



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

October 2021

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

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

www.wpcspi.org

FAITH FORMATION:

Nursery
Children Birth – Age 3

10:15 a.m. Fall Sunday School following Children's Sermon
Children Pre-K - Grade 5

11:15 a.m. Jr. High Confirmation
11:15 a.m. Adult Ed Forum
5:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group

October 3

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
CROP WALK

Job 1:12,2:1-10

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Persisting in Integrity

October 10

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Mark 10:17-31

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Persisting in Lament

October 17

Job 38:1-7; Hebrews 5:1-10

The Rev. Christian K. Choi
Persisting in Reverence

October 24

STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION SUNDAY
WESTMINSTER ART EXHIBIT

Job 42:1-6; Mark 10:46-52

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Persisting in Humility

October 31

REFORMATION AND HARVEST SUNDAY

Ruth 1:1-18; Mark 12:28-34

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Persisting in Loyalty

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, October 10 following 10:00 a.m. Worship

REVEREND CHRISTIAN K. CHOI NEW TERMS OF CALL

The purpose of the Congregational Meeting called by Session is threefold. First, we will vote on changing Rev. Choi's terms of call to Associate Pastor for Parish Life which includes a \$10,000 increase to his effective salary.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Following approval of Rev. Choi's revised terms of call, the congregation will elect the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee for the Family Ministry position, which includes the following:

APNC: Dr. Craig Batterman, Meleah Berkowitz, Emily Brower (Youth), Meridith Bryans, Adam Ekstedt, Tom Owen, and Krista Steller

CHURCH OFFICER NOMINEES

Finally, the congregation will elect elders, deacons, Strategic Planning and Nominating Committee members:

Elders Class of 2024: Jay Kennerly, Tim Kluge, Dave Leonatti, Michael Morthland, Christy Pound, Karen Sherrick, Eleanor VanDeventer, Sarah Zerfas

Youth Elders – Emily Brower and Bryce Pound

Elder Class of 2022: Dr. Peter Kieffer

Board of Deacons Class of 2024: Mervice Alah Abung, George Botanga, Sophia Choi, Melanie Green, Camille Massey, Jim Parker, James Rigney, Susan Shaw

Youth Deacons – Braden Barton and Mia Marcy

Strategic Planning Committee Class of 2024: Todd Knox, Valerie Leonatti

Nominating Committee: Bill Deemer, Deb Coontz, Alan Stutz, Julie Sundquist

Thank you to the 2021 Nominating Committee for their good work!

Jim Kincaid, Chair, Carolyn Swanson, Elder, Mary King, Deacon, Bill Deemer, Camille Massey, Alan Stutz, Julie Sundquist

STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION

Sunday, October 24



Stewardship Dedication Sunday is October 24, 2021. This year's stewardship theme, **I Have Called You Friends**, is based on John 15:15b. As we consider our financial commitment for 2022, let us do so in the context of the friendship that enriches our lives. By God's grace, Jesus calls us his friends! What better reason could we have to bring an offering of gratitude.

Each offering of gratitude opens the doors of Westminster to become a way to serve friends beyond our faith community and to welcome friends into the joy of the life we share in Christ.

Members received the Stewardship Brochure with information on Westminster and the proposed budget and a pledge card. Please complete the pledge card and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate by Stewardship Dedication Sunday, October 24, 2021. Pledges can also be made online at www.wpcspi.org.

2022 Stewardship Committee: Pete VanGieson (Chair), Meleah Berkowitz, Robyn Hovey, Tom Massey, Julie McDonough, Pat Moore, Bill Schlosser, Greg Swanson, Brinton Wilkey, and Bob Zerfas.



Congregational Meeting

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

Among the many opportunities to grow in our faith at Westminster is the Adult Education Forum which meets Sunday mornings, 11:15 a.m. – 12 noon in the Second Floor Classroom. Below is a list of courses for the 2021-2022 church year.

ADULT EDUCATION HUNGER ACTION SERIES

October 3, 10 & 17

Westminster's Hunger Action Team is presenting three stand-alone sessions that will outline current information on hunger, its LOCAL impact, and ways our State as well as organizations are addressing the problem in the Springfield area. Led by Becky Martin and Mary Caroline Mitchell **DETAILS ARE ON PAGE 8.**

WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN IMAGINATION?

October 24, 31 and November 7

What does it mean to approach creativity from a Christian perspective? This course will examine that question through the works of a range of nineteenth- and twentieth century voices, culminating with an overview of C.S. Lewis, the subject of the 2021 Bay Weekend. Led by Dr. Katie Carlson-Eastvold

TWENTIETH CENTURY PRESBYTERIAN CREEDS

November 21, 28, December 5 and 12

These sessions summarize the four 20th century creeds in the PC(USA) Book of Confessions: Theological Declaration of Barmen, Confession of 1967, Confession of Belhar and Brief Statement of Faith. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz

DIFFICULT WORDS OF JESUS

January 9, 23, February 27, March 6,

April 24 and May 1

In this six-session study, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine guides us through the difficult teachings of Jesus: how they have been understood over time and how to interpret them in the context of the gospel of love and reconciliation. Led by Lyle VanDeventer

GIANTS - February 6, 13, 20

This forum will behold the lives of the three nineteenth century giants Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, and Elijah Lovejoy, who led abolitionists in our congregation and across the land towards emancipation. Led by Dr. Peter Kieffer

HISTORY OF AMERICAN WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

March 13, 20, 27

This series will look at the beginnings of the American suffrage movement in the 1840s, key figures, leading suffrage organizations and the history of the 19th Amendment. Led by Suzanne Borland and Aaron Berkowitz

RISING UP OF THE SPRINGFIELD LADIES AIDE SOCIETY

April 1-3

This Women's Suffrage Play written by Carole Kennerly and directed by Kelly Robertson will be presented at Westminster the first weekend of April with a Friday and Saturday evening performance for the community and a 12 noon Sunday performance following worship and a Tea Reception. All proceeds will support the 2022 Youth Mission Trip.

HOLY WEEK ART DISPLAY IN PARISH HALL April 10-17

This exhibit brings together artistic interpretations of scenes from the final week of Christ's life. Assembled by Dale Rogers

A VISIT TO THE SHERRICK FARM AND LESSON ON PRAIRIE RECONSTRUCTION August of 2022 (TBD)

Learn about prairie reconstruction and visit the 108-acre Sherrick Farm. Led by Dr. Andrew Sherrick

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

WESTMINSTER ARTIST'S EXHIBIT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Westminster, among its many blessings, has a congregation of many gifted artists. On Sunday, October 24, check into Parish Hall for an exhibit of paintings, drawings, pastels, pottery, photography, collage and other medium created by our members. The exhibit will be on view prior to the 10:00 a.m. service and following the service with a reception and a time for the artists to speak about their work. If you have something to exhibit, please contact Dale Rogers by this Sunday, October 3. Items need to be delivered to the Church Office on Friday, October 22. We will mount the exhibit Saturday, October 24. Artists may collect their artworks at noon on Sunday the 24th.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR meets Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. beginning in the Choir Room and rehearsing in Parish Hall.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS (Grades 3-5) meet Wednesday afternoons at 4:45 p.m. following Bridges in the Choir Room.

THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR (Kindergarten - Grade 2) will begin Tuesday, October 5, at 4:45 p.m. in the Choir Room.

CHURCH MICE (infants through age 4) meet Saturday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Follow the cheese.



THE 2021 BAY WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 13-14

WELCOMES DR. CHAD SCHROCK

Associate Professor of English at Lee University

Presentation: Knowing God in Paradise: C. S. Lewis's *Perelandra*

Description: There's a cliché that bad characters are more interesting than good characters, pain and conflict more interesting than happiness, and the roster of fantastic literature and film bears that out these days: stories from Game of Thrones to the Hunger Games strongly feature dystopia and grim violence. Yet in the second novel of his space trilogy, C. S. Lewis uses a Christian imagination to conceive of a perfect (and also interesting) world, the planet Venus. His protagonist, a Christian from Earth named Elwin Ransom, meets God on Venus. How might we learn to relate to God from Ransom's strange encounters with the Golden Voice in the Garden?

Saturday, November 13

Welcome Reception

5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Members are invited to a welcome reception at the home of Dr. Andrew and Karen Sherrick hosted by the Adult Education Committee.

Sunday, November 14

Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Dr. Schrock will preach.

Education Forum

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Presentation

All Church Lunch

12:30 P.M. The Westminster family will share a community meal.

Chad Schrock is Associate Professor of English at Lee University in Cleveland, TN and secretary of the Conference on Christianity and Literature. His academic interest, the relationship between the Bible and English literature (especially from 1350-1650), has produced a book (Consolation in Medieval Narrative) and numerous articles on topics ranging from Beowulf to C. S. Lewis and twenty-first-century mysteries and science fiction. He is a graduate of Pensacola Christian College (B. A. English major, history minor), Eastern Mennonite Seminary (M.Div.), James Madison University (M.A. English) and The Pennsylvania State University (Ph.D. English, medieval literature). He and his wife of twenty-two years, Rachel, have two children, Toby (12) and Lucy (will turn 6 the Tuesday after Westminster's Bay Weekend).

FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi

YOUTH WALK CROP WALK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3 AT 1:00 P.M.

THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD



We will gather and check-in at Third Presbyterian Church starting at 1:00 p.m. We will begin the walk at 1:30 p.m., joining other fellow

CROP walkers in the Springfield area to walk in solidarity with those who are hungry around the globe. After two miles of walking around the neighborhood, we will finish at Third Presbyterian Church. Please wear your Westminster or youth mission trip T-shirts, if you have them. And for your participation, a CROP walk T-shirt will be given out!

YOUTH GROUP MONTH'S GATHERINGS (GRADES 6-12)

DATES	JR. HIGH CONFIRMATION 11:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.	SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP 5:00P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
10/3	ECHO SESSION 3: FLOOD	HUNGER
10/10	ECHO SESSION 4: PROMISE	SACRAMENT AND COVENANT
10/17	BGBQ SESSION 1: WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?	FELLOWSHIP DAY
10/24	SPUD BAKE FUNDRAISER: BE AT CHURCH 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.	
10/31	NO GATHERING HARVEST FEST 11:15 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ALL SAINTS DAY



THE ANNUAL SPUD BAKE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

On Sunday, October 24, Junior and Senior High Youth will gather in the kitchen from 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon to prepare loaded baked and sweet potatoes to raise funds for the Contact Ministries Christmas Gift Distribution.



SAVE THE DATE: We will shop on Sunday, December 5 to share God's love with other youth in need using the donations received from the Spud Bake Sale.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

CHILDREN PROCESS WITH BREADS OF THE WORLD

A small group of children will process during the 10:00 a.m. voluntary Siyahamba "a Zulu Melody" with the breads of the world as we celebrate World Communion Sunday and lead the Call to Worship. The Communion table will be adorned with African textiles, a gift of the late Andrea Butler.



BRIDGES MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP

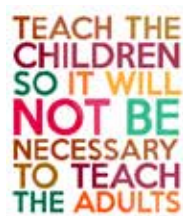
Children in Grades 3-5 are invited to Bridges on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. Children grades 3-5 remain in the sanctuary during Communion Sunday. Our lessons in October are designed to develop a greater understanding about God's great invitation to "Come to the table." (Oct. 6: Come to the Table. Oct. 13: Do This in Memory of Me, Oct. 20: The Bread of Life. On Oct 27: We will participate in a Service Project and make cookie dough for the November Helping Hands Meal. This after-school program is led by Rev. Choi and Mrs. Sherrick.

CHILDREN'S OFFERING: HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

The children's offering for 2021-2022 will be donated to Heifer International to provide a family with a starter flock of ducklings. For every \$20.00 we contribute, a needy family will receive a flock of ducklings to yield eggs for protein and nourishment, and boost income through sales of ducks, their eggs and feathers. **Please pick up your box of weekly offering envelopes in Sunday School or from the table near the children's check-in.** We were unable to make a 2020-2021 donation due to the pandemic.



CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10



Westminster will host Children of Abraham Wednesday, November 10, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Children and Youth (Kindergarten through High School) are invited to join us as we welcome our friends from other faith communities. See photos of the September 22 gathering on Page 4.

WCP PRESCHOOL NEWS

We've had a wonderful start to our preschool's 50th year! Between our hardworking parent board, parent support roles, and parent help days, our community was very busy preparing us for the year. Our classes enjoyed their first days the week after Labor Day while parents and siblings had first day coffees on the West Terrace. We've begun the year with an author study; we're exploring the books and illustrations of Eric Carle. We're currently working on a very large, very hungry caterpillar by having each child contribute a segment of his/her body! Another highlight this month was our Macaroni Fest. Held outside for the first time, we had a delightful evening eating our macaroni and cheese dinners while sitting on blankets spread on the lawn, playing on the playground, dancing to songs together, and doing a pasta craft.



– Emily Rowley

HOMECOMING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

On Sunday, September 12 Westminster celebrated a "Homecoming" as we welcomed our children to Fall Sunday School, the Westminster Choir (yeah!) and celebrated the Sacrament of Communion.

Following worship, we gathered in Parish Hall for ministry displays, a children's activity, and a delicious brunch reception.



CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM VISIT THE MOSQUE



Our friends at the Mosque welcomed us on Wednesday, September 22. The Liturgical Arts Festival of Springfield designed the kites and prayer cards made by the children which were then displayed at the SAA on Saturday, September 25.

HEALTHY PASTORS, HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS DINNER



Personnel Committee welcomed Rev. Dr. Ken Green from the Board of Pensions for dinner and a Congregational Leader Training Session. This is the final requirement for a Lilly Grant to Rev. Choi who qualified for the program.

SEVENTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S SALAD SUPPER



Thirty women gathered for a delicious salad supper and an inspiring message from Colleen Stone, Executive Director of Habitat, on "The Ways Women Build Together." Thank you to Sue Sawers and Ann Collins for hosting the event.

MILESTONE MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26



MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

SEPTEMBER ENDOWMENT EXPENDITURES



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE received a \$5,000 grant from the Betty Smith Mission Endowment Fund to support their efforts in Haiti, following the devastating earthquake.

Additionally, members donated \$2,775 to Haiti and \$1,150 to Hurricane Relief.

WOODEN IT BE LOVELY received a \$7,000 grant for their meaningful ministry offering hope and employment to women healing from lives of poverty, addiction, and abuse; providing transitional employment, mentoring, recovery tools, education, community networking and a safe community. This grant will be renewed each year for seven years. The Executive Director is the Rev. Margaret Jessup and serving on this community board are members **Jen DeJong, Kathy Germeraad, Diane Rutledge and Cindy Davis.**



WORDUP OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS received a \$2,700 grant. This non-for-profit, founded by District 186 Reading Specialist Linda Johnson in 2017, donates high quality, sturdy board books to low-income families with children ages birth – 3 in Sangamon County. Since its founding in 2017, Word Up has given

over 4000 books directly to children through partner agencies. Their carefully selected books are placed into the hands of parents through 5 programs that counsel and support the health and development of babies and toddlers: District 186 Parents as Teachers (PAT), Central Counties Health Center, Bundles of Joy, and The Parent Place. She is joined on the WordUp board by Westminster members, **Melanie Green and Lynn McMenamin.**

COMPASS FOR KIDS received a \$5,000 grant. Their mission provides academic and social-emotional support to empower at-risk children and families. Compass serves five schools in Springfield Public Schools – District 186 (Black Hawk, Dubois, Graham, Harvard Park and McClernand). Westminster hosts Graham's after-school program.



COMPASS FOR KIDS BEGINS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Compass for Kids in-person gatherings begin at Westminster on **Tuesday, October 19 at 3:00 p.m.** This weekly tutoring after-school program also offers a life skills class. A snack will replace the weekly dinner this year. We are grateful for the following ministry partners who will serve on the 2021-2022 team: **Cathy Allen, Ann, Collins, Rance Carpenter, Kris Gates, Carole Kennerly, Mary Caroline Mitchell, Lynn McMenamin, Kate and Michael Morthland, and Kate Wilson.** Compass for Kids Orientation was rescheduled to Tuesday, October 12, from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. in Parish Hall.

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

This Denominational Offering draws Presbyterians together and provides education and resources. 25% remains with Westminster for Peacemaking programs. Please consider supporting this fund and make a donation for the Peace and Global Witness Offering.



HUNGER AND HOMELESS OUTREACH

HELPING HANDS MEAL SECOND FRIDAY

The Helping Hands meal prepared and served by ministry partners on the Second Friday of each month serves 50 homeless men. **Nancy Canady, Pat Hymans, Melanie Green, Krista Steller** will prepare the October 8 meal.

Thank you to Elizabeth Circle Members (Row 1) Camille Degner, Sue Baker, (Row 2) Lynne Cleverdon, Eleanor VanDeventer, Mary King, and Beth Kincaid for collaborating on the September 9 meal and to Marc Anderson for donating the milk.



SPRINGFIELD COOLING CENTER MEAL TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

The Hunger Action Team will prepare the meal on Tuesday, October 19 for up to 30 homeless persons finding respite at the Springfield Cooling Center. Krista Steller and Pat Hymans welcome friends to join them.

WESTMINSTER'S LITTLE PANTRY

Thank you to all who stock Westminster's Little Pantry at Graham School. Please check SignUpGenius for open dates in October. Items are located on shelves on the lower level by the elevator. We encourage our ministry partners to use the supplies that are provided. Thank you to shoppers Bill Deemer, Peter VanGieson, Nancy Huston and to Bill Ward who stock organize our shelves weekly.

GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH OCTOBER MENU

Canned chili or soup with pop tops, biscuit mix, and 100% juice or water canned fruit. Thank you to those who place items in the West Narthex baskets for the Central Illinois Foodbank. **Items in High Demand:** *feminine hygiene products, shampoo, diapers & wipes, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.*

CONTACT MINISTRY TWO BALL CHALLENGE



Thank you to Butch Elzea and Alan Schuermann who were sponsored by Westminster in the Contact Ministries Golf Fundraiser on August 16. Alan placed fourth in the Closest to the Hole Contest. A total of \$850 was donated.

FAIR TRADE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate and tea are sold to support just, environmentally sound products and small producers. **Becky Martin** and **Jeanne VanGieson** will host the table in the West Narthex Sunday, October 24.



OCTOBER EARTH CARE TIP



In the kitchen, we can nourish our bodies and sustain God's creation: Cold pre-rinse dirty plates, run only a full dishwasher, turn off the heated dry, and pull the racks out to air. 38F in the fridge and 5F in the freezer are cold enough to keep food fresh. Not preheating the oven uses all the energy to cook. Most bags and foil can be reused many times prior to recycling. Well-planned grocery lists and creative leftover recipes minimize food waste while mulched food scraps bring new life to the garden. *-Dr. Peter Kieffer*

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 meets in person on **Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom**. On October 5, Sharon Brown, Director of Kumler Outreach Ministries, will be our guest at the brown bag lunch at noon. Sharon will explain how our knitted donations are used.

PW LUNCHEON will be Friday, October 1 at 12 noon. The program will be on the Washington Street Mission given by the Executive Director, David Swihart. Nancy Canady will prepare the meal.



ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets **Monday, October 4 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom for Bible Study and fellowship.

RUTH AND NAOMI meets **Wednesday, October 6, 6:00 p.m.** at the home of Dr. Roland Folse, 2 Virginia Lane (62712). Enjoy a tour of Roland's Bonsai Collection followed by Bible Study. Please RSVP to Linda Chronister at 217-306-3455.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets **Tuesday, October 19 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom for Bible Study and fellowship.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST will be **Thursday, October 14 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Tim Kluge will provide devotions. Julie Bobell, Advanced Care Coordinator from Memorial Medical Center, will speak about advanced care planning, palliative care, and end of life care. RSVP to jalt@wpcspi.org.



DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) will meet **Friday, October 15 at 6:30 p.m.** for their monthly meeting. Following a meal provided by the church, Dr. Todd Knox will present a program on

Westminster's Steadfast Neighborhood Service Week. Please RSVP via the weekly email link, our website, or by calling the church office.

BOARD OF DEACONS HOSTS:

AN AFTERNOON AT THE SHEEDY SHORES WINEGARDEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17 FROM 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.

On **Sunday, October 17, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.** members and friends are invited to a time of fellowship at Sheedy Shores WineGarden. Bring a snack to share with others in the beauty of fall as we enjoy the cooler weather together. Sheedy Shores WineGarden is located at 10300 Johns Creek Rd, Loami, IL 62661. RSVP at <https://bit.ly/3ojoZRy>

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY BY ELLEN CARPENTER

SEVENTH BIENNIAL HEALTH FAIR A SUCCESS!

Thank you to Memorial Medical Center, Capitol Area School of Practical Nursing, the participating medical professionals, and Parish Nurse Ellen Carpenter for organizing the Seventh Biennial Health Fair on September 26.



Tamika Hill (Pharm.D) administers flu vaccine, Judy Knox (M.D.) offers skin care advice, Marilyn Rigney (R.N.) provides a cholesterol screening.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARIES

Dee Tozer celebrates 92 years on October 1.

Nancy and Lon Scott celebrate 68 years on October 10.

Dr. James Singleton celebrates 91 years October 14.

Dr. Bill Sherrick celebrates 91 years on October 16.

Mary Ann Armstrong celebrates 90 years on October 22.

Linda & Ed Caupert celebrate 50 years on October 22.

Margery Dodds celebrates 90 years on October 28.

WEDDING

Collin Kontio and Jacey Lamboley were united in marriage on Saturday, September 25 in Metamora, Illinois. Collin is the son of Meg and Jim Kontio.

Eric Wise and Shannon Dennis will be united in marriage on Saturday, October 9 in our sanctuary. Eric is the son of Todd and the late Lisa Wise.

NEW ARRIVAL

Stevie June Douglas was born on September 10 to Kylie and Levi Douglas. Stevie's proud grandparents are Cathy and Bill Allen, her uncle is Mark Allen and her great grandparents are Nancy and Rich Canady.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Hillary and Jacob Rosendale on the death of Jacob's mom, Jean Rosendale, on August 31 in Columbia, MO.

Gary Warnick and Linda Klein on the death of Gary's brother-in-law, James Taylor, on September 5 in Decatur, IL.

NEW ADDRESS

Bob Bradford, Concordia Village, 4101 W. Iles Ave, Apt. 2326, Springfield, IL 62711

AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Thank you for your faithfulness to the ministry of Westminster. At the end of August, expenses exceed income by \$40,374. Donors will be receiving a contribution statement in early October. We encourage each one to check your giving compared to the pledge amount, and to catch up, if needed, before the year-end rush.

2021 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 664,171	\$ 661,035	\$ 3,136
Expenses	\$-704,545	\$-671,035	\$-33,510
Net Total	\$ -40,374	\$ -10,000	

REFORMATION AND HARVEST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

This year Reformation Sunday falls on Halloween so we are moving the Harvest Festival to the morning and inviting members to **wear costumes to worship** and join Westminster families in Parish Hall following the service (11:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.) for a festive gathering. Highlights and activities will include:



A DELICIOUS LUNCH will be provided and treat bags sent home with the children.

PUMPKIN CRAFTS AND TREATS, STORY-TELLING AND FACE PAINTING in the Parish Hall.

A HARVEST MAZE in the Youth Room.

This provides an opportunity to highlight the origins of Hallowed Eve in our faith tradition. Don't miss this time of creative and meaningful worship.

ADULT EDUCATION HUNGER ACTION SERIES

SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 3, 10 & 17

11:15 A.M. IN THE SECOND FLOOR CLASSROOM

OCTOBER 3 This session will provide an overview of Hunger statistics by *Mary Caroline Mitchell* followed by information about two non-governmental sources of food for our neighbors who are hungry or food insecure. *Krista Steller* will give an overview of the CROP Walk and *Sharon Brown, the Executive Director of Kumler Outreach Ministries* which receives funding from CROP Walk, will join us to share information about the people they serve and their programs to address poverty and hunger.

OCTOBER 10: This session (will begin at 11:30 a.m. following the Congregational Meeting) and focus on hunger challenges faced in School District 186 and some of the ways they are being addressed. This will be led by *Becky Martin*, a high school English teacher most recently at Lanphier HS.

OCTOBER 17: This session will feature Westminster member *Stephanie Bess*, who is a long-term administrator for the Illinois Department of Human Services. She will enlighten us about the state programs that address hunger, the people being served, and ways we might advocate to enhance this safety net, the main source of food assistance for the hungry in our community.

ANNUAL CHURCH WORLD SERVICE CROP WALK WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

1:00 P.M. AT THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join the Springfield community addressing hunger in our world and community. The walk begins at Third Presbyterian (1030 N. Seventh). Check-in is at 1 p.m. with a start time of 1:30. The 2-mile walk will take an average walker less than one hour to complete. Runners are welcome. Park in the Third Presbyterian parking lot at Bergen and 7th Streets. 25% of money raised goes to our local food pantries, the remainder fighting hunger worldwide. Food pantries receiving funds include Grace Lutheran, Kumler Outreach Ministries and Pleasant Plains Food Pantry. Members are invited to support WPC youth walking or join this symbolic journey. *Krista Steller* is an event coordinator. Donations can be made online at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/westminster-presbyterian-2> or write WPC a check with Crop Walk in the memo line.



ANNUAL SPUD BAKE IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

On **Sunday, October 24**, Junior and Senior High Youth will prepare loaded baked potatoes to raise funds for the Contact Ministries Christmas Gift Distribution. Members are invited to buy a spud for a suggested donation of **\$5.00 or more** to help our youth share God's love. You can preorder them at www.wpcspi.org/spudbake, pick up your spud following worship, bring it home or enjoy it in Parish Hall while visiting the Westminster Art Exhibit.



"READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR" CELEBRATORY DINNER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 6:00 P.M. AT FINLEY'S TAP HOUSE

Members and friends who participated in the Reading the Bible in a Year Study are invited to an evening of celebration, fellowship, and discussion **Friday, October 29 at 6:00 p.m.** at Finley's Tap House. This year-long journey began November 1, 2020 during the pandemic. All are welcome! This event is hosted by the Adult Education Committee.

Westminster Staff

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

The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
cchoi@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

Ella Kurmann
Nursery Worker

Emily Rowley, Kacey Belitsos
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*November Reporter deadline is
October 31. Reporter folding and
mailing will be Wednesday,
November 3, 2021*