

# THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

September 2015

## WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

**Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall**  
*Introducing the Westminster Jazz Trio*

**Sunday Schedule:**

**Nursery 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon**

**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 and Children's Activities  
11:15 a.m. – 12 noon**

September 5 & 6

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Sacrament of Baptism*

*James 2:1-17; Mark 7:24-37*

Reverend Trajan McGill  
*Unmuted Voices*

September 12 & 13

**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Sacrament of Communion*

*James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38*

Reverend Hannah Dreitcer  
*Small Fires*

September 19 & 20

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*James 3:13-4:3; Mark 9:30-37*

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*The Risk of Asking*

September 26 & 27

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Esther 7:16, 9-10; 9:20-22;  
Mark 9:38-50*

Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*The Risk of Speaking*

## ADDING A LITTLE JAZZ TO WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

Following a meaningful worship and music conference at Montreat and a time for creative collaboration among the members of WPC's worship team (Blythe, Dale, Hannah and Trajan), the following recommendations for worship at Westminster have been approved by Session:

The Westminster Jazz Trio is being introduced at the Saturday worship service this week. The trio will play at about half of the Saturday services for the 2015-2016 program year and features our own Deb Watts on piano, Rhett Bradley on stringed bass and Gabe Cowan on the drums. With our rich history as an abolitionist church, we welcome



this classical jazz, rooted in African-American spirituals, which will enrich our worship experience. Additionally, a new pottery set created by Rich Zimmerman, including the communion set of a chalice, plate, pitcher, candle holder and the baptismal bowl with an incised water design, will adorn the communion table in Parish Hall. The addition of a baptismal bowl in our Parish Hall worship center is a visual reminder that honors both baptism and communion as sacraments within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

This September, the pastoral staff is also introducing a lectionary-based sermon series entitled "Finding One's Voice." October will follow with "Voices that Cry Out." To complement this series, Dale Rogers has composed an introit entitled "We Lift Our Voices."

Other simple changes you may or may not notice include adding a musical dimension to the children's sermon, placing the anthem between the scripture readings, a time for silent reflection following the sermon and leading the prayers of the gathered church at the communion table.

## FIFTY AND SIXTY-YEAR MEMBERS WILL BE HONORED SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, DURING 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

On Sunday, September 20, during 10:00 a.m. worship, we will honor members who joined Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1965 and 1955. We are grateful for their resilience and all the ways these members have enriched the life of our congregation, and we look forward to this opportunity to celebrate their presence and present them with certificates of recognition.

### FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS BEING HONORED ARE:

John F. Blythe  
Gregory Case  
Alice J. Griffith  
Sheila Jones  
Vivian Keithley

Marjorie A. Newton  
Sally T. Papp  
Dr. Robert Prentice  
Dr. Ramona L. Schmidt  
Ruth D. Schmitt

Dale Smith  
Lionel S. Stirrett  
Rebecca K. Stirrett  
Robert D. Wire

**SIXTY-YEAR MEMBERS BEING HONORED** are *Bonnie J. Millard and Dolores and Clifton Tozer*. The congregation is invited to a reception immediately following worship in Parish Hall to celebrate our members on this milestone.

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

*"One generation shall laud your works to another." Psalm 145:4a*

Dear Friends,

The theme of the 2016 Stewardship Campaign selected by this year's chair, George Preckwinkle, is **GENERATIONS OF GENEROSITY**. The theme reflects a deep gratitude and respect for the generations who have come before us, their faithfulness to *building up the body of Christ* in this faith community and our commitment to continue the rich tradition of Westminster through our continued financial support.

The Stewardship letter will be mailed the week of September 21 following the Session's approval of the 2016 budget at their September meeting. The campaign will be introduced the weekend of September 26 and 27, and the Stewardship Dedication will be October 24 and 25.

In recommending the 2016 budget, the committee was mindful of the successful Westminster Endowment Anniversary Campaign and the second mile giving by so many members. Therefore, the committee was intentional in presenting a budget that is level with the 2015 budget. Personnel is the only area which requires an increase to support a full year of salary for the complete staff.

Because the emphasis of the anniversary endowment campaign was to strengthen the mission of Westminster and address our ongoing capital and building needs in a planned and orderly way, the Session will intentionally designate more endowment earnings toward these areas in 2016.

Already in 2015, we are benefiting from the endowment earnings through the new "Young Children and Worship" initiative. We welcomed 18 members of WPC in the training along with four members from Presbyterian churches in Peoria, Bloomington and Divernon, Illinois in August. The Strategic Planning Committee, chaired by Andrew Sherrick, is also exploring adult mission opportunities in 2016.

The Property Committee, co-chaired by Rich Canady and Bob Stuart, has designated endowment earnings for the installation of new accessible doors in the West Narthex this year and is making plans for 2016.

Because of the generosity of this remarkable congregation, the doors of Westminster welcome all God's children and continue to be a way to service.

### PRAYER MINISTRY

*We do not cease to give thanks for you as we remember you in our prayers. Ephesians 1:16*

This September, we resume the Prayer Ministry at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Throughout the year, each member of our congregation is remembered in prayer by the pastors. A letter is sent to members three weeks prior to the week they are being lifted up in prayer. We welcome prayer requests.

Dr. Angela Reed, author of *Quest for Spiritual Community*, talks about those who serve as "anchors" within faith communities by spending time in prayer. Your pastors consider it a privilege to gather weekly and to pray together in the historic chancel of our beautiful Sanctuary.

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale Rogers

**THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR** regular season will resume on Thursday, September 10, at 7:30 p.m. The Westminster Choir, a choral ensemble of singers in high school and beyond, sings for the 10:00 a.m. services as well as special seasonal concerts. The Annual Choir Retreat will be held from 1:30 until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 12, at the Indian Point Presbyterian Church. We are grateful to this congregation for their generous hospitality over the past decades as they open the doors of their historic church for our retreat. A dinner at the Oaks in Petersburg will follow.

**THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS** (singers in grades 3-6) resumes on Wednesday, September 9, at 4:45 p.m. This choir prepares music for monthly participation in the 10:00 a.m. service as well as Advent Celebration and a spring musical.

**CHURCH MICE** (infants through age 4) will begin its Saturday morning sessions on September 12 at 11:00 a.m. This musical experience for our youngest children is open to our church members and friends. Based on *Music Together*, the program is a lively introduction to music, movement and life skills for Pre-Kindergartners and their parents or caretakers.

**THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR** (K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) resumes its sessions on Tuesday, October 6, at 4:45 p.m. This training choir will sing in December and join with the Choristers for *The Grumpy Sheep*, a Christmas musical.

### 2015-2016 MUSIC AT WESTMINSTER HIGHLIGHTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE EXCITING EVENTS!

#### ORGAN RECITAL FEATURING JOHN SHERER SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 AT 4:00 P.M.

Since 1996, John Sherer has been the Organist and Director of Music for the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago, selected by *USA Today* as one of the top ten places in America to be "enthralled by heavenly music." John will present works of Guilman, Bach, Brewer, Simonds and the complete *Symphony VI* of Widor.

#### CHRISTMAS VESPERS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT 4:00 P.M.

The evening service of Vespers is a time of musical prayer. In the long-standing Westminster tradition, the Westminster Choir, the Walnuts and the St. Andrew's Sisters will present a program of glorious music for the season of Advent and Christmas. Music of Shepherd, Miller, Stopford & others.

#### DIANE DIETZ, JODY KIENZLER & DALE ROGERS IN RECITAL, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26 AT 7:30 P.M.

Cast away the winter doldrums with Sopranos Diane Dietz and Jody Kienzler as they join with organist and pianist, Dale Rogers in a program of sacred and secular music.

#### THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SUNDAY, APRIL 17 AT 4:00 P.M.

A diverse program of sacred music at the Mother House, featuring the *Benedicite* of Contemporary Irish composer, Philip Stopford.

## **FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer**

### **YOUTH UPDATE**

Following an energetic Annual Youth Kickoff Swim Party on August 30 with 27 youth in attendance, we're ready to start a great year of Youth Group on Sunday, September 13! *Please return completed registration forms to the church.*

### **ROAD TO EMMAUS JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP SUNDAYS, 4:00 - 5:30 P.M.**

Confirmation is the process through which our young people affirm the vows made at their baptism and become active members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). At WPC, this journey is woven into fellowship time to build relationships.

**CONFIRMATION PREP (GRADES 6-7)** provides a solid grounding in the Bible, allowing for more expanded areas of study in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school. This year, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders will study the Old Testament through the curriculum *Echo the Story*, which offers creative responses and imaginative engagement with the biblical narratives.

*Teachers: Collin Innis and Karen Sherrick*

**CONFIRMATION (GRADE 8)** focuses on Christian history, Presbyterian theology and polity and other religious traditions as the young people explore their individual lives of faith. Over the course of the year students will visit other worshiping communities, build relationships with adult mentors, serve the community and write their own statements of faith.

*Teachers: Rev. Hannah Dreitcer and guests*

**FOLLOWING CLASS**, all three grades come together for fellowship, fun and games in the Youth room, led by Rev. Dreitcer, Collin Innis and Karen Sherrick.

### **YOUTH DINNER**

#### **SUNDAYS, 5:30 - 6:00 P.M. (PARISH HALL)**

Grades 6-12 gather for fellowship and dinner prepared by parents. Thank you to Brenda Berry-Olmsted and Tim Olmsted for starting us off and preparing dinner on September 13! *Parents, please watch your email for the link to sign up!*

### **ROAD TO DAMASCUS SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP IN THE BEGINNING**

#### **SUNDAYS, 6:00 - 7:30 P.M. (YOUTH ROOM)**

Youth in grades 9-12 gather weekly to navigate their faith journey, participate in Bible study, worship together and build relationships. Our theme this year is "In the Beginning." We will open with a look at Genesis, and then explore various beginnings throughout the year, from our Jewish roots to the early Church to our personal beginnings of family and faith. The Senior High youth also lead a worship service in the spring, with sermons by our seniors. This year, our 12<sup>th</sup> graders will begin to prepare their sermons during a senior retreat at the Sherricks' farm.

Along with opportunities for community service throughout the year, our youth participate in an annual **MISSION TRIP** and host fundraisers to support their work.

*Leaders: Rev. Hannah Dreitcer, Susan Day and Mary Ray*

## **CHILDREN UPDATE by Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill**

### **NURSERY**

The Nursery is ready to welcome your infants and toddlers ages birth-three. We have new cribs and new policies in place to make sure everyone is safe, taken care of and having fun! Please bring with you to the Nursery all the supplies your child will need (i.e. bottles, diapers, snacks) and clearly label all their belongings. Each child will have a space for their diaper bag. When you bring your child to the Nursery, please make sure to sign-in and let the caretakers know who is allowed to pick up your children from the Nursery. During our nursery time, children will learn songs and hear Bible stories. Older children will have an opportunity to be artistic and create crafts!

*Nursery Workers: Abigail Cline, Katie Kirschbaum and assistants.*

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AND TEACHERS**

*Sunday School Begins September 13!* We have a fantastic group of teachers and three exciting new classes. *Please return completed registration forms to the church.*

### **PRE-KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 2 (SECOND FLOOR CLASSROOM)**

*Young Children and Worship* is a spiritual formation approach which invites children to experience the wonder of God through a storytelling format and multi-sensory materials. On *Sunday, September 13*, parents are invited to a brief introduction on what their children will be experiencing when you pick them up following worship!

*Teachers: Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill, Dana Affrunti, Meridith Bryans, Tempa Dunn, Sara Eldridge, Gerry Hale, Christian Lochbaum, Leigh Milward, Lizzy Olmsted and Kyle Spalding*

*Pianists: Matthew Knox and Karen Kraft*

### **GRADE 3 (THE ELAINE RYDER CHILDREN'S LIBRARY)**

*Journey through the Bible* prepares our children to receive their own NRSV Bible as a gift from the congregation on Mother's Day, May 8, 2016.

*Teachers: Sue Cull, Valerie Leonatti and Lynn McMenamin*

### **GRADES 4-5 (THE ZIEGLER ADULT LIBRARY)**

*Connect* is an exciting, fun-filled way for children to imaginatively engage with Scripture. *Grades 4 and 5 remain in worship on Communion Sundays.*

*Teachers: Andrew Affrunti, Cathy Brower, Christie Hovey, Tom Klein and Mary Ray*

**THE CUT AND COPY CREW**, our Sunday School support team, meets bi-monthly to prepare crafts for our Sunday School teaching teams. This allows teachers to focus on the lesson and provides an opportunity for fellowship and deepened friendships.

*The Crew: Ellen Carpenter, Camille Massey, Carolyn Proctor, Kay Smith and Amy Xanders*

### **BRIDGES THEME: "STORIES THAT HELP US GROW" WEDNESDAYS, 4:00 – 4:45 P.M.**

Children in Grades 3-6 are invited to a new experience on Wednesdays beginning September 9, 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. This midweek fellowship is led by Reverends Hannah Dreitcer and Sarah Iliff McGill. The 2015-2016 theme is *Stories that Help Us Grow*. Along with exploring biblical stories, we will reflect on well-known classics such as Harry Potter and Narnia. This after-school program will precede Westminster Choristers which meets from 4:45-5:30 p.m.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – JULY 26, 2015



**JUDITH PENSONEAU-FEURER** joined Westminster by Reaffirmation of Faith. Judith is an Interior Designer, specializing in historic preservation. She serves on Springfield's Historic Sites Committee, as does her husband, William, who is a lawyer. Judith and William have co-chaired the Mayor's Awards for Historic Preservations event and they were

featured on HGTV's Restore America. Both are Rotarians. Judith and Bill have four children between them and five grandchildren.



**KATIE AND PAT MOORE** joined Westminster by Letter of Transfer. Katie transferred from the University United Methodist Church in Peoria, IL. Pat transferred from St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Springfield, IL. Both Katie and Pat are music teachers. Katie

teaches Kindergarten – Grade 6 General Music in the Athens CUSD 213. Pat has been teaching in small schools in rural Illinois for 8 years and is now teaching in the Argenta – Oreana CUSD. We welcome Katie and Pat, along with children, Ned and Charlotte Moore.



**LISA AND TODD WISE** joined Westminster by Reaffirmation of Faith. They previously were members of Chatham Presbyterian Church in Chatham, IL. Lisa recently retired after teaching Kindergarten for 27 years. Todd is President and CEO of United Community Bank. Lisa enjoys reading, walking and shopping. Todd love to golf, ride

his bike and work out. We also welcome Lisa and Todd's confirmed children, **MORGAN WISE AND ERIC WISE**. Morgan lives in Chicago and works for Datatrak. She enjoys reading, playing golf and shopping. Morgan became engaged on June 28 and will be married at Westminster next year. Eric is in the United States Marine Corps and is stationed in San Clemente, CA. Eric enjoys scuba diving and loves anything that has to do with the outdoors.

### NEW MEMBER CLASSES

#### SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 13 AND 20

A New Member Class will be offered on Sundays, September 13 and 20, for our friends and visitors. The class will be held at 11:15 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who has been visiting Westminster and would like to learn more about the church, its mission and

its future is invited to attend. New members will be received on Sunday, September 27, and will be welcomed by the congregation at the 10:00 a.m. service of worship.



## MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AT WESTMINSTER

### BIKE AND BUILD COLLABORATION



The 31 cyclists WPC hosted in early July built the frames for the affordable wheelchair ramps that we are working with Habitat for Humanity to install around the Springfield area.

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

On July 25, Westminster members Ellen Carpenter, Collin Innis, Matt Kluge, Tim Kluge, Greg Knox, Karen Kraft, Tom Lewis, Peter VanGieson and Cheryl White joined the Rev. Trajan McGill and completed a ramp that added wheelchair access to the Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery.



### FAMILY ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM OPENED ON COMMOTION SUNDAY

This newly renovated restroom is located in the north hallway connecting the Sanctuary to the West Narthex. Along with being wheelchair accessible, there is a changing table for young families. This restroom was originally installed in 1979 when the Rev. Hannah Dreiter's grandfather, Dr. Howard Rice, visited Westminster during his term as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church.

### LET THE DOOR OF THIS CHURCH BE A WAY TO SERVICE

The Property Committee approved the installation of new solid wood doors in the north and south entrance of the West Narthex. The solid wood transom around the doors will also be repaired and refinished.

In keeping with the goal of making our church more accessible and welcoming to all, the north doors will have automatic door openers. This project will be funded by the Westminster Endowment.



### ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Join us at the Fall Bazaar which will be held at IPH, 2600 West Lawrence. Donations of household goods, furniture, books and baked goods are also welcome and will be accepted until September 28. Baked goods can be dropped off the day before the sale. No clothing, please. Thank you! Proceeds from the sale support volunteer activities for the residents. For more information, contact Anne Haaker at 546-4037.

## WESTMINSTER DAY LABORERS

MONDAY, AUGUST 3 AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

Westminster members and staff picked sweet corn at the Hale Farm. In collaboration with Rock Creek 4-H Club, several acres were planted for local food pantries, who were the recipients of thousands of ears of corn harvested by WPC volunteers Keith Beatty, Rich Canady, Scott Day, Gerry Hale, Harold Hale, Ann Hamilton, Keith Hamilton, Blythe Kieffer, Peter Kieffer, Trajan McGill, Kevin Milward, Pat Reyhan, Bill Schlosser, Linda Schlosser, Brad Swanson and Gary Warnick.



**HELPING HANDS** meal for the second Friday in August was prepared and served by Julie and Mike Sundquist. The new Helping Hands address is 1023 E. Washington Street.

## CHURCH WORLD SERVICE CROP WALK WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Join the Springfield community as we address hunger in our world and community. The walk begins at Grace Lutheran Church (714 East Capitol Avenue). Check-in is at 1:00 p.m. with the walk start time of 1:30 p.m. Members are invited to support Westminster Youth (Junior & Senior High) who are walking this year or join them on this meaningful and symbolic journey. Checks may be made to Westminster and designated CROP WALK. The final total for the Springfield 2014 Walk was \$19,528.05 and our goal for this year is \$25,000. Of that amount, 25% goes to our local food pantries. The remainder is used by CWS to fight hunger throughout the world.



## HYMNAL RECYCLING PROJECT

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AUGUST 1 AND 2

Following the worship services on the first weekend in August, members shared in fellowship and joined in a recycle project of the old hymnals. Pages were removed from the bindings and put in recycling bins. Many hands made for light work and the project was quickly finished.



## KNIT 2 PURL 4 LABOR OF LOVE

Hats and scarves knitted by Westminster's Knit 2 Purl 4 Mission were presented to each resident served by the 2015 Karen Dillon Mission to Green Bay, WI... *35 sets in total!* K2P4 continues to gather for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom.

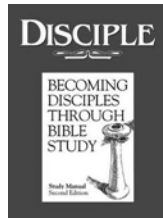


**THE 2015 CONFIRMATION CLASS** traveled to St. Louis on August 20 for a circus class and a trip to City Museum to celebrate their hard work and the start of high school.



## ADULT EDUCATION

**DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY** begins Tuesday, September 8, and Thursday, September 10, 5:45 – 7:15 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Reverend Trajan McGill will teach Disciple I, an overview of the Old and New Testaments, on Tuesdays. Dr. Kieffer will teach Disciple II, a study of Genesis-Exodus and Luke-Acts, on Thursday evenings. These classes require daily reading and feature theologians in DVD presentations.



**PAGE TURNERS BOOK STUDY** gathers Wednesday, September 23, 9:30 a.m. in the Ziegler Library. Have you or someone you know read *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin? Join us for this interesting discussion.

### ADULT EDUCATION FORUM PRESENTS: FAITH AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 13, 20 AND 27 11:15 A.M. IN THE THIRD FLOOR CHAPEL

The Adult Education Forum will introduce the 2015-2016 program year on Sunday, September 13, with a three-week course entitled "Faith and Moral Development." This class will review Jean Piaget's respected theory of intellectual development and the role it plays in faith and moral development. A more complete understanding of human development enhances our ability to be effective parents and advocates for the children and youth of our faith community. The class will be taught by Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer.

### ADDITIONAL ADULT EDUCATION FORUM TOPICS INCLUDE:

Race in America

October 4, 11, 18, 25

The class will discuss Howard Thurman's book *Jesus and the Disinherited*, the theological work at the heart of the Civil Rights Movement.

*Sacred Place, Sacred Role*

November 1, 8, 15

This class will explore Paul Kirbas' groundbreaking work which considers a new paradigm for our human relationship to the environment.

The Bible and Handel's *Messiah*

November 29, December 6, 13, 20

During Lent, following musical presentations in worship, this class will consider the biblical references and musical interpretation of this beloved oratorio.

*The Tent of Abraham*

January 10, 17, 24

This class will explore the story of Abraham as found in Jewish, Muslim and Christian sacred texts and will weave together a more unified whole.

The Bible and Handel's *Messiah*

February 14, 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20

During Lent, following musical presentations in worship, this class will consider the biblical references and musical interpretation of this beloved oratorio.

Invitation to Romans

April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15

This class explores the theology of Paul's letter in a short-term Disciple Bible study.

## INTRODUCING PARENTS' FELLOWSHIP GROUP

This fall, WPC is introducing a Parents' Fellowship Group, which will meet on Sunday mornings from 11:15 a.m. - 12 noon, to provide an opportunity for camaraderie, support and study on the parenting journey. The class, led by Dr. Marc and Jen DeJong, will begin Sunday, October 4, following the September Adult Education Forum.

### SWINGING ON A PRAYER GOLF SCRAMBLE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 2:00 P.M. AT PASFIELD GOLF COURSE



Everyone is invited to the all-church golf outing. It will be a four-person scramble and players of all skill levels are welcome. \$35.00 per player

includes snacks, drinks and dinner. (Non-golfers are welcome for dinner, \$6.00 per person.) There is only room on the course for 50 golfers, and registration and payment are due Sunday, September 6, so sign up soon! Register in the West Narthex after worship or on the church website.

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP BEGINS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

WPC hosts a Grief Support Group beginning Friday, September 18, at 10:00 a.m. in the Ziegler Library. This ten week series is offered as a way to help those who would like some guidance and fellowship during the difficult times that follow the death of a loved one. Margie Wheelhouse is a Licensed Professional Counselor, a member of Westminster and has been with Crossroads Counseling Center in Chatham since 2011.

### RETREAT IN CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY BAY WEEKEND FEBRUARY 5-7, 2016

In preparation for Lent, Mark Yaconelli, author of *Contemplative Youth Ministry*, *Growing Souls* and *Downtime: Helping Teenagers to Pray*, will lead the Westminster community in an intentionally intergenerational retreat in Christian Spirituality.

Mark your calendar and plan to be a part of this meaningful adventure as we continue to rich tradition of the Bay Weekend and welcome a respected professional and friend of the Dreitcer family.

### JULY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Great things are happening here at Westminster. The pastors have planned a full schedule of opportunities for education and spiritual development. As we move into the autumn months, donations typically will increase. Through the month of July however, income has slipped below the budget projection by nearly \$2,600. With expenses under budget by \$3,100, the net total is still in the black by \$500.

2015 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 565,212	\$ 567,808	\$ -2,596
Expenses	\$-564,680	\$-567,808	\$ 3,128
Net Total	\$ 532	\$ 0	

## PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

### FELLOWSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

**THEOLOGY ON TAP** (ages 21 – 40) meets Friday, September 11, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., at the home of Rev. Hannah Dreitcer who will lead the group. *The group is meeting on the 2nd Friday in September due to Labor Day!*

**DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE; ALL AGES WELCOME)** – Join us Friday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a potluck dinner and program by Paul O'Shea entitled "The Story Behind PechaKucha."

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** resumes monthly breakfast gatherings Thursday, September 10, at 7:00 a.m., with the Rev. Trajan McGill leading a devotional and presenting a program on his experiences as a firefighter and Keith Hamilton coordinating breakfast for the group. Please RSVP to Liz Maxey at lmaxey@wpcspi.org or contact Trajan or Keith for more information.

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

All Westminster women are invited to attend a luncheon and program Friday, September 4, at 12:00 noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair is Carolyn Beatty and Chair of the Day is Leah Duling. Our program will be "Reports from the June International Gathering," presented by Lynne Cleverdon, Carole Kennerly, Judy Ridinger, and Sue Sawers. (Please call the Church Office by Wednesday, September 2, to make a reservation at 522-4415.)



### PW CIRCLE MEETINGS

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** will meet on Monday, September 14, at 5:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Sue Sawers will be our leader for our Bible Study *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*. Chapter 10.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** will meet on Tuesday, September 15, at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Our hostess is Sharon Turner. Helen Evenson will give devotions and Carolyn Beatty will lead our study of *Reconciling Paul*, Lesson 1.

**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** will meet Wednesday, October 7, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Linda Chronister. *A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life*, by Parker J. Palmer, will be introduced with a discussion of Chapters I and II: Images of Integrity and Across the Great Divide.

THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

WESTMINSTER WOMEN SALAD SUPPER  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IN PARISH HALL

MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS, SISTERS, FRIENDS

*"THOU ART MY DAUGHTER:  
CELEBRATING FRIENDSHIPS ACROSS  
GENERATIONS"*

MUSICAL PROGRAM PRESENTED BY  
THE FRATIANNI SCHNEIDER FAMILY TRIO

Enjoy an evening with your Westminster sisters and bring your favorite salad. The evening will include a reflection, musical presentation and an opportunity to sign up for prayer partners as well as some delicious food and sharing of favorite recipes.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Tempa Dunn** will present her granddaughter, Norah Grace Oberholtzer, on Sunday, September 6, for baptism.

### WEDDINGS

**Natalie Bomke** and Ed Swiderski were married July 25 in Chicago. WPC parents are **Sally Jo and Larry Bomke**.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

**Dorothy and Robert Wire** on the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 15.

**Mary and Bill Schnirring** as they celebrate their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 30.

**Dr. Virginia Dolan** on receiving her Business of Medicine MBA from Kelley School of Business.

**Noel Scott** on her new position with District 186 as a first grade teacher at Iles Elementary.

**Priscilla Kluge** on her Prairie Art Alliance watercolor exhibit at the Gallery in the Hoogland through October 8.

**Sue Baker, Mary Gail Romack and Christine Smith**, members of the Sound Celebration Chorus that will perform on October 3 at the Hoogland Center for the Arts "Haunted Harmony."

### SYMPATHY TO

Barbara and Dr. Lonnie H. Lee on the death of his younger brother, Marvin Lee, on August 8, at his home in Norman, Oklahoma.

### NEW ADDRESS

**Linda and Mark Ranck** recently moved to Columbus, Ohio. Their new address is 1125 Kennington Ave, Columbus, OH 43220-4022 and their email is mranck79@gmail.com. We will miss the Rancks and are grateful for the gifts they have shared through the years.

### THANK YOU

To Westminster for the use of Parish Hall and classrooms for our annual agency conference. We look forward to next year.  
*The Central Illinois Foodbank*

To Westminster for the contribution of over 125 backpacks to support Ready 4 Success. We were able to supply over 300 local students this year with a backpack, their entire list of school supplies, a new pair of shoes and a haircut.

*Contact Ministries*

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*Rising Up of the Springdale Ladies Aid Society*, a play written by Carole Kennerly, will be performed November 1, 2:00 p.m., at the Hoogland Center for the Arts. Come and hear the story of some of the determined women who led the struggle for women's right to vote. Participate in a talk-back session featuring Karen Hasara, Naomi Lynn, Judy Everson and Blythe Denham Kieffer.

### MISSING

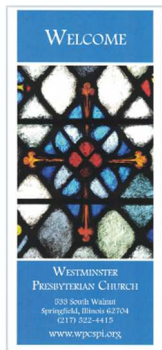
Several boxes containing clear glass bud vases. If you borrowed them, please return them to the church.

**OCTOBER REPORTER DEADLINE IS  
SEPTEMBER 27!**

**CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 7, IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY.**

## GOD'S SPIRIT A-STIRRING ON COMMOTION SUNDAY

Over 300 members and friends came out on Sunday, August 30, to celebrate the energy of the Spirit at work at Westminster as we marked the beginning of a new program year with brunch and an activities fair. We are excited to begin the year with a complete staff and a wide variety of ways to participate in the life of the church.



A brand new Welcome Brochure was introduced on Commotion Sunday. The brochure includes inserts offering introductory information about the history and architecture of WPC and outlining the church's ministries and activities in Children and Youth, Adult Education, Worship and Music, Mission and Community Service and Congregational Life. It features photos of the *Life of Christ* stained glass window located above the choir loft and contains a welcome letter from Dr. Kieffer. Look for the new brochures in the pew pockets or at the Welcome Table.



Visitor Sophia Zheng colors the pictogram "We are the Church" created by Dale Rogers.



Jane Barry and Bill Post enjoy a visit during the Commotion Sunday brunch and activities fair.

## YOUNG FAMILY SWIM PARTY



Kate Milliman and her daughter, Elle, enjoy a poolside moment at the Young Families Swim Party hosted by the Kieffers. We welcomed forty children and parents for a great beginning together!

## ANNUAL YOUTH KICKOFF SWIM PARTY



Youth Elder Lizzy Olmsted takes a "selfie" at the Youth Kickoff Swim Party, hosted by Kyle Spalding's family. Twenty-seven youth and three adults took a splash into the new program year together!

## Westminster Staff

**The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*  
[bkieffer@wpcspi.org](mailto:bkieffer@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Trajan I. McGill**  
*Associate Pastor for Parish Life*  
[tmcgill@wpcspi.org](mailto:tmcgill@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Hannah M. Dreitcer**  
*Associate Pastor for Family Ministry*  
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**The Reverend Sarah Iliff McGill**  
*Parish Associate for Children's Ministries*  
[smcgill@wpcspi.org](mailto:smcgill@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Gerald W. 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)

**Judy Ridinger, Ellen Carpenter**  
*Parish Nurses*  
[jridinger@att.net](mailto:jridinger@att.net); [ecarpenter@wpcspi.org](mailto:ecarpenter@wpcspi.org)

**Abigail Cline, Katie Kirschbaum**  
*Nursery Workers*

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

**Lisa Runkle**  
*Financial Administrator*  
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**Connie Brown**  
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**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 SEPTEMBER MENU

**Peanut Butter, Jelly, Children's Cereal,  
Chunky Mixed Fruit**

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