

THE EXTENDED FAMILY

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

Steve's Slant

BY REV. DR. STEVE RUNHOLT

A two-part Slant this month:

Part I: Can you believe it?



I find this almost impossible to believe but in just three Sundays we will hang our big colorful banner above the front doors of the Chapel:

**LOVE ABOVE ALL
WELCOME STUDENTS!**

Just to be very clear about this: New students arrive on campus, starting on August 14. So we will welcome them (warmly but informally) to our service Aug. 20th. Returning students (sophomores, juniors and seniors) begin arriving the following week. So we will formally welcome them - and all students - to our service on Sunday, Aug. 27th.

As part of our welcome - to all students - I am so very pleased to say that Session has given their thumbs up to resuming our traditional "Welcome Students" potluck after church that Sunday. So, watch for that sign-up sheet to appear in the narthex very soon!

Again, just to be clear: **The Welcome Students Pot Luck will be on Sunday, August 27th!**

Also, just to be clear: the pot luck will be AFTER CHURCH. (Evidently someone arrived at 11:00 on the Sunday we held our July 4th picnic, believing that we had canceled church and were just having a picnic that day. So, just for the record: first we worship; then we eat. So it has always been, so it shall ever be.)

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Part II: Updates

In last month's newsletter I expressed the hope that our two vacant staff positions – Associate Pastor and Director of Music Ministries – might be filled by the start of the new programmatic year, that is to say, in time for Sunday school and choir to start after Labor Day Sunday.

That was perhaps an overly optimistic assessment. It was driven, I think, by my personal experience. It's been a rough stretch since both Joel and Sarah Grace left within the space of a month. The thought of starting this fall with those positions still empty is (if I'm being fully honest) discouraging.

That's the hard news. But there is some good news to share, as well! Although my initial assessment of these searches might have been a little too hopeful, we are making significant progress toward filling both of these positions.

The Music Director Search Team has posted the position on a variety of job-search sites (and on our own website, of course). They have also been working hard to develop a plan for how to conduct the interviews – what questions to ask, how to conduct the audition -- to help insure we hire not just a talented person but the right person. To serve this church.

They hope to begin conducting interviews on August 15th – assuming applications begin to arrive by then.

The Associate Pastor Search Team also continues its work. They have reconfigured the job description somewhat in light of the news of my departure, to better fit with the church's budget moving forward. And they have sent this revised document to the AMT for their review, prior to sending it to Session for theirs. Depending on the outcome of this review process, we could (potentially at least) have a revised job description, ready to post, by the end of this month.

As for the pastoral transition, I also have good news to report. We now have a talented and experienced Transition Team in place to help guide the congregation through this process. The members are: Rodney Lytle, Janice Collins, Dennis Stockdale and Jamie Dale.

Short version: Forward Together!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Beth Meriwether	August 1	Darcy Orr	August 4
Alisa White	August 6	Elaine Barnes	August 8
Blake Joslin	August 8	Pat Levi	August 11
Bill Mosher	August 11	Janice Collins	August 12
Vicki Collins	August 14	Carla Presnell-Smith	August 21
Jerry VanEman	August 31		



Joys and Concerns

Our Healing Prayers go out to: Jan Wolfe and family, on the death of her sister Susan; Susan Runholt, Steve's sister; Lee & Martha Dugger and family; Betty Smith; Salyna Morgan; Walt Roberts, Fran & Burnace's son; Erika Lytle; Houston Huggins, Beth Meriwether's brother; Carol Lee and Brooks Joslin, Blake's parents; Jackie Wintle's sister, Judy Reynolds; Pat Crumpler; Shane Reece, Nancy Garrison's son; Pat Wilson's son, Kell; Fred Porter & Fred Harvey, the Griswold's brothers-in-law; Bartley and Phyllis Spencer, Sandy Brauer's brother and sister in law; Jackie Ligon Cole; Rick Garrison; Fran Roberts' sister-in-law, Linda Briggs; Flo Bishop; Jon Hettrick and his family; Marjorie Hettrick; Kim Reece, daughter of Nancy and Rick Garrison; Bobbie Galgaro and daughter Lisa, friends of the Daugherty family.



Pool Party for Hope for Tomorrow

Warren Wilson and Black Mountain United Methodist hosted a pool party on July 12 at Christmount Conference Center for the families at Hope for Tomorrow. All eight moms and thirteen children enjoyed pool time, pizza, and ice cream. The children currently living at Hope for Tomorrow range in age from two to seventeen, and it was especially fun to see all the families playing together in the pool.

Sarah Anne Eller, Corise and Bob Gambrell, and Lynn Deese from BMUMC helped host. Thanks to the Warren Wilson Community Engagement Team for supporting this program, and to BMUMC for covering the cost of a lifeguard.

The Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry raised funds and constructed the Hope for Tomorrow complex in 2018. Local congregations, including Warren Wilson, and the Kiwanis Club "adopted" the apartments and the adopting groups help re-furbish the apartments when a family moves as well as hosting a yearly event for HFT and providing birthday gifts for the family in their apartment.

Most of the mothers currently at HFT were employed when they sought housing and support in the program, but lost their housing due to rent increase or the fact that they were living with friends and relatives in a very limited space. Hope for Tomorrow provides safe and secure housing, budget counseling, and a case manager who supports the families and helps coordinate other needs.



THE WARREN WILSON BOOK GROUP



The Warren Wilson Book Group will meet at noon on Thursday, August 10. Anne will lead our discussion of Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Bring your lunch and enjoy some fellowship with your fellow readers from 12-12:30. Our book discussion begins at 12:30 and we'd love to have you join us!



A Message From the Treasurer

A request from the Treasurer's Office

In order to receive mail in a timely fashion and make deposits as soon as we can, we are asking that all checks and other items be mailed to the following address:

**Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church
101 Chapel Lane
Swannanoa, NC 28778.**

This means you may have to change the church's address on your bank's website, call the bank or go in person to change the address, or contact your financial advisor to have the address changed. Please no longer use the college's PO Box. Sometimes there are delays, especially during the summer months when the campus Post Office operates for limited hours.

Thank you for your help!
Treasurer's Office



Harvesting the Gifts of Aging

Life expectancy is increasing but it can be difficult in our current culture to have positive expectations about our elderhood when we are bombarded by negative images of aging. Many people never discover that there are some very special gifts to be found in their elder years that could give them a life that is deeper, freer and even more precious. Join us for the retreat to discover these gifts!

During this 2.5 day retreat your certified workshop facilitators will guide you through a series of individual and group reflections, exercises and discussions where you will explore your gifts. You might find that this time of your life can in many ways be the best time of your life. This retreat will also be a great opportunity for you to build new, deep friendships with likeminded people.

The "Harvesting the Gifts of Aging" retreat will be at historic William Black Lodge in the mountains of western North Carolina in beautiful Montreat, North Carolina.



INAUGURATION TO BE IN WWPC CHAPEL



Warren Wilson
COLLEGE

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN THE WARREN WILSON
COLLEGE COMMUNITY FOR THE

Inauguration of Damián J. Fernández, Ph.D.

TENTH PRESIDENT OF WARREN WILSON COLLEGE
SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

CEREMONY

3:30 P.M. | WARREN WILSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND
COLLEGE CHAPEL | 101 CHAPEL LANE
*(Overflow seating with livestreaming
available in Ransom Fellowship Hall)*

HOMECOMING BBQ COCHINILLO ASADO

4:30 P.M. | SUNDERLAND LAWN | 901 UPPER COLLEGE ROAD



NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

Welcome Pot Luck

On August 27 following our service from 12:00-2:00 pm, we invite you to bring your favorite dish and join us for our Annual Welcome Pot luck. We will welcome new, and returning students, as well as community members to enjoy food and friends in our Fellowship Hall and on the patio. All are welcome, and bring a friend!



Remembering Gina Marvin

Gina's family would love for you to join them in a celebration of Gina's life.

When: Saturday, September 2 at 1:00 pm

Where: The Chapel at Givens Estates (on Sweeten Creek Road)

Who: Everyone who remembers Gina is invited to this celebration!

Following the service in their Chapel, everyone is also invited to join the family for a brief interment service in the columbarium, where Gina will take her place beside Frank, her husband of sixty years.



A picnic will follow in a local park. (details to come later)

Walk For Your Neighbor

Each year, our churches and community partners come together in an act of good neighboring that we call "Walk for Your Neighbor."

Our 2023 Walk for Your Neighbor Walk and Block Party will be held on Sunday, October 8th starting at 2 PM.

The purpose of this walk is to not only raise money for our neighbors in need, but to also stand in visible solidarity and support for all of our neighbors. Together we boldly proclaim, "The Church is here for you."

As part of this joint ministry, we ask that you support Walk for Your Neighbor (WFYN) by gathering church members to raise money, walk and pray for our neighbors in need. Additionally, our desire is that every church represented on our SVCM Board of Directors would commit to being a sponsor for WFYN 2023. Whether your church can give \$100, \$250, \$500, or more in sponsorship, our hope is for each church to be represented on our banners and t-shirts at the event. What a beautiful testimony this would be to the presence of Christ's body at work in the Swannanoa Valley to stand in support and solidarity with our neighbors in need!



Farm to Fork Fundraiser



Mark Your calendars!
for our 2nd Annual Farm to Fork Fundraiser
Thursday, September 21, 2023
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
An interactive culinary experience in the foothills of
beautiful Black Mountain.

For more information, contact Bounty and Soul



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NEWS



ASHEVILLE AREA HABITAT'S BUILD SCHEDULE FOR THIS YEAR'S HOUSE OF FAITH

On Tuesday, Aug. 1, Asheville Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Andy Barnett presented the plans for construction of this year's House of Faith.

Work will begin in early September on the two-family, two bedroom townhome unit in Habitat's newest neighborhood, Glenn Bridge, in Arden near Brevard Rd. This will be one of the early dwellings on the 8 acre site where Habitat, with volunteer help, will eventually construct 29 affordable homes for qualified buyers.

Last year 14 Warren Wilson church members and friends volunteered a day or a half day to help build the House of Faith in West Asheville. This year volunteers will be needed in September, October and November. If you volunteered last year Larry Griswold will be in touch with you. If you have not volunteered before, but would like to learn more about that, please contact him at larrygris@gmail.com. No special skills are necessary. All that is needed is a willingness to help.

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