

# THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
[www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org)

March 2021

## WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

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

### FAITH FORMATION:

*Nursery Newsletter*  
emailed each Friday to Families with Children Birth – Age 3  
*WPConnections Newsletter*  
emailed each Friday to Families with Children Pre-K - Grade 5

March 7

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Exodus 10:1-17; John 2:13-22  
The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*Covenant of Boundaries*

March 14

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-21  
The Rev. Trajan I. McGill  
*Why Have You Brought Us?*

March 21

### YOUTH SUNDAY

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12  
Avery Pound, Grace Batterman  
Rev. Christian K. Choi  
*Matters of the Heart*

March 28

### PALM SUNDAY

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Mark 14:1-9  
The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*The Journey Home*

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



## HOLY WEEK

### PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer will preach. Sunday School children and youth will be represented in the traditional processional with palms and their One Great Hour of Sharing fish boxes. The center aisle pews will be adorned with donated coats. We will participate in a One Great Hour of Sharing dedication liturgy. Lyle VanDeventer will sing our hymns. Mike Tungett will play *Ceremonial Music* on the trumpet and Adam Miller will sing *O, Divine Redeemer* by Gounod.

### THE PASSION OF CHRIST ART DISPLAY AND LABYRINTH MARCH 28 - APRIL 4 IN PARISH HALL

Artwork depicting the Passion of Christ will be displayed in Parish Hall. This exhibit brings together artistic interpretations of scenes of the events of the final week of Christ's life through the eyes of Fra Angelico, DaVinci, Durer, Caravaggio, Dali and many others and was a gift to Westminster from Lynne Davis, an elder at Webster Groves Presbyterian Church.

[Westminster's Labyrinth](#) will be displayed in Parish Hall during Holy Week for those who would like to practice this discipline of prayer.

### MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE, APRIL 1 7:00 p.m. Worship Service

The Reverend Trajan I. McGill will preach in this combined service of Communion and readings from the Passion of Christ. In this service, we will have our traditional stripping of the church where all candles, cushions, flowers, paraments, and vessels are removed, leaving the chancel empty and desolate, accompanied by the *Adagio for Strings* by Barber. A men's quartet (Adam Miller, Jamie Greenwald, Bob Blythe and Lyle VanDeventer) will sing the *Ubi Caritas* of Gjeilo and a setting of the spiritual *Were You There*.

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer will preach. A vocal quartet assembled for the Festival of the Resurrection (Eleanor VanDeventer, Adam Miller, Jamie Greenwald and Lyle VanDeventer) will sing the hymns and the anthems: *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* of Thiman, *Christ the Lord is Risen* of Stopford, and the *Hallelujah Chorus* of Handel. The service will conclude with the Toccata from the Fifth Symphony of C. M. Widor, presented by Dale Rogers. The Chancel will be filled with the massive cross of lilies, a cherished tradition at Westminster.

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

### HEALTHY PASTORS, HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS

I served on the board for the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) from 2006-2012. The Rev. Dr. William Forbes, whom I met through his daughter, Kristy Forbes, encouraged me to apply. I had been Kristy's supervisor at Webster Groves Presbyterian Church when Kristy served as the part-time youth director while completing a second master's degree in theology at Eden Seminary before she married Logan Vits. Bill and I co-officiated at their wedding, and Peter was the pediatrician to Kristy and Logan's son Nathan when Bill reached out to me in 2005.

During my tenure with the board I gained a new appreciation for the history of the Pension Endowment Fund whose beginnings trace to 1717 and the "Fund for Pious Uses" established to support the widows of Presbyterian ministers. The PC(USA) Board of Pensions Endowment has survived the vicissitudes of the market through the years and most recently in 2008 (unlike other denominations) and today has a healthy balance of over \$10 billion. Judy Freyer is the woman who has been responsible for these funds for three decades. Recently retired, Judy is brilliant, savvy, humble, personable, and a cat lover. As we celebrate Women's History during the month of March, it is a privilege to highlight this classy woman, her incredible career, and the intelligence, imagination, energy, and love with which she cared for the financial well-being of Presbyterian pastors.

Westminster is delighted to covenant with the board in a recent initiative "Healthy Pastors, Healthy Congregations." This innovative financial education program awards grants of up to \$10,000 to qualifying pastors for the purpose of reducing educational debt and/or improving their retirement portfolio. Following the application process initiated by the Personnel Committee and Westminster's contribution to the program, both Rev. Choi and Rev. McGill are enrolled. Each associate pastor has completed the online modules and will receive individual financial counseling through Ernst & Young Employee Financial Services. Later this year, Session members will meet with the BOP Church Consultant, the Rev. Kenneth Green, for an in-person training session. What a joy it is to covenant with our associate pastors and the Board of Pensions as we give thanks for our "healthy pastors" and "healthy congregation!"

### JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Westminster's Operating Fund ended the month of January with income above and expenses below our monthly budgeted amounts. Thank you to all those who support the ministry of Westminster with these generous contributions. Total income exceeded expenses by \$14,903. You will notice in the table below that we have budgeted less income than expenses for 2021. The annual budgeted deficit of \$15,000 will be covered by our \$271,600 surplus that was originally begun with an estate gift of \$150,000 from Alice S. Payne.

2021 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 85,509	\$ 82,629	\$ 2,880
Expenses	\$-70,606	\$-83,879	\$13,273
Net Total	\$ 14,903	\$ -1,250	

**PER CAPITA:** This year Westminster will pay \$35 per member as a part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to support the ministry of our denomination in the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Your special *per capita* contribution of \$35 for each confirmed member in your household will help to offset this cost in Westminster's budget.

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

### DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH OUR SPECIAL MUSICIANS WILL BE:

March 7: Diane Dietz, soprano, singing music of Fauré and Saint-Saëns

March 14: Lyle VanDeventer, bass, singing music from the *St. Matthew Passion* of Bach

March 21: *Youth Sunday* Mia Marcy will dance to music of Schubert with Kamen Petkov playing violin. Organ music of Schumann, a fugue on the notes B-A-CH for Bach's birthday

March 28: Mike Tungett, trumpet, and Adam Miller, tenor, singing *O Divine Redeemer*.

**THE EASTER MUSIC and DECORATION FUND** provides funds for our guest musicians for the season and for the palms and lilies used during Holy Week and Easter decorations. A suggested donation is \$25 for each fund. This year we will be "resurrecting" the cross of lilies after a year off due to necessary alterations made last Easter during the sheltering in place order.

For both of these giving opportunities, a list of donors and those whom they are remembering are printed in the Easter bulletin. Make checks payable to WPC or by credit card on our website with the wording for the bulletin by Palm Sunday, March 28.

### ADULT EDUCATION FORUM

#### MATTHEW 25 BIBLE STUDY SUNDAYS, MARCH 14 & 28

The Adult Education Forum will resume in March with hybrid classes on Sundays, March 14 and March 28. We will gather from 11:15 a.m. to 12 noon in the Second Floor Classroom and provide a Zoom link for those who would like to join us from home.

Dr. Aaron Berkowitz will lead us. This introductory study provides background and theological reflection for the Matthew 25 vision of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which focuses on building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty. Aaron received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Illinois at Chicago and is a professor of history at Lincoln Land Community College. He is an elder serving on the Adult Education Committee.



### A MESSAGE FROM THE COVID-19 TASK FORCE

New COVID-19 cases in Sangamon County remain steady. Local hospitalizations and deaths continue to decline.

The church continues in-person worship after our region moved to Phase Four. 50 worshippers are allowed under the governor's guidance. All attendees wear masks and social distance. There continues to be no singing or recitation.

The good news continues in our community and many members have been vaccinated, yet we remain vigilant and diligent in our approach as we continue to wear masks, maintain social distancing, and wash our hands often.

Weekly messages can be found on the home page of our website. If you have a specific question for us, do not hesitate to reach out on our email: [WPCCoronavirus@gmail.com](mailto:WPCCoronavirus@gmail.com)

Ellen Carpenter, RN  
Virginia Dolan, MD  
Peter Kieffer, MD  
Todd Knox, MD

Michael Nenaber, MD  
Marilyn Rigney, RN  
Cara Vasconcelles, MD



## FAMILY MINISTRY BY REV. CHRISTIAN K. CHOI

### CONFIRMATION & SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP GATHERINGS

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 7


11:15 a.m. - Confirmation will study Session 24: Kingdom Ways from *Echo the Story* curriculum.

5:00 p.m. - Sr. High Youth will discuss the topic: what does it mean to be connected and how does it look?

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 21

11:15 a.m. - Confirmation will study Session 25: Parables from *Echo the Story* curriculum.

5:00 p.m. - Sr. High youth will have a day of fellowship, games, and time of sharing.



**Confirmation/Youth Group Zoom information**  
Meeting ID: 856 0948 4055  
Passcode: 956992  
<https://bit.ly/39EZ6UC>

## 2021 YOUTH MISSION

### SUNDAY, JULY 11 – SATURDAY, JULY 17

This year, we will head to Little Rock, AR for our missional work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at the Ferncliff Conference Center. We will also have an opportunity to visit the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, and other historic places in Little Rock.

Our first Mission Trip information meeting will be on **Sunday, March 21 at 4:00 p.m** in Parish Hall.



## LUX SUMMER INSTITUTE

**A New Earth:  
Thinking Theologically about  
Environmental Justice**  
June 13- June 27, 2021



This is a two-week opportunity for high school students to engage pertinent topics in theological inquiry, learn new modes of worship and spiritual practice, participate in service, experience interfaith activities, and explore their vocation. The program will be held in-person at Presbyterian-related Monmouth College (Monmouth, IL).

Limited space is available. For more information, visit <http://www.lux.monmouthcollege.edu>

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

### WPCONNECTIONS GALLERY

#### MARCH SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

3/7/21 The Rich Man

3/14/21 Passover Meal

3/21/21 Seeing Jesus

3/28/21 Jesus Visits Jerusalem



### WELCOMING NEW BABIES

There will be many new faces in our congregation when we return to worship. We are blessed and excited to welcome our newest babies born in 2019 and 2020:

*Noah James*-son of Hillary and Chris Lawton

*Sloan Louise*-daughter of Katrina and Doug Opperman

*Madison Jean*-daughter of Morgan(Wise) and Scott Durco

*Anna Faye*-daughter of Caitlin(Dungan)and Mark Simhauser

*Olive Mae*-daughter of Natalie(Bomke) and Ed Swiderski

*Jonah Duke*-son of Tamika and Jake Hill

*Brooks Jameson*-son of Kirsten Duffy

*Jennifer Ayana*-daughter of Millie and John McNutt

*Theodora Marie*-daughter of Jocelyn and Kory Duckworth

*Olivia Grace*-daughter of Julia and Collin Innis

*Mae Martha*-daughter of Meredith and Darren Volle

*Theodore Eldon*-son of Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt

*Everard Lamstedt*-son of Katie and Jonathan Carlson-Eastvold

*Amelia Kathryn*-daughter of Katie and Pat Moore

*Benji Arthur*-son of Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz

*Cora Ann*-daughter of Erica and Andrew James

*Nathaniel Robert*-son of Hilary Wilson and Chris Lawton

*Piper Olivia*-daughter of Katy and Keegan MacDonna

*Myra Dionne*-daughter of Mervice Alah Abung and Donatus Afesh

*Zachariah Young*-son of Sophia and Christian Choi

*Nora Mary*-daughter of Caitlin (Dungan) and Mark Simhauser

### MINISTRY TO INFANTS AND TODDLERS

#### FROLIC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Parents of infants and toddlers will receive a digital newsletter through Frolic Online

peep into your child's page with updates on key developmental and faith milestones. The newsletters provide information about where your little ones are developmentally, from a cognitive, social, and faith perspective.

### FAMILY FAITH ACTIVITY KIT

We are excited to offer another activity kit for families to celebrate and grow in their faith together. Please contact Karen Sherrick at [ksherrick@wpcspi.org](mailto:ksherrick@wpcspi.org) to reserve your kit!

## WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS



February was a busy, happy month at WCP! We celebrated Valentine's Day with cards the children addressed and delivered themselves, special games, decorations, and treats. Chilly temperatures kept us inside, so we were especially grateful for the space Parish Hall provides for us to play at the end of our day. In addition to our study on our amazing bodies, we've discussed Abraham Lincoln, his ties to our community, and the integrity and kindness he showed to people. We decorated a poll in the classroom and measured our heights against his. He served as a postmaster in New Salem, and our dramatic play center changed to a post office so we could play the same career! We're enjoying our time inside the classroom and looking forward to getting outside more in March with warmer weather.

General registration for the 2021-22 school year is now open through the end of March. We have several openings in our 2-day class for 2 1/2 and 3-year-olds and a few spaces left in our 3 and 4 day classes. Please spread the word and direct any interested families to our Facebook page. Information will be there concerning our March open houses for prospective families. Applications are available on our website and in the church office.



## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021



**Thank You for your Souper Bowl of Caring Donation!** Our youth collected \$1,573.36, which is over twice the amount we collected in 2020. We were so grateful to the members who drove through our new parking lot to make a donation. It was such a joy to see familiar faces (even if they were behind masks)!!! Thank you, thank you, thank you! The donation will be divided between the food pantries at Grace Lutheran Church and Kumler Outreach Ministries.

## SPRING LIBRARY RENOVATION



The Property Committee is overseeing the renovation of the Ziegler Adult Library this Spring. The tile ceiling will be removed to expose the beaded and beam wooden ceiling that is on the east two-thirds of the room and will be replicated on the remaining ceiling along with new LED lighting and heat/air conditioning. The carpet will be removed, and a new floor installed. The use of the room will be expanded to include a chapel space for intimate worship gatherings.

## NEW SECURITY CAMERAS AND DVR



During the Steadfast Neighbor Site and Landscape Plan, the Property Committee (encouraged by the Safety Team) added 8 outdoor cameras (six in the parking lot, one for the West Terrace, and one for the playground and South Entrance). These cameras are in addition to the 9 indoor cameras installed over the years (three in the lower-level hallways, one in the Nursery, three in the Sanctuary, one in the West Narthex, and one in the North Entrance of the West Narthex). To accommodate all 17 cameras, a new DVR has been added to monitor all the cameras and to give us access to individual cameras. Thank you to Rev. McGill for programming the installation of the new cameras and DVR.



## ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2021

Westminster began Lent with our Ash Wednesday Communion Service. Liturgy and special music were presented by our children and youth. *Taryn Barnett, Ben and Lucy Bassett, Abigail Eldridge, James Maeda, Macklin Metzger and Amelia Tungett.* The theme, "The Power of Words," was highlighted in Rev. Choi's meditation and in the tangible object of a bookmark. Dr. Kieffer led the symbolic imposition of ashes at the baptismal fount, affirming our mortality in the context of our baptisms.



## LENTEN CANDLE SERVICE



This year we introduced the Lenten Candle Service. Rather than light a candle each Sunday as we do in Advent, a candle is extinguished each Sunday of Lent to commemorate Christ's journey to the cross. On February 21, Julie Pittman McDonough and Jeanne Pittman led us in the ritual. Julie chairs the Congregational Fellowship Committee on the Board of Deacons. On February 28, Mal Hildebrand and Pat Hildebrand Culler led us. Mal chairs the Property Committee of Session, and Pat serves on the Strategic Planning Committee.



## PARISH LIFE by Rev. Trajan McGill MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE



### 2021 STEADFAST NEIGHBOR MISSION

The Strategic Planning Committee and Steadfast Neighbor Mission Task Force continue to address the mandate to invest \$450,000 in our neighborhood within the decade. Outreach already in place includes:

### NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE WEEK AUGUST 2-6, 2021

Westminster invested \$13,029.51 in the projects completed during our 2020 Service Week. The dates for this year's neighborhood outreach are **the week of August 2-6**. Once again, we will assist with exterior repair and improvement projects. Please consider joining us for one or more days of the first week of August as we spread goodwill in the neighborhood! If you are interested, please contact Todd Knox at [hardknox1@mac.com](mailto:hardknox1@mac.com).



### MATCHING GRANTS

Local homeowners are invited to apply for matching grants toward simple property improvements, especially addressing certain needs such as safety, security, and energy efficiency upgrades. In 2020, Westminster was able to provide \$12,130.42 in matching grants to our neighbors. We have already received calls from neighbors about this opportunity! With the program in place and the news spreading, we anticipate the applications will grow in 2021. **The letter and application will be mailed in March** with a follow-up letter and reminder in May. We will include a similar timeline as we did in 2020, allowing for some of the grant requests to become projects during the service week.

### EARTH CARE NEWS



**March Earth Care Tip:** Just as Christ gave up comfortable living and fasted during his 40 days in the wilderness, during Lent we can sacrifice a convenience or a comfort to help preserve the environment. Perhaps we could consider a walk or bike ride to a closer destination rather than hopping in the car. Perhaps we could wear a sweater and turn down the heat a bit. Even sacrificing meat on Fridays would save natural resources. During Lent if we discover that the convenience or comfort is no longer a necessity, then our seasonal sacrifice could become an everlasting routine to help care for God's Creation.



**Landfill Reduction:** We are pleased to be able to report that in the process of our tearing down two structures on church property during the recent parking lot expansion, over twelve tons of various metals were taken to recycling plants rather than adding to landfills!

**WALK FOR HOUSING** – Westminster has already contributed \$5,000 to Habitat for Humanity's upcoming "Unity Build," which was moved from 2020 to 2021. On **April 25, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**, Habitat will be hosting a virtual walk seeking to raise the funds needed to complete this project. They will share videos with participants, showcasing area Habitat homes and their other programs supporting affordable housing. Walkers can walk wherever they wish, individually or with teams. Sign up at <http://www.habitatsangamon.com> to take part.



### HELPING HANDS MEAL



Thanks to Julie McDonough, Jeanne Pittman and Mary Ray, who provided the Helping Hands dinner on February 12, serving recipes by Alice McKibbin and Doris Ray from Westminster's *Second Helpings* Cookbook. Krista Steller and Mary Peura

will be providing the March 12 meal.

Please consider becoming a part of this ministry of hospitality to the men at the Helping Hands Shelter. Reimbursement is available. Follow the link from the church web site to sign-up, or contact Rev. Trajan McGill or Jennie Alt.

### HUNGER ACTION TEAM

Westminster's new Hunger Action Team is hitting the ground running! The group is working on both longer-term strategic thinking and immediate efforts to combat food shortages for Springfield area residents. Plans being made include:



- Direct food distribution: **On Tuesday, March 16**, Westminster will partner with Café Moxo to provide 75 meals for the Winter Warming Center and another 200 for the general community. We are also exploring a partnership with the Central Illinois Food Bank to provide a distribution site in our parking lot. Team members are also assembling small whole-meal kits for our little pantry.
- Educating our congregation about food insecurity.
- Consolidating data about area hunger needs and programs into more easily understood visual formats.

One area resource that has proven helpful against hunger is the Springfield Families Helping Families group on Facebook. Please consider finding and joining this online group in order to hear about and help work to meet area needs.

### LITTLE PANTRY



An idea from the Hunger Action Team is to include small whole-meal kits in our Little Pantry. All the components for a quick meal would be included in a single bag along with simple instructions. Meal kits with recipes attached will be assembled by several members and added to the storage area for people to bring to the pantry when refilling it.

### WESTMINSTER HOSTS P.E.O. FOOD DRIVE SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 9:00 – 11:00 A.M.

A drive-up food collection put on by P.E.O. will take place in the WPC parking lot on March 20, gathering food to support the network of micro pantries throughout Springfield. These pantries, including the one Westminster oversees outside Graham Elementary School, have grown and become an important means of support for many area families. Please consider coming by with food between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. on the day of this drive.



### GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH MARCH MENU

**Canned Ravioli, Canned Veggies, 100% Juice Canned or Boxed, feminine hygiene products, diapers, toilet paper, toothpaste. (No baby food, please.)** Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank.



## PARISH NURSE MINISTRY by Ellen Carpenter

### VACCINE INFORMATION

Just a friendly reminder to **sign up for your COVID vaccine as soon as you are able. If you are not computer-savvy and would like Westminster's Parish Nurse Ellen Carpenter to sign you up, please call and let her know (217-793-3412).** Useful to know: for your safety, you will have to stay at the vaccination site for 15 minutes afterwards. Please know that the eligibility has been expanded to 1A, 1B and 1B+ which include those with obesity, Diabetes, Pulmonary Diseases, Smoking, Heart Conditions, Chronic Kidney Disease, Cancer, Solid Organ Transplant, Sickle Cell Disease, Pregnancy and those Persons with a Disability (not otherwise covered in previous categories. In addition to the drive through site at the Health Department, there is an inside site at the Orr building at the IL State Fairgrounds.

[www.scdph.org/covid-19-vaccination-scheduling](http://www.scdph.org/covid-19-vaccination-scheduling)

Please remember to wear a short-sleeved shirt and take your completed consent form. There is a separate consent form for your second vaccine. If you are unable to make your second appointment, give Ellen a call, and she can help you.

### WESTMINSTER SERVES AS TESTING SITE FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Westminster will host the SIU School of Medicine COVID-19 mobile testing on Friday, March 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the parking lot. The testing will be done outside in a drive-up capacity only. No appointment is necessary.



### WESTMINSTER HOSTS ZUMBA CLASS SATURDAY, MARCH 13

At our Parish Nurse's encouragement, we are hosting a Zumba Class with certified teacher, Ali Griffith. It will be Saturday, March 13 at 9:00 a.m. on the Parking Lot. Attendance is limited to 50. Email Jennie Alt for the link to register.



### FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**KNIT 2 PURL 4** meets in-person on **Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom.** You are encouraged to bring "Show and Tell" items to share. Chairs will be placed at a safe distance. Please remember to bring your own beverage and to wear a mask.

The final delivery of mittens, hats, and scarves will go to Kumler this month. Baby items such as caps, sweaters, and blankets will be collected through April.

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** will meet on **Monday, March 8 at 5:30 p.m.** on Zoom. We will view the video and discuss Chapter 3, "Amazed, Astounded, and Astonished," in the book *Not a Silent Night*, by Adam Hamilton.

**LYDIA CIRCLE INVITES ALL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** to meet **Tuesday, March 16 at 9:30 a.m.** on Zoom. Carolyn Beatty will lead Lesson 6, "Lament over the City," based on the theme scripture of Psalm 137 in the 2020-2021 PW Horizons Bible Study: *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*, by P. Lynn Miller. **Those who are not in Lydia Circle and would like to receive an email Zoom invitation, contact Jennie Alt.**

### LAYETTES FOR KUMLER

Join the women of Westminster in donating layette items during the months of March and April. Items will be given to Kumler Outreach Ministries in early May. The Layettes box is located in the West Narthex. If you would like to shop online deals, you can have them shipped directly to the church.



## WESTMINSTER NEWS

### MILESTONE BIRTHDAY

Robert Lawley celebrates 90 years on March 8.  
Nancy & Rich Canady celebrate 62 years on March 13.  
Pat Picchi celebrates 95 years on March 20.  
Mary Anne Singleton celebrates 93 years on March 21.  
Donna Foster celebrates 90 years on March 21.  
Elsie Unglaub celebrates 95 years on March 23.

### NEW ARRIVAL

Sloan Louise Opperman was born to Katrina and Doug Opperman on February 26, 2021. Sloan's big brother is Henry.

Noah James Lawton was born to Hillary Wilson and Christopher Lawton on February 27, 2021. Noah's big brother is Nate, his great grandmother is Dr. Naomi Lynn, and his aunt and uncle are Dr. Jessica and Bob Bregant.

### PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Catherine Cragoe on the death of her beloved companion, Tony Leone, on February 3 in Springfield.

Jeanne and Pete VanGieson on the death of her niece, Lauren Shire, on February 17 in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Suzie and Tom Spada on the death of Tom's brother, Jim Spada, on February 19 in Schaumburg, IL.

Jennie (Church Administrative Assistant) and John Alt on the death of John's mother, and to Isaac and Ethan Alt on the death of their grandmother, Janette Alt, on February 23 in Peoria, IL.

### NEW ADDRESS

Betty & Vic Cadwallader, 4585 Sweetwater Ct., Decatur, IL 62526

Deb Marines & Mark Hansen, 10333 Lola Rd., Fort Worth, TX 76126

Judith Pensoneau-Feurer 718 S. 7th St. Apt. 100, Springfield, IL 62703 \*Moved back home from IPH

Cindy & Bill Ruesink, 203 Geneva Circle, Lansing, MI 62711 \*Moving at the end of March

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

Sue Sawers, who will be commissioned Sunday, March 7, 2:30 p.m. as a Commissioned Ruling Elder of the Federated Church in Carlinville. Rev. Christian Choi will preach. You can view this on their website [www.federatedchurch.com](http://www.federatedchurch.com)

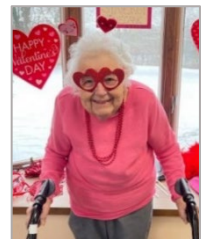
Rev. Julie Blythe on her accomplishments and being certified as an R.N., LSW, LCSW, CCTP (Reverend, Registered Nurse, Licensed Social Worker, Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Certified Clinical Trauma Professional).



### ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME UPDATE

The IPH card crew, led by Sue Baker, is looking for sympathy and Easter card donations. They are making a grab bag for the residents to purchase, which will include cards for all occasions. For more information, contact Sue Baker at 217-299-5216.

June Flood and Joanne Roderick at the Valentine's Day socially distanced photo booth hosted by the Illinois Presbyterian Home. You can find more pictures on the IPH Facebook page.



### WESTMINSTER NOTE CARDS



The Membership Committee is selling notecards featuring the new lighting on our building available in packets of 10 for \$20 on Sundays following worship or weekdays at the church office.



## YOUTH LEAD WORSHIP

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

THEME: MR. ROGERS AND MATTERS OF THE HEART

On Sunday, March 21 our youth will lead us in worship. This year, our youth will celebrate the practical teachings of American television host, author, producer, and Presbyterian minister Mr. Rogers, which reveal the heart of the gospel in the call to celebrate each person as our neighbor. Seniors Grace Batterman and Avery Pound will join Rev. Christian Choi in presenting the meditations based on Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Psalm 51:1-12.



Ben Parker and Jaiana Ireland will give the Children's Sermon. Senior high youth will serve as liturgists. Special music will feature a liturgical dance by Mia Marcy, accompanied by Kamen Petkov and Dale Rogers.



We are grateful for the gift of our resilient youth who nourish our spirits and strengthen our faith in this time of worship.

## DANCING WITH THE STARZ

LIVE STREAMED SATURDAY, MARCH 27



This year's Springfield Art Association annual fundraiser will be livestreamed on Saturday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m. Dancing videos and the Silent Auction will be posted on Saturday, March 20.

This year, **Rev. and Mrs. Christian and Sophia Choi** are representing WPC, sponsored by Marty Sumner as well as Kathy and Randy Germeraad, and instructed by Dr. Richard Brown. *They are currently in fourth place, so your vote is needed to make a difference.* Last year, Tad and Beth Allen competed on our behalf and continued WPC's winning tradition at the event which began in 2014.



Members are invited to take part in the silent auction, vote for Sophia and Christian, and help support the Springfield Art Association at: <https://e.givesmart.com/events/jlz/>



### Westminster Staff

**The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*  
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**The Reverend Trajan I. McGill**  
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