


The Beacon

Volume I, Edition 2

*A newsletter of Warrenton Memorial
United Methodist Church, published
through the Communications Ministry*

April 2011

The Easter Story



Jesus came to compensate
For all the wrongs we do.
He came to earth to die for us,
So we'd be born anew.
"This bitter cup, let it pass from
me,"
He cried, in a plaintive voice;
"Yet not My will, but Thine be
done;"
He said, in His faithful choice.
The Judas kiss would seal his
fate;
He faced a hostile crowd;
The governor, Pilate, saw
through it all;
Jesus' guilt he disavowed.
"I wash my hands of all of
this,"
Said Pilate, "Let Him be."
But the crowd yelled "Crucify
Him now,
And set Barabbas free!"
Pilate yielded to their wish;
And Jesus was led away.
The soldiers beat Him, and
mocked Him, too,
Yet He continued to obey.
A crown of thorns lay on His
head,
As His sentence was carried
out;
His hands and feet were
pierced with nails,
But He did not scream or shout.

"Father, forgive them for this
crime;
They know not what they do."
He said this despite His
torment, because,
He was thinking of me and you.
"It is finished," He sighed in
His anguish and pain,
As His body gave up to death.
The curtain tore, and darkness
fell,
After He took His last breath.
The best of the story is the very
last part;
It's why on Easter we're filled
with pleasure:
Death could not our Savior
hold;
His power is beyond all
measure.
He rose from the grave, and
was seen all around;
Ever since, He's inspired
devotion,
And we'll be with Him for
eternity,
When we get our heavenly
promotion.
That's why Easter is a major
event:
He suffered and died in our
place.
He rose and forgave us and
loves us still,
Our Savior of matchless grace.

By Joanna Fuchs

Source for this poem: <http://www.poemsource.com/Christian-Easter-poems.html>



Rev. and Mrs. Donald Reed, Sr.

A view of Jerusalem from Mt. Clopas
(The temple mount is in the background.)

A Visit to the Holy Land in Israel

. . . is indeed a journey every Christian should make, at least once during their lifetime. Rev. Reed and I made this life changing journey one year ago in February 2010. We encountered God throughout our journey, as we traveled to various cities and towns literally walking in the footsteps of Jesus from Bethlehem, to Galilee to Nazareth to Jerusalem. Many people take this journey as a way to become closer to Jesus while others seek to discover the roots of their Christian faith.

Although this journey is deeply personal and unique for each and every person, I believe, that the Holy Land experience unites all believers as one in Christ and Faith. As we prepare to give thanks for the resurrected Christ, a *Photo Gallery* of pictures from our trip that have particular significance during the Easter season is found on pages 10-11 of this newsletter.



Rev. Donald K. Reed, Sr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Vincent Miller
 Director of Pastoral Services

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WORSHIP WISDOM

Did You Know?

The Christian year contains two cycles:

- ❖ The Christmas Cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and The Easter Cycle (**Lent-Easter-Pentecost**). Within these cycles is a **PREPARATORY** season symbolized by the color **PURPLE** and a **FESTIVAL** season symbolized by the color **WHITE**. After each cycle there is a sequence of seasons using **PURPLE, WHITE, AND GREEN** in that order twice each year.

What Do the Colors Mean?

- ❖ **PURPLE** is a color of both **PENITENCE** and **ROYALTY**. This color is used during the preparatory seasons of **ADVENT** and **LENT**. **Blue**, a color of **HOPE**, may also be used during **ADVENT**.
- ❖ **GOLD** and **WHITE** are joyous and festive colors used during the Christmas and Easter Seasons (except on the Day of Pentecost) and in other seasons on festive days such as Baptism of Lord, Transfiguration, Trinity, All Saints, and Christ the King. **WHITE** is recommended at services of death and resurrection because it symbolizes both death and resurrection. At services of Holy Communion white linens on top of the Lord's Table are customary, but the paraments hanging over the front or sides of the table and other visuals should reflect the day or season of the year.
- ❖ **GREEN** is a color of **GROWTH**, used in the seasons after the **EPIPHANY** and after **PENTECOST**, except when special days call for white or red.
- ❖ **RED** is a color of **FIRE**, symbolizing the **HOLY SPIRIT**. It is used on the day of Pentecost and at other times when the work of the Holy Spirit is emphasized. Red is also the color of **BLOOD** – the **blood of Christ** and the **blood of martyrs**.

Source: *The Christian Symbols*



We Remember

*Mrs. Catherine B. Hill
Mrs. Sylvia Lee Jones
Baby Emori Kelis Sykes
Mr. Thomas J. Woods*

*Welcome
New Members*

*Mark Winston
Wykenna Camp
Nakiesha Sykes*

Name That Member



Some of us are camera shy, while others step up front and center like “America’s Next Top Model.” But one thing is certain: We all should wear a big grin because we are God’s children.

See who’s smiling in the Warren family on the latest worship service cover for this quarter:

(top left to right): Rev. Donald K. Reed, Sr., Rev. Dr. Vincent Miller, Madelyn Nix, Kenyatta Johnson, David Lee, Lois West, Dr. Addie Shopshire-Rolle, Rosco Twiggs, James Austin, Sr. and Dani Simmons

Where Are They Now?

With Warren’s annual scholarship season upon us, *The Beacon* catches up with two former scholarship recipients. Take a moment to see where these members are now:



Kristy M. Arnold, Ph.D., a 1997 Warren scholar, now lives in Alexandria, VA. She is a Student Services manager at a nonprofit organization, counseling young adults in Information Technology careers. Kristy received her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia, her master’s from Howard University and her Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. Her parents are James (deceased) and Patricia Arnold.

Cody Slay resides in Atlanta, working as a counselor to children with disabilities at the Devereux Georgia Treatment Network in Kennesaw, GA. A 2000 Warren scholar and now a married man with one son, Cody attended Georgia Southern University. His parents are Barry and Karen Slay and grandparents are Alfred and Dorothy Knox.



Bucks for Brains Scholarships

The old gospel song, “I’m Looking for a Miracle,” sums up how many feel when hunting for money to pay for higher education. Fortunately, the Warren Memorial Scholarship Fund could be *the* answer to those prayers.

Currently, there are seven scholarships available in the fund, each with its own criteria, for qualifying Warren members: the basic scholarship; the Matt Turner Scholarship; the J.N. and Esther P. Shopshire Memorial Scholarship; the Ruby Riley Scholarship; the Gleaner Atkins Scholarship; the Jimmie E. Washington Scholarship; and the James L.D. Palmer Scholarship.

For all scholarship requirements and an application, visit warrenmemorial.org. The deadline for all scholarships is April 30.

Scholarship banquet tickets will go on sale Sunday, April 3, by the Scholarship Committee. Scholarship recipients will be honored at the banquet Sunday, June 12. Ticket costs, the banquet location and other exciting details will be announced soon. The event’s proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization.



▪ **If your family’s estate planning would like to leave a legacy or gift of tribute to the Warren Memorial Scholarship Fund, please contact the Scholarship Committee or the church office.**



Warren Memorial Youth Ministry

“Calling All Youth To The Floor! We Have Some Youth But We Need Some More!” This was the cheer lead by the 2011-2012 Youth Co-Chairpersons, Mr. Henry Kearse, Mr. Charles and Dr. Rosalyn Camp. It was the official kick-off for the Youth of Warren.

The Youth met after the morning worship on Sunday, February 19, 2011. It was so exciting to see the youth come together. The meeting started with devotion led by Charles and Rosalyn Camp. The purpose and objectives were given by Henry Kearse. The Youth Officers were elected. They are: Bethany Bolden – President, Christina Evans – Vice-President, Anthony Shopshire – Treasurer, Avery Knox – Assistant Treasurer, India Sykes – Secretary, Calin Knox – Assistant Secretary, Terrance Johnson – Chaplain, and Cleopas Johnson, III – Parliamentarian. Rev. Reed talked to the youth and encouraged them to call him whenever they needed someone to talk to. Rev. Travis Frazier, Mrs. Ernestine Johnson and Mrs. Sandra Kirton also gave encouraging words to our youth.

Youth meetings will be the third Sunday of each month. Some activities planned for the year are: A Bake Sale, a College Fair, field trips, a Book Talk Club and Youth Day. Mrs. Sandra Kirton will also be working with our Youth on starting a youth choir.

“Calling All Youth To The Floor! We Have Some Youth But We Need Some More!”

Co-Chairpersons of the Youth Department:

Mr. Henry Kearse

Mr. Charles Camp

Ms. Ryland McClendon

Dr. Rosalyn Diane Camp



Health and Fitness



March of Dimes Walk for Babies
April 30 ~ Georgia World Congress Center
More Info: www.marchforbabies.org



32nd Annual Sickle Cell Road Race & Walk
April 9th ~ Welcome All Park ~ College Park
More Info: www.sicklecellga.org



Relay for Life – American Cancer Society
May 6-7 ~ Panthersville Stadium ~ Decatur
More Info: www.relayforlife.org

April is . . .

- National Minority Health Month
- National Donate Life Month

May is . . .

- National Lupus Awareness Month
- Arthritis Awareness Month

--National High Blood Pressure Educ. Month

June is . . .

- Men’s Health Month
- Cataract Awareness Month



Warren Money Matters

Why Apportionments?

At the end of the 2010 year, Warren had fully paid (100%) its 2010 conference apportionment. This accounted for more than \$48,000.00 dollars of our approximately \$500,000.00 church annual budget. A frequent question, especially of those newer members to the United Methodist Church, is why must we pay such a large sum to the conference.

As United Methodists, we accept and affirm that the *primary* task of our church is *to make disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the gospel and to seek and to welcome and gather peoples of faith into the body of Christ*. Upon becoming a member of a United Methodist congregation, one becomes a member of the total United Methodist connection. That connection is defined as a network of interdependent and interrelated relationships among persons in groups at the local, regional, national and international levels. When we promise God and the congregation that we will uphold the church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service, that

church is the local church, or the district or the annual conference or even the general church.

The General Conference establishes budgets for the denomination's general funds. These are divided among the annual conferences based on a specific formula. Each annual conference, using its own approved formula, divides these fund requests, along with conference administrative and benevolence fund requests among local churches. In addition, individuals, local churches, districts and annual conferences may make monetary gifts to the designated funds of which 100 percent goes directly to a specific project or ministry. Together, apportioned and designated funds represent our connectional giving. By combining several smaller gifts into a larger amount, we can effect change across the world. Individual churches can minister to a small area; however, as a connectional church, we can do big things, all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Apportionments are our first mile of mission giving. When we give money so our congregation can pay its apportionments, we give to these causes:

- **World Service Fund:** Helps build new churches, pay salaries of missionaries, expand Bible studies , provides leadership for youth ministry and much more.
- **Africa University Fund:** Supports higher education on the continent of Africa.
- **Ministerial Education Fund:** Supports recruitment, training and continuing education of quality pastoral leadership.
- **Black College Fund:** Helps the programs of the 11 historically black United Methodist related colleges and universities
- **Interdenominational Cooperation Fund:** Enables United Methodists to have a presence and a voice in the activities of several national and worldwide ecumenical and interreligious organizations.
- **General Administration Fund:** Finances the administrative activities of the church.

Apportionment giving transforms all - the giver, the church, the annual conference and especially the recipient. We practice the rules, but God does the transforming, the renewing and the building of the house - the house of your lives, the house of our church and the house of our world.

Resources:

1. Excerpts from *Why We Apportion*, a publication of the General Council on Financing and Administration of the United Methodist Church.
2. Article on *Connectional Giving* from www.umcsgiving.org



Spotlight . . .

Stewardship

Warren is in the midst of the profoundly convicting and thought provoking Bible study, Experiencing God, Knowing and Doing the Will of God. The first two realities of experiencing God is to realize that God is always working around us and that God is the one who initiates and indeed pursues a continuing love relationship with us that is both real and personal. Once we have a loving and intimate relationship with God, He invites us to become involved with Him in His work. This involvement with God in His work is the heart and soul of stewardship.

As Christians we are all caretakers of the whole of God's creation. It is not an option! Just because God calls us to do his work does not mean that we are instantly prepared for the assignment as stewards. However, God does not leave us without resources. The scriptures are the source of authority for our faith and practice. And praise God we have the Holy Spirit as our personal teacher! We cannot depend on tradition, our experiences and others' experiences to discern God's will and ways.

Warren's Stewardship Committee has the awesome responsibility and honor of helping our congregation look to the welfare of the entire household or community where we live, work and worship. One thing is abundantly clear: Stewardship is about so much more than an annual financial campaign. It is a spiritual way of life. We must recognize that everything belongs to God and becoming good stewards involves all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do!

In the coming weeks and months, prepare your hearts and spirits for the exciting task of becoming effective stewards. We are all ordinary people. Our association with God makes us extraordinary. As we learned in Experiencing God, one ordinary Christian in the hand of the Almighty God can do anything God commands!

Warren Church Council Update

Warren Is Moving forward! At the February 6, 2011 Church Council meeting, the committee assigned a task group for the purpose of prioritizing the various church projects. During February, the task committee met and prioritized the church projects based on (1) Church Growth; (2) Lowering Church Cost; (3) Lowering Property Taxes and or Insurance Cost; and (4) increasing Revenue. At the March 6, 2011 Church Council Meeting, the task committee submitted their report/priorities. The Council also assigned the task committee with the responsibility of working with the various church organizations to put into motion a plan of execution and financing. The task committee will submit their plan at the May 7, 2011 Council Meeting.

Working together, each of these initiatives will move Warren onward in its missions and outreach of discipleship.

Priority	Project	Description	Cost	Effort	Value
1	Parking Expansion	Excavation of vacant home (#942) and extend the parking lot; includes fencing and resurfacing the church parking lot	\$27,000	Small	Church Growth insurance and taxes
2	Prepare for Sale	Camilla Lot: Cleanup, planting, creation of a real estate team to market and prepare for sale	\$ 1,000	Small	Revenue generation, lower taxes
3	Sanctuary Upgrade	Painting, carpet, flexi-glass replacement	\$30,000	Small	Renovation/maintenance
4	Purchase Back Lots	Purchase Lots to the right of the back gate. Lots 937 and 945 Fair Street. Excavation of home, clear lot, and fence area. Future expansion of parking lot	\$30,000	Large	Church growth, parking, secure Church ground
5	Church Bus	Purchase of a Church Bus for ministry outreach	\$58,000	Medium	Outreach, growth, Revenue
6	Brazil House**	Purchase of Brazil Home; pending analysis and offer	TBD	Large	Office & meeting space
7	Action Ministry***	Renovation of Blue House (927) for the Action Ministry	---	Medium	Revenue, Church growth, Outreach
8	Sanctuary Upgrade 2	Modify the Sanctuary Lighting (15k) and Sound/Video System (30K)	\$45,000	Small	Renovation/Maintenance
		Total	\$191,000		

**Denote possible change in priority pending the analysis and offer acceptance

***Pending receipt of a proposal from the Action Ministries Executive, David Jordan. Renovation and Church adjustments paid by Action Ministries.

Because Easter arrives later in the month of April our Annual Women's Day Celebration has moved up! Our theme; "Guide Our Feet Into The Path Of Peace" is taken from Luke 1:79. We will observe Women's Day the weekend of April 9-10, 2011. This year's Prayer Breakfast will be held at Randolph Elementary School, 5320 Campbellton Road Atlanta, GA. This event will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude at 11:00 a.m. The keynote presenter will be Apostle Dr. Victrena Washington, Ph.D, DD. Dr. Washington is the Senior Pastor of Zion Christian Center International in College Park, Georgia. The ticket price for this year's breakfast is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children, twelve and under. Please set aside time on your schedule to support the United Methodist Women of Warren in making this two-day celebration a very successful event.



Our first book discussion was held on Saturday, February 26, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Reed led the discussion. The book chosen for discussion was "The Shack" by William Paul Young. "The Shack", a redemption story, portrays the Trinity in loving humanness. The book discussion group represented a unique opportunity for UMW.



Members can earn certificates for the books that they read. The event was a huge success with over 45 persons in attendance! We are busy working on a date for a second book event so stay tuned for more information.

Photos from February 26th Book Discussion



Be Connected

Older Adult Conference

Theme: "Living with Heart and Soul"
Inspirational Leader, Rev. Martha Forrest

WHO: If you are an Older Adult or you are working with Older Adults, this is your EVENT

WHEN: Thursday, April 14, 2011
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Simpsonwood Retreat Center

COST: \$35 pp
For More Information: Contact Louise Adams, Chair
770-446-2411 or lousechuck@comcast.net

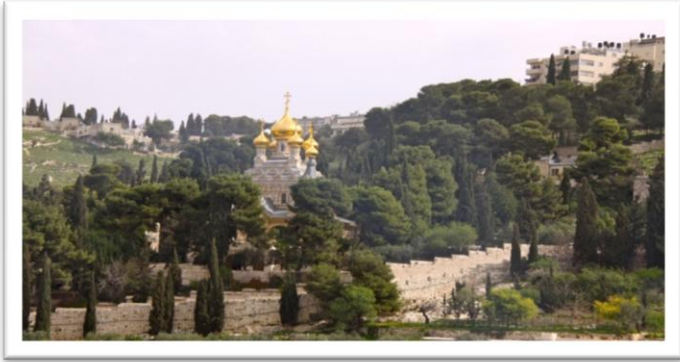
North Georgia Conference
United Methodist Women
Spiritual Growth Retreat
April 29-30, 2011
Simpsonwood Conference and Retreat Center

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PHOTO



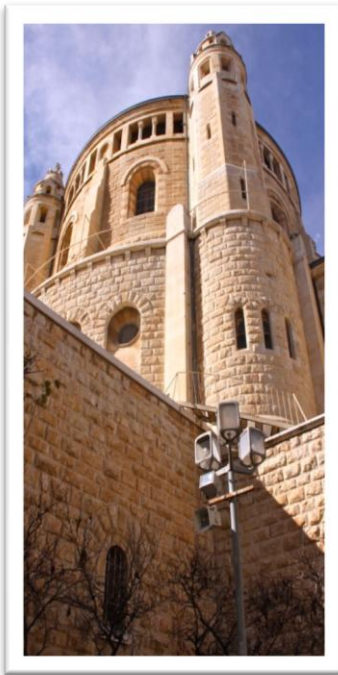
On Palm Sunday, Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem along this pathway. The beautiful Russian Church of St. Mary Magdalene stands out with its 7 golden domes. "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." Matthew 21:9-22



The beautiful Mount of Transfiguration, west of Nazareth, where Jesus was seen in glorious splendor along with Moses and Elijah. "Now about eight days after these sayings, Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and they went up on the mountain to pray." Luke 9:28



This is an inside photo of the Upper Room.



An outside view of the Upper Room, the place where Jesus had the Last Supper. Luke 22:7-13



Golgotha – the place of the skull. Notice the openings that give the appearance of eyes. This was a rock quarry during the time of Jesus. Joseph had a new tomb prepared for himself here, but that tomb was instead used for Jesus. John 21:17



Calvary – the place where Jesus was crucified. In this spot, the white stone, the very stone of Calvary, lies beneath your feet. John 20:17-37

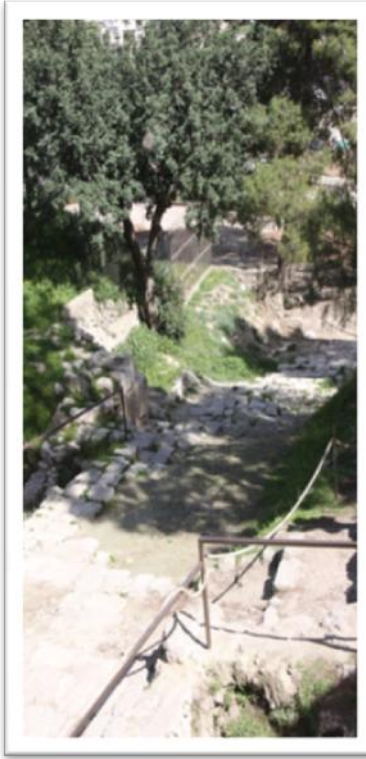


The empty tomb where Peter and John saw the linen wrappings. John 20:6-8

GALLERY



The garden tomb where they laid the body of Jesus. The stone was rolled across the entrance to seal it from animals and the elements. "Who will roll the stone away?" John 20:1-18



When Jesus was arrested, He was taken to the home of Caiaphas, the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. This is the path that leads from Caiaphas' house to the Garden of Gethsemane. These stones are over 2,000 years old and are actual stones on which Jesus walked. Matthew 26:57



The entrance of the garden tomb where Jesus' body was laid, is hewn out of solid rock. You must stoop to enter. (Luke 24). But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared.



The courtyard where Roman soldiers flogged Christ in the Monastery of Flagellation. Brutally, He was mocked by the soldiers and beaten until the flesh tore.



One of the cells in which Jesus was held at Caiaphas' house following his arrest. These cells previously served as water cisterns. The cisterns sustained damage during previous earthquakes and were subsequently used as cells where criminals were held before their trials and ultimately, their punishment.



Rev. and Mrs. Reed in Nazareth, the home town of Jesus, in the background. Here Jesus grew and studied the Torah and read Luke 4:18-22.

In this Photo Gallery, Warren's Senior Pastor Rev. Donald Reed and his wife, Natalie, share photos of their life changing journey to the Holy Land in Israel.

Warren . . .

A Church where we are loving, living and laboring for Christ

Upcoming Events

APRIL 2011

- | | |
|----|--|
| 9 | UMW Prayer Breakfast
Community Dinner |
| 10 | Women's Day
College Ministry |
| 21 | Maundy Thursday |
| 24 | Easter Sunday School Program |

MAY 2011

- | | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 8 | College Ministry |
| 14 | Community Dinner |
| 28 | Girl Scout Banquet |
| 29 | Sunday School Breakfast |

JUNE 2011

- | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| 11 | Community Dinner |
| 12 | Scholarship Banquet |
| 14-17 | Annual Conference (Athens, GA) |
| 20-24 | Vacation Bible School |

For Your Information

Sunday School
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Service
10:55 a.m.

Church Office Hours
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (M-F)

Location
181 Lowery Blvd., SW
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TO SUBMIT ARTICLES

We welcome your ideas and news item for the *BEACON* newsletter. You may contact Jacqueline Rose at jwrose@netonestop.com or Patricia Kenly at pakenly@bellsouth.net. The Communications Ministry reserves the right to edit news briefs for spacing, clarity, style, and format.