

WARREN FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

October 29, 2023

We are glad that you are worshipping at First Methodist Church this morning. Please SIGN AND PASS the attendance pad at the end of the pew. If you are visiting with us, we would especially appreciate having your name, address, and phone number because we would like to thank you for being with us.

PRELUDE

(8:00 AM)

“Be Not afraid”

arr. Mark Hayes

HANDBELL PRELUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

(10:00 AM)

“Here I Am, Lord”

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

arr. Michael Helman

arr. Culli

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When I think of God’s presence in the world, I am grateful:

People: Grateful for the presence of hope; grateful for the gift of life.

Leader: And when I think of God’s presence in my life, I am humbled:

People: Humbled by the gift of grace; humbled by the invitation to begin again.

Leader: And when I think of God’s presence in this community, I am glad:

People: Glad to be surrounded by holy people worshipping our Holy God.

Leader: Thanks be to God!

*HYMN No.35

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Ein’ Feste Burg

WELCOME

ANTHEM

“Somebody’s Knockin”

“King of Kings”

Joseph Martin

arr. Conty and Yah

NEW TESTAMENT READING

“1 Peter 2:1–10”

Pew Bible Page 1104

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

THE LORD’S PRAYER (using sins)

*Our Father; who art in heaven Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power; and the glory, forever.
Amen.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Only God”

Mary McDonald

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(10:00 AM only)

*Doxology No. 682

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer

HYMN SING No. 153

No. 140

No. 125

“O How I Love Jesus”

“I’d Rather Have Jesus”

“Knowing You”

Shea

(Children are welcome to come forward for the Children’s Message during the last verse.)

A MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

David Dorn

(After the Children’s Message, Children may go to Children’s Church in the Covert Room)

SCRIPTURE

“Esther 9:18—28”

Pew Bible Page 443

MESSAGE

“Family Reunions”

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Hecht

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(8:00 AM only)

***HYMN No. 352**

“Stand By Me”

BENEDICTION

BEARING OF LIGHT

(10:00 AM only)

POSTLUDE

(8:00 AM)

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

arr. Keverin

POSTLUDE

(10:00 AM)

“Jubilation”

*** Indicates Please Stand if Able**

MUSIC today is provided by organist Michele Sandberg, the Epworth Bellringers, our Chancel Choir, the Wesleyans, soloist Hope Punsky, and percussionist David Dorn. The Carillon is played by Caroline Curren. The pianist for the 8:00 AM service is Michele Sandberg.

LITURGIST today is Mary Schall.

ACOLYTES today are Annika Wyman and Attie Corey.

USHERS today are Rusty Blodgett, Jim Reynolds, Larry Sutton, Ron Casteel, Tom Lobdell, Bob White, and Dottie Lobdell.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given by the Crary Family.

COMBINED CHOIR ~ On November 12th, our church will host a service of celebration at 4:00 PM. If you are interested in singing in a combined choir, please contact Ruth Nelson at 814-688-8238.

CIRCUIT WORSHIP CELEBRATION ~ On November 12th, after our service of celebration, we will host a reception, hosted by hospitality, in the Dunham Parlors and the Covert Room. To assist us in preparations, please sign-up on the bulletin board if you are planning on attending the reception. Thank you!

CONCERNS FOR THIS WEEK ~ David Marquis, 205 Water Street, Room 511, Warren, PA 16365. - Please consider sending him a card.

FALL FEST CELEBRATION ~ Today, after the 10:00 AM service, we will have our Fall Fest celebration. This truly is an event that offers something for everyone. There will be refreshments, games, crafts, and a relay race you won't want to miss!

UNPACKING A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS ~ Rev. Mark Hecht (Presiding Elder) and Rev. Janet Lord (AWAC Conference Secretary) have collaborated on a book of 25 stories and songs designed to help you not only remember those cherished times but also to help you focus on creating new traditions for the next generation. Each chapter includes a Scripture passage, a story, and a link to a piano arrangement of a Christmas carol that Janet has recorded over the past few years. It is useful for individual devotional time, sermon illustrations, or even small group discussion groups. Both this Devotional and Rev. Hecht's first book, "Family, Friends, and Faith," are available in the church office.

LARGE TIN CANS ~ We are in need of #3 tin cans to use for luminaries along the walkway in front of the church for our Christmas Eve service. Please drop off any donations to the church office. Thank you!

ANGEL TREE CHRISTMAS ~ One in 49 children in the U.S. has a mother or a father in prison. You can help remind these children that they are loved by their parent and by Jesus. Through the Angel Tree Christmas program, gifts are purchased for a child in our community who is separated from a loved one due to incarceration. The gift is given to the child on behalf of the incarcerated parent. We then host a Christmas party for these children and their caregivers. We will hold an informational meeting for all those interested in helping out this year, or for those who just want to hear a little bit more about the program. The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 2nd at 6:30 PM in Parlor B. There are many ways you can help so please join us in this vital ministry!

YOUTH GROUP - Beginning Wednesday, November 1 ~ Starting NEXT WEEK, we'll be holding a weekly gathering for youth on Wednesday nights from 6:30 pm—8:00 pm. For our first meeting, there will be pizza and leftover Halloween candy (since it's the day after Halloween) to celebrate the return of youth group. Youth group is an opportunity for Christian fellowship and growth for students in grades 7-12. We're open to those in our church, their friends, and anyone in the community. We hope to see you there!

CONFIRMATION - beginning Sunday, November 5 ~ If you have a student in 9th grade or older who plans to be a part of confirmation this year, please contact Rev. Bud Fickley at bfickley@firstmwarren.org or 814-723-4930 ext. 4. The general purpose of confirmation is to prepare youth for membership in the church BUT even those who are already members can go through the class to learn more about what it means to be a Methodist. Class will be roughly every other week following the 10:00 AM worship and last until about 12:30 PM. A schedule of class dates and other important dates will be provided on the first day of class.

A WORD OF THANKS ~ Dear Members & Friends of First Methodist Church, Thank you for your support, your encouragements, the generous gift card, and especially the love you offer us. You are Loved! Pastor Jon & Nettie.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF
October 29, 2023 – November 4, 2023

SUNDAY **8:00 AM Service of Word and Sacrament; Crary Chapel**
8:45 AM Fellowship; Covert Room
8:45 AM Class Meetings Study; Parlor A
9:45 AM Prayer; Crary Chapel
10:00 AM Worship Service; Sanctuary
11:00 AM Fall Fest Celebration; Side Yard
3:00 PM Youth Music Concert; Founder's Hall

MONDAY **6:45 AM Christian Men's Accountability; Covert Room**
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours
4:30 PM Monday Nite Meal; Founder's Hall
6:30 PM Silver Winds; Sanctuary
7:00 PM The Truth Project Study; Covert Room

TUESDAY **8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours**
8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3 Year Old Preschool
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class
9:30 AM Protestant Church History; Covert Room
6:00 PM Protestant Church History; Covert Room

WEDNESDAY **8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours**
8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3 Year Old Preschool
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class
8:45 AM Moms of Minis; Covert Room
1:00 PM Worship Staff Meeting; Mark's Office
3:10 PM LOGOS; Founder's Hall
6:30 PM Youth Group; Everts Room
6:30 PM Chancel Choir; Music Room

THURSDAY **8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours**
8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3 Year Old Preschool
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class
1:00 PM Covenant Discipleship Group; Covert Room
6:00 PM Divorce Care; Covert Room
6:30 PM Angel Tree Meeting; Parlor B
6:30 PM Warren Philharmonic; Founder's Hall

FRIDAY **8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours**
12:00 PM Senior Lunch; Founder's Hall

Annual
Christmas
GIVING TREE

The GIVING TREE is back!

Our church has a long tradition of supporting those in need, and this Christmas Season the demand continues to be great. The Giving Tree will support children at WAEC, BWMS, and WAHS. These gifts are given to parents for children to receive on Christmas morning.

Each child has suggested pieces of clothing with appropriate sizes. We suggest that when purchasing pants for girls you look at leggings or athletic pants with the elastic waist. For boys we also suggest athletic pants and not jeans as it's a safer fit to not have specific waist size. Each child also has a suggested toy or interest item. **You do not need** to buy multiple items for each child, that decision is up to you.

This year we put the child's first name on the tag along with the age and grade in school, if appropriate. Each family has the same color tag if you are looking for a whole family. Please write your name beside the number that corresponds to the number on your gift tag on the sheet beside Pastor Hecht's office. Shop, wrap your gift, add the gift tag with the child's name, and attach the circle tag with the number to the gift.

Return the package to the office or music room no later than Sunday, December 17th.

This year, our youth are going to pack food boxes for each family, so please watch for more information on that event, coming soon.

If you have any questions about this, please contact Ruth Nelson at 814-688-8238.



Blue Bag Sunday

**October 29th & November 5th
Blue Bag Pickup**

November 12th Blue Bag Return

From October 29th – November 12th, we will collect non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army.

Bags will be distributed at the end of service on October 29th and again on November 5th. The bags can be returned to our collection box across from across from the Dunham Parlors. If you cannot pick up one of the provided blue bags, items may still be dropped off in any type of bag available to you. The collection of the bags will take place on November 12th.



Ideas For Food Items

- Peanut Butter
- Canned Tuna
- Boxed Stuffing
- Dry Pasta
- Rice
- Dry Cereal
- Powdered Milk
- Canned Fruit
- Beans
- Soups
- Canned Vegetables
- Baking Mixes

**First Methodist Church - 200 Market Street
814-723-4930**

FREE NARCAN TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION



Deerfield Center for Addiction Treatment, in collaboration with The Reclamation Sisters, is offering in-person Narcan training and demonstration. This training can be crucial in helping individuals save lives during opioid overdoses.

What is Narcan™?

Narcan (Naloxone) is a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. It is an opioid antagonist. This means that it attaches to opioid receptors and reverses and blocks the effects of other opioids. Naloxone can quickly restore normal breathing to a person if their breathing has slowed or stopped because of an opioid overdose. Examples of opioids include heroin, fentanyl, oxycodone (OxyContin®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), codeine, and morphine.

Date: Monday, November 13, 2023

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: First Methodist Church
Dunham Parlors
200 Market Street

Additional Info: The training will take place immediately following the community dinner.

*It's important to encourage anyone who might benefit from this training to attend, as knowing how to use Narcan and recognizing the signs and symptoms of overdose can make a significant difference in saving lives.

There is no cost for the training, but pre-registration is encouraged. Please register through the church office at 814-723-4930, or sign up on the bulletin board across from the office.

Holiday Hot Meals

The Episcopal Mission of Warren County is delighted to begin preparations for another year of Holiday Hot Meals!

Volunteers will once again be delivering hot meals to area shut-ins and needy families on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and the day before Easter Sunday.

As in the past we ask for volunteers to sign up for various duties, including driving meals, helping in the kitchen, and assisting in preparation work the day prior to distribution.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for those who may wish to volunteer for this wonderful ministry.

*The list of volunteers will need to be submitted by Monday, November 20th.

How you can help

Pray. Join in offering thanks to God for the opportunity to spread his love through this ministry. Pray for the recipients that they may know and receive grace and peace through this meal. Then ask for protection and care to the drivers, kitchen volunteers, and all those involved in making this happen.

Donate. Holiday Hot Meals operates on monetary donations, including the Warren Gives online fundraiser each spring. If you missed that chance, you can always use Trinity's online donation tool to help support our work. Other organizations also coordinate donations. Thank you to all who help us make this happen!

Volunteer. Call the office (814-723-9360) or email trinity@trinitywarren.org to offer you help. Include your phone number and what role you would like to help with:

Driver (please indicate short or long route). We invite individuals and teams (preferred) to drive short local routes or long (1-2 hour+) delivery routs.

Kitchen – it takes special people to cook and clean for 300 meals.
Be a hero today!

Pack and coordinate – a team of folks helps assemble the meals and send the drivers on their way.