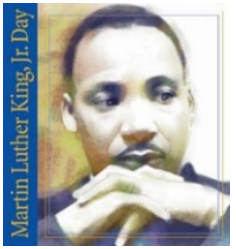

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Second Sunday after Epiphany
Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend
19 January 2025 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen — Spiritual

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

***Call to Worship** — Psalm 36

Leader: Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.
People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep.
Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God.
All people take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
People: May we feast on the abundance of your house and drink from the river of your delights, for with you is the fountain of life.
Leader: Come, let us lift every voice and sing of liberty.

***Hymn 339** Lift Every Voice and Sing — *Lift Every Voice*

***Prayer of Confession**

God, who is older than we can imagine yet ever new; you intend for us to live fully into the future, embracing the unknown with joy. We confess that we cling to what we know rather than risk in faith. We grow comfortable with the way things and lack vision and courage to change. Forgive us. Empty us of fear and fill us with grace and hope that is extravagant and unexpected. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

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

***Declaration of Pardon**

***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

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light *Houston*

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Children and Youth in Kindergarten – Grade 7 go to Sunday School and Confirmation following the Congregational Response.

First Scripture Reading Isaiah 62:1-5 Pew Bible, OT page 692

Second Scripture Reading John 2:1-11 Pew Bible, NT page 93

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Overflowing Grace and Hope Rev. Bobby Musengwa

Text: "When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.'" John 2:3

Anthem Stop By, Lord, Stop By African-American Spiritual

Oh Lord, stop by here. Oh Lord, we need you here.
We need a word from the Lord That will dry all our tears
Oh Lord, stop by here

Oh Lord, stop by here Oh Oh Oh Lord, we need you here
We need a word from the Lord That resolves all our fears
Oh Lord, stop by here

Thou has been a dwelling place
Thank you Lord for your Amazing Grace
An oasis of wealth, blessed with all our health
Oh Lord, stop by here.

Thou has been a dwelling place
We thank you Lord for your Amazing Grace
An oasis of wealth, blessed with all our health
Oh Lord, stop by here

***Affirmation of Faith** From *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

The Church at Prayer

Choir: Surely the presence of our God is in this place,
I can feel God's mighty power and God's 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

The Presentation of our Gifts *At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders in the pew racks.*

Offertory Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen — Spiritual
The rare version

***Offertory Response** Doxology — Hymnal, 606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** **Extravagant God, we gather in this sacred space, guests at a feast of your boundless gifts. Stretch out your canopy of grace that we may delight in your love and justice, which never runs out. Accept the gifts of our lives and our labor as we lift our voices in faith and gratitude. Amen.**

***Hymn 379** We Shall Overcome — *We Shall Overcome*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Closing Voluntary** Amen — African-American Spiritual

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgists**: Rev. Sarah A. Bishop, Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
- **Worship Leader**: Ben Bassett
- **Acolytes:** Charlotte Affrunti and Conner Hill
- **Greeter:** Julie and Jim McDonough and Jeanne Pittman
- **Ushers:** Greg Boutelle (Head Usher), Julie McDonough, Todd Lafrenz, Jim Parker, Susan Shaw, Brad Steller
- **Safety Team:** John Stafford
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Jay Kennerly, Tenor, Lyle VanDeventer, Bass, Dale Rogers, Organist

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, two - three-year-olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. This week's story: "God Took Care of Noah and the Animals" (Noah) *Caregivers: Kara Milward, Sally Godbey, Julie Sundquist*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 5 and youth in Grades 6 - 7** begin in worship & go to Sunday school and Confirmation Prep following the Congregational Response.
  - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** Story: "God's Love Overflows" (John 2:1-11) *Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz, Julie Robbs*
  - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** Story: "The Wedding at Cana" (John 2:1-11) *Teachers: Aaron Berkowitz, Maria DeJong*
  - **Grades 6-7 (Conference Room)** Lesson 29 "New Promise" and Lesson 30 "Death to Life" from the Echo curriculum. *Teachers: Meredith Bryans and Cara Barnett*
- **11:15 a.m. – Noon**
  - **MLK Presentation** (Parish Hall) Members and friends are invited to join Rev. Musenqwa for a presentation entitled "Staying Awake in the Midst of Revolution."
  - **Grade 8 Confirmation Class** attends Presentation by Rev. Musengwa (Parish Hall)
- **5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group Fellowship and Dinner (Parish Hall)** Eighth Graders and Senior High are welcome to gather for dinner and a time of fellowship and Bible Study. *Dinner: Dana and Andrew Affrunti, Adult Leaders: Rev. Sarah Bishop, Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Kyle Duffy, Mary Ray*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS. We are delighted you have joined us! Information about who we are is in our Welcome Brochure located in the pew pockets and on our website at www.wpcspi.org. Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. Our next New Member Classes will be **Sundays, March 2 and 9.**

WE WELCOME THE REV. GODFREY (BOBBY) MUSENGWA to our pulpit today. He will also present a workshop titled "Staying Awake in the Midst of Revolution" following worship in Parish Hall. Rev. Musengwa serves as Pastor of the Maximo Presbyterian Church in St. Petersburg, FL. Bobby was born and raised in South Africa, educated at St. Andrews Presbyterian University (Laurinburg, NC), and received his Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. He and his wife Veronique (who was born in France) have three daughters.

THE 50TH ANNUAL MLK BREAKFAST HOSTED BY SPRINGFIELD FRONTIERS will be held Monday, January 20, 8:30 a.m. at the Crown Plaza. Westminster will be a Gold Sponsor, donating $1,500. It is symbolic and meaningful for us to have a presence at this community celebration, especially in light of our rich history as advocates for racial justice and equality. Justice Lisa Holder White, Illinois Supreme Court, will be the guest speaker.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE FUND DONATIONS are being received to provide relief for our neighbors in California, who are now facing a devastating disaster. The harrowing images of wildfires consuming parts of Los Angeles and Ventura counties have deeply impacted us all. Session designated $5,000 from the Betty Smith Mission Endowment.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets Tuesday, January 21 at 9:30 a.m. in the library and Randy Wiseman will lead study Lesson 4 "Water Justice" from the PW Horizons Bible Study. Call Nancy Canady at 217-899-9890.

EGGTASTIC BREAKFAST MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

All youth attending the 2025 Mission Trip are expected to work the annual Mission Trip Breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, January 26. **Plan to arrive by 8:00 a.m. and work through the morning!** The Mission participants will prepare and serve a delicious Egg-tastic Breakfast before worship. Come support the Mission and be well nourished for the work of the church at the Annual Meeting following worship!

ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

8:30 – 9:45 A.M. YOUTH EGG-TASTIC BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER IN PARISH HALL

Members are invited to enjoy an incredible breakfast served by youth attending the 2025 Youth Mission Trip to Ashville, North Carolina. The Mission participants will prepare and serve a delicious breakfast before worship at 10:00 a.m. Come support the Mission and be well-nourished for the work of the church at the Annual Meeting following worship!

11:00 – 11:30 A.M. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

THE PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE INSTALLATION SERVICE OF
THE REVEREND SARAH A. BISHOP
AS ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR FAMILY MINISTRY
OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 AT 4:00 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON
A RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW IN PARISH HALL

THE APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP will meet on Tuesday, January 28, 2025. The book for January is titled *After Jesus Before Christianity: A Historical Exploration of the First Two Centuries of Jesus Movements* by Erin Vearncombe, Brandon Scott, Hal Taussig, and the Westar Institute.

ALL WOMEN'S BRUNCH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 FROM 10:00 A.M. – NOON PW will host All Women's Brunch on Saturday, February 1 from 10:00 a.m. - noon in Parish Hall. Dr. Roy Wehrle, Mary Caroline Mitchell, and Eleanor VanDeventer will present a program called "WPC Refugee Programs in the 20th Century." Please RSVP to the church office or our website.

MISSION SUNDAY CELEBRATED FEBRUARY 2 during worship. This is the annual Mission Sunday which began in 2016. A booklet including a comprehensive list of the 2024 mission supported by Westminster and the members of the committees who serve will be distributed. The total Mission Giving for 2024 is **$392,280**. This giving is divided among the Operating Fund, Special Offerings, Presbyterian Women, and the Support and Endowment Mission Funds.

ADULT ED FORUM on Sunday, February 2 presents "Life in the Kennedy Administration." Join Dr. Roy Wehrle at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall to learn about his experience serving within the Kennedy Administration.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Judy Knox (2004 Maryknoll Place, 62704). Mary Ray will lead the devotional by Frank Laubach entitled "Opening Windows to God" (pp. 101-107) from the book, Devotional Classics. RSVP to Judy at 217-691-1057.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE hosts Congregational Gathering on Sunday, February 9 at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall, the Pastor Nominating Committee will host a Congregational Gathering for feedback from members. The PNC, which was elected January 12, will recommend a Co-Pastor who will transition to Head of Staff upon Dr. Kieffer's retirement.

190 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PRESENTS: A Concert of Hymns and Spirituals Sunday, February 9 at 4:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary. Dr. Alfonzo Cooper, Jr., tenor, who was featured in the 2024 musical program *Portraits of Peace* (remembering the lives of civil rights leaders C.T. Vivian and Rosa Parks) returns with his pianist Curtis Baum in a celebration of music of the African American Diaspora and the Oral Tradition. Dr. Cooper has recently been appointed to the music faculty at the prestigious Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Alabama. This program falls in the week of Abraham Lincoln's birthday and in Black History month.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, January 20
8:30 AM Martin Luther King Breakfast (Off site)

Tuesday, January 21
9:30 AM Lydia Circle (Library)
9:30 AM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM Compass for Kids
4:30 PM Support and Endowment (Pastor's Study)
5:30 PM PNC meeting (Pastor's Study)
7:00 PM St. Andrew's Sisters (Off site)

Wednesday, January 22
10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel
10:30 AM Worship Planning
3:30 PM Depression & Bi-Polar Support (Conference Room)
4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)

Thursday, January 23
5:30 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2nd Floor Classroom)
7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, January 24

Saturday, January 25
11:00 AM Church Mice

Sunday, January 26
Annual Meeting of the Congregation
8:30 AM Egg-Tastic Breakfast (Parish Hall)
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School (Pre K-5)
11:00 AM Congregational Annual Meeting (Sanctuary)

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

WESTMINSTER STAFF

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

The Reverend Sarah A. Bishop
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry

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

Kara Milward, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

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

Braden Barton, James Capler, Terry Gietl, Javier Valesquez
Part-time Custodians