

December 21, 2025
“God's Shalom in Human Hands”

Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson

Advent 4



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

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.

Leadership

Steve Wiebe-Johnson, Pastor

MaryDawn Carrier, Congregation Chair

Chris Miller, Elder & Council Co-Chair

Sue Yoder, Outreach Chair

Twila Blume, Member-At-Large

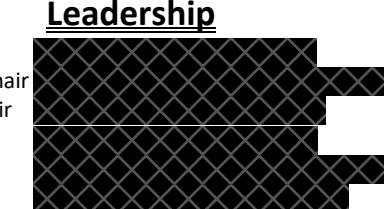
Adam Carrier, Stewardship Chair

574-849-2021

757-218-8137

757-879-6659

757-708-4036



Serving Today

Sermon: Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson

Worship Leader: MaryDawn Carrier

Song Leader: Micah Shenk

Reader: Steve Fannin

Zoom Host: Leanna DeWysocki

About the visual display: Initially obscured, the star and its light will gradually be revealed, as each week we remove a part of its covering. This reminds us that God's presence is always with us, even when God feels hidden.

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 --

Words to Welcome

*Hymn of Praise and Gathering

*Call to worship (Based on John 1:1-18)

One: In the beginning was love, and love was with God, and love was God.

Many: **We gather in awe and amazement, watching and waiting for Love to come down.**

One: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Many: **We wait with hope, longing for the gentle light of love to fill the world.**

One: The Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth.

Many: **We have seen his glory, Love embodied among us.**

One: Come, let us worship the God who moves among us, the Christ who draws near, the Spirit who shines in our hearts.

All: **The Light is coming! We tremble in excitement and uncertainty. Watching, waiting, for Love to be born.**

*Candlelighting litany

One: We have been wandering in the long, dark night, looking into the vastness, looking for even a glimmer of light, to usher in your love.

Many: **Come, Love of the World. Come amaze us.**

All: **May your love dispel the darkness and reveal your path of grace and mercy, inviting us to journey with you.**

*Hymn of Preparation

-- Hearing God's Word --

Scripture Readings: John 1:1-18; Psalm 130:5-8; Isaiah 9:2, 6

Message: God's Shalom in Human Hands

~ 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

Go now, watching and waiting for love to come down. Look into the world ready to be amazed – light shines in the darkness, steady, sure. Hold fast to hope, for the Word is becoming flesh, grace and truth are drawing near to dwell among us.

May the God who speaks, the Christ who comes near, and the Spirit who shines within you fill you with love and peace.

Go in Peace

Prayer and Praise Requests

"In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." ~ John 1:4-5

- ❖ *Thank you received from Warwick River Christian school Director, Michelle Watrous: "We'd like to express our gratitude for the cookie donations we received from church members. Year after year, we get return customers who are looking for very specific Christmas cookie treats. They have come back and have said they know that we will have their favorites! This would not be possible without your contributions! Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!"*
- ❖ *Praise and thanks for our most generous congregation and anonymous benefactor(s) this week, and over all the years, who have been steadfast in supporting our church's needed projects, reminding us that God is always faithful in supplying our needs.*
- ❖ *Pray for everyone in our Church Family, that they may feel God's presence in their Christmas celebrations.*
- ❖ **We pray for God's healing touch upon all those undergoing health challenges known and unknown to us.** May strength, courage, and hope be gained in the coming days and we pray God's presence and peace, and ask for continued healing and restoration to body, mind, and spirit.
- ❖ *Prayer & Bulletin updates, contact Church Elder Chris Miller, or Church Secretary Pat O'Connor (757-874-0794) (warwickrvermc@gmail.com).*



As WRMC enters the final two weeks of the 2025 budget year, we invite you to prayerfully consider tithing and giving as you are willing & able. Your faithfulness and generosity have carried us this far and with grateful hearts, and God's grace, we thank you for your continued interest & support of the ministry of Warwick River Mennonite Church.

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

Happy Birthday!

Dec 21	Kathryn Baer
Dec 22	Gabriella Davis
Dec 23	Graham Wagner
Dec 24	Micah Shenk
Dec 27	Theresa Siebels
	Delma Brenneman
Jan 3	Rachael Shenk
Jan 4	Will Siebels
Jan 5	Nelson Baer
Jan 7	John Cassel
	Ricky Dillon

Happy Anniversary!

Jan 6	Adam & MaryDawn Carrier
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*The Lord Himself is our first and greatest gift.
Rejoice in the Lord Always.*

Upcoming Events

WRMC OFFICE CLOSED: Dec. 24, 25, 26, 31, Jan 1
Always closed Mondays

- ❖ *Today, Dec 21st* Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent
9:30 Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
Fellowship Christmas Meal follows Worship Service
WRMC Council Meeting follows fellowship meal
- ❖ *Wed., Dec 24* 9:00pm WRMC Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
WRMC Sanctuary
- ❖ *Thurs., Dec. 25th* Merry Christmas (no services today)
- ❖ *Sun., Dec. 28th* 10:40 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
- ❖ *Wed., Dec. 31st* New Years Eve
- ❖ *Thurs., Jan. 1st* Happy New Year

Announcements

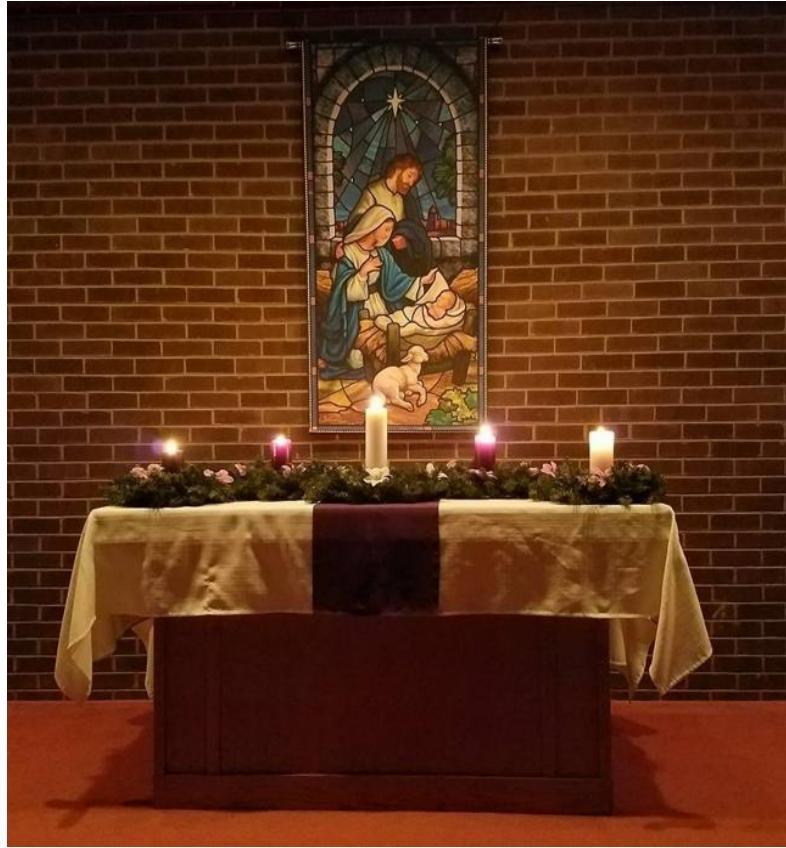
TODAY: Dear participants: remember to take your flower home with you December 21st or 24th and thank you for the joy you shared with your church family.

THE POINSETTIAS that adorn the Sanctuary during the Christmas season are provided in remembrance and in honor of those who have filled our lives with love and joy.

Thank you for participating and the dedications made. Merry Christmas!

THRIVE FOOD PANTRY MOST NEEDED THIS MONTH:

Jelly, Broth, Canned Fruit, Baking items/mixes,
Pop-top meals, Hamburger Helper



🌟 You're Invited to Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 🌟

December 24, 2025 at 9 p.m., in the Sanctuary of the
Warwick River Mennonite Church

Join us for a peaceful and intimate evening as we gather by
candlelight to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

We'll hear the scriptures that tell the Christmas story,
sing cherished carols, and reflect together on the
hope, peace, and joy Christ brings.

Bring your family and friends and
step into a quiet, sacred moment—a time to rest, remember, and
welcome the light of Christ
this holy night.