

May 4, 2025

*“Paradise Lost: Finding Ourselves in
Difficult Times”*

Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson



Warwick River Mennonite Church

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

250 Lucas Creek Road, Newport News, VA 23602

757-874-0794

warwickrivermc@gmail.com

www.warwickrivermennonite.org

WELCOME HOME TO Warwick River Mennonite Church

In-person Sunday School: 9:30-10:30 AM

Virtual Coffee Connect: 10 AM

In-person and Virtual Worship Service: 10:40 AM

In-person Coffee Connect follows Worship Service

Recorded Sermons available at www.warwickrivermennonite.org

Leadership

Church office hours: 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM Tuesday through Friday. If you have questions, concerns, or compliments you may contact any of the following people.

Steve Wiebe-Johnson, Pastor

MaryDawn Carrier, Congregation Chair

Chris Miller, Elder & Council Co-Chair

Sue Yoder, Outreach Chair

Twila Blume, Member-At-Large

Adam Carrier, Stewardship Chair

574-849-2021

757-218-8137

757-879-6659

757-708-4036

Serving Today, Easter Sunday

Sermon: Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson

Worship Leader: Twila Blume

Song Leader: Noah Shenk

Reader: Jackie Zimmerman

Zoom Host: Rachael Shenk

Warwick River Mennonite Church

HOW TO CONNECT

***Worship Service * Sunday School * Meetings ***

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

Questions: Don Brunk 610-787-0823

-- Gathering --

*Hymn of Praise and Gathering

***Call to worship** (from Psalm 1 & Jeremiah 17:7-8)

Leader: Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand with sinners, or join in with mockers.

People: They delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night.

Leader: They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season.

People: Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.

Leader: But not the wicked! They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind. They will be condemned at the time of judgment.

Sinners will have no place among the godly.

People: For the Lord watches over the path of the godly, but the path of the wicked leads to destruction.

All: Blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.

*Hymn of Preparation

-- Hearing God's Word --

Scripture Reading: Luke 24: 13-35

Mark 16: 14-15

Sermon title: "Paradise Lost: Finding Ourselves in Difficult Times"

~Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson

-- Responding to Worship --

*Hymn of Response

*Sermon/Message Response

Sharing of Blessings and Concerns

Offertory Prayer & Offertory

Sharing of Announcements

-- Sending --

*Song of Sending

***Benediction (Hebrews 13:20-21)**

Now may the God of Peace,

Who brought back from the dead

Our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep,

By the blood of the eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good, so that we may do God's will, through Jesus

Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen

Sending

Go in Peace

Prayer and Praise Requests

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and light unto my path."

~ Psalm 119:105

- ❖ Prayers answered, Don and Lauri Brunk are safely home again, hallelujah!
- ❖ Thank You for the mothers and mother-figures who show us care, strength, and grace. Bless them with peace, joy, and the support they need. For those who carry loss, longing, or tender memories today - hold them gently in Your love.
- ❖ As we enter the final stretch of this school year, we ask for the peace of our Lord to cover every student, teacher, and family. Calm anxious hearts, renew tired spirits, and guide each step with patience and grace. Help us support one another with empathy and understanding. May this season end with joy, growth, and hope. Amen.
- ❖ Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Laura and Nick Sharp, and their children, Jesse (8) and Brielle (5), as they prepare to begin a year-long assignment in La Mesa, Colombia, where they will serve alongside the Colombia Mennonite Church and its school, Colegio Americano Menno (American Menno School).
- ❖ Prayer & Praise is always welcome & helps unite your church family. Request prayer & Bulletin updates & let us pray with you. Contact Church Elder Chris Miller, or Church Secretary Pat O'Connor (757-874-0794) (warwickrivermc@gmail.com).

Happy Anniversary!

May 10 Raul & Adena (Longacher) Leal
May 13 Harold & Sue Yoder
May 14 Steve & Lisa Fannin

Happy Birthday!

May 4 Addison Fuller William Longacher
May 9 Kelleigh Longacher Carleigh Longacher
May 11 Ronda Miller Dale Shenk



Budget 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2025: \$93,600.00

April 27, 2025 REPORT Worship Service: 36



\$ 968.00 Offertory 4/27/2025

\$ 500.00 Enrichment Fund

\$ 1,468.00 Total 4/27/2025

Year-to-date Offerings: \$21,712.15

Budgeted Year-to-date: \$30,600.00

Thank you for your continued gifts to God and Church

Building News Corner

4/20/2025 Building Fund Balance to date \$1,561,266.05

4/27/2025 donations received + 00.00

4/27/2025 *\$1,561,266.05

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

WRMC is 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.

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

Upcoming Events:

- ❖ Today, May 4th 9:30am Sunday School (in the Church building)
10:40am Sunday Worship Service (in the Church)
- ❖ Today, May 4th 6:30 - 8:00 PM WRMC Game Night (Church Building)
- ❖ Tues., May 6th 4:00-6:00pm WRMC Community Prayer Drop-in (outdoors in front of Warwick River School)
- ❖ Tues., May 6th THRIVE Peninsula ONLINE Fundraiser (Please help!)
- ❖ Thurs., May 8th 6:00-9:00pm Threads Together sewing group (school)
- ❖ Fri., May 9th 10:00am – 2:00pm In Honor of Anna Janzen
Red Cross Blood Drive at Huntington Mennonite Church
- ❖ Sun., May 11th Mother's Day
- ❖ Wed., May 14th 12noon – 5:00 pm Comforter Knotting at Williamsburg Mennonite Church
- ❖ Sun., May 18th 4:00 PM Ordination Service for Pastor Zach Dey (Williamsburg Mennonite Church, Williamsburg, VA)

Announcements:

5-9 MAY 2025 * HELP CELEBRATE WRC TEACHERS & STAFF *

We invite our church family to help by donating food – just sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084EAEAE28A0FFC07-56448129-2025>

Please drop off donations at Warwick River Christian school the afternoon before your selected day.

5/6/2025 - THRIVE ONE DAY ONLINE Fundraiser * Goal \$60,000 *

5/9/2025 – 10:00-2:00 PM * Huntington Mennonite Church (HMC) *

HMC will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive, in memory of Anna Janzen, former Associate Pastor. Register: www.redcrossblood.org and enter HMC.

5/18/2025 – 4:00 PM * Ordination Service for Pastor Zach Dey *

You are warmly invited to attend the ordination of **Pastor Zach Dey** on **Sunday, May 18, 2025, at 4:00 PM** at **Williamsburg Mennonite Church**. A reception will follow the service. Join us as local Mennonite congregations gather to celebrate and support Pastor Zach on this meaningful occasion.

7/8-12/2025 - Follow Jesus '25, The MC USA Convention will be held at the

Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina July 8-12. For more information & to register, <https://convention.mennoniteusa.org/>

10/24/2025 – Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center * GOLF CLASSIC *

Save the Date!



GIVE LOCAL 757 is TUESDAY!

🌱 HOPE GROWS HERE – Help THRIVE Peninsula Bloom! 🌱

📅 Tuesday, May 6, 2025 | 🎯 Goal: \$60,000 | 💚 \$30,000 in Matching Funds!



There's so much to get excited about as we head into Give Local 757—and we want YOU to be part of it! On **Tuesday, May 6**, THRIVE aims to raise **\$60,000** to support local families with food, housing, and financial coaching. Thanks a **\$30,000 match**, your gift will be *doubled* to grow hope across the Peninsula.

You Can Help Hope Grow:

- ✓ **GIVE on May 6:** Online, by check, or in person — all gifts matched 1-for-1!

Send a check with "HOPE GROWS" in the memo to:

THRIVE Peninsula | 12749 Nettles Dr | Newport News, VA 23606

🍲 **Donate Food or Blessing Items:** \$1 per 1 pound match.

🌱 **Bring a friend to Rise and THRIVE:** Tuesday, 8–11 AM

🌻 **Join Hope Grows Here BINGO:** Play, give, and spread kindness

🌸 **Share the Campaign:** Use your voice to invite others to give

🌻 **Start a Fundraising Page:** Rally your network for good

📞 **Need help?** Call 757-551-6316 email development@THRIVEPeninsula.org