



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

November 2015

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall
Westminster Jazz Trio on November 14 & 28

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 11:15 a.m.

October 31 & November 1
All Saints' Day

9:30 a.m. *Service of Healing and Wholeness*
Ruth 1:1-18; Mark 12:28-34
Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Where Joy and Sorrow Meet

November 7 & 8

Sacrament of Communion
Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Mark 12:38-44
Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Unexpected Endings

November 14 & 15

Sacrament of Baptism
1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Reverend Hannah Dreitcer
Pouring Out My Soul

November 22

St. Andrew's Sunday
One Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.
2 Samuel 23:1-7; John 18:33-37
Reverend Dr. Laird J. Stuart Preaching

November 28 & 29

First Sunday of Advent
Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36
Reverend Trajan McGill
Confused by the Roaring

ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 DURING 10:00 A.M. SERVICE

On Sunday, November 1, Westminster will honor members of our church family who have died during the last year. The litany, which includes the reading of our loved ones' names and silence, will be a part of the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Those members who will be remembered are:

Alice L. McKibbin (11/01/14)	Doris M. Ray (11/21/14)
George Lewis Bock (12/02/14)	Sandra Sue Chandler (12/10/14)
Marilyn B. Mehan (12/28/14)	Sue VeLois Strand (01/13/15)
Kathryn B. Culver (02/09/15)	Dr. Gershom K. Greening (02/13/15)
T. Brett Flickinger (03/07/2015)	Kathleen Davis Stittsworth (03/22/15)
Eugene J. Segin (04/04/15)	Marguerite H. Hughes (05/28/14)
Emmett A. Schmitt (06/29/15)	Esther A. Miller (07/25/15)
Henry Dale Smith, Sr. (09/19/15)	Leroy E. Tungett (10/09/15)
Sally Trainor Papp (10/10/15)	

WESTMINSTER AT FOUR: 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. John is a graduate of the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, Yale University and The Julliard School. This program is being presented by Westminster and the Springfield Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.



THE REV. DR. LAIRD J. STUART TO PREACH ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY

ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M. WITH BAGPIPERS AND DRUMMER SCOTTISH MEAL HOSTED BY YOUTH FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN PARISH HALL



We welcome the Reverend Dr. Laird J. Stuart as our guest preacher on St. Andrew's Sunday, November 22. Dr. Stuart served with Dr. Kieffer on the Presbyterian Board of Pensions Board and is currently serving on the Princeton Theological Seminary Board of Trustees. He has led prominent Presbyterian churches within our denomination for over 40 years, including Calvary Presbyterian Church in San Francisco, CA. He also served as Interim President of San Francisco Theological Seminary and was among the officiating clergy at the memorial service of Reverend Dreitcer's grandfather, Dr. Howard Rice. Dr. Stuart is a graduate of Amherst College and Princeton Seminary. Along with his doctorate from Princeton, he has been awarded Doctor of Divinity honorary degrees from Waynesburg and Westminster Colleges. His wife, Virginia, is the daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Bryant Mays Kirkland, Minister Emeritus of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York.

Worship will be enhanced with a flourish of bagpipers presenting traditional Scottish music and Westminster's Choir will sing a new anthem, *O All Ye Works, Praise the Lord*, by Philip Stopford.

THE ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY MISSION FUNDRAISER will be held in Parish Hall following worship! Come enjoy a traditional Scottish meal (no haggis, we promise), served and prepared by the Senior High for a free will donation! While you eat, wandering high school bards will present dramatic poetry readings and competitive tall tale telling in exchange for donations to the 2016 Mission.

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

“One generation shall laud your works to another.” Psalm 145:4a

Dear Friends,

When the Pastor Nominating Committee interviewed me in 2013, I shared my vision of expanding intergenerational relationships among members and reaching out to the community. With this year's Harvest Fest, we can clearly see the bounty of seeds sown by our now-complete staff and members. We welcomed over 140 neighbors and members of all ages for a delicious meal, costume parade and fun activities.

The morning of the Harvest Fest, we marked the ingathering of the 2016 Stewardship Campaign by dedicating the pledges gleaned to



Westminster. Together we can make a difference in the lives of our children and our neighbors!

PART-TIME CUSTODIAN, STEVE COUNCIL, retires at the end of November. Steve has served Westminster since 2011. We are grateful for his presence among us and wish him well in this new season of his life. Applications for the position are available in the Church Office and need to be completed by November 15. If you have inquiries, contact Gary Warnick, Head Custodian.

MUSIC NOTES by Dale Rogers

CHURCH MICE (infants through age 4) gather Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.

THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR (K – 2nd grade) meets on Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. This training choir will sing in church on December 5 and join with the Choristers for *The Grumpy Sheep*, a Christmas musical that opens this year's Advent Celebration.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS (singers in grades 3-6) practices Wednesdays at 4:45 p.m. The Choristers will sing *To the Glory of Our King* and *We Praise You for the Sun* at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, November 15. This choir is making tremendous progress.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR, a choral ensemble of singers in high school and beyond, practices Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

VIENNA-PRAGUE TRIP – On June 6-16, a group of travelers will go to Vienna, Austria and to Prague in the Czech Republic. Presently, we have 18 signed up with room for two more. We will visit churches, museums, palaces, gardens and attend some musical events, however this is not a singing trip. For details, contact Dale Rogers.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DECORATION FUNDS

Members and friends of Westminster are invited to make a suggested donation of \$20 to support Westminster's music and decoration funds. **Donations which require wording for the December 13 bulletin insert need to be received no later than Monday, December 7.** Please note the fund you wish to contribute to in the memo of your check. Thank you for your generosity!

FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Hannah Dreitzer

YOUTH UPDATE

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

On Monday, November 9, 6:00 p.m. young adults (21-40ish) are invited to Rev. Dreitzer's home for a Bible study on the Gospel of Mark. The study will meet on the Mondays Theology on Tap does not meet.

ROAD TO DAMASCUS SENIOR HIGH

In our focus on beginnings, we have read and discussed the two creation stories offered in Genesis 1 and 2 and explored the Hebrew names of God. In November, we will be turning our attention to the ancestors of faith found in the Bible and their own beginnings in faith!

SPUD BAKE RAISED \$1025.00

to purchase gifts for Contact Ministries' Christmas distribution. Thank you to all who contributed and to Mary Ray and Mary Gail Romack who worked with our youth!



THANK YOU also to the Sherrick family for hosting a bonfire for 23 Junior and Senior High youth at their farm on October 4!

THE 2016 MISSION: APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

The Mission Information Meeting will be **Sunday, November 1, at 11:15 a.m.** in the Youth Room. Come for more information and to sign up! The 2016 Mission will be to North Carolina, July 23-30, 2016, to help make homes warmer, safer, and drier, and to build relationships in our group, with the community, and with all we will join in service!

ROAD TO EMMAUS JUNIOR HIGH

Our sixth and seventh graders are continuing their study of the Bible through the *Engage the Story* curriculum, led by the wonderful Collin Innis and Karen Sherrick. Our eighth graders have enjoyed a three-week series on Christian history taught by Dr. Peter Kieffer, and will spend November learning about Presbyterian history and polity, with a class on Westminster history taught by our own Dale Rogers!

CHILDREN UPDATE by Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill



A BIG THANK YOU to Pat and Al Hymans, Kelly Bassett and friends for a **Harvest Fest** to remember. We had 140 in attendance from our own church and the surrounding community. Costumes were exceptional this year and the maze was AMAZING!

MARK YOUR DECEMBER CALENDAR for the **Advent Celebration on Sunday, December 6**, at 5:00 p.m. Remember to bring "Toys for Tots" for children in the community as your "meal ticket!"

BRIDGES CHILDREN MISSION PROJECT

Help support refugees from Syria by donating these following items: **hand towel** (approximately 16" x 28"), **washcloth**, **wide-tooth comb**, **nail clippers** (no metal files or emery boards), **a bar of soap** (bath size in wrapper), **toothbrush** (in original packaging), **Band-Aids**. Please place your donations in the basket located in the West Narthex. These GIFT OF THE HEART KITS will be assembled by our children on November 18 and donated to Presbyterian Disaster Relief.

PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

FELLOWSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

PARENTS' GROUP FELLOWSHIP gathers each Sunday to provide camaraderie, support and study on the parenting journey. Discussion is led by Dr. Marc and Jen DeJong, with pastoral support from the Reverend Sarah Iloff McGill. Special activities are planned for children in the Nursery. ALL PARENTS ARE INVITED TO A POTLUCK on **Saturday, December 12, 6:30 p.m.** at Jen and Marc DeJong's house for dinner and a night away from the kids. Please bring a side dish or dessert. Wrap up a white elephant gift to exchange.

THEOLOGY ON TAP (ages 21 – 40) meets Monday, November 2, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., at Obed and Isaac's (500 S. 6th St.). This gathering is led by Rev. Hannah Dreitcer.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 continues to gather for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Our brown bag lunch will be on November 10.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE; ALL AGES WELCOME) meets Friday, November 20, at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall for a potluck dinner and "Sing Along with Ed", featuring Ed Gehlbach on ukulele and guitar. We will not meet again until March.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP meets Thursday, November 12, at 7:00 a.m. Dave Leonatti will provide a presentation on a successful program taking place at Southeast High School.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW HOSTS WORLD COMMUNITY DAY WITH CHURCH WOMEN UNITED on Friday, November 6. Lunch will be at noon in Parish Hall and the World Community Day service will be at 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Kitchen Chairs are Jeanne and Julie Pittman. Chair of the Day is Judy Ridinger. Please call the Church Office by Wednesday, November 4, to make your reservation.



RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets Wednesday, November 4, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Stephanie Moore. We will discuss Chapter III: Explorations in True Self: Intimations of the Soul of *A Hidden Wholeness*, by Parker J. Palmer.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets on Monday, November 9, at 5:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Judy Ridinger will be our leader for our Bible study *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*: Chapter 12.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets on Tuesday, November 17, at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Our hostess, Leah Duling, will give devotions. Mina Bentsen will lead our study of *Reconciling Paul*, Lesson 3.

PAGE TURNERS BOOK STUDY will combine our November and December meetings on December 9 at 11:00 a.m. at the Sangamo Club for lunch and discussion of *Dead Wake* by Erik Larson.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

HOME COMMUNION – Home Communion was re-introduced on World Communion Sunday with 14 people receiving the sacrament delivered by six teams of Elders and Deacons. Home Communion is available every Communion Sunday (2nd Sunday of each month). If you are unable to attend worship but would like to take part in the Lord's Supper, please contact the Church Office.

CPR TRAINING – On October 17, Westminster hosted a Red Cross instructor who trained 12 ushers, staff, and nursery workers in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Thanks to those who participated in helping make our church more prepared for emergencies.

PARISH NURSE UPDATE BY JUDY RIDINGER

On October 25, 11 members received a regular flu shot, 18 received the high dose flu shot (over age 65), and 2 members received the pneumonia shot. 31 members participated (16 more than last year).

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

CROP WALK THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who made this year's CROP Walk to end hunger such a success. To date, Westminster has collected \$1,530.



UN REFUGEE AGENCY will receive \$2,500 from the Westminster Endowment Fund towards their efforts in assisting Syrian refugees living in Jordan. This amount will be matched by the Presbytery of Great Rivers. The designation was made by the Mission and Community Service Committees.

HELPING HANDS meal for the 2nd Friday in October was prepared and served by Mary Ray.

UNICEF OFFERING – At the P.W. luncheon, DMA, and the Harvest Fest, we gathered funds to help children through UNICEF, raising a total of \$240.

GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH NOVEMBER MENU: *Beef-a-roni, Green Beans, Peaches, Corn Bread Mix*. Thank you to those who bring their donations and place them in the baskets in the West Narthex. From August 3 – September 21, WPC collected 76 pounds of food which was donated to the Central Illinois Foodbank.

COMPASS, a weekly, after-school, neighborhood-based program, which provides homework help, life skills and hot meals for at-risk children from Graham Elementary School, resumes Tuesday, November 3. WPC volunteers are **Cathy Allen, Carolyn and Keith Beatty, Nancy Canady, Ann Collins, Stella Cole, Helen Evenson, David Haaker, Pat and Al Hibbert, Lynn McMnamin, Judy Mier, Linda and Bill Schlosser, Brad Swanson and Amy Xanders**. We partner with Central Baptist Church in this work.

ST. JOHN'S BREADLINE FUNDRAISER will be on St. Andrew's Sunday, November 22. Donations are welcome and bread will be shared. Join us in reaching beyond our doors into the community.

ADOPT A FAMILY – We will work with Contact Ministries again this year to sponsor gifts for nine families. Tags for gifts will be available in the West Narthex beginning November 23. For further information, contact Kay Smith at 691-9401.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

WEDDINGS

Beth Bellatti and Tad Allen were married October 10 in Litchfield, Illinois. Beth is the daughter of **Sandy Bellatti**.

Lucy Preckwinkle and John Stafford were married October 24 at Westminster. Lucy is the daughter of **Rosalee Preckwinkle**.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Katie and Patrick Moore will present their daughter, Charlotte Anne, for baptism on Sunday, November 15.

IN MEMORIAM

Leroy Tungett died on October 9. The prayers of the congregation are extended to his wife, Carol, his children, **Eleanor VanDeventer**, Linda Hoadley and **Michael Tungett**, and their families.

Sally Papp died on October 10. A service celebrating her life was held at Westminster on October 26. The prayers of the congregation are extended to her husband, **Stanley Papp**, and their children, Beth Hilligoss and David Papp, and their families.

NEW ADDRESSES

To Concordia Village; 4101 W Iles Ave, Springfield, IL 62711

Betty and Ivan Birrer; Apt 3218

Sharon and Matt Gilmour; Apt 3315

Ruth Robert-Roland; Apt 3101

Mary and Bill Schnirring; Apt 3214

Sandy Hill has moved to Crystal Lake, IL. Her new address is 605 Hillcrest Lane, Crystal Lake, IL 60014.

Sue and Bill Donels have moved to 28 Turnberry Ln. 62704.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

On Sunday, November 8, a Congregational Meeting will be held in the Sanctuary following the 10:00 a.m. worship service to elect the following Church Officers to the Class of 2018:

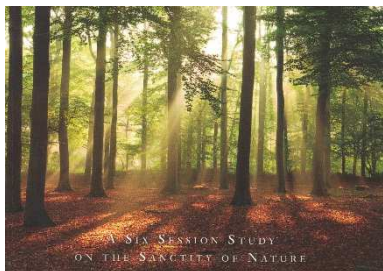
ELDERS Dr. Marc DeJong, Peg DiFonso, Joe Fierstos, Tim Grunder, Christie Hovey, Julie James, Dr. Judy Knox, Steve Scaife, Jenna Milward (Youth)
Dr. Glen Pittman, Brad Swanson – (Class of 2017)

BOARD OF DEACONS William Dove, Scott Hibbert, Vallery Huston, David Jenkins, Tim Kluge, Katie Matteson, Stephanie Moore, Lynne O'Shea, Emma Shafer (Youth)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE Debbie Turnbull (Elder and Chair), Marc Anderson, Harold Hale, Mal Hildebrand, Cathy Schwartz

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE Leigh Milward, Karl Pound, Dr. Andrew Sherrick (Class of 2017)

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM: SACRED PLACE - SACRED ROLE SUNDAYS, NOVEMBER 1, 8, 15



On Sunday, November 1, at 11:15 a.m. in the Third Floor Chapel, the Adult Education Forum presents "Sacred Place – Sacred Role," led by the Reverend Trajan McGill. This three-week course will view a DVD which presents perspectives from theology and science and building a bridge between the two. The dialogue and discussion will help us connect our faith to science, clarify the role of humans in relation to creation and provide practical ways for us to care for creation.

EARTH CARE INITIATIVE

The Session voted in May to move forward with an initiative from the Community Service and Mission Committees to explore becoming a Presbyterian Church (USA) Earth Care Congregation. An assessment of our current eco-friendly practices has been completed and will be presented to Session at their November meeting. Serving on the Earth Care Team are Peter Kieffer, chair, Amy Ballinger-Cole, Tim Kluge and Brad Steller.

INTRODUCING "SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS" SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 9:30 A.M. IN PARISH HALL

This Sunday, November 1, WPC will introduce a "Service of Healing and Wholeness." This service will be held on the first Sunday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in Parish Hall and will last 15 minutes. Led by our pastors and accompanist, Karen Kraft, this simple service of the Iona Community in Scotland will gather people for prayer and music.



STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

GENERATIONS OF GENEROSITY

Thank you to all who have made their 2016 pledge. As of Tuesday, October 27, we have received 200 pledges, 67% of our 300 pledge goal and \$620,177.00, 74% of our \$841,590.00 goal. If you have not yet pledged and intend to do so, you may pledge online at www.wpcspi.org or complete a pledge card.

Your Stewardship Committee: George Preckwinkle; Chair, Dr. Craig Batterman, Meridith Bryans, Grady Chronister, Susan Dove, Christie Hovey, Marty Sumner, and Robert Wire.

SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Income received in September was below expectations. For the year, income is \$20,830 under the budgeted amount. Expenses are only slightly over budget, so September's net total is \$22,025 expenses exceeding income.

2015 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 709,208	\$ 730,038	\$ -20,830
Expenses	\$-731,232	\$-730,038	\$ - 1,195
Net Total	\$- 22,025	\$ 0	

Westminster Staff

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

The Reverend Trajan I. McGill
Associate Pastor for Parish Life
tmcgill@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Hannah M. Dreitzer
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
hdreitzer@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Sarah Iliff McGill
Parish Associate for Children's Ministries
smcgill@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate
pastorboutelle@yahoo.com

Dale T. Rogers
Director of Music and the Arts
drogers@wpcspi.org

Deb Watts
Saturday Worship Pianist and
Music Coordinator
Deb.watts@live.com

Judy Ridinger, Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurses
jaridinger@att.net; ecarpenter@wpcspi.org

Abigail Cline, Katie Kirschbaum
Nursery Workers

Emily Rowley, Kari Soria
Cooperative Preschool Teachers
westminstercoop@gmail.com

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

Connie Brown
Church Administrative Assistant
cbrown@wpcspi.org

Liz Maxey
Administrative Assistant to the Pastors
lmmaxey@wpcspi.org

Gary Warnick
Head Custodian and
Rental Properties Coordinator
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

Roy Ahlers, Steve Council, Bill Hibbert
Custodians

**DECEMBER REPORTER DEADLINE IS
NOVEMBER 22**

**CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
NOVEMBER 26 & 27 IN OBSERVANCE OF
THANKSGIVING**