

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



BUILDING A LEGACY OF FAITH

Pentecost and Founders' Sunday

May 19, 2024

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment Steadfast Neighbor Dr. Todd Knox

Voluntary Andante in F Felix Mendelssohn

***Ringing of the Bell** *The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower bell.*

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Eternal God, in whom we live and move
and have our being;

People: **we thank you for your steadfast presence
among us and in your whole creation.**

Leader: We delight in the legacy of faith
which binds us with those who have come before us.

People: **Fill us with your Spirit, that through truthful words,
just actions, and steadfast love,**

Leader: we may witness to the wonder and joy of who you are.

***Processional Hymn 289** On Pentecost They Gathered *Munich*

***Prayer of Confession** Holy and loving God, we confess that we have failed to
open our hearts to the power of your Spirit. Too often we
continue the divisions of Babel, speaking in tongues that
confound rather than clarify, hurt rather than heal, divide
rather than unite. Forgive us and breathe your healing
and liberating grace into our lives and neighborhood.
Enable us to grow into a deeper understanding of who
you are and who you call us to be. Hear now our silent
prayers of confession.

***Sung Response** Lord Have Mercy Upon Us Hymnal, Back Cover

***Declaration of Pardon
and Passing of the Peace**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

***Response of Praise** Gloria Patri Hymnal, Back Cover

**Presentation to Valesques
Alonso Family**

Interlude A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Fred Rogers
Students in grades Pre-K – 5 will go to Sunday school and during the Interlude.

Scripture Reading Acts 2:1-8, 12-18 Pew Bible, NT page 119

Sermon Welcome to the Neighborhood The Rev. Dr. Kieffer
Text: The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood. John 1:14a *The Message*

Anthem Hear My Prayer Felix Mendelssohn
O Hear my prayer, O God, incline Thine ear!
Thyself from my petition do not hide!
Take heed to me! Hear how in prayer I mourn to Thee!
Without Thee all is dark, I have no guide.
The enemy shouteth, the godless come fast!
Iniquity, hatred upon me they cast!
The wicked oppress me, Ah, where shall I fly?
Perplexed and bewildered, O God, hear my cry!
My heart is sorely pained within my breast,
My soul with deathly terror is oppressed,

Trembling and fearfulness upon me fall,
With horror overwhelmed, Lord, hear me call!
O for the wings of a dove! Far away would I rove!
In the wilderness build me a nest, And remain there forever at rest.

***Affirmation of Faith**

Westminster Mission Statement

Westminster Presbyterian Church believes it is in the world for ministry. With each new day, we affirm our common purpose: to join in the worshipful praise of God; to teach the children, to lead and inspire the young, and to call everyone to life-long learning in the church; to be influential participants in society, by being accountable to the Gospel; to show the love and compassion of Jesus Christ toward each other, and toward those who are hurting; to be a caring community welcoming both friends and strangers; to own our Presbyterian heritage, reformed and always reforming; and to be prayerfully open to the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. Let the door of this church be a way to service. Amen.

The Church at Prayer

Choir: Surely the presence of our God is in this place,
I can feel God's mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of our God is in this place.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, page 35

Presentation of our Gifts

At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders located at the end of each pew.

Offertory

Bless This House

May H. Brahe

Bless this house, O Lord we pray. Make it safe by night and day.
Bless these walls, so firm and stout, keeping want and trouble out.
Bless the roof and chimneys tall. Let thy peace lie over all.
Bless this door that it may prove ever open to thy love.
Bless these windows shining bright, letting in God's heavenly light.
Bless the hearth a blazing there, with smoke ascending like a prayer.
Bless the folk who dwell within. Keep them pure and free from sin.
Bless us all that we may be fit, O Lord, to dwell with thee.
Bless us all that one day we may dwell, O Lord, with thee.

*Offertory Response

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

*Pentecost Offering Dedication

Pastor:

O God, on the day of Pentecost you came in the rush of the wind and filled your followers with your Spirit. As we dedicate this Pentecost Offering, we thank you for the mentors who have ventured into our neighborhoods.

People:

God the Spirit: We give you thanks.

Pastor:

Through your Spirit you call each to use the gifts you have given us. On this Founders Sunday, we thank you for those who have come before us to lay the foundation of this community of faith, sharing their gifts with energy, imagination, intelligence, and love.

People:

God the Creator: We give you thanks.

Pastor:

Like the flames alighting the disciples, you lit our founders with a passion for your justice. We thank you for the ways they have emboldened us with a sense of justice in the world and inspired us to work for mercy and peace.

People:

God of the Cross: We give you thanks.

Pastor:

From our youth you have taught us, O God, and we still proclaim your wondrous deeds. We thank you for the doors of this church which are a way of service as we continue to build a legacy of faith together.

People:

Holy Triune God, we give you thanks. Amen.

*Mission Statement Hymn

Mission Statement Hymn

A Metrical Paraphrase by
Dale Thomas Rogers, 1994

Walter Greatorex, 1919



1. This church is in the world for min - is - try. With
2. With one ac - cord, re - spond - ing to your word. Our
3. This church is in the world for min - is - try. Res -
4. This liv - ing church, re - form - ing, ev - er new; give
5. This church is in the world for min - is - try. With



1. sure con - vict - ions may our faith pro -
2. ad - or - a - tion, hymns and prayers we
3. pon - sive to the hurts and needs of
4. height - en - ed vision that we see your
5. hope, faith, love, we praise the Lord of



1. claim the love of God to our com - mun - i - ty; a
2. bring. Our young we nur - ture in your path as - sured that
3. all. Seek - ing so - lu - tions for so - ci - e - ty, we
4. ways. With quick - en'd pulse, we con - se - crate to you em -
5. Hosts. Serv - ing all ways the bless - ed trin - i - ty; Cre -



1. fer - vent wit - ness to Christ's ho - ly name.
2. ev - er - more God's ho - ly truths may ring.
3. strive al - ways to heed the Gos - pel's call.
4. pow - er'd lives to serve you all our days.
5. at - ing God, your Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*Charge and Benediction

***Choral Response** Forth in Thy Name Orlando Gibbons

***Voluntary** Come, Holy Spirit Johann Sebastian Bach
(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Gerald W. Boutelle
- **Worship Leader:** Aerwyna Eastvold
- **Acolytes:** Taryn Barnett and Ned Moore
- **Wind and Fire Banner:** Jim Kontio
- **Pentecost Readers:** Javier Valesquez (Spanish), Sophia Choi (Korean), Millie McNutt (Hindi), Ben Arnold (Bahasa Indonesia)
- **Greeters:** Randy and Bernie Wiseman
- **Ushers:** Sabrina Holmes (Head Usher), Kyle Duffy, Bud Green, Chris Hickman, Joyce King, Camille Massey, Bill Schlosser, and Erin Winn
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Eleanor VanDeventer, Soprano, Dale Rogers, organist
- **Safety Team:** Todd Knox
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** This week’s Bible Story: “We can Say Sorry to God” (Jonah) *Caregivers: Maria Lafrenz, Sara Eldridge, Linda Caupert*
- **10:15 – 11:00 a.m. Sunday School Children** will begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response.
 - **Children in Kindergarten – Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** The story is “Fireworks on Pentecost”. *Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz, Kristianna Eastvold*
 - **Sunday School Children in Grade 3 – Grade 5 (Third Floor Tower Classroom)** The story is “Fireworks on Pentecost”. *Teachers: Aaron Berkowitz, Julie Robbs*
- **11:15 a.m. Founders’ Day Picnic Reception (Parish Hall)**
- **5:30 p.m. Junior and Senior High End of the Year Party (Susan and Scott Day’s Home)**

ALBERT HALE CIRCLE

The **ALBERT HALE CIRCLE** is listed below and includes pledges, gifts, pre-campaign gifts and planned gifts. Reverend Hale, pastor from 1839-1866, laid the cornerstone for the legacy of faith and sure foundation we are building together in the Westminster Support and Endowment Fund.

Cornerstone

(\$250,000 and above)

Fern Garrett Estate*

Betty & Henry Dale Smith, Sr.

Henry Dale Smith, Jr.

Foundation

(\$150,000 to \$249,999)

Kathy & Randy Germeraad

Dorothy Kessler Estate

Lynne O'Shea †

Mary & William

Schnirring Estate

Tower

(\$100,000 to \$149,999)

Harry Bergmann*

Memory of Ruth Bergmann

Garvey Estate*

Alice Stuart Payne Estate*

Keystone

(\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Paul Bowman Estate*

Linda Chronister Folse

Memory of Elder

Grady Chronister

Linda & Grady Chronister

Louise Cragoe †

Sue & Roland Cull

Linda Culver Memorial*

Carolyn & Dan Dungan

Blythe & Peter Kieffer

Judy & Todd Knox

Barbara & Lonnie H. Lee †

Preckwinkle Families

Jean & William Sherrick

Jean & William Sherrick*

Nancy & Bill Simpson

Marty Sumner

Pillar

(\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Silvey & James Barge

Frances Batchelder Estate*

Bennett Estate*

Mina & Harry Bentsen

Betty & Bill Denham Estate

Velda & George Finney*

Kathy & Randy Germeraad*

Gerry & Harold Hale

Alice Lambert Estate*

Ruth Langdon Estate*

Emma Mae Large Estate*

Ann & Bill Lienemann

Trudy M. & Douglas C. Nelson

Karen & Andrew Sherrick

Hannah Morrow Siebert Estate*

Marty & Alan Stutz

Barbara Sutton Estate*

Eleanor Wahlbrink*

Martha & Jeff Wilday

Martha & Jeff Wilday †

Lisa & Todd Wise

Sharon & Elvin Zook

Samaritan

(\$15,000 to \$24,999)

Jane & Steve Arbuthnot

Honor of Julia & Steven

Arbuthnot's marriage

Kathie & Michael Nenaber

Rebecca & Lionel Stirrett

Dorothea Thrasher Estate

Advocate

(\$10,000 to \$14,999)

Frances & Edwin Bay*

Carolyn & Keith Beatty*

Mark Beatty*

Dorothy D. &

*William Black Trust**

Leah & Martin Duling

Chris & Butch Elzea

Sharon & Matthew Gilmour

Helen Hansen Estate*

Judy and Dale Huston

Irwin & Becker Estate*

Evelyn Jensen Estate

Priscilla & Tim Kluge

Margot Kramer

Carol & Walter Lohman*

LaVerne Marlowe Estate*

Bev & Jim Orr †

Honor of our Family

Dorothy Park Estate*

Holly Howe Parker*

Jeanne & Glen Pittman

William Schultz

Memory of Kyle G. Schultz

Cathy Schwartz & John Shafer

Dorothy Temple*

Don Thompson Estate*

Marjorie VanNattan Estate*

Westminster Cooperative

Preschool

Counselor

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Anonymous

Anonymous

George Adams Estate*

Katrina Archer

Jan & Cliff Baxter

Carolyn & Keith Beatty

Sandy Bellatti

Carolyn Berning

Don Blackburn Estate*

Meridith & James Bryans

Eleanor Copper Foundation*

William Deemer, Jr.

Linda N. Dillard

Sue & Bill Donels

Hazen & Roland Folse

James S. Francis Estate*

Barbara Greening

Memory of

Dr. Gershom K. Greening

Joseph A. Harrison

Christie, Robyn & Will Hovey

Louise Kuehn Estate*

Eleanor & Richard Leary

Barbara & Lonnie H. Lee

Judith & Tom Lewis

Ann & Bill Lienemann*

Mary Caroline & David Mitchell

Robyn Newton
Sally & Stan Papp
*Memory of
Dr. & Mrs. W. J. Trainor*
Judy & Fred Prillaman
Patricia Albrecht Purdy Estate*
Mary Ray
Memory of Doris Ray
Julie & Randy Robbs
Ruth Robert-Roland*
Diane Rutledge
Elaine Ryder Estate*
Sue & Steve Scaife
Schemmerhorn Estate*
Linda & Bill Schlosser
Linda Shaefer
Mary Anne & James Singleton
Julie & Michael Sundquist
Carolyn & Brad Swanson
Eleanor & Lyle VanDeventer
Jeanne & Peter VanGieson
Sue & Jesse Werner
Cheryl & Neville White
Jean Williamson Estate*
Sarah & Bob Zerfas

Companion

(\$2,500 to \$4,999)
Anonymous
Anonymous
Catherine Brower
JoAnn & Doug Brown*
Ellen & Rance Carpenter
Ann W. Collins
Deborah & David Coontz
*Memory of
David M. Coontz*
Carol & Dick Cordier
*Memory of John S. &
Theda Muirhead and
George & Dorothy Cordier*
Lois Davis Memorial*
Gale & Jack Fixmer
Elsie & Robert Fox
Ione Hermann Estate*
Renee Housel Estate
Nancy & Keith Huston
Marcy & Bill Irvine
Mary & Charles King
Mary & Bob Leffler
McGaugh Estate*

Patricia McKenzie
Mary Ann Nation
Memory of James Nation
Richard Newton Estate*
Stan & Barbara Papp
*Memory of
Sally Trainor Papp*
Sharon Reynolds
Judy Ridinger
Leona Sangster Estate*
Robert A. Stuart
John Thompson Estate*
Alan J. Wallace

Friend

(up to \$2,499)
Anonymous
Anonymous
Norma Adams-Johnson
Marc Anderson
Charlotte Bailey
Jane R. Barry
Neil Bassett
Ella Grace & Robert
Bengel Estate*
Lynnette Berdoll
Meleah & Aaron Berkowitz
Meggan & Brady Bird
George Botanga
Carol & Stanley Brosam
Catherine D. Brown
*Honor of Anne Beckner
and Robert Sterling*
Jo Ann L. Brown Estate
Nancy & Richard Canady
Linda & Ed Caupert
Alexander Moore Chipman
Sophia and Christian Choi
Stephanie Churchill
Ada & Stephen Cobourn
Memory of Loved Ones
Marilyn Cohen
Robert Copper Estate*
Robert Cordier
Catherine Cragoe
John Cross
Betty Dawkins
Judy & Dan Dees
Margery Dodds
Virginia & Jim Dolan
Hannah M. Dreitcer

Tempa Dunn
Betsy Dye
Chelsea & Adam Ekstedt
Helen Evenson
Joseph Fierstos
Donna & Francis Foster
Carmel Fratianni
& Michael Schneider
Deanna & Donald Funk
Honor of Dale T. Rogers
Melanie & Bud Green
Anne & David Haaker
Roberta & Richard Hendee
Mal Hildebrand
Pat Hildebrand-Culler
Tamika & Jacob Hill
Sandy Hill
Sandy & Jon Hockenyos
Katharine M. Hughes
Thomas H. Janeway
Kathy & Jeff Johnson
Minnie Lee Jones Estate*
J. M. Keller
Kathleen H. Kenyon
Paul Denham Kieffer
Beth & Jim Kincaid
Clyde Knock*
Karen Kraft
Memory of Amolee McIntyre
F. Wells Langbehn
Valerie & Dave Leonatti
Naomi & Robert Lynn
Katie & Carl Matteson
Teresa & Terry McElwee
Sarah & Trajan Iliff McGill
Jack McKee Estate*
June McKee Estate*
Kathy & Bill Meriwether
Lisa Metzger
*Memory of
Mary & Edmond Metzger*
Leigh & Kevin Milward
Carolyn & R. L. Moore
Kathy & Tim Moore
*Memory of the Koessel
& the Moore Families*
Stephanie S. Moore
Bev & Ken Morey
Madelyn Morris Bogue
Memory of Richard Morris
Joyce Newcomb Family

Tom Owen
 Mary & Harold Perkins
 Michelle Power
 Claire & Richard Priller
 E.L. Pruitt Co.
 Linda & Mark Ranck
 Marilyn & James Rigney
 Kelly Robertson
 Mary Gail & Steve Romack
*Memory of
 Helen & Clyde Knock*
 Kim Leistner Root
Memory of Dorothy Irvine
 Debra (Pollock) Rudis
Memory of Laura Pollock
 Betsy Ruklick
Susan & Grant Russel
*Memory of Betty &
 Joseph Dawkins*
 Jo Ann & Eric Schmidt
 Rosemary Schussle*
 Susan R. Shea
 Rebecca Sherrick
*Honor of Dr. & Mrs. William
 Sherrick's 60th Anniversary*
 Donna Solomon
 Suzann & Thomas Spada
 Krista & Brad Steller
 Paula Stewart
 Strawbridge Estate*
 Bruce Strom
 M. Jill Sullivan
 Debbie & Skip Turnbull
 Sharon Turner
 Elizabeth E. Unglaub
Memory of Margot Kramer
 Mary Waddell Estate*
**Anne & Frank
 Waldburger Estate**
 James Wilday
 Charles Wilkin
Memory of Rebecca Wilkin
 Kate Wilson
 Amy & Sam Xanders
Cathy Yokley
 Marlene Zimmerman
Testamentary
 (Amount Unknown)
 Anonymous †
 Janie & Clay Bahlow †

David Becker †
 Sandy Bellatti †
 Marilyn Cohen †
 Ann W. Collins †
 Virginia & Jim Dolan †
 Sue Donels †
 Carolyn & Daniel Dungan †
 Gale Fixmer †
 Donna Garman †
 Kathy & Randy Germeraad †
 Sharon & Matt Gilmour †
 Anne & David Haaker †
 Elaine Hoff †
Christie & Robyn Hovey †
 Judy & Dale Huston †
 Thomas H. Janeway †
 Vivian Keithley †
 Blythe & Peter Kieffer †
 Rebecca Martin †
Kathryn & Michael Morthland †
 Robyn Newton †
Kathy Culver Nickell †
 Tom Owen †
 Jeanne Pittman †
 Richard Priller †
 Mary Ray †
 Sharon Reynolds †
 Pat Roller †
 Diane Rutledge †
 Timothy Schweizer †
 Susan R. Shea †
 Nancy Simpson †

Kay & Gerald Smith †
 Marty & Alan Stutz †
 Julie & Mike Sundquist †
 William Wright †

New since last published
 * Pre-campaign gift
 † Planned gift



**WESTMINSTER SUPPORT AND ENDOWMENT FUND:
 BUILDING A LEGACY OF FAITH**

In May of 2015, on the 180th Founders' Sunday, Westminster dedicated the Building a Legacy of Faith Twenty-Year Anniversary Endowment Campaign and established the ALBERT HALE CIRCLE. During the five-year campaign the market value of Westminster's Support and Endowment Fund grew from **\$1.9 to \$8.1 million**. As of March 31, 2024, the market value of the Support and Endowment Fund was **\$8,983,689**. *This does not include planned gifts.*

Support and Endowment brochures can be found in the pew pockets. We continue to welcome donations and testamentary gifts to the Westminster Support and Endowment Plan.

Support and Endowment Committee: Chair, Jeff Wilday, Jim Bryans, Randy Germeraad, Christy Pound, Dale Smith, Lucy Preckwinkle Stafford. Advisory Members: Dr. Diane Rutledge, Todd Wise.

FOUNDERS' DAY PICNIC RECEPTION

"Welcome to the Neighborhood" Party

The gathering will include:

Musical Presentation

It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Hola, hola, ¿Cómo Estas?

The Westminster Choir

Picnic-style lunch featuring Nicaraguan Dishes:

Rosa Valencia

(Chicken, Pork, Sausage, Vegetables and Rice)

Beans

Chips and Salsa

Cole Slaw with Lime Juice

Tres Leches Cake

PowerPoint Presentation

The Refugee Ministry Journey

Children's Craft

The National Flower of Nicaragua

Brief History of Westminster's Refugee Ministry

NEWLY CREATED REFUGEE SUBCOMMITTEE, co-chaired by Rachael Hickman and Jess Weitzel, made a presentation to Session in May, 2023, asking for approval to move forward with an application to Welcome Corps (a government program), and to seek ministry partners to join in hosting a refugee family of four, who will call Springfield their new home. The Betty Smith Mission Fund which focuses on international mission will provide monetary resources for this endeavor.

A presentation introducing the Refugee Ministry was made to the congregation on Sunday, June 30, 2023. In December of 2023 Archivist Sue Cull provided a brief history of Westminster's refugee outreach during our 188 years. Over 50 members were recruited to partner in this ministry and serve on the five teams: Benefits and Healthcare (led by Rachael Hickman), Education and Language (led by Lynn McMenamin and Richard Leary) Finance and Employment (led by Bob Leffler and Jesse Weitzel), Housing and Basic Necessities (led by Jeanne VanGieson) and Welcome and Local Orientation (led by Krista Steller).

In February 2024 Session approved the utilization of the 522 S. Glenwood Rental Home for housing and work began preparing the home with a Lenten Housewarming Drive to fill the home with donated furniture and household items.

Javier Velasquez and Eva Velasquez Alonso, their 10-year-old daughter Javiera (Abi) and 4-year-old son Jonathon arrived from Nicaragua by way of Costa Rica on Tuesday, March 26. Since their arrival, Javier began employment through Express Temporary Service at Bunn and has a good chance of becoming a permanent employee. Javiera (Abi) began attending Graham Elementary School and Jonathon is signed up to attend The Early Learning Center (District 186 Preschool) in the Fall. In May, WPC members and friends began providing English Language tutoring on Monday and Wednesday evenings for Eva and Javier. (ESL classes at LLCC do not have openings for them until July.) Eva worked with Pat Hymans and Jeanne VanGieson to provide recipes for today's menu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME VISITORS! Information about who we are is in our Welcome Brochure located in the pew pockets and on our website www.wpcspi.org. Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining, please speak to a pastor.

TODAY'S ANTHEM *Hear My Prayer* featuring soprano soloist, Eleanor VanDeventer, was written by the German composer Felix Mendelssohn in 1844. The English text, so sensitively set by Mendelssohn, is a paraphrase of Psalm 55 by William Bartholomew, who assisted Mendelssohn in the structuring of the texts used in the monumental oratorio, *Elijah*.

PENTECOST OFFERING will be dedicated today. This is the fifth year of Westminster's participation in the Pentecost denominational offering which supports ministries to children and youth. **Forty percent of all gifts stay within Westminster and our portion will support the 2024 Youth Mission Trip.**



PW SPONSORS BLANKETS+ DURING MAY PW and Springfield's Church Women United sponsor Blankets+ (formerly Blanket Sunday) during May. Church World Services provides blankets, tents, and food in the wake of a disaster; tools and seeds for refugees returning home; wells for families in drought prone areas and gardens; literacy training and microcredit for women. During May, make checks payable to Westminster (memo: Blankets+) or donate online.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH END OF THE YEAR PARTY will be today at 5:30 p.m. Thank you to Susan and Scott Day for hosting the event at their home (47 Fairview Lane, 62712). Everyone is invited to come out to enjoy the lake and outdoor games. Hot dogs, burgers, buns, and condiments will be provided. Please bring the following: Grade 6-7 – Sides, Grade 8-9 – Desserts, Grade 10-12 – Drinks. Please let Mary Ray know if you are unable to attend.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets **Tuesday, May 21 at 9:30 a.m.** in the church library. Sharon Zook will lead Lesson 8 "Lydia Encounters Jesus" from the 2023 Horizon's Bible Study [Sacred Encounters](#).

WE WELCOME LEAD PRESBYTER TO OUR PULPIT on **Trinity Sunday, May 26**, we will welcome the Rev. Ann Schwartz to our pulpit. Rev. Schwartz joined the Great Rivers Presbytery staff as our Lead Presbyter in 2023. Prior to this position, Ann served as Pastor/Head of Staff of First Presbyterian Church in Danville, Illinois (2016 – 2023), staff Chaplain at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana, Illinois (2014-2016) and Co- Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Hoopston, Illinois (1999-2012). Ann is married to the Rev. Wade Meranda, also a PCUSA pastor. They have two adult daughters. She loves traveling and exploring new places, reading, writing, walking, cooking, and spending time outside. Ann was a commissioner to the 223rd General Assembly in St. Louis. We are grateful for Ann's leadership in our presbytery and for her willingness to step into our pulpit on May 26.

MILITARY PLAQUE Next Sunday, May 26, the Military Plaque in the East Narthex will be highlighted. A slide show of the Military Plaque is posted on our website. We are grateful for the sacrifices and years of service to our country by each person listed. If you or a family member have served in the military and are not included, please contact Jennie Alt at 23TUjalt@wpcspi.org U23T with name, rank, branch, and years of service.

WESTMINSTER'S MEMORIAL GARDEN is a place of peace and repose for the ashes of those interred within its walls. Next Sunday, May 26, Westminster's Memorial Garden will be highlighted. The cost of an individual inurnment in the South wall is \$1,000 for a member or their immediate family and \$2,000 for friends of Westminster. Persons desiring to reserve space may complete an application form located in the West Narthex and on our website.



THE APOSTLES READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP meets Tuesday, May 28 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss Moonlight, Murder & Small Town Secrets by KC Hart. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.



CONSIDER YOURSELF PART OF THE FAMILY ALL-CHURCH COOKOUT ON FRIDAY, MAY 31

The Tenth Annual All-Church Cookout to welcome new members and to recognize milestone members will be **Friday, May 31, 6:00 p.m. at the Kieffer Home.**

THE CONGREGATION IS INVITED! Mark your calendar and plan to attend this festive evening hosted by the Membership Committee. Please RSVP on SignupGenius or by calling Jennie Alt at 217-522-4415 and let us know whether you will bring a salad, side dish, or dessert.

<https://www.wpcspi.org/frmrsvp-all-church-cookout.html>

New members and Milestone Members will be recognized at the gathering and will be our guests. The evening will include a sing-along and boat rides.

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY, JUNE 2 - Graduating high school seniors are honored during the 10:00 a.m. service. A reception in their honor will be held in Parish Hall following worship. All Westminster graduates (high school, college, and graduate school) will be listed in the June 2 bulletin and the June Newsletter. Please contact Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org) with information by Friday, May 24.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS JUNE 2! Children in Kindergarten through Grade 2 will continue to meet in the Third Floor Chapel with Meleah Berkowitz and Ministry Partners in a study of the Parables. Children in Grade 3 through 5 will continue to meet in the Third Floor Tower Classroom with Aaron Berkowitz and Ministry Partners in a study of the lectionary readings.

EDUCATION AND COMPASS LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION - will be Sunday, June 2 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. In their honor, we will purchase a **dairy cow**. Heifers bring health, prosperity and peace. Heifer cow gift donations can change lives, giving hope to families in even the most dire of circumstances. We are grateful for their "moo-valous" work nurturing the faith of our children, youth, adults, and Graham Elementary School students.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CAMP FIRELIGHT JUNE 3-7, 2024 from 9:15 a.m. to noon, children ages 4 to grade 5 will gather to experience God's love surrounded by water, trees, and rolling hills! Campers learn to face their fears while trusting in God. Each day, we will explore timeless Bible stories that show how Old and New Testament Campers trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name. We will also learn ways we can connect with and put our trust in God whenever we are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work in the world. Registration is open at <https://wpcspi.mycokesburyvbs.com/>.



Thank you to the following team leaders for Bible stories, crafts, games, music and snacks. The leadership team will meet on Sunday, June 2, at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall:

Director and Assembly Leader: Dr. Berkowitz Registrar: Pat Roller
Bible Story: Dr. Kieffer Art/Crafts: Pat McNutt Games: Isaac Alt, Emily Brower
Music: Katie Moore Snack: Pat Hymans Decorations: Al Hymans

Please consider signing up to join the leadership team by being a camp counselor.

Mission: The children and the congregation will collect school supplies for Camp Compass. Details will follow.

The children will make a presentation Sunday, June 9, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service followed by a reception in Parish Hall.

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR UPDATE FIFTH ANNUAL STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK

Westminster is in its fifth year of fulfilling the congregation's commitment to invest \$450,000 in our neighborhood over the course of the decade. We have received 30 matching grants and 19 service week project applications. Site visits were completed May 13, 14 and 15.



STEADFAST NEIGHBOR TEAM MEETING will be Tuesday, June 11 at 5:30 p.m. in Parish Hall.

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK JUNE 17-21 - We invite you to join us for one or more days during the third week of June as we spread goodwill throughout the neighborhood. If you are interested, contact Todd Knox at hardknox1@mac.com. You may sign-up at wpcspi.org. and let us know which days you are able to serve.

MATCHING GRANTS Neighbors who complete their projects by November 29, 2024 will be reimbursed 50% of the cost up to \$1,500.

LITTLE PANTRY - Thanks to those who continue stocking our neighborhood micro pantry daily, on the grounds of Graham Elementary. We have many dates available in June. If you are interested in helping, sign up using the QR code here, or use the link (<https://bit.ly/3C4s0v5>).



THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, May 20

- 12:00 PM Refugee Subcommittee Meeting
(2nd Floor Classroom)
- 5:00 PM APNC Zoom interview (Pastor's Study)

Tuesday, May 21

- 9:30 AM Lydia Circle (Library)
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)

Wednesday, May 22

- 10:00 AM Pastors pray in Chapel (Chancel)
- 10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
- 4:00 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group
(Conference Room)
- 4:00 PM Property Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
- 5:00 PM Deliver hot meal to Helping Hands
- 5:30 PM Session (Parish Hall)

Thursday, May 23

- 6:00 PM Preschool Celebration of Stars (Parish Hall)
- 7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, May 24

Saturday, May 25

Sunday, May 26

- 10:00 AM Memorial Sunday Worship Service
(Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School Pre-K to Grade 5
(Third Floor Classroom)

Monday, May 27

Church Office Closed in honor of Memorial Day

Westminster Presbyterian Church
533 S. Walnut St.
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Phone (217) 522-4415
<http://www.wpcspi.org>

WESTMINSTER STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Pastor and Head of Staff

The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Associate Pastor for Parish Life

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

Dale T. Rogers
Director of Music and the Arts

Mary Ray
Director for Youth

Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz
Co-Directors for Children's Ministry

Katie Moore
Director for Children's Music

Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinator

Emily Rowley, Keri Tate
Cooperative Preschool Staff

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

**Peter Bysko, James Capler,
Terry Gietl**
Part-time Custodians