



# THE REPORTER

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

### September 2016

### WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

**Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall**  
**WESTMINSTER JAZZ TRIO ON SEPTEMBER 3 & 17**  
**Sunday Schedule: Nursery 8:30 a.m.**  
**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 & Children’s Activities**  
**11:15 a.m. – 12 noon**

September 3 & 4  
**9:30 A.M. SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS IN THE SANCTUARY CHANCEL**  
*Jeremiah 18:1-11; Luke 14:25-33*  
Reverend Hannah Dreitcer  
*Behind and Before*

September 10 & 11  
**Sacrament of Communion**  
*Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Luke 15:1-10*  
Reverend Trajan McGill  
*Even Though*

September 17 & 18  
*Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Luke 16:1-13*  
Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*Faithful in a Little*

September 24 & 25  
**Stewardship Emphasis**  
*Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Luke 16:19-31*  
Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*More Than Enough*

### SECOND ANNUAL “SWINGING ON A PRAYER” GOLF SCRAMBLE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 AT 2:00 P.M.

The Congregational Fellowship Committee will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual golf outing on Sunday, September 18, at Long Bridge Golf Course with shotgun start at 2:00 p.m. It will be a four-person scramble and players of all skill levels are welcome. \$35.00 per player includes 9 holes of golf, snacks, drinks and dinner. Non-golfers are welcome for dinner at \$10.00 per person.



Sign up in the West Narthex or online at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org) for an afternoon of fellowship, frolic and fun. *The committee is collecting prizes to present at this event. Those who are able and willing to make a prize donation, please contact Becky Huston (bec0731@hotmail.com).*

### FIFTY AND SIXTY-YEAR MEMBERS HONORED SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 DURING 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

On Sunday, September 25, during 10:00 a.m. worship, we will honor members who joined Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1966 and 1956. We are grateful for all the ways these members have enriched the life of our congregation over the years and we look forward to this opportunity to celebrate their milestone anniversary. The congregation is invited to a reception in Parish Hall following worship to express our congratulations and appreciation.

#### Fifty-year members:

Grady M. Chronister	Margot L. Kramer	Linda K. Schlosser
Linda Chronister	Robert Thomas Massey	William W. Schlosser
Gerald E. Davis	Morley Peura	Dorothy H. Wire
Marilyn L. Davis	Marlene Rinehart	

**Sixty-year members:** Gaynell W. Peters and Logan Schlipf

### CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES 1-6

Children in Grades 1-6 are invited to quarterly Wednesday gatherings to foster interfaith fellowship and understanding, hosted by three faith communities, as we build friendships with children from The Islamic Society of Greater Springfield and Grace Methodist Church. Each gathering will include activities to build friendships, a tour of the religious facility and sharing a vegetarian meal. We will finish the year with a collaborative service project.

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

**Wednesday, September 28, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.**  
Hosted by Westminster Presbyterian Church

**Wednesday, November 16, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.**  
Hosted by Islamic Society of Greater Springfield

**Wednesday, January 25, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.**  
Hosted by Grace Methodist Church

**Sunday, March 5, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
Collaborative service project for refugee children

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

**“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” II Corinthians 9:8**

We began the 2016-2017 program year on Commotion Sunday and reflected together on Jesus' healing of the woman who was bent over for 18 years. By healing on the Sabbath, Jesus bends the rabbinic law to bring unfolding wholeness to a daughter of Abraham. I concluded the sermon with these words: “As the carefree days of summer wind down and we return to the routine of school and church life, may we remember together the God who bends and stretches, and who is both strong and flexible. May God give us each the strength and flexibility to bend without breaking in the challenges before us, the wisdom to live with humility and reverence, and the courage to reach beyond the law to care for one another in the unfolding of our lives.”

**STEWARDSHIP INTRODUCTION:** As we move into the fall and the harvest season, it is time to begin the 2017 Stewardship Campaign, which will once again be ably led by George Preckwinkle.

**MORE THAN ENOUGH** is this year's theme based on II Corinthians 9:8. As we consider our financial commitment for 2017, it is good to affirm the God who provides each of us with more than enough and who calls us to live lives of gratitude and generosity. Too often we are dissatisfied with our place in creation. Cultural messages play into our dissatisfaction, encouraging us to believe that “enough” is just out of reach, and that we need to keep striving for it. As people of faith, our cups are not half-empty, they are overflowing with the love and mercy of the God in whom we live and move and have our being.

The Stewardship letter will be mailed following the Session's approval of the 2017 budget at their September meeting. The campaign will be introduced the last weekend of September, and the Stewardship Dedication will be the last weekend in October, on Reformation and Harvest Sunday.

## SATURDAYS AT WESTMINSTER 5:30 P.M. WORSHIP IN PARISH HALL

Westminster has been pleased to provide a Saturday Worship Service at 5:30 p.m. in Parish Hall since 2004. This intimate service began as an additional summer worship option for young families with busy schedules. In 2011, the service moved to a year-round schedule. Over the years, it has grown into a meaningful and friendly setting for members of all ages, providing a special niche for those who are single and our older members. Along with innovative music provided by Deb Watts and the Westminster Jazz Trio, those who worship on Saturdays share in Holy Communion every week.

This summer, following a review of the yearly ebb and flow of this service, Saturday worship at Westminster is shifting to a spring, summer and fall schedule. Saturdays at Westminster will continue through the last week of October in 2016 and resume in the spring of 2017. Members are always encouraged to join us on Saturdays for this meaningful worship experience!



## ADULT EDUCATION AT WESTMINSTER

### ADULT EDUCATION FORUM

SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 11, 18, 25, 11:15 A.M. IN THE LIBRARY

### DR. NAOMI LYNN PRESENTS

#### A CONVERSATION WITH KAREN ARMSTRONG

On the fifteenth anniversary of 9/11, Dr. Naomi Lynn, retired Chancellor of the University of Illinois at Springfield, will lead us in a discussion of Karen Armstrong's theology whose writing on *This History of God* brought healing and insight to many Christians following this tragedy as our worldview expanded.



### ADDITIONAL 2016-2017 ADULT EDUCATION FORUM TOPICS:

#### BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR ECO-JUSTICE

October 2, 9, 16

As a certified Earth Care Congregation, we will become more grounded in what scripture has to say about eco-justice, led by Dr. Peter Kieffer & Rev. Trajan McGill.

#### CHURCH HISTORY AND PRESBYTERIAN ROOTS

October 23, 30, November 6, 13

Join Reverends Hannah Dreitcer and Trajan McGill in an overview of our rich history as we celebrate Reformation Sunday.

#### INVITATION TO THE PSALMS

November 27, December 4, 11, 18

March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 9

During Advent and Lent, we will explore the rich diversity of the psalter in a Disciple Study led by Lyle VanDeventer.

#### WOMEN RESHAPE AMERICA

January 8, 15, 22

Suzanne Borland, J.D. reviews Fred Strebeigh's book, *Equal*, and the story of how women have reshaped America's legal system since 1970.

#### SACRED CONVERSATIONS ON RACE

February 5, 12, 19, 26

Westminster will partake in a curriculum designed to assist congregations begin the difficult and necessary conversations on racial tensions in an effort to make us better informed and more self-aware.

#### THE POWER OF PARABLE

April 23, 30, May 7

This course will explore the power of storytelling and parables as found in Jewish, Muslim and Christian scriptures, led by Rabbi Barry Marks, Dr. Maryam Mostoufi, and Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer.

#### DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY RESUMES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

5:45 – 7:15 P.M. IN THE SECOND FLOOR CLASSROOM

All are invited to join Rev. Trajan McGill in this 32-week study of Genesis-Exodus and Luke-Acts. Having completed last year's Disciple course is not a requirement. Books cost \$30

#### COVENANT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

5:45 – 7:15 P.M. IN THE SECOND FLOOR CLASSROOM

Members are invited to join Dr. Kieffer in this 24-week presentation of the concept of “covenant,” which is woven throughout scripture and is at the heart of our reformed tradition. Study books cost \$30.

### Bay Weekend Retreat

April 1-2, 2017

Mark your calendar for April 1-2, 2017 as we welcome the Reverend MaryAnn McKibben Dana, Presbyterian Pastor, host of the Blue Room blog, and author of *Sabbath in the Suburbs: A Family's Experiment with Holy Time*, who will lead us in a retreat on Sabbath-keeping and holy time.

## FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer

### Youth Group begins Sunday, September 11!

ROAD TO EMMAUS 4:00 – 5:30 P.M. (THIRD FLOOR)

#### CONFIRMATION AND JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

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 New Testament through the curriculum *Echo the Story*, which offers creative responses and imaginative engagement with the biblical narratives. *Teachers: Jim Kincaid, Anna Koepfel & 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 & guests.* Following class, all three grades come together for fellowship, fun and games in the Youth Room.

#### YOUTH DINNER 5:30 – 6:00 P.M. (PARISH HALL)

Grades 6-12 gather for fellowship and dinner prepared by parents. *Parents, watch your email for the link to sign up!*

#### ROAD TO DAMASCUS SR. HIGH 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 **“Who Is My Neighbor?”** We will spend the year examining, discovering and reflecting on the ways we are called to serve the world and how our faith is lived. 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, Kyle Duffy, Jen DeJong, & Adam Ekstedt*

## WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS



**POPSICLES ON THE PLAYGROUND** will be Friday, September 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Classes begin Tuesday, September 6.

**MACARONI FEST** is Monday, September 12, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The community is invited to a noodle buffet, noodle art and jewelry activities, and an interactive children's concert with Rachel Rambach, co-owner of Music Therapy Connections. Tickets are \$5 per person at the door. All are welcome!

#### OUR TEACHERS:

Kari Soria has a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Development and has been teaching young children for 8 years. She enjoys encouraging each child's creativity and sense of wonder.

Emily Rowley has a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and has 5 years of teaching experience. She enjoys WCP's play-based atmosphere and its inspiration to young children.

## CHILDREN UPDATE by Rev. Sarah Iloff McGill

### PARENTS' FELLOWSHIP GROUP

RESUMES SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT 11:15 A.M. IN TOWER ROOM



Parents meet on Sunday mornings from 11:15 a.m.-12 noon for camaraderie, support and study. Parents begin discussing the book, *I Wonder – Engaging a Child's Curiosity about the Bible* by Elizabeth Caldwell. The group is led by Rev. Sarah Iloff McGill and Dr. Marc and Jen DeJong. Children are welcome in the Nursery for activities.

### FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

**Pre-K – Grade 1:** *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. *Leaders include: Rev. Sarah Iloff McGill, Cara Barnett, Cathy Brower, Meredith Bryans, Tempa Dunn, Sara Eldridge, Gerry Hale, Valerie Leonatti, Leigh Milward; Musicians: Karen Kraft & Matthew Knox*

**Grade 2 – 3:** *Whirl* by Spark House is a lectionary-centered curriculum. Children will dive into the Bible together and learn Bible basics that will prepare them to receive their own NRSV Bible as a gift from the congregation at the end of their third grade year. *Teachers: Sue Cull, Dr. Marc DeJong, & Nichole Magalis*

**Grade 4 – 5:** *Whirl* by Spark House is a lectionary-centered curriculum that includes animated videos to set up the lesson and then dives deeper into the Bible. *Teachers: Dr. Marc DeJong, Tom Klein, Priscilla Kluge, Lisa Metzger, & Mary Ray*

**TEENAGE VOLUNTEERS** have signed up to help assist with Sunday school and the Nursery. Teen volunteers help build relationships and set a good example for the younger children at Westminster. We are very grateful for their help! *Assistants: Drew Borland, Jessica Borland, Claire Bess, Barrett Kurmann, Ella Kurmann, Avery Pound, Samantha Magalis, Austin Robbs, Emma Shafer, Amalia Schneider, & Annie Sherrick*

**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: Camille Massey, Carolyn Proctor, & Amy Xanders*

### BRIDGES MIDWEEK FELLOWSHIP (GRADES 3-5)

2016-2017 THEME: “PLAY AND PRAISE”



Children in Grades 3-5 are invited to Bridges on Wednesdays beginning September 7, from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. This fellowship bridges friendships among our children and across generations. This year we are inviting adults to partner with the students as advocates. Adults will join students in playing games and praising God. Bridges will also include mission projects. The 2016-2017 theme we have selected is “Play and Praise.” Together we will learn about different ways to worship God with creative hands-on activities including cooking, art, drama and music. This after-school program will precede Westminster Choristers, which meets from 4:45 – 5:30 p.m. *Leaders: Revs. Hannah Dreitcer & Sarah Iloff McGill, Brad Steller*



## HIGHLIGHTS IN LATE JULY AND AUGUST



*Top: Adults, youth and children led the congregation in the traditional mission trip song, "Get Down!", on the final Sunday in July following a meaningful mission trip to Avery County, North Carolina with ASP.*

*Upper Left: The "line-up" Wilbur Wright, June Flood, Camille Degner and George Johnson wait for church to begin on a Sunday in August.*

*Upper Right: Over 30 men gathered at the Hale Farm for a summer cookout on Sunday, August 7. Ten women also enjoyed a meal together in Petersburg.*

*Left: The Rev. Dr. Alan Finnan was installed as the new General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Great Rivers at the meeting Westminster hosted on Saturday, August 20.*

*Bottom: Westminster's Sanctuary is filled on Thursday, August 25, as we welcome members from our community and presbytery to hear a lecture presented by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine.*



## ... AND ON COMMOTION SUNDAY



*Top: Members of the Educational Leadership Team filled the Sanctuary Chancel on Commotion Sunday to be commissioned for their work with children, youth and adults.*

*Right: Children and youth joined the Educational Leadership Team in the Chancel to receive the blessing of their backpacks. Each young person also received a monogrammed carabiner with a Bible verse for their backpacks as a reminder of God's loving presence throughout this school year.*

*Below left: Members and friends gathered in Parish Hall following worship for brunch, a children's activity and the opportunity to sign up for Education, Fellowship, Music, Mission and Service.*

*Below right: Youth enjoy the kick-off swim party hosted by the Knox family.*

*Bottom: Children and their parents "splash into the new school year" at a swim party hosted by the Kieffers.*



## PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

### MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS

The Mission and Community Service Committees this year have been exploring how to continue growing as a church in our missional identity and commitment to service. Exploring three separate avenues—engagement with the church, engagement with the world, and internal guidelines—the committees are now reviewing some exciting possibilities for mission work this year and next. One thing to come out of this effort is a new application process for proposing and considering new project ideas. This application was presented to and received by the Session at its August meeting.

#### MISSION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

On Sunday, October 16, mission will be the emphasis of our worship. Come and hear your invitation to be a part of the church's mission to the world around us!

**GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH SEPTEMBER MENU:** *Peanut Butter, Jelly, Children's Cereal, Chunky Mixed Fruit.* Thank you to those who place items in the baskets located in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank.

**HELPING HANDS** - Thanks to Elaine Hoff for the August 12 meal. Joe Fierstos will prepare the September 9 meal.

#### CHURCH WORLD SERVICE CROP WALK

##### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

##### 1:00 P.M. AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join the Springfield community as we address hunger in our world and community. The walk begins at First Presbyterian Church (321 South Seventh St). Check-in is at 1:00 p.m. with the walk start time of 1:30 p.m.

The final total for the Springfield 2015 Walk was \$17,904 and our goal for this year is \$20,000. Of that amount, 25% goes to our local food pantries. The remainder is used by CWS to fight hunger throughout the world. Food pantries receiving funds will be First Presbyterian Food Pantry, Grace Lutheran Food Pantry, Kumler Outreach Ministries and Pleasant Plains Food Pantry.



Members are invited to support Westminster youth walking this year or join them on this meaningful and symbolic journey. Krista Steller is one of the event coordinators and Becky Martin is organizing the Westminster walkers. Donations can be made online at:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/springfieldil/Team/View/25211/Westminster-Pres>  
or to Westminster by check with a note on the memo to CROP Walk.

#### COMPASS FOR KIDS RESUMES OCTOBER 25

##### VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

Join the following members of Westminster who have signed up to serve at-risk children attending Graham Elementary School:

*Cathy Allen, Nancy Canady, Stella Cole, Ann Collins, Barbara Dirksen, Kathy Germeraad, David Haaker, Lynn McMenamin, Judi Mier, Diane Rutledge, Bill and Linda Schlosser, Emma Shafer, Amy Xanders and Jack Zervas.*



Previously part of the Family Service Center, COMPASS is now launching as an independent nonprofit with offices located at Central Baptist Church, who partners with us in providing the after-school program from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. Consider becoming part of the team! For information or questions, call Ann Collins at 622-3847.

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

### Mark your calendar for choirs at Westminster.

**WESTMINSTER CHOIR** begins rehearsal Thursday, September 8, at 7:30 p.m. The annual Choir Retreat will be at Indian Point Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 10, from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. Throughout the afternoon, we preview music for the upcoming season through Christmas. The afternoon will close with a service of evensong and a dinner at The Oaks in Petersburg. Call Dale for reservations and your choice of salmon, pork tenderloin or flat-iron steak. To commemorate the anniversary of 9-11, the choir will sing the *Agnus Dei* from the requiem *Eternal Light* by Howard Goodall.

**CHURCH MICE** is our music experience for infants through age 4, based on the early childhood development program, *Music Together*, from Princeton, New Jersey. Through music, actions, instruments and activity, children learn many life skills and gain knowledge. The program for children and their parents, grandparents or caregivers meets on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. beginning September 17.

**THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS** (Grades 3-6) will begin Wednesday, September 7, at 4:45 p.m. following Bridges.

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

### THANK YOU

On behalf of President Carrie Becker, Vice President Kurt DeWeese, and our board of directors we would like to thank you and your staff for the use of your beautiful church for the National Night Out event. We are blessed to have WPC as a member of Historic West Side Neighborhood Association. *Sharon Riffey, Treasurer*

Thank you so much for spending a week of service with the Appalachia Service Project in Avery County, N.C. You were such a joy to have throughout the week and truly demonstrated what it means to be followers of Christ! *Gabi, Tess, Jordan and Jill*

Thank you for the 170 backpacks Westminster donated to the Ready for Success Back to School Event hosted by Contact Ministries on August 9. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of community children. *Cindy Drum, Executive Director*

On behalf of Session, we would like to thank Jeff Wilday for his legal guidance in amending the *Safe Church Policy* and creating a *Policy for Registered Sexual Offenders* which was requested by our insurer, Grinnell Mutual Insurance Company. Both policies were approved at our August meeting. *Tom Owen, Clerk of Session*

### WORLDWIDE PHOTO WALK

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

##### 9:00 A.M. AT OLD STATE CAPITOL

Bob Fox (Westminster's honorary photographer) is hosting a local site for the Worldwide Photo Walk on Saturday, October 1, 9:00 a.m. at the Old State Capitol. The event is free, but pre-registration is required at [www.worldwidephotowalk.com](http://www.worldwidephotowalk.com).

Interested photographers are invited to take pictures with their camera along the 3-mile route. Last year, more than 25,000 photographers from all walks of life and skill level converged to explore their corners of the world through photography and social community. For more information, contact Bob Fox at [bob@mpmis.com](mailto:bob@mpmis.com)

Worldwide Photo Walk supports The Springs of Hope Kenya Orphanage, an organization that feeds, houses, educates and empowers young orphans.

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT WESTMINSTER

**THEOLOGY ON TAP** (ages 21 – 40) meets Monday, September 5, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., at Obed and Isaac's (500 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St.). This group is led by Rev. Dreitcer and the first round of appetizers is on us!

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** meets Thursday, September 8, at 7:00 a.m. Men will enjoy breakfast coordinated by Rich Canady, a devotional by Tim Kluge, and a program entitled, "Life on the Lake," presented by Bob Fox.

**DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE; ALL AGES WELCOME)** Join us Friday, September 9, (please note the date change) at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a potluck dinner and a program: "American Miniature Horse Therapy Ministry" presented by Andra & Bill Ebert of Taylorville, owners of Heartland Mini Hooves. Several mini horses will be in attendance. Program begins at 7:00 p.m. if you are not able to attend dinner. All ages are welcome!

**KNIT 2 PURL 4** continues to gather for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Among their many projects are knitting scarfs for our high school seniors and the families our youth serve on their mission trip.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** resumes in September with opportunities to build friendships and grow in our faith. Our next **PW LUNCHEON** is on September 9 (note date change) at noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair is Carolyn Beatty, Chair of the Day is Pat Hymans. Our program will be "Crisis in Nepal" by Robert Stuart, Jr.



**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** will meet Monday, September 12, at 5:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Our program will be *Waters of Justice and Righteousness-Justice*, led by Pat McKenzie.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** will meet Tuesday, September 20, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of our hostess, Carolyn Beatty, who will also give our devotion and lead our study of *Lesson 1, Come to the Water*.

**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** will meet Wednesday, October 5, at the home of Suzie Spada. We will discuss Chapter 1 – Eve: Willful or Wise? of *Bad Girls of the Bible* by Barbara J. Essex.

**WESTMINSTER WOMEN SALAD SUPPER**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**  
**6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IN PARISH HALL**  
**MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS, SISTERS, FRIENDS**  
**"CELEBRATING FRIENDSHIPS**  
**ACROSS GENERATIONS"**

Enjoy an evening with your Westminster sisters and bring your favorite salad. The evening will include a reflection, musical presentation and sign up for prayer partners. RSVP to Liz Maxey at [lmaxy@wpcspi.org](mailto:lmaxy@wpcspi.org).

### PW RETREAT LED BY DR. KIEFFER

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 9:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

The theme of this year's PW retreat is **THE UNFORGIVING STREETS THAT TRIP US: LEARNING TO FORGIVE**. Dr. Kieffer will lead us as we explore forgiveness and its development in biblical faith and in our personal lives. We will talk about some of the myths around forgiveness, some of the unforgiving streets that trip us, and the importance of understanding forgiveness as a journey. We will gather at Rock Creek Presbyterian Church which is in a beautiful rural setting and offers historic grounds for conversation and meditation. Lunch will be prepared by their PW. The registration fee is \$13 per person; to be collected in advance. Space is limited to 80 people.



## WESTMINSTER NEWS

### WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Ann and Keith Hamilton on the marriage of Emily Hamilton to Nishant Batsha in Bodega Bay, CA on August 20.

### NEW ARRIVALS

Jonathan Richard Nenaber was born July 31 to Nicole and James Nenaber in Chicago. His brother is Andrew James Nenaber. Proud grandfather is Dr. Michael Nenaber.

Kayleigh JoLynne Cline was born August 10 to Abigail and Kevin Cline.

Roscoe Thomas Ekstedt was born August 20 to Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt. His brother is August Joseph Ekstedt.

Brice Bradford Knoedler was born August 25 to Elizabeth and Joseph Knoedler. Proud grandparents are Krista and Brad Steller.

### MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS

Betty Ritcher-Birrer celebrates 91 on September 3.

Warren Pursell celebrates 96 on September 19.

### MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Sharon & Larry Reynolds celebrate 55 years on September 24.

### IN MEMORIAM

Marjorie Ann Newton died on August 10 at Concordia Village. The condolences of the congregation are extended to her daughter, Sally Taylor, and her family.

### SYMPATHY TO

Cass and John Nester on the death of her mother, Barbara Heely, on August 19 in Springfield. Services were held Friday, August 26, at Renner Funeral Home in Belleville, IL with Dr. Kieffer officiating.

Mary Caroline and David Mitchell on the death of his brother, Joe Mitchell, on August 24 in Sacramento, CA.

Suzie and Tom Spada on the death of her father, Bill Cordes, on August 27 in Lacon, IL.

Katie Kirschbaum and Lexi Miech on the death of their grandfather, Richard Yech, on August 30 in Barrington, IL.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

**HOME COMMUNION** If you are unable to attend worship and would like to take part in the Lord's Supper on the second Sunday of each month, please contact Connie Brown, Church Admin. Assistant. Sixteen members received the sacrament delivered by five teams of elders and deacons on August 14.

### SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 AT 9:30 A.M.**

This simple service gathers people for prayer and music in the Chancel and is led by our pastors & accompanist Karen Kraft.



### ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME

Dr. Kieffer, Rev. McGill, and Rev. Dreitcer will lead worship services every Thursday in September at 4:00 p.m. for the residents. WPC's pastors lead worship in April and September annually.

### ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR

**Saturday, October 1, 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, books and baked goods are welcome. Baked goods can be dropped off the day before the sale. No clothing or furniture, please. Thank you! Proceeds from the sale support volunteer activities for the residents. For more information, contact Anne Haaker at 546-4037.

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 18 & 25, 9:15 A.M. IN PASTOR'S STUDY



Friends and visitors are invited to a New Members Class on Sundays, September 18 and 25, 9:15 – 9:45 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who has been visiting and would like to learn more about the church, its mission, and becoming a member is invited. The class will be led by the pastors. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, October 9, following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

## JULY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

It is exciting to see all of the groups and classes starting this month. We are grateful to the congregation for your support. The financial position ending July 31 showed that expenses exceed income by \$11,264. Expenses are under budget by almost \$4,000, but income received in recent months is less than what was received last year at this time.

2016 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 554,707	\$ 569,925	\$ -15,218
Expenses	\$-565,971	\$-569,925	\$ -3,954
Net	\$ -11,264	\$ 0	

## DONATE THROUGH AUTOMATIC TRANSFER

Donations and pledge payments to Westminster can be given by writing a check, through a credit card charge or by setting up an automatic transfer. An automatic transfer is when a member authorizes the church to transfer their donation monthly or semi-monthly directly from the member's bank account to the church's bank account. This is a convenient way to complete your financial support of the mission of Westminster in one action. If you are out of town one weekend, you know that your church support is already given without another thought. The cost of using this method is less than the church pays for credit card donations. I would encourage those who wish to enjoy the convenience of giving without writing a check to use the automatic transfer method. Contact Lisa Runkle, Financial Administrator, [lrunkle@wpcspi.org](mailto:lrunkle@wpcspi.org) for details.

## OVER 150 CHOOSE EMAIL OPTION FOR MONTHLY REPORTER



Thank you to the 155 members (88 families) who have chosen the email option for the monthly Reporter. It is not too late to sign up **by emailing Connie Brown at [cbrown@wpcspi.org](mailto:cbrown@wpcspi.org)**. Beginning with this issue, *The Reporter* will be emailed the same day it is brought to the U.S. Post Office.

### MARK YOUR OCTOBER CALENDAR!!

#### AN EVENING WITH ANTJE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 6:00 – 7:30 P.M.

The Membership Committee is partnering with Dave Leonatti, the host of WUIS Nightsounds, in presenting **Antje Duvokot**, singer-songwriter and guitarist based in Somerville, Massachusetts, in Parish Hall with light refreshments. Tickets will be \$15.

#### THE HARVEST FEST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 5:00 – 6:30 P.M.

The Family Ministry Committee hosts this annual event which includes dinner, a costume parade, and activities. This year, the Congregational Fellowship Committee is adding Trunk or Treat as our children depart.

## Westminster Staff

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**The Reverend Hannah M. Dreitzer**  
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**The Reverend Sarah Iliff McGill**  
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**Emily Rowley, Kari Soria**  
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**Gary Warnick**  
*Head Custodian and Rental Properties Coordinator*  
[gwarnick@wpcspi.org](mailto:gwarnick@wpcspi.org)

**Roy Ahlers, Bill Hibbert, Charles Robertson**  
*Custodians*

Church Offices will be closed Monday, September 5,  
in observance of Labor Day

October Reporter Deadline is  
Sunday, September 25.