

“From Exceptionalism to Inclusion”

*In-person Service meets in Warwick River Chapel
located directly behind the Church building*

*Virtual Worship Service and Sunday School
will continue to be available via ZOOM – details inside.*

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



Warwick River Mennonite Church

250 Lucas Creek Rd., Newport News, VA 23602

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

warwickrivermc@gmail.com

757-874-0794

March 27, 2022

Fourth 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

Fourth Sunday of Lent Sunday Worship Service March 27, 2022

In-person and Virtual Sunday School: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Virtual Coffee Connect: 10 a.m.

In-person and Virtual Worship Service: 10:40 a.m.

In-person Coffee Connect follows Worship Service

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

District Overseer – David Lehman Church Elder – Tammara Geary

Congregation Chair - Lisa Ziegler

Christian Education Chair - Ann Aulich Outreach Chair - Sue Yoder

Fellowship Chair - Theresa Siebels Stewardship Chair - Tom Salyers;

Members-at-Large - Laura Siebels & Ursula Bock

Secretary - Pat O'Connor Office Hours: 9:30am – 3:30pm [Tue; Wed; Thu; Fri]

Masks are required to be worn by each person entering the Chapel for Sunday Worship Service

-- Centering Time --

Focus statement: *As we seek God's way, we move from a sense that "we" and "ours" have special standing to the knowledge that all are equally part of God's kingdom.*

-- Gathering --

Welcome and Invocation

Time for Greeting

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Together we seek the way of God,

People: rejoicing that we are new creations in Christ.

Leader: From a human point of view, we demand what is ours,

People: but through Jesus we learn that all share in God's inheritance.

Leader: Let us join God's feast,

People: where all celebrate together.

All: Let us live out God's way of inclusion.

***Hymn of Praise and Gathering**

-- Confessing --

Responsive Reading

Leader: Your ways, O God, are higher than our ways.

People: Your thoughts are higher than our thoughts.

Leader: We seek God's ways.

All: Lord, move us from our tribal thinking to your radical inclusion.

Lenten Prayer of Confession (Isaiah 55 adapted)

Leader: Holy One, we seek you while you may be found.

People: We call upon you while you are near.

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, for our thoughts are not your thoughts and our ways are not your ways.

People: Forgive us for thinking we deserve special treatment. Lead us to radical inclusion.

Leader: As we walk with Christ on this Lenten journey, let us see your way more clearly

All: and follow your way more faithfully.

Prayer of Assurance

To the God who gathers us, we pray our lives, too, will become places of gathering, welcoming, and embracing those we thought were far off. From our wandering and alienation, we have stumbled into loving arms. From our pride and self-righteousness, we have watched and resented as others stumble into loving arms. God, bring into clear focus our distancing and embracing, our rejecting and our welcoming. Weave together the strands within us—the prodigal son, the brother, and the father—to see your work of reconciliation in our church and community. Amen.

-- Hearing from God's Word --

Scripture Reading: Joshua 5:9-12; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

***Hymn of Preparation**

Time for Silent Reflection

Sermon Title: "From Exceptionalism to Inclusion" ~ Pastor John Dey

-- Responding to God's Word --

Hymn of Response

Sharing of Blessings and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer/Offertory Prayer

Time for Announcements

-- Sending --

***Prayer of Sending**

From this time and place into whatever awaits, may you follow God's way of inclusion. May you recognize your assumptions of entitlement so that you can live into God's fully inclusive love. As you go, know that our God of the wilderness remains with you on the way.

***Song of Sending**

Serving Today:

Pastor John M. Dey

Worship Leader: Mackenzie Butler Shenk

Song Leader: Micah Shenk

Reader: Chris Miller

Zoom Host: Don Brunk

Prayer and Praise Requests:

- ❖ *"I sought the Lord, and he answered me; He delivered me from all my fears" ~ Psalm 34:4*
- ❖ Please pray for all the people of Ukraine and all the helpers here and abroad, that the Lord may deliver us from this serious threat to peace.
- ❖ *"The faithful love of the LORD never ends, His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning." ~ Lamentations 3:22-23*
- ❖ Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Monika Neufeld, a nurse who is serving as an intern with CASAS (a program of Seminario Anabautista Latinoamericano, SEMILLA) in Guatemala. Pray for her as she works with other medical staff at a rural clinic to respond to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ *"For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." ~ 2 Timothy 1:6-7*
- ❖ *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*

Sunday School

- **Preschool Class:** **Katherine Hunnicutt** (*resumed March 20, 2022*)
Attend in-person class only.
LOCATION: WRCS SCHOOL BUILDING - 9:30 to 10:30 A.M.
- **Middler Class:** **Ann Aulich** (*resumed March 13, 2022*)
Attend in-person class only.
LOCATION: WRCS SCHOOL BUILDING - 9:30 to 10:30 A.M.
- **Adult Class:** **Sue Yoder** (*resumed March 13, 2022*)
Lively discussion type class. This Spring quarter 2022 we are studying the book of Mark (Theme: "Disciples & Stewards")
Attend in-person OR virtually.
LOCATION: CHAPEL - 9:30 to 10:30 A.M.

Join Adult Sunday School via Zoom: (9:30-10:30 a.m.)
***New Zoom for Adult Sunday School, updated info below:**

Zoom Link: [Click Here](#) to enter Zoom Meeting

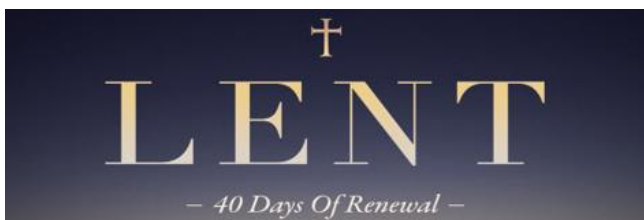
Meeting ID: 817 4044 5865

*When you join, you will enter a waiting room and then be admitted individually

Phone: 301-715-8592 / 817 4044 5865

Happy Birthday ~

| | |
|----------|--|
| March 29 | Nicholas Mumaw |
| March 30 | John Dey |
| March 31 | Karen Mumaw |
| April 1 | Brenda Lytle |
| April 4 | Evangeline Schrock; Don Brunk; Casey Sawyer Nelson |
| April 6 | Joelle Durren |
| April 9 | Dakota Wade |
| April 10 | Ernie Miller |



March 20, 2022 Attendance Reporter ~out of town~ tally was not taken 3/20/22

Offering Report March 20, 2022

| | |
|--------------|---|
| \$3,250.00 | Mail Offertory totals this week toward FY2022 |
| \$ 0.00(net) | E-giving support totals this week |
| \$3,250.00 | Offertory Total 03/20/2022 |

Budget Offertory collected YTD (12/01/2021-03/20/2022= \$42,460.58)

Total Budgeted need 12/01/2021-03/20/2022=\$58,987.68

Thank you for your continued gifts to God and Church

Deuteronomy 16:17



Building News Corner

This Week's Building Fund Update

| | |
|--|------------------|
| 03/13/2022 Building Fund Balance to date | \$ 1,531,488.05* |
| 03/20/2022 | 00.00 |
| 03/20/2022 Building Fund Balance to date | \$ 1,531,488.05* |

(*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 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)

Warwick River Mennonite Church
Zoom platform

HOW TO CONNECT

*Worship Service * Meetings * Gatherings of all kinds

Computer: [Click Here](#) to enter Zoom Meeting

*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 Shenk (740-868-0016) or Don Brunk (610-787-0823)*

They will do their very best to assist you.

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Upcoming Events:

- ❖ *Sun., March 27th: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School*
- ❖ *Sun., March 27th: 10:40 a.m. Worship Service & Coffee Connect*
- ❖ *Tues., March 29th: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Community Prayer Group meets in the Warwick River Chapel*
- ❖ *Fri., April 1st: 7p.m. WR Chapel: Presentation of "The Five Love Languages"*
- ❖ *Thur., April 7th: WRMC Council Meeting*
- ❖ *Sun., April 10th: Palm Sunday*
- ❖ *Thur., April 14th: Maundy Thursday*
- ❖ *Fri., April 15th: Good Friday*
- ❖ *Sun., April 17th: Easter Sunday*



Announcements

While expecting Christ's return, we welcome yours.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022, 7:00 p.m. in the WARWICK RIVER CHAPEL:

Come and explore Gary Chapman's book "The Five Love Languages" which will be presented by Lewi Blosser, who is with Child Development Resources in Williamsburg, VA. Coffee & donuts will be served. Masks optional. Child care unavailable. Contact Sue Yoder (Snooky) if any question: 757-877-4135.