

**“Deep in the woods:
Called to deep commitment”**

Virtual Worship Service

Sign in via ZOOM - details inside under Announcements



Warwick River Mennonite Church

250 Lucas Creek Rd., Newport News, VA 23602

<https://www.warwickrivermennonite.org/>

warwickrivermc@gmail.com

757-874-0794

**February 28, 2021
Second Sunday of Lent**

Vision: Healing & Hope - God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

**WELCOME HOME TO
Warwick River Mennonite Church**

Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday Worship Service February 28, 2021

Virtual Coffee Connect: 10 a.m. Virtual Worship Service: 10:40 a.m.

Focus statement: *We are transformed by God as we follow God's voice along the path of life, a voice calling us to deep commitment. Even when our path leads deep into unfamiliar woods, as we lose ourselves, we are found.*

-- Gathering --

Welcome and Invocation

Call to Worship

One: God, you ask us to set our minds on you,
to walk before you and be blameless.
You teach us what matters, and
you do not hide your face from us.

**Many: With each step along the path, we are transformed
into who you made and called us to be.**

One: God, you teach us that when we lose our life,
we save it.

**Many: With each step along the path,
we hope against hope in your promises.**

One: God, you say you will make us exceedingly fruitful,
that you will bless us.

**Many: With each step along the path,
we take up our cross and follow you.**

**All: We believe your everlasting covenant is to be God to us,
and that we will live forever.
We call out to you,
as you call us deeper into this covenant.**

Focus Song and Slides

Hymn of Gathering

-- Prayer of Confession and Assurance --

Many: **Deep calls to deep.**
 We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

One: We confess when we have stayed on the edges.
 Not listening to each other.
 Not taking the path you show.

 We confess when we have strayed from the way.
 Silencing suffering.
 Forfeiting life.

(Silence. Or name the forces that keep us from deep commitment.)
 Deep calls to deep.
 You call to us from the depth of your love.

Many: **Calling us to deep commitment.**
 We come to you, God.

-- Hearing from God's Word --

Scripture Reading: Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Mark 8:31-38
Children's Time
Hymn of Preparation
Time for Silent Reflection
Sermon Title:
"Deep in the woods: Called to deep commitment" ~Pastor John Dey

-- Responding to God's Word --

Response Ritual
Hymn of Response
Sharing of Blessings and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer/Offertory Prayer
Time for Announcements

-- Sending --

Prayer of Sending
Go deep into the woods of your week, knowing that you are called to the kind of commitment that will not leave you comfortable. Our God is not to be fully known or neatly packaged. Be ever ready for the transformation that accompanies deep commitment. Go, expecting surprise. Amen.

Song of Sending

Worship Leader: Susan Ackerman
Song Leader: Noah Shenk
Reader: Jan Dennis
Zoom Host: Rachael Shenk

Upcoming Events:

- ❖ *Today, Feb. 28* – Second Sunday of Lent
Worship Service via ZOOM:
10:00AM ZOOM Coffee Connect
10:40AM ZOOM Worship Service
- ❖ *Sun., Mar. 7* – Third Sunday of Lent

Announcements

While expecting Christ's return, we welcome yours.

Building Fund CHALLENGE RECEIVED: A member of Warwick River Mennonite Church is excited about the Church Remodel and has reached out to the congregation with a challenge! The anonymous benefactor(s) will match each dollar contributed to the Church Building Fund up to and including \$30,000.00. God is good! *The Challenge Match starts immediately (2/21/2021) and runs through Lent-Easter 2021. Challenge monies received to date = \$500.00*

Warwick River Mennonite Church
Zoom platform
HOW TO CONNECT
***Worship Service * Meetings * Gatherings of all kinds**

Computer:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84674071811?pwd=dWRKODZleWRucmRualms1YlFZTFJlUT09>
*MEETING ID: 846 7407 1811
*PASSWORD: 809884

Phone: 929-205-6099
*MEETING ID: 846 7407 1811
*PASSWORD: 809884

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Mackenzie Butler (740-868-0016) or Don Brunk (610-787-0823) They will do their very best to assist you.

Jackie Zimmerman has a new address: 101 Arboretum Way, Apartment 355, Newport News, VA 23602

Prayer and Praise Requests:

- ❖ “Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.”
~*Matthew 6:9*
- ❖ Happy 100th Birthday to Edith Layman who will be celebrating this milestone on March 1st. Edith served as co-editor of the *Warwick River Tide* with June Weber for many years. She was also a very active member of Warwick River Church. May God Bless you on this special day! Edith’s address: **Edith Layman, Edgeworth Park at New Town, 5501 Discovery Park Blvd., Apt. 1215, Williamsburg, VA 23188**
- ❖ We pray that people the world over might feel God’s presence in their lives today.
- ❖ Pray for Martine Audeoud as she teaches one of the first offerings in Mennonite Mission Network’s new online institute for peace studies in the French-speaking world.
- ❖ *Prayer/Praise concerns are always welcome & may be requested & updated by calling or emailing Pat O’Connor in the front office: (757)-874-0794 or warwickrivermc@gmail.com*

Happy Birthday ~

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|-------------|---------------------------|
| February 27 | Bonnie Zook; Heath Wagner |
| March 1 | Pat O’Connor |
| March 5 | Jan Dennis |
| March 7 | Tom Salyers |
| March 9 | Chris Miller |
| March 14 | Leon Mulamba |
| March 16 | Scott Mumaw |

Happy Anniversary ~

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| March 4 | Steve & Lisa Ziegler |
| March 10 | Dallas & Peggy Kipfer |
| March 17 | Blair & Ann Aulich |

WRMC Office Hours:

In person: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 12:30–6:30 p.m.

Remote: Wednesday 12:30–6:30 p.m.

From: Mennonite Church USA

Menno Snapshots

Jane Hooper Peifer writes about the beauty that is found in darkness and in waiting in her blog and poem, “When there are no blinds.” Read it here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/no-blinds>

Want to stay in the know about what’s happening across our denomination? Subscribe to PeaceMail, the only source for all the news and blogs from Mennonite Church USA and its agencies in one easy-to-read, weekly email. <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/publications/>

WRMC FACILITIES EXPLORATION NEWS - FINAL VOTING RESULTS: As timely announced by Notice to the congregation, (see below) voting took place as stated and results are here announced:

38 - Those voting in favor of Option Three (3)

2 - Those voting against Option Three (3)

Motion passed.

OPTION THREE is approved.

Original Notice:

NOTICE TO VOTE: The Facilities Exploration Team presented their church facility recommendation concept Sunday, February 7, 2021. **A vote will be taken Sunday, 02/21/2021** followed by a three-day grace period for absentee votes to be turned in. The final results will be known 2/24/2021.

Everence Federal Credit Union News: Annual virtual members’ meeting is Friday, April 23, 2021 at 4 p.m. Further details: www.everence.com/banking, and on your March statement. Everence helps individuals, organizations and congregations integrate finances with faith through a national team of financial representatives. Everence offers banking, insurance and financial services with community benefits and stewardship education. Everence is a ministry of Mennonite Church USA and other churches.

THRIVE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS THIS MONTH: rice sides, crackers, pudding/jello, Hamburger Helper. If you wish to help, we collect food at the Church Office in the WRCS as well as shoes and coats for those in need. Thank you very much from all of us.

WCRC Save the date - March 28, 2021 at 7:00 PM: The Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center will not be holding the WCRC Banquet due to COVID-19. Instead, they will hold smaller **WCRC Receptions** at each church. Warwick River Mennonite and Huntington Mennonite folks are invited to attend the WCRC Reception on **March 28 from 7:00 to 8:00 at Huntington Mennonite Church.** The reception will include an update on WCRC's ministry and opportunities for support through donating, volunteering, and spreading the word about the ministry. If you would like to attend, please **rsvp to Bob Briscoe** at wrcr@wrcr.info or call him at 757-566-2256.

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2021 Council of Ministries:

Pastor John M. Dey

Congregation Chair Lisa Ziegler

Outreach Chair Sue Yoder

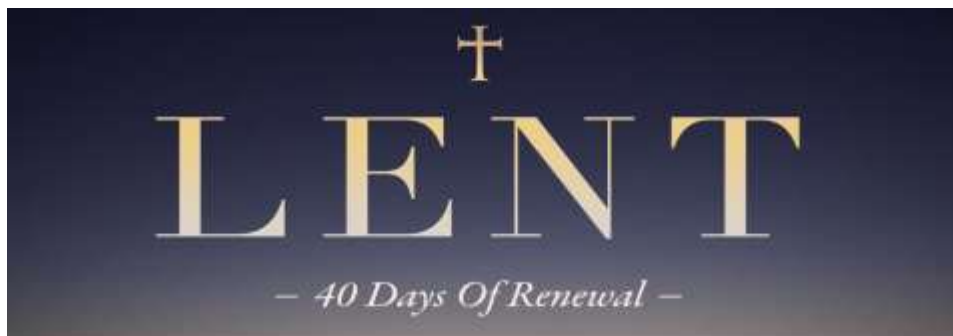
Stewardship Chair Tom Salyers

Christian Education Chair Ann Aulich

Fellowship Chair Theresa Siebels

Member-at-Large Peggy Kipfer **Member-at-Large** Tammara Geary

DUE TO COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS, ALL CHURCH GATHERINGS ARE SUSPENDED FOLLOWING GUIDANCE FROM THE CDC



Gift Giving (FY = Fiscal Year)
 FY2021 runs 12/01/2020 through 11/30/2021
 Annual operating expense budget: \$185,700.00

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|--|---|----------------------------|
| Attendance Report | February 21, 2021 | Worship Service: 56 |
| Offering Report February 21, 2021 | | |
| \$ 1805.00 | Mail Offertory totals this week | |
| \$ 150.21 (net) | E-giving support totals this week | |
| \$ 500.00 | Received toward Lent challenge for benefit of building fund | |
| \$ 2,455.21 | Offertory Total 02/21/2021 | |

Budget Offertory collected YTD (Dec 1, 2020 – Feb 21, 2021= \$33,444.59)

Thank you for your continued gifts to God and Church

Deuteronomy 16:17



Building News Corner

This Week's Building Fund Update

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| 02/14/2021 Building Fund Balance to date | \$ 1,472,541.00 |
| 02/21/2021 Contributions toward Lent challenge this week | \$ 500.00 |
| 02/21/2021 Building Fund Balance to date | \$ 1,473,041.00 |

We are grateful for your financial support, and committed to exercising faithful stewardship over the funds contributed to us.

We are aware of the many sacrifices you make in order to provide these gifts, and sincerely pledge

to see that these dollars are used wisely, especially during this time of uncertainty.

To assist everyone in making the consistent offerings, that are so important to your church, we are now able to accept savings/checking drafts, and Paypal.

Please go directly to Paypal:

[Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)