WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Trinity Sunday
15 June 2025 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary Little Prelude and Fugue in C Major — J.S. Bach

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

***Call to Worship**

Leader: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons,
People: **we behold in the splendor of creation your majesty and our responsibility.**
Leader: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons,
People: **we behold in the face of Jesus Christ your divinity and our humanity.**
Leader: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons,
People: **we behold in the Spirit of truth and advocacy your glory and our calling.**
Leader: Bound to you forever, we will praise your name.
People: **Let us worship with reverence and awe.**

***Processional Hymn 1** Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! — *Nicaea*

***Prayer of Confession**

Triune God, within your own life there is mutuality, equality, and unity in diversity. Though we are made in your image, we confess that we distort the triune life. Holy God, forgive us. Restore in us, and in our life together, the divine image you intend. Make us tender in mutuality, generous in equality, and grateful in diversity. 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

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

VBS Presentation

Congregational Response Listen, Listen, God is Calling — Neno Lake Mungu

Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

Students in preschool – Grade 5 will go to their Sunday school class following the Congregational Response.

First Scripture Reading Proverbs 8:1-4, 27-31 — Pew Bible, OT pages 590.591

Second Scripture Reading Romans 5:1-5 — Pew Bible, NT page 155

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

Sermon Unbroken Circle — Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Text: "…suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us…" Romans 5:3b-5a

Anthem Siciliano — J.S. Bach

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

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and
neighbor, and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
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

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 Rondo C.P.E. Bach

***Offertory Response** Doxology

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** **Holy Triune God, in whom we live and move and have our being, thank you for the unbroken circle of your love which connects us to generations in the past and future. Thank you for healing our sorrows and for building our character. Accept these gifts of gratitude and hope. Amen.**

***Hymn 370** This is My Father's World *Terra Beata*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary** Hymn to Joy L. Van Beethoven, arr. Travis

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Gerald W. Boutelle
- **Worship Leader:** William Affrunti
- **Acolytes:** Lily Swanson and Lucy Bassett
- **Greeters**: Megan, Greg, and Lily Swanson
- **Music:** Lucy Yockey, oboe, Dr. Jamie Greenwald, organ
- **Ushers:** Greg Boutelle (Head Usher), Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross, Christian Kennerly, Bill Schlosser, Bernie Wiseman, Cathy Yokley
- **Safety Team:** Todd Knox
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Bill Deemer, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:00 – 9:45 a.m. New Members Class (Pastor's Study)** Those interested in membership are welcome to attend. Led by Dr. Kieffer and members of the Membership Committee
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, and two-year-olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. This week's story: "Jesus loves You and Blesses You" (Jesus Blesses Children) *Caregiver: Erin Winn, Linda Caupert*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 5 begin in worship & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response.**
  - **Preschool - Ages 3-5 (Preschool Classroom lower level)** Story: "We Can Help Hurting People, Too" (The Burning Bush II) Teachers: Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt
  - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** This week's story: "God With Us" (Romans 5:1-5) Teacher: Meleah Berkowitz
  - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** This week's story: "We Trust in Jesus Christ…" (A Brief Statement of Faith Session 04) Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz

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.

VBS PRESENTATION AND RECEPTION TODAY - VBS was a time to celebrate compassion as we welcomed 44 children served by 28 ministry partners working together to explore what all living things need to live – shelter, food, water, air and community – and how we can have compassion for the living earth, especially our local ecosystems. Each session was centered on Psalm 104 as our grounding text and stitched together with other Biblical stories to highlight each day's theme. We also collected school supplies for *Camp Compass.*

YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISERS THE CAR WASH / BAKE SALE TODAY Members are invited to support the Youth Mission Team for their final two fundraisers before they depart for Asheville, NC. Give the youth permission to clean your car (or pay them not to clean it) and stop by the table of delicious baked goods prepared by members of the youth mission team and their parents. Thanks to **Dave Leonatti and Mary Ray** for organizing the Car Wash and to **Cathy Brower and Val Leonatti** for organizing the Bake Sale.

2025 YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO ASHEVILLE, NC JULY 12-19 On Sunday, July 6, twelve youth and eleven adult mentors will be commissioned for their Mission Trip to Asheville NC. Working with Asheville Youth Mission our mission team will be helping with Hurricane Helene clean-up with rural NC PC(USA) churches, serving meals to those displaced post-Helene, homeless and hungry communities, tending community gardens, organizing supplies for the homeless, and as requested, manual labor like painting and even playing with some day camp kiddos! The mission team is excited to be a part of (Re)New(ed) Creation in Asheville and beyond and look forward to sharing stories, photos, and more details from their mission adventure when they return on Sunday, July 20.

SIXTH ANNUAL STEADFAST NEIGHBOR OUTREACH

Westminster is in its sixth year of fulfilling the congregation's commitment to invest $450,000 in our neighborhood over the course of the decade. Letters were sent to neighbors on behalf of the Steadfast Neighbor Mission Task Force and site visits were conducted. We have **34 service week projects** at 19 of our neighbors' homes. Team captains are: Tim Kluge, Tom Owen, Julie Robbs, Dale Rogers, Pete Van Gieson, Gary Warnick. **Sign-ups need to be made by today.**

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR TEAM MEETING will be Tuesday, June 17 at 5:30 p.m. in Parish Hall.

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK IS JUNE 23-27. The team will gather each morning at 8:30 a.m. for a devotion to begin the day before arriving at our neighborhood sites. Lunches will be prepared by Pat Hymans' Hospitality Team and served at noon in Parish Hall. Neighbors will be our guests at lunch on Friday, June 27. The congregation will hear a report on Sunday, June 29.

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR MISSION OUTREACH TASK FORCE: *Dr. Todd Knox, Chair, Tim Kluge, Keith Hamilton, Bob Leffler, Tom Owen, Julie Robbs, Dr. Diane Rutledge, and Pete VanGieson.*

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) will meet **Friday, June 20 at 5:30 p.m.** for a potluck and program at 6:15 p.m. Charli Swain, educational programmer and horticulturist with the Washington Park Botanical Gardens, will speak on how it operates all around the year. RSVP with weekly email link, website, or by calling the church office.

SUMMER ADULT ED FORUM begins **next Sunday, June 22.** This summer Dr. Roy Wehrle will present three Adult Ed Forums on the topic: Geopolitics of the World Today," Next Sunday, June 22, Roy will present "China, the U.S., and World Trade Today." Join Roy in a discussion on the likely outcomes of the US/China Trade War and rivalry, and probable impacts on the world economy and nations. On Sunday, July 27, Roy's topic will be titled "Rise of the Right: How Democracies Die". He will close the summer Adult Ed Forum series on Sunday, August 10 with a talk titled "What World Will We Get? What World Do We Want?". All sessions begin at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall following the worship service.

APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP meets next **Tuesday, June 24** from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss *Caste* by Isable Wilkerson (Young Adult version recommended). New members are welcome. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz

MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERIES – JULY 28 - AUGUST 1 AND AUGUST 4 -8

Each summer, Westminster partners with Senior Services of Central IL to deliver food to eligible senior citizens as part of their Specialty Daily Bread - Meals on Wheels program. This year's dates are July 28 – Aug 1 and Aug 4 - 8, where you can sign up for one day, all ten days, or the number of days you are available to help. This service of kindness is best done in pairs and the expected time commitment is about an hour-and-a-half, starting between 9:00 & 9:30 a.m. For more information and to sign up, use the QR code here.

Let's Celebrate Dr. Kieffer's Ministry!

Friday, August 22, 6:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum
212 North Sixth Street, Springfield, Illinois

Dinner, Drinks, Toasts, Dancing

$35 per person

Make checks payable to Westminster with Retirement Party in the memo line

RSVP to Jennie Alt by August 1, 2025

Gifts to the Westminster Endowment in honor of Blythe's ministry are welcome.

NOMINATIONS WELCOME

THE 2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE is now receiving nominations for the following positions of leadership at Westminster.

DEACON (CLASS OF 2028)
ELDER (CLASS OF 2028)
NOMINATING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2026)
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2028)

Nominations may be placed in the offering plate, emailed to the committee chair, Dr. Michael Nenaber, at m.nenaber@comcast.net or placed in the Nominating Committee's mailbox on the wall in the West Narthex by the Edwards Street doors. Please complete it by August 10, 2025. Nominees will be presented for election at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 12, 2025.

2025 Nominating Committee members: *Dr. Michael Nenaber (Chair), Sam Batterman, Mal Hildebrand, Brad Steller, Carolyn Swanson, Julie Sundquist, and Bernie Wiseman*

Name of Nominee_____

Recommended for (check choice)

____Deacon ____Elder ____Nominating ____Strategic Planning

1. Qualities that would make this person a good church officer

_____

_____

_____

2. Past experience/current interests and activities in the church

_____

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_____

3. Helpful information: special skills, training, employment, community involvement, etc.

_____

_____

_____

Your Name (optional) _____

WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, June 16
5:30 PM PNC (Library)

Tuesday, June 17
10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
2:00 PM WACCI Foreign Affairs Journal (3rd Floor Classroom)
5:30 PM Steadfast Neighbor Team Meeting (Parish Hall)

Wednesday, June 18
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
2:00 PM WACCI Foreign Affairs Journal (3rd Floor Classroom)
3:30 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group (Youth Room)
6:30 PM D&D Group (Library)

Thursday, June 19
7:00 PM Library Guild (Children's Library)

Friday, June 20
5:30 PM DMA Potluck (Parish Hall)
6:15 PM DMA Potluck (Parish Hall)

Saturday, June 21

Sunday, June 22
9:30 AM New Members Meet with Session (Library)
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Summer Sunday School PreK-5 (Third Floor Chapel)

THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE MINISTRIES OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ARE WELCOME TO SCAN HERE.

Westminster Presbyterian Church
533 S. Walnut St.
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Phone (217) 522-4415 Fax (217) 522-4465
http://www.wpcspi.org

WESTMINSTER STAFF

The Reverend 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