



# THE REPORTER

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

### February 2018

### 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 Forum  
11:15 a.m. – 12 noon

### February 4

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

*Isaiah 40:21-31; Mark 1:29-39*

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*Our Strength Renewed*

### February 11

**TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

*2 Kings 2:1-12; Mark: 9:2-9*

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*Passing the Torch*

### Ash Wednesday

February 14

**Distribution of Ashes and Communion**

*Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

*There Your Heart Will Be*

### February 18

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Genesis 9:8-17; Mark: 1:9-15*

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*The Sign of the Covenant*

### February 25

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Genesis 4:13-25; 15-16; Mark 8:31-38*

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

*Divine Things and Human Things*

### NEWS FROM THE APNC

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee was elected by the congregation on October 8, 2017. They have covenanted together to pray the *Shema* Prayer found in Deuteronomy 6:4-9, and invite the congregation to join them in this endeavor and to lift them in prayer that God's spirit would be a part of the discernment process in our search for the Associate Pastor for Family Ministry

The Ministry Information Form has been completed and approved. It was activated online at the Presbyterian Church (USA) Leadership Connection website January 31 and can be found on Westminster's website wpcspi.org.



Row One: Bill Ward, Lucas Carpenter, Craig Morrison, Peter VanGieson, Row Two: Karen Sherrick (Vice-Chair), Emma Shafer, Susan Day (chair), Sandy Bellatti, Christy Pound (Secretary)

### THE SEASON OF LENT BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018

5:45 p.m. Soup, Pizza and Salad in Parish Hall  
Free will offering will be collected.

Lenten Bag Scripture Discussion Starters shared at tables.

6:30 p.m. Communion Worship Service in Sanctuary  
Bridges children and Choristers

serve as liturgists and present special music.

Child-friendly meditation presented by Rev. Trajan McGill

Distribution of Ashes and Holy Communion.

Heart stones will be distributed as a symbol of the season.

**LENTEN GIVING: The One Great Hour of Sharing** denominational offering will be received during Lent. This is an opportunity to provide relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and empower the poor and oppressed. **Lenten Coat Drive** will be collected in the West Narthex and these coats will line the center pews of our Sanctuary on Palm Sunday.

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

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:10-11



Following a strong 2017, the Westminster family continues to build on the foundation of Christ. We teach our children about

the God who will never forsake us, the God who laid the foundation of the earth, the God who joined us in our humanity in Christ Jesus, and the God who is our companion wherever life takes us.

Pictured above is the late Cliff Tozer with his three sons before church. On Epiphany (January 6, 2018) over 100 people gathered at Concordia to celebrate the strong foundation Cliff and Dee laid for their sons and the mentor he was to so many within the Springfield community as teacher and principal.

Thanks to the generosity of so many, the financial foundation of Westminster is strong ending 2017 with income over expenses of \$16,758, a successful stewardship campaign adding \$10,000 in pledges, and an Endowment Fund with a market value of \$3.5 million. A strong endowment means additional mission giving (\$173,321 in 2017) and improvements to the foundation of our historic church. The installation of the concealed Verizon cellular antenna in our Bell Tower will be complete in February. A comprehensive landscaping plan is underway and the addition of a south niche wall in the memorial garden is scheduled for May.

As we prepare to call the Associate Pastor for Family Ministry, our commitment to laying a solid foundation for our children and youth continues to be as strong as ever.

## ADULT EDUCATION FORUM PRESENTS:

### AMERICA'S ORIGINAL SIN

SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 4, 11, 18

In February, we continue to explore Jim Wallace's book America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America in an important conversation. Thanks to Becky Martin for her leadership.

### SACRED CONVERSATIONS POTLUCK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Members who would like to be a part of this conversation within the Springfield community are invited to attend a monthly gathering at St. Frances Cabrini Church (1020 N. Milton Avenue) the second Monday of the month. The February topic is "Reflections on the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King." Bring a dish to Share.

### NEW MEMBERS CLASS

SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 18 AND 25 AT 11:15 A.M.



Friends and visitors are invited to a New Members Class on Sundays, February 18 and 25, 11:15 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. The class will be led by the pastors. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, March 11, following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Library.

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR will sing anthems with a Springfield connection through the month of February. They are: *What Does the Lord Require of You?* by Robert Hobby and dedicated to Ron Naylor (once a candidate for one of our many interim positions).

*The Radiant Light of God*, the anthem for Transfiguration Sunday that I wrote for the 1995 choir trip to England and Scotland,

*Oh, the Height of Jesus' Love*, written by Ben Culli, a native of Springfield and dedicated to the memory of Ken Myers, a local French Horn player, and *Out of the Depths* written by David Mitchell, my predecessor and now a member of the choir.



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THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS (singers in grades 3-5) rehearses on Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. following the Bridges program. The Choristers will sing at the Ash Wednesday Service on February 14 in addition to Sundays March 4 (Youth Sunday) and April 15. The spring musical, Francis, Little Man of God, will be presented as a part of the services on Sunday, May 6.

WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR (singers in Kindergarten - Grade 2) will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, February 7 at 4:45 p.m. The Children's Choir will prepare music for Palm Sunday, March 25, and the Song of the Birds for the Chorister's musical about St. Francis of Assisi in addition to expanding their musical skills and knowledge in a fun environment.

CHURCH MICE (infants through age 4) meets each week at 11:00 a.m. on Saturdays. This is a lively early childhood development music and activity program for our youngest members and their friends.

## LENTEN ECUMENICAL MUSICAL PRAYER SERVICES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 AT 6:00 P.M.  
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

TUESDAY, MARCH 6 AT 6:00 P.M.  
CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH

Both of these prayer services join together choirs and congregations of St. John's Lutheran Church, Christ the King Catholic Church, Laurel United Methodist Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church. The services are meditative sung prayer services patterned after the worship in Taize, France. Native American flute player, Dave Tell, will join with Dale Rogers at the gathering music and during the candle ritual. Congregations and choirs are invited and encouraged to make these services part of your Lenten journey.

## SPECIAL MUSIC IN MARCH

On Sunday, March 18, the Westminster Choir will be joined with the ILLINOIS COLLEGE CHAMBER SINGERS, who will provide special music for the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

A PROGRAM OF MUSIC FOR BRASS QUINTET will be presented by musicians of the Illinois Symphony at Westminster on Friday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m. as a part of their Around the Town Concerts. This event is paired with the DMA potluck. Mark your calendars for the every special event.

## YOUTH UPDATE by Natalie Knox

**THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** is Sunday, February 4! Support the hungry in Springfield by placing your donation in the large soup pots held by our youth following worship. This is a program organized by the youth of the PC(USA).



## YOUTH SUPER BOWL PARTY FOR JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 AT 5:00 P.M. HOSTED BY THE POUNDS

Join us **Sunday, February 4** at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Christy & Karl Pound as we enjoy sports and fellowship. The gathering will officially end following halftime. Bring a friend and a side dish to share. The Pounds will provide the main dish.

## CONFIRMATION AND JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

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

- February 4** – Super Bowl Party and Potluck
- February 9 (Friday)** – Confirmation Field Trip to Temple Israel
- February 11** – Confirmation Prep: Ruth  
Confirmation: The Bible/ Book of Order
- February 18** – Confirmation Prep: King Saul  
Confirmation Class: Apostle's Creed & Lord's Prayer
- February 25** – Confirmation Prep: King David/Prep Youth Sunday  
Confirmation Class: Ministries of the Church/Prep Youth Sunday

**CONFIRMATION FIELD TRIP** Confirmands and their mentors will visit Temple Israel (1140 W Governor) for worship and dinner on **Friday, February 9**. We will meet with Rabbi Marks at 5:30 p.m. prior to the 6:00 p.m. worship.

## SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP 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.

- February 4** – Super Bowl Party and Potluck
- February 11** – Why is it awkward to talk about Jesus?
- February 18** – Christianity and Evolution Social Media
- February 25** – Social Media/Prep Youth Sunday

## 2018 YOUTH MISSION

The last day to sign up to join us in West Virginia July 7-14 is February 12! Contact Natalie Knox @ [nknox@wpcspi.org](mailto:nknox@wpcspi.org).



**ALL TEAM MEETING** on **Sunday, March 4** after Youth Sunday from 11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Youth Room. Join us for team building and a chance to learn more about Appalachia!

**TRIVIA NIGHT/SILENT AUCTION** is **Sunday, March 18**. Tickets are currently on sale! Find a youth or buy tickets in the church office. Tickets for dinner are \$5, and tickets for trivia are \$15.

## WPC YOUNG ADULTS

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Young Adults ages 18-29 are invited to brunch at Obed and Isaac's (500 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street) after church on the last Sunday of each month. We will meet next on Sunday, February 25.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

### GRADE 2-3 SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT

JONAH AND THE WHALE



Sunday school teachers Meridith Bryans, Sue Cull, Dr. Marc DeJong and Sara Eldridge led a wonderful special project during the last two weeks of January with a focus on Jonah and the Whale! The children proudly showed their work of art in the West Narthex following the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, where it is still on display.

### GIRL SCOUT COOKIES SALE

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

On Sunday, February 11 Maria DeJong and Macklin Metzger from Girl Scout Troop #6363 will be selling cookies in the West Narthex. Other Westminster girl scouts who have cookies to sell are welcome to join Maria and Macklin.



Additionally, Beth Allen, Manager of Community Development for Girl Scouts of Central Illinois, will host an informational table for those interested in learning more.

### PREPARING FOR LENT

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BAGS** have been mailed to each family. They contain word discussion starters for daily reflection. A One Great Hour of Sharing calendar with guidelines for the fish boxes was also included in the mailing. **Fish Boxes will be distributed on Sundays, February 11 and 18 during Sunday School.** 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. The fish boxes will be presented in the Palm Sunday Processional on Sunday, March 25 at the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Additionally,

families are encouraged to **donate coats** which will line the aisles on Palm Sunday and be given to Contact Ministries.

**ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 14:** Families are invited to dinner at 5:45 p.m. and a family centered worship service at 6:30 p.m.

### WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS

#### TRIVIA NIGHT AND AUCTION

#### Saturday, February 10, 6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

Doors at Westminster open at 5:00, trivia play begins at 6:00. Come test your superhero knowledge! \$10/ person or \$100/ table of 10. We will have baked goods, popcorn and soft drinks for sale, and food may be brought in Because we are gathering in Westminster's Parish Hall, no alcohol is allowed. Childcare will be provided Sign up on line at [www.westminster-preschool.org](http://www.westminster-preschool.org).



## CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM



On Wednesday, January 24 Temple Israel hosted Children of Abraham. Thirty of our children and members shared in an interfaith gathering as Rabbi Barry Marks and Lisa GoldbergBelle introduced us to the Torah displayed in a scroll. The Torah is known as "The Tree of Life." We planted seeds together and shared in a vegetarian meal.



## LET'S MAKE DINNER



Ruth and Naomi Circle hosted eleven women on Friday, January 26 at "Let's Make Dinner" to share the gift of hospitality by preparing meals which will be delivered to members as part of the Congregational Care Committee's Meal Ministry.

## YOUTH EGG-TASTIC FUNDRAISER



Westminster Youth hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Egg-tastic Breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, January 28 raising \$1,375 and an additional \$680 in sausage sales. Special thanks to Becky Huston and Vallery Huston, the chefs, their team, and Mary Jo and David Jenkins for the generous sausage donation. This is the first fundraiser for their 2018 mission trip. Mark your calendar for Trivia Night on Sunday, March 18.

## RECOGNITION OF THE REVEREND SARAH ILIFF MCGILL



The Reverend Sarah Iliff McGill received a pewter baking and serving tray from the congregation for her service and the children presented her a shadow box with hearts designed by Bridges children.

## PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

### MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### DANCING WITH THE STARZ SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

This annual fund-raiser for the Springfield Art Association is Saturday, February 10 and will once again feature a dancer from the Westminster family.



This year Rev. Trajan McGill will step onto the dance floor, sponsored by Marty Sumner.

Come out and support the Springfield Art Association by casting your vote for Trajan. Tickets for the evening are \$65. Please make your reservation with the Art Association and ask to be seated with Westminster. **Ticket sales deadline is February 2.** Attending or not, you can vote online with your donations all the way through the event itself on February 10. <http://springfieldart.org/dwts.html>

##### CONTACT MINISTRIES PROM FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Contact Ministries, a faith-based organization supported by Westminster in offering wide-ranging services to Springfield-area persons in need, is having its annual "Prom" on February 16 at the Illini Country Club.



Each year Contact Ministries holds this major fund-raising event featuring dinner, dancing, and an auction. Last year many Westminster members attended. Please speak to Dr. Kieffer or Joe Fierstos if you are interested in purchasing tickets to this event.

#### EARTH CARE NEWS

Thank you to all who are responding to this effort to preserve God's creation by bringing your ink cartridges and batteries to the **RECYCLING CORNER** in the West Narthex near the Church Officer mailboxes.



**Earth Care Team:** Peter Kieffer, Chair, Keith Hamilton, Tim Kluge, Lynn McMnamin, Maribeth Norton, Brad Steller.

**HELPING HANDS** – Westminster members provide meals for the residents of the Helping Hands homeless shelter on the second Friday of every month. This is a ministry valued highly by Helping Hands, and we are in need of more people interested in preparing and delivering one of these monthly meals. Reimbursement is available from the church for costs incurred. Thanks to Cathy Schwartz and family for providing the January meal, and to the Swanson and Bryans families for filling this need in February. March – September, November, and December are still open; contact Trajan McGill or the church office to volunteer.

**GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH FEBRUARY MENU** Canned Soups with Pop Tops, Peanut Butter, Boxed Crackers, Applesauce. Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank. **Items in High Demand:** feminine hygiene products, shampoo, diapers & wipes size 3 and up, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.

*Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank.*

#### FAIR TRADE AT WESTMINSTER

Fair Trade coffee and chocolate is available for sale regularly after worship services. These sales benefit local farmers and workers who work and employ workers in environmentally sustainable, economically equitable ways, and profits are used for missions and service of the church. February will have two such sales.



- **Sunday, February 11:** A special sale just in time to stock up on chocolate for Valentine's Day, or to eat some of your favorite treat before Lent begins! Seven different kinds of full-sized chocolate bars from milk to very dark will be on sale (2 for \$5), with chocolate chips on sale as well. Dark and milk chocolate minis, hot cocoa mix, and baking cocoa will also be available.
- **Sunday, February 18:** Coffee and chocolate will be available for purchase as usual on the third Sunday of the month.

Thanks to Stephanie and Claire Bess for organizing and running this ongoing ministry.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** – We will be receiving donations toward this multi-denominational annual collection throughout Lent. This ecumenical, special offering goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and self-development of people throughout the world.

**NEW MISSION PROJECTS** – The Mission and Community Service Committees are looking forward to a new year of supporting great mission and service projects. If you have something dear to your heart that you believe Westminster could be involved in, please talk to Joe Fierstos, chairman of the Mission Committee, Brad Milliman, chairman of the Community Service Committee, or the Rev. Trajan McGill, who can talk you through the process of applying for mission funds or for other forms of involvement by the church.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

**NEW MEAL MINISTRY** – The Congregational Care Committee is starting up a ministry of care for people in situations (e.g., just home from the hospital) who could be supported with a few meals delivered to their homes. If you would be interested in helping, or you know of anyone who could use a meal or two, please talk to the Rev. Trajan McGill.

Special thanks to recent and current members of the Congregational Care Committee for getting this underway, to the Ruth and Naomi Circle, and to those who gathered with them recently at "Let's Make Dinner" to launch this work by assembling numerous casseroles for delivery as needs arise in the near future.

#### CHURCH LIFE APP FOR CELL PHONES & TABLETS SIGN UP FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

On the first Sunday of each month, the I.T. Committee will be in the West Narthex to assist members with installing the Church Life App on your phone or tablet. The I.T. Committee comprises Keith Hamilton, Dick Herndon, Christie Hovey, Al Hymans, and Krista Steller, with the Rev. Trajan McGill.

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### PARENTS' FELLOWSHIP GROUP

**SUPER BOWL PARTY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 5:00 P.M.**

All parents with their children (Birth – Grade 5) are invited to a Super Bowl party at Jen and Marc DeJongs' house (1955 S. Illini Rd). Bring a dish to share and RSVP to Jen at [jen@ymarchitects.com](mailto:jen@ymarchitects.com).

**KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION** gather for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. The monthly brown bag lunch is Tuesday, February 13. All are welcome. Questions – call Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-544-8657.

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**PW LUNCHEON** Join with us Friday, February 2 at noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair will be Dr. Peg DiFonso and Chair of the Day will be Nancy Scott. The 2018 Officers will be installed. Colleen Stone, Director of the Habitat for Humanity for Sangamon County will present "1000 Women Strong-Habitat Sangamon": How Women are Coming Together to Build Habitat House in Spring 2018. Please make your reservations to the church office by February 1.



**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** meets **Wednesday, February 7 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Mary Caroline Mitchell (1605 Outer Park Dr, 62704). We will discuss Chapter 5 "Who Controls the Couple" of *Imperfect Control: Our Lifelong Struggles with Power and Surrender* by Judith Viorst.

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** will meet **Monday, February 12 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom for our annual post-holiday hors d'oeuvre party. We will be studying Chapter 9 in the Horizons Bible Study *Who is Jesus?* Judy Ridinger will lead our program "According to Contemporary Cultural Interpretations."

**LYDIA CIRCLE** will meet **Tuesday, February 20 at 9:30 a.m.** in the church library. Leah Duling will be the hostess and will provide the devotional. We will study *Lesson 5: According to Paul* in the PW Horizon Bible Study *Who is Jesus? By Judy Yates Siker*.

### PRESBYTERIAN MEN

**MONTHLY MEN'S BREAKFAST** will meet **Thursday, January 11, at 7:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. John Shafer will provide a program the "Future of the Y Block", Jay Kennerly will lead a devotion, and Alan Stutz will provide the breakfast. Please RSVP to Stephanie at [smoore@wpcspi.org](mailto:smoore@wpcspi.org).

## WESTMINSTER GATHERING AT CONCORDIA

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 12 NOON**

Members and friends of Westminster will gather Thursday, February 22, at 12 noon. with the pastors and the director of music and the arts for communion followed by lunch.

## DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 16**

**6:00 P.M. POTLUCK & 7:00 P.M. PROGRAM**

We welcome the musicians from brass section of the Illinois Symphony, who will present a program of music for brass quintet in the Sanctuary. For the month of March, the potluck will be starting at 6 p.m. (Future DMA dates will have a 6:30 p.m potluck starting time.) Please join us for the program, even if you are unable to attend the potluck and fellowship. Guests and youth are always welcome.



## WESTMINSTER NEWS

### MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Dorothea Callaway celebrates her 104<sup>th</sup> birthday February 3.

Margie Dobson celebrates her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday February 16.

Dr. Neville & Mrs. Cheryl White celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary February 17.

### NEW ADDRESS

Robin Foster, 2801 Montaluma Dr., Apt. 313, Springfield, IL 62704

### IN MEMORIAM

Laura Pollock died on January 4, 2018. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her daughter Debra and George Rudis, and family.

### SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Marci and Bill Irvine on the death of Marci's brother, Fredric C. Volzke on December 22, 2017 in Sioux Falls, SD.

Deb and Dave Coontz on the death of Dave's brother-in-law, Vern Argo January 15 in Mill Creek, IL.

The Reverend Trajan and Sarah Iliff McGill on the death of Sarah's aunt, Marsha Daehler Binns, on January 17 in Portsmouth, Ohio.

Paula Stewart on the death of her daughter, and Susan Gaines on the death of her sister, Linda Trimpe, January 20 in Clinton, South Carolina.

Margie and Bill Wheelhouse on the death of Bill's mother, Wanda J. Wheelhouse, January 20 in Rushville, IL.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

Chandler Klang Smith on her second novel "The Sky is Yours" published by Hogarth Press and available at local bookstores.

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of Presidents' Day.

## 2017 YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Westminster's Operating Fund ended the year with a positive net balance. The 2017 year-end has income exceeding expenses by \$16,758. Both income and expenses were less than budgeted with expenses being under budget by a greater margin.

2017 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 980,647	\$ 984,874	\$ -4,227
Expenses	\$-963,889	\$-984,874	\$ -20,985
Net	\$ 16,758	\$ 0	

## 2018 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN REACHES GOAL LIVING GENEROUSLY

As of Thursday, January 25, we have reached our goal! We have received 266 pledges for a total of \$828,102. Thank you to everyone who made a pledge and to those who plan to give in 2018 without a pledge.



**2018 Stewardship Committee:** *Christie Hovey, chair, Cara Barnett, Grady Chronister, Brian Cozadd, Joe Fierstos, Anne Haaker, Dick Herndon, Christy Pound, Sharon Reynolds, Steve Scaife, and Betsy Shepherd*

## JUDY RIDINGER HONORED SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 10 YEARS AS WESTMINSTER'S PARISH NURSE



Westminster will honor and thank Judy Ridinger on Sunday, February 18 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service for initiating the Parish Nurse Ministry at Westminster and serving as a Parish Nurse for ten years. Judy completed the Parish Nurse Training in 2005 and worked with the Personnel Committee to establish this meaningful ministry. Commissioned in 2007, Judy completed her tenure in January 2018. During the last ten years, Judy has touched the lives of many members through her companionship, teaching, insight and thoughtful presence. We are indebted to Judy for the gift of her compassion and professionalism shared generously over the years. In addition to the monthly glucose and blood pressure check, annual flu shots, biennial Health Fairs, Judy has taken members to doctors' appointments, to church, visited them in the hospital and followed up with them at extended care facilities or home.

Judy received her RN degree from Lincoln Land Community College and her Master's degree in nursing from the University of Illinois-Chicago, Peoria Regional Campus. She worked for Memorial Medical Center for 23 years as a staff nurse and later as a nurse educator before retiring. Judy was board certified in nephrology and later in nursing staff development. She served as adjunct faculty at Mennonite College of Nursing and Millikin College of Nursing.



Judy is pictured at the 2017 Biennial Health Fair with Rev. Trajan McGill and Ellen Carpenter, who will continue to serve as a Parish Nurse.

## WELCOME TO KAREN SHERRICK NEW DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Westminster is delighted to welcome Karen Sherrick as Director for Children's Ministry. This is a part-time position with the oversight of activities and programs related to children (birth through Grade 5). Karen will work closely with the new Associate Pastor for Family Ministry.



Karen is a certified tutor at Children's Dyslexia Centers, former elementary teacher (10 years in the classroom) and reading specialist. She earned a B.S. in education at the Texas A & M University and a M.Ed. in reading from Stephen F. Austin University. She and her husband, Dr. Andrew Sherrick, have two children, Jack, a sophomore at Carlton College, and Annie, a freshman at Boston College.

Karen wrote on her application: *I am at a turning point in my life as both of my children are now in college. I thought about what I really love to do, what skills I have and how best to use them to serve. I would be humbled to have the privilege to assist the parents, teachers and our congregation in building a foundation built on Scripture and God's love to guide our children as they step out into the world.*

We are grateful for Karen's call to serve Westminster, and we look forward to her ministry among us!

### Westminster Staff

**The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*  
bkieffer@wpcspi.org

**The Reverend Trajan I. McGill**  
*Associate Pastor for Parish Life*  
tmcgill@wpcspi.org

**The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle**  
*Parish Associate*  
pastorboutelle@yahoo.com

**Dale T. Rogers**  
*Director of Music and the Arts*  
drogers@wpcspi.org

**Deb Watts Elliott**  
*Saturday Worship Pianist and Music Coordinator*  
deb.watts@live.com

**Natalie A. Knox**  
*Interim Director for Youth*  
nknox@wpcspi.org

**Karen Sherrick**  
*Director for Children's Ministry*  
ksherrick@wpcspi.org

**Abigail Cline, Lizzy Olmsted**  
*Nursery Workers*

**Emily Rowley, Kari Soria**  
*Cooperative Preschool Teachers*  
westminstercoop@gmail.com

**Ellen Carpenter**  
*Parish Nurses*  
ranell@comcast.net

**Lisa Runkle**  
*Financial Administrator*  
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

**Jennie Alt**  
*Church Administrative Assistant*  
jalt@wpcspi.org

**Stephanie S. Moore**  
*Administrative Assistant to the Pastors*  
smoore@wpcspi.org

**Gary Warnick**  
*Head Custodian and Rental Properties Coordinator*  
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

**Roy Ahlers, Steve Council,  
Bill Hibbert, Charles Robertson**  
*Custodians*

**March Reporter Deadline is Sunday,  
February 25.**