

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Mission Sunday
2 February 2025 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment 2024 Mission Giving Jeanne Van Gieson
Compass for Kids Kieley Hendricker

Voluntary Andantino Eric Thiman

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

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Westminster Presbyterian Church believes
that we are in the world for ministry.

People: **With each new day, we reaffirm our common purpose:**

Leader: to join in the worshipful praise of God,

People: **to be influential participants in society by being
accountable to the Gospel,**

Leader: to show the love and compassion of Jesus Christ
toward those who are hurting.

People: **Let the doors of this church be a way to service!**

***Processional Hymn 733** We All Are One in Mission *Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvögelein*

***Prayer of Confession** Holy God, forgive us if we have been careless, insensitive,
or selfish. Pardon us if we have been short-tempered and
irritable. Forgive us if we have been judgmental and
critical. Forgive us if our negativism has brought down
others with us. Pardon these sins against love, and by
your grace enable us to do better. 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

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 Pre-K – Grade 7 go to Sunday School
and Confirmation following the Congregational Response.*

First Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Pew Bible, OT page 698

Second Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Pew Bible, NT page 175

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

Sermon

Tongues of Mortals

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*Text: "If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love,
I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal." 1 Corinthians 13:1*

Anthem

In the Shadow of Your Wings

John Leavitt

Gracious God be merciful. My soul is crying out to you.
My only refuge Lord is you, God most high.
In the shadow of your wings, my soul finds rest from
my deep distress. My Heart hides there till this darkness
passes by. I cry to God on high whose purpose is fulfilled
for me. God reaches down to save and reproaches him
who threatens me. O my God, be merciful. My soul
finds love and truth in you. No other place of safety, Lord
but you. In the shadow of your wings I hide, O my God
most high.
Based on Psalm 57

***Affirmation of Faith**

Romans 12:9-17

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, associate with the humble; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 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 Gabriel's Oboe Ennio Moricone

***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** O God, bless these gifts that we have given as expressions of our love for you and our neighbors, that they may bring closer to fulfillment your reign of peace and love; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Hymn 691** Lord, When I Came into This Life *Land of Rest*

***Charge and Benediction**

Closing Response Day by Day Harold Friedell

***Closing Voluntary** Trumpet Tune John Stanley
(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

IN MEMORIAM

Deanna D. Funk Died 01/22/2025
United with Westminster 12/05/1976

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Chancel Flowers** are given in loving memory of their mother, Faye Hildebrand by her children, Pat Hildebrand-Culler and Mal Hildebrand
- **Sunday Liturgists:** Rev. Sarah A. Bishop,
- **Worship Leader:** Juliet Boutelle
- **Acolytes:** Rose DeJong and Cara Bryans
- **Greeter:** Sarah Zerfas
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Lucy Yockey, Oboist, Dale Rogers, Organist
- **Ushers:** Sabrina Holmes (Head Usher), Ben Arnold, Michella Arnold, Linda Caupert, Kyle Duffy, Chris Hickman, Joyce King
- **Sound and Videography:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller, Bill Deemer
- **Safety Team:** Peter Van Gieson

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Earth Care Team Meeting** (Library)
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, and two-year-olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. This week's story: "Jesus Calls Us All to Follow Him" (Jesus Calls Disciples)
Caregivers: Erin Winn, Maria Lafrenz
- **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.
 - **Preschool - Ages 3-5 (Preschool Classroom lower level)** Story: "Disciples Follow Jesus" (Jesus Calls Disciples I) *Teachers: Sara Eldridge, Cathy Brower*
 - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** Story: "Listening to Jesus" (Luke 4:21-30)
Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz
 - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** Story: "The Angry Neighbors" (Luke 4:21-30)
Teachers: Aaron Berkowitz
 - **Grades 6-7 (Conference Room)** Lesson 31: "The Church" from the Echo curriculum.
Teachers: Mary Ray
- **11:15 a.m. – Noon**
 - **Grade 8 Confirmation Class (Conference Room)** Lesson Eleven, "The Counter-Reformation" *Teachers: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop*
 - **Adult Ed Forum: Life in the Kennedy Administration (Parish Hall)** Join Dr. Wehrle as he talks about his time in Southeast Asia as the Economic Counselor to the U.S. Ambassadors in Laos and Vietnam during the Kennedy Administration.
- **4:00 p.m. Installation Service for Rev. Sarah A. Bishop (Sanctuary)** The reception follows in Parish Hall.

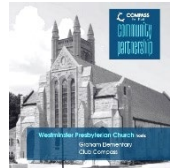
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. The next New Member Class will meet Sundays, March 2 and 9 with new members received Sunday, March 16. If you are interested, speak to a pastor.

2024 ANNUAL REPORTS are available on the Visitor's Table.

MISSION SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - A booklet including a comprehensive list of the 2024 mission supported by Westminster 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.

COMPASS FOR KIDS Westminster Site Coordinator Kieley Hendricker will give a ministry moment to share more about Compass for Kids and will field questions after worship in the West Narthex. Compass for Kids is an after-school tutoring program to assist and nurture young people. Twenty-five Graham Elementary students spend Tuesday afternoons at Westminster. Compass staff and volunteers from the community are advocates for the children in the program. Currently Juliana Eastvold represents Westminster in this ministry, and we are seeking more ministry partners to join this meaningful outreach.



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.

PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL Children ages 3-5 will begin attending Preschool Sunday School today. Preschool age children will begin worship in the Sanctuary with their parents, and after the Children's Sermon, they will head to the Preschool classroom for a special Sunday School lesson drawn from the Frolic Preschool curriculum. The children will share a Bible story, songs, and prayers and have an opportunity for an activity or craft and free play.

ADULT ED FORUM on Sunday, February 2 presents **Life in the Kennedy Administration** (Parish Hall) Dr. Roy Wehrle will share some of his experience serving in the Kennedy Administration. Roy served as an Artillery Officer in the US Army, Economic Counselor to the U.S. Ambassadors in Laos and Viet Nam, and Deputy and Associate Director for AID in both countries. He was a Senior Economist in President Kennedy's Council of Economic Advisors, Social Policy Institute, Harvard University. Come, hear Roy's first-hand experience.

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 devotion 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, chaired by Dr. Todd Knox, will host a Congregational Gathering on Sunday, February 9 at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall for feedback from members. The PNC, which was elected January 12, has been meeting weekly to compile the Ministry Discernment Profile. They have also completed their training with Lead Presbyterian Rev. Ann Schwartz and COM Liaison Marty Tarter. They will recommend a Co-Pastor who will transition to Head of Staff upon Dr. Kieffer's retirement.

A CONCERT OF HYMNS AND SPIRITUALS will be presented Sunday, February 9 at 4:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary as part of Westminster's 190th Year Anniversary Celebration. 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.

THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING - Support the hungry in Springfield by placing your donation in the large soup pots held by our youth following worship on Sunday, February 9. This is a program organized by the youth of the PC(USA).

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets Monday, February 10 at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom and will study Lesson 5 "Air Quality" from the PW Horizons Bible Study Let Justice Roll Down by the Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull. Call Eleanor VanDeventer at 217-341-4032.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM GATHERS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 Children and Youth (Kindergarten through High School) are invited to the first gathering of Children of Abraham on **Wednesday, February 12, 4:30-6:00 p.m.** at the Grace United Methodist Church (1612 E. Capital Ave.). Join us as we explore the celebration of Black History Month. Parents and children are welcome to drive directly to the site.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST will be Thursday, February 13 at 8:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. John Stafford will discuss Westminster's Safety Team. Peter Van Gieson will provide breakfast, and Roy Wehrle will give the devotion. Please RSVP on our website or by contacting the church office.

EGGTASTIC BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER THANK YOU - Thanks to all congregation members who supported the 2025 Mission Trip fundraiser last Sunday. \$1,895.00 has been raised and donations are still being accepted.

2025 YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO ASHEVILLE, NC is scheduled for July 12- 19. We will partner with Asheville Youth Mission (AYM) in Asheville, NC. Our mission trip is open to rising freshmen through graduating seniors as well as completed college freshmen as participants and adult chaperones. The cost will be: \$350 for youth and \$300 for adult chaperones. The Intent to Participate forms are due by Sunday, February 9 to reserve your spot with a \$50.00 deposit. The full cost needs to be paid by April 30. Intent to Participate forms can be downloaded from the church website or found in the most recent Youth News emails.

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

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, February 3

9:00 AM Garden Club (Parish Hall)

Tuesday, February 4

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

12:00 PM KDO Willing Circle (Youth Room)

1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)

3:00 PM Compass for Kids

5:30 PM PNC Meeting (Conference Room)

7:00 PM St. Andrew's Sisters (Off site)

Wednesday, February 5

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)

6:30 PM D & D Group (Library)

7:00 PM Ruth and Naomi Circle (Off site)

Thursday, February 6

1:30 PM Memory Loss Graduate Group
(2nd Floor Classroom)

5:30 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study
(2nd Floor Classroom)

6:00 PM WCP Board Meeting (3rd Floor Classroom)

7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, February 7

Saturday, February 8

10:00 AM Baby Shower (Parish Hall)

11:00 AM Church Mice (2nd Floor Classroom)

Sunday, February 9

Holy Communion

Souper Bowl of Caring

10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

10:15 AM Sunday School Pre K-5 (Chapel Classroom)

11:15 AM Congregational Gathering with PNC
(Parish Hall)

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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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 Velásquez**
Part-time Custodians