

# CROSS

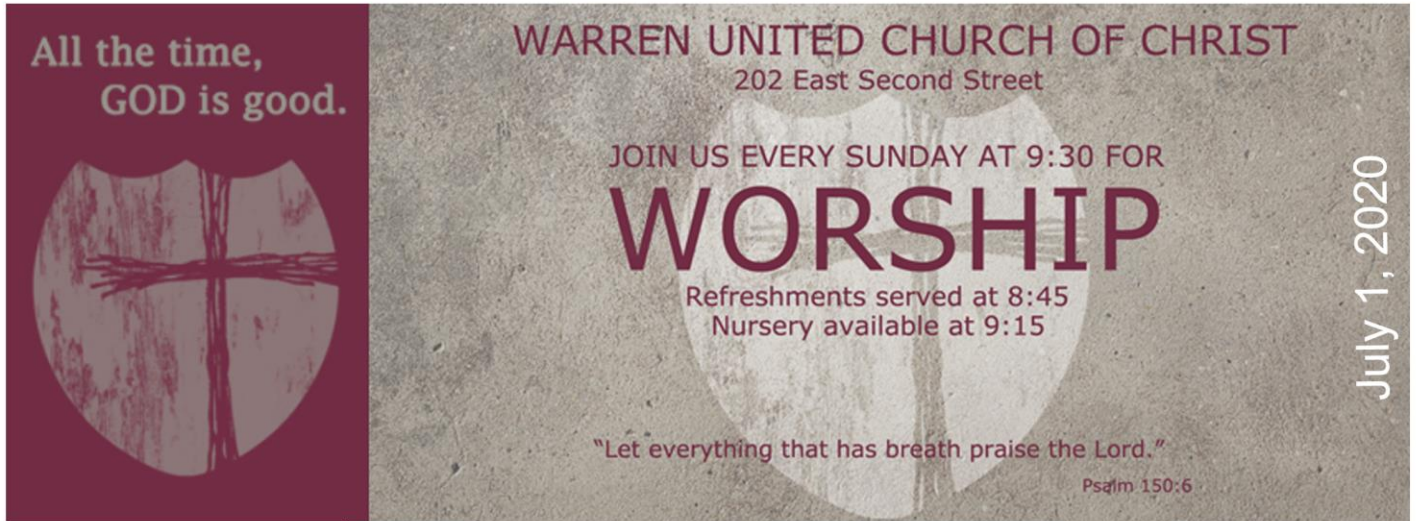


# WORDS

Volume 8, Number 7

A newsletter published by  
United Church of Christ, Warren IN

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All the time,  
GOD is good.

WARREN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
202 East Second Street

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:30 FOR  
**WORSHIP**  
Refreshments served at 8:45  
Nursery available at 9:15

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."  
Psalm 150:6

July 1, 2020

God bless



...land that I love.

## What Makes for an "Authentic" Christian?

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Let's take a look at five earmarks of authentic Christianity, taken from 1 John.

First, an authentic Christian confesses Jesus Christ as Lord. Christianity must begin with a verbal acknowledgment of Jesus Christ as the Lord of your life. The **Bible** says that even the demons believe and tremble. True Christians should be able to say that Jesus Christ is their Lord.

Second, if you are a true Christian, you will be unhappy or miserable when you're sinning. This doesn't mean you will never sin if you are a Christian. But there is a difference between recognizing that we will fail in some way, shape, or form in the future and going on a willful, continual track of sin. If you really are a child of God, you will have a sense of discomfort when you sin, because you know in your heart of hearts that what you are doing is wrong.

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Third, an authentic Christian enjoys fellowship with other believers. A true Christian will want to be around other Christians. Those who isolate themselves from other believers do so at their own peril, because the Bible tells us that it is important to get together, encourage one another, and correct one another. After all, why should God go to your house if you won't go to His? A lot of us want all of the fringe benefits of Christianity without applying ourselves.

Fourth, an authentic Christian obeys the commands of Jesus Christ. If you are a true believer, then you will obey the commands of Jesus Christ. I will not deny that the Bible is filled with so-called rules, but their purpose is not to make our lives miserable. Rather, they protect us from potential harm. The person who blatantly and continually breaks the commandments of God simply does not know Him.

Finally, an authentic Christian loves and obeys the Word of God. You cannot effectively live the Christian life without a love for, and obedience to, God's Word. All true disciples of Jesus Christ will be students of Scripture and will walk according to its teaching. This is vital to authentic Christian living, because the Bible is indeed the very textbook of life. Yet so many believers will not read the Bible. They don't realize that success or failure in the Christian life depends on how much of the Bible they get into their hearts and minds on a regular basis. We have to do it.

This is the vision that I have for all of us to truly practice and to realize that we are authentic Disciples of Christ. When the community thinks of Warren United Church of Christ they also think of how grounded, Biblically based, and authentic we are.

This will take effort on all of us, maybe even a little sacrifice as we read, study, and worship on this subject. But we can succeed in this endeavor. All of us need to be steadfast in our beliefs; there can be no more riding the fence.

It's my hope and prayer that all of you have a happy and safe July 4<sup>th</sup>. Take time to reflect and thank the Lord for the freedoms that we have.

God bless!!

Pastor Troy and Mindy Drayer



Warren United Church of Christ  
Presents.....

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE



Youth Ages ~ PreK-8th Grade  
Every Wednesday Evening  
6:30 - 7:30 PM

Location: 202 East Second Street

**WORSHIP GOD, HAVE FUN, MEET NEW FRIENDS  
JOIN US!**



Dear Youth families,

Here we are getting ready to celebrate July 4<sup>th</sup>!!! Our summer is moving right along.

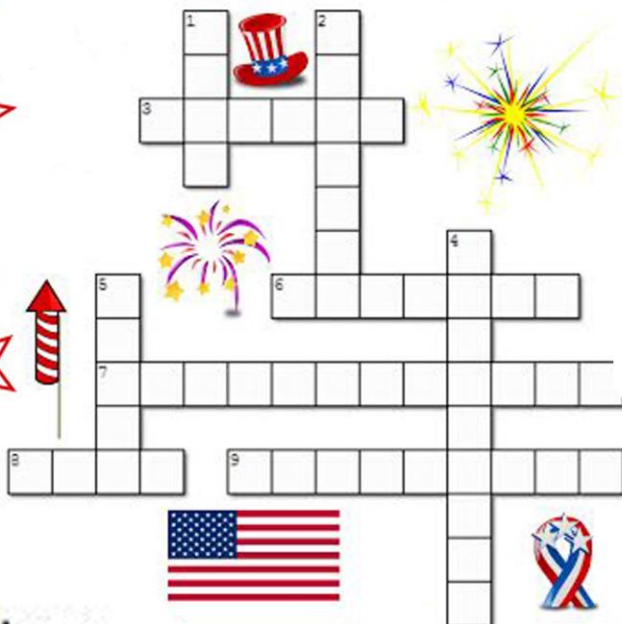
We are really excited about our online VBS. It's definitely a little different this year, but still a great way to learn about Jesus. We will be watching on Wednesday nights at our normal youth time. We are super excited about the Carnival at Hillcrest Nazarene Church on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> to celebrate the end of VBS. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!**

Navigating this pandemic has been quite a challenge for all our families. Helping our children continue to learn, continue to trust in all the uncertainty and continue to grow in their spiritual walk has been a huge responsibility for our parents. Great job....Parents 😊 God has provided opportunities for you to step up to the plate and be creative, steady-fast and great Christ-like examples.

Continue to have a great summer!

Blessing, Pastor Troy and Mindy.

## 4th Of July Crossword Puzzle



O O  
O W  
L Y V P  
T F L H  
A E Z G I P  
U D W D W K  
D P B H B K J Y L R I Y M X K K G G R N  
E I A O W B F I R E W O R K S X X V F W  
D O T O N Q A R D S T A R S A S X I  
B H R M W H I T E R B Z W K I F  
H U I N D E P E N D E N C E  
M J O P Q L K Y W R D H  
K X U G T A F M S L R B A G  
F M L U J I X J P P B A L C  
T S P Y G A V C Y N E A Z A U P  
L K D O V H G Q I V R Q P E  
W L O N B P V V R H K C T Z  
M O M M D Z H L Z Q U R  
S F H A N E D X  
A F

BLUE - RED - WHITE - FIREWORKS - FOOD - BBQ - PATRIOTIC - STARS - POP  
SPARKLE - JULY- INDEPENDENCE - BOOM

**Across**

- It's a hot \_\_\_\_\_ day.
- We live in the United States Of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The 4th of July is \_\_\_\_\_ Day.
- We celebrate the 4th of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Someone who loves and supports America is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Down**

- Our flag is red, white and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Soldiers fight for our \_\_\_\_\_.
- There is a \_\_\_\_\_ show on the beach.
- Chicken and burgers are cooking on the \_\_\_\_\_.



The search committee has met with the In/Ky Conference and has followed their recommendations for hiring a new pastor. They have met several times to answer questions on our church profile and to follow the steps outlined by the conference. The members of the search committee along with the support from the WUCC Administrative Board have interviewed Pastor Troy Drayer and would like to recommend to the congregation that he be considered as the new WUCC Pastor. A pastoral contract has been submitted and approved by the board and has been presented and accepted by Pastor Troy. Our next step in the hiring process is to take this to the congregation for a vote to hire Pastor Troy. This vote will be held after service on Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. We encourage all who are able, to attend church and be present for the vote, but we do understand that some are unable to attend service due to Covid 19. We will have absentee ballots available upon request.

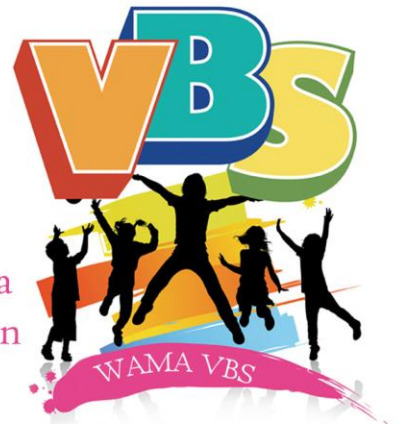
Absentee ballots must be requested by July 3<sup>rd</sup> and returned to the church no later than July 10<sup>th</sup> to be included in the count. If you would like to request an absentee ballot or have questions please contact the church office, 375-2102, or WUCC Moderator Jeff Souder, 375-6199. Thank you for your patience and support as we have went through this process and we are excited as we move through the final steps.

## WAMA VBS 2020 - ONLINE

**WAMA** VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



WAMA: Warren Area Ministerial Association



1 June 22nd: Online at 7:00pm  
Lesson: Jesus' Power Calms Our Worries

2 June 23rd: Online at 7:00pm  
Lesson: Jesus' Power Takes Action

3 June 24th: Online at 7:00pm  
Lesson: Jesus' Power Defeats the Grave

4 July 1st: Online at 7:00pm  
Lesson: Jesus' Power Calms Our Fears

5 July 8th: Online at 7:00pm  
Lesson: Jesus' Power Is Unexpected

6 July 15th: Online at 7:00pm  
Lesson: Jesus' Power Overcomes Loneliness

7 July 22nd: Online at 7:00pm  
Lesson: Jesus' Power Brings Hope

8 July 29th: Online at 7:00pm  
Lesson: Jesus' Power Lives In Us

9 August 1st: Carnival at Hillcrest Nazarene  
Time: 3:30 - 7:00pm [Subject to Change]

WAMA: Warren Area Ministry Association

VBS has begun but it's a little different this year. Sessions are posted on WAMA: Warren Area Ministerial Association Facebook page. So if you missed the first ones, they are still there to get you caught back up! They are designed to be interactive to watch together as a family. Another option is to join Mindy on Wednesday nights during youth group so your kids can watch with their WUCC friends and have some great discussions with Mindy. Youth group meets here at WUCC in the Fellowship Hall every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm. VBS is posted at 7pm on the dates listed. Hope you can join us for WAMA's new version of VBS. It's fun, entertaining, interactive and all about JESUS!!!

# WAMA

Warren Area Ministerial Association

## Community Service



Sunday Evening  
July 5th, 2020  
6:30 pm

Located on the stage at  
Riverside Park

Offering donation to WAMA.

Don't forget your chair or blanket for grass seating!

## prayer requests

*Waldo Knight  
Les Ackley  
Betty Parker  
Lou Ann Shafer  
Kyle Dahlquist  
Ann Jackson  
Taylor Reed  
Geri Zickafoose  
Elliott Culwell  
Sandy Eichhorn  
Ronny Sheets  
Martha Shafer  
Roselyn Poulson  
Deb Baker  
Ron Wartzok  
Dick Grove  
Butch Arbuckle  
Carol & Ray Yeiter  
Connie Mounsey  
Cindy Boxell  
Jerry & Jim Williams  
Rittenhouse Family  
Diltz Family*

## WUCC Contemporary Service

Every Wednesday Evening  
at 6:30 pm

Devotion with Pastor Troy  
Communion  
Praise Music  
Fellowship



WARREN  
United Church of Christ

All the time,  
GOD is good.



Enter to Worship,  
Depart to Serve

**WUCC Directory** - Sarah will be finishing up the directory soon. Please contact her if you would like to submit a new picture or have new updated information to include. Thanks!

WUCC Website  
[warrenucc.net](http://warrenucc.net)

Like us on  
**facebook**



**Stay Updated!**  
Sunday Services  
Live Stream  
9:30am

Warren United Church of Christ  
202 East Second Street  
PO Box 344  
Warren, IN 46792



Warren United Church of Christ  
202 East Second Street, PO Box 344, Warren, Indiana 46792  
Church Telephone: 260-375-2102  
Pastor Troy Drayer Cell Phone: 260-228-0064  
Church Email: [wucc@citznet.com](mailto:wucc@citznet.com)



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### How can I help?

Are you looking for a way to give back to the community? Want to help support WUCC with missions? Maybe you have free time that you'd like to put to good use? Here are a few ways you can reach out to the community or within the church. There are several ways you can contribute to our local Food Pantry. The first is by donating the item of the month. Through the month of July we are collecting Kleenex and Juice Boxes. You can drop them off in the collection bins Sunday morning or in the church office through the week. Another way is by volunteering your time. The Food Pantry is open on Wednesdays from 2-4 and 6-8. Our church is assigned weeks throughout the year to help. Our next scheduled day is August 5<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, monetary donations are always appreciated. We currently have an active Missions Committee which gives monthly support to the Bread of Life Food Pantry located in Warren as well as the Remnant Ministries located in Huntington. Other local support is given as needs arise. In June the Missions helped with a roof home repair for a local resident. Money collected for this project along with individual donations allowed the missions to give \$3000 to help complete the project. Any donations to our missions committee can be mailed to WUCC, PO Box 344, Warren In 46792. There are also many ways to contribute within the church by helping with the youth, become involved with Sisters In Faith or seeking out a position on a committee. Feel free to contact the church office for assistance in getting you set up to help in any of these areas of service.

# JULY

*vacation, all i ever wanted*

2020

General Offering

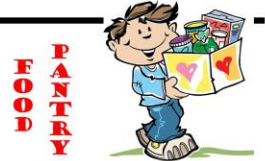
June ~ \$10,949

Average Attendance

Sunday ~ 36

Contemporary ~ 10

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1 Youth Group Contemporary Service 6:30pm	2	3	4 Independence Day 
5 Worship Service Communion 9:30am  Devin Suchicki Reaghan Bennett	6  Mason Jones Cammy Ackley	7	8 Youth Group Contemporary Service 6:30pm  Don Smith	9	10  Ed Clark	11  Jessica Stucky
12 Worship Service 9:30am	13	14  Anikah Eckert	15 Youth Group Contemporary Service 6:30pm	16  Dennis Stroud Craig Mounsey	17	18
19 Worship Service 9:30am  Byron & Danielle Martin Becky Souder Sam Jones	20  John & Janet Sneed	21 AB Board Meeting 6:30pm  Cash Wright Marvin Eltzroth	22 Youth Group Contemporary Service 6:30pm  Kelly Jones Diane Brooks Nicki Eckert	23	24  Dennis & Marcia Stroud	25
26 Worship Service 9:30am  Staccia Grover Grace Dimond	27  Santos Villanueva Braddock Rooks	28  Shane & Caitlin Wright	29 Youth Group Contemporary Service 6:30pm  Kevin & Carolyn Rittenhouse Mark Stucky Joe Shape	30	31  Alison Knight Margaret Knight	1



**FOOD  
PANTRY**

DONATE YOUR TIME TO  
THE FOOD PANTRY!

Wednesday, August 5th  
2-4pm & 6-8pm

We will be collecting  
Kleenex & Juice Boxes  
through July.