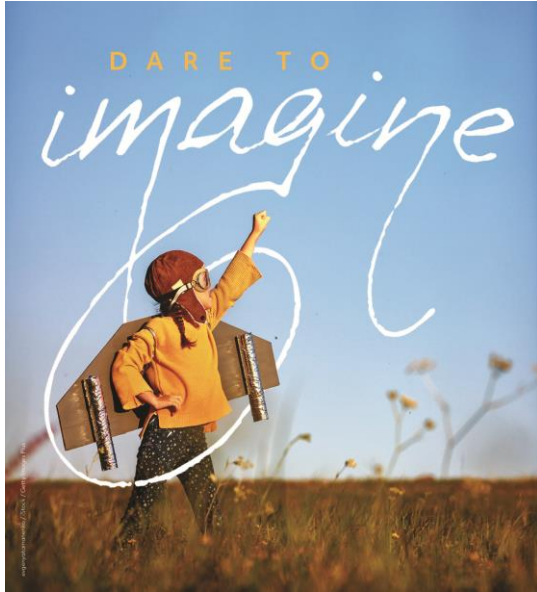


“Dare to Imagine God’s Dance!”

*Virtual Worship Service only this week
join us via ZOOM – details inside*

In-Person Service suspended until further notice



Warwick River Mennonite Church

250 Lucas Creek Rd., Newport News, VA 23602

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

warwickrivermc@gmail.com

757-874-0794

January 2, 2022 Sunday Worship Service

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

Sunday Worship Service January 2, 2022

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

Pastor - John M. Dey [johnmichaeldey@gmail.com]

District Overseer - David Lehman Congregation Chair - Lisa Ziegler
Christian Education Chair - Ann Aulich Outreach Chair - Sue Yoder
Fellowship Chair - Theresa Siebels Stewardship Chair - Tom Salyers
Members-at-Large - Peggy Kipfer & Tammara Geary
Secretary - Pat O’Connor office hours: 9:30am – 3:30pm [Tue; Wed; Thu; Fri]

Focus statement: *Imagine a dance that includes all peoples and nations coming together, praising God for Jesus. Just imagine: God chooses and lavishes grace on us, a dancer who is both intimate and inclusive, living among us, revealing God’s glory in the Word made flesh.*

-- Gathering --

*Welcome and Invocation

*Call to Worship

Leader: Come and join in a holy dance—a dance God has been imagining since the beginning.

People: We come, weeping.

Leader: Join in God’s comforting dance.

People: We come with nothing.

Leader: Join in God’s dance of abundance.

People: We come, feeling disconnected.

Leader: Join in God’s intimate dance.

People: We come, although we do not know how to dance.

Leader: Will we dare to learn the moves? Do we dare step onto the dance floor?

People: We will join in God’s daring dance.

*Advent Hymn

-- Lighting of Advent Candle --

Candle Litany

Leader: We light the Christ candle to honor Jesus and listen as all creation joins in praise.

People: **Imagine that . . . we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.**

***Advent Hymn**

-- Prayer of Confession --

Let us confess God's greatness with an attitude of childlike, awestruck wonder.

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
how I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high,
like a diamond in the sky.
Twinkle, twinkle little star,
how I wonder what you are.

God of the vast heavens, expansive oceans,
majestic mountains, and rolling prairies,
forgive us for our need
to conquer and control.

Cause us to look up, reach out, and follow . . .
For you, O God of infinite imagination, will lead us.

-- Words of Assurance --

From all the fullness of God,
the world has received grace upon grace.
The young rejoice in the dance.
The old shall be merry.
Surely, the true Light has come into the world. Amen.

-- Hearing from God's Word --

Scripture Reading:

Jeremiah 31:7-14
John 1:1-18

***Hymn of Preparation**

Time for Silent Reflection

Sermon Title: "Dare to Imagine God's Dance!"

~Pastor John Dey

-- Responding --

***Christmas Carol**

Sharing of Blessings and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Time for Sharing of Announcements

-- Sending --

***Benediction**

Move your feet to the rhythm of the seasons,
let your praises be seen in your movement.
Use your imagination,
join in God's daring dance,
the dance that began with the light.

***Song of Sending**

Serving Today:

Pastor John Dey

Worship Leader: Kathryn Baer

Song Leader: Micah Shenk

Reader: Jan Dennis

Zoom Host: Mackenzie Butler Shenk



Upcoming Events:

- ❖ *Thurs., January 6* – WRMC Council Meeting
- ❖ *Sat., January 8* – Committee Chairs please turn in annual reports
- ❖ *Sun., January 9*– Sunday Worship Service via ZOOM only this week:
10:00AM ZOOM Coffee Connect
10:40AM ZOOM Worship Service



Happy Birthday ~

January 3	Rachael Shenk
January 4	Will Siebels
January 5	Nelson Baer Ricky Dillon
January 7	John Cassel
January 10	Sue Yoder (Snooky) Nicole Mulamba
January 11	Christian Shenk
January 13	Olivia Wagner
January 15	Anna Longacher

Announcements

While expecting Christ's return, we welcome yours.

Coronavirus Pandemic Announcement:

**Until further notice
due to the newest COVID-19 variant**

**in-person WRMC Worship Services
are suspended**

Please join us via telephone or computer
for Sunday Worship Service

Gladys Hostetter is moving from her home in Ivor to live with family in Cumberland at the end of this year. Her new contact information is: Gladys Hostetter, 50 Ownby Road, Cumberland, VA 23040; new telephone number will be: (804)-492-4232. Gladys wants you to know "Visitors are always Welcome!"

Prayer and Praise Requests:

- ❖ Praise and thanks to Pastor John for guiding us through this past year, may the new year bring continued peace and calm to all.
- ❖ Praise for the blessing of in-person and zoom Worship Service.
- ❖ Mennonite Mission Network thanks your congregation for its generous support of God's work. Continue to hold our personnel and partners in your prayers, as we join to share the light and love of Jesus in our neighborhoods and around the world.
- ❖ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. ~ Ephesians 3:20-21
- ❖ "Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now." ~ Philippians 1:3-5 (New Living Translation)
- ❖ *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*

**Warwick River Mennonite Church
Zoom platform**

HOW TO CONNECT

***Worship Service * Meetings * Gatherings of all kinds**

Computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84674071811?pwd=dWRKODZleWRucmRuams1YlFZTFJjUT09>

*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 Shenk (740-868-0016) or Don Brunk (610-787-0823)
They will do their very best to assist you.*

The Sermon is recorded for replay at www.warwickrivermennonite.org.



Gift Giving (FY = Fiscal Year)

FY2021 runs 12/01/2021 through 11/30/2022

Annual operating expense budget: *to be determined*

Attendance Report December 19, 2021 Worship Service: 49
Attendance Report December 26, 2021 Worship Service: 42
Offering Report December 26, 2021

\$ 11,700.00 In person + Mail Offertory totals this week toward FY2022
 \$ 2,500.00 designated to Lezha Academic Center, Albania
 \$ 1,000.00 designated to Brotherhood
 \$ 15,200.00 Offertory Total 12/05/2021

Budget Offertory collected YTD (12/01/2021-12/26/2021= \$20,560.00)

Thank you for your continued gifts to God and Church

Deuteronomy 16:17



Building News Corner

This Week's Building Fund Update

12/12/2021 Building Fund Balance to date	\$ 1,530,338.05*
12/26/2021	00.00
12/26/2021 Building Fund Balance to date	\$ 1,530,388.05*

(*includes \$12,947.05 estimated value stock shares)

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 consistent offerings that are so important to your church, we are now able to accept ACH savings/checking drafts as well as PayPal. Please inform Pat in the front office as to the date and amount of ACH transfers along with any special instructions so that we may watch for receipt.

For PayPal, please go directly to: [Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)

**Looking back...
 WRMC January 7, 2018 Worship Service
 Had to be cancelled
 Due to a
 Blizzard!**



A message from the front office:
COMMITTEE CHAIRS: 2021 Annual Reports are coming due please take a moment to schedule a time you may prepare and submit. If you need help in any way, or perhaps a format to follow, please let me know. The preferred format is WORD (via email, to: warwickrivermc@gmail.com). If you have already submitted your report, thank you!
 ~Thank you very much, Pat O'Connor



*The Lord Himself is our first and greatest gift.
 Rejoice in the Lord Always.*