



THE EXTENDED FAMILY

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www.warrenwilsonchurch.org

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Steve's Slant

Two down, one to go.

Last month I wrote about how we were about to experience a rare and significant confluence of events here at WWPC. Two of those events have now occurred.

First, as most of you know, late last week we launched our new and improved church website (www.warrenwilsonchurch.org).

We believe this new site will greatly increase our ability to communicate who we are and what we believe and value to members of the wider Asheville community – particularly young people – who may be looking for a new church home.

But we also hope the site will become a go-to resource for our own members who are looking for up to date calendar information about the events that are happening here at WWPC.

Second, as you also surely know, this past Sunday we welcomed Vivian Hare as our new Director of Music. It was a wonderful day from start to finish. In case you were not able to be here (and per the point I made in the previous paragraph) you can find a description of it here: <http://warrenwilsonchurch.org/welcome-vivian/>.

The third major event – the rollout of our new Ministry Plan – will occur following worship on Sunday, October 16. For a more detailed account of what we can look forward to on that day, including how the rollout connects to and supports our annual stewardship season – or, as we have rechristened it this year, our Season of Gratitude and Celebration – please see the article by the Forward Planning Leadership Team on page 3 of this newsletter.

These are all noteworthy events, each in its own right. But between now and then, we also have something very special to look forward to, another kind of confluence that we celebrate annually. This one ranks among my favorite liturgical occasions of the year.

This Sunday, together with literally thousands of churches around the world, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. In our case, this global event happens to fall on the Sunday of Homecoming weekend on the campus of Warren Wilson College.

See what I mean? Another confluence.

Understanding and appreciating what this particular confluence means puts me in mind of one of those visual exercises that starts with the camera lens zoomed in close on the subject at hand, and then steadily zooms out to reveal a bigger and then still bigger perspective. Only in this case the subject isn't just a place; it's also a time.

(Continued on page 5)



PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS: Beth Meriwether and family, on the death of her mother Ellen Huggins; The Keener family on Bob's death; Neil Satterfield; Barbara Robinson; Chuck & Lue Stephenson and Mary Moorrees.

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October Birthdays!

Rebecca Hettrick, Oct. 4
 Marion Satterfield, Oct. 10
 Betty Smith, Oct. 15
 Bill Heck, Oct. 18
 Salyna Morgan, Oct. 22
 Toby Ives, Oct. 25
 Barbara Griswold, Oct. 27

Donna Eagle Joslin, Oct. 6
 William McDowell, Oct. 12
 Mark Meriwether, Oct.17
 Evan Williams, Oct. 21
 Susan Laney, Oct. 25
 Käthe Mosher, Oct. 25
 Sandy Showalter, Oct. 28



Come to Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry's 40th Anniversary Celebration Sunday, October 2 from 2-4:00. You will be able to tour the Ministry to see how we serve Swannanoa Valley. There will be refreshments and also a SILENT AUCTION with wonderful donations from local artists and businesses (a great opportunity to shop for the holidays). Cash or check only; bidding closes at 3:45 p.m. We are located across from Black Mountain Primary School 101 N. Ridgeway Ave. with an Open House from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

THE BACK PORCH SESSIONS Because community can be hard to find. Because who doesn't like live music and great stories? Because there are lots of different ways to do church. The Back Porch Sessions is a joint offering of the Spiritual Life department of WWC and Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church. Join us Sunday night, October 2, at 7:00 on the porch of Ransom Fellowship Hall for an evening of roots music and storytelling, followed by communion served in a Mason jar and on a wooden plate; just like on your back porch.

Hunger Walk Sunday, October 9th The Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministries hunger walk is upon us. On October 9th please walk, pray for SVCM, make a donation or any combination of those 3 choices. Meet at Black Mountain Baptist Church at 1:30 for registration. Rain or shine, the 1 or 4 mile walk begin at 2:00. See you there!!
 AnneDale



The Warren Wilson Book Group will meet on Thursday, Oct. 13th at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Kathy Rouse will lead the discussion of "When Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi . This promises to be an interesting discussion... you won't want to miss it. Bring your lunch -- drinks and dessert will be provided by Anne Dale.

“Welcome Tote” Project

For more than a century, abandoned, abused, neglected, and orphaned children in Western North Carolina have been receiving care through Black Mountain Home for Children, Youth & Families. Begun by Presbyterian minister Robert Perry Smith in 1904, the Home started as an orphanage taking in Appalachian children whose parents had died or disappeared. Today, the Home provides care for children from birth to college graduation through family foster care, residential care, transitional living, and independent living.

The Social Outreach Committee recognizes members of this church who were active and diligent in the process of transforming the reach of this ministry.

The generous donations and gifts of nine complete Welcome Totes are our effort to reinforce the level of support of our congregation to help make each child feel welcome on arrival.

When the Welcome Totes were delivered, 2 Totes were immediately needed and given to incoming teens at the home!

The Committee expresses heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for the wonderful response to this project with all honor and praise to God. (Submitted by Pat Crumpler)

Strength for Today, Bright Hope for Tomorrow – remember the theme from the wonderful hymn, *Great is Thy Faithfulness*? We used that promise last year to kick off our forward planning program and also for the Stewardship Season.

Since last year’s kick off, there’s been such a wide participation in the intensive process of forward planning, so we’ve decided to combine the culmination of that work with the season of Gratitude and Celebration, formerly known as the stewardship season. We have much to be thankful for – the many who helped discern the wisdom & vision and who crafted goals, objectives & action plans. All that teamwork was channeled into the Ministry Plan - a living document to guide our Session, committees and teams for the next few years. We have much to celebrate as we are growing into the people that God created us to be, as we live into the best church we can be.

Please join us on Sunday, October 16 when we launch the ministry plan to the congregation and start our stewardship season. Following the worship service, we’ll provide a lunch in the Fellowship Hall and share with you the Ministry Plan that you’ve created. We look forward to seeing you so please sign up in the Narthex and join us on the 16th.

As our Season of Gratitude and Celebration begins, we will highlight one of the five goals of the ministry plan each Sunday for five weeks culminating with Commitment Sunday on November 13th.

One final thought. Living in western NC during fall’s onset, when the mountains are ablaze with color is a yearly gift from God. We truly have so many things to be thankful for and so much to celebrate this Season of Gratitude and Celebration!

From the Forward Planning Leadership Team: Sally Broughton, Derron Daugherty, Mike Levi, Georgena Millar, Eloise Murchison, Kathy Rouse

COMMUNITY SING Join us on Friday, October 21st, for an evening of shared music with two instructors for the Swannanoa Gathering Traditional Song Week. Distinguished guests Rev. Robert Jones and Matt Watroba will share their talents with us starting at 7:00 pm in our fellowship hall.

All are welcome!

Matt Watroba

Matt Watroba is among the few who can boast a first name basis relationship with almost all of the major folk musicians on the North American continent, as well as possessing a comprehensive grasp of the folk music genre both past and present. He is a highly gifted teacher, writer and performer. His love of folk, roots and traditional music led him to host the “Folks Like Us” program on Detroit Public Radio, a position he held for over 22 years. In 2007, he partnered with *Sing Out!* Magazine to create the *Sing Out Radio Magazine*, an hour-long syndicated radio show heard across the country on XM Satellite Radio. He was awarded “Best Overall Folk Performer” by the Detroit Music Awards, and his long list of credits include the prestigious Ann Arbor Folk Festival, The Old Songs Festival, the New Jersey Folk Weekend, Louisville’s Kentucky Music Weekend, The Fox Valley Festival and hundreds of school and community presentations. He has interviewed and performed with a multitude of performers including Pete Seeger, Jean Ritchie, Odetta and Charlie Louvin. In addition, Matt’s musical partnership with the Rev. Robert Jones has created one of the most sought-after and unique music educational experiences available today. www.mattwatroba.net



Rev. Robert Jones

Robert Jones has more than twenty years experience as a performer, musician, storyteller, radio producer/host and music educator. He has opened for and played with some of the finest musicians in the world, including BB King, Bonnie Raitt, Willie Dixon, Pinetop Perkins, John Hammond, Howard Armstrong, Chris Smither, Guy Davis and many more. By his mid-twenties Robert was hosting an award-winning radio show on WDET-FM Detroit called “Blues from the Lowland”. Influenced by legendary bluesman Willie Dixon, Robert developed an educational program called “Blues for the Schools” which took him into classrooms all over the country. Answering a call to the ministry, he eventually became pastor at the Sweet Kingdom Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit. He reshaped his “Blues for the Schools” program into “American Roots Music in Education (ARMIE)”, a program that would encompass a wider variety of music including spirituals, gospel and folk songs, and returned to performing in 2006. Especially influenced by musicians such as Rev. Gary Davis, Blind Willie Johnson, Josh White, Blind Connie Williams and Rev. Robert Wilkins, Rev. Jones now performs with good friend Matt Watroba, solo, or with his wife Sister Bernice Jones with whom he presents “Holy Blues” to new audiences. He also has returned to radio as the host and producer of “Deep River”, a program of spirituals and gospel aired on WDET in Detroit. www.revrobertjones.com



Creation Care Alliance

We are continuing our involvement with Creation Care Alliance. The Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church chapter is called The Green Team. One focus of ours is on recycling-so, blue bag, blue bag, blue bag!

If you know anyone building or remodeling ask them to go THE GREEN route. When using herbicides and pesticides, consider all the implications to our environment. Garden with bees and butterflies to feed in your mind, milkweed and nectar producing plants are good. It is important to feed birds during the winter months as seeding plants are not in production. Do not fear bears because they will be in hibernation. Dried corn is good for squirrels and chipmunks.

If you can, do not use electricity and water in excess this puts a strain on our environment. When possible, strive not to drive. I have found that Lowe's will recycle CFL bulbs. Always be on the alert for opportunities to dispose of hard to recycle items. It is good to live in the here and now but remember the next breath you take is in the future. We were only given one earth and we need to care about it for now and in posterity.

(Submitted by Salyna Morgan)

Steve's Slant continued...

From this close in perspective, we celebrate and remember who we have been, and the place we've come from: a college chapel sited on a gorgeous campus nestled in the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina, the spiritual home of generations of students. A time and a place that were both so meaningful that many alumni have said of their experience in the chapel that it changed their lives and saved their souls.

Zoom out just a bit and we see who are today: a Presbyterian church open to the wider community, now with its own unique mission, vision and values. A congregation that is grateful for its shared history with our close neighbor, Warren Wilson College, and one that is excited about its future as we seek to become the best church we can be.

Zoom out still further and you see an individual congregation that is connected to a larger body, the Presbyterian Church (USA), a denomination that is engaged in an astounding range of ministry and mission around the world – work that our financial support helps make possible – and that has recently take a variety of bold, prophetic stands on the social issues of our time, from same sex marriage to gun violence to racial justice.

Finally, zoom out still further and you see that we are but one small, local incarnation of the world-wide Church, a global community to whom we are connected by the shared genetic strands of the body of Christ.

All of which is to say, it's always a great day, this Sunday, a special kind of confluence that is unique to our congregation. So I hope you can be here to enjoy it with us.

October Just For Fun

We will be breaking from our regular JFF schedule to host a Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30th from 5-7. We're inviting members of the Warren Wilson church to come to the church with their trunks decorated for Halloween and with candy to hand out. We'll invite children from our church and from the community to come and trick-or-treat in our church parking lot. This will be a great opportunity for us to reach out to families this area. We'll need at least 10-15 cars to make this event a success. Please let Beth know if you can participate or if you have questions, or sign the sign-up sheet in the narthex.



SWANNANOVA VALLEY CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

I am writing on behalf of the Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry. First let me say that all your food and clothing donations are appreciated probably more than can be put in words. But we are more than putting food in people's stomachs and clothes on their bodies. We also have an ever ongoing need for linens, towels, washcloths, blankets, pillows, pots and pans. Another ongoing need is for paper products ie

toilet paper, as well as personal care items such as soap, shampoo, razors, tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, combs and brushes, also feminine hygiene products.

Help with rents, utilities, prescriptions and other medical needs are a service that is provided.

People looking to obtain their GED are helped and Meals on Wheels are also picked up from the SVCM.

As the cold season approaches we will be helping with heating, and the Homeless Shelter that is at the First Baptist Church in Black Mountain will be opening.

As previously stated we are more that about food and clothing and we need monetary donations to operate all the programs we provide. We are always looking to more ways we can serve the valley. Please keep in mind that we will need your services the week we do the shelter. That will be March 26 to April 1.

Let me not forget about the babies and toddlers that are in need of diapers and wipes. If you have any time on your hands volunteers are always needed even if only two or three hours a week, bi-weekly, or monthly.

In July and August the SVCM served 1,247 households, of which 26 were transients.

Thank you from your head to toes and please keep us in your prayers.

(Submitted by Salyna Morgan)

Habitat for Humanity

Thanks to you, construction of this Habitat house has moved swiftly, and the site is now closed until Oct. 1 for subcontractors to install plumbing, electrical, heating etc.

18 volunteers from our church have worked on seven different dates, and we have just two more work days remaining.

The first, Oct. 4, has a full crew with four WWPC volunteers and two from Oak Hill UMC.

The second, Wednesday, Oct. 12, has five people, but can use more.

If you would like to help on Oct. 12, please let me know.

Thank you.

Larry

P.S. There are also openings for a half day on Friday, Oct. 7 and Friday, Oct. 14. The Friday workdays end at noon.





At Warren Wilson
Presbyterian Church we
are mothers and fathers,
single and married, gay
and straight, young and
old, black and white,
prosperous and poor,
uncertain and sure,
broken and whole-and
everything in between.

Together, we are the
many faces of humanity,
yet as a joyful, caring,
and loving community of
faith, we are one in
Christ!

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The Extended Family