

December 29, 2024  
"Listening and Watching for the Ripples"  
Advent 5



## Warwick River Mennonite Church

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

250 Lucas Creek Road, Newport News, VA 23602

757-874-0794

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[www.warwickrivermennonite.org](http://www.warwickrivermennonite.org)

# WELCOME HOME TO Warwick River Mennonite Church

*In-person* Sunday School: 9:30-10:30 AM

*Virtual* Coffee Connect: 10 AM

*In-person and Virtual* Worship Service: 10:40 AM

*In-person* Coffee Connect follows Worship Service

*Recorded Sermons available at* [www.warwickrivermennonite.org](http://www.warwickrivermennonite.org)

### Leadership

*Church office hours: 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM Tuesday through Friday. If you have questions, concerns, or compliments you may contact any of the following people.*

Steve Wiebe-Johnson, Pastor

MaryDawn Carrier, Congregation Chair

Chris Miller, Elder & Council Co-Chair

Sue Yoder, Outreach Chair

Worship Chair

Twila Blume, Member-At-Large

Adam Carrier, Stewardship Chair

574-849-2021

757-218-8137

757-879-6659

757-708-4036

### Serving Today

*Sermon: Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson*

*Worship Leader: Susan Ackerman*

*Song Leader: Micah Shenk*

*Reader: John Ovington*

*Zoom Host: Leanna DeWysocki*

Warwick River Mennonite Church

## HOW TO CONNECT

**\*Worship Service \* Sunday School \* Meetings \***

**Computer:** [Click Here](#) to enter Zoom Meeting

\*MEETING ID: 846 7407 1811

\*PASSWORD: 809884

**Phone:** 929-205-6099

\*MEETING ID: 846 7407 1811

\*PASSWORD: 809884

*If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Don Brunk (610-787-0823)*

**-- Gathering --**

Welcome

\*Hymn of Praise and Gathering

**\*Call to worship** (based on Psalm 131:1-3)

Leader: As we worship today, God, we ask this of you:

**People: Wipe pride from our hearts, That we might truly love one another. Rinse conceit from our eyes That we might see one another as you see.**

Leader: We rest in your promises and wait for you.

**People: Calm and quiet, we trust in you.**

Leader: Open our hearts,

**All: That we might let go of all that separates us from you and one another.**

**\*Candlelighting**

Reader 1: Have you heard the news?

Jesus, the promised Messiah has come!

Reader 2: I have heard the Good News!

God is with us; Jesus is here!

*[Candlelighting (the Christ candle is lit)]*

**All: Let us shout it aloud for everyone to hear!  
Come join us on this journey,  
as we live out the Good News of Christ!**

**\*Hymn of Preparation**

**-- Hearing God's Word --**

Scripture Readings: Luke 2:21–38

Psalm 131

Message: "Listening and watching for the Ripples"  
~ Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson

**-- Responding to Worship --**

**\*Hymn of Response**

\*Sermon/Message Response

Sharing of Blessings and Concerns

Offertory Prayer & Offertory

Sharing of Announcements

**-- Sending --**

**\*Song of Sending**

**\*Sending blessing (based on Luke 2:29-32)**

Go in peace,

All you servants of the Lord.

May you have eyes to see the salvation all around you,

The salvation that God has prepared in the sight of all peoples.

Go in peace.



*Joy to the World!*

## Prayer and Praise Requests

- ❖ "Enter his gates with thanksgiving & his courts with praise; give thanks to him & praise his name. For the Lord is good & his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." ~Psalm 100:4-5
- ❖ Praise for the blessing of Christmas Eve Worship Service and thank you Micah & Mackenzie Shenk, Noah Shenk, Mel & Cheri Shenk, Daniel Shenk, Jenn Salyers, MaryDawn Carrier, Evangeline & Darrel Schrock, for the meaningful music and to Chris Miller, MaryDawn Carrier, Pat Leming, and Tom Salyers for the readings. Praise to all those unknown to us who helped behind the scenes in big ways and small ways. Merriest Christmas to all.
- ❖ Continued prayers for God's healing touch upon all those undergoing health challenges. May they gain strength, courage, and hope in the coming days and we pray God's presence and peace, and ask for continued healing and restoration to body, mind, and spirit.
- ❖ Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Alfonsina and José Oyanguren, who are engaged in multiple ministries, including teaching and accompanying Toba-Qom communities in Argentina's Chaco region. Pray that the Oyangurens will continue to be God's agents for transformation and that our Toba-Qom brothers and sisters will be able to live ever more fully into God's abundant life.
- ❖ Contact the church elders or the church office to update a prayer concern or praise for the bulletin or to activate the email prayer chain during the week.

### Happy Birthday!

<b>Dec 31</b>	<b>Donna Nice</b>	Jan 5	Nelson Baer;	Ricky Dillon
<b>Jan 3</b>	<b>Rachael Shenk</b>	Jan 7	John Cassel	
<b>Jan 4</b>	<b>Will Siebels</b>	Jan 10	Sue Yoder;	Nicole Mulamba

### Happy Anniversary!

Jan 6 Adam & MaryDawn Carrier

**December 22, 2024 \* Worship:43 \* Offertory \$6,532.00**  
**Building Fund \$1,548,339.05 + \$3,460.00 = \$1,551,799.05**

As we draw the budget year to a close on December 31, 2024, the state of our church family budget is:

The budget for 2024: \$125,000.00  
 Transfer from Reserves: \$8,832.00  
 The tithes collected to date: \$99,047.91  
 Deficit: \$17,120.09

WRMC is committed to exercising faithful stewardship over the funds contributed to us. We are aware of the many sacrifices you make in order to provide these gifts, and sincerely pledge to see that these dollars are used wisely.

[Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)

## Upcoming Events:

**WRMC OFFICE CLOSED: Dec. 31, Jan 1**  
*Always closed Mondays*

Today, Dec 29	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent 9:30am Adult Sunday School (school bldg.) 10:40am Sunday Worship Service (Chapel)
Tues., Dec 31	New Year's Eve
Wed., Jan 1	Happy New Year!
Thurs., Jan 2	7pm WRMC Council Meeting (School)
Sun., Jan 5	Sunday Worship
Mon., Jan 6	Epiphany
Thurs., Jan 9	Committee Chairs 2024 Annual Reports Due today

## Announcements

**January 5, 2025: Guest Speaker will be Steve Fannin**

**February 16, 2025: Guest Speaker will be Sandra Joireman.**

**Sunday, 01/19/2025 at 6:00 p.m. - You are invited to learn about "5 Things You Might Be Getting Wrong About Anabaptism and Why It Matters" at First Mennonite Church of Richmond, 601 E. Parham Rd. Richmond, VA 23227. The speaker, Dr. Mary Sprunger, has taught history at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, VA for 30 years. Join us for a lively examination of what 16th century ideas have to offer those of us trying to do church in an authentic way in the 21st century.**

**Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) weekly updates from many locations. Go to <https://mds.org/weekly> reports/. YouTube: <https://youtu.be/-z2bkwOB4gQ>**

**02/02/2025: SAVE THE DATE: 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Anabaptism Event: On Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, from 4-6pm at First Baptist Church of Richmond. Sponsored and organized by the Eastern District Council of VMC.**

***Be watching for the motor coach (bus) sign-up sheet!!!***

