

THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

May 2022

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

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

FAITH FORMATION:

9:45 a.m. Nursery
Children Birth – Age 3
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
following Children’s Sermon
Children Pre-K - Grade 5
11:15 a.m. Adult Ed Forum

May 1

YOUTH SUNDAY

Acts 9:1-6; John 21:15-19
Jessica Borland, Samantha Magalis, and
The Rev. Christian K. Choi
Follow Me

May 8

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

BIBLE PRESENTATION TO THIRD GRADERS
John 21:1-14
The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Daybreak

May 15

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Acts 11:1-10, Revelation 21:1-6
The Rev. Blythe D. Kieffer
Alpha and Omega

May 22

FOUNDERS’ SUNDAY CHILDREN’S MUSICAL

The Rev. Blythe D. Kieffer

May 29

MEMORIAL SUNDAY

John 17:20-26; Acts 16:16-34
The Rev. Christian K. Choi
Loving Others at Their Worst

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

RISE UP ... OF THE SPRINGDALE LADIES AID SOCIETY

FRIDAY, MAY 6 AND SATURDAY, MAY 7 AT 7:00 P.M.
SUNDAY, MAY 8 AT 12 NOON

History comes alive through the efforts of multiple generations of the tenacious women of Springdale. Their fight for personal freedom and justice will stir your soul and touch your funny bone. Their journey echoes the national scene of the struggle for Women’s Suffrage. Written by Carole Kennerly and directed by Kelly Robertson, the play will be presented **MOTHER’S DAY WEEKEND** and will be introduced with a brief musical presentation by Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer and Dale Rogers. Westminster members performing in the play include Lucy Bassett, Carolyn Beatty, Ann Collins, Jay Kennerly, Kate and Michael Morthland, and Bill Ward. Sabrina Holmes is assisting with props. Pat and Al Hymans are designing sets and costumes. A Tea Reception will be served on the West Terrace prior to Sunday’s performance. *Attendees are asked to make a donation to the 2022 Youth Mission Trip.*



ADULT ED FORUM: WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE HISTORY ON SUNDAY, MAY 1

Join Dr. Aaron Berkowitz on Sunday, May 1 at 11:15 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom to learn more about the suffrage movement and the history of the 19th Amendment in preparation for the play.

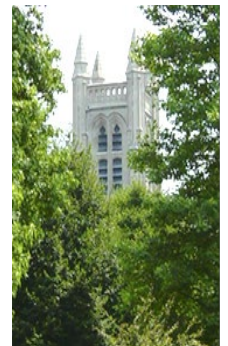
2022 FOUNDERS’ SUNDAY, MAY 22

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL
DEDICATION OF STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SITE & LANDSCAPE PLAQUE
PICNIC RECEPTION IN PARISH HALL AT 11:15 A.M.

Join us Founders’ Sunday, May 22 for worship at 10:00 a.m. and a picnic reception following in Parish Hall. This year we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Westminster Cooperative Preschool and Dedicate the Steadfast Neighbor Site and Landscape Plaque.

The Founders’ reception will be a picnic lunch prepared by the Membership Committee with the tables decorated in preschool colors and centerpieces created by preschool students. A PowerPoint Presentation and Memorabilia Table will feature photos and treasured items from our archives. The Earth Care Team has prepared a special craft for the children attending.

Each year on Founders’ Sunday, the Endowment Committee thanks those who have given and invites others to join the Albert Hale Circle. Those who make a donation or communicate their plans to make a testamentary gift by Sunday, May 15 will be included in the Albert Hale Circle published in the bulletin on May 22 and in the June Reporter.



THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE INVITED TO A GARDEN PARTY

HOSTED BY KATHY GERMEAAD

1800 ILLINI ROAD

SATURDAY, MAY 21 AT 9:30 A.M.

RSVP at jalt@wpcspi.org



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

This Founders' Sunday we will dedicate the final detail of the Steadfast Neighbor Site and Landscape Plan: a newly installed history plaque located outside the northeast corner of the Sanctuary. The bronze plaque is mounted on architectural stone from our 1871 church building which has been stored on the Blythe Farm for many years.



Dale Rogers designed the plaque and Peter Kieffer collaborated in the concise

distillation of Westminster's 186-year history into less than 75 words:

Thirty ardent abolitionists, some of whom conducted the Underground Railroad, founded this congregation in 1835 at our first church known as Second Presbyterian. Our 1840 tower bell, which tolled for the Emancipation Proclamation in our second church, still calls worshippers today. This plaque rests on stone remaining from our third church. We now worship in this fourth church, designed in a rural English Gothic style by Cram & Ferguson, dedicated in 1908, and later named Westminster.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS: MEMORIAL GARDEN



Our Memorial Garden is a place of peace and repose for the ashes of those interred within its walls. 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.

Each Memorial Sunday, Westminster's Memorial Garden is highlighted. Recent additions include a south wall in 2018, a brick trim to complement the southside landscape designed by the late Bill Donels. We are grateful to the

Memorial Team of the Landscape Guild, led by Dr. Scott Day, who lovingly tend to the garden.

The cost of an individual inurnment in the South wall is \$1,000 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 and on our website. In 2016, a page was added to the Church website with biographical information about those inurned in the garden.

The Memorial Garden Committee: *Chris Elzea; Chair, Sue Donels, Jim McDonough, David Mitchell, Jeanne Pittman, and Lionel Stirrett.*

MILITARY PLAQUE

Each Memorial Sunday, the Military Plaque in the East Narthex is highlighted. A slide show of the Military Plaque is posted on our website. We are grateful for the sacrifices and years of service to our country by each person listed. *If you or a family member have served in the military and are not included, please contact Jennie Alt at jalt@wpcspi.org with name, rank, branch and years of service.*

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

CHILDREN'S CHOIR, our choir for Kindergartners through second grade, sang on Palm Sunday and led the procession of Palms and the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS will present the musical *Heroes of the Faith* as a part of the Founder's Sunday on May 22 at the 10:00 a.m. service. In the musical, we are introduced to Moses, Deborah, Elijah, and David by our Choristers, Lucy Bassett, Cara Bryans, Harper Huston, Reese Huston, and Lily Swanson. May rehearsals are May 4 and 18 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. On Wednesday, May 25, they will meet in the kitchen for the annual Ice Cream Pig-Out, celebrating their successful musical presentation and year's end.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR will sing on Sundays, May 8, 15, and 29, and on June 5. Following the 10:00 a.m. service on June 5, the choir will gather at the home and garden of Jim and Meg Kontio for the annual Choir Brunch.

On Sunday, May 8, special music will be by Logan Campbell, bass and Dennis Jones, trumpet in *The Trumpet Shall Sound* from Handel's Messiah.

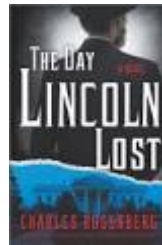
In the coming weeks, the schedule of special music for the 10:00 a.m. worship service from Sunday, June 16 through Labor Day will be completed.

ADULT ED FORUM

RAISING BUTTERFLIES ROUNDTABLE

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 11:15 A.M. – 12 NOON

The Earth Care Team will host a round table discussion on Raising Butterflies led by Susan Shaw in the Second Floor Classroom. Do you raise butterflies in your kitchen? Would you like to find out more about this fascinating hobby? Would you like to find out how to make your yard or deck more attractive to butterflies? Come, join the conversation!



APOSTLES READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP TUESDAY, MAY 24, 6:00 – 7:00 P.M.

The Apostles Read Library Book Group will meet Tuesday, May 24, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library. The May book is *The Day Lincoln Lost* by Charles Rosenberg. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY PHOTOS

MAY 17-18, MAY 24-25

Members are invited to sign up on Sunday mornings in the West Narthex following the 10:00 service, by calling the church office or through our website.

Westminster's last Pictorial Directory was published in 2018.

This year's directory will be published by Unique Church Solutions of Universal Church Directories.



ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

The APNC is excited to welcome a well-qualified candidate to Springfield the first week of May as we explore the possibility of partnering in ministry together.

The congregation is asked to remember the members of the committee and this perspective candidate in your prayers as we seek God's discerning spirit in the process of calling the Associate Pastor for Family Ministry.

FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi

CONFIRMATION & SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP GATHERINGS

We have completed Junior High Confirmation Class for this school year. Grade 8 Confirmands will be making their public vows on Confirmation Sunday, May 15 along with the Confirmation Classes of 2020 & 2021.

Senior High Youth Group will not gather on Sunday evenings in the month of May, but Sr. High Youth are expected:

- 1) to participate in worship on **Youth Sunday, May 1 at 10:00 a.m.** and
- 2) to be host/hostess for Women's Suffrage Play: *Rising Up of the Springdale Ladies Aide Society* **Friday, May 6 & Saturday, May 7 starting at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, May 8 at 12:00 noon.**

2022 YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIP

JULY 10-16, 2022

Youth Summer Mission Team will be working with Hopkins County Emergency Management Agency and Long Term Recovery



Committee to assist in the rebuilding effort in Bremen, Barnsley, or Dawson Springs, KY, three cities which experienced devastation from the December 2021 tornado that swept through western Kentucky.

Our home camp will be the First Presbyterian Church of Madisonville, KY, and we look forward to visiting the PCUSA national office and Louisville Slugger Museum in Louisville as well as other historical places for women's rights/suffrage and maybe even Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park! **Current 8th grade, high school youth, and college young adults are invited to join this summer's mission trip!** For more information, visit www.wpcspi.org/2022mission.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen H. Sherrick LIBRARY GUILD MEETING MAY 17, 1:00-3:00 PM



We will meet Tuesday, May 17 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Children's Library to keep our beautiful libraries stocked and maintained. Please join us or contact Karen Sherrick if you have any special requests or suggestions.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Summer Sunday school begins on May 29! Children preschool age thru those finishing second grade will gather in the Third Floor Chapel to learn about the Parable using the Young Children and Worship curriculum and materials. Children finishing third grade and older will remain in worship for the summer. If you are interested in teaching contact Karen at ksherrick@wpcspi.org or check available dates at <https://bit.ly/3vhRvGr>.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 13-17

WATER ALL AROUND THE WORLD

June 13-17 from 9:15 a.m. to noon, children ages 3 to grade 5 will gather to experience God's love while exploring scriptures that refer particularly to God's use of water as an agent of creation, salvation, healing, blessing, and health. We will learn about the way in which access to water effects the everyday lives of children in other parts of the world, and some suggestions about ways we can help. Contact Karen Sherrick at ksherrick@wpcspi.org if you would like to join our team of VBS Ministry Partners. Register your children here: <https://bit.ly/3KgF8yD>



TEACH THE
CHILDREN
SO IT WILL
NOT BE
NECESSARY
TO TEACH
THE ADULTS
—Abraham Lincoln

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM FINAL GATHERING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 4:30 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

DATE: Wednesday, May 11, 2022

TIME: 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Registration 4:15)

PLACE: Springfield Art Association: The Liturgical Arts Festival of Springfield 2022 will explore how our diverse faiths guide us through life's milestones—from weddings, births, adulthood, and death.

WHO: Children & Youth Grades K-12

Sign up online www.wpcspi.org or with Karen Sherrick at ksherrick@wpcspi.org.

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022



At the September 8, 1971 Session meeting, it was reported that the cooperative nursery school would begin Monday, September 13, 1971 with 29 students enrolled. The tuition for 3 y/o's was \$15 and 4 y/o's \$20 per month. The philosophy of parent involvement in a cooperative endeavor to learning was at the heart of the initiative by the steering committee. Although not religious in nature, being based in a church was important to the vision. The first three presidents of the board were Sue Bingham, Sue Cull, and Carole Kennerly. Dick Cordier designed and organized the parents to build the first outside playground equipment. The sand and water box continues to be a beloved tradition for our students today.

Teachers serving over these fifty years are Joan Linnartz, Clara Copeland, Janice Cook, Cindy Clark, Jane Suter, Gina Solomon, Beth Waldman, Noel Scott, Kari Soria, Emily Rowley, Amy Bonansinga, and Kacey Belitsos. The NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accreditation began during Beth Waldman's tenure and reflects the excellence of our preschool which is respected throughout the Springfield community. We are grateful for the children within our congregation and community whose start in life has been and continues to be enriched by Westminster Cooperative Preschool.

All WCP alums and parents are invited to join us as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Westminster Cooperative Preschool, recognize the vision of those who created our preschool, and honor the teachers who have served through the years.

TRIVIA NIGHT RAISES \$2,900 FOR 2022 YOUTH MISSION TRIP



UKRAINE SYMPOSIUM GATHERS OVER 75 IN EACH OF THREE HYBRID GATHERINGS



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN, MEN'S BREAKFAST AND DMA GATHER IN APRIL



Thank you to Dr. Aaron Berkowitz and Mark Luttrell for interesting trivia, Dr. Roy Wehrle and Dr. Jonathan Carlson-Eastvold for an informative symposium, and Chantel Corey, Yves Doumen, and Dr. Diane Rutledge for meaningful presentations at PW, Men's Breakfast, and DMA.

HOLY WEEK: PALM SUNDAY, MAUNDY THURSDAY, AND EASTER



PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Christian K. Choi

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Thank you to all who contributed to our denomination offering which was dedicated on Palm Sunday. We received **\$267.94** from our children and a total of **\$24,172.28** from the congregation. This includes **\$19,296.25** designated for Ukraine Disaster Relief. Including the Betty Smith Mission Endowment, WPC gave **\$74,172.28** to OGHs. **Total Ukraine Relief** donated by Westminster is **\$119,296.25**. \$100,000 from the Betty Smith Mission Endowment and \$19,296.25 from the congregation.

HUNGER ACTION TEAM

WELCOMES JOSH SABO ON TUESDAY, MAY 24

Josh Sabo, Executive Director of the Heartland Continuum of Care, will meet with the Hunger Action Team on Tuesday, May 24 at 5:00 p.m. to update us on the Strategic Plan addressing homelessness in Springfield. Interested members are welcome to join us in the Second Floor Classroom. Jeanne VanGieson is the new chair of the Hunger Action Team.

HELPING HANDS AND WARMING CENTER MONTHLY MEALS



Thank you to Melanie Green and Pat Hymans for the Helping Hands meal on **Friday, April 8**. The **May 13** meal will be prepared by Pat Hymans and Melanie Green.

Ministry Partners are needed for June, August, October, November and December! If it is your first time, we have members that will partner with

you. Please contact Jennie Alt with any questions.

The Hunger Action Team prepared a monthly meal for the Springfield Warming Center on **Wednesday, April 27**. The next meal will be on **Wednesday, May 25**. Please contact Krista Steller ksteller@wpcspi.org to participate.



LITTLE PANTRY THANK YOU

Thank you to the devoted ministry partners who regularly stock and clean Westminster's Little Pantry located at Graham Elementary School daily using food from church. Sign up here to help: <https://bit.ly/3vHXGmk>

MAY GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH MARCH MENU

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Soups with pop tops, Granola Bars, Dry Cereal (No baby food, please.) Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex, to Eleanor VanDeventer who is shopping for items on behalf of the Hunger Action Team, and to Jess Werner who delivers the donated food to the Central Illinois Foodbank.

FAIR TRADE SUNDAY, MAY 15

Coffee, tea, and chocolate are for sale in the West Narthex Sunday, May 15 after worship to support economically just, environmentally sound farming practices.



Ministry Partners: *Becky Martin and Jeanne VanGieson*

EARTH CARE UPDATE

RAISING BUTTERFLIES ROUNDTABLE

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 11:15 A.M. – 12 NOON

The Earth Care Team will host a round table discussion on Raising Butterflies led by Susan Shaw in the Second Floor Classroom. Do you raise butterflies in your kitchen? Would you like to find out more about this fascinating hobby? Would you like to find out how to make your yard or deck more attractive to butterflies? Come, join the conversation!

MAY TIP: Do I buy the big one or the small one? Larger containers do reduce packaging waste and usually reduce unit cost; however, larger containers can also encourage overconsumption or lead to food waste. Our best option is to buy large containers, watch the expiration dates, consume wisely until the last drop, and recycle the packaging as much as possible.

Dr. Peter Kieffer, Chair



CONTACT MINISTRIES PROM

Westminster will be well represented at the Contact Ministries Annual Fundraiser Friday, April 29 with Rachael and Chris Hickman, Krista and Brad Steller, Jeanne and Pete VanGieson, Sophia and Christian Choi at Westminster's table. Blythe and Peter Kieffer, Anne and David Haaker, Lynda and George Preckwinkle, Lucy and John Stafford are also attending. Westminster is one of the founding congregations of this faith-based organization and is grateful for the partnership we share in serving Springfield's homeless women with children.



FAITH COALITION FOR THE COMMON GOOD BREAKFAST

THURSDAY, MAY 19 HOSTED BY WESTMINSTER



All are invited to the Faith Coalition's Annual Breakfast Fundraiser on **Thursday, May 19, 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.**, hosted by Westminster again this year in our Parish Hall. The featured speaker will be Jamar Scott, Chief Equity and School Improvement Officer for District 186. Breakfast is complementary, however, those attending will be invited to invest in

the organization. If you know ahead of time that you will be attending, pre-registering would be helpful for food planning purposes, email fccg2208@gmail.com.

2022 STEADFAST NEIGHBOR MISSION

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE WEEK: JUNE 27 – JULY 1

As of April 15, we have received 27 applications for Matching Grants and 18 applications for the Service Week. We are beginning to recruit for this year's neighborhood outreach **the week of June 27 – July 1**. Please consider joining us for one or more days during the fourth week of June. Sign-ups begin this month.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

HOME COMMUNION– Thank you to the elders and deacons who brought **ten members** home communion on April 10. If you would like to receive Communion at home on May 8, please contact Jennie Alt.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP gathers every **Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. This month the brown bag lunch will move to the **second Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.** on May 10. Beverages and a dessert will be provided. Please let Sue Cull know what and how many knitted items you are donating.

PW LUNCHEON will be **Friday, May 6 at 12 noon.** The installation of officers for 2022-2023 will take place after lunch. Nancy Scott is the chair of the day. Pat Hymans and Mary Ray are the kitchen chairs. R.S.V.P. to the church office.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets **Wednesday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Jeanne VanGieson (3928 Rocky Falls Rd. 62711). We will discuss Lesson Seven "Mary 1 and 2." RSVP directly to Jeanne at 217-341-9255.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets **Monday, May 9 at 4:00 p.m.** for the annual spring dinner at Mariah's (3317 Robbins Rd). Please R.S.V.P to Eleanor VanDeventer at 217-341-4032

LYDIA CIRCLE meets **Tuesday, May 17 at 9:30 a.m.** in Ziegler Library. They will study lesson Eight "Mary 3 and 4." Springfield Contact Nancy Canady at 217-899-9890.

PW SPONSORS BLANKETS+ DURING MAY

PW and Springfield's Church Women United sponsor Blankets+ (formerly Blanket Sunday) during May. Church World Services collaborates with local communities to help identify people with critical needs and secure resources to help them build a more viable future. Items provided include blankets, tents, and food in the wake of a disaster; tools and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields; wells for families 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 payable to Westminster may be mailed to the church (memo: Blankets+) or donate online.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST is **Thursday, May 12 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. The speaker is Dave MacDonna, Executive Director for the Sangamon County Department of Community Resources, and he will speak on the administration of state funds provided to reduce poverty and revitalize low-income communities. Programs include rental assistance, weatherization, educational scholarships, and housing counseling. R.S.V.P. with our weekly email link, website, or by calling the church office.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) will meet **Friday, May 20 with a 6:30 p.m. potluck** and a **7:15 p.m. program.** The program will be on "Asian Carp 101" given by Kevin Irons, Assistant Chief of Fisheries at Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Please bring a side dish to share. Please RSVP with our weekly email link, website, or by calling the church office by May 18.

CONSIDER YOURSELF PART OF THE FAMILY

ALL-CHURCH COOKOUT ON FRIDAY, JUNE 17

The Eighth Annual All-Church Cookout to welcome new members will be Friday, June 17, 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 soon (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.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAY

Theresa Davison celebrates 97 years on May 21.

Betty Dawkins celebrates 92 years on May 28.

NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations to Linda and Tom Purves on the birth of their granddaughter Coralie Grace Arsenault on March 21, 2022. Coralie's parents are Alison and Matt Arsenault.

Congratulations to Ellen and Rance Carpenter on the birth of their granddaughter Riley Kamae Young on April 13 in Plainfield, IN. Riley's parents are Lindsay and Calvin Young, her big brother is Nolan, and her uncle is Lucas Carpenter.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Ellen and Rance Carpenter on the death of Rance's brother, and to Lindsay and Calvin Young and Lucas Carpenter on the death of their uncle, Ron D. Carpenter in Westfield, Indiana.

Kayla and Jess Weitzel on the death of Kayla's father John L. Goodman on April 9 in Springfield.

Debbie and Wen Fritsch on the death of Debbie's mother, and to Tara and Matthew Fritsch on the death of their grandmother, Shirley Lanphier on April 9 in Springfield.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

The Sound Celebration Chorus won third place overall at the Sweet Adeline's Regional Convention in Cedar Rapids, IA. They also placed first place in the Div A Small Chorus. Sue Baker and MaryGail Romack are members of the chorus.

The youth of Westminster who participated in the All-City Band and Choir Performance: *Middle School Choir:* Ben Bassett, Lily Ballantyne, Kate Eastvold, Abigail Eldridge; *Middle School Band:* Macklin Metzger, Kelso Ballantyne; *High School Choir:* Jessica Borland; *High School Band:* Charlie Eastvold, Will Hovey.

Dr. Diane Rutledge who received the 2022 Distinguished Volunteer Award for Sangamon County at the UIS Good as Gold Ceremony.

NEW ADDRESS

Maribeth Norton, IL Presbyterian Home, 2101 W. Lawrence #607, Springfield, IL 62704

MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Donations received during the first quarter of 2022 were \$16,100 more than those received in 2021 for the same period. In addition, total Operating Fund income is over \$60,000 more than budgeted through the end of March because of those donations and increased mission giving. Expenses are over budget by \$16,026 since an equal amount of mission expenses offset the increased mission giving. Therefore, we currently have income exceeding expenses by \$44,127.

2022 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 316,097	\$ 255,944	\$ 60,153
Expenses	\$-271,970	\$- 255,944	\$ -16,026
Net Total	\$ 44,127	\$ 0	

Contribution statements for the first quarter of 2022 were sent in April to those pledging and contributing. Feel free to contact Lisa Runkle if you have any questions about them.

REACHING FOR OUR PER CAPITA GOAL

Thank you to the 123 members who have given Per Capita donations totaling \$4,307. This is 62% of our \$7,000 goal. We need 77 more Per Capita donations of \$35. This year Westminster will pay \$35 per member to support the work of the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.



YOUTH LEAD WORSHIP

SUNDAY, MAY 1

On Sunday, May 1 our youth will lead us during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. This year's theme is **Follow Me** based on Acts 9 and John 21. Seniors Samantha Magalis and Jessica Borland will join Rev. Christian Choi in presenting the meditations. Junior and Senior High youth will serve as liturgists and ushers. Special music to

nourish our spirits will be provided by our talented youth accompanied by Dale Rogers.

THIRD GRADERS RECEIVE BIBLES

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Children in the third grade will receive their personalized Bibles on Sunday, May 8, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Our Ministry Partner Team of Cathy Brower, Meridith Bryans, Sara Eldridge, and Linda Purves have been preparing the children for this milestone event on their faith journey. Each child will receive a NRSV Spark Bible with an engraved name plate on the cover. It is our hope and prayer that these scriptures will become a guiding light for our children:

Banks Benjamin Bird
Addison Nicole Bonn
Brooke Elizabeth Boutelle
Caroline Hope Bryans
Rose Catherine DeJong
Declan Hendrik Germeraad

Connor James Hill
Rowan Maurice Huff
Carson William Rockwood
Karleigh Kay Wheat
Keagan Geoffry Wheat

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MAY 15

The Class of 2020, 2021 and 2022 will be recognized and commissioned on Sunday, May 15, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. This is a time of celebration and a milestone on the faith journeys of our youth:

Benjamin Alan Bassett
William Andrew Hovey
Olivia Grace (Sam) Simonson

Kristianna Elizabeth Eastvold
Carter Aaron Magalis
Alina Grace Vogler



Each youth will receive a NRSV Student Bible which is a gift from Westminster. The Congregational Fellowship Committee of the Board of Deacons will host a reception honoring the Confirmands following worship. *Thank you to those who served as mentors to our confirmands: Meridith Bryans, Joe Fierstos, Beth Kincaid, Mary Ray, Susan Day and Bill Deemer.*

HEROES OF THE FAITH MUSICAL

FOUNDERS' SUNDAY, MAY 22

On Founders' Sunday, May 22, the Westminster Choristers will present "Heroes of the Faith." Choristers are Lucy Bassett, Cara Swanson, Harper and Reese Huston and Lily Swanson. The musical is a field trip through the Heroes of the Faith Museum where we encounter Moses, Deborah, Elijah, and David.



BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY IS JUNE 5

On Baccalaureate Sunday, June 5, 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 5 bulletin and the June Reporter. Please contact Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org) with information by **Friday, May 27.**

Westminster Staff

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

The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Associate Pastor for Parish Life
choi@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

Dale T. Rogers
Director of Music and the Arts
drogers@wpcspi.org

Deb Watts Elliott
Saturday Worship Pianist and
Music Coordinator
deb.watts@live.com

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

Leigh Milward
Nursery Coordinator

Caroline Haynor
Nursery Worker

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

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse
ranell@comcast.net

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator
alnpat5@yahoo.com

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant
jalt@wpcspi.org

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator
ksteller@wpcspi.org

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

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

Reporter folding and mailing will be
Wednesday, June 1.