

CROSS



WORDS

Volume 11, Number 8

A newsletter published by
United Church of Christ, Warren IN

August 1, 2023



Gather & Grow

WUCC GROWING TO SERVE

Each of you should use
whatever gift you have
received to serve others, as
faithful stewards of God's
grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

Looking Up WITH PASTOR TROY Fear Not, I am with you!

(What is your deepest/darkest fear?)

It's no secret that fear is a pervasive issue in our culture. Fear can be crippling, demoralizing, and exhausting to deal with it. Add it to things like anxiety, discouragement, doubt and you've got a recipe for disaster.

With so many possibilities and avenues for affliction, oppression, and horrible life-altering events it can feel a bit like life is spent simply going from adversity to adversity. But what if there was a better way to live? A healthier option to choose from the proverbial buffet of life?

When Jesus is added to the habits you'll be building and forming throughout this series you can begin to see how someone like Paul was able to say with confidence in Philippians 4:13, "*I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.*"



STAY INFORMED

www.warrenucc.net

We are on
Facebook & Instagram



When you know that the savior of the universe is committed to standing with you through every trial, every season, every affliction... literally *everything*, you walk with a bit more confidence in your step. There's a little spark in your eyes and boldness in the moves you make through life.

It's not that fear, anxiety, worry, doubt, etc.... don't exist, it's that they have a proper place in the capable hands of Christ. So, keep recognizing the unhealthy fear in your life and dealing with it appropriately. Don't worry about tomorrow but keep your energy focused on today. And above all else, remember that Jesus is with you every step of the way.

I might not be able to give you the audible voice of God today, like Joshua got at the edge of the promised land and the disciples got from Jesus, but I can give you the same encouragement that the Lord has given all throughout the bible to His people.

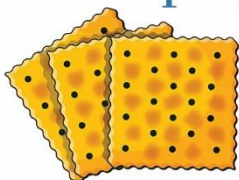
Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, *Fear Not*. God, and Jesus are with you always, until the very end. They will never leave you nor forsake you.

Love to all! Pastor Troy and Mindy



We had a youth fundraiser during July's concert at the park. We sold cotton candy and popcorn and raised \$96 for the youth! Thanks to all who helped.

Join us for our:
FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE
Let's fill the pulpit!!!



August Challenge
is Crackers and Tuna!

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY AUGUST 26TH

9 AM – 11 AM

THE ORIGINAL SWAYZEE, INDIANA

HAND BREADED TENDERLOIN

POP-UP FUNDRAISER

Frozen pack of 10 tenderloins

\$27.00 per pack

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

202 E 2ND STREET – WARREN



THE GOD
YOU MAY
NOT
KNOW

Take the Journey from Knowing
About God to Knowing God

Warren United Church of Christ
Every Wednesday Evening, 5:45pm

REFRESH

Bible Study beginning August 2nd

*Develop
an intimacy
with God you
may never have
known.*

*Discover God's
character and
attributes as
never before.*

*Encounter the
holiness, the
unlimited
power, and the
presence of the
God you
worship!*

Join us!



Sunday, September 10, 2pm
Riverside Park, Warren
(Rain - KBC)

Featured Speaker:

Gage Bustos

All are Welcome!

The Sisters-in-Faith say
“thank you” for the school
supplies that were donated
for the Crossroads children.
There was a great response
from our congregation for
the items needed and
requested. God continues
to bless.

Sisters-in-Faith
Suellen Jones

Thanks for helping!
Special thanks to Linda, and Jane
for helping with the youth this
month. I wanted to also thank Jane
for being my helper at VBS and
making sure that the recreation
activities went smoothly.

YOUTH DIRECTOR
TAKARRA MYERS



WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
LIVE

WNL: EVERY WEDNESDAY
AT 6PM
PRE-K ~ 5TH GRADES

You **BELONG** *Here!*

202 East 2nd St, Warren
260-375-2102

FOUR:12 YOUTH
MEET ONCE A MONTH
6TH ~ 12TH GRADES



Scripture Power

"No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will provide a way out so that you can endure it."

1 Corinthians 10:13

Mark Your Calendars!

August 11th at 6pm we are painting in the fellowship hall. Follow along with me to create a beautiful, wooded landscape or just have fun getting creative. "We don't make mistakes just happy little accidents." Bob Ross



FREE
EVENT

Location: Warren United Church of Christ

When: Friday, August 11th, 6pm

Who: All Youth! (Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult.)

TEMPTATION

What is Temptation?

Temptation is anything that leads us down a sinful path. Sin is anything that is not in obedience to the will of the Lord. Because of this it can be concluded that temptation is anything that tempts us away from obeying the will of our Father in heaven.

How to Deal with Temptation.

The bible gives us a lot of guidance on how we can deal with sin in a very general sort of way. When we are tempted to sin, the bible tells us we should submit ourselves to God. "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." James 4:7 This scripture, James 4:7 also tells us that we should flee from sin. We should not allow little bits of sin into our lives. We should run from sin and the chains that sin can bring into our lives. The bible also guilds us to wear the full armor of God each day. "Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devils' schemes." Ephesians 6:11 When we strive to wear the armor of God each day, we gain a closeness to God that helps us discern and deal with sin easier. We are also directed to be mindful of our desires, thoughts, and feelings. "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." Proverbs 4:23 Everything flows from our heart which means our heart shows our desires and carves out our path in life. Our emotions and feelings can direct us toward paths of goodness or evil. "Fear is the path to the dark side. Fear leads to anger. Anger leads to hate. Hate leads to suffering." Yoda. We must learn to take control of our emotions and redirect our hearts to paths that bring us toward the goodness of God. When we learn to do this, we become stronger Jedi's for the Lord. Becoming a powerful Jedi means we have an easier time leading others to Christ.

Conclusion.

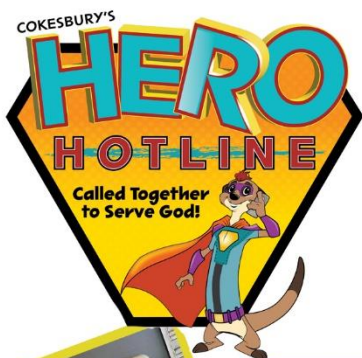
We take care of our bodies by working out our muscles and eating foods that nourish our bodies. In the same way we must also learn to nourish and care for our spiritual souls. We can gain nourishment for our souls through conversing with God and reading the word. When we make good choices, we are working out our spiritual muscles. We should heed the advice given in the bible and stay away from thoughts that can lead us into sin. We should be aware of where our choices can lead and if they lead us toward sin, we should make a better choice. The more we make godly choices the easier it gets to make them again. Our good choices become good habits. There is a quote I like to live my life by that helps me understand this concept more deeply. "Watch your thoughts, they become your word; watch your words, they become your actions; watch your actions, they become your habits; watch your habits, they become your character; watch your character, it becomes your destiny." Loa Tzu. According to this quote all our thoughts and actions become a part of us and carve our path for us.



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VBS 2023

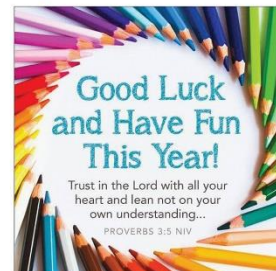




August

Church Operating Cost
\$3,775 weekly
Offering Totals
7/9 - \$2,876
7/16 - \$3,086
7/23 - \$963
7/30 - \$1001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Ruthann Ackley	2 Refresh Service Youth Group 6pm Barry & Linda Hammel	3 Colsen Brubaker	4	5
6 Sunday Service 6:30pm Laci McCool	7 Cynthia Warzok Jeff Souder	8	9 Refresh Service Youth Group 6pm	10	11 Youth Paint Party 6pm Sam Jones Suellen Jones	12
13 Sunday Service 6:30pm	14	15 AB Board Meeting 6:30pm	16 Refresh Service Youth Group 6pm George Dye Terry Miller	17 Tim & Cindy Fitch Josh & Brittany Goetz Austin & Mercedes Stucky	18	19
20 Sunday Service 6:30pm Ted Fiock Brittany Goetz	21	22	23 Refresh Service Youth Group 6pm	24 Chod Boxell	25 Dale Zabel	26 Tenderloin Fundraiser 9-11am
27 Sunday Service 6:30pm 4H Sunday Sierra Laymon	28 Claudia Boxell	29	30 Refresh Service Youth Group 6pm Mindy Drayer Shayna Stucky Mike Johnson	31 Neil Laymon		



Have a great
first day at
School!

Take a night off
in the kitchen!

Join us Wednesdays at
5:45pm for a meal
before the start of our
evening activities.



Sunday, August
27th, we will be
recognizing all our
4H participants. If you have
pictures and information on
awards you would like to
share, please email it to Sarah
at wucc@citznet.com

