



**Welcome
to
Warwick River Mennonite Church**

250 Lucas Creek Road, Newport News, VA 23062

Phone: 757-874-0794

Email: warwickrivermc@gmail.com

Website: www.warwickrivermennonite.org



We are an Anabaptist Christian congregation of Mennonite Church USA
emphasizing peace, community and following Jesus Christ

~~~ Sept. 13, 2026 ~~~

|                                          |                       |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sunday School (in person):               | 9:30 -10:30 AM        |
| Coffee Connect (virtual):                | 10:00 AM              |
| Worship Service (in person and virtual): | 10:40 AM              |
| Coffee Connect (in person):              | After worship service |

*Recorded Sermons available at [www.warwickrivermennonite.org](http://www.warwickrivermennonite.org)*

*Serving Today:*

Worship Leader: Mackenzie Butler Shenk  
Song Leader: Noah Shenk  
Reader: Jackie Zimmerman  
Zoom Host: Rachael Shenk

# Gathering

## Welcome and Gathering

Today's focus statement: *Shalom grows out of covenant—right relationships with our creator, ourselves, each other, the land, and all other creatures. As God's faithful love takes root in our lives, communities, and places, Christ draws us to cooperate across dividing lines, for the flourishing of our common home.*

## Song of Gathering

### Call to Worship

You are not alone.

You are:

a creature within creation, a part of a whole,  
with a story to share, and a covenant to keep.

And we do not worship alone.

We are:

a community within creation, a part of God's story,  
summoned by God's faithfulness to be faithful to each other.

Together, let us worship  
for the sake of our common life—  
a life that leads to shalom.

## Song of Praise

# Confession

Leader: God of covenant, God of promise:

**All:**     ***We come to you in a spirit of humility,  
knowing that we have not always embodied  
your love and shalom  
through our relationships with ourselves,  
our neighbors, and creation.***

# Assurance

 (based on Ephesians 2:14–22)

Leader: Christ is our peace—the embodiment of reconciliation.  
He has taken down the backyard fences,  
opened the streets for a neighborhood block party!

**All:**     ***We are no longer strangers passing on the sidewalk,  
but neighbors working together for the common good.***

Leader: Look—Christ is already at work,  
building a community garden!

He has rolled up his sleeves;

He's turning the compost.

**All:**     ***People of all ages, all walks of life,  
are drawn into this place,  
a habitat for all in the heart of our neighborhood.***

### ***Song of Preparation***

## **Hearing God's Word**

Scripture Reading:     Isaiah 55:3–5

Matthew 5:17–20

Excerpts from “Climate Change and the healing of Creation”

Author: Steven P. Pardini, PHD, MDiv

## **Responding to Worship**

### ***Hymn of Response***

Sermon/message response

Sharing of blessings and concerns

Offertory prayer and giving

Sharing of announcements

## **Sending**

### ***Song of Sending***

### **Sending**

Leader: Life abounds and fulfills us  
when we live by and for one another.

As we go, may we go together,  
faithful to God and each other  
so that all of us may flourish  
within this community of creation.

**All:**     ***May we serve as witnesses to God's shalom  
through all our relationships that form upon this earth,  
our common home. Amen.***

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## **Prayer Requests**

- ❖ **Pray for Sarah Parker Wilde's family** at the time of her passing. Sarah was a member of this congregation and served as Drama teacher at WRCS.
- ❖ **Pray for people in our community** that cannot join us in person.
- ❖ Prayer and bulletin updates, contact Church Elder Chris Miller, or Church Administrator Cheri Shenk (757-874-0794) ([warwickrivermc@gmail.com](mailto:warwickrivermc@gmail.com)).

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Sun., Sept. 13 9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:40 AM Sunday Worship Service
- ❖ Tues., Sept. 15 4-6 PM WRMC Community Prayer Drop-in  
(outdoors in front of Warwick River Christian school)
- ❖ Sun., Sept. 20 11:00 AM Joint Worship Service at WCRC for Eastern  
District Congregations (see brochure on literature table)  
10:00 AM Joint Choir Practice (all are invited to join)
- ❖ Fri/Sat., Oct 2-3 Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale – Rockingham Co Fair Ground
- ❖ Sun., Oct 4 Congregational/Organization Discussion with Ryan Ahlgrim

Announcements

- **New mailing address for Katie Fannin:** 1280 Mt. Clinton Pike, Harrisonburg, VA 22802
- **Council and worship commission** seek someone to lead activities with community involvement .
- **WRC school** has used books to be delivered to Harrisonburg. Contact the school, 757-877-2941, for additional information.
- **Mennonite Women of Virginia** – Annual Fall Retreat Oct. 30 – Nov. 1 See brochures on the literature table.

Giving and Receiving

Sept. 6th Report:                      Worship Service attendance: 22

*Thank you for your continued gifts to God and Church. We are committed to faithful stewardship of every gift entrusted to us. We are grateful for your continued interest in and support of the ministry of Warwick River Mennonite Church.*

[Donate \(paypal.com\)](#)

**Contact Us:** The church administration office is open Tues. and Thurs., from 9am to 1pm. Office contact information is listed at the top of this bulletin. Contact information for church leaders is listed here.

|                                        |              |                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Steve Wiebe-Johnson, Pastor            | 574-849-2021 | <a href="mailto:wrmcpastor01@gmail.com">(wrmcpastor01@gmail.com)</a>                   |
| MaryDawn Carrier, Congregation Chair   | 757-218-8137 | <a href="mailto:wrmccongregationchair@gmail.com">(wrmccongregationchair@gmail.com)</a> |
| Chris Miller, Elder & Council Co-Chair | 757-879-6659 | <a href="mailto:wrmcelderchris@gmail.com">(wrmcelderchris@gmail.com)</a>               |
| Adam Carrier, Stewardship Chair        |              | <a href="mailto:wrmcstewardship@gmail.com">(wrmcstewardship@gmail.com)</a>             |
| Don Brunk, Worship Chair               | 610-787-0823 | <a href="mailto:dhbrunk@hillmeadow.net">(dhbrunk@hillmeadow.net)</a>                   |
| Twila Blume, Member-At-Large           |              | <a href="mailto:wrmcmemberatlarge1@gmail.com">(wrmcmemberatlarge1@gmail.com)</a>       |

**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*

Front page image: Warwick River at Denbigh Park Boat Ramp taken by John Ovington

**September 20th**  
**11:00A.M.**

## *The Call to Small*

**A joint worship service and potluck lunch of the Eastern District  
Congregations**

**September 20<sup>th</sup> 11am**

**Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center, under the pavilion**

As a way of encouraging one another and strengthening our mission together as God's church, we call on all congregations of the Eastern District to suspend services on the morning of September 20th and join together for worship, food, and fellowship. Be inspired by contemporary and traditional songs, children's time and ministry stories from around the district. An offering will be taken to cover costs, and all excess offerings will go to WCRC. All are invited to participate in a joint choir that will practice at 10am.

Following the worship service, join us for a Potluck Lunch! **(Please note we won't have electricity or refrigeration available on-site.)** Your treasured non-perishable dishes in generous portions to share, your

cheerful presence, and our shared memories will make this gathering truly special! **Practical tip:** Don't forget to bring serving utensils and label your dishes for the benefit of those with food allergies as well as for those who prefer vegan options.

*Please join us !*

Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center  
9275 Barnes Rd, Toano, VA 23168

<https://www.wcrc.info/wp-content/uploads/attachments/groundsmap.pdf>

