



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

APRIL 2015

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall

Sunday Schedule:

Nursery 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Worship 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary

& 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary

Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Pre K-Grade 5

Adult Education Forum 11:15 a.m.

Jr. High Road to Emmaus 4:00 p.m.

Youth Dinner 5:30 p.m.

Sr. High Road to Damascus 6:00 p.m.

April 4 & 5

Easter

Isaiah 25:6-9, John 20:1-18

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

For Whom are You Looking?

April 11 & 12

2nd Sunday of Easter

Sacrament of Communion

Psalm 133, John 20:19-31

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

A Time of Transition

April 18 & 19

3rd Sunday of Easter

Children's Musical: O, Jonah!

Acts 3:12-19, Luke 24:36b-48

Reverend Trajan McGill

Fish Stories

April 25 & 26

4th Sunday of Easter

Confirmation Sunday

Acts 4:5-12, 1 John 3:16-24

Reverend Hannah Dreitcer

Cornerstones

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29

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

The sermon will be presented by the Reverend Trajan McGill.

During the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, the Sunday School children and youth (Pre-K–Grade 12) will lead us in the processional with palms and their One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Boxes. The center aisle pews will be lined with donated coats. The Westminster Choir will be joined by Ann Collins, violin and Susan Phillips, 'cello in *Forsaken*, a new anthem by Dan Forrest. The Sicilienne of Gabriel Fauré with 'cello will be at the offertory.

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE, APRIL 2

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The meditation will be presented by the Reverend Hannah Dreitcer.

Westminster Choir will nourish our spirits with special music from the community of Taizé, France and a new anthem by Geoff Weaver. The Communion Service will conclude with the solemn stripping of the church accompanied by the *Adagio for Strings* of Samuel Barber.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The meditation will be presented by the Reverend Trajan McGill.

Good Friday worship will be centered on the reading of the Passion according to John, with music by The Walnuts

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

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

The sermon will be presented by the Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer.

On Easter Sunday, the Westminster Choir will be joined with members of the Millikin Brass in Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus* and other festive music of the season. The Chancel will be filled with the massive cross of lilies, a cherished tradition at Westminster.

Easter Egg Hunt in Parish Hall for our younger children follows 10:00 a.m. worship.

Confirmation Sunday, April 26

Class of 2015 Recognized and Commissioned

At the April meeting of the Session, nine young people will be received into the membership of this congregation. They will be recognized and commissioned on Sunday, April 26, during the 10:00 a.m. service of worship:

Emma Kathleen Batterman

Claire Autumn Bess

William Daniel Formea

Grayson English Freer

Gabi Kristine Huston

Matthew John Knox

Ross Albert Lochbaum

Talen Scott Vogler

John Joseph Zerfas

This is a time of celebration and a milestone on the faith journeys of these young people. A reception in their honor will follow worship in Parish Hall.

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

...to equip the saints for ministry in the building up of the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:12

Dear Friends: As the 18th installed pastor in Westminster's 180 year history, I am grateful for the legacy of faith passed on from those who have come before me, and I am mindful of the responsibility to build on the foundation lovingly laid by our forbearers. With the ordination and installation of the Reverend Trajan McGill, who joins the Reverend Hannah Dreitcer and me, your pastoral team is well poised to equip the saints for ministry in the building up of the body of Christ. The Anniversary Endowment Campaign provides an opportunity for each of us to build on that foundation in a thoughtful and concrete way. A gift to the endowment fund witnesses to our love for Christ and is an investment in Christ's church at Westminster for all generations to come.

The committee created a campaign goal strategy to provide suggestions for various levels of giving within the **Albert Hale Circle**. The names of the giving categories are metaphors for mission and building, both of which are key components of this anniversary campaign.

The individuals who give at these levels will be listed in the Albert Hale Circle unless they indicate otherwise. This goal strategy emphasizes the importance of every member's participation. Every gift counts! However, leadership gifts are essential in reaching our goal! Please prayerfully consider your gift.

We will celebrate all the commitments we have received on Dedication Sunday, May 17, as we welcome my predecessor, the Reverend Dr. Lonnie H. Lee and his wife Barbara, to our worship service and a celebratory picnic on the eve of our 180th Founders' Day!

Support & Endowment Anniversary Campaign Goal Strategy						
Albert Hale Circle Gift Levels	Amount To Date	Number To Date	Amount To Date	Additional # Needed	Total #	Total
Cornerstone	\$250,000	2	\$500,000	0	2	\$500,000
Foundation	\$150,000	1	\$150,000	2	3	\$450,000
Tower	\$100,000	0	\$0	4	4	\$400,000
Keystone	\$50,000	3	\$150,000	7	10	\$500,000
Pillar	\$25,000	3	\$75,000	12	15	\$375,000
Samaritan	\$15,000	0	\$0	20	20	\$300,000
Advocate	\$10,000	2	\$20,723	18	20	\$200,723
Counselor	\$5,000	11	\$56,000	19	30	\$151,000
Companion	\$2,500	4	\$10,500	36	40	\$100,500
Friend	Up to \$2,500	12	\$9,500	224	236	\$122,777
Total		38	\$971,723	342	380	\$3,100,000

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer

YOUTH AT WESTMINSTER

2015 KAREN DILLON MISSION TRIP

Servant Day Fundraiser is Saturday, April 25! Do you have a project you need done around your house or yard? On Saturday, April 25, the youth will be available to do whatever projects or tasks you need, from childcare to yardwork in exchange for donations to the Mission! Email hdreitcer@wpcspi.org to sign up.

ROAD TO DAMASCUS SENIOR HIGH SCHEDULE:

This semester the theme for the Road to Damascus is "People of the Word and Way." We will focus on the book at the heart of our faith and what it means to live a Christian life.

April 5 –Easter: No Group

April 12 –The Empty Tomb: Explorations of Easter

April 19 –An Easter People: The Pauline Epistles

April 26–Confirmation Sunday: No Group

SENIOR HIGH ROCK CLIMBING

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

The Senior High will go rock climbing together on Saturday, April 18! We'll meet up at the church at 8:30 a.m. and head up to Bloomington, where we'll take a 10:00 a.m. Rock Gym class together. After the class, we'll be able to climb, then eat a late lunch together. **Cost: \$15 / person. RSVP to hdreitcer@wpcspi.org by April 3.** We've got eight slots, so the sooner you can RSVP the better!

ROAD TO EMMAUS JUNIOR HIGH SCHEDULE:

April 5 – Easter: No Group

April 12 – Confirmation Prep: Pentecost

Confirmation Class: Worship

April 19 – Confirmation Prep: Paul

Confirmation Class: Our Faith

April 26 – Confirmation Sunday: No Group

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES by Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill

HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES

On Psalm Sunday, March 29 at 9:45 a.m. all children and youth are invited to meet in Parish Hall, where we will prepare to lead the processional with palms and present the children's One Great Hour of Sharing fish boxes.

On Easter Sunday, April 5, directly following the 10:00 a.m. service there will be an Easter egg hunt for children (birth- 5th grade) in Parish Hall.

SAVE THE DATE! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be June 15 - 19, 2015. Our theme is "From the Jordan to Jerusalem: Following Jesus' Ministry." Registration opens April 1.

CUB SCOUT CAMP, July 10-12, will kick off WPC's Cub Scout Troop with two nights of camping for boys entering 1st grade through 4th grade in Fall 2015.

THE STATE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL SERVICE is Thursday, April 16, at 11:00 a.m. at the Old State Capitol. The service will include a survivor's remembrance by Magda Brown. Rev. Dreitcer will give the benediction.

PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

FELLOWSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

THEOLOGY ON TAP YOUNGER ADULT FELLOWSHIP (ages 21 – 40) meets Monday, April 6th, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at The Creek, 1081 Jason Pl, Chatham. Join us as we and First Presbyterian Church continue Martin Luther's tradition of talking theology and life at a local restaurant, led by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer. The first round of appetizers is on us!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP meets Thursday, April 9, at 7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Men will enjoy breakfast coordinated by Charlie King, a devotional by Bob Wire, and a short program on "Law Enforcement Use of Force" by Mark Ranck. Questions, Call Mark Ranck at 483-2821.

DMA (Don't Mention Age; All Ages Welcome) Join us Friday, April 24 (**note date change**), at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a pot luck dinner and program by Pam VanAlstine entitled "The Battle for (Lincoln's) Gravesite."

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AT WESTMINSTER

HELPING HANDS meal the Second Friday in March was prepared by Sandy Bellatti, Mary Caroline & David Mitchell.

K2 P4 MISSION knits weekly at 12:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. On the second Tuesday of each month we meet at 12:00 noon for lunch prior to knitting. Knitters are welcome to join our mission work. Please contact Sue Cull (529-2354) or Mary Jo Mattern-Jenkins (622-8657) for more information.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH APRIL MENU: Corned Beef, Carrots, Peaches, Baked Beans -*Thank you to those who bring their donations and place them in the baskets in the West Narthex*

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Angela and Jono Verticchio of Carlenville on the birth of a son, Jace Edwards Verticchio, March 18, great grandson of **Jane Barry**. T.J. and Suan Heavisides, on the birth of a daughter, Edie Lynn, great granddaughter of **June Flood**.

IN MEMORIAM

Kathleen Stittsworth died on March 22. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her daughter, **Abigail Davis Cline**, her family, and friends.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service will be held for **Dr. Gershom Greening** on Friday, May 2 at 11:00 a.m. at Westminster.

SYMPATHY TO

Prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to **Theodore and Judith Flickinger** on the death of their son, **T. Brett Flickinger** on March 7, in Naperville, IL.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Income from donations has been very strong in the first two months of 2015. In part, this is because a number of donors give their annual pledge in a lump sum. Expenses are less than budgeted for the same period, so we have a net total of \$49,621 of income over expenses.

2015 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 201,969	\$ 162,231	\$ 39,738
Expenses	\$-152,348	\$-162,231	\$ 9,883
Net Total	\$ 49,621	\$ 0	

ADULT EDUCATION

THE PRAYERS OF ABRAHAM, MOSES AND HANNAH SUNDAYS, APRIL 19, APRIL 26, AND MAY 3

The Adult Education Forum presents a three-week course exploring great prayers of the Bible. This course is led by Neil Bassett and Rev. Dreitcer and meets in the Ziegler Library at 11:15 a.m.

PAGE-TURNERS will meet in the Ziegler Library on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., for discussion of *Saint Maybe* by Anne Tyler. New members are welcome.

LIBRARY NEWS

Adult Readers: Check the adult cart for *Life Together* and *The Cost of Discipleship* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Also new are *Sacred Work*, a non-fiction book by Tom Davis and *Ordinary Grace*, a novel by William Kent Krueger. Also, *Leadership Jazz*, the essentials of a great reader by Max DePree. *Everyday Love*, the delicate art of caring for each other by Judy Ford. *The American Creed*, a biography of the Declaration of Independence by Forrest Church. *Provence A-Z* by Peter Mayle.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

SUNDAYS, APRIL 19 & MAY 3

A New Members class will be held Sundays, April 19 and May 3, at 11:15 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who has been visiting Westminster and would like to learn more about the church and its mission is invited to attend. The class will be led by Dr. Kieffer, Rev. Dreitcer, and Rev. McGill. New members will be received by the congregation at the 10:00 a.m. service of worship on Sunday, May 10.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW LUNCHEON will be on Friday, April 10 (note date change), at 12:00 noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair is Sharon Turner. Chair of the Day is Pat Hymans. Our program will be "My Road to Ministry" by The Rev. Hannah Dreitcer. Please RSVP by Wednesday, April 8.



SAVE THE DATE!

Westminster Women Garden Party Open House (Hats optional) on Saturday, May 30, 9:30-11:00 a.m. at the home of Marty Sumner.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets Wednesday, April 1, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Anne Haaker to discuss chapter 9 "Empowerment" of Joan Chittister's book: *The Story of Ruth: Twelve Moments in Every Woman's Life*.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets Monday, April 13, at 5:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom for fellowship and our program begins at 5:30 p.m. Beth Kincaid will lead our Bible Study *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*; Chapter 9-Martha's Teachable Heart.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets Tuesday, April 21, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of our hostess, Nancy Canady who will also give devotions. Helen Evenson will lead Lesson 7, *Exodus*.

LAYETTES FOR KUMLER OUTREACH MINISTRIES Church Women United (CWU) will hold May Friendship Day on Friday, May 1 at Elliott Avenue Baptist Church (501 W. Elliott) this year. This is the celebration to which we take our layette items for Kumler Outreach Ministries. Watch for the Layette Collection Box in the West Narthex this April. New and gently used items are welcome.

THE FIFTH BIENNIAL HEALTH FAIR

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN PARISH HALL

Come, learn about good health practices at interactive displays presented by health professionals in Parish Hall. We are grateful for Parish Nurse Judy Ridinger who is coordinating the fair. During the 10:00 a.m. service, we will commission Ellen Carpenter, who joins Judy in the ministry of care and educating members about living healthy lives.

VISITING CHOIR CONCERT

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 7:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

Millikin Women, a choir of 70 women directed by Beth Holmes, Millikin Men, a choir of 50 men directed by Brad Holmes, and the Rochester High School Madrigals, directed by Joshua Spears, will join forces in presenting a powerhouse concert at Westminster.

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 8:30 AND 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

The Westminster Choristers will present their spring musical, *Oh, Jonah!* by Allen Pote, on Sunday, April 19, at both worship services. Mark your calendars for this clever and humorous telling of the story of Jonah and the whale.

THIRD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Children in the third grade who will be receiving personalized Bibles during the 10:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, April 19 are:

Rose Ballantyne	William Hovey	Madison Vetter
Charlotte Beatty	Ben Morgan	
Molly Davis	Olivia Simonson	

It is the hope of our church family that these scriptures will be a guiding light for our children as they continue their faith journeys.

WALNUT COFFEE HOUSE

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 4:00 P.M.

The Walnuts will present a Coffeehouse performance of popular tunes to benefit Helping Hands on Sunday, April 26, at 4:00 p.m. A program with something for everyone!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Welcome to our newest members, received on March 15 and 22, 2015: **Amy Ballinger-Cole** along with her baptized children, **Rosa and Oscar Cole**, **Stella Cole**, **Tad Allen**, **Kyle Spalding**, **Vallery Huston**, **Hugh McBarron†**, **Nathaniel Fierstos†**, and (not pictured) **Jackie Pettis†**.

† Received by profession of faith with the sacrament of baptism

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THE NEXT REPORTER DEADLINE IS
THURSDAY, APRIL 23