

THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

July, 2014

WORSHIP CALENDAR

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

July 5 & 6

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Romans 7:15-25a;
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Rev. Jerry Boutelle
"Keeping Our Bearings"

July 12

Elder Sue Sawers preaching

July 13

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday
WPC Youth Lead Worship

July 19 & 20

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 28:10-19a, Matthew 13:24-30,
Hannah Marie Dreitcer
"Completely"

July 26 & 27

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 32:22-33:11, Luke 15:1-3,11-32
Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer
"The Face of God"



2014 WPC YOUTH COMMISSIONED FOR MISSION TRIP TO BRIGHTON, TN, JULY 5-12

On Sunday, June 29, twenty-two youth will be commissioned during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. They join adult sponsors Christine Dunn, Tami Ireland, Todd Knox, Dave Leonatti, Mary Gail Romack, Sarah Zerfas, and Lucas Carpenter (Interim Director for Youth Ministries) on a mission trip to Brighton, TN sponsored by Group Workcamp.

Reiley Duffy	Sophia Peralta	Annie Sherrick
Brooke Dunn	Jimmy Reimer	Jack Sherrick
Stephanie Dunn	Olivia Reimer	Kyle Spalding
Kayla Horn	Amber Robbs	Adam Vasconcelles
Zayne Ireland	Austin Robbs	Cressa Wagner
Christian Lochbaum	Kayla Romack	Sarah Wagner
Lizzy Olmsted	Emma Shafer	Danielle Zerfas

Throughout the week crews of 5 youth and one adult will be assigned a painting, drywall, roofing, or construction project on a specific home. Our youth will team up with youth from all over the country. The WPC youth are grateful for the congregation's continued support and prayers and look forward to leading worship at both services on Sunday, July 13.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JULY 20, TO CALL ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR FAMILY MINISTRY



The Session called a Congregational Meeting following the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, July 20 for the purpose of presenting candidate Hannah Marie Dreitcer for the position of Associate Pastor for Family Ministry. Hannah was the unanimous choice of the APNC and will preach at all three services the weekend of July 19 and 20.

A 2010 graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles, CA with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies and a 2014 graduate of Yale Divinity School in New Haven, CT with a Master of Divinity degree, Hannah passed her senior exams and is eligible for ordination upon receiving a call. Hannah's senior thesis, "Embracing A New Spirit" was inspired by her experience studying abroad in South Africa.

Hannah grew up on the grounds of San Francisco Theological Seminary where her grandfather, the Rev. Dr. Howard Rice taught Reformed Spirituality and Worship. He also served as Moderator to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) from 1979-80. Her parents, the Reverends Andrew and Wendy Dreitcer, served as co-pastors of Sleepy Hollow Presbyterian Church from 1990-2003. We are honored to introduce Hannah to Westminster Presbyterian Church.

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

When Westminster called me as your pastor last summer, a part of my contract included an additional week away the year of General Assembly so that I could attend. Because of Julie's final Sunday, VBS and the scheduled visit of candidate Hannah Dreitcer, I abbreviated my week to three days and two nights in Detroit. I was able to celebrate the confirmation of the new President and CEO of the Board of Pensions, Frank Spenser, and see the outgoing president recognized, Robb Maggs, with whom I had the privilege to work for six years while serving on the board. I also celebrated with one of my seminary professors and former Moderator of the PC(USA), the Rev. Dr. Jack Rogers, who was presented a Theological Excellence Award.

Two other significant votes I witnessed include approving a measure giving pastors the discretion to perform same-gender marriages in states where it is legal. It offers the same discretion for churches with regard to the use of church property. The measure takes effect upon the conclusion of the General Assembly on Saturday, June 21, 2014. A proposed amendment to change the Constitution to include same-gender marriages in the church's Constitution passed the General Assembly but must be ratified by a majority of the church's 172 regional presbyteries. Presbyteries have one year to vote on the proposed amendment. If a majority ratifies the amendment, it would take effect June 21, 2015.

The General Assembly also approved divestment from three companies that profit from Israel's occupation on the West Bank: Hewlett-Packard, Caterpillar, and Motorola Solutions. An amendment stating that the PC(USA) was not divesting from Israel, only these U.S.-based companies was added for clarification. Because this is receiving so much attention in the press, I encourage you to read the amendment yourself at www.pcusa.org/.../slim-margin-assembly-approvesdivestment. Members or friends who would like to discuss any of the actions of the General Assembly are welcome to contact me. Godspeed, Blythe

MUSIC NOTES by Dale Rogers

SUMMER CHOIR AND SUMMER MUSIC

The summer choir will rehearse on Thursday, July 24 at 7:30 p.m. to sing at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, July 27, and rehearse on Thursday, August 14 at 7:30 p.m. to sing at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, August 17. Summer choir is a more casual approach to our service music and a great time to tune up your voice for the fall when the regular season starts!

COMMOTION SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

Mark your calendar for Commotion Sunday on August 24! Westminster will celebrate One Service of Worship at 10:00 a.m. followed by a fellowship meal as begin the new program year together.

Commotion Sunday got its name because it describes the enormous energy and excitement aroused by God's Spirit within this congregation. This Sunday provides an opportunity for members and friends to sign up for Sunday School, Bible studies, fellowship, music, mission and service opportunities.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS by Lucas Carpenter

JUNIOR HIGH youth are invited to attend a three day, two night adventure to **Camp Carew August 4-6, 2014**. This is a camp put on by the Southeastern Illinois Presbytery and will include opportunities in service and team building activities. All those interested in going are invited to attend brief meeting Sunday June 29th in the Library at 9:30 a.m.

WESTMINSTER HOSTS MISSION YOUTH GROUPS We have hosted two youth groups (First Pres from Harrison, AR and United Methodist from Dallas, TX) this past month while on their way to a mission trip in Chicago. This is a great way for us to give back to all the churches that have hosted us over the years. We will also be hosting First Presbyterian from Bay City, MI, on July 19, on their way to a Group Workcamp in TN.

COLLEGE-AGE AND YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY will gather on Tuesday evenings in July (1, 8, 15, 22, 29), 7:15 p.m. at the Kieffers'. The focus of the study will be *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the classic exploration of Christian Community. Books are available Sunday, June 29 in the West Narthex and the discussions will be led by Dr. Kieffer and Lucas Carpenter. Each evening will be a discussion of the following chapters: *July 1 – Community*, *July 8 – The Day with Others*, *July 15 – The Day Alone*, *July 22 – Ministry* and *July 29 – Confession and Communion*

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SWIM PARTY will be Sunday, July 27, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Kieffers'. Bring your family and enjoy some water fun and snacks.

ADULT EDUCATION

MISSION PRESENTATIONS will be held each month this summer following 10:00 a.m. worship in Parish Hall. Come, enjoy a bagel and cream cheese and hear the mission adventures of our WPC members.

SUNDAY, JUNE 29 - Regan Duffy will share her experience in Kenya, Africa. During the summer of 2013 Regan participated in a mission adventure with Westside Christian Church sponsored by the Christian Missionary Fellowship.

SUNDAY, JULY 27 - Natalie Knox will share her experience in Belize, Central America. During spring break 2014 Natalie participated in a mission adventure with the Presbyterian College Ministry at Duke University in partnership with Pathlight, a Christian organization dedicated to promoting education.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 - Ann Collins and fellow WPC volunteers share their experience working with the Compass Program, a weekly, after-school, neighborhood-based program which provides homework help, life skills and hot meals for at-risk children from Graham Elementary School. We partner with Central Baptist Church.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICERS

Nominations for church officers are now being accepted. Nomination forms for the offices of Deacon and Elder are available online or in the west narthex. Names, together with the office for which they are being nominated, may be placed in the Nominating Committee box in the West Narthex, or emailed to the committee chair, Sally Godbey at sgodbey53@yahoo.com

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

WINE, WINGS AND A PRAYER YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP (age 21 – 32) meets Friday, August 1, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Kieffers. RSVP to Liz Maxey at administrativeassistant@wpcspi.org. (No meeting on Friday, July 4.)

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

DMA (Don't Mention Age; All Ages Welcome) will meet Friday, July 18, at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a pot luck dinner and program by Laura Reyman, "How Women Won the Civil War."

PAGE-TURNERS BOOK GROUP will meet Wednesday, July 23, at 9:30 a.m. in the Library to discuss *The Elephant Keeper* by Christopher Nicholson.

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

BIKE AND BUILD – JULY 7 & 8

Once again Westminster will host bicyclists who pedal across the United States and support affordable housing groups, such as Habitat for Humanity. Thank you to Pat and Al Hymans for preparing the meals and to one of cyclists, Bill Donels, who is serving as host.

Pam Innis, Moderator of the Mission Committee

THANK YOU TO

WPC for your gracious hospitality Saturday, June 7 and the "eventful" amazing worship service! Your church is so awesome and the people even better. God's blessings!

First Presbyterian Church, Harrison, Arkansas

The members of WPC, who drove for *Meals on Wheels* the week of June 2-6. Your service is appreciated! **Gale Fixmer and Mina Bentsen, Leah Duling, Judy Prillaman, Carolyn and Keith Beatty, Jan and Cliff Baxter, Kathy and Tim Moore, Nancy and Rick Canady, Mary Ray, Mary Caroline Mitchell and her granddaughter, and Sue and Jesse Werner.**

The Board of Deacons Community Service Committee

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT BY LISA RUNKLE

Thank you for your faithfulness as the Operating Fund income is \$40,964 more than our budget through May 2014. Expenses are over budget by \$150. The Property spending is over budget, but the Personnel and other program budgets balance that out by being under budget. Those members with email will be receiving their quarterly statement electronically this month.

Operations	YTD Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 431,109	\$ 390,145	\$ 40,964
Expenses	\$- 390,294	\$-390,145	\$ -149
Net	\$ 40,815	\$ 0	

YOU ARE INVITED

The congregation is invited to celebrate Wilbur Wright's 100th birthday Sunday, July 6, in Parish Hall following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Cards only please!!

WEDDINGS

Chelsea Ranck and Kelby Dolan were united in marriage on Friday, June 13, at Westminster. Their parents are **Linda & Mark Ranck** and **Virginia & Jim Dolan**.

Whitney Beck and Ryan Spearie were united in marriage on Saturday, June 21, at Blessed Sacrament Church. Mother of the bride is **Michelle Power**.

NEW ARRIVALS

Dana and Andrew Affrunti welcomed their son, Nathan Andrew on June 2. He is a brother to Charlotte and William Affrunti and Darrel White.

Allison and Chris **Potaczek** of Park Ridge, IL welcomed their daughter, Grace Christina, on June 9. WPC grandparents are **Roberta & Richard Hendee**.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Becky & Lionel Stirrett on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary on June 14.

Amber Robbs, daughter of Randy and Julie Robbs, has been named a Scholastic Art & Writing Award National Medalist. She was honored at a reception in New York City on June 6. National Medalists represent the top one percent of submissions to the 2014 Scholastic Awards. Over 255,000 works of art were submitted and 17,000 of those (like Robbs) received Gold Keys. Only 2068 medals were awarded on the national level. Previous winners since 1923 include Truman Capote, Sylvia Plath, Andy Warhol, Robert Redford, and Bernard Malamud.

Matthew Tungett, son of Michael and Michele Tungett, was one of five winners of the ACE Awards from Rochester Junior High School. Five eighth grade students from each of the county's public schools are selected based on academic achievement, co- and extracurricular participation and excellence in citizenship; sponsored by the Sangamon County Schoolmasters Association. The award ceremony was held April 30.

IN MEMORIAM

Jeanette Ridgeway died on June 9. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to her friends and family.

Elaine U. Ryder died on May 23. A memorial service was held June 27. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to **Sue Cull** on the death of her mother.

Bernard Waren died February 5. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to his wife, Denna.

SYMPATHY TO

Jack B. Gruwell on the death of his father, Jack A. Gruwell on June.7.

The next Reporter Deadline is Sunday, July 27!

FROM THE INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR – Rev. Julie Wells Blythe

My Dearest Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is with a grateful heart that I write my final letter to you, the congregation of Westminster Presbyterian Church. My life with you has been long and varied, from singing in the New Expression Youth Chorale, to being married here and having my children baptized and raised in faith here. I have sung God's praises in the adult choir and The Walnuts for 26 years. My husband Bob, son Brian, and daughter Sarah have all been ordained as elders in this church as was I. This church is where I was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. I can never fully articulate the deep gratitude and love I feel for you for the many ways you have loved and supported me for the last 38 years. Thank you for the amazing last Sunday, the beautiful painting by Sue Scaife presented to me and the unexpected and delicious brunch which followed my final service on Sunday, June 15.

Please know that I will carry all of your love with me into my next ministries and for the rest of my life. I will be so glad to see you when I am able to be in worship as a Walnut or as Bob's wife. My prayers for you and your continued life and ministry together will be ongoing.

With thanks and love and blessing, Julie

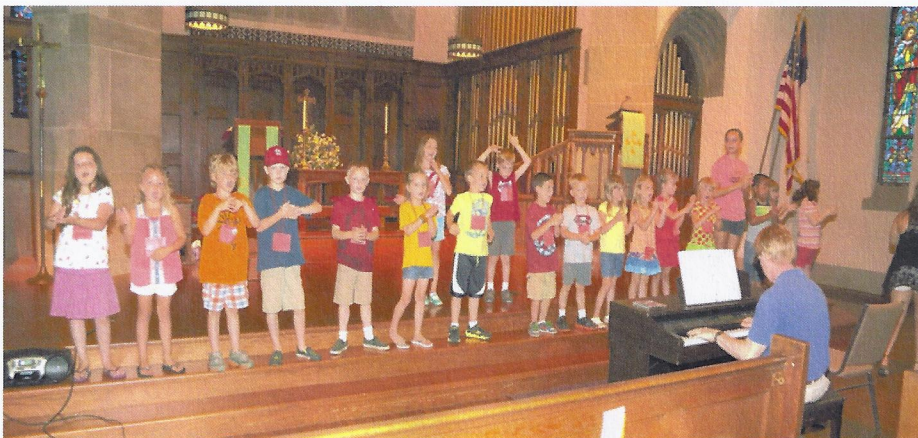
NEW MEMBER COOK OUT GREAT SUCCESS!



Thank you to all who came out to welcome our new members on Friday, June 6 at the Kieffers. Over 125 attended and besides great food; we enjoyed good fellowship, boat rides (which included seeing the Island Bay Eagle) and a sing-a-long culminating with "Consider Yourself Part of the Family" in honor of our new members. Thanks to staff and the membership committee who made this evening possible.

MISSION POSSIBLE THANKS TO VBS

Thanks to our incredible leadership team and the 68 children (41 of whom were from our community) who attended VBS, we all celebrated "MISSION POSSIBLE!" With the support of our members, together we collected 521 cans of food for Central Illinois Food Bank, \$569.84 to build a well in Africa through Marion Medical Ministry and delivered 75 cupcakes and 68 cards to our friends at the Illinois Presbyterian Home.



Westminster Staff

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The Reverend Gerald Boutelle

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Roy Ahlers, Steve Council, Bill

Hibbert

Custodians

Russ Nagel

Rental Properties Coordinator

Give-a-Meal-a-Month July Menu

**Canned Spaghetti, Peas, Peaches,
Pudding Mix**

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