

THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

MAY 2015

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall
Sunday Schedule:
Nursery 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Worship 8:30 a.m. Parish Hall & 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Pre K-Grade 5
Adult Education Forum 11:15 a.m.

May 2 & 3

5th Sunday of Easter

Psalm 22:25-31, John 15:1-8

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Staying Connected

May 9 & 10

6th Sunday of Easter

Communion & New Member Recognition
Deut. 32:10-12, John 13:33-35, 14:25-27

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Letting Go

May 17

One Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.

7th Sunday of Easter

Psalm 1, John 17:6-19

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Good Neighbors, Good Fences

May 23 & 24

Day of Pentecost

Sacrament of Baptism
Acts 1:1-9, Acts 2:1-12

Reverend Trajan McGill
Cast Out, Left Out, Sent Out

May 30 & 31

Baccalaureate and Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31, Romans 5:1-5

Reverend Hannah Dreitcer
Wisdom's Call

LEGACY OF FAITH DEDICATION SUNDAY, MAY 17

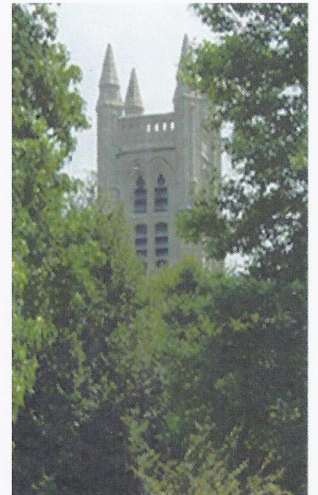
10:00 A.M. ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP

11:15 A.M. PICNIC BEGINS ON FRONT LAWN

We will dedicate and celebrate the **Building a Legacy of Faith** Anniversary Endowment Campaign on Sunday, May 17. To date, we have received 69 pledges and gifts totaling \$1,354,823. We are 44% to our goal of growing our endowment from \$1.9 to \$5 million by 2020! *(This does not include our planned gifts!)*

What an exciting day in our life together as we recognize those who have become a part of the **Albert Hale Circle** on the eve of our 180th Founder's Day. Reverend Hale, pastor from 1839-1866, is remembered as a friend to the poor and sorrowing, a preacher of the Lord Jesus Christ and a friend and counselor to the Martyr President. He laid the cornerstone for the legacy of faith we are building together in the Westminster Endowment Fund. **Those who make their pledge by Monday, May 11, will be included in the Albert Hale Circle and listed in the bulletin on May 17.** Pledge online or by contacting Lisa Runkle (lrunkle@wpcspi.org).

We will welcome the Reverend Dr. Lonnie H. Lee and his wife, Barbara, to a festive worship service with special music for the occasion. The celebratory picnic begins under a white tent on the front lawn following worship and will be catered by Café Moxo. \$10.00 per person and \$5.00 per child 10 and under. **Reservations and payment needed by May 11.** Please RSVP at www.wpcspi.org or to Connie Brown (cbrown@wpcspi.org).



WELCOME CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2015



Back row: Talen Vogler, Claire Bess, Gabrielle Huston, Grayson Freer, Matthew Knox, Front row: Rev. Hannah Dreitcer, Emma Batterman, Jack Zerfas, Will Formea, Ross Lochbaum, Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

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

Dear Friends:

The City of Springfield will be bustling this weekend with activities commemorating the historic 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's funeral procession. Rev. Albert Hale was Pastor of Westminster in 1865. One can only imagine the strength he needed to comfort so many in the midst of his own unspeakable, personal loss.

Among the events planned is the unveiling of a new historical marker at the Family Service Center. The Center began in Springfield as the Home for the Friendless in 1865, the same year as Lincoln's death. It was part of the national movement to provide shelter for indigent women and children, including the widows and orphans of the Civil War. Rev. Hale's wife, Abiah, was instrumental in its founding by merging the good work of the Dorcas Society into their services. 150 years later Westminster continues to collaborate with the Family Service Center through the weekly Compass Program. How timely that we are invited to become a part of the **Albert Hale Circle** through a gift to the Endowment in this anniversary year. The names of the giving categories within the circle are metaphors for mission and building, both of which are key components of this anniversary campaign. Please prayerfully consider your gift as we **Build a Legacy of Faith** together!

Support & Endowment Anniversary Campaign Goal Strategy						
Albert Hale Circle Gift Levels	Number To Date	Amount To Date	Additional # Needed	Total #	Total	
Cornerstone	\$250,000	2	\$500,000	0	2	\$500,000
Foundation	\$150,000	1	\$150,000	2	3	\$450,000
Tower	\$100,000	0	\$0	4	4	\$400,000
Keystone	\$50,000	7	\$350,000	3	10	\$500,000
Pillar	\$25,000	6	\$150,000	9	15	\$375,000
Samaritan	\$15,000	0	\$0	20	20	\$300,000
Advocate	\$10,000	7	\$70,723	13	20	\$200,723
Counselor	\$5,000	19	\$98,000	11	30	\$151,000
Companion	\$2,500	8	\$20,500	32	40	\$100,500
Friend	Up to \$2,500	19	\$15,600	217	236	\$120,777
Total		69	\$1,354,823	311	380	\$3,100,000

MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Thank you to all for your faithful support during this exciting time of growth at Westminster. The net total of income less expenses is more than \$57,000 as illustrated in the chart. Giving continues to be well above budget.

2015 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 293,612	\$ 243,346	\$ 50,266
Expenses	\$-236,441	\$-243,346	\$ 6,905
Net Total	\$ 57,171	\$ 0	

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS by Rev. Hannah Dreitzer

YOUTH NEWS

SERVANT DAYS THANK YOU - Despite cancelling many of our projects due to weather, we are grateful to all who were so willing to support the Mission, and particularly to George Johnson, Matt and Sharon Gilmour, and Tom and Andrea Klein; even with thunderstorms, we raised \$550!

END OF YEAR PICNIC ON SUNDAY, MAY 17, in Washington Park! All members of both youth groups and their families and friends are invited to join us from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Bring outdoor games and a dish to share!

SWIM PARTY AT THE KIEFFERS' ON SUNDAY, MAY 31

The junior and senior high youth groups are invited to the Kieffers' house (26 Island Bay Ln) from 2:00-4:00 p.m. for a swim party to celebrate Confirmation and the end of the school year! Bring a friend and a snack to share.

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY IS MAY 31

On Baccalaureate Sunday, May 31, we recognize our graduating high school seniors during the 10:00 a.m. service. A reception in their honor will be held in Parish Hall following worship. All Westminster graduates (high school, college and graduate school) will be listed in the June Newsletter. Please contact Connie Brown (cbrown@wpcspi.org) with information.

MUSIC NOTES by Dale Rogers

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR will join in the Lincoln Funeral commemorations this Sunday, May 3, in singing *We'll All Sing Halleluia When We Arrive at Home*, from the *Sacred Harp*, 1844 and *Pie Jesu* from the *Requiem* of Malcolm Archer. Many singers from the Westminster Choir are in the Illinois Symphony Orchestra Festival Chorus, a choir prepared by Dale Rogers for the performances of *The Lonesome Train*, included in the events of the Lincoln Funeral Coalition and the Illinois Symphony. The Springfield concert will be at Sangamon Auditorium on Saturday, May 2. Contact the auditorium box office for tickets.

THE ANNUAL CHOIR BRUNCH will be at the home of Glen and Jeanne Pittman following the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, May 24. This is always a festive occasion.

BRAVO TO THE CHORISTERS for *Oh, Jonah!*

THE WALNUTS' CANTINA raised \$606 for Helping Hands. We are grateful to those who attended and contributed so generously.

THANK YOU to **Susan and Scott Day** for the new liturgical hanging over the baptismal font on the Chancel.

PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

FELLOWSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

THEOLOGY ON TAP YOUNGER ADULT FELLOWSHIP (ages 21 – 40) meets Monday, May 4, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at Driftwood at 11 West Old Capitol Plaza. Led by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer, the first round of appetizers is on us!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP meets Thursday, May 14, at 7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Men will enjoy breakfast coordinated by Rich Canady, a program on the Central Illinois Food Bank coordinated by Kevin Proctor and devotional by Bob Wire.

DMA (Don't Mention Age; All Ages Welcome) Join us Friday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a potluck dinner and program by Westminster member Scott Day entitled "The Art of Bonsai."

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AT WESTMINSTER

HELPING HANDS meal the Second Friday in April was prepared and served by Judy and Fred Prillaman.

K2 P4 MISSION knits weekly at 12:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters are welcome to join our mission work. Please contact Sue Cull (529-2354) or Mary Jo Mattern-Jenkins (622-8657) for more information.

COMPASS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER is Monday, May 18, 6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. The final day of Compass, a weekly, after-school, neighborhood-based program which provides homework help, life skills and hot meals for at-risk children from Graham Elementary School, is Tuesday, May 19. Thanks to Coordinator *Hillary Haaker* and Volunteers: *Carolyn and Keith Beatty, Nancy Canady, Ann Collins, Helen Evenson, David Haaker, Andrea Klein, Lynn McMenamin, Judy Mier, and Linda and Bill Schlosser.* We partner with Central Baptist Church in this mission.

BIKE AND BUILD – JULY 7 AND 8, 2015

Once again Westminster will host bicyclists who pedal across the United States and support affordable housing.

PW SPONSORS BLANKET + SUNDAYS DURING MONTH OF MAY

PW and Springfield's Church Women United will sponsor Blankets+ (formerly Blanket Sunday) during May. Church World Service partners with local communities to identify needs and to access the resources to build the foundation for a more viable future, including: *Blankets, tents, food* in the wake of a disaster; *Tools and seeds* for refugees returning home to replant their fields; *Wells* for families living in drought prone areas to provide clean, safe water to drink and to irrigate crops and gardens; *Literacy training and microcredit* for women struggling to realize their potential. During May, checks may be placed in offering plates (Payable to: Westminster/Memo: Blankets+) or donations may be attached to the Church World Service Blanket in the West Narthex on Sundays.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER RELIEF IN NEPAL

The death toll from the massive earthquake in Nepal continues to rise. Presbyterian Disaster Relief is providing immediate assistance and short-term recovery, offering food, water, medicine, and supplies to impacted villages and towns. You are invited to join the relief effort through prayer and gifts, which can be made online at www.pcusa.org/pda.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW LUNCHEON will be Friday, May 1, 12:00 noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair is Mary Ray. Chair of the Day is Nancy Canady. Our program will be "Breaking the Stained Glass Ceiling" by Dr. Kieffer.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets Wednesday, May 6, 7:00 p.m. at Dr. Jane Arbuthnot's home to discuss chapter 10 "Self-Definition": *The Story of Ruth* by Joan Chittister.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE gathers for their annual Spring dinner on May 11, 6:00 p.m. at the Wild Hare Cafe in Elkhart, IL. Reservations required by May 8. Guests are welcome. For menu choice call Judi Mier (726-6872) or Pat McKenzie (494-9258). Carpooling is available.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets Tuesday, May 19, 9:30 a.m. at the home of Phyllis Lowrey. Mina Bentsen will give devotions and Leah Duling will lead Lessons 8 & 9, *Exodus*.



THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
A GARDEN PARTY AT THE HOME OF MARTY SUMNER
2324 WEST LAKE SHORE DRIVE
SATURDAY, MAY 30, 9:30 – 11:00 A.M.
RSVP AT WWW.WPCSPI.ORG

NEW ARRIVALS

Ellen and Alex Fernandes welcomed their daughter, Ada Frances Fernandes, on April 2 in Albany, NY. She is the granddaughter of **Katie and Carl Matteson**.

Danielle and **Kyle Huitt** welcomed their son, Noah Christopher Huitt, on April 3 in Fort Worth, TX. He is the grandson of **Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer**.

Dan Sherrick and Mary Bajain welcomed their daughter, Ruby Evangeline, on April 6 in Ann Arbor, MI. She is the granddaughter of **Jean and Bill Sherrick**.

Laura and **Douglas Stirrett** welcomed their son, Connor Shelborn Stirrett, on April 9 in Fort Collins, CO. He is the grandson of **Becky and Lionel Stirrett**.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Colleen and **Scott Germeraad** present their daughter **Merrin Florence** for the Sacrament on Sunday, May 24.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Matthew Knox, who completed his indoor swim season with YMCA State Championships in the 50 free, 100 free (setting a new state record!), and 500 free.

Reiley Duffy, who was elected prom queen for SHS.

IN MEMORIAM

Eugene J. Segin died on April 4. The prayers of the congregation are extended to his family and friends.

SYMPATHY TO

Norma Adams-Johnson and her family on the death of her nephew, Nicholas Wilmert, on April 1.

Deb Watts and her family on the death of her mother, Betty Jean Watts, on April 12.

Kathy Culver Nickell and her family on the death of her husband, Randy Nickell, on April 14. He was the son-in-law of the late **Kathryn Culver**.

Carolyn and Keith Beatty and their family on the death of his brother, John "Mark" Beatty, on April 22.

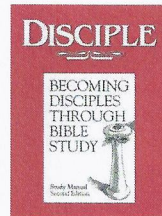
CONSIDER YOURSELF PART OF THE FAMILY

On Mother's Day, May 10, during the 10:00 a.m. service, we will welcome new members. The **SECOND ANNUAL NEW MEMBER COOKOUT** is Friday, June 12, 6:00 p.m. at the Kieffers'. **THE CONGREGATION IS INVITED!** Please RSVP (online or Sunday mornings) and let us know whether you will bring a salad, side dish or dessert. New members will be our guests. The evening will include a sing-along and boat rides. The June Reporter will feature new members from the 2014-2015 program year.



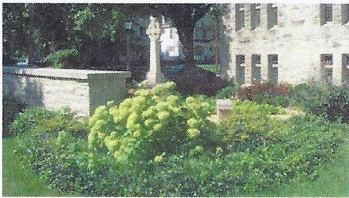
ADULT EDUCATION DISCIPLE POTLUCK AND COMMUNION

On Thursday, May 21, Disciple Bible Study members will gather at Dr. Kieffer's home for a potluck dinner and Holy Communion. The following persons have completed the study of the Old and New Testament and will be recognized on Sunday, May 24, during the 10:00 a.m. worship: *Harry Bentsen, Rev. Jerry Boutelle, Linda Chronister, Ann Collins, Helen Evenson, Jan Gambach, Kathy and Randy Germeraad, Gerry and Harold Hale, Beth Kincaid, Mary and Charlie King, Marcia Monier, Camille and Ted Proud, Mary Ray, Judy Ridinger, Marilyn Rigney, Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer, Alan Wallace, Bill Ward*



PAGE-TURNERS will meet in the Ziegler Library on Wednesday, May 27, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., for discussion of *Obsessive Genius, Inner World of Marie Curie* by Barbara Goldsmith. New members are welcome.

MEMORIAL GARDEN HIGHLIGHTED MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND



Our Memorial Garden is a place of peace and repose for the ashes of those interred within its wall. The wall contains secure niches for cremated remains. Paved paths and benches offer opportunity for private meditation. A traditional Celtic cross, donated by Mary

Alice Davis in memory of her husband, depicts the post resurrection appearances of Christ when he appeared in the garden. For more information, contact members of the Memorial Garden Committee: *Bill Donels, Chris Elzea, Glen Pittman, Andrew Sherrick and Lionel Stirrett.*

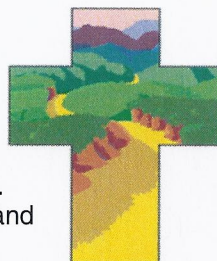
CHILDREN'S NEWS BY REV. SARAH MCGILL

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER RECOGNITION

On Sunday, May 31, during the 10:00 a.m. service we will recognize the 2014-2015 Sunday School Team. We are grateful for these incredible teachers and assistants: *Pre-K/Kindergarten: Dana and Andrew Affrunti, Sara Eldridge, Leigh Milward Grades 1-3: Claudia Andre, Sarah Holman, Meredith Spalding and youth Kyle Spalding and Christian Lochbaum Grades 4-5: Cathy Brower, Tom Klein, Mary Ray Rotating Youth: Reiley Duffy, Jenna Milward, Austin Robbs, Emma Shafer, Annie Sherrick, Jack Sherrick Cut and Copy Crew: Camille Massey, Carolyn Proctor, Kay Smith, Amy Xanders.*

2015 VBS PRESENTS:
FROM THE JORDAN TO JERUSALEM
MONDAY- FRIDAY, JUNE 15 -19,
9:00 A.M. - 12 NOON
Ages 3 to 5th Grade

Children, ages three through grade five, are invited. Enjoy Bible stories, arts and crafts, music, games, and delicious snacks. Sign up online at www.wpcspi.org.



JUNE REPORTER DEADLINE IS MAY 24

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 Hannah M. Dreitcer
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
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The Reverend Sarah Iliff McGill
Parish Associate for Children's Ministries
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The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate
pastorboutelle@yahoo.com

Dale T. Rogers
Director of Music and the Arts
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Deb Watts
Saturday Worship Pianist and Music Coordinator
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Judy Ridinger, Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurses
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Abigail Cline, Natalie Chepulis
Nursery Workers

Noel Scott, Kari Soria
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Liz Maxey
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Gary Warnick
Head Custodian and Rental Properties Coordinator
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Roy Ahlers, Steve Council, Bill Hibbert
Custodians

GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH MAY MENU: Chicken and Dumplings, Chocolate Pudding, Pineapple Chunks, and Green Beans. -Thank you to those who bring their donations and place them in the baskets in the West Narthex.