

The Connection

Faith Sharing from The United Church of Warsaw

Volume 8, No. 12 - December 2019



The United Church of Warsaw

Serving God's People with Love.

Finding Joy in the Journey

Greetings and blessings to you all! We are making progress on our church profile for use in calling a new settled minister and I wanted to give you an idea about the questions we are answering in this document. You will see why it takes some time to put this all together.

The profile group met after church Nov. 17 and will meet again after church December 1. We are opening the group to anyone who would like to join us in telling the story of this church. We usually meet about an hour in the conference room and you are welcome to join us.

In a summary paragraph at the beginning, we are asked to reflect on where our church is going and what it might look like when we get there. What do we need to get there? Who are we seeking to join us on this part of our church's faith journey?

We generally write this summary after we have completed the rest of the profile so we have a more comprehensive understanding of who we are and what we want.

Here are some of the other questions we need to address:

- Describe the ministry goals you envision your next minister co-collaborating with the congregation to achieve.
- Describe how your vision of the minister you are now seeking will assist the congregation in making an impact beyond its walls.
- Who is God calling you to become as a congregation?
- Describe your congregation's life of faith. How is God most often described in worship liturgy? In what ways would you describe the Holy Spirit in your midst?
- If you would describe your congregation as diverse, what does diversity mean in that context?
- Describe a specific change your church has managed in the recent past.
- Describe your congregation's values and practices when it comes to conflict. Does your church have policies, protocols or structures for dealing with conflict?

Then we are asked to provide the names of three people who will serve as references. These cannot be members of the church but should be people who know the church well enough to provide useful information to a candidate. We will be requesting letters from each of them that address these four areas:

- ◇ Describe some areas of strength in this church's ministry.
- ◇ Describe some areas for improvement in this church's ministry.
- ◇ Describe a significant experience you have had of this church's ministry.
- ◇ Anything else you wish to share.

These questions are in addition to a lot of statistical data requested about the church, the congregation, the finances, and the community. As I said, we are making good progress and I believe this profile will provide an excellent picture of this vibrant and dynamic church.

I welcome your thoughts about any of these questions and your suggestions for people to serve as references. We want to provide the most accurate answers that describe who this congregation is. Please consider emailing me (dellismsc@hotmail.com) or the church office (ucwarsaw@frontiernet.net) with your thoughts. Or talk to me on Sunday and/or join the profile group meetings. It is a pleasure to serve this church and get you ready for your new settled spiritual leader!

Pastor Diane



The LaWall Family

Salvation Army Bell Ringers WANTED:

By signing up to ring the bell , you are helping area residents to meet emergency needs like rent, utilities, medical expenses, school supplies, food and clothing. You can assist in raising money to help people in Warsaw, Johnsonburg, Varysburg and Strykersville.

Sign up through the link on our Facebook page or contact Kevin Carlson at (585) 737-3605.

The United Church of Warsaw
will hold their **Annual Meeting**
on **Sunday, December 15 at 11 a.m.**
All are invited to attend.



Cookies for Inmates

Please sign up in the connection.
Cookies are due Monday, 12/23 @ Noon

Acolytes:

Thank you for your service.

- October 27 - Russell Broughton
- November 3 - Emily Broughton and MacKenna Flint
- November 10 - Shermon Johnson-Myers
- November 17 - Evelyn and Wyatt LaWall

Let's celebrate with a
Card Shower
for **Arlene Baker**

on her
101st (!!!)
Birthday:
December 10

Send cards to:
Arlene Baker
c/o Eastside
62 Prospect Street
Warsaw, NY 14569

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 - Mary Kunze
- 10 - Arlene Baker
Kayla Folsie
Kate Sheer
- 12 - Ellen Chandler
- 13 - Karl Kunze
- 14 - Debra Davies
- 18 - Anna Flint
- 19 - Katherine Adinolfie
- 23 - Barbara Humphrey
- 24 - James Diver
- 25 - Donna Mager
- 31 - Jennifer Howard

DECEMBER

HAPPY

ANNIVERSARY



December 7, 1996
Steve and Donna Perkins

December 20, 2003
Rich and Lynn Saxton

Clerk's Corner

Notes from Clerk of Commission, Lance Bush
Highlights of Commission Meeting of November 18, 2019

- ◆ The November meeting was delayed a week due to snow issues on November 11.
- ◆ Mike LaWall, our new treasurer, reviewed our financial history and presented an overview of the 2020 budget, which will be available to the congregation prior to the Annual Meeting.
- ◆ The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, December 15 after the Children's Christmas Program.
- ◆ The congregation will decorate the church for Christmas after the December 1 service. There will not be a potluck dinner. Instead everyone is asked to provide finger foods and snacks .
- ◆ The White Gift tags for Head Start students are available on the tree is up in the East Room. Please take a name or several. A white gift is a book and hat and gloves wrapped in white tissue paper. These gifts will be collected during the December 15 service.
- ◆ Arlene Baker turns 101 on December 10. We would like to have a card shower for her. She is a resident of Eastside, 62 Prospect Street, Warsaw, NY 14569.
- ◆ The Commission approved the purchase of a laptop computer and accessories for Food Pantry use.
 - ~ In the month of October the Food Pantry served 446 individuals, including 122 children, 239 adults and 85 seniors. That is 188 households including 18 new families.
 - ~ For the Year to date 4,243 individuals were served in 1,654 families, including 164 new families.
 - ~ The Food Pantry has received nearly \$8,000 in grants for food and equipment.
 - ~ The "Stuff the Truck" campaign that took place November 1 and 2 was a huge success. We received 3,142 food items and \$3,552.11 in monetary and gift card donations.
 - ~ Cindy Kiel has a new cell phone for use for Food Pantry business, (585) 322-3959. The number can also be found on the church's website. Please use this number for Food Pantry business only.
- ◆ There was discussion of having soup and sandwich lunches for seniors (and others) this winter. Watch for more details.
- ◆ We will again be providing cookies to the Jail for Christmas. Sign ups are in the Connection.

Drop Off Your Cans and Bottles to Benefit Warsaw Food Pantry

All you do is pack up your recyclable cans and bottles, drop them off at the **Warsaw Redemption Center** (at Family Life Church)

Tell them it is for Warsaw Food Pantry. They take the bag and count the cans and bottles, and all the money is donated to the Warsaw Food Pantry. It's that easy!

Warsaw Redemption Center (Family Life Church)

2444 N. Main Street, Warsaw

Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. ~ Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

White Gifts

Hat/Mittens & Books
for Head Start Students

Tags available in
the East Room.

Gifts are due
Sunday, December 15

Christmas Flower Orders

are due **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**

Order forms available in the
Connection or the church office.

SNACKPAKS for Kids December ~ Dinner

Cans: Tuna, Pasta Meals, Sauce
Boxed: Pasta, Mac & Cheese
Single-Serve Snacks

The United Church of Warsaw

10 - 22 South Main Street
PO Box 205, Warsaw, NY 14569

(585) 786-3868

ucwarsaw@frontiernet.net

www.facebook.com/UnitedChurchofWarsaw

Presbyterian (U.S.A.) and
United Church of Christ (Congregational)

Worship Service: 10 a.m.

Sunday School 10:20 a.m.



December Events

December 1 at 10 a.m.
at 10:20 a.m.
at 11 a.m.
at 11:15 a.m.
at 11:30 a.m.

1st Sunday of Advent: Communion - Rev. Diane Ellis
Sunday School
Decorating Day please bring snacks and finger foods.
Profile Group Meeting - Conference Room
Bell Choir Practice

December 4 at 5 p.m.

St. Michael's Free Community Meal at Parish Hall

December 8 at 10 a.m.
at 10:20 a.m.
at 11 a.m.
at 11:30 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Advent - Rev. Dr. Margo Markesteijn
Sunday School
Fellowship
Bell Choir Practice

December 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Commission Meeting - East Room

December 15 at 10 a.m.
at 11 a.m.
at 11:30 a.m.

3rd Sunday of Advent: Christmas Pageant
Annual Meeting - Please join us.
Bell Choir Practice

December 18 at 12 Noon

Newsletter Deadline

December 22 at 10 a.m.
at 10:20 a.m.
at 11 a.m.
at 11:30 a.m.

4th Sunday of Advent - Rev. Diane Ellis
Sunday School
Fellowship
Bell Choir Practice

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Church Office and Food Pantry Closed

December 25 and 30

Merry Christmas - Church Office is closed

Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
and **Sundays** at 9 a.m.

Choir Practice

Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

Ladies Bible Study - Conference Room