

The Connection

News from
The United Church of Warsaw



Who We Are:

The United Church of Warsaw is called by the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus Christ through loving and serving God and all God's people.

Volume 5, No. 7– July 2016



Reflections from 'The Rev'

Change of Light, Change of Sight

The month of July is upon us.

The month when thunderstorms and lightning bolts descend upon Western New York with greater frequency and striking effectiveness.

The month of July sees more power outages than other months due to electrical storms that disrupt the supply of electrical power...

...and our lights go out.

Sometimes the ensuing darkness is temporary. Often the darkness is inconvenient.

But always the darkness can be “revealing.”

The author/cartoonist/song-writer Shel Silverstein composed an insightful poem, which appears in his book, *Where the Sidewalk Ends*. The words of his poem--”No Difference--call to each of us:

*Small as a peanut,
Big as a giant,
We're all the same size
When we turn off the light.*

*Rich as a sultan,
Poor as a mite,
We're all worth the same
When we turn off the light.*

*Red, black or orange,
Yellow or white,
We all look the same
When we turn off the light.*

*So maybe the way
To make everything right
Is for God to just reach out
And turn off the light!*

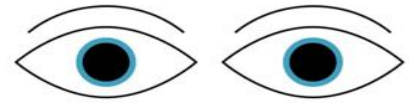


And God does figuratively reach out and turn off the light when God calls to us, “Be loved by Me. Then be loving to others.” The writer of the Letters of John affirms this holy message: *God is love. Those who abide in love also abide in God, and God abides in them.* (1 John 4:16)

The greatest commands are also the simplest: Be loved. Be loving.

Beside you in the journey of faith,
Rev. Barbara

***Through Financial Eyes: A Second-Quarter Review
within Our Family of Faith***



The month of July marks the start of the third quarter of the 2016 Annual Budget of The United Church of Warsaw. The following is an overview of second-quarter highlights:

A mild spring, from April through June, helped to decrease the expected heating costs for our church facility. Actual costs for fuel oil and gas fell below budgeted allotments.

During the same three months of April through June, income from Committed Gifts and Free Offerings fell behind our budgeted amount. To continue to serve fully our faith community and our greater community, we invite our church members and friends to give joyfully and faithfully to the life and work of our church.

Love, generosity and faithfulness are the gifts of the Spirit that guide and inspire us to serve God and God's people. Gratitude to all and for all that is given remain at the heart of our family of faith as we seek to be faithful with who we are and with what we have.



***Leaving a Legacy
Please plant seeds for the future
through a bequest to The United Church of Warsaw***

- The generosity and foresight of you—the members of the family of faith of The United Church of Warsaw—can ensure that your church will have financial means to carry out its missions in the future.
- The Endowment Fund of The United Church of Warsaw can be supported through your planned gifts (bequests, designated donations, etc.)
- The power of planned gifts is that they grow over time and that they enable donors to serve the needs of others in perpetuity.
- Providing a planned gift to The United Church of Warsaw ensures your continuing gift or final gift of generosity. A planned gift from you helps to ensure your church's ongoing financial strength and ability to fulfill its missions.
- How can you begin? Simply work with your financial adviser or your attorney to:
 - Plan for your family's needs
 - Plan for your own future needs
 - Learn how you may use your remaining assets to create a lasting legacy

Please consider including The United Church of Warsaw in your estate plans.

If you would like to discuss further the possibility of a planned gift for The United Church of Warsaw, please contact Rev. Barbara at the Church Office: 585-786-3868.

*Legacy...
what is left behind through
the actions of a lifetime...*

Prayer Challenge

Power of Prayer: We believe that each and every one of us has experienced the power of prayer in our own lives. According to the Bible, the power of prayer is, quite simply, the power of God, who hears and answers prayer.

The power of prayer comes from the omnipotent One who hears our prayers and answers them. Prayer places us in contact with Almighty God, and we should expect almighty results, whether or not He chooses to grant our petitions or deny our requests. Whatever God's answer to our prayers, the God to whom we pray is the source of the power of prayer, and He can and will answer us, according to His perfect will and timing.

Matthew 7:7 - "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

Matthew 21:22 - "And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."



Beginning on Sunday, July 3, we invite our church family to participate in a **Prayer Challenge**. No ice or water involved, we promise.

We have a Prayer Box with three prayers:

- One prayer for our church and church family
- One for our community.
- One for our nation

- The challenge is for one family member to take the Prayer Box home and pray the three prayers each day for one week.
- Bring the box back the following Sunday.
- Hand the box off to another church family member with the **Prayer Challenge** to pray the three prayers each day for one week .
- Continue to pass this **Prayer Challenge** on each week, either before or after our worship service on Sunday morning.

We believe that everything is possible with God, and everything is impossible without God. The world is in great need of God's strength, hope, guidance, faith and, above all, love. As God's children, we can "ask." We can make a positive difference!

Thanks to all, Your friends in Christ

The Ministry Committee: Jean Burrows and Sherry Cousins



Summer Music Opportunities

Summer has dawned! The season is upon us for special music in our sanctuary on Sunday mornings!

Our Adult Choir takes a "sacred Sabbath" during July and August. If you—or someone you know—want to share gifts of music (either vocal or instrumental) on Sunday morning, please add your name to the Summer Music Sign-Up placed in the East Room during the Time of Fellowship on Sunday mornings.

Questions? Kindly call Lynn Saxton (585-786-8527) or Sherry Cousins (585-322-5128).

This summer, make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Acolytes for July



July 3	Lauren Howard
July 10	Katie Fisher
July 17	Mason Johnson
July 24	Ben Myers
July 31	Emily Howard

F.A.C.E. Group: Words and Songs and Bells, Oh My!

Faith is not a creed or list of beliefs.

Faith is God's love that is spoken and sung and chimed and, most importantly, lived.



In the month of June, the youth of our congregation moved beyond mouthing the phrase "I believe...." Instead, members of the **F.A.C.E. Group** (i.e., Faith And Caring Encounter Group) spoke words of faith, sung songs of faith, chimed bells of faith and lived out acts of faith. On June 1, Aiden Snyder faithfully helped to serve at the Free Community Meal sponsored by our family of faith. On June 5, Emanuel Garcia-Myers shared aloud his faith-filled message, "Where I See God." On the same day, youthful voices sang out lyrics of faith. On June 19, Joe Fisher chimed out 50 tolls of a memorial bell to honor the 50 lives lost in the Orlando shooting. On Sunday mornings throughout June, **F.A.C.E. Group** members served as Acolytes and as Communion Servers.

The **F.A.C.E. Group** members, their families and Rev. Barbara are tremendously grateful to friends and members of The United Church of Warsaw for their prayerful and material support. At the same time, they feel blessed for the many choices offered them whereby they may speak, sing, chime and live their ever-growing faith.

***Free Community Meal: Mission Attempted
and Mission Accomplished***

Dear family of faith:

What an inspirational scene of faithfulness and fellowship unfolded on Wednesday evening, June 1, at St. Michael's Parish Hall in Warsaw, New York!

Members of the Warsaw community came to be nourished by a warm meal and warm fellowship.

Members of our family of faith provided wholesome food and caring companionship.

Organized by our Mission Committee members, Linda Demers and Linda Thomas, our own faith community served the greater community of Warsaw with generous hospitality.

To the following individuals, I extend my heart-felt thanks for providing food and/or for helping to set up and serve the Community Meal: Jean Burrows, Lance Bush, George Ann Carter, Ellen Chandler, Sherry Cousins, Elva Crawford, Gloria Crawford, Linda Demers, Bill and Jane Heubusch, Gabrielle Henry, Betty James, Marilyn Kibler, Mark and Tammy Pickard, Aiden Snyder, Linda Thomas and Donna Werner.

What a joy it was to serve beside these people in a faith-filled feast on a Wednesday evening!

Ever gratefully,

Rev. Barbara

***Thank You
from June
Hayden***



To family and friends of the United Church of Warsaw:

With sincere appreciation for your thoughtfulness. Thank you for all your prayers for my cousin Violet. God always has a plan for us. May God bless you.

Sincerely,
June Hayden

***Thank You from
Ruth Klopfer***

Dear United Church Family,

Thanks again for the nice cards you send me.

I'm looking forward to June 19th because I'm hopefully attending the United Church of Warsaw on that day: Living Testimony Sunday.



God bless,
Ruth Klopfer

Clerk's Corner

Notes from Clerk of Commission, Lance Bush
Highlights from Commission Meeting of June 13, 2016



Special features for our upcoming summer worship music were announced:

- Gary Murphree (guitarist who specializes in gospel music) will provide the music for July 3.
- "Windsong" (quartet of flutists) will perform on July 17.
- Gabby Henry (soloist) will offer Christmas music on July 24 for "Christmas in July."
- "Hymn and Her" (duet of Bob and Kathy Baldwin) are scheduled for August 14.

A weekly Bible Study program is scheduled to begin in the evening of September 27, the last Tuesday in September. The study group will follow the book, *Every Step a Prayer*. In August, a sign-up sheet to attend the Bible Study and to purchase the book will be available. The Bible Study will be open to the community to participate.

The Facilities Committee is collecting estimates to repair or replace the front (cement) steps of the North Church.

Facilities Supervisor, Ted LaWall, thanked the Congregational Care Committee and church members for all that was done for his family at the time of the passing of his mother, Catherine (Kit) LaWall Jenkins.

The annual Strawberry Social is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. Promotional ads will be placed in local publications and on radio station WCJW.

The Commission will be on summer hiatus until August 1. The next "Clerk's Corner" article will appear in the September newsletter.

Warsaw Food Pantry



We helped 148 families in May. We had 211 adults, 120 children and 47 seniors for a total of 378.

Food donations were received from the following:

Our United Church of Warsaw congregation	Immanuel United Methodist Church
St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church	Dorothy Keenan
Valley Chapel Free Methodist Church	First United Methodist Church
Warsaw Central Elementary Student Council	
Warsaw Community and Postal Workers through Stamp Out Hunger Program	

Monetary donations totaling \$745.00 were received from the following:

Dennis and Lucy Krajewski	Jim and Nancy Herman
Family Life Church	Joann Seewaldt (of Walmart)

Share your garden harvest!

The Warsaw Food Pantry welcomes donations of fresh fruits and vegetables. Our hours are Monday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and, the last Thursday of each month, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. You may also bring your garden harvest donations to church on Sunday mornings.

Thank you to everyone for your continuing support of the Food Pantry.

Joyce Neeley, Director

Congregational Care MINISTRIES

Written by George Ann Carter

After Memorial Day, many of us begin to think in “summer mode.” But once the Summer Solstice (June 20) comes and goes, all of us look to slowing down and to the rest and relaxation that may come with summer. Rest and relaxation come in many forms: traveling to new places, spending time with family and friends at home or in vacation locales, reading a good book, sitting by an outdoor fire, getting involved with our hobbies, and, for those of us who are able, getting away from our “day job.”

For those who relax by listening to the radio, you may want to tune to the “Family Life” channel (88.3 FM), which plays pleasant music, features stories, and offers spiritual advice about marriage, family and relationships..

Beginning in the first book of holy scripture and appearing in other chapters is a Biblical principle that all of God’s creatures must rest, even as God rested on the seventh day, following the work of creation. Loosening our grip on our lives and our worries and faithfully giving these burdens to God is an effective way to relax.

Slow down and “take time to smell the roses.” Rest is a necessity.

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Our gratitude to the following people:

Sunday School teachers Cindy Flint, Sarah Flint, Nora Fisher, Hans Kunze and Rev. Barbara Therese for their loving care and dedication to our young disciples;

Organist Marilyn Kibler, Choir Director Lynn Saxton, and Choir members Ellen Chandler, Gale and Sherry Cousins, James Diver, Cindy (Fisher) Flint, Betty James, Barb and Harry Litz, Tammy Pickard, Kate Sheer for sharing their musical talents with us;

Ellen Chandler, Hans Kunze, Ted LaWall, Linda Thomas, Brian Howard, Taylor Howard and friends for tending to our Memorial Garden;

The many individuals who provided food and/or worked at the Funeral Reception for Catherine LaWall Jenkins.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

For comfort, healing, peace, and strength: Willis Allen, Courtney Anderson, Sandy Clark, Sarah Ford, Kyle Lardner, Austin Saxton, Rich Saxton, Amy Stagner, Lee Stevenson, Ruth Stevenson, and the families of Ryan Almeter, Violet Butlak, Catherine LaWall Jenkins, Mallory McDanel, Dorothy Slocum, and Gayle Tiede

Residents of The Cloisters, 171 North Maple Street, Warsaw: Barb Conger, Hope Rase

Residents of Eastside Nursing Home, 62 Prospect Street, Warsaw: Arlene Baker, Lucille Carlson, Betty Mayle, Judy Plowe and Marjorie Yarrington



Sunday School students sing of their faith on Youth and Children Sunday.



Emanuel Garcia-Myers speaks of his faith on Youth and Children Sunday.



Sunday School Teachers are thanked for their faith-sharing on Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Sunday.

July Birthdays

1	Nora Fisher
3	Jacob Flint
4	William Heubusch
	Susan Johnson
7	William Schoff
9	Shirley Humphrey
	Pat Griffith
10	Kelsey James
12	Bonnie Wass
13	Grace Miller
18	Anne Weidman
19	Braden Davies
22	Joe Hess
24	Elizabeth Wood
	Rob Henry
28	Carlee Fisher
	Vessa Fisher



July Anniversaries

6	Noelle and Kayla Folse	2013
18	Brad and Sarah Flint	2009
19	Gale and Sherry Cousins	1969
21	Jerry and Linda Schneckeburger	1973
22	John and Kate Sheer	1978
23	Kim and Kathy Humphrey	1976
25	Joe and Pam Hess	1981
31	Dave and Jean Bassett	1971



What's Happening?

Each week, check out the bulletin boards in The Connection to learn what's happening in our area churches and in our community.



Upcoming events include:

- ♦ Warsaw Fire Department's 4th of July Carnival, July 1-4
- ♦ Trinity Episcopal Church's Coffee Hour, July 6 at 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- ♦ Free Meal at St. Michael's Parish Hall, July 6 at 5 p.m.
- ♦ Angel Action's Divine Delights, Aug. 24

GRADUATION PARTY ANNOUNCEMENT

★ For **Melanie Anne Perkins** ★

Date: July 30, 2016

Time: 1:00 - ?? PM

Location: 2511 Blackhouse Road, Warsaw, NY
(Corner of Blackhouse Rd. & Old Buffalo Rd.)

Rsvp by calling 786-5432 or emailing
maplegrove2@gmail.com



★ Class of 2016 ★

Alfred State here I come!



Snackpaks for Kids

Thank you for all of your contributions to the Snackpak Program this past school year!



We will remind you when the Snackpak program resumes near the start-up of the 2016-2017 school year.

**The August Newsletter
Deadline is
Friday, July 15, 2016.**



**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
 ucwarsaw@frontiernet.net
 www.ucwarsaw.org



***Give your spirit a faith-lift in July
 at The United Church of Warsaw!***

Faith-Renewal Sessions on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary

July 3 – T-Shirt Sunday and Holy Communion
 Sermon—*Live by the Words That You Wear*
**Everyone is invited to wear a T-shirt
 that features a spiritual or uplifting message!**



July 10 – “Whatever!” Sermon #1 (Philippians 4:8)
 Sermon—*Whatever Is True?*

July 17 – Other Voices of Faith
 “Windsong” flutists to perform
 Sermon—*Welcome the Stranger among You*

July 24 – Christmas in July
 Sermon—*A Four-Letter Christmas Gift?*

July 31 – “Whatever!” Sermon #2 (Philippians 4:8)
 Sermon—*Whatever Is Honorable?*

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In July, jump-start your faith at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary!

