



# THE REPORTER

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

### August, 2014

## WORSHIP CALENDAR

*Saturday worship 5:30 p.m.-Parish Hall*  
*Sunday Nursery 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon*  
*Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. Parish Hall*  
*Sunday worship 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary*  
*Summer Sunday School*  
*10:00 a.m. Pre-K 10:15 a.m. K- Grade 3*

### August 2 & 3

*Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Isaiah 55:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21*

Rev. Jerry Boutelle  
*The Miracle of Giving*

### August 9 & 10

*Ninth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Sacrament of Communion*  
*Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28;*  
*Matthew 14:22-33*

Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer  
*Changing Winds*

### August 16 & 17

*Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Genesis 45:1-15, Matthew 15:10-28*

Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer  
*The Gift of Insight*

### August 24

#### Commotion Sunday

One Service of Worship at 10:00 a.m.  
*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Sacrament of Baptism*  
*Exodus 1:2-2:10; Romans 12:1-8*

Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer  
*A Different Perspective on Power*

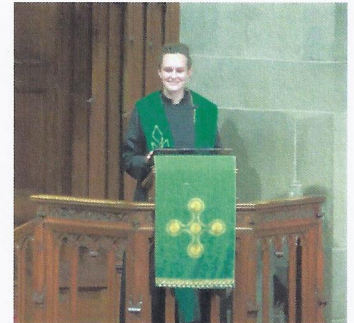
### August 30 & 31

*Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Exodus 3:1-15; Romans 12:9-21*

Hannah M. Dreitcer  
*Here I Am*

### HANNAH DREITCER ACCEPTS CALL BEGINS AT WESTMINSTER AUGUST 15

On Sunday, July 20 the congregation overwhelmingly approved the motion to elect Hannah Dreitcer as Associate Pastor for Family Ministry. Hannah begins her journey with Westminster on Friday, August 15, 2014. She will present her Statement of Faith to the Presbytery of Great Rivers for her final ordination exam on Wednesday, August 20 and has asked for permission to be ordained at Sleepy Hollow Presbyterian Church in San Francisco to honor the ministry of her mother, the late Reverend Wendy Dreitcer, and her relationship with this congregation. Hannah will be installed at Westminster on Sunday, October 12 at 4:00 p.m. We anticipate with great joy our partnership in ministry!



### YOUNG FAMILY GATHERING TO MEET HANNAH DREITCER SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 FROM 2:00 – 5:00 P.M.

On Sunday, August 17 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. young families (parents and children ages birth through grade five) are invited to a Swim Party at the Kieffers to meet Hannah Dreitcer, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry. Come, enjoy some fun and learn about the exciting opportunities we have planned for our families as we begin a new season at Westminster! Please bring a towel and snack to share!

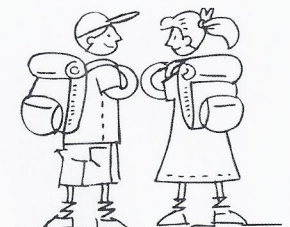
### COMMOTION SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

Join your Westminster family for Commotion Sunday on August 24! **No Saturday worship or Sunday 8:30 a.m. service this weekend.** We will celebrate One Service of Worship Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. followed by a brunch reception and ministry displays in Parish Hall as we begin the new year together. This Sunday provides an opportunity for members and friends to sign up for Education, Music, Mission/Service and Fellowship!

Commotion Sunday got its name because it describes the enormous energy and excitement aroused by God's Spirit within this congregation. Don't miss this new beginning at Westminster!

### BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS COMMOTION SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

On Sunday, August 24, children and youth are encouraged to bring their school backpacks to the 10:00 a.m. service of worship to receive a blessing as they begin their journey in another school year of learning and growing.





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

Dear Friends,

As we continue on this journey together, I never cease to be amazed at the way God's spirit is working among us. It is with deep joy and grateful hearts that we welcome the ministry of Hannah Dreitcer. In the midst of staff transitions, the 2015 budget process, carpet installation, and, oh yes, Commotion Sunday... God is faithful still!

### **Staff Transitions:**

Beginning August 1, 2014, Liz Maxey becomes full-time as Administrative Assistant to the Pastors. As we welcome a new Associate Pastor for Family Ministry and anticipate a second associate to join the pastoral staff, this timing is excellent. Additionally, Russ Nagel completed his service as Rental Properties Coordinator at the end of July. We are grateful to Russ for his reliable tenure. Gary Warnick, Head Custodian will assume the Rental Properties Coordinator responsibilities beginning August 1, 2014.

### **2015 Budget Process:**

The Budget Committee members have received their budget information and will meet Wednesday, August 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the Pastor's Study to begin the work of recommending the 2015 Operating Expenses to Session. The proposed budget will be presented at the August 20 meeting and approved at their September 17 meeting.

### **John 15 Carpet Completion:**

The final installation of the "John 15" carpet (walk off, stairs and women's bathroom) is scheduled for the week of August 4. We appreciate the work of Robyn Hovey, a member of the Property Committee, for his oversight and follow through of this project. We are also grateful to Robyn for his design and rearrangement of the Church Office, adjacent to the West Narthex. Well done!

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale Rogers

### **SUMMER CHOIR AND SUMMER MUSIC**

The summer choir will rehearse on Thursday, August 14 at 7:30 p.m. to sing at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, August 17. Summer choir is a more casual approach to our service music and a great time to tune up your voice for the fall when the regular season starts!

We are grateful to all who have enhanced Westminster's worship with their contributions of special music through the summer: Ann Collins, Jay Kennerly, the Mission Trip troupe, Krista Steller, Amanda Neubauer, Eleanor VanDeventer, the Summer Choir, Sharon Manning, Emma Shafer, Lyle VanDeventer, the Walnuts, and the St. Andrew's Sisters.

Mark your calendars for the start-up dates for rehearsals of Westminster's musical groups!

**The Westminster Choir** resumes on Thursday, September 4 at 7:30 p.m. with the Annual Choir Retreat on Saturday, September 6 from 1:30 until 5:00 p.m.

**The Westminster Choristers** (singers in grades 3-6) resumes on Wednesday, September 10 at 4:45 p.m.

**The Westminster Handbell Guild** resumes rehearsals on Wednesday, September 17 at 7:15 p.m.

**The Westminster Children's Choir** (K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) resumes its sessions on Tuesday, October 7 at 4:45 p.m.

**Church Mice** (infants through age 4) will begin its Saturday morning sessions on September 13 at 11:00 a.m.

## CHILDREN MINISTRY NEWS

### **SEASON OF THE SPIRITS CURRICULUM INTRODUCED**

Beginning Sunday, September 7 the children's Sunday school lesson will correlate with the sermon text, to facilitate sharing and 'teaching moments' within families. Along with Westminster's new Sunday School curriculum, we are initiating a CUT AND COPY TEAM, which will meet bi-monthly to prepare crafts for our Sunday school teaching teams. This allows teachers to focus on the lesson and provides a team teaching approach. If you are interested in joining in this ministry, sign up on Commotion Sunday.

### **THANK YOU SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

This summer our children Pre-K through Grade 3 learned lessons about life and faith through the Veggie Tale Series. Special thanks to Claudia Andre, Carolyn Beatty Stephanie & Claire Bess, Christine, Brooke & Stephanie Dunn, Gerry Hale & Christy Pound, Sally Godbey & Lynn McMenamin, who taught our children this summer.

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS by Lucas Carpenter

**JUNIOR HIGH HEAD FOR CAMP CAREW!** Eleven youth join parent Stacey Lochbaum and Interim Director for Youth, Lucas Carpenter, for a three day, two night adventure **August 4-6, 2014**. This is a camp of the Southeastern Illinois Presbytery and the experience will include opportunities in service and team building.

**THE KNOX ANNUAL SWIM PARTY** for incoming Junior and Senior High Youth and their families is scheduled for Sunday, August 24 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Come and meet Hannah Dreitcer, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry! Please bring a towel and snack! Friends are always welcome and encouraged. The Knox's home is located at 2004 Maryknoll Place.

**COLLEGE AGE AND YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY** welcomed between 9 and 12 each Tuesday during July. Thank you to Bob Fox who provided a boat ride on July 29 to culminate our study on Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*.

## ADULT EDUCATION UPDATE

**AUGUST MISSION COMPASS PRESENTATION** will be **Sunday, August 17 at 11:15 p.m. in Parish Hall**. Come, enjoy a bagel and cream cheese and hear Ann Collins, Nancy Canady, Camille Degner, George Johnson, Judy Mier and Andrea Klein share their experience working with the Compass Program, a weekly, after-school, neighborhood-based program which provides homework help, life skills and hot meals for at-risk children from Graham Elementary School. We partner with Central Baptist Church and welcome new volunteers to join the dynamic team.

**DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER!** Over the years Westminster members have requested a pastor led Bible study. This September we are introducing the Disciple Bible Study, which is an overview of the Old and New Testaments, taught by Dr. Kieffer. The study manual includes daily readings and reflections. Each week the class views a short video featuring a theologian. The class will meet September - May on Thursday evenings 5:45 – 7:15 p.m. with the opportunity to order dinner from Panera Bread Company. Sign up on Commotion Sunday!



## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

**WINE, WINGS AND A PRAYER YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP** (age 21 – 32) meets First Fridays, August 1 and September 5, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Kieffers. RSVP to Liz Maxey at [administrativeassistant@wpcspi.org](mailto:administrativeassistant@wpcspi.org).

**NEW MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** begins Thursday, September 11, 7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Men will enjoy breakfast coordinated by Grady Chronister, a devotional by Joe Fierstos and a short program on Men's Health and Fitness presented by Dr. Peter Kieffer. If you have questions or want to volunteer, contact Mark Ranck at 483-2821.

**DMA** (Don't Mention Age; All Ages Welcome) will meet Friday, August 15, at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a pot luck dinner and program by Tony Comerio, "Artification: The Downtown Springfield Art Project."

**PAGE-TURNERS BOOK GROUP** will celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Helen Evenson at lunch on August 27. We will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the President's Room of the Sangamo Club for our book discussion of *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. Reservations are required. Contact Mary Jo Mattern-Jenkins for more information.

**KNIT 2, PURL 4 MISSION** meets every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in the Conference Room for fellowship and knitting.

**ZIEGLER LIBRARY NEWS** There are some new books on the library carts. *Untold Rainbows*, a book of poetry and memoirs by Gary Vitale is on the adult and youth cart. *Kiki's Hats*, donated in memory of Elaine Ryder is on the children's cart.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** resumes in September with some new and exciting opportunities to build friendships and grow in our faith. Along with **PW LUNCHEONS**, which meets the First Friday at noon, **ELIZABETH CIRCLE** which meets the Second Monday at 5:30 p.m. and **LYDIA CIRCLE** which meets the Third Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. PW is introducing a new intergenerational circle **RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** which will meet the first Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in members' homes beginning in October. More details will follow. Mark your calendars and sign up for the following two events at Commotion Sunday.



**WESTMINSTER WOMEN SALAD SUPPER** on Tuesday, September 23 at 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. Dr. Kieffer and Rev. Dreitcer will present a program.

**"MYTHS OF HOSPITALITY" FALL RETREAT** on Saturday, October 25, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Rock Creek Presbyterian Church.

## NEW ARRIVALS

Prospective new members Lexi and Jesse Meich welcomed their daughter Aliyah Lois Meich, on July 15 in Springfield.

## IN MEMORIAM

**John McNutt II** died on July 11. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to his wife, **Pat**, and their children's families **John** and Milli McNutt, **Sarah**, Richard & Carson Rockwood and **Bill**.

## SYMPATHY TO

**Doris Ray** on the death of her grandson and to **Mary Ray and Karen Dillon** on the death of Mary's nephew, Kyle Stone, who died June 25 in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Ann and Keith Hamilton** on the death of Ann's niece, Jan Koenig, who died June 22 in Conroe, Texas and on the death of Ann's brother, Kenneth Master, who died July 26 in Conroe, Texas.

**Peter Kieffer** on the death of his best friend, Rick Beard, who died June 20 in St. Louis, Missouri.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO

**Susan and Roland Cull** on the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 28.

**Ellen Carpenter** who completed "Foundation in Faith Community Nursing Course" at St. John's College in preparation for service to Westminster as Parish Nurse.

**Ed McMenamain** for numerous awards June 13 from the annual Illinois Press Association luncheon in Springfield. His reports for *The Downers Grove Suburban Life* took first place, second place, and honorable mention in business/economic reporting (nearly sweeping the category). He also received second place in government beat reporting and honorable mention for feature writing.

**David Sumner's** life, medical contributions, research and writing were honored at the annual meeting of the Society for Vascular Surgery in Boston in June. David was earlier awarded the Society's lifetime Achievement Award, the highest honor that the Society bestows on one of its members.

The Reverend Julie Wells Blythe, on her new position as Director of Information on Aging Services at the Illinois Presbyterian Home.

## THANK YOU TO

VBS Staff and children for your kindness; thoughts and sharing of cupcakes and cards that were most appreciated.  
-Carolyn Ferrel, II Presbyterian Home

**Bill Donels, Karen Dillon and Mary Ray, Pat and Al Hyman, Judy Huston, Valarie Leonatti, Becky Martin, Krista and Brad Steller** for hosting the Bike and Build crew. Thirty-one amazing young people ride their bicycles from Providence, RI to San Francisco, CA and working on Habitat for Humanity houses along the way.  
-Pam Innis, Mission Outreach Committee

## JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT BY LISA RUNKLE

The financial position in June showed that income exceeds expenses by \$39,906. Contribution statements were sent out in July. If you did not receive it or could not open the link in the email, contact Lisa Runkle to send yours to you.

Operations	YTD Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 497,887	\$ 468,173	\$ 29,714
Expenses	\$- 457,981	\$-468,173	\$-10,192
Net	\$ 39,906	\$ 0	



## RECOGNITION AND THANK YOU TO WHITNEY BECK SPEARIE



On Sunday, July 27, Westminster recognized Whitney Beck Spearie for seven years of service on the Westminster program staff. Whitney is a child of Westminster, baptized and confirmed here. She joined the Westminster staff in 2005 as a nursery worker. She continued to care for our youngest members through 2007 while attending Lincoln Land Community College. In 2009, following the completion of her degree at Western Illinois University in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration, Whitney joined the staff again, this time as Program Assistant for Children. She has been an invaluable presence overseeing the Sunday school, welcoming our children; and supporting the remarkable Sunday school teachers who nurture their faith.

On June 21, Whitney married Ryan Spearie at Blessed Sacrament Church. Ryan is the Financial Coordinator for the Diocese of Springfield. She will continue her full-time work in the Sangamon County Election Office. We are grateful to Whitney for a job well done!

## 2014 WPC YOUTH MISSION TRIP



On Sunday, July 13, twenty-two youth led worship and shared their mission experience with Group Workcamp in Brighton, TN. They expressed appreciation to the Westminster family who contributed \$7,300 to their fundraising efforts and to their amazing adult sponsors: Christine Dunn, Tami Ireland, Todd Knox, Dave Leonatti, Mary Gail Romack, Sarah Zerfas, and Lucas Carpenter, Interim Director for Youth Ministries. **The 2015 Mission Trip will be to Green Bay, WI the week of July 11-18 sponsored by Group Workcamp.** All high school youth are invited to sign up for next year's mission trip on Commotion Sunday.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED  
TO A WINE AND HORS D'OEUVRES RECEPTION  
CELEBRATING THE FUTURE OF THE SUPPORT AND ENDOWMENT FUND  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2014  
5:30 – 7:30 P.M.

Hosted by Kathy and Randy Germeraad  
1800 Illini Road, Springfield, Illinois 62704  
Please respond to Connie Brown by Friday, August 22  
217-522-4415 or [cbrown@wpcspi.org](mailto:cbrown@wpcspi.org)

## Westminster Staff

**The Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer**  
*Pastor/Head of Staff*  
[bkieffer@wpcspi.org](mailto:bkieffer@wpcspi.org)

**Hannah Marie Dreitcer**  
*Associate Pastor for Family Ministry*  
[hdreitcer@wpcspi.org](mailto:hdreitcer@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Gerald Boutelle**  
*Parish Associate*  
[pastorboutelle@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorboutelle@yahoo.com)

**Dale T. Rogers**  
*Director of Music and the Arts*  
[drogers@wpcspi.org](mailto:drogers@wpcspi.org)

**Deb Watts**  
*Saturday Worship Pianist and  
Music Coordinator*  
[Deb.watts@live.com](mailto:Deb.watts@live.com)

**Lucas Carpenter**  
*Interim Director for Youth Ministries*  
[lcarp@wpcspi.org](mailto:lcarp@wpcspi.org)

**Abigail Cline**  
*Nursery Worker*

**Noel Scott, Kari Soria**  
*Cooperative Preschool Teachers*  
[westminstercoop@gmail.com](mailto:westminstercoop@gmail.com)

**Judy Ridinger**  
*Parish Nurse*  
[jaridinger@att.net](mailto:jaridinger@att.net)

**Lisa Runkle**  
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[lrunkle@wpcspi.org](mailto:lrunkle@wpcspi.org)

**Connie Brown**  
*Church Administrative Assistant*  
[cbrown@wpcspi.org](mailto:cbrown@wpcspi.org)

**Liz Maxey**  
*Administrative Assistant to the Pastors*  
[administrativeassistant@wpcspi.org](mailto:administrativeassistant@wpcspi.org)

**Gary Warnick**  
*Head Custodian and  
Rental Properties Coordinator*  
[gwarnick@wpcspi.org](mailto:gwarnick@wpcspi.org)

## Give-a-Meal-a-Month August Menu

**Beef Stew, Applesauce, Vanilla  
Pudding Mix, Green Beans**

*Thank you to those who bring their  
donations and place them in the shopping  
cart in the West Narthex.*

**THE NEXT REPORTER DEADLINE IS  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 24**