



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

April 2019

SUNDAY WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

Sunday Schedule:

Nursery 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon

*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 Ed Forum 11:15 a.m. – 12 noon

Junior High Youth 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Senior High Youth 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

April 7

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

Suffering Gain

April 14

PALM SUNDAY

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29, Luke 19:28-40

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

A Time to Speak

April 21

EASTER SUNDAY

Isaiah 65:17-23; John 20:1-18

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Garden Serendipity

April 28

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Acts 5:27-32; John 20:19-31

Rev. Christian K. Choi

A Faithful Witness



PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14

8:30 and 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer will preach. During the 10:00 a.m. worship service, Sunday school children and youth will lead us in the processional with palms and their One Great Hour of Sharing fish boxes. The center aisle pews will be lined with donated coats. The Westminster Children's Choir will sing and the Westminster Choir will sing *Forsaken* by Dan Forrest.

THE PASSION OF CHRIST ART DISPLAY AND LABYRINTH

April 14-21

Artwork depicting the Passion of Christ will be displayed in Parish Hall. Through the eyes of renowned artists, we will witness Christ's entry into Jerusalem and the events of Holy Week leading to His crucifixion, resurrection and ascension. **Westminster's Labyrinth** will be displayed in Parish Hall during Holy Week for those who would like to practice this discipline of prayer.

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE, APRIL 18

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Trajan McGill will preach and the Westminster Choir will sing *God So Loved the World* by Chilcott. This service will conclude with the solemn stripping of the Chancel accompanied by the *Adagio for Strings* of Samuel Barber.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, APRIL 19

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Christian Choi will preach in this service which will include Westminster youth reading the Passion based on John's Gospel, with special music of Lotti, Pearsall, Jackson and Cooman sung by the Walnuts.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

8:30 and 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer will preach, and the Westminster Choir will be joined by members of the Millikin Brass in Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus* and *Awake, Arise!* by Helvey and other festive music for Easter Day. The Chancel will be filled with the cross of lilies, a cherished tradition at Westminster.

Easter Egg Hunt in Parish Hall follows 10:00 a.m. Worship.

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

For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment. 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Galatians 5:14

The **STEADFAST NEIGHBOR ENDEAVOR** was presented to over 120 members on March 24 and 26 by the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC). The endeavor was well-received with lots of positive feedback and some helpful ideas. With Session approval this month, the Strategic Planning Committee and related task forces will continue to groom their plans, communicate to the neighborhood, seek permits and bids, and explore mission opportunities. The presentation included:

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NAME: "Steadfast" affirms our commitment to the neighborhood and resonates with the "steadfast love of God." Steadfast in the sense of continuity, consistency, resilience, being there, and staying the course provides rich imagery for God's faithfulness to us and God's call for us to be faithful to our neighbors.

HISTORY: The seed for this endeavor was planted twenty years ago (May 2, 1999) when the congregation approved long range strategic goals to develop a site plan which reflects *our commitment to remain at the present location*, including: expansion of the parking lot, enhancement of landscaping in parking areas, and purchase of additional properties to allow for expansion. The strategic goals also included mission initiatives within the neighborhood: tutoring/counseling program for families in this area who are living in poverty and programs to serve and improve the neighborhood around the church. The *Steadfast Neighbor Endeavor* will fulfill this vision.

FUNDING: The successful "Building a Legacy of Faith" Twenty Year Anniversary Endowment Campaign initiated in 2015 will bring the *Steadfast Neighbor Endeavor* to fruition. At the end of 2018, the book value of the Westminster Endowment was \$5,712,000. The Site and Landscaping Plan (currently estimated at \$950,000) will require a loan to complete the project in a timely manner. The earnings from the general endowment designated for building improvements will repay that loan. *Although we will not embark on a capital building campaign, gifts which will reduce the amount of the loan are welcome.* The Mission gift of the endeavor will be at least one-third of the Site and Landscape Plan expenditure and will be funded by the general endowment earnings designated for mission.

SITE AND LANDSCAPE PLAN includes four major renovations: East Terrace, Parking Lot, West Terrace, and Landscape.

MISSION – The seeds sown twenty years ago have already brought forth meaningful neighborhood mission including Compass, Adopt-A-Street, Harvest Fest, and VBS community outreach. Considerations for expanded mission include: 1) hosting our neighbors for summer barbeques, 2) creating summer teams of college youth and adults to paint, to repair, and to landscape neighborhood homes, 3) partnering with Habitat, 4) providing matching grants to home owners, 5) advocating for renters, 6) creating a community garden, and 7) partnering in mission with neighborhood congregations.

It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood!

SAFETY TEAM PRESENTATION

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

5:30 P.M. IN THE YOUTH ROOM

Sergeant Gerry Castles of the Springfield Police Department will present a program on "Active Shooter Awareness & Preparation" on Tuesday, April 30 at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. He will also talk about Dealing with Difficult Persons. Safety Team members and friends are invited. Vegetable Pizza will be served (preferred diet of Safety Teams everywhere.)

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

A NEW HISTORICAL FIND: The original organ in our 1908 building was part of a large nation-wide beneficiary program of industrialist and philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie. Known for his gifts of public libraries throughout the country, Carnegie also assisted in the purchase of 8,000 pipe organs. The original 1908 Hook and Hastings organ, whose façade pipes remain in Westminster's chancel, was one of them. In Illinois alone, there are over 200 churches who in the early years of the last century received assistance in the purchase of their organ. Andrew Carnegie wished that his gifts to American churches be a quiet gift. In our case, it has been a 110 year old secret.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS our choir for students in grades 3-5 rehearses at 4:30 p.m. following the Bridges program. The project for the coming months is the preparation of the musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* which will be presented on Sunday, May 5 at both the 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. services.



THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR Rehearsals of the choir are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. as we prepare to sing for the Holy Week services at 10:00 a.m. on Palm Sunday, at 7:00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, and at both the 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. services on Easter Day.

CHURCH MICE, our musical experience for infants through age four, meets in the second floor classroom on Saturday mornings at 11:00 a.m. Church Mice will meet each Saturday through April 13.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR, our choir for Kindergartners through second grade, meets each Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. This choir will be a part of the celebrations on Palm Sunday.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM:

THE CHALLENGES OF PAUL
SUNDAYS, APRIL 7, 14, 28, MAY 5

During April the Adult Education Forum continues the seven-week study of "The Challenges of Paul," which is a Faith and Reason DVD. The presenter is New Testament Scholar John Domini Crossan. The class meets at 11:15 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom.



FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Income received in the first two months of 2019 is \$2,650 more than budgeted which is a result of a number of pledges being paid in a lump sum early in the year. Expenses are under budget year-to-date by \$2,980. Therefore, total income exceeds expenses by \$5,630.

2019 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 175,342	\$ 172,692	\$ 2,650
Expenses	-\$169,712	-\$172,692	\$ -2,980
Net Total	\$ 5,630	\$ 0	

FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi

THIS YEAR'S TRIVIA NIGHT was a great success. We **raised \$4,868!** Special thanks to Trivia Masters Kelly Robertson & Derik Hymans; Pat Hymans, Mary Ray, and their fabulous kitchen team; and all who donated such great raffle items. Last but not least, thank you to all who participated. The winning team is pictured on page 5.

A CONFIRMATION DINNER celebrating our confirmands will be held on Wednesday, April 17th at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall, following the 5:30 p.m. confirmation presentation during the monthly Session meeting. Confirmands, their families, and mentors are invited to enjoy a wonderful meal provided by the Membership Committee.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

4:00 PM: Confirmation / Confirmation Prep
 5:00 PM: Youth Group Worship (Junior & Senior High)
 5:30 PM: Youth Group Dinner
 6:00 PM: Senior High Bible Study

Date	Confirmation Prep	Confirmation	Sr. High
Apr. 7	~ Spring Break ~ (No classes / gathering)		
Apr. 14	Session 36 New Creation	Statement of Faith	Session 9 Seeking God in Prayer
Apr. 21	Christ is Risen! Happy Easter!		
Apr. 28	Game Night (All Youth)	Session 10 Making the right decisions	

2019 YOUTH MISSION



All Team Meeting will be held **Sunday, April 28th from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** in the Youth Room. We will participate in team building and have Q&A session with Emma Shafer, who will serve on the summer volunteer staff at ASP again in 2019.

WPC YOUNG ADULTS RESUME THIS SUMMER

WPC Young Adults will take a short break from their Sunday brunches this spring. A summer gathering will be planned. Please contact Rev. Christian Choi (cchoi@wpcspi.org) if you are interested in being a part of this fellowship group.

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL

In March, WCP held a successful open house for the 2019-2020 school year and hosted "Dessert with Someone Special," which is an evening for a parent or other special adult in the preschoolers' lives to come and play with them at school.



During the school day, the children prepared a special dessert. From 6:30-7:30, the preschooler and his/her special someone explored the classroom, made boats from aluminum foil to float in the sensory table, ate their fishy rice krispy treats, graphed with Fruit Loops, and enjoyed many other fun activities. Pictured above is Sadie with her "Someone Special" and father, Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

BRIDGES MIDWEEK FELLOWSHIP

During April Bridges children in grades 3-5 are exploring the Holy Week Box and creating thank you gifts as they continue their 2018-2019 theme "Who Am I?" We will not meet on April 3 because of spring break.

On **Wednesday, April 17** the children will welcome their advocates for a time of sharing, a visit to the Passion of Christ Art Display, and a simple communion service led by Dr. Kieffer and Rev. Choi.

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14 AT 9:45 A.M.

All children and youth are invited to meet in Parish Hall at 9:45 a.m. with their **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING FISH BOXES**. We will prepare for the processional and presentation of our fish boxes. Thank you to all for filling their fish boxes with donations throughout Lent as we remember those in need and support Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) hunger and disaster assistance programs.



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21 AFTER THE 10:00 SERVICE



Families with children (birth-grade 5) are invited to Parish Hall for an Easter egg hunt.

THE CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM SPRING SERVICE PROJECT

DATE: Thursday, May 2, 2019

TIME: 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Registration 4:15)

PLACE: Grace United Methodist Church

WHO: Children & Youth Grades K-12

WHAT: JOIN US AS WE GATHER TO

- **Build** friendships through mixers and games.
- **Enjoy** an art display of faith symbols we share.
- **Create** swimming bag kits for Matthew Project.
- **Share** a vegetarian meal.
- **View** a PowerPoint Presentation of our journey.

Parents are invited to attend. Special thanks to the Westminster Endowment, which helped fund this final gathering for the 2018-2019 journey and to all our families and friends who have joined us on this journey of friendship and collaboration. Sign up online www.wpcspi.org or with Karen Sherrick at ksherrick@wpcspi.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 10-14

BLAST OFF WITH OUR VBS: TO MARS AND BEYOND

This summer, June 10-14 from 9 a.m. to noon, children ages 3- grade 5 are invited to join us *To Mars and Beyond* where we will discover the wonders of God's universe. We'll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take us.



Online registration: www.wpcspi.org/vbs.html

To volunteer, please sign-up online (use registration link) or email Karen Sherrick at ksherrick@wpcspi.org.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

Children and youth (K-Grade 12) gathered at Temple B'Rith Sholom on March 13. Our time of fellowship included discussion about the Hebrew alphabet, the meaning and spelling of the word Shalom, and an introduction to the Hamsa symbol. Rabbi Datz brought the children into the sanctuary to share the Jewish traditions, the Ark, the Torah and the Eternal Light. The program was concluded with a delicious vegetarian meal and the singing of the song "Father Abraham."

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 2, at Grace United Methodist Church.



NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24



Jamie Powell by Certificate of Transfer from First Trinity Lutheran Church in Springfield, IL and **Tom Bilyeu** by Reaffirmation of Faith. Jamie works as a Care Coordinator for Senior Services and Tom works for Springfield Collision in auto body repair. They enjoy camping in their camper and spending time with their two dogs and one cat. Jamie and Tom will be married at Westminster on May 25. *Sponsor: Scott Hibbert*



Jayne Cates by Certificate of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood. Jayne recently moved to Springfield after 41 years in Los Angeles. Jayne has worked in front and behind the camera in Hollywood, has sung in numerous choirs and groups, worked in accounting, real estate, and publishing. She sang with the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood before joining the Westminster Choir. Jayne loves art, music, and haiku poetry. *Sponsor: Kate Wilson*



George Botanga by Reaffirmation of Faith. George worshipped at a Presbyterian Church in Cameroon, Africa before he moved to the United States in 2009. He lived in Chicago with his older brother, Dr. Chris Botanga, where he earned a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering from DeVry University. He previously worked with G.E. Healthcare at Silver Cross Hospital, and now is a Clinical Engineer with BCJ Healthcare at Memorial Hospital.



Sophia Choi by Certificate of Transfer from Fresno Korean Presbyterian Church. Sophia earned a B.A. degree in International Economics from the University of Illinois. She met her husband, the Rev. Christian Choi, while they both attended U of I. They have two children: 3-year-old Diana and newborn son, Zachariah. Sophia enjoys archery, listening to music, and reading. She anticipates raising their children in the Springfield community with great joy. *Sponsor: Susan Day*



Drs. Katie and Jonathan Carlson-Eastvold – Katie by Reaffirmation of Faith and Jonathan by Certificate of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Springfield, IL. Katie earned her Ph.D. in English Literature with an emphasis on Nineteenth Century British Literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and completed her tenure as an English Professor at Lee University in Tennessee before moving to Springfield following her marriage to Jonathan in June 2018. Jonathan has his Ph.D. in Political Science and Biblical/Theological Studies from Princeton University and is a political analyst for the Illinois General Assembly. Their children are Charlie, Kristianna, Katharine and Juliana Eastvold.

Sponsors: Carolyn and Brad Swanson

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
MARCH 6**



WPC began the journey of Lent with a meaningful worship service that included the imposition of ashes, communion, and the gift of a pocket prayer square knitted by K2P4 Mission. Over 130 men, women, and children gathered for "The Season of Prayer."



**YOUTH SUNDAY & TRIVIA NIGHT
SUNDAY, MARCH 24**



Congratulations to the winning Trivia Table: Neva Knox, Priscilla & Tim, Elisabeth, Matthew Kluge, Mark Luttrell, Katie & Jonathan Carlson-Eastvold, Charlie Eastvold and thank you to Trivia Masters: Derik Hymans and Kelly Robertson.

PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

After last year's success, Habitat for Humanity is taking on another "1000 Women Strong" building project with the goal of teaming up women from across Springfield to construct affordable housing, and the project begins this month! Thank you to those who shared the gift of hospitality at the April 2 Kick-off and to all the Westminster women who have supported this build financially.



We are mobilizing a volunteer team of painters from Westminster for **Saturday, June 8, 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.** We may also supply lunch at that Saturday. Plenty of other dates are available for volunteer help as well between now and the end of June. Please sign-up on Sundays or contact Sue Sawers at ssawers@comcast.net.

APRIL EARTH CARE TIP

China's recent restriction on recycling the world's paper, plastic, and glass unfortunately has diverted some of these commodities to landfills and polluting incinerators. This recycling crisis reminds us that reducing our consumption and reusing what we buy are greener alternatives to using once then recycling. For example, let us read on a screen what we could have printed and let us reuse the backside of what we printed for scrap!

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Westminster Presbyterian Church will be recognized at an awards dinner on April 25 as having achieved a Silver level in the Springfield Area Green Leadership Program. Thank you to the Earth Care team, chaired by Dr. Peter Kieffer, for keeping sustainability in front of us continually and seeking out regional programs such as this in which to participate.

WPC HOSTS TABLE AT EARTH AWARENESS FAIR, APRIL 27

The Earth Care Team will host a table again this year at the annual Springfield Earth Awareness Fair, taking place on Saturday, April 27, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Old State Capitol. The event is free and open to the public. Come learn, encourage, and promote practices that preserve a healthy earth, and keep our stewardship of the environment front and center in our minds.

HELPING HANDS

The March 8 dinner for the Helping Hands shelter was provided by Pat Hymans. Our next date to supply food is April 12, and thanks to Kay Smith, Diane Rutledge, and Carolyn Proctor for filling that need. Westminster provides dinner on the second Friday of every month. May 10 still needs a volunteer or volunteers, and June through December are still open as well. Please consider volunteering to provide one of these meals. More information is available from Rev. McGill or Jennie Alt.



GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH APRIL MENU Canned Chicken/Tuna, Canned Fruit in 100% Juice, and Baked Beans or Veggies. Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank. **Items in High Demand:** feminine hygiene products, shampoo, diapers & wipes size 3 and up, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.

KENYA MISSION TRIP

JANUARY 14-30, 2020

We are moving forward on plans for a mission trip to Kenya in January 2020! We will be constructing a church building and classrooms as well as growing our cultural familiarity with the people of the region. The trip is expected to cost \$3,000 - \$3,500 per person, with applications due July 1 and a deposit by August 1. We are working to identify and solidify our participant team. If you have interest but have not yet let us know or gotten a packet from us with detailed information, please contact Rev. Trajan McGill at tmcgill@wpcspi.org right away to learn more.

CONTACT MINISTRIES

Westminster was pleased to take part in the Contact Ministries spring "prom" on February 15. Please also consider supporting this valuable area ministry by attending their upcoming golf fundraiser on May 20. It will be a 2-person scramble format, and the entry fee is \$750 per team. Check with Contact Ministries board members Dr. Kieffer or Joe Fierstos for more details.



CAREGIVER INTERFAITH VOLUNTEER SERVICES is an organization which provides transportation and home repairs to community members. *Linda Shaefer* is Westminster's new coordinator following *Mina Bentsen's* move last month. The coordinator takes the calls every week and assigns those in our church who have received the orientation and training to provide transportation. Current volunteers are: *Sandy Bellatti, Nancy Canady, Ed and Linda Caupert, Phyllis Lowrey, Keith Hamilton, Mary Caroline Mitchell, Maribeth Norton, Betsy Ruklick, Linda Schlosser, Linda Shaefer, Mike Sundquist, Sharon Zook.* *Mary Caroline Mitchell* was the founding Director and Ed Caupert works in home repair.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

HEALTH FAIR

Numerous members of the WPC community got the chance to learn valuable medical information and obtain health screenings at our 7th Biennial Health Fair. Thank you to the numerous health care professionals from inside and outside WPC, especially Parish Nurse Ellen Carpenter, for once again making this event a success in promoting healthy living.



HOME COMMUNION If you are unable to attend worship on the 2nd Sunday of the month and would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Jennie Alt. Nine members received the sacrament in March from six teams of elders and deacons. Many thanks to those who participate in bringing the Lord's Supper. We are also looking for more volunteers to take part. If you are an elder or deacon and would consider this valuable monthly ministry of visitation, please talk to Rev. Trajan McGill.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES

A friendly reminder: we have entered tornado season! Ushers have procedures ready for getting everyone to shelter if there should be a weather emergency on a Sunday morning. Make sure your household is prepared as well!

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION

TUESDAYS AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE SECOND FLOOR CLASSROOM

K2P4 Mission gathers every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters will meet for a brown bag lunch in the kitchen at 12:00 p.m. on April 9.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW LUNCHEON Join with us Friday, April 5 at noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair will be Nancy Canady and Chair of the Day will be Carolyn Beatty. Linda McCall will present a program called "God in the Driver's Seat." This is a story of bringing her adopted twins back to their cultural homeland of Columbia, South America. Please make your reservation by April 4 with your circle, the office, or on our website.



RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE will meet on **Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Diane Rutledge (3925 Surry Place Lane, Spfld.) and lead the discussion of Chapter 28- End in *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. If you would like info, call Meg Kontio at 330-472-4135.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet **Monday, April 8 at 5:30 p.m.** in Second Floor Classroom. Mary Peura will lead the discussion on Chapter 8 "Tears of a Clown." If you would like information, call Eleanor VanDeventer at 217-341-4032.

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet **Tuesday, April 16 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Ziegler Library. Leah Duling will host and lead devotions. Carolyn Beatty will lead the discussion on Lesson 7 "God With Us: As the Holy Spirit." If you would like information, call Nancy Scott at 217-891-3902.

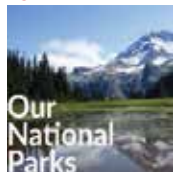
LAYETTES FOR KUMLER APRIL COLLECTION

Join the women of Westminster in donating layette items during the month of April; items will be given to Kumler Outreach Ministries. The Layettes Box is located in the West Narthex. Layettes will be delivered at the Church Women United May Friendship Day on Thursday, May 2 at Fresh Visions Community Church, 1551 J. David Jones Parkway, 1:00 p.m. Please have all donations in by April 30; women of Westminster are invited to attend May Friendship Day.



PRESBYTERIAN MEN *NOTE SECOND THURSDAY

Presbyterian Men will meet **Thursday, April 11 at 7:00 a.m.** for a breakfast gathering. Alan Stutz will speak on "Our National Parks". Rich Canady will be providing breakfast. Come share in good food and great fellowship!



DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) *NOTE SECOND FRIDAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 12 AT 6:30 P.M. POTLUCK & 7:15 P.M. PROGRAM

We welcome Shannon Dyson, Quality Coordinator of The Autism Program, who will present a program on the "Overview of the Autism Program of Illinois". Information will also be available about the Autism Support of Central Illinois annual fundraiser on April 28 at Noll Medical Pavilion. Reservations are not needed, so please join us for the program even if you are unable to attend the potluck. Guests and youth are always welcome.



WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Andy Smith celebrates 93 years on April 5.

WEDDING

Jocelyn Taylor and Kory Duckworth were united in marriage on March 2 at Westminster.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rev. and Mrs. Christian and Sophia Choi will present their son, Zachariah Young for baptism on April 7.

Mr. and Dr. Joe and Lizzie Knoedler will present their daughter, Camille Grace for baptism on April 7.

IN MEMORIAM

Darline B. Nebel-Gietl died on March 31. The sympathy and prayers of the congregation are extended to her children William A. (Patricia) Nebel and Richard A. (Kathleen) Nebel, step-daughter Jeanne (Richard) Gerard, step-sons John P. "Pat" (Cathleen) Gietl, Steven (Patricia) Gietl, and their families.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

John Cross on the death of his uncle, Frank Lynn Voth on February 25 in St. Louis.

Mr. and Dr. Chris and Michelle Oliver on the death of her grandfather, Francis "Frank" Merkley of Princeton, IL.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to George Preckwinkle who received the Outstanding Eagle Scout Award on February 25.

Congratulations to Ben Rogers, nephew of Dale Rogers, who received the Tungett Eagle Scout Scholarship on February 25. This scholarship was given by the Tungett Family in honor Leroy Tungett, the father of Eleanor VanDeventer and Michael Tungett.

Congratulations to Joe Harrison who received the "Silver Beaver" Award on March 13. This is the council level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America.

Congratulations to Matthew Knox who won five individual events and broke two individual state records in the 100 and 200. Matthew and his teammates also won two relays, setting new state records in both the 200 free relay and the 400 free relay.

Congratulations to Emily Brower whose history paper was selected as a finalist and will advance to the State History Fair.

THANK YOU WESTMINSTER

Thank you for your recent donation to Caregiver Interfaith Volunteer Services in honor of Mina Bentsen. Your donation goes toward the purchase of clinical equipment, training, scholarships, and more. We are grateful for your support. *Brandy Grove, Major Gift Officer*

ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME

The pastors will lead worship at the Illinois Presbyterian Home on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. during the month of April.

Volunteers are needed to help sell cards to the residents on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. If interested, please contact Sue Baker at 787-2373.



Cake donations are needed for the Presbyterian Home's monthly Birthday Celebrations. If you would like to be part of this and help out, please contact Nancy Canady 546-8469.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 DURING 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

The Class of 2019 will be recognized and commissioned on Sunday, April 28, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. This is a time of celebration and a milestone on the faith journeys of our youth:

Braden Thomas Barton
Emily Allison Brower
Jonathan Charles Eastvold, Jr.
Louisa Claire Eldridge
Caroline Julia Haynor
Mia Grace Marcy
Bryce Dean Pound



Each youth will receive a NRSV Student Bible, which is a gift from Westminster. The Congregational Fellowship Committee of the Board of Deacons will host a reception honoring the Confirmands following worship. *Thank you to those who served as mentors to our confirmands: Meridith Bryans, Tara Fritsch, Charlie King, Todd Knox, Dave Leonatti, Becky Martin, and Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill.*

LENTEN GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

We dedicate the One Great Hour of Sharing denominational offering on Palm Sunday, April 14. Join our children, youth, and Presbyterians to provide relief to those affected by natural disasters, feed the hungry, and empower the poor and oppressed through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) offering.

A LENTEN COAT DRIVE

We are collecting coats in the West Narthex during Lent. These coats will line the center pews of our Sanctuary on Palm Sunday, and then go to Contact Ministries. To date, we have collected 40 coats.

THE EASTER MUSIC FUND

The Easter Music Fund provides for the brass quartet for both Easter Day services, in addition to other special music offerings through the season. A suggested donation is \$25.

THE EASTER DECORATION FUND

The Easter Decoration Fund provides for the palms and lilies for Holy Week and Easter decorations. A suggested donation is \$25.

The Easter bulletin will include a list of donors and those they are remembering for both the Easter Music and Easter Decoration Funds. The deadline for the bulletin wording is Palm Sunday, April 14.

SATURDAY WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

RESUMES APRIL 27 AT 5:00 P.M.



Saturday worship at Westminster resumes on **April 27 with a 5:00 p.m. service** in Parish Hall. Join our Saturday night worshippers for the season's traditional opening reception in Parish Hall on April 27. Light appetizers and punch will follow worship.

The Rev. Christian Choi will preach on April 27. We are grateful for the innovative music provided by Deb Watts and the Westminster Jazz Trio.

Members are encouraged to join us for this meaningful worship experience!

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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April Reporter deadline is
Sunday, April 28.
Reporter folding and mailing will be
Wednesday, May 1