



# THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

August 2022

## WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

10:00 a.m. In-person and Livestream Worship Service  
[www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org)

### FAITH FORMATION:

9:45 a.m. Nursery  
Children Birth – Age 3  
10:15 a.m. Summer Sunday School following Children's Sermon  
Children Pre-K - Grade 2

August 7

### NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Isaiah 1:1, 10-17, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-10, 13-16  
The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
A Hope in the Unseen

August 14

### TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1 Samuel 16:1-13; John 6:1-13  
The Rev. Gerald Boutelle  
Little is Much (When God is in it)

August 21

### ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST BLESSING OF THE BACKPACK

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Luke 13:10-17  
The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
Unfolding Lives

August 28

### TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Hebrews 13:1-3, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14  
The Rev. Christian K. Choi  
What God Wants from Us

## ANNUAL MISSION TRIP REUNION SWIM PARTY AND POTLUCK SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

On Saturday, August 6, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., participants of the 2022 Mission Trip will gather for a reunion and a potluck dinner at the Home of Susan and Scott Day (47 Fairview Lane 62711.



Remember to bring a towel and a dish to share. Freshman and sophomores are invited to bring dessert, juniors and seniors to bring a salad or side dish, and adult leaders to bring chips and a drink. We will serve hot dogs and brats.

Along with sharing memories and photos, youth will impart how their experience changed them and discuss types of local missions in which they would like to participate in the future.

## BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS – GOD'S GOT YOUR BACK! SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE



On Sunday, August 21, the children and youth of Westminster are invited to bring their backpack to the 10:00 a.m. worship service for the blessing of backpacks as our children and youth begin a new school year. Along with a blessing, each will receive a monogrammed carabiner with a Bible verse for their backpack as a reminder of God's loving presence on their journey throughout this school year.

## SPLASH INTO THE NEW YEAR! CHILDREN AND YOUTH SWIM PARTY SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2:00 – 4:00 P.M.

On Sunday, August 21, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., families (parents and children ages birth through grade twelve) are invited to a swim party at the Kieffer home (26 Island Bay Lane) as we splash into a new year together.

This year we are combining the children and youth and adding boat rides for families. Please bring a towel and snack to share! Friends are always welcome and encouraged.



*Sermon manuscripts are located in the West Narthex and online at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org).*

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

Dear Friends:

**AS WE BEGIN** a new year of ministry this September, we do so with enthusiasm, humility, and gratitude.

The **APNC (ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE)** regrets they do not yet have a candidate to present the congregation for the position of Associate Pastor for Family Ministry; however, the committee continues to review Personal Information Forms and is confident that when they do, it will be worth the wait. Please keep the APNC in your prayers: Dr. Craig Batterman, Meleah Berkowitz, Meridith Bryans, Emily Brower, Adam Ekstedt, Tom Owen (secretary), and Krista Steller (Chair).

**REV. CHOI AND I** continue to work together to see that the responsibilities and details of Family Ministry are fulfilled. We are grateful for the flexibility and strength of our program staff, elders, and ministry partners in collaborating on this endeavor.

**ADDITIONALLY**, we are introducing a new position and it is a bit ironic that it is in the same Reporter we announce Mary Anne Singleton's move to Ashville with Jim to be closer to their son. Mary Anne directed the children's choirs until shortly after **DALE ROGERS' ARRIVAL IN 1986**. Dale directed all of Westminster's choirs along with serving as our organist and Director of the Arts for most of his 36 plus years. We are grateful for Dale's incredible talent, commitment, and versatility. This spring he and I agreed it was time to share the music responsibilities for the children. (Dale will continue to lead Church Mice.)

**DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MUSIC.** This new position was approved by the Personnel Committee. Westminster is seeking a gifted musician who will implement an effective music ministry for children (Kindergarten through Grade 5) by directing the Children's Choir (K-Grade 2) and the Westminster Choristers (Grades 3-5). This is a part-time position September – June with varying weekly hours depending on the church schedule. The Director for Children's Music shall work in collaboration under the supervision of Dale Rogers, Director of Music and the Arts. Applications are available on the church website. We look forward to welcoming this new person to join our program staff.

## JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Thank you for your faithfulness to the ministry of Westminster. At the end of June, our income exceeds expenses by \$22,693. Contribution statements were mailed in July. Contact Lisa Runkle with any questions.

2022 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 543,098	\$ 511,889	\$ 31,209
Expenses	\$- 520,405	\$- 511,889	\$ 8,516
Net Total	\$ 22,693	\$ 0	

## PRAYER MINISTRY

This September, Prayer Ministry at Westminster Presbyterian Church resumes. Throughout the year, each member of our congregation is remembered in prayer by the pastors. A letter is sent to members three weeks prior to the week they are being lifted in prayer.

Dr. Angela Reed, author of *Quest for Spiritual Community*, talks about those who serve as "anchors" within faith communities by spending time in prayer. Your pastors consider it a privilege to gather weekly and to pray together on your behalf in the historic chancel of our beautiful Sanctuary.

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

**SPECIAL MUSIC** for August will be pianist Garry Fredrickson on August 7, The Westminster Choir on August 14, violinist Kamen Petkov on August 21 and the St. Andrew's Sisters on August 28. Pianist, Matt Nall will provide special music on Sunday, September 4. We are grateful to these gifted musicians who enrich our worship.

**THE WORSHIP, MUSIC AND ARTS COMMITTEE** will meet Tuesday, August 16 at 6:00 p.m. to begin planning a Congregational Exhibit of member's hobbies and collections called **ON MY OWN TIME** to be held **Sunday October 9**, following the Congregational Meeting. Start thinking of the things that you do as a hobby and are willing to share with the congregation.... from Precious Moments, Barbie Dolls, to Woodcarving, and your collection of arrowheads.

**WESTMINSTER CHOIR** will rehearse on Thursday, August 11 at 7:30 p.m. in preparation to sing on Sunday, April 14. The Westminster Choir resumes its regular rehearsals on Thursday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m. and will have its annual Choir Retreat at Indian Point Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 10 beginning at 1:30 p.m. Following the retreat, the choir is invited to share dinner at the home of Meg and Jim Kontio.

**CHURCH MICE** (infants through age 4) will meet Saturday mornings beginning September 17, at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Rogers will continue to lead Church Mice.

## DR. KIEFFER'S BIBLE STUDY

**GATHERS FOR A POTLUCK AND COMMUNION THURSDAY, AUGUST 4**

Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study will gather for a potluck and communion Thursday, August 4, 6:00 p.m., at the Kieffer Home (26 Island Bay Lane, 62712). We will review and select our 2022-2023 curriculum as we begin the eighth year of our journey studying scripture together. Spouses are invited to the August 4 gathering. New members are always welcome.



## ADULT ED FORUM PRESENTS:

**PRAIRIE RECONSTRUCTION AND THE SHERRICK FARM SUNDAY, AUGUST 7**

**On Sunday, August 7** at 11:15 a.m. members and friends are invited to carpool to the Sherrick Farm for lunch together as we witness the beauty of the prairie fields Dr. Andrew Sherrick has restored over the last 20 years. Please call Jennie Alt to order your box lunch by Thursday, August 4.



## APOSTLES READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 6:00 – 7:00 P.M.**

The Apostles Read Library Book Group will meet Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library. In August the group will discuss The Complete Maus by Art Spiegelman. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.





## FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi

### REFLECTION OF 2022 MISSION TO A DISASTER AREA

As many of you have heard, this year's youth mission trip was not like any other. Continuing from last year, there were giant logistical challenges related to the pandemic that we had to overcome. Hindsight is always 20/20, and this trip once again demonstrated that God is in control. At the end of the week, we knew that we were where God intended us to be.

This year's trip was successful because of many people's prayers and a few people's help along the way. Special thanks to Mal Hildebrand for making calls to ensure we had support from government organizations, to Susan Day who suddenly had to stay behind yet gave us a crash course on how to build the deck over internet, and many others whom we reached out via phone and text, answering our various build questions or how to make progress.

It was a great reminder that our mission trip, the participants who represent Westminster, and the real work we accomplish together is a collective effort of the entire community. We look forward to your continued support for next year's mission, confident that we will make life-changing differences in the places, and for the people, God calls us to serve.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO MISSION MINISTRY PARTNERS

Thank you, Westminster, for supporting this year's youth mission through your generosity and prayers. It could not have been as successful, life-changing, and spiritually nurturing without the dedicated individuals who became ministry partners on this journey. Thank you to:

**Suzanne Borland**, for bringing her nurturing presence and helping to care for the youth during the trip.

**Cathy Brower**, for being a supportive presence to encourage and working alongside the youth throughout the week.

**Bill Deemer**, for simply being "Super" Bill; his preparation for the mission trip once again allowed us to focus at the task-at-hand by organizing the tools we needed to accomplish the task.

**Amanda Kurmann**, for her understanding of the carpentry work which was essential for us to accomplish all that we did in a classic Westminster style – above and beyond the call.

**Mary Ray**, for being our emotional and spiritual powerhouse to all participants. With Mary, all things are calm and steady leaning on the Lord, even through numerous change of plans.

**Youth Participants**, for their patience and willingness to go with the change of pace. When we had to work, they all did a great job in giving their all and making the best of the situation. All while helping the White family with all their urgent needs.

### YOUTH MINISTRY PARTNERS NEEDED!

If you have a passion for youth ministry and a desire to share your faith with the young people as they explore their Christian identity centered in Christ, please contact Rev. Choi (cchoi@wpcspi.org). Thank you to ministry partners **Jim Kincaid** (Junior High) and **Susan Day and Mary Ray** (Senior High), who will continue to serve and nurture the spiritual growth of Westminster's youth.

### YOUTH MINISTRY PARTNER ORIENTATION

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Youth Ministry Partners (Junior and Senior High) will meet **Sunday, August 28, from 11:15 – 12:00 noon** in the Third Floor Classroom for orientation.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

### AUGUST AND LABOR DAY SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

August 7: The Parable of The Generous Landowner

August 14: The Parable of The Two Builders

August 21: The Parable of The Foolish Farmer

August 28: The Sacrament of Baptism

September 4: The Sacrament of Communion

### THANK YOU SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

This summer our children in Pre-K through Grade 2 grew through fellowship and learning how Jesus used Parables to teach us in what manner to live. Special thanks to teachers **Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz, Cathy Brower, Sophia Choi, Adam and Chelsea Ekstedt**

### LIBRARY GUILD MEETS TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER ORIENTATION

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Sunday school teachers for Pre-K through Grade 5 will meet Sunday, August 28, from 11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Classroom for orientation. Thank you to the following teachers who will nurture our children's faith in 2022-2023:

**Aaron and Meleah Berkowitz, Cathy Brower, Sophia Choi, Adam and Chelsea Ekstedt, Kate Morthland, Linda Purves, Julie Robbs**

### FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS

#### HOMECOMING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Flyers, emails, and registration forms outlining opportunities for the 2022-2023 ministry year will be sent to families this month. Parents are asked to register their children through [KidCheck](#) on or before Homecoming Sunday, September 11. The following classes begin Sunday, September 11:

**PRE-KINDERGARTENERS** will gather in the **Nursery** following the children's sermon for a lesson from the **Frolic Preschool Sunday School** curriculum, which is play-based and helps our youngest children experience Bible stories and faith-based storybooks in meaningful ways. Our Nursery, located on the lower level, is staffed by Leigh Milward, Nursery Coordinator, Caroline Haynor, Nursery Worker, and members of the Nursery Guild.

**KINDERGARTENERS - GRADE 5** will gather in the **Third Floor Chapel** following the Children's sermon for a lesson from the **Growing in God's Love** curriculum, which is multi-age and teaches each Bible story in greater depth. In various stations, there are opportunities for learning, fellowship, and multi-age collaboration as we explore the week's story through nature, prayer, technology, music, dance, art, building, gratitude journals, and retelling the Bible stories utilizing the **Young Children and Worship** curriculum.

### BRIDGES MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP

#### BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Children in Grades 3-5 are invited to Bridges on Wednesdays beginning September 14, from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. This fellowship bridges friendships among our children and across generations. It also includes mission projects and interfaith gatherings.



**The 2022-2023 theme: Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living.** We will examine what it looks like to live a life rooted in the two greatest commandments to love God and others. This after-school program precedes Westminster Choristers which meets from 4:45 – 5:30 p.m. Leaders: Karen Sherrick and Pat Roller



# Youth Mission Trip 2022







**THE 2022 YOUTH MISSION TRIP** is one we will cherish for years to come. We cleared 3 house lots of debris on the first day. We then spent 3 days building 2 decks (6'x8' and 8'x12'), a shed, dog kennel, and replaced a mailbox. We also helped the next-door neighbor by building an access point to their attic.

For our side trip, we visited Louisville, KY. We were greeted by Kerry Rice, Deputy Stated Clerk of the Office of the General Assembly, when we visited and toured PC(USA)'s national office. After eating at a restaurant on Whiskey Row, we visited the Louisville Slugger Museum and the Kentucky Derby Museum at Churchill Downs. Our visit to Louisville was complete with a BBQ dinner.

Upon our return home we continued the Westminster tradition by gathering the team for a Sunday morning breakfast (Thanks Nichole Magalis!) and leading the Sunday worship service. **Thank you, Westminster, for your support to make this mission trip possible!**





# 2022 Steadfast Neighbor Service Week





## 2022 Steadfast Neighbor Service Week



During the SNSW (June 27 – July 1) Westminster partnered with 18 neighbors to work on their homes. Together, we were able to: (1) Power wash three homes and clean the gutters of four homes, install gutter guards on one home. (2) Paint a picket fence white, four porches, two doors (one leading to nowhere), attend to the detail of intricate house trim and paint a window frame. (3) Install a fence, repair a fence, paint a fence. (4) Landscape six yards including removing 2 tons of rotted firewood from a neighbor's yard (at least it felt like it). (5) Completely rebuilt a porch, repair two porches, and clear out one porch. (6) Provide masonry work to stabilize a porch, which was donated by Pulliam Masonry. This porch will be completed in the second week of August. (7) Clear out two garages and (8) fill two dumpsters to the rim. An additional dumpster was filled the following week.



## Steadfast Neighbor Project To be completed August 8 -10



Pulliam Masonry donated \$2,500 in masonry work during SNSW to stabilize a porch at 627 E. Edwards. Westminster members Coleman Moore, Keith Hamilton, and Pete VanGieson will complete the carpentry work on the porch August 8 - 10.

## Property Committee Meeting and Dinner Hosted by Gary Warnick July 27, 2022



Back row: Gary Warnick, Mark Vasconcelles, Dave Leonatti, Mal Hildebrand, Susan Day, Peter Kieffer, Robyn Hovey, Marc Anderson. Front row: Linda Klein, Melanie and Bud Green, Kara Vasconcelles, Nancy & Rich Canady, and Christie Hovey. (Photographer: Blythe Kieffer)

## Steadfast Neighbor Collaboration: The city, Westminster, and Habitat for Humanity



**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PURCHASED 626 S. GLENWOOD ON** Friday, July 29 with the \$34.00 check provided by Westminster as part of the Steadfast Neighbor Endeavor. The bid was approved by City Council. Habitat Executive Director, Colleen Stone, presented the check to Springfield's Treasurer, Misty Buscher, with Dr. Kieffer at her side. Also pictured at the table are Amanda Long, Springfield's Purchasing Agent, and Attorney Nicholas Correll who assisted in the transaction.

**The bid of \$34 is a symbolic number.** In Jeremiah 32:9 Jeremiah purchased the field of Anathoth from his cousin Hanamel for seventeen shekels of silver (\$34 in today's currency). Although the land was worthless, Jeremiah bought it to honor the covenant within his family. Westminster is investing in this property to honor the covenant of community within our neighborhood.

The city agreed to cover the cost of demolishing the rear building, and Jaren Industries has confirmed a \$26,000 demolition cost for the front building. We anticipate with joy a **PRESBYTERIAN HABITAT BUILD ON THIS LOT IN 2023**. The timeline is to host the Kickoff and the Building Blitz week in April of 2023. Complete the work in May and Dedicate the Home in June before our 2023 Steadfast Service Week. This, of course, is all weather dependent.

**THANK YOU** to the Strategic Planning Committee: Tim Kluge, Chair, Pat Hildebrand-Culler, Dr. Todd Knox, Meg Kontio, Valerie Leonatti, Jim Rigney, Dr. Susan Shea, Carolyn Swanson, Mark Vasconcelles, Brinton Wilkey; Property Committee members: Mal Hildebrand, Dave Leonatti, and Gary Warnick, Property and Building Manager, for their leadership.



## NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

Sunday June 10, 2022



**Barry F. Denham** by Reaffirmation of Faith. Barry is a graduate of Southern Illinois University with a degree in Design. His career has been in building material sales, mostly cabinets, and is currently a part-owner in a cabinet company which also builds houses. Barry lives in Jacksonville, FL. After participating in a meaningful Steadfast Neighbor Service Week, he expressed interest in joining our church. Barry is Dr. Kieffer's older brother.  
**Sponsor: Peter Kieffer**



**Georgina M. Hudspeth** by Letter of Transfer from St. James Episcopal Church in La Grange, TX. Georgina is a graduate of Western Illinois University. She taught in Elgin, IL, then with the Department of Defense dependent schools in the Philippines, Germany, and England. She completed her teaching career in Austin, Texas where she also did evaluations for their special education program.  
**Sponsor: Kathy Moore**



**Ann C. Kelson** by Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Springfield, IL. Ann is a widow with three grown children, twenty-two grandchildren (counting spouses) and eight great-grandchildren. Most of Ann's professional life was on the medical education faculty of SIU School of Medicine, consulting in countries in Europe, Asia, South America and within the USA. Upon retirement, Ann took training as a PCUSA Certified Lay Pastor and served as a hospital chaplain.  
**Sponsor: Brownie Anderson**



**Glenna R. Kniss** by Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian church in Springfield, IL. Glenna received her undergraduate degree from Lewis University and took graduate courses at the University of Chicago. She worked for the State of Illinois at the Department of Children and Family Services before her retirement. She loves the spirituality of nature, the Divine Feminine, gardening, Tai Chi Qigong, Kabbala, poetry, theater, and music. **Sponsors: Dr. Roy Wehrle and Vonnie Hinesley**



**Dr. Vena M. Long** by Letter of Transfer from United Church of Christ in Columbia, MO. Vena retired as a mathematics professor from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN before moving to Springfield. She has a B.S. and M.S. in Mathematics from Truman State University and an Ed.D. from the University of Missouri. She and her late husband, Donald, have two grown sons, Lewis who lives in Alaska and Michael who lives in Springfield, IL, and four grandsons, Cole, Clayton, Karson and Kevan whom she tutored during the pandemic. **Sponsor: Dr. Mike Nenaber**

## MILESTONE MEMBERS BID GOODBYE

JULY 28, 2022



**Mary Anne and Jim Singleton** joined Westminster October 1, 1961. Jim has served the Springfield community as a respected obstetrician and gynecologist delivering more than 10,000 babies during his professional career. Mary Anne served as our Children's Music Director for over twenty years and was instrumental on the search committee which brought us Dale Rogers in 1986. We are grateful for all the ways the Singletons have enriched the life of our community and congregation these last 61 years, and we wish them well in their new home in Ashville where they will be near their son John.



## PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Christian K. Choi MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

### CORN PICKING AT GRIGSBY FARMS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 4:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

The annual sweet corn harvest for area food pantries and homeless shelters is ready! This corn is planted each year by Grigsby Farms (thanks to the Hale and Pound families), and we need your help to pick the corn. The picking begins Wednesday, August 3 at 5:15 (with people leaving the church at 4:30 p.m. to drive to the field). We will pick from 5:15 - 6:45 p.m. and return by 7:30 p.m. **Please RSVP to Jennie Alt at [jalt@wpcspi.org](mailto:jalt@wpcspi.org)** to let us know to expect you.



### 2022 CONTACT MINISTRY BACKPACK COLLECTION THROUGH SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

Once again WPC is partnering with Contact Ministries as we collect backpacks to be distributed at their Ready for Success Back to School Event on Wednesday, August 17 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Around 250 school-aged children will receive a new backpack from Contact Ministries, a voucher for a haircut, and a new pair of shoes from Shoe Carnival!



Immediately after the Sunday worship service, Elizabeth Circle members (pictured above from last year) will gather in WPC's second floor classroom to place

a Bible verse backpack tag on each of the donated backpacks.

At the time of this printing, we have collected 83 backpacks. We will collect backpacks **through Sunday, August 14**. **The basket is in the West Narthex. Online orders may be sent directly to Westminster.**

### FAIR TRADE MINISTRY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate and tea are sold to support just, environmentally sound products, and small producers. This month's sales will be **Sunday, August 21** following the 10:00 a.m. worship.



### AUGUST EARTH CARE TIP



When Monsanto marketed the weedkiller Roundup in 1973, promises were that soil microbes would break down the glyphosate into harmless chemicals. Unfortunately, this breakdown takes up to several months, permitting possible harm to

other vegetation, wildlife, and humans. For those hard-to-pull weeds, consider dissolving as much table salt as you can into some vinegar. Spray and saturate leaves to kill most weeds in a single application, though some might need a few more shots of this green alternative. **Dr. Peter Kieffer, Chair**

### HELPING HANDS MONTHLY MEAL

Thank you to **Julie McDonough, Jeanne Pittman, and Mary Ray** for preparing the July 8 meal which included chicken on the grill.

The August 12 meal will be prepared by **Eleanor VanDeventer, Brownie Anderson, Mary Moore, and Ann Collins.**

We are still in need of ministry partners for December. To sign up, please go to our website or call Jennie Alt.



### COOLING CENTER MONTHLY MEAL



The Hunger Action Team prepared a monthly meal for the Springfield Cooling Center on **Wednesday, July 27**. Thank you to **Sam Simonson, Mary Caroline Mitchell, Krista Steller, Sue Scaife, Jeanne VanGieson, Pat Hymans, and Kathy Germeraad**. The next meal will be on **Wednesday, August 24**. Please contact Krista Steller [ksteller@wpcspi.org](mailto:ksteller@wpcspi.org) to participate.

### LITTLE PANTRY NEEDS MINISTRY PARTNERS

Thank you to the devoted ministry partners who regularly stock and clean Westminster's Little Pantry located at Graham Elementary School daily. **Ministry Partners are needed to join the team of dedicated members as we enter the summer months.** Please contact Jeanne or Pete VanGieson at 217-652-1310, and they will arrange for you to be mentored.

### MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERIES

Thank you to the following ministry partners who provided this community service the last two weeks of July: **Jennie Alt, Sandy Bellatti, Bud Green, Anne and David Haaker, Mary Hibbert, Kathy Kenyon, Mary Caroline and David Mitchell, Sam Simonson, Alan Stutz, and Julie & Mike Sundquist.**



### GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH AUGUST MENU

**Beef Stew, Applesauce, Pancake Mix and Syrup, and Dry Cereal.** **High-Demand Items:** personal hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, diapers & wipes size 3 & up, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.



## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP** gathers every **Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. A brown bag lunch is held at noon on the second Tuesday of each month. Beverages and a dessert will be provided. Questions – call Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657.



**DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE)** will meet **Friday, August 19 with a 6:30 p.m. potluck** and a **7:15 p.m. program.** Rev. Margaret Jessup will talk about the “Wooden It Be Lovely” program that

offers hope and employment to women healing from lives of poverty, addiction, and abuse. Please bring a side dish to share. Please RSVP with our weekly email link, website, or by emailing or calling the church office.



**PW SALAD SUPPER** will be held Wednesday, September 28 at 6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** resumes on Monday, September 11 at 5:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Call Eleanor VanDeventer (217-341-4032).

**LYDIA CIRCLE** resumes on Tuesday, September 20 at 9:30 a.m. in the library. Call Nancy Canady (217-899-9890) for details.

**RUTH AND NAOMI** will resume on Wednesday, October 5, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Pat Wheat (11 Pickering Lane, 62712). Call Christy Pound (217-971-3082) if you are interested in joining.

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST** will resume on Thursday, **September 8 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Join us for devotions, breakfast, and great fellowship. Call Pete VanGieson (217-652-1310) for details.



## WESTMINSTER GATHERINGS AT CONCORDIA RESUME THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 11:30 AM

Members and friends of Westminster will gather Thursday, August 25, at 11:30 a.m. with the pastors and the director of



music and the arts, for communion followed by lunch. This is the first time we will be together since November of 2019. Our gatherings were suspended because of the pandemic and we are excited to resume this meaningful time

of worship and fellowship.

**Save the Date** for future lunches: November 17, February 23, and May 25.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

**HOME COMMUNION**– Thank you to the elders and deacons who brought **eight members** home communion on July 10. If you would like to receive Communion at home on August 7, please contact Jennie Alt.

**BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS** will be available from Ellen Carpenter on the first Sunday of the month, August 7.

**PRAYER CIRCLE** continues to hold members in prayer. Call Christian or Blythe with a prayer request.

## WESTMINSTER NEWS

### MELESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Debbie and Skip Turnbull celebrate 50 years on August 5.

Susan and Michael Shaw celebrate 50 years on August 6.

Dr. and Mrs. James and Mary Anne Singleton celebrate 69 years on August 8.

Betty Cadwallader celebrates 97 years on August 9.

Al Hibbert celebrates 92 years on August 11.

Sharon and Matt Gilmour celebrate 61 years on August 12.

Anne Smith celebrates 91 years on August 17.

### WEDDINGS

Amanda Ormonde and Eli Brower will be united in marriage on August 6 in Arroyo Grande, CA. Eli is the son of Cathy and Scott Brower.

Aléna Leonatti and Luis Quesada will be united in marriage on August 25 in Santa Barbara, CA. Aléna is the daughter of Valerie and Dave Leonatti.

### NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations to Meg and Jim Kontio on the birth of their granddaughter Violet Eloise on July 1, in Bloomington IL. Violet's parents are Claire and Nathan Ham.

Congratulations to Mary Ray, proud aunt of Wyler Revel Zrinsky, born to the Rev Laura Colee and Eric Zrinsky on July 6 in Philadelphia.

### SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Meg and Jim Kontio on the death of Meg's dad, Alan Flickinger, on June 29 in Akron, OH.

Kathy and Bill Meriwether on the death of Bill's brother, Bruce Meriwether June 25 in Dubuque IA and Kathy's sister, Wilma Minder July 6 in Loami, IL.

Gary Warnick and Linda Klein on the death of Gary's brother-in-law Robert Thatcher July 23, in Niantic, IL.

### NEW ADDRESS

Mary Anne and Jim Singleton, 41 Cobblers Way, Apt. 3313, Ashville, NC 28804

Barbara Hanigbaum-Papp, 947 Shasta Road, Venice, Florida 34293 (Barbara is the widow of Stan Papp.)

Sue Baker, 1700 W. Washington Street, Apt. B605, Springfield, IL 62702, Hickory Glen (as of August 28, 2022).

Nell and Jay VanSice, The Arbors of Williamsburg, 1915 Pocahontas Trail #420, Williamsburg, VA 23185

### THANK YOU TO

The VBS children and members who donated **\$169.75** to Living Waters for the World, a mission project of the Synod of Living Waters, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

Dr. Diane Rutledge who received the 2022 ATHENA Award.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### 2022 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 6:00 – 7:30 P.M.**

The Historic Westside Neighborhood Association will host the 2022 National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 2, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.** at Westminster. Join us for food, gift card drawings, and our neighborhood police officer, Tamara Plug will be onsite. RSVP to [info@hwsna.org](mailto:info@hwsna.org) for food count if you are able, but it is not required. All are welcome the night of the event.





## Homecoming Sunday, September 11

Worship at 10:00 A.M. Brunch Reception at 11:15 A.M.

Join your Westminster family for Homecoming Sunday on September 11! We will gather for worship at 10:00 a.m., welcome the return of the Westminster Choir and commission the Education Leadership Team.

A brunch reception in Parish Hall will follow worship and include ministry displays, children's activities, a PowerPoint Presentation of the 2021-2022 ministry year, and the opportunity to sign up for Education, Fellowship, Music, Mission, and Service. Do not miss this new beginning at Westminster!

\***Homecoming Sunday** is a new title for the Sunday which initiates the beginning of the ministry year at Westminster. The reason for the name change last year is to extend an invitation to those who have been away because of the pandemic and other reasons and to invite our neighbors into our church home as we begin a new year together, especially those who participated in the Steadfast Neighbor Service Week and Matching Grant initiatives.



### WCP Preschool News by Emily Rowley 2022-2023 School Year



We are looking forward to our first day of classes on September 6th. We have a couple of openings in each of our classes (Tuesday & Thursday mornings for 2 1/2 - 3-year-olds; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings for 3-4-year-olds; and Monday-Thursday afternoons for 4 years olds). If you know anyone looking for a play-based preschool with a wonderful cooperative family, please spread the word! An application is available on our website and in the church office. **We'll kick off the year with a parent orientation on Tuesday, August 30th, and a meet your teacher open house on Friday, September 2nd.**

### Welcome Keri Tate to the WCP Staff!

Keri Tate is excited to join the WCP family this fall as the 2-day and 3-day teacher. Keri has worked with children and families for over 40 years, most recently teaching in her own private play-based preschool program Wee Play Preschool. She is looking forward to the collaboration with Ms. Emily and the families of WCP.

Keri and her husband Larry have been married for 42 years and have two children Britt (husband Tim) and Ryne (wife Kim). They celebrate their four Grand sweets Jamie, Lincoln, Kenley, and Ben who are the center of their lives. Ben is attending WCP's 3-day this year after completing the 2-day program last year.

Keri has a Bachelor of Arts degree from UIS. Areas of study included Child and Family Counseling and Teacher Education. She completed all requirements and certified to teach K-9th grades with endorsements in English, Science, and Social Studies. Keri minored in Women Studies. She is very involved in the community and being creative.



### NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICERS

DEACON (CLASS OF 2025), ELDER (CLASS OF 2025)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2023)

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2025)

Nominations may be completed online at [wpcspi.org](http://wpcspi.org) or by emailing the committee chair, Eleanor VanDeventer at [ehuitt@yahoo.com](mailto:ehuitt@yahoo.com). Please complete by August 14, 2022.

2022 Nominating Committee: Eleanor VanDeventer (Chair), Carolyn Swanson, Mary King, Bill Deemer, Deb Coontz, Alan Stutz, and Julie Sundquist

### Westminster Staff

**The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
Pastor and Head of Staff  
[bkieffer@wpcspi.org](mailto:bkieffer@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Christian K. Choi**  
Associate Pastor for Parish Life  
[cchoi@wpcspi.org](mailto:cchoi@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle**  
Parish Associate

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

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

**Karen H. Sherrick**  
Director for Children's Ministry  
[ksherrick@wpcspi.org](mailto:ksherrick@wpcspi.org)

**Leigh Milward**  
Nursery Coordinator

**Caroline Haynor**  
Nursery Worker

**Emily Rowley, Keri Tate**  
Cooperative Preschool Teachers  
[emily@westminster-preschool.org](mailto:emily@westminster-preschool.org)

**Ellen Carpenter**  
Parish Nurse  
[ranell@comcast.net](mailto:ranell@comcast.net)

**Pat Hymans**  
Hospitality Coordinator  
[alnpat5@yahoo.com](mailto:alnpat5@yahoo.com)

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

**Jennie Alt**  
Church Administrative Assistant  
[jalt@wpcspi.org](mailto:jalt@wpcspi.org)

**Krista Steller**  
Communications Coordinator  
[ksteller@wpcspi.org](mailto:ksteller@wpcspi.org)

**Gary Warnick**  
Building and Property Manager  
[gwarnick@wpcspi.org](mailto:gwarnick@wpcspi.org)

**Terry Gietl, Bill Hibbert,  
Eddie Hubbard, Steve Stapleton**  
Part-time Custodians

Reporter folding and mailing will be  
Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.