



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Stewardship Sunday  
19 September 2021 + 10:00 a.m.

## Welcome and Announcements

**Ministry Moment** Stewardship Campaign Pete VanGieson

**Voluntary** Aria Joe Utterback

**\*Ringing of the Bell** *The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.*

### \*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 1

Leader: We rejoice and glorify your holy name, God Almighty,  
**People: Because you kept us from a destructive path.**  
Leader: We give thanks because your word gives us hope,  
**People: and we meditate on your word day and night.**  
Leader: We are like the trees planted by streams of water,  
**People: And our spirits are refreshed in your presence.**  
Leader: Let us worship our God who watches over us.

**\*Processional Hymn 504** We Come as Guests Invited *Wie lieblich ist der Maien*

**\*Prayer of Confession** Gracious and Merciful God, Jesus came into the world you created to serve and to give his life for his friends. We recognize all the ways we fall short of the friendship Christ offers us. We have not fully been transformed to be the gentle stewards of your love for the world. Forgive us and strengthen us for the life of friendship to which you call us. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

**\*Sung Response** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us Hymnal, Back Cover

### \*Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.  
**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**  
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*Response of Praise** Gloria Patri Hymnal, Back Cover

**Children's Sermon**

**Congregational Response** **God welcomes all, strangers and friends  
God's love is strong and it never ends.**  
*Children in grades Pre-K-Grade 5 will go to Sunday school class following the Congregational Response.*

**First Scripture Reading** Mark 9:33-37 Pew Bible, NT page 44

**Second Scripture Reading** John 15:9-17 Pew Bible, OT page 109 & 110

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** I Have Called You Friends Rev. Christian K. Choi  
*Text: I have called you friends, because I have made know to you everything that I have heard from my Father."* John 15:15b

**Anthem** Clap Your Hands, All Ye People Victor C. Johnson  
Clap your hands, all ye people. Shout unto God with a voice of triumph. Clap your hands, all ye people. Lift up your voice and clap your hands. God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Shout joyfully unto the Lord, all the earth; break forth into song, rejoice and sing praise.  
Psalms 47 and 98

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *Apostles' Creed*  
**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## The Church at Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Soloist: Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,  
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Leader: Let us pray.

## The Lord's Prayer

## The Presentation and Dedication of Our Gifts

*At this time all worshipers are requested to sign and pass  
the Ministry of Friendship folders in the pew racks.*

**Offertory** Scaramouche Darius Milhaud

**Offertory Response** Doxology Hymnal, 606

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Loving God, giver of life and source of abundant blessings, we thank you for your friendship and the generous outpouring of grace in our lives. Help us to always use your gifts wisely and share them charitably with those whom you call us to befriend. Amen.

**\*Hymn 301** Let Us Build a House *Two Oaks*  
*Verses 1, 2, 5*

## \*Charge and Benediction

**\*Voluntary** Postlude in D George Dyson

(\*) The congregation is invited to stand.

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Chancel Flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Pat & Al Hymans & family.
- **West Narthex Flowers** are given in honor of Ellen and Rance Carpenter's 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Gerald W. Boutelle
- **Worship Leader:** Karen Sherrick
- **Greeters:** Jeanne & Pete VanGieson
- **Ushers:** Pat Moore (Head Usher), Rich Canady, Terry Haynor, Rachael Hickman, Becky McDonald, Julie McDonough, Bruce Strom, Brinton Wilkey
- **Safety Team:** Todd Knox and Mary Ray
- **Music:** Will Hovey, Saxophone, Ann Collins, piano; Lyle VanDeventer, bass, the Westminster Choir, and Dale Rogers, organist

## EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY

- **9:30 a.m. – 12 noon** **Infants, toddlers, 2 & 3 year olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. This week: The Good Shepherd. *Caregivers: Karen Sherrick, Leigh Milward*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children Pre-K – Grade 2** will begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response. The story: *We Were All Farmers Once*. *Teachers: Sophia Choi and Erin Winn*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Grades 3-5** will begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response. The Story: *How God Made Everything*. *Teachers: Cathy Brower and Linda Purves*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Junior High Confirmation (Conference Room)** *Ministry Partners: Rev. Choi, Jim Kincaid*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon Adult Education Forum** (Second Floor Classroom) presents "A History of Vaccines: Clothed in the Armor of God. In addition to providing a brief overview of the history of vaccinations, the class will reflect on the biblical mandate to protect oneself, including the Ephesians 6 passage. Led by Lyle VanDeventer
- **11:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon Stewardship Committee Mailing and Lunch Meeting (Parish Hall)**
- **5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Senior High Dinner and Youth Group Fellowship** (Parish Hall, Youth Room) *Dinner: Cookout provided by Rev. Choi, Mary Ray and Bill Deemer. Ministry Partners: Rev. Choi, Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Mary Ray*

**WE WELCOME VISITORS!** Information about Westminster can be found on our website [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org). Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in learning more about membership, speak to Dr. Kieffer or Rev. Choi.

### 2022 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

*I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. – John 15:15b*

Dedication Sunday is October 24, 2021. This year's stewardship theme, **I Have Called You Friends**, is based on John 15:15b. As we consider our financial commitment for 2022, let us do so in the context of the friendship that enriches our lives. By God's grace, Jesus calls us his friends! What better reason could we have to bring an offering of gratitude.

Each offering of gratitude opens the doors of Westminster to become a way to serve friends beyond our faith community and to welcome friends into the joy of the life we share in Christ.

Serving on the 2022 Stewardship Campaign with Pete are **Meleah Berkowitz, Robyn Hovey, Tom Massey, Julie McDonough, Pat Moore, Bill Schlosser, Greg Swanson, Brinton Wilkey, and Bob Zerfas**.

Stewardship Dedication will be Sunday, October 24.



**TEACH THE  
CHILDREN  
SO IT WILL  
NOT BE  
NECESSARY  
TO TEACH  
THE ADULTS**  
—Abraham Lincoln

### CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM GATHERS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

**Children and Youth** (Kindergarten through High School) are invited to join us for the first gathering of The Children of Abraham this Wednesday, September 22 from 4:30-6:00. Please plan to go directly to the Mosque and we will meet you there; however, if you need transportation contact Mrs. Sherrick at [ksherrick@wpcspi.org](mailto:ksherrick@wpcspi.org).

The Islamic Society of Greater Springfield (3000 Stanton St.) will host us as we reconnect and reunite with our friends from other faith communities. **We will decorate kites and write prayers for our community on "Be the light" tags.** Rather than share a meal together, each participant will receive a take home snack bag. This will be an outdoor event and masks will be required. The rain date is September 23.

**On Saturday, September 25 at 3:00 p.m. we are invited to the Arts Association at Edwards Place (700 North 4th Street next to the YMCA) to fly the kites they created and to see the Prayer Tree which displays the cards.**

**KNIT 2 PURL 4 – Knit 2 Purl 4** meets in person on **Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom.** On Tuesday, October 7, we welcome Sharon Brown, Director of Kumler Outreach Ministries, who will explain how our knitted donations enrich their community. Thank you to our “secret knitters” in the congregation. Your contributions are appreciated.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** will meet **Tuesday, September 21 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. For information, please call Nancy Canady at 217-899-9890.

**HEALTHY PASTORS, HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS** - On **Tuesday, September 21, at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall,** the Session will join our BOP Representative, Rev. Kenneth Green, at a dinner meeting to fulfill the final requirement for a grant on behalf of Rev. Choi who has been accepted into the program and who has completed prior requirements related to financial planning

**THE SEVENTH BIENNIAL HEALTH FAIR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

Come learn about good health practices at interactive stations in Parish Hall **and receive your Flu Vaccine.** Information on many topics will be presented, and several personal screenings and assessments will be available. We are grateful to Parish Nurse Ellen Carpenter who is coordinating the fair and the many other health professionals from our congregation and elsewhere for contributing their time and expertise. Please keep in mind that all participants will need to wear a mask and be aware of social distancing as best as possible.

**ORGAN CONCERT** - On **Sunday, September 26 at 4:00 p.m.** Trevor Good, an extraordinary young organist, from Chatham will play in the Westminster sanctuary. We are delighted to host this debut recital featuring works of Bach, Rheinberger, Gigout and the complete second symphony of Vienne.

**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** will resume **Wednesday, October 6, 6:00 p.m.** at the home of Dr. Roland Folse, 2 Virginia Lane, Lake Springfield, off West Lake Drive. Women are invited to come early to enjoy Roland’s bonsai garden and hear a little about this art! Our Bible Study will begin at 7:00 pm. Please RSVP no later than September 24. Text or call Linda Chronister at 217-306-3455

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

**To change the terms of call to the Rev. Christian K. Choi  
who will serve as the Associate Pastor for Parish Life, t  
o elect an APNC for the position of Associate Pastor for Family Ministry:**

Craig Batterman, Meleah Berkowitz, Emily Brower, Meridith Bryans,  
Adam Ekstedt, Tom Owen, and Krista Steller

**and to elect the Church Officers presented by the Nominating Committee.**

**ELDERS CLASS OF 2024:** Jay Kennerly, Tim Kluge, Dave Leonatti, Michael Morthland,  
Christy Pound, Karen Sherrick, Eleanor VanDeventer, Sarah Zervas

**YOUTH ELDERS –** Emily Brower and Bryce Pound **ELDER CLASS OF 2022:** Peter Kieffer

**BOARD OF DEACONS CLASS OF 2024:** Mervis Alah Abung, George Botanga, Sophia Choi,  
Melanie Green, Camille Massey, Jim Parker, James Rigney, Susan Shaw

**YOUTH DEACONS –** Braden Barton and Mia Marcy

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:** Tod Knox, Valerie Leonatti

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Bill Deemer, Deb Coontz, Alan Stutz, and Julie Sundquist

**THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE INVITED TO  
THE SEVENTH ANNUAL WESTMINSTER WOMEN’S SALAD SUPPER**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22  
6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IN PARISH HALL**

**PROGRAM**

**THE WAYS WOMEN BUILD TOGETHER**

**Presented by Colleen Stone**

Enjoy an evening with your Westminster sisters and bring your favorite salad. The evening’s program “The Ways Women Build Together” will be presented by Colleen Stone, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity in Springfield.

**RSVP to Jennie Alt 217-522-4415 or [jalt@wpcspi.org](mailto:jalt@wpcspi.org).**

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, September 20

### Tuesday, September 21

9:30 AM Lydia Circle (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)  
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
5:15 PM Congregational Care (Pastor's Office)  
5:30 PM I.T. Committee (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
6:30 PM Healthy Pastors, Healthy Congregation  
(Parish Hall)

### Wednesday, September 22

10:00 AM Pastor's Pray in the Chancel  
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)  
4:30 PM Children of Abraham (Meet in West Narthex)  
6:00 PM Women's Salad Supper (Parish Hall)

### Thursday, September 23

9:30 PM P.E.O. Meeting FU (Parish Hall)  
4:00 PM IL Presbyterian Home Service (IPH)  
6:00 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
7:30 PM Choir (Music Room)

### Friday, September 24

### Saturday, September 25

11:00 AM Church Mice (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

### Sunday, September 26 –

### Milestone Membership Celebration

### Biennial Health Fair

10:00 AM Worship Service  
10:15 AM Sunday School (Pre K-5)  
11:00 AM Biennial Health Fair (Parish Hall)  
11:15 AM Jr. High Confirmation (Conference Room)  
4:00 PM Organ Concert with Trevor Good (Sanctuary)  
5:00 PM Sr. High Dinner and Youth Group (Parish Hall)

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## WESTMINSTER STAFF

**The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*

**The Reverend Christian K. Choi**  
*Associate Pastor for Family Ministry*

**The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle**  
*Parish Associate*

**Dale T. Rogers**  
*Director of Music and the Arts*

**Deb Watts Elliott**  
*Saturday Worship Pianist and  
Music Coordinator*

**Karen Sherrick**  
*Director for Children's Ministry*

**Leigh Milward**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Ella Kurmann**  
*Nursery Worker*

**Ellen Carpenter**  
*Parish Nurse*

**Pat Hymans**  
*Hospitality Coordinator*

**Emily Rowley, Kacey Belitsos**  
*Cooperative Preschool Teachers*

**Lisa Runkle**  
*Financial Administrator*

**Jennie Alt**  
*Church Administrative Assistant*

**Krista Steller**  
*Webmaster*

**Gary Warnick**  
*Building and Property Manager*

**Terri Gietl, Bill Hibbert,  
Eddie Hubbard, Steve Stapleton**  
*Part-time Custodians*