



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Milestone Membership Recognition  
26 September 2021 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

- |                        |  |                     |
|------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Ministry Moment        | I Have Called You Friends  | Pat Moore           |
| Voluntary              | Antiphon V<br>How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou   | Marcel Dupré        |
| *Ringing of the Bell   | <i>The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.</i>  |                     |
| *Call to Worship       |  | Psalm 145: 4, 6, 21 |
| Leader:                | One generation shall laud your works to another,<br>and shall declare your mighty acts.  |                     |
| People:                | <b>The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,<br/>and we will declare your greatness.</b>  |                     |
| Leader:                | Our mouths will speak the praise of the Lord,<br>and all flesh will bless God's holy name forever.   |                     |
| People:                | <b>Come, let us lift our voices and worship the God of grace.</b>  |                     |
| *Hymn 307              | God of Grace and God of Glory  | <i>Cwm Rhondda</i>  |
| *Prayer of Confession  | <b>Merciful God, sometimes we forget who you are and who you call us to be. Forgive us for being unable to hear the difficult truths about ourselves and our communities which lead to change and redemption. Forgive us for lacking honesty in our lives and in our relationships. Make us more perceptive and discerning in the ways we live our faith and share your love. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.</b> |                     |
| *Sung Response         | Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us   | Hymnal, Back Cover  |
| *Declaration of Pardon |  |                     |
| Leader:                | Friends, believe the good news.  |                     |
| People:                | <b>In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.</b>   |                     |
| Leader:                | The peace of Christ be with you.   |                     |
| People:                | <b>And also with you.</b>  |                     |
| All:                   | <b>Thanks be to God. Amen</b>  |                     |
| *Response of Praise    | Gloria Patri   | Hymnal, Back Cover  |
| Children's Sermon      |  |                     |

<b>Congregational Response</b>	<p><b>God welcomes all, strangers and friends; God's love is strong and it never ends.</b></p> <p><i>Children in grades Pre-K-5 go to Sunday School class following the Congregational Response.</i></p>	
<b>First Scripture Reading</b>	Esther 4	Pew Bible, OT pages 446-447
<b>Second Scripture Reading</b>	Mark 9:38-50	Pew Bible, NT page 45
	Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.	
	People: <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	
<b>Sermon</b>	For Such a Time as This	Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
	<i>Text: Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." Esther 4:14b</i>	
<b>Anthem</b>	<p>Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You</p> <p>Lord, I stretch my hands to you; no other help I know. If you should leave me all alone, where then, shall I go? Oh, Lord, I give my soul to you. I seek your care and love. No other blessings do I need but those from you above. Lord, I ask you: give me faith, and help me understand. And, Lord, when I this life shall leave, just hold me in your hand.</p>	Jay Althouse
<b>*Affirmation of Faith</b>	<p style="text-align: right;">Based on Charles Wesley from <i>A Brief Statement of Faith</i></p> <p><b>We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.</b></p> <p><b>But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.</b></p> <p><b>Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Amen.</b></p>	
<b>The Church at Prayer</b>		
	Choir:	<p>Surely the presence of our God is in this place, I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace. I can hear the brush of angels' wings I see glory on each face; Surely the presence of God is in this place.</p>
	Pastor:	The Lord be with you.
	People:	<b>And with your spirit.</b>
	Pastor:	Let us pray.

Prayers of the People  
and The Lord's Prayer

The Presentation of our Gifts  
and Prayer of Dedication

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

Offertory

Meditation

Gabriel DuPont

Recognition of  
Milestone Members

\*Hymn 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

*St. Anne*

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Closing Voluntary

Concerto in C

Johann Sebastian Bach

(\*) The congregation is invited to stand.

**MILESTONE MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION**

**FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS:**

David Barringer	Elsie Fox
Douglas Barringer	Robert Fox
Gordon Cozadd	Ralls Melotte
Carolyn Dungan	

**FIFTY-FIVE YEAR MEMBERS:**

Linda Chronister	Marlene Rinehart
Gerald Davis	Linda Schlosser
Marilyn Davis	William Schlosser
R. Thomas Massey	Dorothy Wire
Morley Peura	

**SIXTY-YEAR MEMBERS:**

Carol Bloemer	Dr. James Singleton
Louise Cragoe	Mary Anne Singleton
Theresa Davison	

**SIXTY-FIVE YEAR MEMBERS:**

Gaynell Peters	Logan Schlipf
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We are grateful for all the ways these members have enriched the life of our congregation over the years. The congregation is invited to a reception in the West Narthex following worship to express our congratulations and appreciation.

**SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER**

- **Chancel Flowers** are given in memory of Elder Grady M. Chronister (1938-2018) by Linda Chronister and family.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Christian K. Choi
- **Greeters:** Jeanne & Pete VanGieson
- **Ushers:** Pat Moore (Head Usher), Rich Canady, Terry Haynor, Rachael Hickman, Julie McDonough, Bruce Strom, Bob Stuart, Brinton Wilkey
- **Safety Team:** Todd Knox and Mary Ray

- **Music:** 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: Leigh Milward, Ella Kurmann*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 5** begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response.
  - **Pre-Kind - Grade 2 Young Children and Worship** (Third Floor Chapel) The story is “When the World Started Over Again” Genesis 6-9 Teachers: Aaron Berkowitz (lead), Meleah Berkowitz
  - **Grades 3-5 Foundation** (Tower Room Classroom) The lesson is “How God Made Everything” Teachers: Linda Purves (lead), Karen Sherrick
- **11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Junior High Confirmation** (Third Floor Tower Room) Session 2: Rebellion from *Echo the Story. Ministry Partners: Rev. Choi, Jim Kincaid*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon The Seventh Biennial Health Fair** (Parish Hall)
- **4:00 p.m. – Organ Concert** (Sanctuary)
- **5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Senior High Dinner and Youth Group Fellowship** (Parish Hall, Youth Room) Theme: Signs of Grace *Dinner: Nichole Magalis. 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.

**ORGAN CONCERT TODAY AT 4:00 P.M.** –Trevor Good, an extraordinary young organist, from Chatham will play in the Westminster sanctuary today at 4:00 p.m. His debut recital will feature works of Bach, Rheinberger, Gigout and the complete second symphony of Vienne.

**COMPASS FOR KIDS** Orientation is this Thursday, September 30, 5:30-8:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. In-person gatherings begin at Westminster on Tuesday, October 19 at 3:00 p.m. This weekly tutoring after school program also offers a life skills class and dinner.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** Luncheon is Friday, October 1 at 12 noon in Parish Hall. Nancy Canady will prepare the meal. The program will be on the Washington Street Mission given by the Executive Director, David Swihart. Please R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, September 29 via the weekly email link, our website, or by calling the church office.

#### THE SEVENTH BIENNIAL HEALTH FAIR FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN PARISH HALL

Numerous interactive stations  
with information presented by health professionals.

##### Stations include:

Flu Vaccines (Tamika Hill, Pharm.D)

Advance Directives (Michael Nenaber, MD)

- Cancer Education (Naomi Wands, RN)
- Skin Care (Judy Knox, MD)
- Blood Glucose & Cholesterol Screening (Marilyn Rigney, RN and Paula Harwood, RN-BC, CCRP, BSN)
- Anxiety, Depression, COVID-19 Information (Virginia Dolan, MD, MBA)
- Osteoporosis Screening (Erin Ekstedt, RN, BSN and Megan Richardson, RN, BSN)
- Dental Care (Elizabeth Knoedler, DMD)
- Blood Pressure Screening (Camille Proud, RN and Meleah Berkowitz, RN)
- Computer Health Assessment and Church Life (Krista Steller)

Thank you to Memorial Medical Center, Capitol Area School of Practical Nursing, the participating medical professionals, and Parish Nurse Ellen Carpenter for organizing this event.



## ADULT EDUCATION HUNGER ACTION SERIES

### SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 3, 10 & 17 11:15 A.M. IN THE SECOND FLOOR CLASSROOM

During the October Adult Education Forum, Westminster's Hunger Action team will present current information on hunger, its LOCAL impact, and ways our state as well as organizations and volunteers are addressing the need in the Springfield area. Led by Mary Caroline Mitchell and Becky Martin.

### ANNUAL CROP WALK ON WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

#### 1:00 P.M. AT THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The walk begins at Third Presbyterian (1030 N. Seventh). Check-in is at 1 p.m. with a start time of 1:30. The 2-mile walk will take an average walker less than one hour to complete. Runners are welcome. Park in the Third Presbyterian parking lot at Bergen and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets. 25% of money raised goes to our local food pantries, the remainder fighting hunger worldwide. Donations can be made online at: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/westminster-presbyterian-2> or write WPC a check with Crop Walk in the memo line.



**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** meets Monday, October 4 at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom.

**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.

**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. 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

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST** meets Thursday, **October 14 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Julie Bobell, Advanced Care Coordinator from Memorial Medical Center, will speak about advanced care planning, palliative care, and end of life care. Call Pete VanGieson (217-652-1310) for details.

### 2022 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN REFLECTION – I HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS

*My journey of faith at Westminster began when I first met my wife, Christie, a lifelong Presbyterian. Although I was a Christian, I was not attending a church when we met. We discussed looking for a new church that fit our spiritual needs and where we could both grow our faith. We attended a couple of churches and felt most at home with the traditional service and the inspirational music we encountered at Westminster. We felt welcome and could feel God's love at work through the members and friends we met. We were married in this church and have raised Will our son to worship God. His involvement in Church Mice, Choristers, Bridges, and WPC Youth Group has provided him with spiritual guidance and the biblical knowledge that will be with him the rest of his life. I am very thankful for Westminster, as I watch him grow in his faith.*

*I believe supporting our family ministry and mission efforts is a way to give something back for all that my family and I have received. I have used my professional expertise to serve on the Building and Property Committee for over 14 years and am now serving my first term on Session. My son and I worked side-by-side on a recently completed Steadfast Neighbor project. When asked to serve on the Stewardship Committee, I was humbled at the request to help fulfill a need for continuing our church's ministry.*

*I hope God calls you to bless our church with your support. Please complete your pledge card and return by Dedication Sunday, October 24, 2021. - Robyn Hovey*

## 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,

to elect an APNC for 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 Zerfas

**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

Thank you to the 2021 Nominating Committee! *Jim Kincaid, Chair, Carolyn Swanson, Elder,*

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, September 27

9:30 King's Daughter's Meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom)

### Tuesday, September 28

9:30 AM Staff Meeting (Second Floor Classroom)

1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

5:00 PM Hunger Action Team (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

7:30 PM St. Andrew's Sisters (Offsite)

### Wednesday, September 29

9:30 AM Pastor's Pray in the Chancel

10:00 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)

12:30 PM Reporter Folding (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

4:00 PM Property Meeting (Second Floor Classroom)

4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Room)

4:45 PM Choristers (Music Room)

5:00 PM Membership Committee (Pastor's Study)

6:00 PM Adult Ed Committee (Pastor's Study)

### Thursday, September 30

4:00 PM IL Presbyterian Home Service (IPH)

5:30 PM Compass Ministry Partner Orientation  
(Parish Hall)

6:00 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

7:30 PM Choir (Music Room)

### Friday, October 1

11:00 AM PW Board Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

12:00 PM PW Luncheon (Parish Hall)

### Saturday, October 2

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

### Sunday, October 3 – World Communion Day

10:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM Sunday School (Pre K-5)

11:15 AM Jr. High Confirmation (Conference Room)

11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

1:00 PM CROP Walk (Third Presbyterian Church)

5:00 PM Sr. High Dinner and Youth Group (Parish Hall)

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Phone (217) 522-4415 Fax (217) 522-4465

## 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*