



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

April 2021

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

10:00 a.m. In-person and
Livestream Worship Service

www.wpcspi.org

FAITH FORMATION:

Nursery Newsletter

emailed each Friday to Families with
Children Birth – Age 3

WPConnections Newsletter

emailed each Friday to Families with
Children Pre-K - Grade 5

April 4

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD EASTER SUNDAY

I Corinthians 15, John 20:1-18

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Alive Again

April 11

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Acts 4:32-35; John 20:19-31

The Rev. Trajan I. McGill
Face to Face

April 18

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Psalms 4; Luke 24:36b-48

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Disbelieving Joy

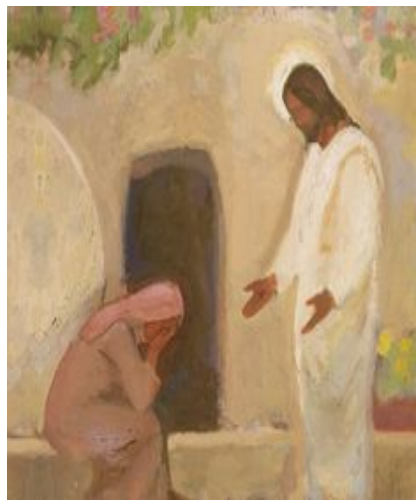
April 25

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Psalms 23; John 10:11-18

Rev. Christian K. Choi
My Shepherd

Sermon manuscripts are located in the West
Narthex and online at www.wpcspi.org.



EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 4

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

100 Worshipers Welcome

Live Streamed

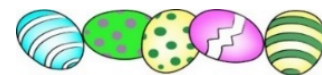
Christ is risen!!

Christ is risen indeed!!!

JOIN US ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4 FOR THE 10:00 A.M. SERVICE in the Sanctuary as we welcome 100 participants. The service will be live streamed for members who join us in worship from their homes. The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer will preach. A vocal quartet assembled for the Festival of the Resurrection (Eleanor VanDeventer, Adam Miller, Jamie Greenwald and Lyle VanDeventer) will sing the hymns (accompanied by Trumpeter Dennis Jones) and the anthems: *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* of Thiman, *Christ the Lord is Risen* of Stopford, and the *Hallelujah Chorus* of Handel. The service will conclude with the Toccata from the Fifth Symphony of C. M. Widor, presented by Dale Rogers.

THE CHANCEL WILL BE FILLED WITH THE MASSIVE CROSS OF LILIES. Our opening hymn will feature the traditional butterfly processional led by dancer Mia Marcy. The children will gather in the chancel for the Children's Sermon before a Sunday School lesson presented by Mrs. Sherrick in Parish Hall. The Easter craft will be a "Reverse Egg Hunt." Children prepare eggs filled with treats to spread in a neighbor's yard along with one empty egg before leaving a card on the door that says, "You've been egged! When you find the empty egg, do not be alarmed...it is a simple reminder that "Jesus is Risen!"

EASTER EGG HUNT FOLLOWING WORSHIP, parents are invited to meet their children in Parish Hall. To comply with safety precautions, our Easter egg hunt will be self-guided on the Southeast lawn next to the West Terrace. Help yourself to a treat bag in Parish Hall and hunt for some eggs before you head home.



DEACONS WILL BRING LILIES to members who are shut-in and who have lost loved ones since last Easter as we find comfort and strength in our Risen Lord.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE, APRIL 1 AT 7:00 P.M.

The service will include a meditation presented by the Reverend Trajan I. McGill, the Sacrament of Communion, the traditional stripping of the chancel, and the Seven Last Words of Christ interwoven with liturgy and musical reflections.

THE HOLY WEEK ART DISPLAY AND LABYRINTH (APRIL 1-4)

The exhibit, located in Parish Hall, brings together artistic interpretations of scenes from the final week of Christ's life. Westminster's Labyrinth provides a unique practice of prayer.

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

She has done a beautiful thing to me. Mark 14:6b

In the Palm Sunday gospel reading, we found Jesus at the home of Simon, the leper with the diverse community of friends who are like family to him. While at Simon's, a wealthy woman, who is unnamed, anoints Jesus' head with an expensive alabaster of nard. It is a generous and kind gesture; however, the woman is scolded! Some are concerned that the nard is wasted and could have been sold with the proceeds going to the poor. No one would argue this point! Remembering the poor is a value that Jesus has taught throughout his ministry. Yet, in this moment, the tenderness and the generosity of this woman is a gift to Jesus. He is mindful that he is on his journey home and finds comfort and strength in the shelter of her presence and her touch. *Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. (Mark 14:6)*

To give to the poor is right but her gift to Jesus in this moment is of a different order of rightness. To anoint the head with perfume is aesthetically pleasing; however, the timing of this anointing is of a higher order of beauty. The beauty of her extravagant gesture is the woman's ability to be present with Jesus in his time of need. Jesus is about to die!! He knows it, she senses it, and while others are plotting their schemes and arguing about morality, this woman takes the opportunity to minister to the One, who has given her a sense of herself and a shelter in a hostile world.



What she had, she gave! What she had in her power to do, she did for the One who was about to give his life for her. Her deed springs from a deep sense of gratitude and love. It was an occasion to break all patterns, to defy logic and common sense, and to simply give.

Truly, I tell you, Jesus says, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.

During this Holy Week, as we begin to gather with our extended families and with our spiritual family at Westminster, let us remember the kindness of this woman. Let our actions, our touches, our words, and our judgements be tender, thoughtful, kind, and generous toward one another.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Income received in the first two months of 2021 is \$33,447 more than budgeted as a result of a number of families donating their pledge in a lump sum early in the year. Expenses are under budget by \$6,701 for the same period. Total income exceeds expenses by \$37,648.

2021 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 198,706	\$ 165,259	\$ 33,447
Expenses	\$-161,058	\$-167,759	\$ 6,701
Net Total	\$ 37,648	\$ -2,500	

PER CAPITA: This year Westminster will pay \$35 per member as a part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to support the ministry of our denomination in the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Your special *per capita* contribution of \$35 for each confirmed member in your household will help to offset this cost in Westminster's budget.

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL OUR SPECIAL MUSICIANS WILL BE:

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4: Listed on page one of this Reporter

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 11: Julie Blythe and Eleanor VanDeventer will present the *Sanctus* and the *Agnus Dei* from the Mass of Gabriel Fauré and the delightful anthem *All Things Bright and Beautiful* of John Rutter

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 18: Mike Tungett will play the *Rigaudon* of André Campra on the trumpet

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 25: Violinist, Kamen Petkov will play music of Arcangelo Corelli

LANDSCAPE GUILD UPDATE

Everything is coming up daffodils, thanks to the members of the landscape guild who planted over 400 bulbs in the Fall 2020.

We are grateful for this newly formed guild co-chaired by **Peter Kieffer and Andy Sherrick** and members **Linda Chronister, Sue Cull, Scott Day, Bill Deemer, Sue Donels, Ann Hamilton, Todd Knox, Jim Kontio, Becky McDonald, Nichole Magalis, Jim and Julie McDonough, David & Mary Caroline Mitchell, Jeanne Pittman, and Diane Rutledge**. **Dale Rogers** is the staff liaison in coordination with Gary Warnick.

During the month of March, new moss green glazed terra cotta pots were acquired for the West Terrace. Deteriorating 20-year-old pots in the Memorial Garden were removed and replaced with Italian-style concrete pots that were from the previous West Terrace plan. Pansies planted in Fall 2020 around the perimeter of the new West Terrace survived the winter and provide bursts of color around the fountain. **Scott Day** and **Dale Rogers** cut back the grasses and dead-headed the hydrangeas, Scott groomed the perennial garden, readying it for new growth, and **Sue Donels & Jeanne Pittman** planted pansies along with pussy willow branches in the Memorial Garden pots. The trees and shrubs that did not survive the trans-planting or the winter will be replaced in early April by **Sexton's Landscape Concepts**.



Members of the Landscape Guild will receive a schedule and areas that will require weeding and attention during the month of April and beyond.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS THIS SPRING

SUNDAY, APRIL 18 & 25



Friends and visitors are invited to a New Members Class on Sundays, April 18 and 25 at 11:15 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. The class will be led by the pastors.

New members will be received Sunday, May 2, during the 10:00 a.m. service following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m. in Parish Hall.

FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi
CONFIRMATION & SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP GATHERINGS

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

11:15 a.m. - Confirmation will study Session 26: Kingdom Treasures from *Echo the Story* curriculum.

5:00 p.m. - Sr. High Youth will discuss the topic: What does it mean to 'take a stand' against injustice and what does it look like?

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

11:15 a.m. - Confirmation will study Session 27: Jesus' Encounters from *Echo the Story* curriculum.

5:00 p.m. - Sr. High youth will explore about climate change, how to be more environmentally friendly, and how we can bring changes to be more eco-friendly.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick
WPCONNECTIONS GALLERY



SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES IN APRIL

During the month of April in-person Sunday school returns to Westminster with Mrs. Sherrick leading the lesson emailed in the WPCConnections. The lesson will be enriched with the Young Children and Worship Bible Stories. We respect each family's decision about when they are comfortable gathering in person as we begin to open.

April lessons are:

- 4/4/21 Woman at the Tomb Luke 24:1-12
- 4/11/21 Thomas Wants to See John 20:19-31
- 4/18/21 We Are Stewards of the Earth
- 4/25/21 Memory and Surprises Luke: 24:13-35



FAMILY FAITH ACTIVITY KIT

We were happy to provide Holy Week Family Kits to 7 families and 15 children. The kits included materials to Celebrate Palm Sunday, and to make a family prayer bottle, home-made bread, a jeweled cross, and a reverse egg hunt. We hope you enjoyed the time spent together learning about Holy Week.

MINISTRY TO INFANTS AND TODDLERS
NURSERY REOPENS SUNDAY, MAY 30


In preparation for our infants and toddlers to return on Sunday mornings, our nursery is being reconfigured with a new check-in system and a fresh coat of paint. The nursery will open on May 30, the first day of Summer Sunday School.

2021 VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



ADVENTURE ISLAND:
QUEST FOR GOD'S GREAT LIGHT

VBS will be virtual again this year during the month of July. Look for details about registration and pick-up times for at-home kits in the Reporter.

 **Confirmation/Youth Group Zoom information**
Meeting ID: 856 0948 4055
Passcode: 956992
<https://bit.ly/39EZ6UC>

2021 YOUTH MISSION

SUNDAY, JULY 11 – SATURDAY, JULY 17

Youth from 8th grade to Freshmen in college are invited to participate in this year's youth summer mission trip to Little Rock, AR for our missional work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at the Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center.



This year, we will have an educational component to our mission trip, visiting the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, and other historic places in Little Rock.



Please inform Rev. Choi if you are willing to be a part of this trip ASAP.

Due May 1:

- WPC forms
- \$100 deposit
- Copy of medical insurance

Visit www.wpcspi.org/2021mission for more information.

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS

WCP had its NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) site visit for accreditation in February and received word in March that they have been certified and are accredited for the next 5 years.

Congratulations to Director Emily Rowley, teacher Kacey Belitos, President of the Preschool Board, Meleah Berkowitz, and staff liaison, the Rev. Christian Choi.



Westminster Cooperative Preschool is the only private preschool in Springfield with this prestigious accreditation.

WPC HOSTS SIU COVID-19 TESTING AND ZUMBA CLASS FRIDAY, MARCH 12 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 13



Thanks to the encouragement of our Parish Nurse, Ellen Carpenter, WPC hosted a COVID-19 testing sight providing tests for 25 community members and a Zumba Class with over 20 participants and neighbors joining in the healthy fun.

WPC PARTNERS WITH CAFÉ MOXO ON TUESDAY, MARCH 16



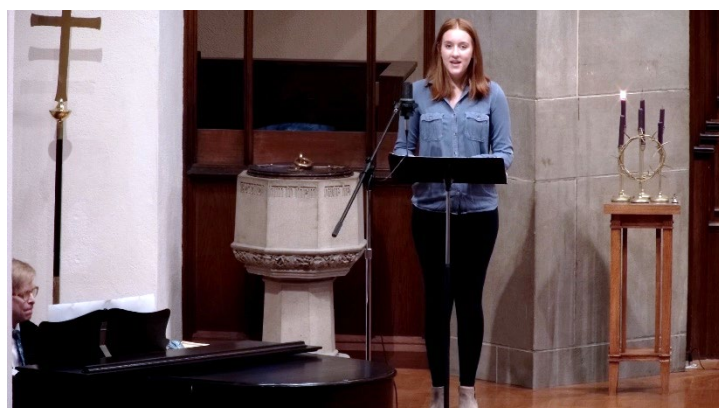
WPC's Hunger Action Team partnered with Café Moxo on Tuesday, March 16 to provide 75 meals to the Salvation Army Warming Center and an addition 200 meals for community members. Rev. Choi and our youth joined Mark Forinash in distributing the food. Mark was interviewed that morning on Sports Radio 1450 and shared what a delight it was to partner with Westminster since his son Baker attended our preschool. The Betty Smith Mission Endowment funded the project which cost \$1,375.

WPC HOSTS P.E.O. FOOD DRIVE ON SATURDAY, MARCH 20



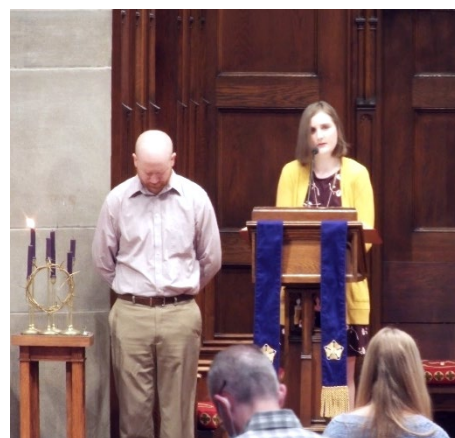
Ann Collins orchestrated a city-wide P.E.O. Food Drive which brought in over 5,000 items of food and \$1,200 in cash donations. Thanks to the generosity of so many women, little pantries around Springfield have more to share.

YOUTH SUNDAY
SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021



Our youth led a meaningful worship service honoring Presbyterian Pastor and television personality, the Rev. "Mr. Rogers!"

LENTEN CANDLE SERVICE AND PALM SUNDAY



The Lenten Candle Service enriched our journey toward Holy Week and we were delighted to welcome our children in worship on Palm Sunday.

PARISH LIFE by Rev. Trajan McGill MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

One Great Hour of Sharing



Received yearly in Lent throughout the PC(USA), this special offering “supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.” As of March 30, this year’s giving was \$3,844.65. Special thanks to our children, whose offerings totaled \$113.88!

LENTEN COAT DRIVE

Remembering the cloaks people spread on the ground before Jesus as he came to Jerusalem, Westminster each year lines our aisles with donated coats for our Palm Sunday procession, and then provides these to Contact Ministries for distribution to people in need of them.



Thanks to WPC members for supplying 78 coats this year!

2021 STEADFAST NEIGHBOR MISSION

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE WEEK: AUGUST 2-6

This year’s neighborhood outreach will be the week of August 2-6. Please consider joining us for one or more days of the first week of August as we spread goodwill in the neighborhood! If you are interested, please contact Todd Knox at hardknox1@mac.com.



HABITAT WALK FOR HOUSING SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Westminster has already contributed \$5,000 to Habitat for Humanity’s upcoming “Unity Build,” which was moved from 2020 to 2021. On Sunday, April 25, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Habitat is hosting a virtual walk seeking to raise the funds needed to complete this project. They will share videos with participants, showcasing area Habitat homes and their other programs supporting affordable housing. Walkers can walk wherever they wish, individually or with teams. Sign up at <http://www.habitatsangamon.com> to take part.

THE OUTLET

RECEIVES MISSION ENDOWMENT GRANT

The Outlet is a Springfield organization which provides mentoring and other assistance to boys and young men without fathers in their lives. The group’s founder, Michael Phelon, gave a presentation to the Westminster Mission and Community Service Committee in March, sharing their purpose and goals. During the pandemic, the organization has been working to make sure these boys and their families are also well fed, and the committee approved a new grant of \$2,500 from WPC mission endowment funds to meet these needs. The group is also always interested in hearing from men willing to serve as new mentors. We are thankful to be able to partner in this ministry.



HELPING HANDS MEAL SERVED ON THE SECOND FRIDAY

Thanks to Krista Steller and Dr. Susan Shea, who provided the Helping Hands shelter dinner on March 12 (and to Marc Anderson who provides the milk each month). Jess and Kayla Weitzel will provide the April 9 meal.



Providers are still needed for June, July, and Sept. through December. Reimbursement is available. Signup on the church web site, or contact Rev. Trajan McGill or Jennie Alt.

LITTLE PANTRY NOW INCLUDES SMALL WHOLE-MEAL KITS



In March, Krista Steller and Jeanne VanGieson assembled 30 small whole-meal kits for our Little Pantry. All the components for a quick meal are included in a single bag with simple instructions. Meal kits have been added to the storage area for people



to bring when refilling the pantry. WPC’s Little Pantry, outside Graham Elementary School, has become an important means of support for many area families.

FAIR TRADE SUNDAY, APRIL 18



With people back in worship, we are again able to offer coffee, tea, and chocolate for sale in the West Narthex after worship, sourced so as to support economically just, environmentally sound farming practices. The next sale will be April 18. Thanks to Becky Martin and Jeanne VanGieson for leading this ongoing mission.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH APRIL MENU

Canned Chicken/Tuna, Canned Fruit in 100% Juice, and Baked Beans or Veggies. Feminine hygiene products, diapers, toilet paper, toothpaste. (No baby food, please.) Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank.



HUNGER ACTION TEAM

The Hunger Action Team, following the recent successful food distribution at Café Moxo, is looking at ways to partner with the Central Illinois Foodbank in further bringing food directly to those who need it. Watch for news as we develop plans for continuing to grow our hunger ministries.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

EASTER LILIES

Many thanks to members of the Board of Deacons for delivering Easter lilies around the town, taking the time to share a message of Easter hope and fellowship with members grieving recent losses and many others in restricted living situations during the pandemic.

PRAYER CIRCLE – If you would like members of the congregation to pray for you, or if you’d like to join the Prayer Circle, please contact Rev. Trajan McGill.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY by Ellen Carpenter

VACCINES OPEN TO YOUTH 16 YEARS AND OLDER APRIL 12

Just a friendly reminder to **sign up for your COVID vaccine as soon as you are able**. Register at www.scdph.org.

Memorial Hospital has also added a vaccine site. You can access their sign up by going to vaccination.mhsl.com. This is at their drive through lab on S. 6th Street.

Call Westminster's Parish Nurse Ellen Carpenter to sign you up or for questions (217-793-3412).

A MESSAGE FROM THE COVID-19 TASK FORCE

New COVID-19 cases in Sangamon County remain steady. Local hospitalizations and deaths continue to decline.

The church continues in-person worship with 100. All attendees participate in spoken liturgy, wear masks and social distance.

Ellen Carpenter, RN	Michael Nenaber, MD
Virginia Dolan, MD	Marilyn Rigney, RN
Peter Kieffer, MD	Cara Vasconcelles, MD
Todd Knox, MD	

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PRESBYTERIAN MEN will meet on **Thursday, May 13** in Parish Hall for breakfast and fellowship. Details will follow soon.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 meets in-person on **Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom**. You are encouraged to bring "Show and Tell" items to share. Chairs will be placed at a safe distance. Please remember to bring your own beverage and to wear a mask. The final delivery of mittens, hats, and scarves will go to Kumler this month. Baby items such as caps, sweaters, and blankets will be collected through April.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, April 5 at 5:30 p.m.** on Zoom. We will view the video and discuss Chapter 4, "Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem," in the book *Not a Silent Night*, by Adam Hamilton.

LYDIA CIRCLE INVITES ALL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN to meet **Tuesday, April 20 at 9:30 a.m. either** in the third-floor classroom or on zoom. Carolyn Beatty will lead Lesson 8, "God Laments," based on the theme scripture of Psalm 137 in the 2020-2021 PW Horizons Bible Study: *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*, by P. Lynn Miller. **Contact Jennie Alt for the Zoom link.**

LAYETTES FOR KUMLER Join the women of Westminster in donating layette items during the month of April. As of March 31, **49** baby items have been donated. Items will be given to Kumler Outreach Ministries in early May. The Layettes box is located in the West Narthex. If you would like to shop online deals, you can have them shipped directly to the church.

ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME

The pastors will lead worship at the Illinois Presbyterian Home on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. during the month of April.

The IPH card crew, led by Sue Baker, is looking for sympathy and Easter card donations. They are making a grab bag for the residents to purchase, which will include cards for all occasions. For more information, contact Sue Baker at 217-299-5216.

WESTMINSTER NOTE CARDS



The Membership Committee is selling notecards featuring the new lighting on our building available in packets of 10 for \$20 on Sundays following worship or weekdays at the church office.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAY

Andy Smith celebrates 95 years on April 5.

Rev. Jerry & Mrs. Judy Boutelle celebrate 55 years on April 6.

NEW ARRIVAL

Walter Everett Morthland was born to Kate and Michael Morthland on October 21, 2020.

Congratulation to Ann and Keith Hamilton on the birth of their grandson Sanjh Achaius Hamilton Batsha to Emily Hamilton and Nishant Batsha on March 14, 2021 in Buffalo, NY. His big sister is Sylvie.

IN MEMORIAM

Raymond W. Phipps, Jr. died on March 15, 2021 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to his companion, Sue Ellen Wietkamp, and his children, Raymond W. Phipps, III (wife Debbie), Kathleen N. Flickinger (husband Richard), William T. Phipps (wife Katie), Lillian P. Johnston (husband Benjamin) and their families.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Anna Koeppel on the death of her grandmother, Barbara Graham on January 6, 2021 in Peoria, IL.

Former members Alice and Bruce Campbell on the death of their son, Bruce A. Campbell, III on February 28 in Springfield.

Westminster's Church Administrative Assistant Jennie Alt, her husband, John, and their sons, Isaac and Ethan on the death of Jennie's nephew, Seth Whitmer on March 17 in Daytona.

THANK YOU

To PEO and WPC on Micro Food Pantry Facebook page:

"Many thanks to the Springfield P.E.O. sisters and Westminster Presbyterian Church for the generous food donations. I was able to help stock three micro food pantries tonight!"

"So filled with gratitude to the Westminster Presbyterian Church and all those who organized and donated to this bountiful food drive. You have done an incredible amount of good for so many people in our community. I can't wait to fill pantries tomorrow!"

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Mary Ray on her new position as Manager of the Court Liaison Division for the Illinois Secretary of State Office.

Nursery Worker, Victoria Hollinshead, who was accepted into the SIU School of Medicine's five-year program which includes an MD and Masters in Public Health.

NEW ADDRESS

Karen Kraft, 3511 Conifer Dr. Apt. 10, Springfield, IL, 62711

TEMPORARY ADDRESS

Pat McKenzie has a temporary address change as she recovers. Mercy Health-Lourdes Hospital, Attn: Pat McKenzie Room 811, 1530 Lone Oak Rd, Paducah, Kentucky 42003



DANCING WITH THE STARZ

Thank you to all who participated in the Springfield Arts Association Fundraiser co-chaired by Dr. Scott Day featuring dancers Rev. Christian and Sophia Choi who took Second Place raising \$7,000. The total proceeds raised from the evening was \$40,000.

WPC HOSTS TABLE AT EARTH AWARENESS FAIR

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

The Earth Care Team will host a table again this year at the annual Springfield Earth Awareness Fair, taking place on Saturday, April 17, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Henson Robinson Zoo (1100 E Lake Shore Drive on Lake Springfield). Earth Day began over 50 years ago, on April 22, 1970.

GREEN TRANSPORTATION

This year, Westminster's exhibit will promote a variety of greener ways to travel. Thanks to members of our congregation, we will "show and tell" an electric vehicle, a plug-in hybrid, an e-bike, and a commuter bike as vehicle owners will share the joys and challenges of ownership on their environmental stewardship journeys. You may find Westminster's Green Transportation Show and Tell in the zoo parking lot.



WESTMINSTER EARTH CARE POWERPOINT

As part of this year's *online option* for the Springfield Earth Awareness Fair (www.springfield.il.us/EAF), Westminster will display an Earth Care PowerPoint highlighting our environmental stewardship projects and practices. This PowerPoint will also be located on the Earth Care page of our website.

PC(USA) RECERTIFICATION

Westminster received word on March 11, 2021 that the Presbyterian Church (USA) recertified Westminster as an Earth Care Congregation, celebrating six years in this ministry and joining 270 congregations across the denomination.



WPC ENDOWMENT GRANT AWARDED TO CREATIVE REUSE MARKETPLACE

The Mission and Community Service Committee awarded a \$1,500 mission grant to the Creative Reuse Marketplace, a new organization in Springfield. The grant request came from the Earth Care Team. The purpose of CRM is to establish a location where people can donate acceptable items versus throwing items away and to create a space for education as well as job training for low-income, unemployed, and/or

homeless women. Currently its online presence is its major marketing outlet with plans to open a storefront at the corner of 4th and Adams this year. The Westminster funding will buy shelving for the storefront.

APRIL EARTH CARE TIP

We read a newspaper for a day and yet clergy and scholars have read and reused the papyrus Dead Sea Scrolls for thousands of years! We can **reduce** paper consumption by substituting cloth shopping bags or electronic photos, bills, and books. If not, we can **reuse** documents for scrap paper, boxes for shipping again, or shredded napkins for mulch. We can use books again and again at the library or by giving to a friend. As a last resort, we can **recycle** paper at the curb, taking care to avoid banned grease stains. Purchasing recycled paper goods helps complete the cycle!



EARTH CARE TEAM: Peter Kieffer, Chair, Keith Hamilton, Charlie King, Becky McDonald, Lynn McMenamin, Maribeth Norton, Susan Shaw, Brad Steller

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON EMPHASIZES EARTH CARE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 18

On Sunday, April 18, the children of Westminster will share in a Sunday school lesson that highlights the biblical mandate to respect and care for the earth. The lesson **WE ARE THE STEWARDS OF THE EARTH** is being created from various resources by Mrs. Karen Sherrick, Director for Children's Ministry.

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
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The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
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The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

Dale T. Rogers
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Deb Watts Elliott
Saturday Worship Pianist and Music Coordinator
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Kimberly Hollinshead
Jaymie Hale Ngoupa
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Krista Steller
Webmaster

Gary Warnick
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Terry Gietl
Bill Hibbert
Eddie Hubbard
Steve Stapleton
Part-time Custodians

May Reporter deadline is Sunday, April 25. Reporter folding and mailing will be Wednesday, April 28, 2021.