WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
12 October 2025 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment Stewardship Campaign 2026 - *Found Faithful* Adam Ekstedt

Voluntary Trio Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

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

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Hallelujah! Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our hearts!
People: **The works of the LORD are magnificent;**
they are treasured by all who desire them.
Leader: God's deeds are majestic and glorious.
God's righteousness stands forever.
People: **We remember your wondrous works.**
All: **Let us praise God together!**

***Processional Hymn 694** Great God of Every Blessing *Aurelia*

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

God of Grace, we bring to you
our ingratitude for all that you have done for us,
our impatience when prayers seem to be ignored,
our selfishness when prompted to give or share,
our unfaithfulness when wandering from your way.
We ask for your forgiveness,
through Jesus Christ who gave all,
that we might learn to do likewise.
Amen.

***Silent Confession** *During this silence, worshipers are asked to offer individual 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.

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response God Welcomes All — South African Song

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

Following the response, children in Pre Kindergarten - Grade 5 will go to their Sunday school classes and youth in Grades 6-7 go to Confirmation Prep.

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading 2 Kings 5:1-15c — Pew Bible, OT pages 336

Second Scripture Reading Luke 17:11-19 — Pew Bible, NT pages 80

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

Sermon Nurturing an Attitude of Gratitude

Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

Anthem Make Me a Channel of Your Peace — Sebastian Temple

The text for the anthem is 753 in the hymnal.

***Affirmation of Faith** Excerpt from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. 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 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. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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.

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 and Prayer of Dedication

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

Offertory

Récit de Nazard — Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

***Offertory Response**

Doxology — Hymnal, 606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host

***Prayer of Dedication**

God, thank you, thank you, thank you – for your grace, for this community of faith, for the gifts of our lives. Bless these offerings today that they might be used to further your reign of righteousness here and now. Work through each of us and through the ministries of this congregation that we might glorify you in all we do. Amen.

***Hymn 772**

Live Into Hope — *Truro*

***Charge and Benediction**

Closing Response

The Lord Bless You — Anonymous

The Lord bless you, the Lord keep you,
may God's love ever always surround you;
protect you and guide you in all that you do:
Our prayer for you. Amen.

***Voluntary**

Grands Jeux — Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Chancel Flowers** are given in celebration of the first anniversary of Doris and Mal Hildebrand
- **Sunday Liturgist**: Rev. Sarah A. Bishop
- **Worship Leader**: Francis Gyebi
- **Acolytes**: Reese Huston and Nathan Affrunti
- **Greeters:** Pat and Phil Wheat
- **Ushers:** George Botanga (Head Usher), Julie Barton, Deb Fritsch, Sabrina Holmes, Maria Lafrenz, Debra Parker, Brad Steller
- **Safety Team:** Alan Schuermann
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Dale Rogers, Organ
- **Videographers:** Bill Deemer, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **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) *Caregivers: Erin Winn, Judy Knox*
- **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 following the Congregational Response.
  - **Preschool - Ages 3-5 (Preschool Classroom lower level)** Story: "We Grow and Learn Like Jesus" (Young Jesus in the Temple) *Teachers: Cathy Brower, Taryn Barnett*
  - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** This week's story: "Strong with Christ" (2 Tim 2:8-15) *Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz*
  - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** This week's story: "Remember Jesus Christ" (2 Tim 2:8-15) *Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz, Julie Robbs*
  - **Confirmation Prep (Conference Room)** Students in Grade 6-7 will study Session 3: "Flooded". *Teachers: Meridith Bryans and Cara Barnett*
- **11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting** to elect officers immediately follows worship service.
- **11:15 a.m. – noon Confirmation (Conference Room)** Students in Grade 8 will study Session 3: "Fall of Jerusalem". *Teachers: Rev. Sarah Bishop and Mary Ray*
- **11:15 a.m. – noon Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)** Join Dr. Aaron Berkowitz as he discusses "The Scopes Trial 100 Years Later."
- **4:00 p.m. Service of Installation for The Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall (Sanctuary)**
- **5:00 p.m. Reception for Dr. Marshall (Parish Hall)**
- **5:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group (Youth Room)** Youth and mentors will gather for fellowship, games, and dinner followed by Bible Study. The meal will be prepared by Dana and Andrew Affrunti.

2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN REFLECTION

Jeanne Van Gieson's Stewardship Reflection appeared in this week's Friday email. She is a member of Westminster's 2026 Stewardship Committee.

"Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy." *1 Corinthians 4:1-2*

As church members at Westminster for over 35 years, our family has found a home in a faithful, thoughtful, and gracious church community. The excellent music and arts program at Westminster drew us in. The Christian education and love shown our children held us tight. The concern and prayers of our Westminster friends sustained us through many of life's curves.

Participating in Westminster's mission work has been one of our greatest joys. Many of the mission activities were made possible by the wisdom of our leadership and faithful commitment and community involvement of our members.

As we go forward with new church leadership, we have a fresh opportunity to use our unique gifts to serve God and opportunity to continue the rich history of stewardship at Westminster. We hope you will prayerfully consider your stewardship pledge and watch as Gods mysteries are revealed as we are found faithful.

As of Thursday, October 9, we have received **86 pledges** for a total of **$457,032** which is **52%** of our **$871,000 goal.** Please complete the pledge card and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate by Stewardship Dedication Sunday, October 26, 2025. Pledges can also be made online at www.wpcspi.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT CHURCH OFFICERS The congregation meeting will begin immediately following worship. The following church officers will be elected.

Elders Class of 2028: Sandy Bellatti, George Botanga, Nathaniel Brower, Deborah Coontz, Cress Maddox, Sr., Lucy Stafford, Brad Swanson, Jess Weitzel, **Youth Elder:** Sam Batterman was elected in 2025 and will continue to serve.

Board of Deacons Class of 2028: John Abbo-Yobo, Maude Essel Addo-Yobo, Andrew Affrunti, Chelsea Ekstedt, Cameron Hudgins, Joyce Matthews, Lisa Metzger, Pete Sherman, **Youth Deacon:** Macklin Metzger

Strategic Planning Committee Class of 2028: Bud Green, Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross

2026 Nominating Committee: Brad Steller, Julie Sundquist, Carolyn Swanson, Peter Van Gieson

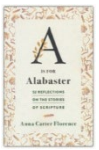
ADULT ED FORUM PRESENTS: "THE SCOPES TRIAL 100 YEARS LATER." Join Dr. Aaron Berkowitz today following the congregational meeting and again next Sunday, October 19 in Parish Hall. On the 100th anniversary of the Scopes Trial, we will reflect on its meaning and its lasting impact on the church as well as science.

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION FOR THE REV. DR. ANNE C.S. MARSHALL TODAY at 4:00 p.m. The Presbytery of Great Rivers will install the Reverend Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall as Westminster's 19th Pastor and Head of Staff. The Westminster Choir and Dale Rogers will provide music leadership for the service. The congregation is invited to the service as well as a reception in Parish Hall hosted by Hospitality Coordinator Pat Hymans and her team.

WESTMINSTER NAMETAGS The Membership Committee, chaired by Dr. Judy Knox, is encouraging members to wear their nametags as we welcome Dr. Marshall. If you have misplaced your nametag or just want a new one, there will be a sign up this Sunday in the West Narthex. In addition to the clip, members will receive a magnetic back for attaching nametags more easily. Thank you for helping Anne get to know us better by identifying a name with a face.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 DMA (Don't Mention Age) will meet Friday, October 17 at 5:30 p.m. for a potluck and program at 6:15 p.m. Kathy Lamsargis will speak about "Marbles in a Fishbowl: Memories in the South During the 1950's." Please RSVP to the church office or on our website is welcomed but not required.

THE ANNUAL SPUD BAKE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 On Sunday, October 19, Junior and Senior High Youth will gather in the kitchen from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to prepare baked Russet and sweet potatoes with your favorite toppings to raise funds for the Contact Ministries Christmas Gift Distribution.

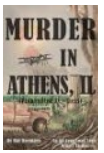


THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY will not meet on **Thursday, October 16** but will resume on **October 23** from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer are using "*A is for Alabaster*," for the class. The session's lesson will be "E is for Esther, F is for Fish."

CHURCH OFFICER ORIENTATION for newly elected elders and deacons will be **Sunday, October 19, at 11:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Lunch will be Spuds in support of our Youth Fundraiser.

REFORMATION AND HARVEST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 Westminster will continue the tradition started in 2021 when Reformation Sunday fell on Halloween. We will celebrate the Harvest Festival in the morning. Members are invited to **wear costumes to worship** and join Westminster families in Parish Hall following the service (11:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.) for a festive gathering.

APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28 The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets Tuesday, October 28 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss Murder in Athens, IL by Ray Roentgen (the pen name of Marty and Alan Stutz' son). The author will be joining us remotely for this event. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.



CHURCH MICE (infants through age 4) meets on Saturday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in the 2nd floor Classroom. Follow the pathway of cheese for a delightful musical adventure. Open to members and friends. Mr. Dale Rogers leads Church Mice.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP gathers on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters are encouraged to knit cold weather items (warm hats, mittens, and scarves) for our fall and winter donations.

THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO
WESTMINSTER MINISTRIES ARE WELCOME TO SCAN HERE

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, October 13

Church Office Closed for Columbus/Indigenous People Day

Tuesday, October 14

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
12:00 PM KDO Willing Circle (Parish Hall)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Memorial Garden Committee (Pastor's Study)
5:00 PM Food Not Bombs Meal Prep (Kitchen)
7:30 PM St. Andrews Sisters (Off site)

Wednesday, October 15

10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel
10:00 AM Sing By Heart Dementia Choir (Parish Hall)
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
3:30 PM DBSA Group (3rd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
5:15 PM Family Ministry (Conference Room)
5:30 PM Session (2nd Floor Classroom)
6:30 PM D & D Group (Library)

Thursday, October 16

12:00 PM Library Guild day session (Children's Library)
5:45 PM Thursday Night Bible Study (2nd Floor Clsrm)
6:00 PM Library Guild evening session (Children's Library)
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Friday, October 17

5:30 PM DMA Potluck
6:15 PM DMA Program

Saturday, October 18

10:00 AM Memorial Service for Dale Smith (Sanctuary)
11:00 AM Memorial Luncheon (Parish Hall)
11:00 AM Church Mice (2nd Floor Classroom)

Sunday, October 19

Spud Bake Fundraiser

10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Summer Sunday School (Pre-K- Grade 5) (3rd Floor Chapel and Classroom)
11:00 AM Fair Trade Sale (West Narthex)
11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)
11:15 AM Church Officer Training (2nd Floor Classroom)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Springfield, Illinois 62704
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WESTMINSTER STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Anne Marshall
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

Dr. Aaron Berkowitz
Education Coordinator

Mary A. Ray
Director for Youth

Meleah Berkowitz
Director for Children's Ministry, Westminster Cooperative Preschool and Music Assistant

Keri Tate, Becky Nika
Cooperative Preschool Teachers

Kara Milward, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

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, Francis Gyebi, Jerry McCullum
Part-time Custodians