

THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

March 2017

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

*Sunday Schedule: Nursery 8:30 a.m.
Worship 8:30 a.m. Parish Hall
& 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Sunday School for Pre-K – Grade 5
10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Adult Education & Children's Activities
11:15 a.m. – 12 noon*

March 5

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*Gen. 2:15-17 3:1-7: Matt. 4:1-11
Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Just Say No*

March 12

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

*Gen. 12:1-4a: Ps. 121: John 3:1-17
Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
A Call into the Wilderness*

March 19

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

*Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-42
Reverend Trajan McGill
Water*

March 26

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*John 9:1-41
Reverend Hannah Dreitcer
Youth Sunday*

THE 2017 BAY WEEKEND, APRIL 1-2 SABBATH IN THE SUBURBS...AND BEYOND: FINDING REST, PLAY, RENEWAL AND DELIGHT WITH REVEREND MARYANN MCKIBBEN DANA

*"If you call the Sabbath a delight... then you shall take delight in the Lord."
Isaiah 58:13-14*



God invites us to rest from our work and to be renewed in the gift of holy time. Yet, Sabbath often seems impossible given the demands of modern life: work, chores, errands, and kid activities, not to mention the constant nagging and interruptions of email, Facebook and text messages.

Join us for conversation as we learn more about this ancient gift of Sabbath and how it can transform our lives in powerful ways.

The Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana is a writer, pastor and speaker living in Virginia. She is author of *Sabbath in the Suburbs*, a Chalice Press bestseller for two years running and a "must read" by Ministry Matters. Her next book, tentatively titled *Improvising with God*, is under contract with Eerdmans and will be published in 2017. Her writing has appeared in TIME.com, The Washington Post, Huffington Post, Religion Dispatches, Journal for Preachers, and the Christian Century, and in a monthly column for Presbyterians Today for three years. She was recently featured on PBS's Religion and Ethics Newsweekly for her work on Sabbath and was recognized by the Presbyterian Writers Guild with the 2015-2016 David Steele Distinguished Writer Award. MaryAnn is a graduate of Rice University in Houston, Texas and Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. She is a mother of three, a haphazard knitter, and an occasional marathoner. We are delighted to welcome MaryAnn as our 2017 Bay Weekend speaker.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 WELCOME RECEPTION 6:00 – 9:00 P.M.

Mary Caroline and David Mitchell will welcome the Educational Leadership and MaryAnn at a dinner reception at their home.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 AND 10:00 A.M.

Rev. Dana will preach at both worship services and introduce her theme.

EDUCATION FORUM 11:15 A.M. - 12 NOON

The Adult Education Forum and Parents' Fellowship Group will come together to host Rev. Dana as she introduces the theology of Sabbath - keeping and Holy Time.

ALL CHURCH GATHERING 3:00- 6:00 P.M.

Families, youth, and adults of all ages are invited to a delightful afternoon of intergenerational fellowship as MaryAnn unpacks ways to honor the Sabbath, nourish our spiritual lives and deepen our faith. We will partake in spiritual practices, prayer stations, and walk Westminster's new labyrinth.

Pre-registration is appreciated and forms are available in the West Narthex and online at wpcspi.org. Childcare is available on Sunday.

FROM THE PASTOR by Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

LENT BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

5:45 p.m. Simple Dinner in Parish Hall

6:30 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

We begin our Lenten journey with the theme "A Season of Stones." The meal will include a form of "stone soup" prepared by Pat Hymans. "River stones" donated by Harald Hale will adorn the tables. Worship will include Holy Communion and the imposition of ashes. Those worshipping will receive a stone as a tangible reminder of Christ's humanity. Bridges Children and Choristers will serve as worship leaders and provide special music.

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING denominational offering will be received during Lent. **LENTEN COAT DRIVE** for both children and adults will be a part of our journey. **EASTER MUSIC AND DECORATIONS FUND** provides palms, lilies, and Sanctuary decorations, as well as special music during Holy Week. The list of donors and those whom they are remembering are printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. The suggested donation is \$25. Please make checks payable to WPC. The deadline for bulletin wording is Palm Sunday.

ADULT EDUCATION

SACRED CONVERSATIONS ON RACE

SUNDAYS, MARCH 5, 12, 19, 26 FROM 11:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.



Members will meet each Sunday in March following the 10:00 a.m. worship service with trained facilitators Paula Brayden, Jim Dixon and Stephanie Miller. Westminster will host the closing worship on Sunday, April 30 from 4 – 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7 AT 1:00 P.M. AT EUREKA COLLEGE

Jim Wallace will speak at Eureka College on Friday, April 7 at 1:00 p.m. He is the author of *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America* and the founder of *Sojourner's Magazine*.

BOOK STUDY OPPORTUNITY

THURSDAYS: MARCH 30, APRIL 6, 20, 27, MAY 4, 11, 18

The Covenant Bible Study (which meets on Thursdays from 5:45 – 7:15 p.m. and is led by Dr. Kieffer) will read and discuss **Roland Bainton's book *Christianity*** this spring. Friends are invited to join us. Books are available for \$20. If you are interested in learning more about the history of our faith, contact Stephanie Moore.

FOUNDERS' SUNDAY, MAY 21

CALLING ALL ARTISTS



Founders' Sunday will be celebrated with the theme "**Albert and Art.**" The Reverend Albert Hale defined the character of this congregation with his generous and compassionate spirit. Since the establishment of the endowment campaign and the Albert Hale Circle, we have highlighted our endowment on Founders' Sunday. This year's anniversary will be a celebration of visual arts in watercolor, pastel, oil, sculpture, photography, glass, and pottery as part of a fine arts exhibit in

the reception following worship in Parish Hall. All artists are invited to consider sharing three to five pieces of their creative work for this fine arts exhibit. Please complete the entry form available in the Church Office by April 30. If you have questions, contact Dale Rogers at drogers@wpcspi.org.

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

CHURCH MICE (infants through age 4) gather on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. in the second floor classroom. This early childhood development music focuses on food songs this term.

WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR (singers in Kindergarten - Grade 2) will sing on Palm Sunday, April 9. Rehearsals are Tuesdays, from 4:45 until 5:30 p.m. This training choir is a positive musical experience for early readers.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS (singers in grades 3-6) rehearse on Wednesdays at 4:45 p.m. following Bridges. The Choristers will participate with Bridges children as liturgists and singers for the Ash Wednesday service on March 1.

WESTMINSTER CHOIR rehearses each Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

WESTMINSTER MUSIC + SPRING 2017

Tuesday 21 March 7:00 p.m.

THE HOPE COLLEGE CHAPEL CHOIR

The 40-voice Chapel Choir is under the direction of Brad Richmond and accompanied by Jennifer Wolfe and David Heinze. **Thank you to all who will host these students. Your hospitality is appreciated**

Wednesday 22 March 12:15 p.m.

DALE THOMAS ROGERS, ORGANIST

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SEVENTH & CAPITAL

My Soul Magnifies the Lord: A program of organ settings of the Magnificat by Buxtehude, Guilain, Durufle` and Bonnet for the Lenten Brown Bag concerts.

Sunday 26 March 4:00 p.m.

DALE THOMAS ROGERS, ORGANIST

This program features music of Felix Mendelssohn, Herbert Howells, Alexandre Guilmant, Norman Cocker, Johann Sebastian Bach and some Jerome Kern thrown in for good measure. Soprano, Diane Dietz will be assisting.

Friday 7 April 7:00 p.m.

MUSICIANS FROM THE ILLINOIS SYMPHONY

Come together as a Piano Quartet (Piano, Violin, Viola and `Cello) as a part of the Around the Town Concerts.

Sunday 23 April 4:00 p.m.

JOHN SHERER, ORGANIST

Music of the Titanic

The organist of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago presents music from the time of the Titanic, music heard on the Titanic, and music dedicated to the memory of those who perished on the Titanic. Co-Sponsored with the American Guild of Organists.

Sunday 7 May 2:00 p.m.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
LAWRENCE AND SIXTH STREET

Westminster Choir will present a Sacred Concert at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception celebrating the new organ at the Cathedral.



FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer

YOUTH UPDATE

SACRED CONVERSATIONS ON RACE (+ACTION) Westminster is excited and honored to participate in Faith Coalition for the Common Good's 2017 Sacred Conversations on Race. The youth group attended the opening session together and **all youth are invited** to Westminster's conversations with a trained facilitator **on Sundays March, 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 11:15am.**

ROAD TO EMMAUS JR. HIGH SCHEDULE:

Junior High youth meet Sundays, 4:00– 6:00 p.m. for study, fellowship, and dinner.

- March 5** Confirmation Prep: "The Church"
Confirmation Class: "Creeds"
- March 12** Trivia Night
- March 19** Confirmation Prep: "Signs and Wonders"
Confirmation Class: "Book of Order"
- March 26** Youth Sunday! No Youth Group

ROAD TO DAMASCUS SR. HIGH SCHEDULE:

Senior High youth meet Sundays, 5:30-7:00 p.m. for dinner, fellowship, and an exploration of how we can use our gifts to address poverty.

- March 5** Biblical Spiritual Gifts
- March 12** Trivia Night
- March 19** Practice for Youth Sunday
- March 26** Youth Sunday! No Youth Group

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS

KIDS' STUFF SALE in Parish Hall Saturday, April 1, 8:00 a.m. – noon

Stop by for the preschool's annual rummage sale of children's clothing, toys, and accoutrements. Thank you to all who participated in Trivia Night on February 18, and many thanks to Kelly Bassett for putting the game together. We raised over \$5000!



Open House for families interested in the preschool will be held March 9, 5:30 – 7:00pm. All are welcome! For more information email westminstercoop@gmail.com.

CHILDREN UPDATE by Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill

GRADE 2-3 SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS ...



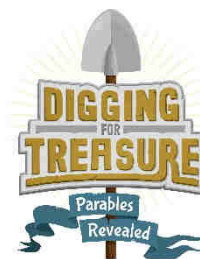
Sunday school teachers Sue Cull, Dr. Marc DeJong and Nichole Magalis led a wonderful special project during the month of February with a focus on the Beatitudes! Thank you.

FAMILY LENTEN JOURNEY:

Lenten Devotional Bags have been mailed to each family. They contain Bible verse discussion starters for daily reflection. A One Great Hour of Sharing calendar with guidelines for the fish boxes was also included in the mailing. Throughout Lent, children are invited to **fill their fish boxes with donations** as we remember those in need and support Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) hunger and disaster assistance programs. Additionally, families are encouraged to **donate coats** which will line the aisles on Palm Sunday and be given to Contact Ministries.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This summer, June 12-16, all children age 3 through grade 5 are invited to join us as we go "Digging for Treasure" and explore Jesus' parables! If you are interested in helping lead this treasure hunt, please email Rev. Sarah at smcgill@wpcspi.org.



THE CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM

DATE: Sunday, March 5, 2017
TIME: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: ALPLM - Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
(All Purpose Room – Library Second Floor)
WHO: Children in Grades 1-6
*Grace United Methodist Church
The Islamic Society of Greater Springfield
Temple B'rith Sholom & Temple Israel
Westminster Presbyterian Church*

WHAT: JOIN US AS WE GATHER TO:

- **Build** friendships through mixers and games.
- **Enjoy** a visit from Abraham Lincoln.
- **Listen** to the story Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey by Margriet Ruurs.
- **Create** care packages for refugee children in Chicago who recently arrived in the USA.
- **Share** a vegetarian meal and **Sing** "Father Abraham" and affirm the family to which we all belong!

TEACH THE
CHILDREN
SO IT WILL
NOT BE
NECESSARY
TO TEACH
THE ADULTS

~ Abraham Lincoln

Parents are invited to attend, and Westminster youth are encouraged to serve as helpers for the children. Special thanks to the Westminster Endowment which helped fund this final gathering for the 2016-2017 journey. Sign up with Stephanie Moore at smoore@wpcspi.org.

**BRIDGES DECORATE COOKIES FOR HELPING HANDS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8**



Bridges children assist Pat Hymans and Mary Ray in preparing the February Helping Hands meal by decorating cookies.

**ZIEGLER LIBRARY CLEAN UP
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16**



Carol Bloemer, Val Leonatti, Sue Cull and Deb Coontz clean the Ziegler Library in preparation for a reorganization led by Westminster's new Librarian Sharon Turner.

**CONFIRMANDS VISIT AT TEMPLE B'RITH SHOLOM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10**



Rabbi Michael Datz reads Hebrew from the Torah.



Rev. Dreitcer, Beth Kincaid, Kristina Hemberger, Grace Batterman, Rabbi Datz, Carter Formea, Avery Pound, Valerie Leonatti, Peter Kieffer and Randy Germeraad

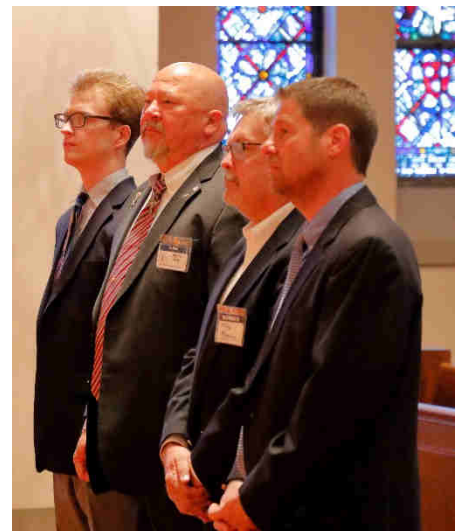
**NEW MEMBERS CLASS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19**



New members complete forms in the Pastor's Study. On Sunday, March 5 they will be received by the Session at 9:30 a.m. in the Library and recognized during the 10:00 a.m. service. We welcome 15 new members.

**DEACONS ORDAINED AND INSTALLED
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

Newly elected Deacons Alexander Chipman, Charlie King and Tom Massey join Brad Milliman in ordination and installation service. Unable to attend: Bill Simpson and Adam Vasconcelles.



DANCING WITH THE STARZ
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Over thirty members from Westminster attended Dancing with the Starz to support Marty Sumner whose dancing raised \$17,100 for the Springfield Art Association.



CONTACT MINISTRIES GALA
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19



Westminster was well represented at Contacting Ministries Gala as one of their Founding congregations.

COMMUNION AND LUNCH AT CONCORDIA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23



Members gather for lunch following communion.

SACRED CONVERSATIONS ON RACE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26



Thirty-five members join in sacred conversation on race.

PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – A dozen central IL Presbyterian churches including Westminster have joined forces to sponsor a new Habitat home project this year. Numerous volunteers will be needed for the project, which is launching soon! We will need people for construction work, people willing to provide refreshments



for the construction crews, and possibly several additional volunteers for helping with coordination. This will be a big effort, so please consider taking part! Previous construction experience is not required. Special thanks to Brad Milliman for representing WPC on the Steering Committee for this large project.

How to Volunteer:

Beginning March 6, construction volunteer opportunities will be available. Visit <http://www.habitatsangamon.com/> and click on "Volunteer" to find instructions. Enter join code **2112** to indicate you are a member of the Presbyterian Build project. There are limited slots for each day, so you are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible!

If you have difficulty navigating the web interface, just call the Habitat office at (217) 523-2710, and they will be happy to sign you up over the phone. Knowledgeable workers with relevant skills are always needed, so if you have experience in a trade, give them a call even if your preferred date is already full, and they likely will fit you in.

If you are interested in volunteering to provide food, please contact Diane Nolley from Central Presbyterian Church at jod.diane@gmail.com to check on any of the below dates, or speak with Rev. Trajan McGill about teaming up with others from WPC to offer food on one or more occasions.

Youth ages 16-17 are able to participate in some activities; please contact the Habitat office with questions about youth involvement on particular volunteer opportunities.

2017 PRESBYTERIAN BUILD SCHEDULE

(All below dates are open to unskilled volunteers)

APRIL 8 (RAIN DATE APRIL 15): DECKING

APRIL 9, 2:00 P.M.: KICKOFF AT WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN

APRIL 13: UNLOAD WALLS

APRIL 17-22: WEEKLONG BUILD BLITZ

FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS, MAY 5 – JUNE 17:

MAY 5-6: DRYWALL (CEILINGS)

MAY 12-13: WOMEN'S BUILD DAYS – DRYWALL (WALLS)

MAY 19-20: DRYWALL (WALLS)

MAY 26-27: LANDSCAPING, CONCRETE WORK SHED

JUNE 2-3: PAINTING, UTILITY ROOM VINYL

JUNE 9-10: FLOORING

JUNE 16-17: DOORS AND CABINETS

JUNE 19-24: TRIM AND ASSORTED FINISHING WORK

JULY 1: FINAL CLEANING

JULY 2: DEDICATION

EARTH CARE NEWS

CALLING ALL TONERS & INK CARTRIDGES - ALL SHAPES & SIZES



Thanks to the initiative of our new Church Administrative Assistant Jennie Alt, there is now a Clean Planet box in the church print room for members to recycle computer printer ink products. Just drop into the box your spent ink cartridges, toner drums (without packaging or box) which will be shipped in bulk to the recycling plant so that the plastic can be diverted from landfills and used again for more ink!

FAITH COALITION FOR THE COMMON GOOD



ANNUAL BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER – All are invited to the Faith Coalition's annual fundraising breakfast on **Thursday, March 16, 7:30 a.m. at Union Baptist Church**. Dr. Kieffer will be giving the invocation, and State Representative Carol Ammons will be the speaker. Breakfast is complementary; donations are encouraged.

GAMALIEL'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING – The Faith Coalition is part of a larger network of similar organizations called Gamaliel. The Reverend Trajan McGill will be attending one of their national leadership training events March 5-10.

GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH MARCH MENU: *Canned Ravioli, Veggies, Bottled/Canned 100% Juice, Pudding, & Dry Cereal*. Thank you to those who place these items in the baskets in the West Narthex. **Items in High Demand:** *feminine hygiene products, shampoo, diapers & wipes, granola / nutri grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap (bar or body).*

HELPING HANDS – Thanks to Bridges Midweek Fellowship, Pat Hymans, and Mary Ray for providing the February meal. The March meal will be prepared and delivered by Joe Fierstos. **Volunteers are still needed to deliver dinners to the Helping Hands shelter on the following Fridays: April 7, May 12, June 9, August 11, October 13, and December 8.** Costs are reimbursible. Please contact Rev. Trajan McGill or call the church office to volunteer or find out more.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

HOME COMMUNION If you are unable to attend worship on March 12 and would like to receive Communion, please contact Jennie Alt at the church office. Twelve members received the sacrament on Feb. 12 by six teams of elders and deacons. Many thanks to those who participate in bringing the Lord's Supper.

THE SIXTH BIANNUAL HEALTH FAIR

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

PARISH HALL, FOLLOWING BOTH SERVICES OF WORSHIP

Come learn about good health practices at interactive stations with information presented by health professionals in Parish Hall. We are grateful for Parish Nurses Judy Ridinger and Ellen Carpenter who are coordinating the fair.

STATIONS WILL INCLUDE Adult Vaccines Information, Blood Glucose Screening, Blood Pressure Screening, Bone Scan for Osteoporosis, Children's Programs, Healthy Snacks, Medical Power of Attorney & Living Wills, Reiki, Self-Health Assessment, and more.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT WESTMINSTER

THEOLOGY ON TAP

On Sunday, March 5, at 11:15 a.m. young adults (age 21-40ish) are invited to the **Sacred Conversations on Race** in the in lieu of a brunch.

PARENTS' FELLOWSHIP GROUP

On Sundays in March at 11:15 a.m. Parents' Fellowship Group will join the **Sacred Conversations on Race**.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Thursday, March 9 at 7:00 a.m.

On Thursday, March 9, at 7:00 a.m., Westminster men will gather for breakfast provided by Randy Germeraad, a devotion led by Dave Jenkins, and a program coordinated by Brad Swanson.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW LUNCHEON will meet Friday, March 3 at noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair will be Leah Duling and Chair of the Day will be Lynn Cleverdon. Following lunch, women are invited to attend the **World Day of Prayer** service at St. John A.M.E. Church, 1519 E. Capitol, Springfield hosted by Church Women United. WDP is an ecumenical movement of Christian women who come together to observe a common day of prayer and action each year on the first Friday in March. The 2017 celebration begins with the first sunrise on March 3 in the Pacific region, and follows the Earth's orbit, shining its light on the country of Malaysia and, in turn, the rest of the world. The 2017 service, prepared by the WDP Committee of the Philippines, lifts up issues of economic justice, with the theme "Am I being unfair to you?" Offerings collected during the services are granted by WDP national committees to nonprofit organizations that deal with the issues identified by the writer country. The WDP motto is "Informed prayer, prayerful action."



RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE will attend the Ash Wednesday dinner and worship together on March 1. The next gathering will be Wednesday, April 5, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Sue Scaife (432 Maggie Drive) to discuss Chapter IX – Job's Wife.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet Monday, March 13 at 5:30 p.m. in Second Floor Classroom. Judy Ridinger will lead the study "According to Luke."

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, March 21 at 9:30 a.m. at in the Library. Sharon Turner will lead the devotions. Our Hostess will be Gloria St. Lawrence and we will study Lesson 6, *Come to the Waters*.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 continues to gather for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Their next brown-bag lunch will meet on March 14 beginning at 12:15 p.m. Dessert will be provided.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE)

Friday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m.

DMA resumes on Friday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck dinner in Parish Hall and a 7:15 p.m. program. Richard Leary will present *African Safari: Animals of Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Botswana*.



WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS

Dorothea Thrasher celebrates 96 years on March 2.
Dr. Harry Bergmann celebrates 98 years on March 5.
Patricia Picchi celebrates 91 years on March 20.
Elsie Unglaub celebrates 91 years on March 23.
Dr. Ivan Birrer celebrates 99 years on March 24.

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Nancy & Richard Canady celebrate 58 years on March 13.

IN MEMORIAM

Roderick "Rod" Dodds died February 1, 2017. Prayers and sympathy are extended to his wife Margery Dodds, daughters Janice Dodds, Martha D. Stoner, Joanne D. Erwin, and their families. A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, March 18 at 11:00 a.m. in our Sanctuary.

SYMPATHY TO

June Flood on the death of her brother-in-law John Wood on February 14, 2017.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Annie Sherrick, for her article "This I Believe" which was selected for broadcast and publication by NPR Illinois and the *State Journal-Register*.

Abby Fierstos, who was named Best of Preps-All Area Girls Swimming by the *SJ-R* for placing first in the 500 freestyle and 2nd in the 200 freestyle at the CS8 meet.

Andrew Harmon (grandson of Aggie and Don), who placed first in diving at the Sectional Meet.

Matthew Knox, who placed first in the 200 and 500 Free Style at the Sectional Meet. Both relays in which he swam also qualified for State. The 400 relay placed 6th at State.

THANK YOU

Thank you to my friends at Westminster for your generous and thoughtful support of the Springfield Art Association (and me) at Dancing with the Starz. *Marty Sumner*

Christ's greetings to you all. Westminster Springfield has once again shown its leadership in the presbytery by paying 2016 per capita in full and on time. Way to go! Congregations like Westminster keep our connectional church strong and vital. *Blessings, Sue Sawers - Moderator*

JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Westminster's Operating Fund ended the month of January with income above and expenses below our monthly budgeted amounts. Total income exceeded expenses by \$45,337.

2017 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 124,820	\$ 82,073	\$ 42,747
Expenses	\$ - 79,483	\$ - 82,073	\$ 2,590
Net	\$ 45,337	\$ 0	

REACHING FOR OUR PER CAPITA GOAL

Thank you to the 97 members who have given Per Capita donations. We have received over 44% of our \$7,000 goal already. We need 122 more Per Capita donations of \$32. This year Westminster will pay \$32 per member to support the work of our denomination in the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Please make your Per Capita contribution of \$32 for each confirmed member in your household to help offset this cost in Westminster's budget.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER
TRIVIA NIGHT AND SILENT AUCTION
SUNDAY, MARCH 12

SILENT AUCTION BEGINS SUNDAY MORNING

Each year, members have the opportunity to support our youth at the Trivia Night Mission Trip. We are excited to include a silent auction for the second year. The Silent Auction will take place in the West Narthex beginning Sunday morning. We are accepting items for the Silent Auction. Please contact **Becky Huston** at bec0731@hotmail.com.



DOORS FOR TRIVIA OPEN AT 5:00 P.M.

Trivia master **Todd Knox**, ably assisted by **Dave Leonatti**, will provide another entertaining evening! **Questions begin at 5:30 p.m.** A 50/50 drawing will be taken at each round.

TICKETS ARE \$12.00 IN ADVANCE AND \$15.00 AT THE DOOR

Tickets can be purchased from a youth or in the West Narthex. **This year you or your**

business can sponsor a round for \$100! Contact Rev. Hannah at hdreitcer@wpcspi.org for details.

DINNER IS \$5.00

Dinner is available for purchase at 5:00 p.m. (\$5.00) thanks to **Mary Ray, Pat Hymans** and their kitchen team. Participants are welcome to bring snacks and non-alcoholic drinks.

Childcare is available in the nursery.

Your support helps the youth travel to Appalachia for a week of mission and service this summer (July 1-8, 2017)!



YOUTH LEAD WORSHIP
SUNDAY, MARCH 26

On Sunday, March 26 our youth will once again lead us in worship services as we reflect on the ways we close our eyes and hearts to the world and the path to which God calls us.



Along with meditations offered by **Stella Cole, Alivia DuBois, Jenna Milward, Austin Robbs, Emma Shafer, and Annie Sherrick**, the junior and senior high youth will serve as liturgists and ushers.

Special music to nourish our spirits will be offered by the Westminster Choristers and our talented youth, including, but not limited to: **Stella Cole, Holling Kniffin, Matthew Knox, and Emma Shafer.**



Westminster Staff

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Pastor and Head of Staff
bkieffer@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Trajan I. McGill
Associate Pastor for Parish Life
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The Reverend Hannah M. Dreitzer
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
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The Reverend Sarah Iloff McGill
Parish Associate for Children's Ministries
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The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate
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Dale T. Rogers
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Deb Watts
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Roy Ahlers, Steve Council, Bill Hibbert, Charles Robertson
Custodians

April Reporter Deadline is Sunday, March 26.