



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

May 2018

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

Sunday Schedule

Nursery 8:30 a.m.

Saturday

Worship 5:00 p.m. Parish Hall

Featuring the Westminster Jazz Trio

Sunday

Worship 8:30 a.m. Parish Hall

& 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary

Sunday School for Pre-K – Grade 5

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Adult Education Forum (May 6)

11:15 a.m. – 12 noon

May 5 & 6

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

Psalm 98; John 15:4-5, 9-17

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Make a Joyful Noise

May 12 & 13

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; John 17:6-19

The Rev. Trajan I. McGill

Raising Up and Sending Out

(No Saturday Service)

May 20

FOUNDER'S SUNDAY

DAY OF PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-21; John 15:9-17, 16:4b-15

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Something Old, Something New

May 26 & 27

TRINITY SUNDAY

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Isaiah 6:1-8; John 3:1-17

The Rev. Trajan I. McGill

Seeing and Understanding

FRANCIS, POOR LITTLE MAN OF GOD

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 8:30 AND 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP



On Sunday, May 6, the Westminster Choristers will present a musical biographical sketch of St. Francis at both services. The Children's Choir will be a part of the Westminster Choristers' musical during the 10 a.m. service, as they sing the Song of the Birds and assist with props.



St. Francis is credited with reforming and reviving the medieval church in Italy as well as being a fierce environmentalist. Choristers are Ben Bassett, Maria DeJong, James Maeda, Julia Musgrave, and Olivia Musick.

FOUNDERS' SUNDAY, MAY 20

ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.



Westminster will celebrate Founders' Sunday on May 20 as we give thanks for the vision and fortitude of the thirty charter members who gathered on May 26, 1835 to begin our journey together. This year's theme "Hail! Abiah Hale" highlights Albert's wife who also defined the character of this congregation with her generous and compassionate spirit. We are grateful to our church archivists, Carol Bloemer & Sue Cull for their diligent and persistent research into the mission and service driven life of Abiah Hale.

In May of 2015 on the 180th Founders' Sunday, we dedicated the BUILDING A LEGACY OF FAITH Anniversary Endowment Campaign and established the ALBERT HALE CIRCLE with a goal to grow Westminster's Endowment from \$1.9 to \$5 million by 2020. To date, 240 families have become members of the Albert Hale Circle through gifts, pledges or including Westminster in their planned giving. We have received \$1,332,419 toward pledges of \$1,623,450. Additionally, we have received gifts of \$113,545. We are \$1.15 million from our \$5 million goal. This does not include planned gifts.

Each year on Founders' Sunday, the Endowment Committee thanks those who have given and invites those who would like to join. Those who make a gift or pledge by Sunday, May 13, will be included in the Albert Hale Circle that will be published in the bulletin on May 20 and in the June Reporter.

Dale Smith will provide a ministry moment on Founders' Sunday. Other members of the committee include Randy Germeraad, Chair, Dr. Diane Rutledge, Lucy Preckwinkle Stafford, Jeff Wilday and Todd Wise, with Steve Arbuthnot serving as Treasurer.



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

WESTMINSTER'S SAFETY TEAM LED BY JOHN STAFFORD

Earlier this year, a visitor attended the 10:00 a.m. service at Westminster. He arrived late, carried a backpack and appeared disheveled. He rose and followed the children out as they departed the sanctuary after the children's sermon. He then lingered in the West Narthex for a short time. Members who approached him felt a keen sense of unease when speaking with him. A referral to the police department identified the man as someone whose past behavior makes him a legitimate concern for the safety and security of worshippers at Westminster. Following this Sunday, I invited John Stafford, a new member and retired FBI Special Agent to speak to Session who invited him to lead Westminster's Safety Team.

The Safety Team's goal is to enhance the safety of our members and staff during worship on Sundays by bringing a heightened sense of awareness to our environment. Awareness, in this context, includes observation, assessment, and quiet engagement with persons who present concerning behavior. And when necessary, we will refer 'persons of concern' for further assessment by appropriate professionals in our community, namely the police. The police are best positioned to determine the risk a person's behavior presents, either to themselves or others. At the same time, a key objective will be to ensure we engage with everyone who walks through the doors of Westminster with respect and mindfulness of our core Christian values of openness and inclusion.

We anticipate two team members being present each Sunday, one person present in each narthex beginning the first Sunday in June. Members have been invited to serve and to attend an orientation either Tuesday, May 22 or Thursday, May 24. We are grateful for the resources within our faith community and for John's willingness to share his expertise on this endeavor.

ADULT EDUCATION

BIBLE STUDY POTLUCKS AND COMMUNION

Dr. Kieffer's Disciple Bible Study will culminate the 2017-2018 Study of The Prophets and Writings of Paul with a potluck on Thursday, May 17. Thank you to Kathy and Randy Germeraad for hosting this gathering.

Rev. McGill's Bible Study will culminate the 2017-2018 study of good and evil with a potluck on Wednesday, May 23 at a location yet to be determined.

Both classes will celebrate of the Sacrament of Communion at their final gathering. Between the two classes, over 35 members and friends have participated and will be recognized on Baccalaureate Sunday, June 3, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

LIFETOUCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

MAY 21 – 25 & MAY 29 – JUNE 2

Lifetouch has been contracted and photos are scheduled for May 21-25, and May 29-June 2, 2018. Gather your family members and don't miss this opportunity for a family portrait! Members are invited to schedule an appointment online at our website www.wpcspi.org. There is a link on the home page. Appointments may also be made by calling Jennie Alt during the week or on Sunday mornings, May 6 and 13 in the West Narthex. Westminster's last Pictorial Directory was published in 2014.



MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

Westminster Children's Choir need to assemble in the Music Room this Sunday, May 6 at 9:40 a.m. to review their song and part in the Chorister's Musical, *Francis, Poor Little Man of God* to be presented during the 10:00 a.m. service.

On Tuesday, May 8, the **Choristers** will meet at 4:45 p.m. for the annual Ice Cream Pig-Out to celebrate the end of the season and their fine presentation of *Francis*.

The **Westminster Choir** will sing each Sunday through June 10. Following the 10:00 a.m. service, the choir will gather at the home and garden of Dr. Glen and Jeanne Pittman for the annual Choir Brunch.

In the coming weeks, I will be seeking to fill the Sundays with special music for the 10:00 a.m. services from June 17 through Labor Day. So, look at your summer calendars and think of the music you would like to bring as your musical offering, or others that you would like to sing with or make music.

MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Operating Fund income is almost \$5,000 less than budgeted through the end of March. Expenses are under budget by almost \$9,000. Therefore, we currently have income exceeding expenses by \$4,091.

Feel free to contact Lisa Runkle if you have any questions regarding your 2018 first quarter contribution statement that was mailed to contributors in April.

2018 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 253,290	\$ 258,152	\$ -4,862
Expenses	\$-249,199	\$-258,152	\$ 8,953
Net	\$ 4,091	\$ 0	

REACHING FOR OUR PER CAPITA GOAL

This year Westminster will pay \$32 per member to support the work of the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Thank you to the 147 members who have given Per Capita donations. This is 68% of our \$7,000 goal. We need 71 more Per Capita donations of \$32.

WESTMINSTER GATHERING AT CONCORDIA THURSDAY, MAY 31

Members and friends of Westminster will gather Thursday, May 31, at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel. with the pastors and the director of music and the arts for communion followed by lunch.



On Tuesday, April 17 the Support and Endowment Committee hosted a Planned Giving Dinner at Concordia. Pictured above is Pat Noonan, Dr. Diane Rutledge, Jeff Wilday and Ruth Robert-Roland, enjoying a few songs presented by the Walnuts. Look for more Planned Giving Dinners this summer.

YOUTH UPDATE by Natalie Knox

JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

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

- May 6 – Youth Input Night
- May 13 – No Youth Group – Mother’s Day
- May 20 – End-of-Year Party at Day home

SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

Senior High youth meet Sundays, 5:30-7:00 p.m. for dinner, fellowship, and topical “Sticky Faith” questions.

- May 6 – Youth Input Night
- May 13 – No Youth Group – Mother’s Day
- May 20 – End-of-Year Party at Day home

Youth Group End of Year Party is Sunday, May 20, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Susan and Scott Day’s home (47 Fairview Lane on Lake Springfield). Junior and Senior High Youth and their families are invited to gather for a potluck dinner to celebrate the end of the year. Please bring a dish to share!

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY IS JUNE 3

On Baccalaureate Sunday, June 3, 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 Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org) with information.

2018 YOUTH MISSION

THANK YOU to all who came out to support the youth mission trip at Applebee’s on Saturday, April 28 and to **Leigh Milward** who organized the event. We raised \$1,347.

THE CAR WASH/BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER is Sunday, June 17! All Mission participants will arrive at church at 8:00 a.m. in clothes they can wash cars in. Bring a bucket for the Car Wash and a baked good for the Bake Sale! Cars will be washed at both services, so bring all the family cars along! Thanks to **Dave Leonatti** for organizing the Car Wash and **Julie Sundquist** for organizing the Bake Sale.

NEW MISSION VENUE During the week of July 7-14, the 2018

Youth Mission will be repairing homes, building relationships, and deepening their faith in Nicholas County, West Virginia with Appalachia Service Project. This is a change from our original location. We will be staying at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church and going out into the county each day to do the work of home repair. Thank you to the following adults who will be leading this project: **Nathaniel Brower, Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Jen DeJong, Tami Ireland, Anna Koeppl, Amanda Kurmann, Dave Leonatti, and Mary Ray.**



MISSION TRIP LETTER WRITERS A huge thank-you to the members who have agreed to serve as letter writers to this year’s mission team. For seven days, each youth and adult leader will receive a homemade note of encouragement from their congregational partner. Letter writers should turn in their letters to Karen Sherrick by Sunday, June 24th.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Summer Sunday school begins on May 27! Children preschool age thru those finishing second grade will gather in the Third Floor Classroom to learn stories from the Bible using the SparkHouse curriculum *Holy Moly*. Children finishing third grade thru those finishing fifth grade will remain in worship for the summer. Thank you to summer teachers: Lucas Carpenter, Sue Cull, Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt, Dr. Judy Knox, Lynne McMenamin, Dr. Andy, Jack and Annie Sherrick. If you are interested in teaching contact Karen at ksherrick@wpcspi.org or check available dates at signupgenius.com.

BRIDGES IN MAY

On Tuesday, **May 8** the children will welcome Second Graders to learn about Bridges in preparation for next year!

On Tuesday, **May 15** our advocates will join us for the end of the year party as we honor our outgoing fifth graders: **Norah Obenholtzer** and **Julia Musgrave.**



Pictured: Olivia Musick and Maria DeJong at Old State Capital

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

MONDAY, JUNE 11 – FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Do good! Seek peace and go after it! Psalm 34:14b



This summer, June 11-15, all children age 3 through grade 5 are invited to join us at “Hero Central” where we will discover our strength in God and encounter epic adventures alongside biblical heroes. Visit our website to register online: wpcspi.org

VBS Leader Meeting is Thursday, May 3, 4:45-5:45 in the Library. To volunteer, please contact Karen Sherrick.

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Registration is open for the two-day, three-day, and four-day classes for 2018-2019! Email westminstercoop@gmail.com for more information. If you are interested, we would be happy to give you a tour!

New families are invited to a Welcome Meeting on Thursday, May 17, from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Westminster Church in the library upstairs from the preschool.

POSITION OPENING

Westminster Cooperative Preschool is seeking a part-time Assistant Director/Teacher for its morning classes. We seek an individual to join a community-minded, play-based, parent-directed, early childhood education environment. The candidate must hold a Bachelor’s Degree in Education, Child Development or equivalent and experience in a classroom setting. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Friday, Labor Day to Memorial Day. Additional hours for classroom prep, special events, fundraisers, and Board meetings. Please send cover letter, resume, and references to the Attention of WCP Teacher Search Committee westminstercoopreschool@gmail.com. Screening will begin May 15th until filled. For questions regarding the position, please contact the Westminster Preschool Board Chair Megan Pressnall at (217) 341-8323.



**THIRD GRADERS RECEIVE PERSONALIZED NRSV SPARK BIBLE –
EVEN AS THEIR NAMES ARE WRITTEN UPON THESE BIBLES, MAY GOD’S WORD BE WRITTEN UPON THEIR HEARTS.**



**CHANDLER KLANG SMITH
BOOK SIGNING AT BARNES AND NOBLE**



**WESTMINSTER’S EARTH CARE TEAM AT
EARTH AWARENESS FAIR**



CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM GATHER AT OLD STATE CAPITAL TO ASSEMBLE HURRICANE RELIEF KITS ON EARTH DAY



APPLEBEE'S YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISER BRINGS IN \$1,347 - THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CAME OUT FOR BREAKFAST!



**RECOGNITION OF NATALIE KNOX
INTERIM DIRECTOR FOR YOUTH**

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2018



KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP

**YOUTH SHOWER NATALIE
WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE!**



PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

HELPING HANDS – Westminster members provide meals for the residents of the Helping Hands homeless shelter on the second Friday of every month. This is a ministry valued highly by Helping Hands, and we are in need of more people interested in preparing and delivering one of these monthly meals. Reimbursement is available from the church for costs incurred. May, July through September, November, and December are still open; contact Trajan McGill or the church office to volunteer!



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – The mission fund of the Westminster Endowment has granted \$2,500 to Habitat for Humanity to (with the help of a matching donor) help reach full funding for their latest build project, “1000 Women Strong,” currently underway on South Glenwood, right near the church building! The house is coming along quickly, and volunteers (especially women on this particular project!) are encouraged to get involved. Construction volunteers are needed, along with food volunteers, and no previous experience is necessary.



CONTACT MINISTRIES CELEBRATES 40 YEARS of serving the Springfield Community on Wednesday, May 9, 11:00 a.m. at an Open House (1100 E. Adam 62703). There will be refreshments, tours, and volunteer recognition. As one of the founding congregations under the leadership of Dr. Barge, we are honored to support this vital outreach through our Annual Mission Giving, the HEAL Fund, coat drive, backpack donation, Spud Bake, Adopt-a-Family, and hosting the Christmas Distribution. Dr. Kieffer and Joe Fierstos currently serve on their board of directors.

FAIR TRADE – Please continue to look for our monthly sales in the West Narthex of sustainably produced, responsibly sourced, fairly traded coffee and chocolate. New to the project: learning about farming freekeh in Palestine! Thank you to Stephanie Bess who oversees this ministry.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH MAY MENU

Peanut Butter, Jam/Jelly, Canned soup with pop tops, Granola/Breakfast Bars, & Dry Cereal Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank. **High-Demand Items:** *personal hygiene products, shampoo/conditioner, diapers & wipes size 3 & up, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.*

EARTH CARE TEAM NEWS

EARTH CARE TIP – Need a new lawnmower and looking for some exercise in God’s Creation? Consider the old-fashioned push reel mowers, which are making a comeback to help conserve energy and to help shrink waistlines. Cut the grass at 3” and leave the clippings to conserve water and nutrients!



ADOPT-A-STREET – Steve Coburn, Peter Kieffer, and Maribeth Norton went out on a cleanup mission on April 30, picking up trash along Walnut Street. Thank you to this team for helping beautify our neighborhood!

Earth Care Team: *Dr. Peter Kieffer, Keith Hamilton, Charlie King, Tim Kluge, Lynn McMenamain, Maribeth Norton, and Brad Steller*

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM SERVICE PROJECT was funded by the Westminster Endowment. The children assembled 30 Hurricane Relief Kits (\$65 each). Special thanks to Rich Canady, who delivered items to the Old State Capitol for the event and the completed kits to the United Methodist Midwest Distribution Center. Thanks also to Gary Warnick who shopped for needed items.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

CHURCH OFFICE VOLUNTEERS – We have a need for volunteers to answer phones during the week to help cover meetings and lunches. Some volunteer weekly, others monthly, and some fill in here and there where needed—it’s up to your availability. There are other helpful tasks available if you’d like to keep busy while at the phone desk...or you can just bring a book to read! Feel free to volunteer once or twice to see if it is something you would like doing. Please contact Jennie Alt at the church office to find out more.

HOME COMMUNION – If you are unable to attend worship on the second Sunday of the month, whether temporarily or on an ongoing basis, and would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Jennie Alt at the church office. Eight members received the sacrament in April from six teams of elders and deacons. Many thanks to those who participate in bringing the Lord’s Supper.



SECOND HELPINGS



“O taste and see that the Lord is good, happy are those who take refuge in God.” -Psalm 34:8

Our new meal ministry is underway! Titled “Second Helpings” (echoing WPC’s original name, “Second Presbyterian Church”), this ministry hopes to reach people just home from the hospital or in other situations where it would be helpful not to worry about preparing dinner for a day (or several). Thanks to Cathy Schwartz for taking the lead coordinator role, the Congregational Care Committee for developing the plan, and all those willing to prepare and deliver meals to other members of WPC. If you know of someone who could use a loving visit (with love in the form of a casserole!), or if you would enjoy making and bringing a dinner or two to people on occasion, please contact the church office, or talk to Trajan McGill or Cathy Schwartz.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION gather for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. On May 8, they will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the home of Mary Ann Nation (6720 Phlox Drive 62712). Mary Ann & Barbara Alpan will hold a “bed turning”. If this has piqued your interest, please contact Mary Jo Mattern-Jenkins at 217-544-8657 for more information. Those who would like to meet at McDonald’s South Sixth Street location for lunch at 12 noon are welcome as well!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW LUNCHEON will meet Friday, May 4 at noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair is Krista Steller and Chair of the Day is Pat Hymans. The Program will be Central Illinois Food Bank and Volunteer Opportunities presented by Ashley Earnest. Please make your reservations with your Circle or by calling the church office at 217-522-4415.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets **Wednesday, May 2 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Anne Haaker (313 Thames River Rd.) We will discuss Chapter 8 “Victims & Survivors” & Chapter 9 “Varieties of Surrender” of *Imperfect Control: Our Lifelong Struggles with Power and Surrender*, by Judith Viorst.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will hold their annual Spring Dinner on **Monday, May 14 at 5:30 p.m.** at the Public House 29 in Rochester. Guests are welcome. Please make your reservation by Wednesday, May 9 by email at smoore@wpcspi.org or with Mary King 217-370-0224.

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet **Tuesday, May 15 at 9:30 a.m.** in the home of hostess Nancy Scott (42 Lambert Lane). Nancy will provide the devotional and Leah Duling will lead Lesson 8 “According to the Other Abrahamic Faith” and Lesson 9 “According to Contemporary Cultural Interpretations” in the PW Horizon Bible Study *Who is Jesus?* by Judy Yates Siker.

PW SPONSORS “BLANKETS + SUNDAYS” DURING MAY with Church Women United (formerly Blanket Sunday). Church World Service partners with local communities to identify people with critical needs and access the resources to help them build a more viable future, including: blankets, tents, and 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 noting Blankets + in the memo line. Also, donations may be attached to the Church World Service Blanket in the West Narthex on Sundays.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN’S BREAKFAST will meet **Thursday, May 10, at 7:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Bob Fox will present a program entitled “Homelessness & Addiction Rehabilitation in Springfield”. Jay Kennerly will lead devotions, and Wells Langbehn will provide the breakfast. Please RSVP to Stephanie at smoore@wpcspi.org.

DMA (DON’T MENTION AGE)

FRIDAY, MAY 18 AT 6:30 P.M. POTLUCK & 7:15 P.M. PROGRAM

We welcome the Hope Danielson, Dietician – Director of Health & Wellness for County Market, who will present a program on “Healthy Eating Trends for Mature Adults.” Please join us for the program, even if you are unable to attend the potluck and fellowship. Guests and youth are always welcome.



WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAY

Webster Bay will celebrate 99 years on May 2.
Theresa Davison will celebrate 93 years on May 21.
Ed Davison will celebrate 93 years on May 31.

WEDDINGS

Mr. Steven R. Arbuthnot & Dr. Julia Fiuk were married on Saturday, April 28 at Pear Tree Estates in Champaign, IL.
Keegan MacDonna and Kathryn Bueltman will be united in marriage on Saturday, May 5 at Erin’s Pavilion.

IN MEMORIAM

A memorial service will be held for Carl Strand at Butler Funeral Homes in Springfield on May 18 at 11 a.m., There will be a memorial gathering at 10 am, and then the interment will be in Camp Butler National Cemetery at 12 p.m. with military honors.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Jane Barry on the death of her son, Greg Barry on March 17.
Dr. and Mrs. Phil and Pat Wheat on the death of his mother, and to Geoff Wheat and Jessica Wheat Huff on the death of their grandmother, Francis Pauline Wheat, on April 12 in Murphysboro, Illinois.

Laura VanDeventer and Paul VanDeventer on the death of their grandmother, Mary Marie Snodgrass on April 15.

IN THE NEWS

Matthew Knox placed 5th in the 100 Yard Freestyle at the YMCA National Swim Meet held in Greensboro, NC.

Sue Scaife will present an art show of pastel paintings at the Art Association of Jacksonville (331 West College Avenue) May 5-27. The opening reception is May 5, 6-8 p.m.

Lindsay Elementary School nominated Julie Sundquist for the Good as Gold awards, which are given to local organizations, individual volunteers, for their individual efforts, contributions, and time they give. Julie won the Heart of Gold award on April 22 at UIS.

The Top Teen awards honor high school students who have worked to make a difference. Emma Batterman was nominated by Natalie Knox, and was one of four finalists in the April 29 issue of the SJR. The article is focused on Emma’s mission focus here and abroad.



A Girl Scout Community Day is being held at Camp Widjiwagon for families and is open to the public. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Come see all that the camp has to offer, join in on fun activities, participate in the climbing wall, cooking demo, archery, crafts, and much more.

THANK YOU

The members of the Springfield Branch of the American Association of University Women are thankful for the use of the kitchen & Parish Hall for the annual Afternoon Tea on April 14. More than \$8,000 was raised for scholarships and fellowships for women locally and nationally. *Becky Stirrett, Tea Coordinator of the AAUW*

MEMORIAL GARDEN

SOUTH WALL GROUND BREAKING IN MAY 2018

Westminster's Memorial Garden will add a south wall this month. It will be parallel to Edwards Street and perpendicular to the east wall providing an additional 180 niches for members and friends of our faith community. Evans-Mason was retained to begin the work this month. We are grateful to Architect Dave Leonatti who gifted his design of the wall.

On Sunday, May 27, Chris Elzea will present a Ministry Moment on behalf of the Memorial Garden Committee: *Bill Donels; Chair, Chris Elzea, Richard Herndon, Dr. Glen Pittman, Dr. Andrew Sherrick and Lionel Stirrett.* Memorial Garden brochures will also be included in the bulletin insert.

The east wall has 8 single and 5 double niches left. The cost of an individual inurnment in the east wall is \$750 for a member or their immediate family and \$1,500 for friends of Westminster. The cost of an individual inurnment in the new wall is \$1000 for a member or their immediate family and \$2,000 for friends of Westminster. Persons desiring to reserve space may complete an application form located in the West Narthex. In 2016, the Memorial Garden Committee added a webpage to the Westminster Presbyterian Church website with pertinent information about those inurned in the garden.

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.



NEW MEMBERS CLASS

SUNDAYS, MAY 27 AND JUNE 3 AT 11:15 A.M.



Friends and visitors are invited to a New Members Class on Sundays, May 27 and June 3, 11:15 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who has been visiting and would like to learn more about the church, its mission, and becoming a member is invited. The class will be led by the pastors. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, June 10, following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

CONSIDER YOURSELF PART OF THE FAMILY

ALL-CHURCH COOKOUT ON FRIDAY, JUNE 8

The Fifth Annual All-Church Cookout to welcome new members will be Friday, June 8, 6:00 p.m. at the Kieffers'. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this festive evening hosted by the Membership Committee.

The congregation is invited! Please RSVP (online or Sunday mornings) soon 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 WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE INVITED TO
A GARDEN PARTY & BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
AT THE HOME OF PAT WHEAT (11 PICKERING LANE)
SATURDAY, JUNE 2 AT 9:30 A.M.
RSVP to Jalt@wpcspi.org



Westminster Staff

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

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

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate
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Dale T. Rogers
Director of Music and the Arts
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Deb Watts Elliott
*Saturday Worship Pianist and
Music Coordinator*
deb.watts@live.com

Karen Sherrick
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Abigail Cline, Lizzy Olmsted
Nursery Workers

Emily Rowley, Kari Soria
Cooperative Preschool Teachers
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Krista Steller
Webmaster

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

**Roy Ahlers, Steve Council,
Bill Hibbert, Charles Robertson**
Part-time Custodians

*June Reporter Deadline
is Sunday, May 27*