

May 11, 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](mailto:warwickrivermc@gmail.com)

[www.warwickrivermennonite.org](http://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](http://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: Susan Ackerman*

*Song Leader: Don Brunk*

*Reader: Jackie Zimmerman*

*Zoom Host: Don Brunk*

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

*"Do to others as you would have them do to you."*

*~ Luke 6:31*

- ❖ **A Mother's Day Prayer:** Dear Lord above, please bless today, the moms and grandmoms who guide us on our way. With gentle hands and hearts so true, they show the world a glimpse of You. Amen.
- ❖ Pray for our students to have clarity of thought in their studies, wisdom in the decisions they make, and kindness in their relationships.
- ❖ Some of the best gifts don't come in a box. Birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and all the festivities of our lives include preparations. Remember, prayer is a timeless gift you can give. Pray that all would know The Prince of Peace. Pray for the mental, physical, and spiritual health for those around you. Additionally, a smile and a kind word are beyond any monetary value.
- ❖ Mennonite Mission Network joins First Mennonite Church of San Francisco (California) this year in celebrating its 50th anniversary and its 50th year of hosting a Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) unit. Pray for current MVS participants — Conrad Liechty, Ana Esperanza Neufeld Weaver and Sav Roth Walter — as they help the congregation extend its outreach in the city.
- ❖ 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](mailto:warwickrivermc@gmail.com)).

## Happy Anniversary!

May 13 Harold & Sue Yoder  
May 14 Steve & Lisa Fannin  
May 17 Nelson & Kathryn Baer  
May 22 Micah & Mackenzie Shenk

## Happy Birthday!

May 11 Ronda Miller; Dale Shenk  
May 13 Chris Davis  
May 16 Everett Cassel  
May 17 Alexander Crumly  
May 20 Rudy Mulamba  
May 21 Adam Carrier



\$ 1,160.00 Offertory 5/4/2025  
\$ 1,160.00 Total 5/4/2025  
Year-to-date Offerings: \$22,872.15  
Budgeted Year-to-date: \$32,400.00

### Thank you for your continued gifts to God and Church

#### Building News Corner

4/27/2025 Building Fund Balance to date	\$1,561,266.05
5/4/2025 donations received	+ 00.00
5/4/2025	<b>*\$1,561,266.05</b>

(\*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 11<sup>th</sup>* Happy Mother's Day!  
9:30am Sunday School (in the Church building)  
10:40am Sunday Worship Service (in the Church)
- ❖ *Tues., May 13<sup>th</sup>* 4:00-6:00pm WRMC Community Prayer Drop-in  
(outdoors in front of Warwick River School)
- ❖ *Wed., May 14<sup>th</sup>* 12noon – 5:00 pm Comforter Knotting at Williamsburg Mennonite Church
- ❖ *Sun., May 18<sup>th</sup>* Guest Speaker May 18<sup>th</sup> is Adam Carrier  
9:30am Sunday School (in the Church building)  
10:40am Sunday Worship Service (in the Church)  
12:30pm Celebratory Fellowship Meal follows Service
- ❖ *Sun., May 18<sup>th</sup>* 4:00 PM Ordination Service for Pastor Zach Dey  
(Williamsburg Mennonite Church, Williamsburg, VA)
- ❖ *Thurs., May 22<sup>nd</sup>* 6:00-9:00pm Threads Together sewing group (school)
- ❖ *Sun., Jun 1<sup>st</sup>* 6:30 - 8:00 PM WRMC Game Night (Church Building)

## Announcements:

### 5/18/2025 – 12:30 PM \* WRMC CELEBRATORY FELLOWSHIP MEAL \*

Dear WRMC Family, Next Sunday, May 18, we'll gather for our Fellowship Meal—our first in the beautifully renovated space! We're excited to welcome some very special guests who helped make Phases 1 and 2 of our Building Project a reality. While Phases 3 and 4 are still underway, we're grateful to be under roof and enjoying our "new" space. To help us warmly host our guests, please consider bringing a little extra food to share. Thank you for your generosity and hospitality!

### 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.

### 5/20/2025 – 10 AM –12 NOON \* Mennowood Retirement Community \*

Open House. No RSVP required. Tour newly renovated apartments.  
13030 Warwick Blvd., Newport News, VA 23602 \* 757-249-0355 \*

### 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!