

# THE REPORTER

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

### November, 2014

## 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.*

*Jr. High Road to Emmaus 4:00 p.m.*

*Youth Dinner 5:30 p.m.*

*Sr. High Road to Damascus 6:00 p.m.*

### November 1 & 2

*All Saints Remembrance Sunday*

*Joshua 3:7-17; Matthew 23:1-12*

Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer  
*A Call for Humility*

### November 8 & 9

*Sacrament of Communion*

*Joshua 24:1-3a; Matthew 25:1-13*

Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer  
*Choices Which Define Us*

### November 15 & 16

*Judges 4:1-7; Matthew 25:14-30*

Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer  
*Faith that Risks*

### November 23

*St. Andrew's Sunday*

*One Service of Worship*

*Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46*

Candidate Trajan McGill  
*When Was It?*

### November 29 & 30

*First Sunday in Advent*

*Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-37*

The Rev. Hannah Dreitcer  
*Keep Awake*

### ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

On Sunday, November 2, Westminster will honor the members of our church family who have died during the last year. The litany, which includes the reading of our loved one's name and silence will be a part of the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Those members who will be remembered are:

**Dr. David Sumner** (11/24/13)

**Wesley W. Brown** (12/11/13)

**G. Connie Farrow** (1/31/14)

**Dorothy Davidson** (2/12/14)

**Richard Hollis** (3/31/14)

**Elaine U. Ryder** (5/23/14)

**John McNutt II** (7/11/14)

**Lorraine A. Pilcher** (9/28/14)

**Karen A. Dillon** (10/25/14)

**Frances E. Cantrall** (11/24/13)

**Dorothy Lorene Osborn** (1/17/14)

**Bernard Warren** (2/5/14)

**Kenneth W. Davis** (2/14/14)

**Joseph C. Dawkins** (4/10/14)

**Jeanette Ridgeway** (6/9/14)

**Carol D. Maxfield** (9/21/14)

**M. Maxine Mapes** (10/20/14)

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

On Sunday, November 9, a Congregational Meeting will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service to elect the following Church Officers to the Class of 2017:

**ELDERS** Dr. Craig Batterman, Harry Bentsen, Joseph Harrison, Mark Ranck, Betsy Ruklick, Julie Robbs, Susan Shea, Kay Smith, Lizzy Olmsted (Youth).

**BOARD OF DEACONS** Adam Ekstedt, Dr. Peter Kieffer, Wells Langbehn, Valerie Leonatti, Al Manson, Brad Steller, Clara Tucker, Travis Vogler, Jake Freer (Youth), Rick Duffy (Class of 2016).

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** Mal Hildebrand, Dr. Todd Knox, Bill Post, Jan Schuermann, Julie Sundquist.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE** Sandy Hockenyos, Dr. Judy Knox.

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO CALL ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR PARISH LIFE - ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23



The Session has called a Congregational Meeting following the 10:00 a.m. service on St. Andrew's Sunday, November 23 for the purpose of presenting candidate Trajan McGill for the position of Associate Pastor for Parish Life. Trajan is the unanimous choice of the APNC and will preach at the 10:00 a.m. service of worship on November 23. We are excited for Westminster to meet him and believe his gifts complement our pastoral staff.

Trajan is a 2001 graduate of Harvard College in Cambridge, MA with a degree in Computer Science and a 2007 graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary where he earned a Master of Divinity degree and received the John T. Galloway Prize in Expository Preaching. Trajan is eligible for ordination upon receiving a call. While at Princeton, he was a member of the PTS Touring Choir and served as 2nd Lieut. and Firefighter for the Princeton Fire Department in New Jersey. He has collaborated in ministry with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Habitat for Humanity.

Trajan and his wife, the Reverend Sarah Iliff McGill, have one infant son, Scott Wilberforce McGill. During Sarah's tenure as Associate Pastor for Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church in Oak Park, Illinois, Trajan has worked as a Senior Business Systems Analyst and Information Technology Consultant and preached regularly at churches throughout the Chicago area.



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

*We always give thanks for all of you and mention you in our prayers... 1 Thessalonians 1:2a*

Dear Friends,

October 1, 2014 marked the first anniversary of our partnership in ministry as your Pastor/Head of Staff. I continue to be grateful for the privilege and humbled by the quality and integrity of those with whom I serve.

Reverend Dreitcer and I have been enriched by the discipline of praying together for members each week in our Chancel. October marks the completion of the first cycle of the Prayer Ministry I initiated in Advent 2013. We look forward to beginning a new cycle this Advent.

The APNC which you elected in November 2013 and expanded in April 2014 has accomplished the unthinkable. This month they present Candidate Trajan McGill, their unanimous choice for the Associate Pastor for Parish Life. In one year they have nominated two extraordinary candidates to serve on a dynamic pastoral team I am honored to lead.

I would like to thank the APNC: Dave Leonatti (Chair), Kelly Bassett (Vice-Chair), Sue Scaife (Recording Secretary), Mary Alice Davis, Jim Dolan, Dee Dee Duffy, Scott Hibbert, Jack Sherrick (Youth), Bill Simpson and Marty Sumner for their insight, skill, collaboration and openness on their remarkable journey together!

### MUSIC NOTES by Dale Rogers

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR and friends will again go to Millikin for the Christmas Vespers on Saturday, December 6, an outstanding choral experience featuring 250 singers and orchestra. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for seniors. I will order tickets on November 3. If you want to go with the choir, let me know by Sunday, November 2.

THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR (K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) meets on Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. Note new rehearsal time. This choir prepares music for worship and the Advent Celebration on Sunday, December 7. With activities and crafts (usually making our giant pictograms to help us learn the words to our songs) we learn some of the basics of music making while working together for a common goal.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS (singers in grades 3-6) will sing at the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, November 9. Additionally, the Choristers are preparing music for the musical "The Drowsy Shepherd" for the Advent Celebration on Sunday, December 7 at 5:00 p.m.

THE WESTMINSTER HANDBELL GUILD will rehearse on Wednesdays, November 5 and 12 to ring on Sunday, November 16, and Wednesdays, December 3 and 10 to ring on Sunday, December 14.

THANK YOU to the family of Margaret B. Adams for the gift of a Blue Morning Glory pattern vase by Rookwood Ceramics of Cincinnati. Look for it in the pastor's suite.

### CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DECORATION FUND

Members and friends of Westminster are invited to make a suggested donation of \$20 to support Westminster's decorations and/or music funds. Donations which require wording for the December 14 bulletin insert need to be received no later than Monday, December 8. Please note the fund you wish to contribute to in the memo of your check. Thank you for your generosity!

## FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer

**BOY SCOUT TROOP IS FORMING AT WESTMINSTER** for boys in Grades 1-5. An organizational meeting will be held Tuesday, November 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Classroom with Andrew Whiting, the Scout Master. Childcare will be available during the meeting. Community members are welcome, so spread the word!

THE ELAINE RYDER CHILDREN'S LIBRARY is the new name of our Children's Library in honor of the woman who created it!

A **BIG THANK YOU** to Pat and Al Hymans, Kelly Bassett and members of the Children's Ministries Committee for a **Harvest Fest** to remember. Over 90 attended with 60 from our community. ...The Maze was truly AMAZING!

**MARK YOUR DECEMBER CALENDAR** for the **Advent Celebration on Sunday, December 7** at 5:00 p.m. Remember to bring "Toys for Tots" for children in the community as your "meal ticket!"

### ROAD TO EMMAUS JR. HIGH HIGHLIGHTS

**Sixth and seventh graders** have covered many of the miracles of Jesus and the calling of his disciples. This month we turn to Jesus' teachings, and listening for Christ's call to each of us today. **Eighth graders** have covered church history and Presbyterian theology and polity. This month we will delve into the history of Westminster, the Christian family tree, and the Trinity.

### ROAD TO DAMASCUS SR. HIGH NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHT

The St. Andrew's Mission Fundraiser will be Sunday, November 23 following the 10:00 service. Come enjoy a traditional Scottish meal (no haggis, we promise), served and prepared by the Senior High for a free will donation! While you eat, wandering high school bards will entertain you with dramatic poetry readings and competitive tall tale telling in exchange for donations to the 2015 Mission.

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the **Spud Bake** and to Karen Dillon, Mary Ray and Mary Gail Romack who worked with our youth. **We raised \$1070.00** for gifts for Contact Ministries' Christmas distribution. Thank you to the Sherrick family for hosting a Bonfire for both Junior and Senior High at their Farm on October 26, 2014.

### ADULT EDUCATION FORUM: WESTMINSTER HISTORY AND WINDOWS SUNDAYS, NOVEMBER 9 AND 16

Join Dale Rogers in the Sanctuary for a review of Westminster's rich history on the 9<sup>th</sup> and a tour of Westminster's remarkable stained glass windows on the 16<sup>th</sup>. You will not want to miss this opportunity!

**DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY** continues to meet each Thursday from 5:45 – 7:15 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. DBS will not meet on Thanksgiving -Thursday, November 27.

**ADVENT SERIES RETURNS IN 2014!** Mark your December calendar for Mondays, December 1 and 15. Friends are invited to gather in Parish Hall from 6:15 – 8:00 p.m. for a festive dessert and Advent program presented by Jan Gambach and Lyle VanDeventer. Join these two mental health professionals as we explore ways to nurture our emotional and spiritual health during Advent.

### PARISH NURSE NEWS by Judy Ridinger

On Sunday, October 12, twenty-four members received a flu shot. Thanks to Ellen Carpenter who assisted me. Mark your calendar for the Fifth Biannual Health Fair on Sunday, April 12, 2015.



## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

**WINE, WINGS AND A PRAYER YOUNGER ADULT FELLOWSHIP** (age 21 – 40) meets Friday; November 7, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Kieffers'. RSVP to Liz Maxey.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** meets Thursday, November 13, 7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Men will enjoy breakfast coordinated by Harold Hale, a devotional by Pete VanGieson and a short program on "Ethiopia: Its Religious History and Traditions" by Richard Leary. RSVP to Liz Maxey. For more information, contact Mark Ranck at 483-2821.

**DMA** (Don't Mention Age; All Ages Welcome) meets Friday, November 21, 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a pot luck dinner and a music program by "The Committee," a men's quartet.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON** and program is Friday, November 7, 12:00 noon in Parish Hall. The program will be "Look It's My Book!" (Providing Books for Peoria's Poverty Stricken Children), by Janet Roth, Founder and President since 2008. Please make a reservation by Wednesday, November 5, at 522-4415. Looking ahead, the PW luncheon and program for December 5th will be a special 2-for-1 event. Ask a friend and pay only \$5.00 for both of you to attend the luncheon and program consisting of Christmas music by Seraphim.



**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** meets Wednesday, November 5, 7:00 p.m. at the Kieffers' (26 Island Bay Lane) to discuss chapters two and three "Change" and "Transformation" of Joan Chittister's book: *The Story of Ruth: Twelve Moments in Every Woman's Life* and receive the Thank Offering.

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** meets Monday, November 10, 5:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Mary King will lead the Bible Study *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*: Chapter 6.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** meets Tuesday, November 18, 9:30 a.m. in the Ziegler Library. Leah Duling will host, Beverly Orr will give devotions and Mina Bentsen will lead the study of *Exodus*, Lesson 3.

**PAGE-TURNERS BOOK GROUP** will combine their November and December meetings on December 10 with an off-site event. The book that will be discussed is *The Alto Wore Tweed* by Mark Schweizer. Contact Mary Jo Mattern Jenkins 544-8657 for more details.

**KNIT 2, PURL 4 MISSION** meets every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom for fellowship and knitting. Don't forget scarves & mittens for the mitten tree!

### PW RETREAT AT ROCK CREEK HELD OCTOBER 25

With inspiring leadership, glorious weather, a beautiful location, and generous hospitality, over fifty women from eight area churches learned about *Myths of Hospitality*, shared in small groups, and enjoyed the fellowship of local Presbyterian women during the day-long retreat. Thank you to all those who planned, staffed and participated in the gathering. You made it a memorable day for everyone.

## WEDDINGS

**Karen Dillon and Mary Ray** were married on October 25. **Mary** is the daughter of **Doris Ray**.

## NEW ARRIVALS

**Chelsea & Adam Ekstedt** welcomed their son, August Joseph on October 2.

Anna & Joe Schiermann of Crestwood, Missouri, welcomed their son, Matthew Joseph on October 23. WPC grandparents are **Camille & Tom Massey**.

## CONGRATULATIONS

The Reverend Julie Wells Blythe received a call to serve as Designated Pastor at Indian Point Presbyterian Church.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Lorraine A. Pilcher** died on September 28. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to her sons; Jeffrey & Marcus Wendt, and to her friends.

**M. Maxine Mapes** died on October 20. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to her sons; Scott & Dallas, and to her friends.

**Karen Dillon** died on October 25. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to her wife, **Mary Ray**, and to her daughter, Candi Dillon.

## SYMPATHY TO

**Ted Hamilton, Ann and Keith Hamilton** on the death of Ted's grandmother, Marge Ogden on September 21.

**Karen Dillon and Mary Ray** on the death of Karen's father, Ronald Patrick on October 11.

## THANK YOU WESTMINSTER

...for the gift of \$1,000 in honor of their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary

-*Kemmerer Village*

...for the partnership that helps us serve Christ in our community

-*Contact Ministries*

...for opening your doors to our youth group as they journeyed home from mission work camp, and to feel so welcomed.

-*Cathy Weaver of First Pres of Bay City, MI*

...for the \$718 for seminary scholarships received at Rev. Dreitcer's installation.

-*Presbytery of Great Rivers*

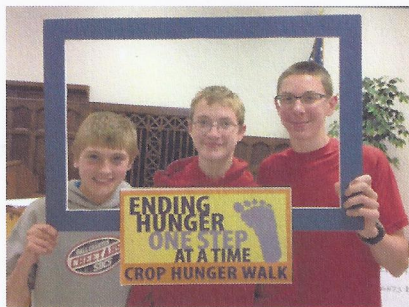
...for the continued support and many prayers and the beautiful pitcher, which is in my new office at St. Paul's Pres... I cannot express all the love I have felt over the years as I have grown into the person I am today. I will keep Westminster in my prayers and wish you nothing but the best.

- **Lucas Carpenter**

## ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME

Thank you to everyone who donated "garage sale items" or baked goods. Over \$4,000 was collected for our Volunteer programs! Many Westminster members and friends helped on that very chilly day. A big thank you goes to **Sue Baker, Nancy Canady, Marilyn & Jerry Davis, Bill Deemer, Camille Degner, Bill & Sue Donels, June Flood, Matt Fogal, Robin Foster, Agnes Harmon, Pat & Al Hibbert, JoAn Holt, George Johnson, Peter Kieffer, Tom Klein, Eleanor & Richard Leary, Ann & Bill Lienemann, Sharon Reynolds, Susie Ripka, Betsy Ruklick, Gloria St. Lawrence, Carolyn & Brad Swanson, Sharon Turner, and Cheryl White**. It takes a lot of donations, a lot of wonderful people, and a lot of work to have such a successful event. Thank you all so much!





### CROP WALK THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the members of Westminster who made this year's CROP walk such a success. Our final numbers will be in next month's Reporter. Check out [wpcspi.org](http://wpcspi.org) for more photos of the beautiful Fall day.

**-Becky Martin & Krista Steller**

### BOARD OF DEACONS UPDATE!

**CHURCH DIRECTORIES** are available during the week in the Church Office and at the Volunteer Desk on Sunday mornings.

**HELPING HANDS SECOND FRIDAY DINNER** was prepared and served by the Magalis Family on October 10. Thank you!

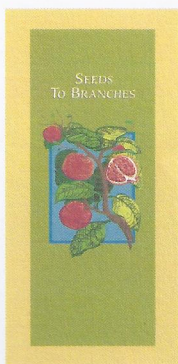
**ST. JOHN'S BREADLINE** will be St. Andrew's Sunday, November 23. Donations are welcome and bread will be shared. Join us in reaching beyond our doors into the community.

**ADOPT A FAMILY** We will work with Contact Ministries again this year. Tags for gifts will be on the Christmas tree outside the Church Office beginning November 24. Please return your gift (wrapped or unwrapped), **with tag attached**, to the church no later than Sunday, December 14. For further information contact Kay Smith at 691-9401.

**WESTMINSTER LOGO RECYCLE BAGS** are available this month in the West Narthex for \$5 each. These bags are provided by the Membership Committee. Along with promoting the "reuse" of the "Recycle, Reuse and Reduce" environmental mantra, these lovely bags get the word out about our great congregation within the community.

### A STAR AMONG US!

The Rev. Hannah Dreitcer will be a featured dancer for the Prairie Art Alliance's "Dancing with the Starz" Fundraiser on Saturday, November 8 in the Grand Ballroom at the Hilton. You may vote for Hannah by donating on-line at [www.prairieart.org](http://www.prairieart.org). Every dollar is a vote for Hannah and supports a great organization in the Springfield Community!



### STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As of Wednesday, October 29 we have received 227 pledges, 75% of our 300 pledge goal and \$652,866.00, 80% of our \$814,840.00 goal. If you have not yet pledged and intend to do so, you may pledge online at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org) or complete a pledge card.

Your Stewardship Committee: Tom Klein, Chair, George Preckwinkle; Vice Chair, Bill Donels, Bill Simpson, Jeff Wilday and Bob Wire

### SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL Report by Lisa Runkle

Thank you for your faithfulness and financial support. Our income exceeds expenses by \$14,762. Comparing to our budget, income is \$25,000 less than planned to date. And because expenses are under budget by \$40,000, we ended the month in the black. During the latter part of the year, we historically receive additional income to get back on track.

| Operations | YTD Actual  | Budget      | Difference |
|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Income     | \$ 677,212  | \$ 702,260  | \$ -25,048 |
| Expenses   | \$ -662,450 | \$ -702,260 | \$ 39,810  |
| Net        | \$ 14,762   | \$ 0        |            |

Contribution statements were emailed or mailed out to you recently. Please let Lisa know if you have any questions or concerns.

### Westminster Staff

**The Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer**  
*Pastor/Head of Staff*  
[bkieffer@wpcspi.org](mailto:bkieffer@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Hannah Dreitcer**  
*Associate Pastor for Family Ministry*  
[hdreitcer@wpcspi.org](mailto:hdreitcer@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Gerald Boutelle**  
*Parish Associate*  
[pastorboutelle@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorboutelle@yahoo.com)

**Dale T. Rogers**  
*Director of Music and the Arts*  
[drogers@wpcspi.org](mailto:drogers@wpcspi.org)

**Deb Watts**  
*Saturday Worship Pianist and Music Coordinator*  
[Deb.watts@live.com](mailto:Deb.watts@live.com)

**Abigail Cline**  
*Nursery Worker*

**Noel Scott, Kari Soria**  
*Cooperative Preschool Teachers*  
[westminstercoop@gmail.com](mailto:westminstercoop@gmail.com)

**Judy Ridinger**  
*Parish Nurse*  
[jaridinger@att.net](mailto:jaridinger@att.net)

**Lisa Runkle**  
*Financial Administrator*  
[lrunkle@wpcspi.org](mailto:lrunkle@wpcspi.org)

**Connie Brown**  
*Church Administrative Assistant*  
[cbrown@wpcspi.org](mailto:cbrown@wpcspi.org)

**Liz Maxey**  
*Administrative Assistant to the Pastors*  
[lmmaxey@wpcspi.org](mailto:lmmaxey@wpcspi.org)

**Gary Warnick**  
*Head Custodian and Rental Properties Coordinator*  
[gwarnick@wpcspi.org](mailto:gwarnick@wpcspi.org)

**Roy Ahlers, Steve Council, Bill Hibbert**  
*Custodians*

### Give-a-Meal-a-Month November Menu

**Beef-a-roni,  
 Green Beans,  
 Peaches,  
 Corn Bread Mix**

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

**THE NEXT REPORTER DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**