

THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

October 2017

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

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

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 Forum
11:15 a.m. – 12 noon

September 30 & October 1

WORLD COMMUNION

Exodus 17:1-7; Matthew 21:23-32
Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Holy Ambivalence

October 7 & 8

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Philippians 3:4b-14
Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Holy Difference

October 14 & 15

75TH CHOIR ANNIVERSARY

Exodus 32:1-4; Matthew 22:1-14
Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
A Changed Mind

October 21 & 22

MISSION EMPHASIS

Exodus 33:12-23; Matthew 22:15-22
Reverend Trajan I. McGill
To the Emperor, to God

October 28 & 29

STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION REFORMATION SUNDAY

Deuteronomy 34:1-12; I Thessalonians 2:1-8
Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Be the Change

Stewardship Dedication

Saturday, October 28 and Sunday, October 29

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life. - I Timothy 6:18-19

LIVING GENEROUSLY is this year's Stewardship theme based on I Timothy 6:18-19 and II Corinthians 8:9. Our church family is made resilient when we work together, and our individual lives are enriched when we reach beyond ourselves. This year's stewardship theme reminds us of the importance of being rich in good works, generous, and ready to share.

The Stewardship Committee is asking members who are able to consider increasing their pledge or financial gift by 5% in 2018. The committee hopes that those who did not pledge last year will consider a pledge of \$10 per week. **Please pledge by Dedication Sunday, October 29.**

2018 Stewardship Committee: *Christie Hovey, chair, Bill Simpson, vice-chair, Cara Barnett, Grady Chronister, Brian Cozadd, Joe Fierstos, Anne Haaker, Dick Herndon, Christy Pound, Sharon Reynolds, Steve Scaife, and Betsy Shepherd*

75TH CHOIR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 AT 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP



Choral singing has been an important part of worship since the beginnings of this congregation. John Francis Rague was the first director for a choir at the Second Presbyterian Church (now Westminster) in addition to being the architect for the Old State Capitol. When the current building was built in 1906, the choir was abandoned in favor of a professional quartet of singers; a practice that was prevalent in churches at the turn of the last century.

However, in 1942, a memorial gift for air time on WTAX radio required a group of singers near the broadcast microphone for the hymn singing. John Thompson stepped forward and then organized the Westminster Choir and served as the choir director for over 25 years. David Mitchell was the second choirmaster (1967-1985) directing several choirs as well as serving as the organist. Since 1986, Dale Rogers has served as the Director of Music and the Arts at Westminster.

On Sunday, October 15 during the 10:00 a.m. service we will celebrate members of the current Westminster Choir and those who have sung with the choir over the years. **Anyone who has ever sung in the choir, please join in singing the closing Benediction response, Day By Day** of Harold Friedell. At 9:40 a.m. former members of the choir are encouraged to join in the choral warm-up in the Music Room to prepare the response that will be sung in the chancel following the final hymn and pastoral benediction.

A reception for the Westminster Choir in Parish Hall will follow the service.



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

For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. II Corinthians 8:9

Dear Friends,

LIVING GENEROUSLY is this year's Stewardship theme based on I Timothy 6:18-19 and II Corinthians 8:9. As we consider our financial commitment for 2018, we are invited to reflect on the generosity of our Lord Jesus Christ who joined us in our humanity to share the love of God and to teach us how to live more fully into our humanity.

The Apostle Paul uses the metaphor of Jesus embracing poverty that we might become rich. This richness is not material in nature. Becoming rich in Christ is the fullness of life lived within relationship...relationship with the loving God to whom we belong in life and in death, and relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Becoming rich is being a part of a community that enters into the baptismal covenant, teaching our children the faith that sustains us, and giving them the power to **"take hold of the life that really is life."** Becoming rich is journeying with our youth as they come into their own and providing opportunities for them **"to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share."** Becoming rich is the discipline of giving to others in tangible ways, both in service and in a financial commitment. It is in the giving of ourselves that we become more secure in ourselves, **"storing up...the treasure of a good foundation for the future."**

As I approach my fourth anniversary, I am grateful for my relationship as your pastor which enriches my life and for the deepening relationships among us. I join the Stewardship Committee in inviting you to give out of the generosity you have received, to give because you want to give, and to give because you can!

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

WESTMINSTER CHOIR rehearses each Thursday at 7:30 p.m. to prepare music for the 10:00 a.m. services and for seasonal concerts and special occasions.

CHURCH MICE is our music experience for infants to kindergarteners, based on the early childhood development program, *Music Together*. The program for children and their parents, grandparents or caregivers meets on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. You are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors in your play groups to join in the fun.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS (Grades 3-6) meets on Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. following Bridges.

THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR (Kindergarten - Grade 2) will be held on Wednesdays beginning **October 11 at 4:45 p.m.**

SCOTTISH ORGANIST GORDON STEWART will present an organ concert at Westminster on Friday, October 13 at 7:00 p.m. Gordon is organ tutor for the Organ Scholars at Cambridge University and the Borough Organist of Kirklees in Huddersfield. He has been the organist of both Manchester and Blackburn Cathedrals and a musical director for the BBC program Songs of Praise. His program will include works of Widor, Bach, Haydn, Handel and an American premiere of a work by Andrew Carter. In this case, Friday the thirteenth is our lucky day!

REFORMATION 500: Music based on Chorales of Martin Luther. Dale Rogers, organist. Sunday, November 12 at 4:00 p.m.



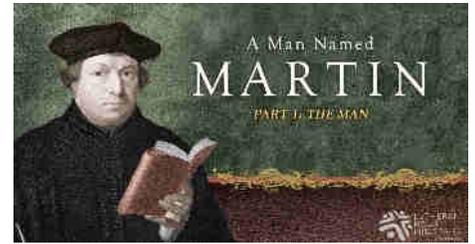
ADULT EDUCATION

A MAN NAMED MARTIN

SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 15, 22, 29, NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19, 26, DECEMBER 10 AND 17

The Adult Education Forum meets each Sunday morning from **11:15 a.m. to 12 noon** in the **Second Floor Classroom**.

On Sunday, October 15 we will begin a DVD series entitled **A Man Named Martin** in celebration of the 500th Year Anniversary of the Reformation which began when Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517. **The series explores (1) The Man, (2) The Moment, and (3) The Movement in succinct DVD presentations** featuring noted theologians. This series will parallel three musical programs featuring music of the Reformation: Scottish Organist Gordon Stewart on Friday, October 13, Reformation 500 presented by Organist Dale Rogers on Sunday, November 12, and the Westminster Christmas Vespers on Sunday, December 10. Join us for these classes as we revisit Church history and the events that shaped who we are today!



LIBRARIES OPEN ON SUNDAYS THIS FALL



Did you know both the adult and children's libraries are open on Sunday mornings? Feel free to stop by after the service and check out or return books. The Library Committee has been hard at work clearing out and recycling old fiction books and now we need to refill the shelves with newer books. If you have newer fiction books that would be appropriate for the library, please consider donating them. If we cannot use them, we will find an appropriate home for them. Val Leonatti is also a valuable member of the library committee. I am so sorry her name was left off the committee list. *Sharon Turner*

SATURDAYS AT WESTMINSTER

CHEESE AND CIDER RECEPTION ON OCTOBER 28 FOLLOWING 5:30 P.M. WORSHIP

Saturday worship at Westminster shifted to a spring, summer and fall schedule in 2016. A Cheese and Cider reception will follow the service on Saturday, October 28 in Parish Hall as we conclude the 2017 season. The Westminster Jazz Trio will share some of its repertoire as we celebrate this meaningful and intimate communion service.



NEW MEMBERS CLASS

SUNDAYS, NOVEMBER 5 & 12, 9:15 A.M. IN PASTOR'S STUDY



Friends and visitors are invited to a New Members Class on Sundays, November 5 and 12, 11:15 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. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, November 19, following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

YOUTH UPDATE by Natalie Knox

CROP WALK is Sunday, October 1!

The Junior and Senior High will take part as one of our fall service projects. Youth can register and collect donations online! **No Youth Group that evening.**

LAKE NIGHT AT THE DAYS' will be

Sunday, October 15, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Junior and Senior High are invited to join us for fellowship, a bonfire, hot dogs and chili at their lake home.

THE ANNUAL SPUD BAKE will be held on **Sunday, October 22**, from 8:00-11:30 a.m. at the church to raise funds for the Contact Ministries Christmas Gift Distribution. Come buy a spud and share God's love!

CONFIRMANDS AND MENTORS

LEARN CHURCH HISTORY AND VISIT MOSQUE

Thank you to Dee Dee Duffy, Joe Fierstos, Meg Kontio, Julie Robbs, Mary Gail Romack and Andy Sherrick for serving as mentors to our confirmands this year. **On Sunday, October 8**, at 4:00 p.m. eighth graders and their mentors are invited to the Kieffers' for dinner and a review of Church history. **On Friday, October 13**, at 5:00 p.m. eighth graders, their parents and their mentors will gather at Westminster for their visit to the Islamic Society of Greater Springfield.

SATURDAY EVENING SENIOR HIGH BIBLE STUDY continues this month with a dinner at the DeJong home (1955 Illini Rd) on **Saturday, October 28 at 5:00 pm**, with Bible study to follow. As always, friends are welcomed and encouraged!

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH: ZAYNE IRELAND



Senior Zayne Ireland preached at First Presbyterian in Virden, Illinois on Sunday, September 24. His message on humility was inspired, thoughtful, and well-delivered. Zayne intends to pursue a joint career as a nurse and pastor, and is applying to serve as a Youth Advisor Delegate at the PC(USA) General

Assembly in St. Louis next summer. Zayne is an affiliate member of Westminster and grew up at First Presbyterian in Virden where Elder Sue Sawers served as their Commissioned Lay Pastor from 2009-2017.

WPC YOUNG ADULTS MEET SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29



Young Adults (ages 18-29) will gather on **Sunday, October 29, 11:30 a.m. at Obed and Isaac's**. WPC Young Adults met for brunch on Sunday, September 24th at Obed and Isaac's. Great fellowship and good food was had by all.

Pictured to the right: Natalie Knox and Kara DuBois visiting during Commotion Sunday reception.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES by Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

BRIDGES CHILDREN PROCESS WITH BREADS OF THE WORLD

Bridges Children (Grades 3-5) will process during the 10:00 a.m. voluntary Siyahamba "a Zulu Melody" with the breads of the world as we celebrate World Communion Sunday. The Communion table will be adorned with African textiles, a gift of the late Andrea Butler.

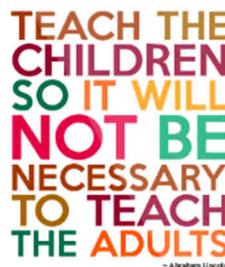


Bridges children will also lead the Call to Worship and participate in the Children's Sermon which will highlight the Church World Service CROP Walk. Members are invited to sponsor the children and youth who will join the Springfield community in the annual walk to raise funds for world hunger. The walk begins at 1:00 p.m. at Third Presbyterian Church.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM

WPC HOSTS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 4:30 - 6 P.M.

Children in Grades K-6 are invited to quarterly Wednesday gatherings to foster interfaith fellowship and understanding, hosted by the Islamic Society of Greater Springfield, Springfield Board of Jewish Education, Grace United Methodist Church and Westminster. **Sandy Bellatti and Mary Caroline Mitchell** will plan the October 4 gathering with the theme "Respect and Responsibility." **Carole Kennerly** wrote the skit, and **Pat Hymans** will provide the meal.



CHILDREN'S OFFERING: HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

The children's offering is received at the beginning of the Children's Sermon each Sunday. By doing so, we honor and dedicate the contributions of our children and share in the joy of giving with one another and the church. Each child received a box of children's offering envelopes, with one envelope for each Sunday of the year. Offering boxes are available during Sunday School so be sure to pick yours up!



In 2016-2017, the children's offering totaled \$540. This was enough to send 27 flocks of chicks to families through Heifer. At Commotion Sunday, **the children selected the fish for their 2017-2018 Heifer Project animal.** Each pond costs \$300. Let's see how many families we can assist!

NURSERY NEWS

We are grateful to **Lizzy Olmsted** who joins our staff as a nursery worker in October. Lizzy is taking classes at Lincoln Land Community College. She joins Abigail Cline in caring for our youngest members.

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS

PLAYGROUND MULCH was purchased and distributed by the board and parents on Saturday, September 23. Thank you to WCP for this thoughtful gift to make the playground safer for our children.



COMMOTION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10



Teachers, leaders, children and youth gathered in the Chancel on Commotion Sunday to celebrate the beginning of a new year at Westminster. Our teachers were commissioned and we participated in the blessing of the backpacks. Thank you to all who lead, teach, and nurture the children and youth of our faith community. A reception followed in Parish Hall for all to enjoy meaningful fellowship, good food, and opportunities to learn.



Centenarian Wilbur Wright and nonagenarian June Flood celebrate the commotion of another beginning at WPC.



Family and friends join in fellowship around tables and explore opportunities to serve and grow in faith.



Daehler McGill is surrounded by friends and explores with joy so many new beginnings.



Gerry Hale and granddaughters Sophie and Elodie Ngoupa delight in the moment.

HIGHLIGHTS IN SEPTEMBER

WESTMINSTER CHOIR RETREAT SEPTEMBER 9



For over 20 years Westminster Choir has begun its season with a retreat at Indian Point Presbyterian Church. Following an afternoon of reading through new music and a service of evensong, they share in a meal in Petersburg.

FIFTY AND SIXTY-YEAR MEMBERS HONORED SEPT 24



Pictured above: Dr. Kieffer, Pat Roller, Sandy and Jon Hockenyos, Mina Bentsen, Jan Baxter and Rev. McGill, (Not pictured are Mark Cochran and Kathy Germeraad.

SWINGING ON A PRAYER GOLF SCRAMBLE SEPT 24



Twenty golfers enjoyed a scramble the afternoon of September 24. Twenty-eight shared in drinks, fellowship, and dinner following golf.

This was the third annual gathering. Special thanks to Ace Hardware for the gift certificates awarded to our winners.

DMA FEATURES “WOODEN IT BE LOVELY!”



Sue Baker and the Rev. Margaret Ann Jessup of Douglas Avenue Methodist Church following a DMA presentation.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

Judy and Dan Dees were received by Certificate of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Springfield at the September Session meeting. Judy grew up in Decatur and Dan in Oblong, IL. They met at the University of Illinois where Judy earned her BS degree in Home Economics with a focus on Retail, Marketing and Business, and Dan received his BS & Masters in civil engineering. They moved to Springfield in 1960 and have two children, Susan Hargrove and Paul Dees, two grandchildren and two great-grandsons. Dan enjoys sailing. They have a home in Engelwood, FL where they spend their winters. Sue and Jess Werner are their sponsors.



PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill HURRICANE RELIEF DONATIONS



Thank you to all who donated to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance hurricane relief effort. **To-date we have received \$11,613.** Thank you also to Brad Milliman for coordinating an immediate response transporting emergency supplies to Texas. Here are words of thanks from Brad:

Westminster Presbyterian Congregation,

I just wanted to take a minute to send out an update from the Houston Donation Effort that so many of you participated in earlier this month.

Thanks to the generous donations from all of you who joined the families at Butler, Iles, and Lindsay Elementary Schools, Illini Country Club, and countless other individuals who contributed. our combined efforts were a huge success. Together we filled a U-Haul truck and trailer with supplies such as diapers, baby formula, new clothes, personal hygiene items, kid's toys, books, and other entertainment items, 50+ Pack 'n Plays, and on, and on. In addition, with the help of Two Men and a Truck, we shipped over 10,000 lbs. of water bottles to Houston. Finally, donations totaling more than \$10,000 were raised by the congregation at Westminster Presbyterian Church as part of this effort, which were forwarded directly to the Presbyterian Disaster Relief Fund. I would estimate that the combined total of all the donations was around \$50,000.

This effort started with three text messages on a Monday evening, and evolved into something much bigger by the time our team left town on Thursday evening of that same week.

I want to personally thank each of you for your generosity and participation in this effort. On behalf of the many Houstonians, our team had the pleasure of meeting, and at their specific request, I convey to you their sincere gratitude of thanks that they wanted to extend.

If you ever have any questions about this trip, our team, or where your donations landed, or if you have any interest in learning how you can further reach out and help victims in the Houston area, please do not hesitate to contact me at bradmilliman@hotmail.com. I would be happy to put you in contact with some of the amazing organizations we connected with during our time there. Additionally, you can follow the journey you helped support on Facebook by searching and liking "Helping Houston From Springfield Illinois".

It was an honor to be a part of this effort, and it was awesome to see the results of what happens when so many individuals come together for a common cause.

Sincerely, [Brad Milliman and] The Team

NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS WELCOME

We have enjoyed hearing from members about mission and service in which they are involved. If you have ideas for growing WPC's mission, the Mission & Community Service Committees would love to hear them. For more info on submitting your own proposals, speak to committee chairpersons Kay Smith and Peter Kieffer, or Trajan McGill.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE CROP WALK WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

1:00 P.M. AT THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join the Springfield community as we address hunger in our world and community. The walk begins at Third Presbyterian Church (1030 North Seventh St). Check-in is at 1:00 p.m. with a start time of 1:30 p.m. Members are invited to support Westminster youth or join them on the walk. Krista Steller and Becky Martin are organizers, and Linda Shaefer serves as treasurer. Donations can be made online at: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/springfieldil/Team/View/46651/Westminster-Pres>, or to Westminster by check with memo note *CROP Walk*.



The CROP Walk is an anti-hunger initiative of Church World Service, an international, inter-denominational Christian aid organization focused on global development, immigrant and refugee care, and hunger and disaster relief. CWS is currently in the process of delivering approximately 140,000 hygiene kits to hurricane-affected areas.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH OCTOBER MENU:

Canned Chili or Soup with Pop Tops, Biscuit Mix, and 100% juice or water canned fruit. Thank you to those who place items in the West Narthex baskets for the Central Illinois Foodbank. **Items in High Demand:** *feminine hygiene products, shampoo, diapers & wipes, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.*

HELPING HANDS

Thanks to Cathy Schwartz and John Shafer for providing the meal on September 8th. The October 13th meal will be prepared and delivered by Joe Fierstos.

COMPASS FOR KIDS RESUMES OCTOBER 17

Central Baptist Church partners with us in providing this after-school program on Tuesdays. Consider becoming part of the team! Thanks to new and returning volunteers **Cathy Allen, Carolyn Beatty, Rance Carpenter, Ann Collins, David Haaker, Kathy Germeraad, Carole Kennerly, Lynn McMenamin, Emma Shafer, and Jack Zervas.**



CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

HOME COMMUNION was delivered September 10 to twelve members by five teams of elders and deacons. If you are unable to attend worship on October 1 (World Communion Sunday) and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact Jennie Alt. Many thanks to those who participate in bringing the Lord's Supper.

PRAYER MINISTRY

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

We occasionally receive requests for the congregation to pray. **If you would like to be added to our email list ("Prayer Chain") of those who receive these requests and offer prayers on behalf of others, please contact the church office, or talk to Rev. Trajan McGill.**

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION gather for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Their next brown-bag lunch will be on October 10 at 12:00 p.m. **POCKET PRAYER SHAWLS** are available in the basket located in the West Narthex (next to the Church Office) as a gift to our members from the K2P4 knitters. This is a miniature version of a prayer shawl that is small enough to fit inside a pocket. The crafter infuses each stitch with a prayer of loving intention to provide goodwill to the person who carries it.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 - 6:30 P.M. POTLUCK & 7:15 P.M. PROGRAM

We welcome Steve Gossard, Curator of the ISU Circus and Allied Arts Unique Collection. He will present a program entitled "The Illinois Circus Connection." Please come for the program, even if you are unable to attend the potluck and fellowship. Guests and youth are always welcome.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW LUNCHEON will meet **Friday, October 6** at noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chairs are Jeanne Pittman & Julie McDonough. The Chair of the Day is Judy Ridinger. Leah Duling will review a book from the Westminster Ziegler Library: "*Their Eyes Were Watching God*" by Zora Neale Thurston. "A classic from the Harlem Renaissance."

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE will meet **Wednesday, October 4** at **7:00 p.m.** in the home of Pat Wheat (11 Pickering Lane 62712). We will discuss the Introduction and chapter one of Judith Viorst's book "*Imperfect Control: Our Lifelong Struggles with Power and Surrender.*"



ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet **Monday, October 2** at **5:30 p.m.** in Second Floor Classroom. Lynne O'Shea will lead our program "According to Hebrews" based on chapter 6 of the PW Horizon Bible Study *Who is Jesus? By Judy Yates Siker.*

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet **Tuesday, October 17** at **9:30 a.m.** in the church Library. Pat Hymans will be the hostess and present the devotional. We will study Lesson 2: Mark of the PW Horizon Bible Study *Who is Jesus? By Judy Yates Siker.*

ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR

Saturday, October 7, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Join us at the Fall Bazaar (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 shoes, please. Thank you! Proceeds from the sale support volunteer activities for the residents. For more information, contact Anne Haaker at 546-4037.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN

MONTHLY MEN'S BREAKFAST meets **Thursday, October 13,** at **7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall.** Join us for breakfast fellowship the 2nd Thursday of each month, featuring a short program on a topic of general interest. Leaders are still needed for most months this year, so please consider giving a presentation on something you'd like to share about, providing breakfast, or leading devotions. Speak to Keith Hamilton, Harold Hale, or the Rev. Trajan McGill for details.

WORLDWIDE PHOTO WALK ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 –

Member Bob Fox will lead a walking tour beginning at the Henson Robinson Zoo at 7:00 a.m., The Worldwide Photo walk supports the Springs of Hope Kenya Orphanage. Contact Bob Fox at bob@mpmis.com, or go to <http://worldwidephotowalk.com>, pick Springfield, IL as the location and sign up.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Camille Degner, George Johnson, Lynn McMenamin, Lynne O'Shea and Julie Sundquist who have been nominated for Contact Ministries Volunteer of the Year.

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Nancy & Lon Scott celebrate 64 years on October 10.

NEWLYWEDS

Christa Kathleen Nenaber and Ethan Brown were united in marriage on September 9 in Salida, Colorado.

Erin Steller and Michael Schey were united in marriage on September 16 in Chicago.

IN MEMORIAM

James Frederick Blythe died September 12. The prayers of the congregation are extended to his parents, Jan Patterson and Chas Blythe, and his sister, Jennifer Blythe. A memorial service and lunch reception will be held Saturday, October 7 at 11:00 a.m. in Parish Hall with the Reverend Julie Wells Blythe officiating.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Susan and Scott Day on the death of Susan's mother, to Maggie and Joshua Day-Pinke, and to Spencer Day on the death of their grandmother, Cherry Lefferts, on September 15 in Philadelphia.

THANK YOU

On behalf of Senior Services of Central Illinois, thank you for your service of delivering meals for Springfield Meals on Wheels. – *Sara Powell, Program Coordinator*

CHURCH LIFE APP FOR CELL PHONES & TABLETS SIGN UP FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

On the first Sunday of each month, the I.T. Committee will be in the West Narthex to assist members with installing the Church Life App



on your phone or tablet. The I.T. Committee comprises Keith Hamilton, Dick Herndon, Al Hymans, and Krista Steller and staffed by the Rev. Trajan McGill,

AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Thank you for your faithfulness to the ministry of Westminster. At the end of August, our expenses exceeded income by \$31,291. This fall, we are anticipating that our income will increase. You will be receiving a contribution statement in early October. We encourage each member to check your giving compared to the pledge amount on the statement, and if needed, to catch up before the December rush. Please call Lisa Runkle if you have any questions.

2017 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 613,267	\$ 656,583	\$ - 43,316
Expenses	\$-644,558	\$-656,583	\$ 12,025
Net	\$ 31,291	\$ 0	



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 TO ELECT CHURCH OFFICERS AND APNC

On Sunday, October 8, the congregation will meet in the Sanctuary immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service to elect church officers and the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

ELDERS CLASS OF 2020: Rance Carpenter, Linda Chronister, Kathy Germeraad, Nichole Magalis, Brad Steller, Marty Stutz, Mark Vasconcelles, Dr. Will Wright, Matthew Knox (youth)

BOARD OF DEACONS CLASS OF 2020: Robert Bradford, Joe Burgess, Dr. Virginia Dolan, Rachel Vivian Gordon, Jacob Hill, Dr. Michael Nenaber, Maribeth Norton, Roe Stone, Emma Batterman (youth) **CLASS OF 2018:** Fiona Irvin

NOMINATING COMMITTEE Adam Ekstedt, Mary Jo Jenkins, Jay Kennerly, Lynn McMenamain

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE Sally Godbey and Keith Hamilton

ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Sandy Bellatti, Lucas Carpenter, Susan Day, Craig Morrison, Christy Pound, Emma Shafer, Karen Sherrick, Pete VanGieson, Bill Ward

Thank you to the 2017 Nominating Committee: *Glen Pittman (Chair), Marc Anderson, Cathy Brower, Jim Dolan, Harold Hale, Stephanie Moore, and Cathy Schwartz* who prepared this slate of officers.

MISSION EMPHASIS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

On October 21 and 22 mission will be the emphasis of our worship. Westminster has been growing our level of mission work over the past two years, both in financial commitment and in personal involvement. You are invited to explore how you can be involved in carrying Christ's love to the whole world.

On our Mission Emphasis weekend, we will be sharing ways we already are connecting with our community, and asking you to consider additional ways our church can grow its giving and discern the places we are called to serve.

Many thanks to everyone in the Westminster family who continues to care about living out our mission and contribute to our ability to do so.

Mission Committee: *Joe Fierstos, Julie James, Carole Kennerly, Judi Mier, Kay Smith, Alan Wallace*

Community Service Committee: *Peter Kieffer, Al Manson, Brad Milliman, Brad Steller, Kevin Simonson*

THE HARVEST FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 5:00 -7:00 P.M.

Families of the community are invited to be our guests at Westminster's Annual Harvest Fest! **DINNER** is served at 5:00 p.m. followed by a **COSTUME PARADE** at 5:30 p.m. All are encouraged to wear a costume. Following the costume parade, children enjoy an elaborate maze, hands-on activities, and story-time. The evening will culminate with Trunk or Treat in the church parking lot coordinated by the Board of Deacons. The evening will conclude at 7:00 p.m.

Please RSVP by Thursday, October 26, so we know how many to expect. Donations to support **UNICEF** will be collected to assist families in developing countries.



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 Sarah Iliff McGill
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November Reporter Deadline
Sunday, October 29