



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

July 2021

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

10:00 a.m. In-person and Livestream Worship Service
www.wpcspi.org

FAITH FORMATION:

Nursery Newsletter
emailed each Friday to Families with Children Birth – Age 3

WPCConnections Newsletter
emailed each Friday to Families with Children Pre-K - Grade 5

10:15 a.m. Summer Sunday School
following Children's Sermon

July 4

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
FOURTH OF JULY

Genesis 4:1-9; Psalm 133

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Am I My Brother's Keeper?

July 11

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

YOUTH MISSION COMMISSIONING

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12^b, 19; Mark 6:14-29

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
A Time to Dance

July 18

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MISSION TRIP PRESENTATION

2 Samuel 7:1-14^a; Jeremiah 33:3

The Rev. Christian K. Choi
Mending Links, Breaking Chains

July 25

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Ephesians 3:14-21, John 6:1-21

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Ebb and Flow

Sermon manuscripts are located in the West Narthex and online at www.wpcspi.org.

RECOGNITION OF THE COVID-19 TASK FORCE SUNDAY, JULY 4 DURING WORSHIP

On Sunday, July 4 Westminster will return to serving refreshments in the West Narthex before and after worship as our country celebrates newfound independence thanks to the discovery and distribution of effective vaccines.

Additionally, we will recognize the COVID-19 Task Force during worship. We are grateful for this team which has met regularly by Zoom during the pandemic to guide our Head of Staff and Session on this precarious journey. Special thanks to physicians, Virginia Dolan, Peter Kieffer, Todd Knox, Mike Nenaber, and Cara Vasconcelles and to R.N.s Ellen Carpenter and Marilyn Rigney.

As Illinois is currently in Phase 5 for COVID-19 recovery, Westminster will continue to consult the Task Force which will only meet as needed going forward. Dr. Todd Knox prepared the final Task Force report on June 9, 2021. Those with underlying health concerns and not fully vaccinated should persist in wearing masks. Worship will continue to be live streamed so members may view the service from home.



THE 2021 YOUTH MISSION: JULY 11-17 THEME: MENDING LINKS, BREAKING CHAINS BASED ON JEREMIAH 33:3

On Sunday, July 11, sixteen youth will be commissioned during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. The week of July 11-17 they join adult mentors **Suzanne Borland, Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Amanda Kurmann, and Mary Ray** led by **Rev. Christian Choi** (Associate Pastor for Family Ministry) on a mission to Little Rock, Arkansas. Our youth and mentors will work with the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at the Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center. In addition to the missional work, the youth and mentors will be visiting the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, and other historic places in Little Rock.



Braden Barton
Grace Batterman
Drew Borland
Jessica Borland
Emily Brower
Jeffrey Ellis

Luke Elston
JT First
Madison Kruger
Clayton Kurmann
Ella Kurmann

Samantha Magalis
Benjamin Parker
Avery Pound
Bryce Pound
Matthew Scott

The WPC youth are grateful for the congregation's continued support and prayers and look forward to **leading worship on Sunday, July 18.**

Many, many thanks to everyone who supported the 2021 Youth Mission through our fundraisers and the Pentecost Offering! We could not do it without you. This year's fundraisers: **\$3,917-Founders' Sunday Nelson Catered Meal and \$1,406-Car Wash and Bake Sale. The youth received \$395.78 from the Pentecost Offering. These totaled \$5,718.78** thanks to the collaboration and teamwork of our youth, their parents, adult mentors, and this generous congregation.

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

Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of intelligent effort.

John Ruskin

Dear Friends,

As we move out of the pandemic and into a time of transition within the pastoral team at Westminster, be assured that your staff is steadfastly making an intelligent effort to provide quality ministry. The *sure foundation* of our faith which we celebrated on Pentecost and Founders' Sunday is sustaining us on the journey. We press on with a few "sighs" along the way knowing that these sighs are prayers for words too deep to express. We cannot overstate the depth of our gratitude for the privilege of serving



Westminster in this time and place and we have confidence in *the plans God has for us, plans for good and not for evil, to give us a future and a hope.* Jeremiah 29:11.

On Thursday, June 20 staff spent a calendar day at the Sherrick Farm to plan the 2021-2022 ministry year. (Gary Warnick joined us after the photos were taken.) Along with good food, good humor, and good collaboration, we penciled in many exciting highlights and



gatherings in the coming year for our faith community.

During the interim, Rev. Choi and I have divided the responsibilities of the Associate Pastor for Parish Life. I will meet with the Mission and Community Service



Committee and related teams as well as the Deacons Congregational Care and Worship Support Committees. Rev. Choi will meet with the Board of Deacons, the Deacons' Congregational Fellowship Committee, and the IT Committee.

The Personnel Committee and I are discerning our way forward and will report to Session at our August meeting with a proposal that includes a process and timeline for the election of an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Operating Fund income is above budget by \$38,811 year-to-date. Expenses are under budget by \$21,781. The net total remains in the black by \$54,342.

2021 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 451,958	\$ 413,147	\$ 38,811
Expenses	\$-397,616	\$-419,397	\$ 21,781
Net Total	\$ 54,342	\$ -6,250	

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

MUSIC FOR JULY SUNDAYS

This year, the Fourth of July falls on a Sunday, so our music will celebrate the day with Adam Miller singing *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory*, and I will be playing *National Hymn* and John Philip Sousa's *Liberty Bell March*. Eleanor VanDeventer will sing on July 11 and Ann Collins will play the violin on July 18. Native American Flute player, David Tell will play on July 25.

DURING THE WEEK OF JULY 28 TO JULY 2, I will attend the in-person Worship and Music Conference of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians at Montreat in North Carolina. It is an intergenerational conference that focuses on the principles of Reformed worship with emphasis on the word and sacrament, choral and organ music, and the enrichment of the liturgical life of congregations. Several years ago, the entire Westminster worship team attended this conference and it proved to be an important way for the clergy and musician to realize the full potential of the richness of the liturgy when it is approached with creativity, integrity, and intention.

SOUND CELEBRATION AND LAND OF LINCOLN CHORUS' CONCERT SATURDAY, JULY 10 FROM 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AT DUNCAN PARK

Join the Sound Celebration Chorus and Land of Lincoln Chorus for an outdoor concert held at Duncan Park (formerly Douglas Park) on Saturday, July 10 at 7:00 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs, drinks, snacks, and enjoy an hour of fun and upbeat acapella music. You may see a couple Westminster members!

Westminster will host an **ILLINOIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Around the Town Concert on Thursday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m. as a part of a Chamber Music Festival running four days that week and featuring musicians from the Illinois Symphony.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY

The Property Committee (and spouses) met at the home of Gary Warnick and Linda Klein for dinner following their June meeting. Property Committee members pictured (to the right) are former chair Mark Vasconcelles and current chair Mal Hildebrand (and below) Randy Germeraad, Gary Warnick and Dale Huston. Also



serving on the Property Committee are Marc Anderson, Susan Day, Rich Canady, Robyn Hovey, and Dave Leonatti.



The committee appreciates Session's recent action in May to revise the Westminster Support & Endowment Plan and rebalance the general endowment

earnings to support Mission and Special Church Support equally. This provides necessary resources to address the needs of Westminster's historic building and grounds.

LANDSCAPE GUILD

The Landscape Guild is now working in teams with assignments to the various areas of our grounds. Through the summer, the teams continue to weed and groom our beautiful plantings.

FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi

CONTINUING EDUCATION UPDATE

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge God, and the Lord will make straight your paths.
Proverbs 3:5-6

“God is good all the time and all the time, God is good.” This is a saying many of us have learned and experienced since our days in Sunday School. As we transition once again (slowly but surely) into hope-filled, warm and bright, post-pandemic summer, I could not help but remember this mantra. Years 2020 & 2021 will be remembered as ‘transformative years’ in my life. Both in my vocation and in my personal life, there was no longer the ‘usual’ way of doing things.

Westminster had its own transformation through this time as we have extended hospitality to our neighborhood during the hard, pandemic times with our Little Pantry and the Steadfast Neighbor Mission Endeavor. The church building got lit up, the landscape was renovated, and the new parking lot was completed. We had to become tech savvy to create a virtual space for us to gather and worship (although we love being together in person).

While these changes were taking place, God was equipping me further to be a better vessel for God’s ministry. What started as a fleeting thought during the 2019 Bay Weekend, and through what must have been an act of God, within two months, I found myself as a Doctor of Ministry Candidate at Eden Theological Seminary.

As youth have endured their zoom classes and studies, I found myself able to relate with them, having a small taste of what they experience on a daily basis. What I could not foresee was the timely injection of themes and ideas that were needed in current ministry: How does one give pastoral care during a public crisis? What does the Black Theology tell us about the suffering and injustices our African-American kinfolk are facing? What did Biblical families look like and what values were attributed with them?

With two and a half years of study remaining, I look forward to what God has in store, trusting that all will be for good, and knowing that it also will be timely for the next challenge that is ahead.

WPC PRESCHOOL NEWS by Emily Rowley



We had so many happy moments at the preschool in May! We concluded our year with a fun, muddy study of earthworms and even put together a wormery. Celebrating our moms with sweet Mother’s Day Teas was a highlight, and we enjoyed an all-school field

trip Henson Robinson Zoo and pajama days in the classroom.

We were thrilled to be able to have our Celebration of Stars and commemorate the students going on to kindergarten. We have a few openings left for the fall. If you know anyone interested, please have them contact us!



CHILDREN’S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

2021 VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

ADVENTURE ISLAND:

QUEST FOR GOD’S GREAT LIGHT

We are excited to serve 10 families and 17 children this summer with our at-home vacation Bible school. At the end of June, families picked up a kit with materials to create the daily crafts and a science experiment to accompany the weekly, virtual, day of VBS. Families will share Bible stories, skits, snacks, music, crafts and experiments to help “shine God’s great light into our world.”



At Westminster, we value the safety and security of our children. That is why we have chosen KidCheck as our children’s check-in solution to bring the best check-in experience and to allow us to partner with parents to keep their children safe. WPC “went live” with KidCheck on **Sunday, June 6, 2021**. Parents are invited to create their own account at home by going to go.kidcheck.com, selecting “Create Your KidCheck Account,” and following the on-screen prompts.

JULY SUNDAY SCHOOL

July 4: The Parable of the Two Builders

July 11: The Parable of the Lost Coin

July 18: The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

July 25: The Parable of The Lost Sheep

WPCONNECTIONS GALLERY



We are ready to welcome our newest members: Everard Carlson-Eastvold (peeking around the pew) and Madelynn Hickman (with her parents Rachael and Chris). They will feel safe and at home in our newly designed nursery with the fabulous check-in system.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2



On Wednesday, June 2 WPC hosted "Children of Abraham" welcoming over thirty children and youth. The hosting faith communities donated over 40 books and 90 meal kits to the Boys and Girls Club library and little pantry. The books (a complete list can be found on Children's Ministry page of our website) focus on respecting and celebrating our differences and being good neighbors. Karen Sherrick, Director for Children's Ministry reunited with a friend, Deann French, who works for the Boys and Girls Club and picked up our donations. Children of Abraham resumes its quarterly gatherings during the 2021-22 year.

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY
JUNE 6, 2021



High School graduates Grace Batterman, Carter Formea, Kristina Hemberger, Ben Parker, and Avery Pound were well celebrated on Baccalaureate Sunday. We are grateful to Julie McDonough and Jeanne Pittman for a beautiful reception.

**ALL CHURCH COOKOUT
JUNE 11 AT THE HOME OF THE KIEFFERS**



Eighty members gathered at the Kieffer' Home to welcome new members and to celebrate milestone members. Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer and Dale Rogers led us in "Consider Yourself Part of the Family." Elsie and Bob Fox provided boat rides. Thank you to Membership Committee representatives and their husbands: Dee Dee and Rick Duffy, Marybeth Norton, Mary Ray, Judy Ridinger, Krista and Brad Steller, and Jeanne and Pete VanGieson, who hosted this event (as well as the McGill/Boutelle Reception the same weekend). We missed chair Deb Coontz, her husband Dave and (our anchors) Pat and Al Hymans.

CELEBRATING THE MINISTRIES OF REV. TRAJAN I. MCGILL
AND REV. GERALD W. BOUTELLE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 13



On Sunday, June 13 Rev. McGill presented his final sermon, charge & benediction. We bid him good-bye with affection and gratitude for his leadership among us since February 2015. We presented Trajan the gift of a clock (with Westminster chimes) in appreciation for his precision and time.

We also recognized Rev. Boutelle for 50 years of ordained ministry. We are grateful for his service to Westminster as our Parish Associate.

Rev. Landino, Lead Presbyter for the Great Rivers Presbytery joined us on this momentous occasion.





STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK - AUGUST 2-6
TEAM MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 22 AT 5:30 P.M. IN PARISH

The Steadfast Neighbor Mission Task Force made home visits June 15 and 16 to learn the details of the **25 matching grant applications** and **12 applications for the service week**. We anticipate the second annual service week August 2-6 with much joy! If you plan to join the team of ministry partners, call Jennie Alt (217) 522-4415, sign up in the West Narthex or on our website with SignupGenius.

All participants will meet Thursday, July 22 at 5:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a team building and organizational meeting.



YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISERS – CAR WASH AND BAKE SALE SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2021

The youth, parents, and adult mentors join Rev. Choi in expressing their appreciation to the congregation for your generous support of the Car Wash and Bake Sale Fundraisers.

Dave Leonatti and Todd Knox organized the Car Wash in our new parking lot and Julie Sundquist assembled a delicious array of goodies for the Bake Sale. Joining the youth were parents Suzanne Borland, Cathy Brower, Amanda Kurmann, Nichole Magalis and adult mentors Bill Deemer and Mary Ray.

The Car Wash raised \$966.50 & the Bake Sale raised \$439.50 for a total of \$1,406.



MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

KENYON TEAM REUNION

FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2021

On Friday, July 9, Judy and Todd Knox will host a potluck reunion gathering at their home for all the participants of the 2020 Kenya Mission Trip.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY UNITY BUILD OPPORTUNITIES IN JULY



Dr. Kieffer visited the site and led the crew in prayer the first week of June. Ellen Carpenter, our Habitat liaison, provided lunch during the Blitz week.

Members who would like to participate are invited to call Susan Carrigan at (217) 523-2710. Ministry Partners are needed Friday, July 9 & Saturday, July 10 (Drywall Ceilings) and Friday, July 16 & Saturday, July 17 (Drywall Walls).

Westminster provided a \$5,000 endowment grant for the Unity Build in 2020. Congratulations to the new homeowner, **Kendra Cutler and her daughter, Anijha**, who will reside at 2037 E. Cedar Street, Springfield, IL 62703 when the home is complete.

CONTACT MINISTRIES BACKPACK COLLECTION THROUGH SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Once again WPC will partner in ministry with Contact Ministries as we collect backpacks to be distributed at their Ready for Success Back to School Event on Thursday, August 19, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. We will collect backpacks through Sunday, August 15. Around 250 school-aged children will receive a new backpack from Contact Ministries and a new pair of Payless shoes from Share the Spirit! Last year, we collected 185 backpacks! The basket is in the West Narthex.



YMCA STRONG KIDS SUMMER

In June, the committee approved a \$1,000 grant to the YMCA Strong Kids Summer Camp to provide transportation for the children who participate through the Matthew Project.



JULY EARTH CARE TIP



We make about 100 times more plastic than we did in the 1960's and recycle just about 10% of it. New plastic is a plentiful and cheap byproduct from oil refineries. Using less gas and reducing, reusing, and recycling plastic will bring less to the landfill. Recycle triangles 1-5 and 7 at the curb, bring bags back to the market, and take large Styrofoam (triangle 6) to Foam Products Corporation in Maryland Heights on your next road trip to St. Louis.

HUNGER ACTION TEAM

PROVIDES MEAL AT COOLING CENTER THURSDAY, JULY 1

The Hunger Action Team is providing the July 1 meal at the Cooling Center



which feeds 30 homeless members within our community each night. Thanks to **Krista Steller, Pat Hymans, Mary King and Linda Chronister**. Others who would like to participate may contact Lisa Runkle for reimbursement through the Mission and Community Service Committee. The meals can be made in your home, at the church, or delivered to the center by grocery stores. Details regarding the meals are found on <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/Oyd689>.

SPRINGFIELD SPECIALTY MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERIES JULY 5-8 AND JULY 12-15!

Westminster is collaborating with Senior Services of Central IL by delivering food to eligible senior citizens as part of their Specialty Daily Bread - Meals on Wheels program. There will be 1-3 routes on each day and will take 45 minutes to an hour for each route. There are a few changes this year. The pick-up time will be 9:30 a.m. at Senior Services (701 W. Mason - by the kitchen and garage) and will return all items to the same location. Thank you to the following ministry partners who are providing this community service: **Carolyn and Keith Beatty, Mary King and Marilyn Rigney, Mary Caroline Mitchell and Olivia Simonson, Mary Ray and Gayle Wilson, Linda and Bill Schlosser, Krista Steller**.



HELPING HANDS MEAL SECOND FRIDAY – JULY 9, 2021

Thank you to Nancy Canady and Cathy Allen for preparing the June 11 meal. The July 9 meal will be prepared by Janie Bahlow, Sally Godbey, Julie James, Pat Picchi, and Amy Xanders. We are still in need of ministry partners for October, November and December! To sign up, please go to our website or call Jennie Alt.



WESTMINSTER'S LITTLE PANTRY LOCATED AT GRAHAM SCHOOL



Thank you to all who stock Westminster's Little Pantry at Graham School. Items are located on shelves on the lower level by the elevator. We encourage our ministry partners to use the supplies that are provided. Thank you to shoppers Bill Deemer, Peter VanGieson, Nancy Huston and to Bill Ward who organizes our shelves weekly.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH JULY MENU *Canned spaghetti or pasta meal, canned fruit in juice or water, rice bagged or boxed, disposable razors, hygiene products, and diapers (size 3 or above)*. Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank and to Jess Werner for delivering the donations each month.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY BY ELLEN CARPENTER

WESTMINSTER SERVES AS TESTING AND VACCINATION SITE

Westminster received a Certificate of Gratitude from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine for opening the doors of our church to assist during the pandemic as a testing site.



Westminster will serve as a vaccination site on Monday, July 19 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. This is open to the public, as well as members of the church. A registration link will be available, but it is NOT required. Walk-ins are encouraged.

The clinic will offer the Pfizer shot for ages 12 & up and the Johnson & Johnson one dose shot for ages 18 and older. The second shot date is scheduled on August 9. Please contact Jennie Alt or Ellen Carpenter for questions.

Marilyn Rigney will check blood pressures on the First Sunday of July and August.

Mark your calendar for the Eighth Biennial Health Fair on **Sunday, September 26 at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall.** Along with B/P screening, glucose screening, and other health related tables, flu vaccinations will be provided. Details will be forthcoming.

Thank you to the Adult Education Committee who will introduce the Adult Ed Forum on Sunday, September 19 at 11:15 a.m. with “The History of Vaccines” presented by Lyle VanDeventer.



Congratulations to Vivian Keithley (56 year member) on her 99th birthday on June 2. Dr. Kieffer brought flowers on behalf of the congregation. Vivian served on the Stitchery Guild who helped make the beautiful cushions in the Chancel. One of the memories Vivian shared with Blythe was when they announced Dale Rogers would be the new Organist, her husband remarked, “I knew a little red-haired boy in Petersburg named Dale Rogers.” Yes, it was the same one!

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 meets in person on **Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom.** The knitter’s lunch has returned on the first Tuesday of the month at noon.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN’S CIRCLES AND FRIDAY LUNCHEON will resume in September.

RUTH AND NAOMI met June 2, hosted by Judy Knox. The circle will resume on Wednesday, October 6, 7:00 p.m. at Linda Chronister’s.



Their 2021-2022 study will be the Horizon’s Bible Study “What My Grandmothers Taught Me,” based on the women in Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus by Merrill Blair.



PRESBYTERIAN MEN’S BREAKFAST will not meet in July and will resume on Thursday, **August 12 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Join us for devotions, breakfast, and great fellowship.



DMA will resume this fall on the third Friday in September, October, and November.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARIES

Dr. and Mrs. Alan & Marty Stutz celebrate 61 years on July 2.

Ben Foster celebrates 94 years on July 3.

Dr. and Mrs. Tom & Judy Lewis celebrate 60 years on July 23.

Ruth Schmitt celebrates 92 years on July 30.

NEW ARRIVAL

Noah Alan Schuermann was born on June 11 to Jennifer and Craig Schuermann. Noah’s big brothers are Reggie and Eli. His proud grandparents are Jan and Alan Schuermann.

IN MEMORIAM

Alan J. Wallace died on June 8 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to his wife, the Reverend Carolyn Watkins and their daughter Claire Watkins Wallace.

Sandra E. Deilkes died on June 20 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her mother, brother Tim (wife Karon) Smith, children David (wife Lisa) Deilkes, Dennis Deilkes, Rachel (husband Dustin Jackson) Deilkes, Becka (husband Randall) Deilkes-Mileham, 11 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

A celebration of life for Alan J. Wallace will be held Thursday, July 22 at 2:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary.

A celebration of life for Carolyn MacDonna will be held Saturday, July 31 at 1:00 p.m. in our sanctuary.

A celebration of life for Betty Mood Smith will be held Friday, August 27 at 4:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary.

A celebration of life for William R. Donels will be held Saturday, August 28 at 11:00 a.m. in our Sanctuary.

A celebration of life for Dr. Elvin G. Zook will be held Saturday, August 28 from 1-5 p.m. at Memorial Hospital Center for Learning and Innovation (228 W. Miller St.) in the auditorium. This is an open house style celebration, and all are invited.

NEW ADDRESS

Pat McKenzie stopped by Westminster before moving permanently to her new home at 4838 S. Cobb Dr., Room 222, Smyrna, GA 30080.

Sharon Zook, 4101 W. Iles Ave. Apt. 3310, Springfield, IL 62711
*Beginning 7/20/21



THANK YOU TO

Dr. Todd Knox and RN Ellen Carpenter of your COVID-19 Task Force for counseling with the Session of the First Presbyterian Church in Jackson. *Rev. Jonathan Warren*

WPC for the generous \$3000 grant to support our STEAM Lab at Kemmerer Village this summer. *S. Nagle, Executive Director*

WPC (your pastor, Session and congregation) for the steadfast and generous financial support of Presbyterian Mission through Shared Mission Support, OGHs, and the Pentecost Offering.
Rev. Chris Roseland, Mission Engagement Advisor

WPC for sponsoring the Kentucky Derby Fundraiser in May. The event raised \$172,000. *Cindy Drum, Executive Director*

WPC for the generous \$1000 grant to provide transportation for our Matthew Project this summer. *Nicole Popejoy, YMCA*

THE BETTY SMITH MISSION ENDOWMENT

The Betty Smith Mission Endowment of \$1,000,000 was established in 2018 by Betty Smith in celebration of her church family which nurtured her faith, the faith of her late husband, Henry Dale Smith, Sr., and their four sons, Henry Dale, Jr., Rogers, Christopher, and Andrew.

The purpose of this endowment is to fund mission with special emphasis on those living in extreme poverty or facing devastating disasters. Although not limited to international mission, the family envisions this resource facilitating a relationship between one or more international communities and the Westminster congregation. The hope is that the intentional and steadfast work of mission would shape a partnership and deepen friendships among members of both communities in the unity of Christ.

The vision of Betty and the income from this generous endowment has great potential within our faith community. We continue in a time of discernment (interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic) to explore opportunities and partnerships that will grow out of this gift.



Meanwhile the following distributions have been made in recent months: In May, a \$4,500 grant was awarded to **MARION MEDICAL MISSION** which has spent 35 years building wells in Africa to provide clean water to rural villages. Tom Logan, its founder, visited Africa as a young man and wanted to create a mission that did not have a large overhead. He learned that the largest challenge within the medical community was water-borne diseases. Their mission is to share the love of Christ by building safe

drinking water wells. Village residents provide the manual labor and make the bricks and the Mission brings the pipes, etc. Our VBS children and Presbyterian Women have supported this mission in the past. It is located in Marion, Illinois and its website is www.Mmmwater.org.

In June, a \$2,500 grant was awarded to the **BREATH FOR INDIA PROJECT**, an interfaith initiative of the Indian and Hindu Community in Springfield and the Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach, to provide immediate assistance to hospitals in India who are battling the overwhelming COVID infection rates.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICERS

The 2021 Nominating Committee is now receiving nominations for the following positions of leadership at Westminster.

DEACON (CLASS OF 2024)

ELDER (CLASS OF 2024)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2022)

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2024)

ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Nominations may be completed online at wpcspi.org or by emailing the committee chair, Jim Kincaid, at jbkin@comcast.net. Please complete by August 15, 2021. Nominees will be presented at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 10, 2021.

2021 Nominating Committee: *Jim Kincaid (Chair), Carolyn Swanson, Mary King, Bill Deemer, Camille Massey, Alan Stutz, and Julie Sundquist*

Westminster Staff

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

The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
cchoi@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

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

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

Ella Kurmann
Nursery Worker

Emily Rowley, Kacey Belitsos
Cooperative Preschool Teachers
emily@westminster-preschool.org
kacey@westminster-preschool.org

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse
ranell@comcast.net

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator
alnpat@yahoo.com

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant
jalt@wpcspi.org

Krista Steller
Webmaster

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

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

August Reporter deadline is Sunday, July 25. Reporter folding and mailing will be Thursday, July 29, 2021.