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

# Sunday, September 24, 2023

#### This Week At A Glance . .

#### September 24 - Today

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

#### Monday, September 25 \*

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

Tuesday, September 26 \* 9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time 11am Staff Meeting (library) 6pm Cub Scouts (27 & 28) 7pm Men's Fraternity Bible Study (Rm 10) 7pm Drama Rehearsal (CC)

Wednesday, September 27 \* 10:30am Bible Study (Library) 6pm Family Dinner Church (CC)

Thursday, September 28 \* 9:30am Shekinah Prayer Time 6pm Cub Scouts (27 & 28) 6:30pm Yoga (Rm 21) 7pm Drama Rehearsal (CC)

Friday, September 29 \* Meals on Wheels (pick up location) 7pm Drama Rehearsal (CC)

Saturday, September 30 4pm Community Block Party (parking lot) 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 Matthew 18:21-25

How do we forgive someone who has made us feel inadequate, embarrassed, or worthless? When the debt they've racked up seems insurmountable, is forgiveness even an option? Jesus' story about the unmerciful servant teaches Christians how to respond when others harm us. The servant owed a debt that was impossible to pay. In those days, a talent was worth about 20 years' wages. Lenders at the time could force borrowers to work off debts or serve time in prison until their accounts were settled. Sometimes, the debtor's family would be sold into slavery to help repay the debt. Apart from the king's forgiveness, the debtor's life was doomed.

The king in the parable represents Jesus, and the debtor represents us (Matthew 18:23-24). We owe an insurmountable debt to God because of our sin. Whether our sins are few and respectable or malicious and many, the penalty for sin is death (<u>Romans 6:23</u>). But like the unmerciful servant, we, too, were forgiven. Our sins were washed away and our slates wiped clean. The only right response to receiving that kind of forgiveness and grace is to extend it to others.

Forgiving everyone everything is the key to living in the freedom Jesus died to give us. When we forgive, we protect ourselves from bitterness. Like the debtor in Jesus' story, bitterness will lead us to sin against God and others. By forgiving everyone of everything, we remove the hold that unforgiveness has in our lives and restore our relationship with God.

Adapted from https://www.newspring.cc

#### Prayer

Holy God, please help me to be more merciful with those who stumble. Please help me to be graciously persuasive with those who refuse to forgive, helping them see the need to be gracious. Please give me a sense of balance so that I may know, celebrate, and proclaim your mercy in all its glory. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.



#### **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.



#### 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

We began a new in-person Bible study this past Wednesday. You are invited to join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am. We will be studying "Journey Through the Bible Volume 14: Romans - Philippians." The books will be available in the library and cost \$11. Please sign out the book or if they are not there, please see Pastor Angie. 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. Stop by and sign out a book if you do not have it already. 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 (we will return to the CC on 9/27).

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.

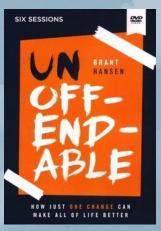
Everyone is invited to join us for a great meal, musical entertainment, devotional message brought to us by a pastor or a lay member and plenty of fellowship. If you are not currently able to join us for church on Sunday or you miss a Sunday, this is a great way to join us during the week, in the evening, for worship.

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

#### **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. Join us beginning Tuesday, September 19th. For more details, contact Gerry Mingee at ggmingee@verizon.net





#### Free Lunch & Learn Hosted by Cremation Society of Virginia

You are invited to a free lunch at Smoke BBQ Restaurant, 10900 Warwick Blvd., on October 10h at 12noon.

This lunch is hosted by the Cremation Society of Virginia and will give you food for thought about reducing the emotional and financial stress of losing a loved one.

Please RSVP to Sharon at 757-236-0259.



FREE Lunch thought about reducing & Learn October 11, 2 0 2 3 | 1 2 P .M . NOON Cremation Society of Vi HAMPTON ROADS OFFICE

LIMITED SEATING. RSVP to Sharon at (757) 236-0259

Join us for food for the emotional and financial stress of losing a loved one.

Smoke BBQ Restaurant 10900 Warwick Blvd, Newport News, VA 23601



#### **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.



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



**©WARWICKMEMORIALUMC** 

Instagram



Facebook





Offering

#### **Elder Balance Presentation**

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.

#### 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 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 <u>https://umcmission.org/advance-project/901670</u> 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.

#### **Called Church Conference**

A called church conference has been scheduled for October 10 at 5:30 at the church. Everyone who is able to attend is asked to be present and cast a vote on our SPRC finances for the 2024 budget.

#### **Angel Wings**

We need to see pictures of our Angels! We have 2 sets of wings painted on the wall by the youth room, stop by and take some pictures and share them with us at Warwick.memorial@wmumc.org or on your Facebook page and tag us at #WMUMC. The children can stand by the butterfly wings on the other wall.



#### **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, October 2, 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. 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 (Hidenwood) \* 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) \* 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 \* Donna Shafer \* Lawrence & Cheryl Pruitt \* Erin Finley-Orick \* Fern Holly and family for the loss of her son, 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 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@wmume.org Facility Manager (Rodney): Facility.Manager@wmume.org



#### Attendance Numbers (9/17)

9:00am: 74 10:15am (online): 128 11:15am: 57 Sunday School: 67

Dinner Church 9/20: 57

757-877-2270 | WWW.WMUMC.ORG | WARWICK.MEMORIAL@WMUMC.ORG Mark your calendars and bring your friends & neighbors to our end of summer **Community Block Party!** 

Community

Rock The Block

HOSTED BY WARWICK MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

All Are Welcome!

38 HOOPES ROAD | NEWPORT NEWS \ VA \ 23602

#### Don't miss out on the fun!

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

#### 4pm to 7pm

### **38 Hoopes Road**

- Hot Dogs & Burgers Cotton Candy

  - D.J. Music Face Painting
  - Cake Walk Bounce House
  - - Kick Ball Games

  - Free Door Prizes and much more

Come and meet your **Hoopes Road and Pear Ridge neighbors and let us** treat you to dinner.

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

# MAGNOLIA BY ROBERT HARLING Directed by Dave Amaker

Tee

**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