 First United Methodist Church  
154 W. Washington St.  
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Warsaw, MO 65355

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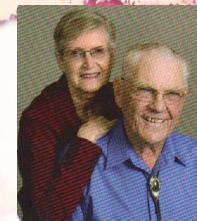
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# First United Methodist Church of Warsaw

## ENGAGING...

Minds, Hearts, & Hands

May 2017



### Caring Characters

Marsha Eaton, Director

Gene and Sharilyn Snelson can be found on the left end of the back row at church every Sunday. At 86 and 76 years young and being married 52 years, they're pretty predictable. They met at a dance, and were married in the Methodist Church at Winterset, Iowa on July 31, 1964. That is where they lived until moving to Warsaw in March, 1993.

Gene worked as a certified mechanic, certified welder, and was a sexton at the Winterset Cemetery Association for 31 years. He loved hunting and fishing outdoors. Sharilyn worked five years for New York Life and ten years for Equitable Life of Iowa, then she decided to help Gene in the cemetery for ten years. She later worked for South Central Iowa Landfill in Winterset as a gate attendant for ten years.

Gene had two girls, Cindy and Susan, from a previous marriage. Cindy passed away in 2011. Susan lives in Peru, Iowa where her husband is a farmer. Gene has two grandsons, two granddaughters, one deceased grandson, and six great-grandchildren.

Gene's favorite memory is when he got his first bicycle, and how he loved fishing with his buddies. He started working as a mechanic at Studebaker when he was 11 years old. He was drafted in the army from 1952 to 1954 as a motor sergeant. He also served as an Honor Guard and went to the White House but didn't go inside. Sharilyn was raised on a farm and loved everything about it, including an old horse she loved to ride.

Sharilyn offers, "Be kind to others, even if they are not kind to you." Gene says to "Love your neighbor as yourself." □

### Camino News

The Warsaw Camino Reunion Group will meet Monday, May 8th at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall. Bring a covered dish to share. □

### Tuesday Tune-Up

Please join us on Tuesday mornings! We meet in the church library at 9am for an hour of prayer rotating through various subjects, with current events taking precedence. We will meet every Tuesday (weather permitting). If this time is not convenient for you, please let Diann Gochenour know at 660-492-0951. □

### Warsaw Area Blood Drive

The American Red Cross will be having a blood drive Monday, May 15th from 2-6pm in the Fellowship Hall at 1st UMC. To schedule an appointment, go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use sponsor code WSC.

NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE  
ONLINE AT:  
[WWW.FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG)

OR

YOU CAN PICK ONE UP IN THE  
CHURCH OFFICE, SUNDAY  
SCHOOL ROOMS OR IN THE  
CHURCH NARTHEX

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH  
OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE ONE  
MAILED TO YOU.

PASTOR:  
LOREN WHETSELL  
[LOREN.WHETSELL@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG](mailto:LOREN.WHETSELL@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.:  
SARAH WYNN  
[SARAH@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG](mailto:SARAH@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG)

WORSHIP LEADER:  
DANA BORGLUM  
[DANA@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG](mailto:DANA@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG)

PRESCHOOL DIR.:  
MICHELLE SCHWARTZ  
[MICHELLE@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG](mailto:MICHELLE@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG)

CUSTODIAN:  
SHEILA COATS

### WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAYS @  
8:15AM, 10:30AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:25AM

OFFICE HOURS  
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY  
8:15AM-1:00 P.M.  
TUESDAY, THURSDAY  
8:15AM-12:15PM

DEADLINES  
NEWSLETTER:  
3RD FRIDAY EACH MONTH

BULLETIN:  
NOON ON WEDNESDAY

SEND ALL INFORMATION TO:  
[UMC@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG](mailto:UMC@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG)

# Pastor's Thoughts...

Friends,

As many of you know, I am one that enjoys the outdoors. I especially like to hike the beautiful trails in and around Warsaw. As I take the time to get out into God's creation and away from the sounds of cars, and radios, and cell phones, I find that I can listen better to what God is calling me to do. As I walk along the trails with leaves crunching with each step, there seems to develop a certain rhythm that removes the stress and the anxiety and even the worst of my worries and fears.

As I hiked the other day, I was thinking about the Christian journey and how it is that the journey is not always an easy one. Like the trails in these hills, our spiritual journey can be easy at times and difficult at others. I've found that sometimes the trail I'm on becomes so twisted that its difficult to know just what direction I'm to go. At other times, I can stand on a ridge, look out across a meadow, and see the path clearly leading away into the distance. I believe our Spiritual journey is like that as well. Sometimes our life may become so complicated that we find ourselves overwhelmed and don't know where to turn. We may even question why we began the journey in the first place, or how long the journey will be.



Some time ago, I hiked a trail I had not hiked before. It brought me through fields and creeks, and along rocky outcroppings and eventually to a spring pouring out of the rocks into a wide pool. It had been a difficult hike and the cool mist from the waterfall was a welcomed relief. And as I sat down on the rocks to rest, I remembered the story of Jesus as he spoke to the woman at the well. He said to her, "...whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life" (John 4:14). The image of that waterfall and the story of Jesus has come back to me this week. I have been working with a great group of our young people as they make their journey toward confirmation and the focus this week was on baptism. I spoke to them about this wonderful means of experiencing God's grace and how it is that through baptism we die to our old self and rise anew free to follow Christ. And in sharing with them, I remembered my own baptism and how it was that I was washed of my sin and began my journey with Christ.


Friends, the journey is not always easy. It may be a long one or a short one and there will be difficulties along the way. And it brings with it new discoveries; discoveries of the wonders and beauty of God, and especially discoveries about yourself. May we all be encouraged on our journey and let our thirst be quenched with a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

In Christ,  
Pastor Loren

### Church Conference

There will be a Church Conference on Tuesday, May 9th at 7pm in the sanctuary. The subject will be funding the roof project.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>May 2017 Events</b>	<b>1</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K	<b>2</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K	<b>3</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K 7:00 pm - Praise Team	<b>4</b> 4:30 PM - Community Soup Kitchen 7:00 PM - Women's Bible Study	<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 4:30 pm - Confirmation 6:00 pm - All IGNITE	<b>8</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K 6:30 pm - Camino	<b>9</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K 7:00 pm - Church Conference	<b>10</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K 7:00 pm - Praise Team	<b>11</b> 4:30 PM - Community Soup Kitchen 7:00 PM - Women's Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 4:30 pm - Confirmation 6:00 pm - All IGNITE	<b>15</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K 1:00 pm - American Red Cross Blood Drive	<b>16</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K 6:30 pm - Pre-K Graduation	<b>17</b> 8:00 am - Pre-K 7:00 pm - Praise Team	<b>18</b> 4:30 PM - Community Soup Kitchen 7:00 PM - Women's Bible Study	<b>19</b> June Newsletter Article's Due	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 4:30 pm - Confirmation 6:00 pm - All IGNITE	<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:00 pm - Praise Team	<b>25</b> 4:30 PM - Community Soup Kitchen 7:00 pm - Ad Council 7:00 PM - Women's Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 4:30 pm - Confirmation 6:00 pm - All IGNITE	<b>29</b> <b>Memorial Day</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 7:00 pm - Praise Team	<b>You are my hope, O Lord God; You are my trust from my youth. Psalm 71:5</b>		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>May 2017 Celebrations</b>	<b>1</b> Vicki Schroder (B)	<b>2</b> Don Anstaett (B) Richard & Betty Valeika (A)	<b>3</b> Jimmy Kauffman (B)	<b>4</b> Martin Hogate (B) Jase Muldoon (B)	<b>5</b> Kent & VaLinda Jones (A) Jason & Melissa Roy (A)	<b>6</b> Justin Grifford (B) Cheryl Waisner (B)
<b>7</b> Autumn Goetz (B) Brenda Kreisel (B) Julie Parker (B)	<b>8</b> 	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Sandra Bates (B) Evelyn Hoover (B) Celia McMillen (B)	<b>11</b> Max Adams (B)	<b>12</b> Pete Hallack (B)	<b>13</b> Weston Miller (B)
<b>14</b> <b>Mother's Day</b> Adam Bloess (B) Alexis Wynn (B)	<b>15</b> Deanna Schockmann (B) Austin Steenburgen (B)	<b>16</b> Tyler Jones (B) Barb Rossiter (B) Daniel Stantorf (B)	<b>17</b> Drew Goodwin (B) Bentley Greene (B) Shawn Miller (B)	<b>18</b> Phyllis Howard (B) Stan & Jan Fleer (A)	<b>19</b> 	<b>20</b> Patti Follmer (B) Andre Perez (B) Adam Wolfe (B) Jerome & Heather Bagley (A)
<b>21</b> Liz Hollingsworth (B) Lane Nelson (B) Katie Wynn (B) Kent & Eileen Stuart (A)	<b>22</b> Bill Hughes (B) Keegan Stewart (B)	<b>23</b> Gloria Brown (B)	<b>24</b> Jennifer Goodwin (B) Alexandra Jeremic (B)	<b>25</b> Brodie Campbell (B) Paula Cunningham (B) Bob & Yan Drake (A) Ralf & Jerry Emmons (A)	<b>26</b> Cole Kreisel (B) Hunter Sherrer (B)	<b>27</b> Nikki Campbell (B) Ben & Amy Perez (A)
<b>28</b> Abegail Jeremic (B) Brent Whitaker (B)	<b>29</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> Vida McCaslin (B) June Walthall (B) John & Katie Boise (A)	<b>30</b> Steve & Vicki Beasley (A) John & Sharon Miller (A) Carl & Sandra Swope (A)	<b>31</b> Larry Conn (B) Jack & Sandy Karnes (A) Mike & Brenda Kiely (A) Nathan & Julie Parker (A)	<b>When you put faith, hope, and love together, you can raise positive kids in a negative world. Zig Ziglar</b>		