

CROSS



WORDS

Volume 9, Number 5

A newsletter published by
United Church of Christ, Warren IN

A church worship poster for May 1, 2021. The poster features a dark red vertical banner on the left with the text "All the time, GOD is good." and a circular image of a cross. The main background is a light, textured grey with a faint cross watermark. Text on the poster includes: "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", "May 1, 2021" (written vertically on the right), and a quote: "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." with "Psalm 150:6" below it.

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

May 1, 2021

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

The Monthly Word FROM PASTOR TROY

Prepping for heaven!

It's finally here, spring 2021. Time to clean up the outside of our homes. Cleaning our flower gardens, vegetable gardens, fallen branches, and those leaves from last fall that seem to find the darndest places to fit into. The Drayer's especially had a task before us as we tore out all our old bushes last fall. So, we have basically a blank slate to work with. But before we could plant or put down mulch, we had to repair the holes and mounds that pulling the bushes out caused. It was work, and we are not as young as we once were, so working on our landscape took it out of us.





prep·per

/ˈprepər/

Learn to pronounce

noun

NORTH AMERICAN

1. a person who believes a catastrophic disaster or emergency is likely to occur in the future and makes active preparations for it, typically by stockpiling food, ammunition, and other supplies.

Now I am not saying that this fits me or anyone at the church, but I do exhibit some of these tendencies. Is working towards heaven really any different? It is difficult work, exhausting, time consuming, and requires constant maintenance. As Christians this is something that should be always on our minds. Jesus told us in the Scriptures that following Him would take work, sacrifice, and maybe even alienating some of those around us. Here are words from an older song that sums it up quite well for me. The Christian music group, Truth wrote this song:

“If you could see me now.”

Our prayers have all been answered I finally arrived. The healing that had been delayed has now been realized. No one's in a hurry. There's no schedule to keep. We're all enjoying Jesus. Just sitting at His feet. If you could see me now, I'm walking streets of gold. If you could see me now, I'm standing tall and whole. If you could see me now, you'd know I've seen His face. If you could see me now, you'd know the pain is erased. You wouldn't want me to ever leave this place if you could only see me now.

Heaven is a real place. A place is being prepared for us there as the Scriptures say, but we are not entitled to heaven. We've been given responsibilities and God has expectations of us. There is work for us to do!

As we are prepping our landscaping, our yards, flower beds, and gardens let us also be in prep mode for heaven.

Now being prepared at home for the unexpected is not a bad idea, but we need to have a balance in being prepared and living life. Preparing for eternal life in heaven is where need to put our energy. We already have a manual for this the “Bible”, it gives us all we need to be successful.

It is my hope and prayer that this season finds you and your family prepping for our future with Jesus.

God bless!

Pastor Troy



YOUTH

Heading into May with some nice warm weather. In the month of April we were able to discuss the difference between immediate and delayed gratification and what that can mean in our daily lives as well as our future. Society is full of immediate gratification and it can be very easy to fall into bad habits. If we spend more time focusing on delayed gratification our lives will be better in the long run. We also discussed how suffering is a part of life. Jesus carried the cross for all of us and we must carry our own crosses every day. There have been great discussions overall on Wednesday nights.

We still have 10-12 children ranging from kindergarten age to 13 years old in attendance every Wednesday night. We are working on growing the youth group even more and getting our older teenagers to return. We are looking for volunteers to help us do this. A volunteer for youth group on Wednesday nights would only be expected to be an extra body to help keep the kids organized. Volunteers would not be expected to lead a children's sermon. If you are reading this and you are interested in helping with the youth please reach out!

MAKE
a difference

volunteer with
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Join us for our: FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE

Our May challenge is Graham Crackers!



YOU CAN
Worry
OR
Worship

Waldo Knight
Les Ackley
Jerry Williams
Wanda Campbell
Butch Arbuckle
Cammy Ackley
Carrie Miller
Joni Paxson

P
R
A
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R

**PUT THIS
on YOUR
CALENDAR!**

Community
VBS
July 5-9th

Upcoming WAMA
Community Services

Location: WUCC Fellowship Hall

5/19 Steven Spencer
6/16 Troy Drayer
7/21 Paul Burris

Salamonie Festival Parade
July 2nd, 7pm

July 4th, WAMA Service
Riverside Park



WUCC MISSION'S FUNDRAISER

Support the Mission's Committee
AND get a pie!

Orders need to be in by May 5th
\$10 per pie

Order form in Sanctuary or
Order by phone: 260-375-2102

thanks

FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Order pick up after June 5th
WUCC 202 East Second Street, Warren



May

SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

Identity in Christ

Day 1: John 1:9-13	Day 17: II Timothy 2:1-7
Day 2: Ephesians 1:1-4	Day 18: II Timothy 2:8-12
Day 3: Ephesians 1:5-10	Day 19: II Timothy 2:15-16
Day 4: Ephesians 1:11-14	Day 20: II Timothy 2:19-22
Day 5: Romans 14:7-9	Day 21: Titus 2:11-14
Day 6: Genesis 1:26-27	Day 22: John 17:9-13
Day 7: Colossians 2:6-12	Day 23: John 17:14-19
Day 8: Colossians 1:1-6	Day 24: John 17:20-26
Day 9: I Peter 4:1-16	Day 25: Galatians 3:27-28
Day 10: Revelation 3:5	Day 26: I Corinthians 6:19-20
Day 11: Revelation 21:5-7	Day 27: II Corinthians 6:14-18
Day 12: I Thessalonians 4:16-18	Day 28: Jeremiah 1:5
Day 13: I Thessalonians 5:23-24	Day 29: I John 3:1-3
Day 14: II Thessalonians 2:13-17	Day 30: II John 1:9-11
Day 15: I Timothy 6:17-19	Day 31: III John 1:11
Day 16: I Peter 2:9-10	

Commit to spending 10 minutes every day to meditate and reflect on God's Word.
Write down what you have gleaned from each day's scripture.

The Ruffled Mandy

To those who gave birth this year to their first child—we celebrate with you.
To those who lost a child this year – we mourn with you.
To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains – we appreciate you.
To those who experienced loss this year through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away—we mourn with you.
To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment – we walk with you. Forgive us when we say foolish things. We don't mean to make this harder than it is.
To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms – we need you.
To those who have warm and close relationships with your children – we celebrate with you.
To those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance with your children – we sit with you.
To those who lost their mothers this year – we grieve with you.
To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother – we acknowledge your experience.
To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood – we are better for having you in our midst.
To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year – we grieve and rejoice with you.
And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising –we anticipate with you.
This Mother's Day, we walk with you. Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst. We remember you.



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



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Pastor Troy Drayer Cell Phone: 260-228-0064

Church Email: wucc@citiznet.com



May



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Jerry & Diane Brooks
2 Sunday Service Communion 9:30am	3	4 Larry Highley Karen Eltzroth Ann Jackson	5 Contemporary Service Youth Group 6:30pm	6 John Suchcicki Miley Martin Lincoln Fowler	7 Owen Stucky	8 Teen Pizza & Game Night Kennedy Bennett
9 Sunday Service 9:30am Mother's Day	10	11 Sierra Tolen	12 Contemporary Service Youth Group 6:30pm	13 Colin Suchcicki Bob Jackson	14 Blake Stucky	15 SSF Fundraiser Knight Bergman 5-7:30pm Nelson's
16 Sunday Service 9:30am Joey McCool	17	18 AB Board Meeting 6:30pm	19 WAMA Community Youth Group 6:30pm	20 Danielle Martin	21	22 Terry Miller Kevin Thiele
23 Sunday Service 9:30am Ed Sneed Julie Korporal	24	25 Logan Stucky Sarah Jones Lois Dye	26 Contemporary Service Youth Group 6:30pm Bernard Gebhart	27 Julia Grover	28	29

Sunday 9:30am Wednesday 6:30pm

GOD
ME YOU THEM
RELATIONSHIPS
FRIENDS FAMILY
PASTORS ELDERES DEACONS
BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST
TEACHING PREACHING
FAITH BIBLE
SALVATION SANCTIFICATION
PRAYER SCRIPTURE THANKSGIVING
LOVE JOY PEACE
WORSHIP

Come Worship with us!

SUNDAY

30

Sunday Service
9:30am
Jessie & Leslie
Fowler

MONDAY

31

MEMORIAL
day
Richard Brubaker

2021