

# THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

April 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*

*Saturday Worship Resumes  
April 29 5:30 p.m.*

April 2  
Bay Weekend

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*Ezek 37:1-14; John 11:1-45*

Reverend MaryAnn McKibben Dana  
When?

April 9

PALM SUNDAY

*Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matt. 21:1-11*

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*Via Dolorosa*

April 16

EASTER SUNDAY

*Colossians 3:1-4; John 20 1-18*

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*The Unimaginable*

April 23

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

EARTH CARE EMPHASIS

*Acts 2:14a, 22-32; John 20:19-31*

Reverend Trajan McGill  
*It Was Impossible*

April 29 and 30

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

*Luke 24:13-35*

Reverend Hannah Dreitcer  
*Hearts Aflame*



## HOLY WEEK

**PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9**

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

The Rev. 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 *At the Foot of the Cross There is Love*. We will partake in Communion.

**LIFE OF CHRIST ART DISPLAY**

**April 9 - 16 in Parish Hall**

Artwork depicting the life of Christ will be displayed in Parish Hall. Through the eyes of renowned artists, we will witness Christ's baptism, temptation, entry into Jerusalem and the events of Holy Week leading to His crucifixion, resurrection and ascension. Special thanks to Scott Day and Dale Rogers for mounting this display.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE, APRIL 13**

**7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

The Reverend Hannah Dreitcer will preach and the Westminster Choir will sing *Surely He Has Borne Our Grievs* with 'cellist, Chet Lord-Remmert. This service will conclude with the solemn stripping of the Chancel accompanied by the *Adagio for Strings* of Samuel Barber.

*Child care will be available.*

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, APRIL 14**

**7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

The Reverend Trajan McGill will preach in this service centered on youth reading the Passion according to Mark, with music from the Taizé community and devotional hymns of faith.

*Child care will be available.*

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16**

**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 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 follows 10:00 a.m. Worship.*

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

Dear Friends,

In early March I spent a few “reading” days with Peter at my mother’s home in Fort Myer, Florida. In The Spiritual Child, clinical psychologist Lisa Miller presents groundbreaking scientific research on the power of spirituality within children and the importance of nurturing this dimension to strengthen their resilience for the journey before them. As I read this powerful book, I felt a deep sense of gratitude for the meaningful opportunities we provide our children and youth (and all who are young at heart) at Westminster.

As we approach Holy Week, let us take time to marvel at the wonder of a God who would join us in our humanity. This Sunday, the Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana will remind us of the importance of Sabbath in our busy lives. We will share in some spiritual exercises that nurture our faith and strengthen us for the “unexpected” on the journeys we travel. We hope you will participate in preparation for Holy Week!

### SATURDAYS AT WESTMINSTER RESUME APRIL 29

Saturday worship at Westminster resumes on April 29 with a 5:30 p.m. service in Parish Hall. We are grateful for the innovative music provided by Deb Watts and the Westminster Jazz Trio. Members are always encouraged to join us on Saturdays for this meaningful communion worship service!



### ADULT EDUCATION

#### SACRED CONVERSATIONS ON RACE SUNDAY, APRIL 30 AT 4:00 P.M.



On Sunday, April 30 at 4:00 p.m. Westminster will host the closing worship, reflection, and action plan for the four churches that participated. Thirty-five Westminster members met each Sunday in March with facilitators Paula Brayden, Jim Dixon and Stephanie Miller who is pictured. It was a meaningful and enlightening conversation.

### 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](mailto:drogers@wpcspi.org).



## MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

**THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR** will sing *At the Foot of the Cross* *There is Love* on Palm Sunday. On Maundy Thursday, the choir will sing *Surely He Has* “Borne our Grievs with ‘cellist, Chet Lord-Remmert and on Easter Day will be joined with members of the Millikin Brass for festive music of Handel: This is the Day and the Hallelujah Chorus. In addition to the weekly services, the choir will sing a concert at the Cathedral of the Immaculate conception on Sunday, May 7 at 2:00 p.m.

**THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS** are working on *Heroes of the Faith*, the musical to be presented on May 7. Rehearsals are at 4:45 p.m. on Wednesday following Bridges. No rehearsal on April 12.

**THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN’S CHOIR** has resumed rehearsals on Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. This choir, for students in Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, will sing at the Palm Sunday service on April 9.

**CHURCH MICE** continues on Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m. Follow the pathway of cheese! This semester end April 8.

### EASTER MUSIC AND DECORATIONS FUND

Each year, members and friends provide 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 for palms and flowers and at your discretion for special music. Please make checks payable to WPC. **The deadline for bulletin wording is Sunday, April 9.**

### WESTMINSTER MUSIC + SPRING 2017

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

## FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer

### YOUTH UPDATE

#### TRIVIA NIGHT AND SILENT AUCTION BEST YET!

**THIS YEAR'S TRIVIA NIGHT AND SILENT AUCTION** was the most successful yet. We welcomed over 250 participants (14 in the nursery) and **raised over \$6,600!** Special thanks to Trivia Master Todd Knox, MC Dave Leonatti, Mary Ray and her fabulous kitchen team, Becky Huston, Vallery Huston and all who donated such great silent auction items. Last but not least, thank you to all who participated.



*Pictured: The winning team for the third consecutive year! Back row: Robyn Hovey, Meridith Bryans, Jim Bryans, Tom Klein, Andrea Rediger-Klein, Elizabeth Marcy. Front row: Christie Hovey, Angela Simonson, Kevin Simonson, Lisa Metzger*

**2017 YOUTH MISSION ADULT LEADER MEETING** - On Sunday, April 2 Adult Leaders will meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Library.

**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. **All youth are invited** to the closing session on April 30 at Westminster from 4:00-6:30 p.m.

#### ROAD TO EMMAUS JR. HIGH SCHEDULE:

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

- April 2** The Bay Weekend: "Sabbath in the Suburbs...and Beyond"
- April 9** Confirmation Prep: "Persecution & Growth"  
Confirmation Class: Review for Session
- April 16** Easter Sunday. No Youth Group
- April 23** Confirmation Prep: "Peter"  
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Dinner
- April 30** Confirmation Sunday!  
Sacred Conversations Closing Session

**A CONFIRMATION DINNER** celebrating our confirmands will be held on Sunday, April 23, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall. Confirmands, their families, and mentors are invited to enjoy a wonderful meal provided by the Membership Committee.

#### 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.

- April 2** The Bay Weekend: "Sabbath in the Suburbs...and Beyond"
- April 9** Exploring Our Spiritual Gifts
- April 16** Easter Sunday. No Youth Group
- April 23** Living Out Our Spiritual Gifts
- April 30** Confirmation Sunday!  
Sacred Conversations Closing Session

## CHILDREN UPDATE by Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill

### BRIDGES WELCOME ADVOCATES

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

On Wednesday, April 5 the children of Bridges Midweek Fellowship will welcome their Advocates once again for a Holy Week service focusing on Jesus' journey to the cross. The service will include the sacrament of Communion and a ritual of hand-washing in commemoration of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples at the Last Supper.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING FISH BOXES** 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.

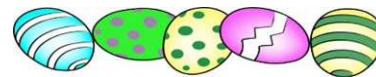
**LENTEN COAT DRIVE** Families are invited to donate coats for both children and adults to benefit those in need. Please bring coats to the designated basket in the West Narthex.

### HOLY WEEK

**PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 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.



**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16 AFTER THE 10:00 A.M. SERVICE**, families with children (birth – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to Parish Hall for an Easter egg hunt.



### YOUNG CHILDREN AND WORSHIP WORKSHOP FRIDAY AND SATURDAY APRIL 21-22

The Young Children and Worship workshop is for parents, youth, grandparents, Sunday school teachers, and anyone in the congregation interested in learning more about how to teach the Bible to children! The training is Friday 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. We will have lunch together on Saturday. *YCW* is a spiritual formation approach that presents a joyful way for children to worship God. The leader of the program, the Rev. Olivia Stewart, has been teaching this program for years. The Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill has been invited to be trained as an official leader of the program and this workshop marks the beginning of that preparation. Please RSVP to Stephanie Moore by April 16.



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



This summer, June 12-16, 9:15AM to noon 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](mailto:smcgill@wpcspi.org).

Registration is open online at <http://www.wpcspi.org/vacation-bible-school>.

## Members Received and Recognized Sunday, March 5



Ada Cobourn joins us by Certificate of Transfer from Peace Lutheran Church and retired from the IL. Dept. of Public Health. Steve Cobourn joins us by Reaffirmation of Faith from Elm Street Christian Church. Steve is retired. He spent 15 years as a teacher/librarian and 23 years as a project manager. They have four children: Pamela Lowry, David Compton, Beth Krause, Amy Luckey, and many grandchildren.



Jessica Robinson joins us by Certificate of Transfer from Trinity Lutheran Church. Jessica works for Generation Healthy Kids and Central Baptist Church. Jessica is married to Jamie Robinson and they have five children: Jacob, Jarod, Jade, Josie, and Jordan Robinson. She likes to cook, read, and be an active member of the community.



Tamika Glover joins us by a Profession of Faith and Baptism. Tamika is a pharmacist with Walgreens. Jacob Hill joins us by Reaffirmation of Faith from Elm Street Christian Church. Jacob is an electrician with CWLP. Jacob and Tamika have two young daughters: Jenna and Becca Hill. Tamika and Jacob are excited to begin their journey together at Westminster.



Nancy and Lon Scott join us by Certificate of Transfer from Hope Presbyterian Church. Nancy is retired as Westminster's Church Administrative Assistant and enjoys artwork, painting, and yard work. Lon is a retired teacher and elementary principal. His favorite hobby right now is woodworking. They have two children, five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.



Rachel Vivian Gordon joins us by Profession of Faith. Rachel works for Memorial Behavioral Health Services and would like to continue her education in social work or psychology. Rachel has a young son named Kolton Burton. Rachel is the daughter of Jennifer Morrison. She likes to read and spend time going on adventures with Kolton.



John Stafford joins us by Certificate of Transfer from Cherry Hills Baptist Church. He has recently retired following a career with the FBI and Caterpillar. John and his wife Lucy Preckwinkle Stafford are enjoying time with their family, riding their horses, and keeping up with chores.



Fiona Irvin joins us by Reaffirmation of Faith from St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church. Fiona is the Director of Business Development with Vibra Hospital. She has two children: Sydney and Taylor. She likes to quilt & play tennis. Doug St. Clair joins us by Reaffirmation of Faith from Elm Street Christian Church. Doug is a multi-unit manager in restaurant & retail industries. He likes to play guitar & play tennis.



Roseanne "Roe" Stone joins us by Certificate of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church. She is semi-retired now, but still very active with family farming entities. Roe enjoys walking, cooking, and golf. She has a son and daughter-in-law that live in the area.



Jennifer and Craig Morrison join by a Reaffirmation of Faith. Jennifer is a lobbyist and Association Manager for Filson/Gordon Associates. She likes to do needlepoint, read, and go hiking. Craig is retired from the U.S. Army (23 years) and works for Access. Together they have 4 daughters, including Rachel Vivian Gordon. Craig enjoys the outdoors: hunting, fishing, and skiing.



## CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM - MARCH 5



Children of Abraham created 50 care packages for refugee children and met Abraham Lincoln at the Presidential Library.

The care packages were delivered to the Syrian Community Network in Chicago, founded by Suzanne Akhras Sahloul.

## TRIVIA NIGHT – MARCH 12



Trivia judges kept everyone on task.



Children in Nursery on Trivia Night (very smart parents!)

## BIENNIAL HEALTH FAIR - MARCH 19



Thanks to Rev. McGill and Parish Nurses Judy Ridinger and Ellen Carpenter for an informative and well planned Health Fair.



## HOPE COLLEGE CHAPEL CHOIR – MARCH 21



Hope College Chapel Choir sang for Compass and shared a meal.

## YOUTH LEAD WORSHIP – MARCH 26



Jack Zervas and Drew Borland gave Children's Sermon.  
**Photos of all these events are on our website:**

## PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

### MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

#### CONSTRUCTION STARTING THIS MONTH!

A dozen central IL Presbyterian churches including Westminster have joined forces to sponsor a new Habitat home project this year. Numerous volunteers are needed for this project, not only construction volunteers, but also hospitality volunteers willing to provide refreshments on work days. This will be a big effort, so please consider taking part! Previous construction experience is not required.



#### How to Volunteer:

Westminster is attempting to provide full teams of volunteers on the following three dates:

- April 22 (food volunteers also needed!)
- May 27 (food volunteers also needed!)
- June 3 (food volunteers also needed!)

Please sign up in the West Narthex after worship, call the church office, or email the Reverend Trajan McGill at [tmcgill@wpcspi.org](mailto:tmcgill@wpcspi.org) to join in, or with any questions.

If you are unable to be present on those dates, fear not! Numerous other opportunities are available. See the full build schedule listed below, and visit the Habitat web site at <http://www.habitatsangamon.com/> to add your name. During sign-up, enter "join code" 2112 to indicate you are a member of the Presbyterian Build project.

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.

#### 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 UPDATE

### EARTH DAY, APRIL 22

The Earth Care Team will host a table at the 25th annual Springfield Earth Awareness Fair on Saturday, April 22, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Old State Capitol where we will share with the community how WPC is committed to environmental stewardship through worship, education, facilities, and outreach. Come and see our table and many others at this wonderful event which is free and open to the public!



Thank you! We are excited that we have mailed one box of spent ink cartridges and toner drums, which is fantastic. Keep bringing your cartridges (without packaging or box) to the box by the copier and keep these out of landfills.

#### FAITH COALITION FOR THE COMMON GOOD



**ANNUAL BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER** – Dr. Kieffer offered the invocation on March 16 at the annual breakfast of the Faith Coalition. Rev. McGill and several WPC members attended also, and State Representative Carol Ammons was the featured speaker.

**GAMALIEL'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING** – The Reverend Trajan McGill attended Gamaliel's National Leadership Training, a great opportunity to develop skills and clarity in leadership. All those present learned about organizing people effectively and fostering greater knowledge of their goals and interests. This will be helpful to his work with the Mission and Community Service Committees, as they seek to broaden their engagement with the missional goals of the entire Westminster congregation.

**A DAY AT STATEVILLE** – The Faith Coalition is sponsoring a local performance of this theatre piece written and performed by former Stateville Prison inmates, reflecting on their time there and since being released. *"Learn from the folks who have been there why the Illinois Prison System is broken: why it's overcrowded and understaffed... Why prisoners are not prepared for release and face difficult hurdles when back in society."* You're invited to take this opportunity to explore how we might reshape our prison system to produce better outcomes for everyone. **Sunday, April 9, 3-6 p.m. at Ms. D's Kitchen, 1031 S. 11th Street.**

**GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH MARCH MENU:** *Canned Chicken, Canned Veggies, Canned Fruit in Juice/water, Baked Beans* – 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, Joe Fierstos for providing the March meal. The March meal will be prepared and delivered by Pat Hymans. **Volunteers are still needed to deliver dinners to the Helping Hands shelter on the following Fridays: May 12, 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 April 9 and would like to receive Communion, please contact Jennie Alt at the church office. Fourteen members received the sacrament on March. 12 by eight teams of elders and deacons. Many thanks to those who participate in bringing the Lord's Supper.

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### THEOLOGY ON TAP

**Sunday, April 9, 12:00-1:30 p.m.**

On Sunday, April 9, young adults (age 21-40ish) will gather at American Harvest from 12:00-1:30 p.m. for fellowship, conversation, and brunch. Appetizers are on the church. RSVP to Hannah at [hdreitcer@wpcspi.org](mailto:hdreitcer@wpcspi.org).

### PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 a.m.**

On Thursday, April 13, at 7:00 a.m., Westminster men will gather for breakfast provided by Jim Borland, a devotion by Charlie King, and a program coordinated by Wells Langbehn.

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**PW LUNCHEON** will meet Friday, April 7 at noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair is Sharon Turner and Chair of the Day Marci Irvine. The program "Habitat for Humanity" is presented by Jerry Schwartz (President, Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity). Please make your reservations by April 3 with your Circle or by calling the church office at 217-522-4415 (Note – there will no meeting in the month of May.)



**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** meets 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** meets Monday, April 10 at 5:30 p.m. in Second Floor Classroom. Norma Adams-Johnson will lead the study "According to John."

**LYDIA CIRCLE** meets Tuesday, April 18 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Nancy Canady. Nancy Canady will lead Lesson 7, *Come to the Waters*.

### LAYETTES FOR KUMLER APRIL COLLECTION

Join the women of Westminster in donating layettes during the month of April. The Layette donation box is located in the West Narthex. These layettes will be brought to the Church Women United Friendship Day on Thursday, May 4. Please have all donations in by May 2. All layette items will be donated to Kumler Outreach Ministries.

### ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME

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



### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED HOSTS

#### HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM ON HOMELESSNESS IN SPRINGFIELD

**Friday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m.**

Elliott Avenue Baptist Church will host this Forum with programs from St. John's Breadline, Helping Hands, Washington Street Mission, District 186, and Salvation Army.

**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 April 11 beginning at 12:15 p.m. Dessert will be provided.

### DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE)

**FRIDAY, APRIL 21**

**6:30 P.M. POTLUCK & 7:15 P.M. PROGRAM**



We welcome Executive Director and Legal Director John Hanlon who will present a program on the "Illinois Innocence Project." Please come for the program, even if you are unable attend the potluck and fellowship. Guests and youth are always welcome.

## WESTMINSTER NEWS

### MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Andrew "Andy" Smith celebrates his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday April 5.

The Rev. Gerald & Mrs. Judy Boutelle celebrate 51 years of marriage April 6.

Evelyn and John Jensen celebrated 70 years of marriage March 20.

### IN MEMORIAM

Uldine Beck died March 10, 2017. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her son and daughter-in-law, David and Rachel Brown and her grandsons, Lt. Colonel Matthew Brown and Andrew Brown.

Brooke Frances Platt Bradley died March 12, 2017. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her mother, Sylvia Bradley, sister and brother-in-law, Alexandra and John Viser.

### SYMPATHY TO

Charlaine Barker on the death of her son James Brown Hitt on February 26 in Springfield.

Marty Sumner on the death of her brother-in-law, William Sanders, on March 6 in North Carolina.

James William Chipman on the death of his father, and to Alexander Moore Chipman and Spencer Moore Chipman on the death of their grandfather, William Edward Chipman, on March 10 in Jacksonville.

Rich Canady on the death of his brother Eugene Canady on March 21 in Springfield.

### THANK YOU

Thank you for the many cards, calls and get together in recognition of my 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. Westminster people are the "best". Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated. God Bless!

*Dorothea Thrasher*

Many thanks to those who offered gracious and generous hospitality to the singers of the Hope College Chapel Choir: Caroline & Keith Beatty, Sandy Bellatti, Mina Bentsen, Meggan & Brady Bird, Virginia & Jim Dolan, Donna & Tim Grunder, Blythe & Peter Kieffer, Judy & Todd Knox, Meg & Jim Kontio, Jennifer & Craig Morrison, Mary Ann Nation, Gloria St. Lawrence & Susan Shea.

*Dale Rogers*

### 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.

## FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Westminster's Operating Fund ended the month of February with total income exceeding expenses by \$32,907. Income is above budget by \$33,997 largely due to those who give their entire pledge in a lump sum early in the year.

2017 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 198,143	\$ 164,146	\$ 33,997
Expenses	\$ -165,236	\$ -164,146	\$ -1,090
Net	\$ 32,907	\$ 0	

### REACHING FOR OUR PER CAPITA GOAL

Thank you to the 130 members who have given Per Capita donations. This is 59% of our \$7,000 goal. We need 89 more Per Capita donations of \$32. This year Westminster will pay \$32 per member to support the work of the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.

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*

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

*Education Leadership gather at the home of Mary Caroline and David Mitchell to welcome Rev. Dana.*

**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.

*Rev. Dana 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 gather for a meaningful afternoon of inter-generational 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.



The Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana is a writer, Presbyterian pastor and speaker living in Virginia with her husband, Robert Dana, and their three children. She is the author of *Sabbath in the Suburbs*. The Presbyterian Writers Guild recognized MaryAnn with the 2015-2016 David Steele Distinguished Writer Award. Her next book, tentatively titled *Improvising with God*, is under contract with Eerdmans. MaryAnn is a graduate of Rice University in Houston, Texas and

Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia.

The history of the Bay Weekend can be found on [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org)



### CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 30 DURING 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

The Class of 2017 will be recognized and commissioned on Sunday, April 30, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. This is a time of celebration and a milestone on the faith journeys of our youth:

Grace Ilona Batterman  
Carter Maddox Formea  
Kristina Elizabeth Hemberger  
Avery James Pound

*Field trip to the synagogue: Avery Pound, Carter Formea, Grace Batterman, Kristina Hemberger and Dr. Peter Kieffer. Each youth will receive the Harper Collins NRSV Study 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: Randy Germeraad, Dr Peter Kieffer, Beth Kincaid, and Valerie Leonatti.*



May Reporter Deadline  
is Sunday, April 23.

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