

The Connection

Faith Sharing from The United Church of Warsaw

Volume 6, No. 9—September 2017



The United Church of Warsaw

Serving God's People with Love.

Dear friends and members of our family of faith:

As summer slips into autumn, God's blessings are asked for you and your families.

In September, our family of faith will: (1) conclude **Summer Music by the Steeple**; (2) participate in **Homecoming Sunday, Blessing of the Choir, Back-to-School Supply Drive** and **Potluck Luncheon**, all on the same Sunday; (3) host an **Open House** of our refurbished Food Pantry; (4) share in the **Blessing of the Teachers**; (5) enter into a **new season of sermons**; and (6) finalize plans for **Storytelling by the Steeple** on October 14.

Throughout September, we will gather in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Starting the second Sunday in September and continuing on the third and fourth Sundays, we will engage in a 14-sermon series on "**For Everything There Is Season**," based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. On September 3, we will conclude our "**Better...than Proverbs**" sermons, celebrate **The Feast for All Sinners and Saints** and bring non-perishable goods for our **Sharing-the-Light Food Collection**. On September 10, we will celebrate **Homecoming Sunday**, begin our "**For Everything There Is a Season**" sermon series, and conduct a **Blessing of the Choir**, whose members will return this Sunday from their Summer Hiatus. After worship, we will collect donations for our **Back-to-School Supply Drive** (to benefit Warsaw Central School students and teachers) and then gather in Fellowship Hall for our **Homecoming Potluck Luncheon**. On September 17, we will conduct a **Blessing of Teachers** (Sunday School, full-time, part-time and retired). On September 24, we will celebrate the **Sacrament of Baptism**.

During September, members of the **F.A.C.E. (Faith And Caring Encounter) Group** will participate in **Sunday Morning Ministries**. On September 17, we will have our Annual **Walk-a-Warsaw**, from the church to Tim Hortons for lunch and back to the church again.

Every Sunday, the **Prayer Challenge** invites a new member of our faith community to engage in a seven-day prayer exercise in order to stretch and strengthen their spiritual life.

Reminder:

Storytelling by the Steeple, on Saturday, October 14, at 7 p.m., in our sanctuary, when we will present an evening of storytelling and music, presented by **five storytellers** from our community and **five flutists** from Windsong Ensemble.

Through August of 2017, we remain immensely thankful for God's faithfulness and for the generosity of our family of faith. **Committed Gifts and Free Offerings** have kept us well on pace with our **Church Budget**. From June 21 to August 31, our **Step-Up Campaign** reached its goal of \$6000. Heart-felt gratitude goes to all who participated in the **Step-Up Campaign!** The "**Fortify Our Food Pantry**" Campaign re-surges with our "**Ten for the Pantry**" Collection during September, designated as "Hunger Action Month." For your support of time, talent, prayers and material resources, may you know God's deepest blessings.

God be with you till we meet again.



A Shove from the Dove

Beside you in the journey of faith,
Rev. Dr. Barbara Therese

Interview: Food Pantry Coordinator

Earlier in 2017, to fulfill its mission and through Commission-approved recommendation, the Warsaw Food Pantry embarked in different directions in its operations. On a temporary basis, Mrs. Cindy Kiel was called to serve as Interim Coordinator of the Food Pantry.

After five months in an interim capacity, Cindy has been called to serve as Coordinator of the Food Pantry. During the past five months, Cindy has overseen: our on-going “Fortify Our Food Pantry Campaign”; significant upgrades to the Food Pantry's physical facility; sizable increase in volunteers; and, expanded communications in local publications.

An Open House of our freshly renovated Warsaw Food Pantry is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, at 4-7 p.m., to which members of our faith community, residents of Wyoming County and representatives from area newspapers are invited to attend.

In advance of the Open House, Cindy was interviewed and asked three questions:

Interviewer: *What do you see as a primary mission of any food pantry in any community?*

Cindy: Providing food to individuals and families in need.

Interviewer: *What do you see as a primary mission of the Warsaw Food Pantry within Wyoming County?*

Cindy: (1) Honoring what we, as followers of Christ, are called to do: to feed the hungry; (2) providing healthy food to individuals and families in need; (3) respecting the dignity of each person who comes to the Food Pantry; (4) serving all who come to the Food Pantry, either with food and/or referrals to other agencies; (5) encouraging Food Pantry clients to make healthy food choices and to lead healthier lives; and (6) building community among Food Pantry staff members and volunteers and with Food Pantry clientele.

Interviewer: *How did you experience your “calling” to serve in the Warsaw Food Pantry?*

Cindy: I like to help people. Helping people in need is what I believe God calls me to do. Serving in the Warsaw Food Pantry allows me to serve God and to help others.



Serving All of Wyoming County
Housed at The United Church of Warsaw
10-22 South Main Street, P.O. Box 205, Warsaw, NY 14569
(518) 738-3468

**All are invited
to the
Warsaw Food Pantry
Open House!
Wednesday, September 13
4 - 7 p.m.**

10 South Main Street, Warsaw

Tour our newly renovated Food Pantry facility
and discover how the Food Pantry helps those
in need throughout Wyoming County.

***Free Food Samples & Recipes**

***Games & Drawings**

***CJ Country will broadcast live**

Proud Member of



We benefit from



Clerk's Corner

Notes from Clerk of Commission, Lance Bush
Highlights of Commission Meeting of August 7, 2017

- Based on **Financial Reports** for June and July, Church Treasurer Bob Cummins observed that, given a faithful flow of **Committed Gifts and Free Offerings**, our Church Budget continues to show **strong fiscal health**. On a **quarterly** basis, future monthly **Financial Reports** will also **reflect** status of: **Endowment, Scholarship Fund and Reserves**.
- Enthusiastic response to “**Step-Up Campaign**” has resulted in our financial goal being met. Based on their current contract work, **Davis Concrete will begin** restoration work on outside steps and sidewalks of church in **mid-October**.
- **Church Directory** of members and friends is due **to be updated in 2018**.
- **Family of Rev. John Mair donated a newer piano**, now placed in **Miller Chapel**. On January 14, 2018, when Sunday worship moves from sanctuary to the chapel, piano will be dedicated. Piano formerly in Miller Chapel has been moved to new Choir Room, across the hall from the Chapel.
- Church member **Joe Robinson will lead a one-day seminar on issues related to death and dying**. Seminar, date to be decided, will be open to public.
- **Sunday Morning Ministries need two ushers**, rather than four, on Sundays.
- A bright blue **WELCOME banner, designed by Lisa Johnson and provided by Jean Burrows**, now **flies in front of the Church on Sunday mornings**. Heart-felt thanks to Lisa and Jean!
- As requested by the Congregational Care Committee, the **Birthday/Anniversary List will be updated** to reflect current members and friends.

Warsaw Food Pantry has undergone changes in operations and remodeling. An **Open House** for the newly renovated **Warsaw Food Pantry** is set for **Wednesday, September 13, from 4-7 p.m.** The public is invited.

2017 Membership Survey: Results

Early in 2017, surveys were mailed to friends and members of The United Church of Warsaw. The purpose of this survey was to determine in which sorts of activities our family of faith was interested. Survey participants were asked to rate their favorites on a scale of 1 (Little interest) to 5 (Very interested). The results have been collected and tallied.

The following top ten activities were identified:

Survey Results

Movie Nights—4.4 out of 5	More Hymns/more verses—3.8 out of 5
Potluck Sundays—4.3 out of 5	Recording Sermons—3.7 out of 5
Outside Worship—4.1 out of 5	Mother's Day Tea— 3.5 out of 5
Participation community events—3.9 out of 5	Craft Groups—3.4 out of 5
Adult Christian Education—3.9 out of 5	Adult Book Study —3.3 out of 5

Lisa Johnson, member of the Ministry Committee, assembled the original survey and compiled the final results. Lisa thanks members of our family of faith for their input. With questions about survey results or if interested in participating in any of the activities noted, please contact Lisa: (cell) 585-704-8358.

**The United Church of Warsaw
Presbyterian (U.S.A.) and
United Church of Christ
(Congregational)
10-22 South Main Street
PO Box 205
Warsaw, NY 14569**

Worship Service: Sundays at 10 a.m.
Sunday School 10:20 a.m.
Please join us! All are welcome!
585-786-3868
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www.ucwarsaw.org
www.Facebook.com\UnitedChurchof Warsaw



September 2017 Acolyte Schedule

September 3	Weston Kirsch
September 10	Russell Broughton
September 17	Katie Fisher
September 24	Mason Johnson

September Events at The United Church of Warsaw

September 3 at 10 a.m.	“Better...than Proverbs” Sermon #6 Feast for All; Sharing-the-Light Food Collection “Better to be poor than to be a liar” (Proverbs 19:22)
September 10 at 10 a.m.	Homecoming Sunday; Blessing of the Choir “For Everything There Is a Season” Sermon #1 (Eccl. 3:2a) Back-to-School Supply Drive
At 11:30 a.m.	Homecoming Potluck – Bring a dish to pass; in Fellowship Hall
September 11 at 6:30 p.m.	Commission Meeting in East Room
September 13 at 4-7 p.m.	Open House of Warsaw Food Pantry
September 17 at 10 a.m.	Blessing of the Teachers “For Everything There Is a Season” Sermon #2 (Eccl. 3:2b)
September 24 at 10 a.m.	Sacrament of Baptism “For Everything There Is a Season” Sermon #3 (Eccl. 3:3a)
At 11:30 a.m.	F.A.C.E. Group: Walk-a-Warsaw to Tim Hortons for lunch