

CROSS

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WORDS

A newsletter published by
United Church of Christ, Warren IN

WARREN
United Church of Christ

January 1, 2022



*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Happy New Year WUCC! As we approach this new year with a plan, we are going to focus on the three "R's". Refresh, Rebuild, and Renew. These will form the back-bone of our new year. We will begin with refreshing our understanding of God's plans and purposes for WUCC. We will refresh our vision and our strategy. From there we can rebuild our church staff team to full strength, rebuild our ministry teams and serving roles, and rebuild our presence in the community. We will also renew a vibrant and meaningful relationship with Jesus. Renew our emotional health and well-being. We will have renewal of friendship, of fun and of a sense of adventure together. The goal is that Jesus is glorified in us! God has big plans for our church, so let's get ready.

The Monthly Word

FROM
PASTOR TROY

GOD'S WITH US, ISN'T HE?

Matthew 10:28-31 reads; "What is the price of two sparrows-one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of Sparrows."

Are you ever afraid? Do you ever worry? Are you ever discouraged? What are some things that discourage you? Here are some things that might cause worry, fear or discouragement:

- Loneliness
- Feeling neglected
- Feeling that you don't have any friends
- Failure in school or other activities
- Illness or injury
- Criticism from others

I want to tell you a story about a woman named Civilla Martin who wrote a song about overcoming fear, worry, and discouragement. Mrs. Martin and her husband were visiting a couple named Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle who lived in Elmira, New York. Mr. Doolittle was crippled and had to move about in a wheelchair. Mrs. Doolittle had been confined to bed for over twenty years. Despite the problems they faced in life, they always seemed to have a cheerful outlook on life. Mr. Martin asked Mrs. Doolittle, "How do you manage to remain so joyful when you face so many problems?" Mrs. Doolittle's reply was simple. "If God has his eye on the sparrow, then I know he is watching over me." Mrs. Martin was so touched by Mrs. Doolittle's reply that she wrote a poem that was to become the basis for a song that has brought peace and comfort to people for over a hundred years. The next day Civilla Martin mailed the poem to Charles Gabriel, a gospel songwriter, who wrote a tune for it. "The rest", as they say, "is history."

In Matthew 10, Jesus is teaching his disciples that even though they were going to be facing some difficult times, they should not be afraid. You are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.

Isn't it amazing? God knows everything that we go through. Nothing that happens to us that he doesn't know about. When we feel lonely and totally abandoned, when it seems that our prayers are unanswered, when everything seems hopeless, God knows and God cares. Covid and the variants didn't catch God off guard, the mountains and the valleys you have before you are no surprise to God. He is with you every step of the way.

Blessings, Pastor Troy and Mindy



Happy New Year

Youth News

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and got to spend time with your family this year. I can't wait to hear all about it.

We have exciting new plans for the new year! Starting this month, January 23rd from 4:30-6pm, we will be having Sunday Night Fun Night. This will happen once a month for our older youth (6-12th grades). So, keep watch for those dates on Facebook, Instagram, and the Sunday bulletin.

Our younger youth will continue to meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. This is the same time as Contemporary Service. Parents can enjoy service while kids go with Cammy and Julie for an hour of fun.

Parents, there will be areas we need help with though out the year. From time to time we may call upon you for help. It's exciting for us to begin to build up this youth program with the kids and we are looking forward to working with you and connecting with your entire family.

Thank you for allowing your children to come to our church. It's a complete joy to see them in church. I hope you all have a Happy New Year!

Julie

Sunday Night

January 23, 2022

FOOD
GAMES
FUN

FUN NIGHT!

4:30-6 pm
6th-12th grade

at WUCC



NEEDED ITEMS

Journals
Sketch book (non-spiral)
Small lego sets
Slippers/fuzzy socks
Adult coloring books
crayons



Thank You!

Crossroads Mission

Crossroad creates promising futures for children in difficult circumstances by providing therapy, education, and family support services.

www.crossroad-fwch.org

WE NEED YOU!

Volunteering at our local food pantry is a great way to give back to the community. Not only do we collect items every month, but our church also has a day to work at the pantry. Wednesday, January 26th, from 2-4pm it's our turn again. Never volunteered there before? That's ok!! Just stop by the food pantry at 2pm and Rose will be there to direct you.

Don't Forget Those Cards

Statistics show that visitors come to a church most often by personal invitation. We know personally inviting people to church is hard for some. We would like to help! We have created a "church business card" with all our information for you to carry with you and give to someone as the opportunity presents itself. They are available on the back table in the sanctuary. We hope this will help you to reach out to others so we can continue to grow our church and share our love of Christ with others.

Help us collect shoes to raise funds for Small World Preschool's growth and scholarship funds. Our vision is to increase our number of classes, keep tuition affordable for all families, and provide a quality education. By donating shoes, you're helping the young kids in our community have exposure to a solid education.

But it doesn't stop there! Collected shoes are sent to support micro-enterprise vendors worldwide. Micro-enterprises are small businesses in developing nations that are typically operated by one person or family and friends, depending on size.

ALL shoe types including baby shoes, work shoes, sports shoes, heels, slippers, sandals, flip flops, etc. are accepted as long as they are clean and in wearable condition. The only exclusion is heavy snow boots, roller blades, and ice skates.

Small World
PRESCHOOL • WARREN, IN

SHOE DRIVE

Donate Now-March 9

- DEWEESE SOFT WATER & APPLIANCES
- WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY
- WARREN CIVIC CENTER
- UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
- WARREN BAPTIST CHURCH
- SOLID ROCK CHURCH

Not sure if your shoe fits?



Refresh, Rebuild, Renew 2022



2021 WUCC Christmas

Remnant House Wrapping Party



Gifts donated by WUCC Missions and Food Pantry Toy collection.

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



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Church Telephone: 260-375-2102
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Rise & Shine



Prayer for a Purpose

“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Matthew 18:19-20

We invite you to join us each week following service for fellowship and purposeful prayer. We will gather in the lounge each week to discuss the day's sermon and a prayer focus for the week.

Prayer is a foundational and vital part of our spiritual life as a congregation. We are told to pray because it will build our faith and increase our love for God. Clearly prayer was important to Jesus—it was his lifeline and his connection to the Heavenly Father. It equipped him for the battles he was about to face. It kept alive the intimate relationship that sustained him. And it revealed to him God's desires and direction.

If the goal of a Christian is to become more like Jesus, that process should include imitating his actions and living out his words. As we pray, we will become more like Jesus, and we will find that prayer changes us. As we spend time talking to God, he aligns our will with his, changing the way we experience a situation and respond to a problem.

God is near, and He's ready to listen.



January

2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Les & Ruthann Ackley
2 Sunday Service Communion 9:30am Butch Arbuckde	3	4 Caitlin Wright Wanda Campbell	5 Contemporary PreK-5 Youth 6:30pm McKenna Rittenhouse	6	7	8 John Tolen
9 Sunday Service 9:30am	10	11	12 Contemporary PreK-5 Youth 6:30pm	13 Sondra Zable	14	15 Waldo Knight Josh Goetz
16 Sunday Service 9:30am Kandy Villanueva	17	18 Board Meeting 6:30pm Jerry Williams Olivia Goetz	19 Contemporary PreK-5 Youth 6:30pm	20 Brandon Bolinger	21	22 Marvin & Karen Eltzroth
23 Sunday Service 9:30am 6-12 Grade Youth 4:30-6pm Kaikela Kaohi	24	25 Will Shape Sandy Eichborn	26 Contemporary PreK-5 Youth 6:30pm Food Pantry 2-4pm	27 Carol Byrd	28	29
30 Sunday Service 9:30am Brooklyn Koberlein	31					

Warren United Church of Christ
Contemporary Service
222 East Second Street

JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:30PM FOR
WORSHIP
Bring your Bible for youth groups at the same time!

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

Sunday Night January 23, 2022

FOOD GAMES FUN

FUN NIGHT!

4:30-6 pm
6th-12th grade

MEET NEW FRIENDS

STAY INFORMED



@WarrenUCC



warrenucc.net