

# THE REPORTER

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

### September, 2014

## WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

*Saturday worship 5:30 p.m.-Parish Hall*

*Sunday Schedule:*

*Nursery 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon*

*Worship 8:30 a.m. Parish Hall*

*& 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary*

*Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Pre K-Grade 5*

*Adult Education Forum 11:15 a.m.*

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

*Youth Dinner 5:30 p.m.*

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

### September 6 & 7

*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Exodus 14:19-31; Romans 13:8-14*

*Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer*

*The Journey Begins*

### September 13 & 14

*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Sacrament of Communion*

*Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35*

*Hannah Dreitcer*

*Seventy Seven*

### September 20 & 21

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Exodus 16:2-15; Matthew 20:1-16*

*Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer*

*The Generosity of God*

### September 27 & 28

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

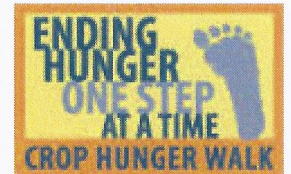
*Exodus 17:1-7; Matthew 21:28-32*

*Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer*

*Defining Moments*

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 AT 11:15 A.M. IN PARISH HALL

Members and friends are invited to a gathering hosted by the Mission Committee on Sunday, September 7 at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall. The video *A Place at the Table*, which explores solutions for hunger in America will be introduced. Along with this viewing, those gathered will participate in a Hunger Exercise and enjoy a simple rice and bean lunch. This forum will also highlight ways Westminster is addressing hunger in our world and community including: **CROP WALK** (October), **Breadline Sunday** (November), **Contact Ministries Distribution** (December), **Souper Bowl Sunday** (February), **Meals on Wheels** (First Week in June), **Give-a-Meal-a-Month**, **Helping Hands** (Second Friday dinners) and **Compass Program** (weekly meals). **CROP WALK will be on World Communion Sunday, October 5.** Members are invited to support Westminster Youth (Junior & Senior High) who are walking this year or join them on this meaningful and symbolic journey.



### “MISUSING SCRIPTURE: A PATTERN OF OPPRESSION”

**SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 14, 21, 28, OCTOBER 5**

The Adult Education Forum at Westminster will continue on Sunday mornings (September 14, 21, 28 and October 5) at 11:15 a.m. in the Library. Hannah Dreitcer and Dr. Kieffer will teach this overview of the way scripture has been used through the centuries to justify oppression. The class will conclude with some helpful guidelines for interpreting scripture.

*Week One: The Curse of Ham*

*Week Two: The Sin of Eve*

*Week Three: Sodom and Gomorrah*

*Week Four: Guidelines for Reading Scripture*

### HOMECOMING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

**FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS WILL BE HONORED**

On Sunday, September 28 during the 10:00 a.m. worship we will honor members who joined Westminster Presbyterian Church between 1959 and 1964. (According to our records, 50 Year Members were last recognized in April of 2009.) We are grateful for the 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. The Membership Committee will host a reception in their honor following worship in Parish Hall.

### HANNAH'S GRANDFATHER VISITED WESTMINSTER IN 1979

The day Hannah was called to serve Westminster (July 20) Pat Roller went home and serendipitously discovered an article in the State Journal Register she had saved in her Bible about the Rev. Dr. Howard Rice visiting Westminster the year he served as Moderator. She had it framed and presented it to Hannah as a welcome gift.



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

Dear Friends,

*The Journey Begins* again this September with a new program year at Westminster! The seeds have been planted and we look forward to the unfolding of God's mysterious and merciful ways in the fields of our lives and our life together. May our hearts be filled with gratitude and reverence for the God in whom we live and move and have our being...let the journey begin!

**Hannah Dreitcer** successfully completed her ordination exam with the Great Rivers Presbytery August 20. She will be ordained Friday, September 26 at Sleepy Hollow Presbyterian Church in California and installed Sunday, October 12, 4:00 p.m. in our historic sanctuary.

**Lucas Carpenter**, who served as *Interim Director for Youth* May through August will continue as *Program Assistant for Children and Youth*.

**APNC (Associate Pastor Nominating Committee)** continues to receive PIFs (Pastor Information Forms) and interview candidates to serve as *Associate Pastor for Parish Life*. Announcements have been placed in *The Christian Century* and *Presbyterian Outlook*.

**Stewardship Kick-off** will be the weekend of September 20-21 following Session's approval of the 2015 Operating Budget. Letters with brochures and pledge cards will be mailed the week of September 22 and Stewardship Dedication will be Saturday, October 25 and Sunday, October 26. This year's committee chair is Tom Klein and vice-chair is George Preckwinkle.

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale Rogers

Mark your calendars for the start-up dates for rehearsals of Westminster's musical groups!

**The Westminster Choir** resumes on Thursday, September 4 at 7:30 p.m. with the Annual Choir Retreat on Saturday, September 6 from 1:30 until 5:00 p.m. at the picturesque and historic Indian Point Presbyterian Church. Following the musical portion of the day, the food portion of the day will be at The Oaks in Petersburg. Choir members, spouses and friends are welcome to join us for dinner.

**The Westminster Choristers** (singers in grades 3-6) resumes on Wednesday, September 10 at 4:45 p.m.

Many thanks to Maggie Shepherd and the other past and present Westminster Choristers who gathered together to sing "Any Dream Will Do" from "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." It was great to hear you again!

**The Westminster Handbell Guild** resumes rehearsals on Wednesday, September 17 at 7:15 p.m.

**The Westminster Children's Choir** (K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) resumes its sessions on Tuesday, October 7 at 4:45 p.m.

**Church Mice** (infants through age 4) will begin its Saturday morning sessions on September 13 at 11:00 a.m. Church Mice is a musical experience for infants through age four and their parents, grandparents, or care-givers. Through songs, actions and lots of activity, our youngest singers and their parents learn many life-concepts and have fun doing it. Invite your friends and others in your play-groups to join in the fun!

## FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS by Hannah Dreitcer

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS!** We have a fantastic group of teachers and an exciting new curriculum, *Seasons of the Spirit*. This year the Sunday School lesson will correlate with the sermon text, facilitating sharing and teaching moments within families. Each Sunday a curriculum-based question will be printed in the bulletin for parents to begin at-home conversations about the lessons. Please return completed registration forms to the church, or register in class beginning Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER TEAMS

**Nursery:** Abigail Cline and assistants  
**Pre-K/Kindergarten:** Leigh Milward and Sara Eldridge; Dana Affrunti and Lisa Metzger  
**1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** Claudia Andre, Sadie Ballantyne, and Jack Sherrick; Meredith Spalding, Lizzy Olmsted, and Brenda Berry-Olmsted  
**4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Cathy Brower and Tom Klein; Mary Ray and Karen Dillon

**THE CUT AND COPY CREW**, our new Sunday School support team, will meet 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.

### YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

**THE ROAD TO EMMAUS** is our new Junior High program and confirmation extravaganza. From 4:00-5:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons, sixth and seventh graders, ably assisted by Neil Bassett and Lexi Miech, will be covering the New Testament, exploring the life and teachings of Jesus in the Gospels and the life and growth of the early church in Acts and the letters of Paul. During the same hour, eighth graders will be learning about church history, Presbyterian history, polity, and theology, the Sacraments, the Trinity, and other religions and denominations. All grades will then gather for games and fellowship in the youth room before a joint dinner with the Senior High at 5:30 p.m.

**THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS** for Senior High Youth will meet from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings, following the joint dinner with the Junior High. On the road to Damascus Paul was blinded by an intense light and heard the voice of the risen Christ. Unsurprisingly, this event changed his life. The Senior High will walk our own roads to Damascus this year, paying attention to the ways in which God is speaking to us and helping us shape our lives. Through service projects, games, conversations, and devotionals, the Road to Damascus will offer the space to seriously consider our own Christian faith, spiritual development, and self-identity, working to discover who we are, what we believe, and what our place in the world might be.

**THE 2015 MISSION TRIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING** will be held Sunday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m. in the Library. All youth grades 8-12 interested in going on the Mission (and their parents!) are encouraged to attend.

### YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY NEWS

**WINE, WINGS AND A PRAYER YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP** (age 21 – 32) meets First Fridays; September 5 and October 3, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Kieffers'. RSVP to Liz Maxey at [Imaxey@wpcspi.org](mailto:Imaxey@wpcspi.org).

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

**NEW MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** begins Thursday, September 11, 7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Men will enjoy breakfast coordinated by Grady Chronister, a devotional by Joe Fierstos and a short program on Men's Health and Fitness presented by Dr. Peter Kieffer. If you have questions or want to volunteer, contact Mark Ranck at 483-2821.

**DMA** (Don't Mention Age; All Ages Welcome) will meet Friday, September 12, (*please note that the date is one week early*) at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a pot luck dinner and program by Alison Gnuse, "Kenyan Orphanage Mission Project". Those attending are asked to donate any of the following for the creation of fund raising decoupage projects to benefit the Kenyan Schools: 1) Used but clean and dry magazines, 2) Brushes for decoupage (1/2 & 1 inch sizes as well as sponge brushes), 3) Old torn or damaged children's books (not damp or discolored).

**PAGE-TURNERS BOOK GROUP** will meet on Wednesday, September 24, at 9:30 a.m. in the Library to discuss the book *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver.

**KNIT 2, PURL 4 MISSION** meets every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in the Conference Room for fellowship and knitting.

## PW CIRCLE MEETINGS

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON** All Westminster women are invited to attend a luncheon and program Friday, September 5, at 12:00 noon in Parish Hall. Chris Daniels, Founder and Executive Director since 2008 of Refuge Ranch; will give an overview of the ranch and "Serving Rescued Horses and Special Needs Children." (Please call the Church Office by Wednesday, September 3, to make a reservation at 522-4415.)



**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** will meet on Monday, September 8, at 5:00 p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor classroom. Karen Springer will be our leader for our Bible Study *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*: Chapter 4.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** will meet on Tuesday, September 16, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of our hostess, Sharon Zook. Helen Evenson will give devotions and Carolyn Beatty will lead our study of *Exodus*, Lesson 1.

## PW RETREAT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

Rev. Mary Jessup, Pastor, Buffalo Hart Presbyterian, and Sue Sawers, Elder, Pastor, Virden First Presbyterian, will lead our day together. Westminster PW has invited women from local area Presbyterian churches to join in exploring Biblical and contemporary themes of hospitality through scripture, media, sharing, lunch, fellowship and worship. 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. Registration information will be available in September.

## FYI

The Reverend Julie Wells Blythe's plans have changed and she will not be with the Illinois Presbyterian Home.

## KEMMERER VILLAGE OPEN HOUSE

### CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 (11:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.)**

You are invited to join the celebration of Kemmerer Village's 100 years of service to children and youth. Go to [www.kemmerervillage.org/history.php](http://www.kemmerervillage.org/history.php) to read about the one-hundred-year history of Kemmerer Village. Thank you to **Lynne Cleverdon & Marty Sumner** for their leadership on this board. In honor of their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Westminster donated \$1000 from the Endowment Fund.

## NEWLYWEDS

Kimberly Rosensteel and **Dr. Timothy Sullivan** were married July 19, 2014, in Woodstock, Vermont. They will reside in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. WPC parents are **Dr. Jill and Dowd Sullivan**.

## NEW ARRIVALS

Nicole and **James Nenaber** welcomed their son, Andrew James Nenaber on August 10, in Chicago. WPC grandparents are **Kathie & Mike Nenaber**.

Colleen and **Scott Germeraad** welcomed their daughter, Merrin Florence Germeraad, on August 15, in Springfield. Merrin's older brother is Declan, her aunt is **Carrie Germeraad**. WPC grandparents are **Kathy and Randy Germeraad** and WPC great grandparents are **Mary and Bill Schnirring**.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Dana** and Andrew **Affrunti** presented their son, Nathan James Affrunti for baptism on August 24.

## SYMPATHY TO

**Carolyn and R.L. Moore** on the death of Carolyn's mother, Mabel Bowersock, who died August 11 in Rochester.

The Rev. Carolyn Watkins and **Alan Wallace** on the death of Carolyn's mother, Billie Lee Caton Watkins, who died August 12 in Vancouver, WA.

**Sandy Hill** on the death of her brother, Paul Crawford, of Ottawa, Illinois on August 19.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** begins September 18 at 12:30 p.m. in the Library. This ten week grief support 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, and has been with Crossroads Counseling Center in Chatham since 2011.

## ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME

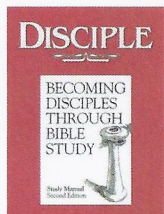
Donations of "garage sale items" (no clothing please), craft items, and plants are still being collected for the October 4 Fall Bazaar. Please take any donations to the Fair Hills Residence at the corner of Chatham Rd and West Lawrence by Tuesday, September 23. Labelled bake sale donations are also needed and should be delivered by 1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 3. For more information and/or a tax donation receipt, call Cheryl White at 787-2095.

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS BEGINS SEPTEMBER 14

A New Member Class will be offered on Sundays, September 14 and 21, 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 future is invited to attend. The class will be led by Dr. Kieffer and Hannah Dreitcer. New members will be received on Homecoming Sunday, September 28, and will be welcomed by the congregation at the 10:00 a.m. service of worship.



## DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY BEGINS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4!



On Thursday, September 4 we begin our journey with Disciple at Westminster! The Disciple Bible Study is an overview of the Old and New Testaments and will be taught by Dr. Kieffer. The study manual includes daily readings and reflections. Each week the class views a short video featuring a theologian. The class will meet September - May on Thursday evenings 5:45 – 7:15 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. It's not too late to

sign up [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org) and place your Panera Bread Co. order.

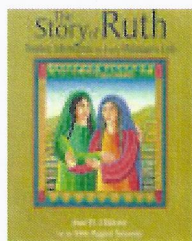
## THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO WESTMINSTER WOMEN SALAD SUPPER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IN PARISH HALL

PROGRAM PRESENTED BY BLYTHE AND HANNAH

*"THOU ART MY SISTER:  
FRIENDSHIPS AMONG REFORMED WOMEN"*

Come and enjoy a night out with your Westminster sisters and bring your favorite salad or bread selection. It is our hope that this will be an intergenerational experience and the beginning of a wonderful tradition. The evening will include entertainment, a reflection and an opportunity to sign up for prayer partners as well as some delicious food and sharing of favorite recipes.



## RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE BEGINS OCTOBER 1

PW is initiating a new intergenerational circle which will meet the First Wednesday (October – June) at 7:00 p.m. in women's homes. Join Dr. Kieffer and Hannah Dreitcer in a discussion of Joan Chittister's thoughtful book: The Story of Ruth: Twelve Moments in Every Woman's Life and become a part of the amazing mission and rich tradition of PW. Books are

available on Sunday mornings and sign ups on [wpcspi.org](http://wpcspi.org).

## JULY FINANCIAL REPORT BY LISA RUNKLE

The financial position in July showed that income exceeds expenses by \$38,056. The One Great Hour of Sharing donations reached \$8,887! This is significant in the effort to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by delivering relief to those affected by natural disasters, providing food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. As always, thank you for your generosity!

Operations	YTD Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 560,752	\$ 546,202	\$ 14,550
Expenses	\$- 522,696	\$-546,202	\$-23,506
Net	\$ 38,056	\$ 0	

## Westminster Staff

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

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

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

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

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

**Lucas Carpenter**  
Program Assistant for Children & Youth  
[lcarp@wpcspi.org](mailto:lcarp@wpcspi.org)

**Abigail Cline**  
Nursery Worker

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

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

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

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

THE NEXT REPORTER DEADLINE IS SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 21