

CROSS

Volume 10, Number 2



WORDS

A newsletter published by
United Church of Christ, Warren IN

WARREN
United Church of Christ

February 1, 2022



The Monthly Word

FROM
PASTOR TROY

PERFECTION ISN'T A REQUIREMENT

If you want to be used by God, you don't have to be a perfect person-but you do need to purify your heart. In February we celebrate St. Valentine's Day, so it is appropriate that we talk about our heart health when it comes to our relationship with Christ.

The Bible says in 2 Timothy 2:21,

"If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the master and prepared to do any good work."

God uses all kinds of people. He uses shy people and outgoing people. He uses people of different races, different ages, stages of life, and backgrounds. He uses men and women. God will use plain vessels, and he'll use ornate vessels. He'll use big vessels and small vessels.

But there one thing that God will not use: He will not use a dirty vessel. You have to be clean on the inside. But there's good news: No matter who you are or what you've done, you can be made clean.

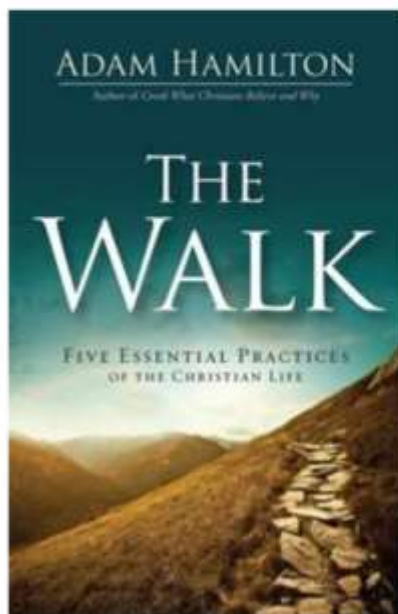
How do you do that? How do you become pure? You do it through a simple word: confession. Augustine, a Christian leader who lived a few hundred years after Jesus, said, "The confession of bad works is the beginning of good works." The Bible says in 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing".

The word "confess" in Greek is the word homologeo. Homo means "same," and logeo means "to speak." So homologeo literally means "to speak the same" as God does about my sin. It means you agree with him; "God, you're right. It wasn't a mistake. It was a sin. It was wrong." It doesn't mean you bargain with God (I'll never do it again"). It doesn't mean you bribe God ("I promise to read my Bible every day if you'll forgive me"). **You just admit your sin.**

That may seem too simple to you. You may say, "All I've got to do is admit it, and God will forgive me? Yes! It's called Grace.

This is when your brothers and sisters in Christ come around you to love and support you through whatever you're going through. It's not up to us to put you in the penalty box for what you've done and keep you hidden. God will deal with your heart, but if you've purified your heart with God then He will use you when and where needed.

Blessings, Pastor Troy and Mindy



THE WALK – 6 Week Bible Study

Beginning Thursday, March 3rd, 10:30am.
WUCC Lounge

You want to follow in Jesus' footsteps---but what exactly should that look like in everyday life? In this compelling study, Pastor Hamilton highlights five essential practices modeled in Christ's own walk with God and reinforced throughout the New Testament. Discover the transformational power of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to your faith.

CALL THE OFFICE TO REGISTER: 260-375-2102



YOUTH

We had a great first Youth Group meeting with the 6th – 12th graders last month. Now we are even more excited for the next! Mark your calendars for February 27th. We will begin by gathering in the Fellowship Hall at 4pm. Join us for Food, Fellowship and Fun! Younger youth, we will continue to meet every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm while your parents enjoy Contemporary Service at the same time.


Youth Group (6th-12th)

You **BELONG** *Here!*

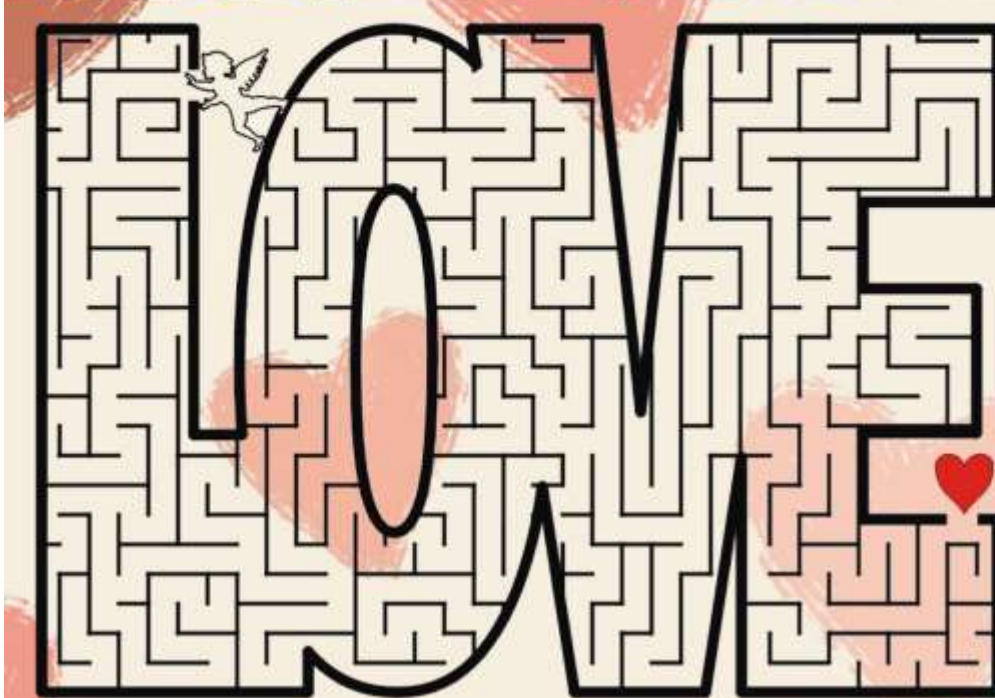


WUCC 202 E 2nd St
Sunday Feb 27th
4-5:30pm

YOUTH GROUP
Warren United Church of Christ
202 east Second Street



Wednesday Evenings!!
6:30-7:30pm
PreK-5th grades



**You are a
Gift from God!**

WUCC Sponsored
KBC Basketball Team
Schedule

January 26, 6pm
February 2, 7pm
February 9, 6pm
February 16, 7pm
February 23, 6pm
March 2, 6pm
March 9, 7pm
March 16, 6pm
March 30, 7pm

Let's Walk



Looking for somewhere warm to walk this winter? WUCC is the place! We invite you to join our walking group Monday -Thursday evenings from 5-6pm. There are plenty of options here, flat surface walking, ramp, and stairs. You will definitely get a workout in. Need a daytime option? Well we will have that starting soon too. Contact Suellen Jones for days and time for when they will meet.

Exercise is more fun with friends!!

WHAT IS SHROVE TUESDAY?

Shrove Tuesday (also known as Pancake Day) is the last day before Lent. It is traditional on this day to eat pancakes. Lent is a time of abstinence, of giving things up. So Shrove Tuesday is the last chance to indulge yourself, and to use up the foods that aren't allowed in Lent. Pancakes are eaten on this day because they contain fat, butter and eggs which were forbidden during Lent. The name Shrove comes from the old word "Shrive" which means to confess. On Shrove Tuesday, in the Middle Ages, people used to confess their sins so that they were forgiven before the season of Lent began. Shrove Tuesday is celebrated the day before Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline. During Ash Wednesday Service the minister will lightly rub the sign of the cross with ashes onto the foreheads of worshippers. Historically, ashes signified purification of sorrow for sins.

WARREN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST SHROVE TUESDAY



Tuesday, March 1, 2022
AN EVENING OF PANCAKES
FREE WILL DONATION!!

WAMA Community Service at Warren United Church of Christ

ASH  WEDNESDAY

March 2, 2022 6:30pm
Speaker: Paul Burris



February Food Pantry Collection

Microwave Popcorn!!



SALAMONIE SCHOOL CAP COLLECTION!



Salamonie School Battle of the Caps.
Bring in only Coke brand caps please.

PLEASE JOIN US

CONGREGATIONAL

MEETING

Following Service
Sunday, February 13th

*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

*Butch Arbuckle
Marty Farren
Roxanna Schull
Max & Missy Tyner
Ann Jackson
Greg Souder*



DONATE

your clean,
gently worn,
used, & new
shoes

SHOE DRIVE

Donate Now-March 9

Goal: **2,500**
pairs

Help raise funds
for the Preschool!

Small World
PRESCHOOL • WARREN, IN

Do you have any shoes you can contribute?

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@citiznet.com



Missions are a large part of WUCC. We are continuing to look for ways we can reach out within the community and surrounding areas. Our most recent outreach is the sponsorship of the KBC Basketball league. We have the schedule posted and would love to see you in your WUCC shirts at the games! We also have a Missions Committee that works very hard to

help where there is need and raise money in order to continue to give monthly to the Bread of Life Food Pantry, Remnant Ministries, and New Life Community Meal Ministry. Throughout the year they were able to help several individuals and families. This help ranged from not only clothing needs but also housing needs. Your support of the Missions Committee is what allows this to happen. Thank you! If you have any fresh new ideas on how WUCC can make a difference in Warren we would love to hear them.

Called
TO *Serve*



February 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Bill & Carol Byrd	2 Contemporary & Youth 6:30pm Austin Stucky	3	4 Jackie Norris Elijah Dimond	5
6 Sunday Service Communion 9:30am	7	8 Linda Hammel	9 Contemporary & Youth 6:30pm	10 Bill Shuttleworth	11 Gaige Eppard	12
13 Sunday Service 9:30am Business Meeting Tim Fitch Jordan Bennett	14	15 AB Board Meeting 6:30pm	16 Contemporary & Youth 6:30pm Don & Janet Smith Kayla Villanueva Carly Brubaker	17	18	19 Janice Brubaker
20 Sunday Service 9:30am Kathy Stucky	21	22	23 Contemporary & Youth 6:30pm Alex Tolen Macy Rittenhouse Jerry Brooks Les Ackley	24	25	26
27 Sunday Service 9:30am Youth 4pm Martha Stucky	28					

Use whatever gift you have received to serve others...



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.

STAY INFORMED



@WarrenUCC



warrenucc.net