism and testing of Jesus, we are invited to be “rewilded”, to be set free, to be healed by the natural world. However, we don’t just have to do that during Lent, we can take time to be “rewilded”, to immerse ourselves in nature — in our garden, gazing at the night sky at the end of a long day, or walking in a local reserve — any time we want to or need to. According to our situations, we will have different places and spaces for reflection time. Guided by the Spirit, we can reassess if we are being true to our Christian calling or if activity, consumerism and noise are distracting our focus and energy.

These intentional pauses, however long or short, allow us to ponder and find ways to practice being more loving — making right relationship happen with God, with our family, our neighbors and all people and our common home, Earth.

Adapted from <https://hail.to/tui-motu-interislands-magazine/publication/ak395Yu/article/huVa29Y>

## Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for Your Word and the wonderful truth that it contains. Thank You that Jesus set aside His heavenly glory and took upon Himself the humble status of Servant of all so that He could identify with our humanity and pay the price for our sin - a price that we are unable to pay. I pray that I may follow in His footsteps and live in humble submission to Your Holy Spirit all the days of my life, and only do those things that I hear from You. This I ask in Jesus' name, AMEN.



## Senior Fellowship Book Club

Join us for our next book club on Thursday, **September 21st at noon**. We meet at Schlesingers. The next book is "Silver Girl" by Elin Hilderbrand. Set against the backdrop of a Nantucket summer, Elin Hilderbrand delivers a suspenseful story of the power of friendship, the pull of love, and the beauty of forgiveness. Please RSVP to Linda Brooks at 757-880-4622 if you would like to attend.



## 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



## Nothing Bundt Cake RAH Fundraiser

This new fundraiser will run from now until 8/31. You can order your Nothing Bundt Cakes on the order forms in the gathering area, narthex and Sunday School classrooms and payment must be in by 8/31. The cupcakes are \$6 each and we get to keep \$2 for every cupcake sold. The \$2 profit we make from each cupcake will provide 5 RAH meal packages which will feed 30 people. The expected delivery on the cupcakes will be Sunday, September 10th. Contact Vanessa Sczensy for any questions about ordering or delivery at [sczensyval@gmail.com](mailto:sczensyval@gmail.com).



## "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.

**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.

**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.

**Everyone is 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!**



## Hawaii UMCOR Relief

Please continue to pray for the residents of the Island of Maui, Hawaii, after the wind-driven wildfires last week prompted evacuations and caused significant loss of life and widespread damage, totally destroying the town of Lahaina. As of an August 14, UMCOR coordinated with the California-Pacific Annual Conference to process an initial grant for emergency supplies such as shelf-stable food, water, hygiene items and tools to help survivors recover belongings as first responders continue to provide initial aid in the area.

Additional gifts can be made in the following ways:

Online at <https://umcmission.org/advance-project/901670>

By toll-free telephone call: 1-888-252-6174

Or by check through the church offering, please mark "UMCOR-Hawaii" on the memo line. We will send the collected funds directly to UMCOR advance 901670.

## 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 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. Our Children and Youth ministry programs meet September to May and 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. During the summer, some activities will be planned to help keep everyone connected.

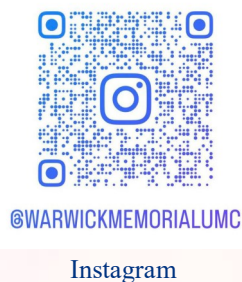
If your child would like to participate in children's fellowship activities (age 2 to 5th grade), please contact Sharon Ellis at 757-478-5020. If your child would like to participate in youth ministry activities (grades 6 to 12) please contact Kerry Blazek at 757-310-9891. Regular Sunday fellowship meetings will resume September 10.



## Our Children Need You!

During the summer months, July, August and into September, we are in need of some additional volunteers in the nursery on Sunday mornings. If you are able to help, for one service or the other, it would be greatly appreciated. We have some nursery workers now but they are taking some vacation time and are not always all available every Sunday between now and September. Please consider this and help us out so any little people can spend worship time safely in our nursery. Please reach out to Vanessa at 757-218-2040 or [finance@wmumc.org](mailto:finance@wmumc.org).

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



## Warwick By The Numbers

### Budget Income/Actual Income January to July, 2023

	Annual Budget Income	Actual Income YTD
Operating Income:		
Pledged Gifts	\$427,000.00	\$249,343.79
Loose Offering	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,917.08
Unpledged/Identified Givers	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 50,421.06
Rental Property	\$ 9,700.00	\$ 5,395.00
Church usage	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,200.00
Lowe's Gift to OB	\$ 27,048.32	\$ 0.00
Endowment Fund	\$ 35,501.05	\$ 0.00
Other Income	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 105.00
2022 Carryover	\$ 19,541.88	\$ 19,541.88
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$611,791.25</b>	<b>\$331,923.81</b>
	Annual Budget Expense	Actual Expense YTD
Operating Expenses:		
Apportionments	\$ 83,376.00	\$ 48,636.00
Trustees	\$155,600.00	\$ 82,275.64
Finance	\$ 11,470.00	\$ 4,281.55
SPRC	\$336,690.25	\$195,437.42
Connect	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 2,873.36
Evangelize	\$ 2,305.00	\$ 582.94
Worship	\$ 7,955.00	\$ 3,278.73
Serve	\$ 9,800.00	\$ 2,024.47
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$611,791.25</b>	<b>\$339,390.11</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>\$ 7,466.30-</b>

This data was provided by the Finance Committee.

We would like to thank you for your continued support to the 2023 Family Life and Operations Fund.

As you can see, we are currently running behind on our income to expenses. We appreciate the continued support of tithed offerings during the summer months, we understand that vacations and family visits cause us to lose track of time.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Jim Corliss, finance chair. Thank you!

## 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.

**Special Request:** The Care Committee is looking for volunteers to assist Mary Jackson in feeding her mother on days Mary may not be able to do so. Mary's mother, Luray (Raye) Gwyn, is a resident of Charter Senior Assisted Living (formerly Morningside) on Denbigh Blvd. Meals are served at 8am, 12n and 4:30pm. This would happen only if Mary cannot be there. If you are willing to be on a stand-by list, please call Sina Hofler at 757-877-6109 or email [hofler2@verizon.net](mailto:hofler2@verizon.net).

## 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](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:

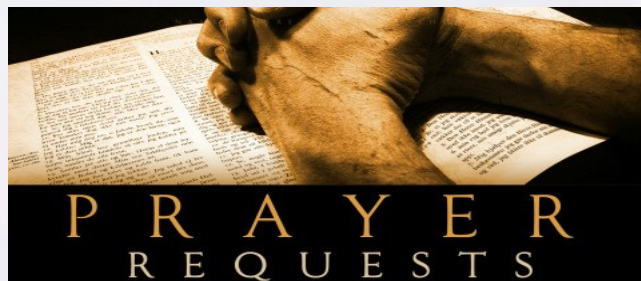
1. Come to the Sanctuary @ 9am on Mon. and 9:30am on Tues and Thurs. for community time of prayer.
2. Join Zoom daily for Daily Prayer time at 1pm. During the week days this is led by one of the pastors and on the weekend it is led by Linda McLawhorn
3. Pray on your own daily with materials.
4. Ask someone 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, September 4, at 9am** at Vancostas 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) \* Evelyn Bilk (Charter Assisted Living) \* 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) \* Robert Wood \* Mel Rhoads \* Chuck and Cynthia Nothstine \* Jim Taylor \* Barbara Freund \* Raye Gwyn (Mary Jackson's mom) \* Frank Felice (Dan Felice's Dad) \* Gene Osborne \* Gail Henry (Rodney's mother-in-law) \* Sharon Davenport \* Joy Robinson (her mother and brother are both having medical issues) \* Ginny Chappell \* Frances Topping \* Veronica Finley \* and all those who are grieving or sick.

**Deployed Armed Forces:** Laura Lomas, Brian Budlove, Lance Sczesny (Coast Guard).

## Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church

**Rev. Esther Naana Agbosu**  
Senior Pastor

[PastorEsther@wmumc.org](mailto:PastorEsther@wmumc.org)  
804-580-1504 (c)

**Rev. Angie Hoen**  
Associate Pastor

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

## Attendance Numbers (8/20)

9:00am: 70  
10:15am (online): 109  
11:15am: 40  
Sunday School: 61  
Dinner Church 8/23: 55

## Blessing for a New School Year

AS A NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS,

MAY YOUR EYES BE OPEN TO THE  
POSSIBILITIES BEFORE YOU,

MAY YOUR MINDS BE CURIOUS ABOUT  
THE WORLD AROUND YOU,

AND MAY YOUR HEARTS BE FULL OF  
LOVE FOR FRIENDS BOTH OLD AND NEW.

