

THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

December 2025

Come Join Us!

**Sundays At 10:00 a.m.
In-person or Livestream**

www.wpcspi.org

Watch us on our

YouTube Channel -

**Westminster Presbyterian
Church Springfield IL**

**Advent Worship Series
Daring Dreams: Advent with
the Prophet Isaiah**

December 7

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dreaming Up Peace

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13

Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

December 14

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dreaming Up Joy

Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

December 21

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dreaming Up Love

Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-23

Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

December 28

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Psalms 98; John 1:1-14

Rev. Sarah A. Bishop

Work of Christmas Begins

ADVENT AT WESTMINSTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: NOVEMBER 30

ADVENT WREATH

We begin the Season of Advent, the time of waiting and preparing, on Sunday, November 30 with the lighting of the Advent Wreath. Thank you to the new members, Maud Essel and John Addo-Yobo and their children Francis and Madesyn, Barb and Pete Sherman, and Maggie, Josh, Arthur and Robin Pinke for leading us in this Westminster tradition. An Advent introit will be presented each Sunday by Harper and Reese Huston, Maria Lafrenz, and Lily Swanson; our Advent Singers. The Westminster Choir will sing, and Brian Richardson, bass, will sing *The People That Walked in Darkness* from Handel's *Messiah*.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 7

CHILDREN'S CHOIR sings during 10:00 a.m. service

The 10:00 a.m. service will include special music by the Children's Choir (Grades K-5) as they present an Advent lessons, teaching us the symbols of the Advent and Christmas seasons.

ADVENT CELEBRATION at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall

A reception in Parish Hall will follow worship and include a festive brunch, the singing of Christmas Carols, the creating of ornaments, and the decorating of Christmas cookies. Children who were not in Sunday School on November 30 will have the opportunity to create an advent wreath for home.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 14

The Westminster Choir will sing Christmas Lullaby and All Bells in Paradise, carol-anthems of Sir John Rutter to celebrate his 80th birthday and his years of composing music for the church and especially for the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 21

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROCESSION during 10:00 a.m. service

The Sunday School children will recreate the Nativity in the Second Floor Classroom, process in their costumes during the closing hymn *Joy to the World* and join the pastors in the Chancel for the Charge and Benediction.

CHRISTMAS VESPERS at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

On Sunday, December 21 at 4:00 p.m. in the afternoon, Westminster's Christmas Vespers program will include choral music and carols sung by the Westminster Choir and the St. Andrew's Sisters, with Mu Chi Hsieh and Dale Rogers, Organist.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DECORATION FUNDS

Members and friends are invited to make a suggested donation of \$25 to support Westminster's decorations funds, which includes the poinsettias. You may send a check or go online at www.wpcspi.org to donate. Donations of \$25 or more to the Special Music Fund are also accepted at this time. Please submit your donations with your desired wording and dedications by Monday, December 15. Thank you for your generosity!

ADVENT SERMON SERIES Despite living in a time of war and crisis, the prophet Isaiah inspired people with a vision of a world where hope, peace, joy, and love prevailed; a world where predator and prey were friends; the desert brought forth gardens; where highways were safe and justice and mercy flowed from those in power. He did not know he was dreaming of the gift of Christ. He could not have known. But Isaiah knew that God's story was not over; that it will not be over until all people see the great light of God's salvation dawning into our world. Journey with us through Advent as we allow Isaiah's prophecy to help us dare to dream of the world God desires for all of us, a world filled with Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Westminster,

I cannot express how thankful I am for the outpouring of support I have received in the midst of my recent stroke. Thank you to each of you who has prayed for me, offered me words of encouragement or support, sent cards, helped me start to navigate the health system here in Springfield, provided meals to me and my family, and stepped up in numerous ways to take care of tasks at the church and lighten my load.

I continue to improve and am doing my best to rest and allow my brain to heal as I return to my duties at the church. I am thankful to the staff members who have been understanding and kept things running while I get back up to full speed.

I have follow-up appointments with neurology and cardiology in December and will most likely need a procedure in the new year to close a hole in my heart that they think allowed the blood clot to travel from my heart to my brain.

I am working with Personnel and the Session as I navigate this health journey and we are strategizing ways to share the pastoral load since it will take time before we are fully staffed with a third pastor.

Many of you have offered to help in any way you can. In this current moment, one of the ways you can help me, is by filling out existing volunteer opportunities that strengthen our ministry. See page eight for a few specific opportunities. I will continue to work with church leadership and as we get organized we will let you know of additional ways you can help.

Peace,



The Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

BUILDING AND PROPERTY NEWS

November has been a busy month. The new dishwasher has been installed, and the old one was shipped back to the manufacturer for them to restore and put on display at their facility. We also had the outside of the windows sealed on the Education wing and tuckpointing done around outside of the Pastor's offices. We also had the slate roofs repaired to replace missing tiles.

FAITH COALITION BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER



Faith Coalition for the Common Good's annual breakfast fundraiser was held in Parish Hall on Tuesday, November 18 with 100 supporters. Westminster is an organizational member and Rev. Sarah Bishop offered the opening prayer.

MUSIC NOTES BY DALE T. ROGERS

THE ST. ANDREW'S SISTERS will sing a program of delightful Christmas music in fresh arrangements for the Christmas Tea on Friday, December 7 at 2:00 p.m. for the Presbyterian Women.

Members of the Westminster Choir will attend the Millikin Vespers on Sunday, December 7 at 2:00 p.m. Their Vespers are a long and treasured tradition of the season.

WESTMINSTER CHRISTMAS VESPERS will be on Sunday, December 21 at 4:00 p.m. The program will include choral music and carols sung by the Westminster Choir and the St. Andrew's Sisters, with Dale Rogers, Organist. Violinist, Mu Chi Hsieh will play the *Benedictus* of William Lloyd Webber, father of Andrew Lloyd Webber. Music of Sir John Rutter will be featured.

THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR will present music and readings to interpret and accompany the lighting of the Advent wreath, chancel swag, and Christmas tree as a part of the Advent Celebration on December 7 in worship. The Children's Choir will have rehearsals on Wednesdays, December 10 and 17 as they prepare music for the 5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DECORATIONS FUND Members and friends are invited to donate \$25 or more to the Special Music Fund and \$25 to Westminster's Decoration Fund. Submit your donation with your desired wording and dedication by Monday, December 15. The poinsettias will be in the Chancel from Sunday, December 21 to Sunday, January 4, 2026.

ADULT ED FORUM

Join us Sundays at 11:15 in Parish Hall. All are welcome!

Regional Ministry in Asheville - December 14

Join Westminster youth and Rev. Bishop as they share their summer mission journey to Asheville in more detail.

The Joy of Camping - December 21

Kristianna Eastvold will reflect on her experience and viewpoint from Camp Henry as a summer camp photographer, which is a Presbyterian Camp in Newaygo, MI.

APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets Tuesday, December 23 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss Better Ways to Read the Bible by Zach W. Lambert. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz

THE 51ST ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING BREAKFAST MONDAY, JANUARY 19 2026



The 51st Annual MLK Breakfast hosted by Springfield Frontiers will be held Monday, January 19 8:30 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Westminster will be a Gold Sponsor, donating \$1,500 (\$1,000 from the Endowment Scholarship Fund and \$500 from the Peace and Global Witness collection for local ministry.) Erika Harold, Executive Director of the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism, will be the guest speaker. An advocate for civility, ethics, and inclusion, Erika leads the Commission's extensive educational programming focused on advancing professionalism among the state's lawyers and judges to build confidence in the justice system. If you would like to join the Pastors and attend, please contact Jennie Alt at jalt@wpcspi.org.

FAMILY MINISTRY by the Rev. Sarah Bishop

YOUTH MINISTRY by Mary Ray

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

11:15 a.m. Advent Celebration: Following the 10:00 a.m. worship service, the youth are invited to Parish Hall for cookie-decorating, ornament-making, holiday brunch, and caroling!

12 noon – 1:30 p.m.

Jr. & Sr. High Youth – Shopping for Contact Ministries

After the Advent Celebration, youth will gather in the West Narthex and head out to buy gifts for local youth who are a part of Contact Ministries using the money raised at the Spud Bake!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

11:15 a.m. – 12 noon

Youth Mission Trip 2025 Adult Education Form

The 2025 Mission Team will be leading the Adult Education Forum in Parish Hall.

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Senior High Christmas Party at the Home of Lily Swanson

Senior High are invited to Swanson Home (2201 Augusta, 62704) to enjoy a festive dinner and exchange white elephant gifts (max \$15).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Junior High Christmas Party (Youth Room)

Our Junior High Youth will gather in the youth room for a Christmas party with dinner, games and white elephant gift exchange (max \$15).

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. A Service of Lessons and Carols Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

The Senior High youth participating will gather in the Sanctuary to rehearse for the traditional 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

11:00 a.m. – 12 noon

Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

The Confirmation readers will gather with children after worship for the Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:30 p.m. Confirmation Participants arrival for Children's Christmas Pageant (Sanctuary)

Confirmants with speaking parts in the Children's Christmas Pageant practice for the 5:00 p.m. service.

7:00 p.m. A Service of Lessons and Carols (Sanctuary)

Senior High participating in the service will gather in the East Narthex prior to the 7:30 p.m. service. Do not forget to bring your bell to ring during the final hymn!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

FOLLOWING WORSHIP AT BOONE'S

All College Age Youth are invited to brunch on Sunday, December 21. Hosted by the Rev. Sarah Bishop and Mary Ray at Boone's, plan to meet in the West Narthex at 11:15 a.m. before heading out.



SUNDAY YOUTH SCHEDULE

10:15 a.m. Grade 6 -7 Confirmation – Conference Room
11:15 a.m. Grade 8 Confirmation – Conference Room
5:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group – Bi-monthly

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BY MELEAH BERKOWITZ

ADVENT CELEBRATION IS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

10:00 a.m. Worship

Children's Choir will present Special Music.

11:15 a.m. Fellowship in Parish Hall

Families and friends gather to create ornaments, sing carols, and enjoy festive refreshments.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROCESSIONAL

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21: 10:00 A.M.

The Sunday School children will experience the Christmas Story and Nativity in the Second Floor Classroom then process in their costumes during the closing hymn *Joy to the World* and join the pastors in the Chancel for the Charge and Benediction.

11:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal in the Sanctuary. Children participating in the Christmas Pageant on December 24 are invited to a rehearsal.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:30 P.M. ARRIVAL TIME, 5:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

All our children are invited to arrive on Wednesday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom, where they will receive a costume and be given instructions for the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant as the Confirmation Youth and Bridges Children narrate and present the Christmas story. Children will participate as shepherds and angels. Children ages three and under are invited to be lambs.

Please complete and return the postcard included in the Advent mailing to Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz no later than **Sunday, December 21**, to let us know if your children are joining us and their preferred parts. We hope you and your family will join us in celebrating this Holy Season! If you have questions, contact Meleah Berkowitz (mberkowitz@wpcspi.org).

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS

Our preschoolers have been having a busy and fun fall together! We enjoyed Halloween parties, made bread-in-a-bag with homemade butter, and invited our grandparents to the classroom for Grandparents Days. Our annual Friendship Feast featured arts and crafts, an all-family circle time, and some festive songs and play with Mr. Rogers. This month, our families will be sharing their holiday traditions with the class and we will have our Winter Holiday Party and book exchange in December. When you are doing your holiday shopping, stop by the WinTREE Wonderland in the mall to see our WCP tree!



SUNDAY CHILDREN SCHEDULE

9:45 a.m. Nursery for Children Birth – Age 3
10:15 a.m. Sunday School follows the Children's Sermon for ages Preschool - Grade 5



CONGRATULATION TO DR. DIANE RUTLEDGE RECIPIENT OF THE 2025 FIRST CITIZEN AWARD

Dr. Diane Rutledge was honored as the 63rd recipient of Springfield's First Citizen Award on Wednesday, November 12. Diane was recognized for her decades of community service through advocacy for health care, literacy, and youth development. Her service in leadership roles in over two dozen community boards and organizations was also recognized. Diane has had many opportunities to share the love of Christ through ministry at Westminster - Elder, Support & Endowment, Steadfast Neighbor, Sunday School, and so much more.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

The children and mentors had a fantastic evening exploring the strength in diversity by learning about Houses of Worship and creating their collaborative art project. The mission of Heartland HOUSED was supported by their collection. Our guest speaker, the Rev. Dr. Josh Sabo - Executive Director of Heartland HOUSED educated us on the challenges facing the unhoused population in Sangamon County and what Heartland HOUSED is doing to meet those needs. Then they enjoyed pizza!



BAY WEEKEND – REV. NANETTE SAWYER



ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY



CLEANING AND DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

It's beginning to look a lot like a Westminster Christmas! Did you know that there is a little red Cardinal hidden in the West Narthex tree? Children from WPC and WCP Preschool enjoy seeking this symbol of love, hope, and renewal that moves each week.

Thank you to Brownie Anderson, Marc Anderson, Teena Archer, Meleah Berkowitz, Cara & Jim Bryans, Linda & Ed Caupert, Linda Cox, Scott Day, Dee Dee Duffy, Keith Hamilton, Georgina Hudspeth, Mary Jo Jenkins, Priscilla & Tim Kluge, Meg & Jim Kontio, Gray Marshall, Pat McNutt, Dale Rogers, Pat Roller, Eleanor & Lyle VanDeventer.



PARISH LIFE NEWS

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

BREADLINE SUNDAY THANK YOU! Westminster members donated \$1,177 for the St. John's Breadline which serves hot meals 365 days a year to the underserved. Loaves of bread were stacked in the West Narthex on Sunday for members to take as they made their donations, all thanks to a sponsor who provided the bread to area churches. Bread leftover from Sunday was donated to Central Baptist Church for dressing for their Feast of Plenty dinner. Thank you to all who contributed to the Breadline's fundraiser held annually on the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

HUNGER MINISTRIES AT WESTMINSTER

HELPING HANDS LUNCH PREPARED

Members of Westminster's Hunger Action Team met November 14 to prepare bagged lunches that were delivered to Helping Hands Shelter. Kris Gates, Georgina Hudspeth, Judy Huston, Mary King, Becky Martin, Julie Robbs, and Sue Scaife, and Judy Prillaman prepared and delivered the lunches.

On Wednesday, November 26, Pat Hymans prepared 70 hot meals for Helping Hands Shelter. Thanks to these hunger fighters of Westminster!

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH DECEMBER MENU

Pancake Mix and Syrup, Canned Hash, Oatmeal Packets, Canned Fruit in 100% juice/water. High-Demand Items: personal hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, diapers & wipes size 3 & up, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.

MISSION COMMITTEE GRANTS

At their November meeting, Mission and Community Service committee members responded to the urgent request from Grace Lutheran Food Pantry for financial assistance to help fight increased food insecurity. The committee approved \$2,000 for Grace Lutheran Food Pantry and \$2,000 for Kumler Neighborhood Ministries and increased diligence to keep the Graham Little Pantry filled. \$2,000 was also granted to WordUp, a program that provides durable books for children birth – 3 years living in at-risk homes in Springfield. Lynn McMenamin is a founding member of the group.

HEARTLAND HOUSED COLLECTED & DELIVERED



This fall, Westminster members have been collecting household goods for Heartland HOUSED to support individuals moving out of homelessness into permanent housing. Thanks to church members for providing kitchen and bath supplies, to Children of Abraham families who provided bathroom supplies, and to our youth for organizing and delivering the laundry baskets filled to equip new homes.

CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

CONTACT MINISTRIES ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Westminster is sponsoring nine families in the Contact Ministries transitional shelter, providing Christmas gifts as they work their way toward independence. Each family has a wishlist online and a link can be found on www.wpcspi.org. We would love to provide all the items, so check to see if there are any remaining items to purchase.



Mission committee representatives will be in the West Narthex Sunday, November 30 following the worship service with printed lists of remaining gifts for selection.

Gifts can be dropped off under the smaller Christmas tree in the elevator lobby or ordered for direct delivery to Westminster (make sure to notify Jennie Alt to expect a package!). All gifts need to be at the church by **Sunday, December 7.**

TOYS FOR TOTS box is in the West Narthex. Place unwrapped gifts in it for children of any age through Tuesday, December 30. This is a program of the Marine Corps Reserve.

THE MITTEN TREE for Contact Ministries is in the West Narthex near the elevator. In addition to children's items, adult gloves, hats, and scarves are also needed and will be collected through Sunday, January 4, 2026.

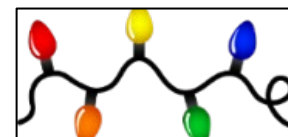
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is an annual special collection of the PC(USA). It supports church workers and families in times of need, and it funds scholarships for racial/ethnic students. Please look within your offering envelopes for those specifically marked ones or designate on our website to give toward this special fund as we together nurture the promise of future leaders and those who serve the church.

DECEMBER EARTH CARE TIP

CHRISTMAS LIGHT RECYCLING –

It's just about time to get out the Christmas lights and start decorating indoors and outside. If you find that a string of lights doesn't work anymore, don't toss it in the trash. Valuable copper, plastic, and glass can be reclaimed by recycling. There is a bin for nonfunctioning Christmas lights (without bags or boxes) in the southwest corner of the West Narthex near the elevator. Last year Westminster recycled about 120 pounds of lights. And, when you purchase replacement lights, consider LED lights. Although the initial cost is higher than incandescent bulbs, they use 75% less energy and last 25 times longer.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

HOME COMMUNION – If you are unable to attend worship and would like to receive Communion at home on December 14, please contact Jennie Alt at the church office. Thank you to those who made visits to eight shut-in members on November 9.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS & CONSULTATION will be available on Sunday, December 7 with nurse Marilyn Rigney.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP gathers on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters will knit at home December 23 & 30 and resume knitting at church January 4. Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657. Additional hats and mittens are welcome on the Mitten Tree.

ALL WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TEA HOSTED BY LYDIA CIRCLE



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5 FROM 12:00 - 2:00 P.M.

All women of Westminster and their guests are invited to enjoy an afternoon of tea sandwiches, salads, and desserts in Parish Hall with a musical program by the St. Andrews Sisters, accompanied by Dale Rogers.

RUTH AND NAOMI will meet on Wednesday, December 3, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Lynda Preckwinkle (5 Fair Oaks St. 62704). Mary Ray will lead the discussion of Chapter 4 in Becoming Spiritually Intelligent: Nine Paths toward Your Most Loving Self by Paul M. Burns. RSVP directly to Lynda at 217-546-5444.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet for a Christmas Gathering on December 8 at Mario's Pizza (3073 E. Clear Lake Ave) at 12 Noon. Please RSVP to Eleanor VanDeventer.

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, December 16, 12 Noon for a Christmas luncheon in Parish Hall. Please RSVP to Nancy Canady at 217-899-9890.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) WILL RESUME IN MARCH

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST meets Thursday, December 11 at 8:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Dan Pietroburgo, Managing Director of Investments with Pietroburgo Edward's Wealth Management, will be our speaker. Please RSVP on our website or contact the church office. All ages of friends and church goers are welcome to join the group.

HARVEST FEST FUN IN PICTURES



WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dan Dees celebrates 91 years on December 1.
Leah Duling celebrates 91 years on December 10.
Elsie & Bob Fox celebrate 64 years on December 23.
Marilyn & Jerry Davis celebrate 63 years on December 30.

NEW ADDRESSES

Bruce Strom, 2316 Concordia Village Dr., Springfield, IL 62711
Sue Werner, 4101 W. Iles Ave., Apt. 3316, Springfield, IL 62711

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

SPRINGFIELD CHORAL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 AT BLESSED SACRAMENT AT 7:30 P.M.

The Springfield Choral Society & Musicians of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra present highlights of the *Bach's Christmas Oratorio* and *Handel's Messiah: Part One* on Saturday, December 6 at Blessed Sacrament. Tickets are for sale at www.springfieldchoralsociety.org or contact one of the members of the choir. Several members and friends of WPC are in this group. This is a smaller venue, so tickets will go fast.

OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

We are grateful for the increased donations in October and in the first part of November. As of October 31, expenses exceed income by \$112,821 which is a slight improvement over September. Compared to our budget, total income is lower than budgeted by \$44,160. Expenses are overbudget by \$68,661. With unbudgeted expenses of pastor moving costs, additional computer equipment upgrades, and the replacement of the lawn tractor, we do expect expenses to be overbudget at the end of the year. We are hopeful that our income will match the amount budgeted with year-end donations.

YEAR-END 2025 CONTRIBUTIONS

As the end of the year approaches, we want to thank all of those who have made donations to the church, and especially to those who have already fulfilled their 2025 pledge.

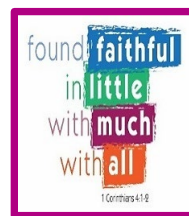
Be sure any donations for the 2025 tax year are dated December 31, 2025 or earlier and delivered to the church no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, January 2, 2026.

2025 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 914,090	\$ 958,250	\$ -44,160
Expenses	\$-1,026,911	\$- 958,250	\$ -68,661
Net Total	\$ -112,821	\$ 0	

If you need assistance determining the amount you have donated compared to the amount of your pledge, just call, and Lisa Runkle would be happy to help.

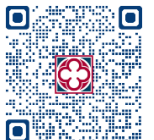
STOCK DONATIONS Please contact Lisa Runkle, Financial Administrator, for instructions to make a stock donation and to alert us to watch for the stock transfer at our brokerage firm.

FOUND FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



We continue to receive 2026 pledges and ask for members to complete their pledge cards soon. May we all be found faithful in our support of Westminster's ministry and mission.

Thank you to all who have pledged so far to the 2026 ministry year. Besides calling or submitting a pledge card, pledges can be made online at www.wpcspi.org or using the QR code here.



Serving on the 2026 Stewardship Campaign Committee: Julie Robbs, Chair, Linda Andrews, Adam Ekstedt, Joe Fierstos, Claudia Nash, Linda Purves, Jeanne Van Gieson, and Sarah Zerfas.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT WESTMINSTER

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 P.M. CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The Confirmation youth and Bridges children will narrate the Christmas story with Rev. Sarah Bishop in a costumed pageant with special music by the Children's Choir. We welcome soon to be members, Emily Standley and her fiancé, Ben Reinhart as our Holy Family. All children are invited to participate as shepherds, angels, and lambs.

5:30 – 7:30 P.M. ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER

HOSTED BY THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Don't miss this special event which includes a delicious meal of roast turkey, baked ham, vegetable, garden salad, cheesy potatoes, rolls, and fresh fruit pies. Adults are \$26.50, children 6-12 are \$15.00 and children ages 5 and under are no charge. **Reservations and payment must be made no later than Friday, December 19.** Please send your payment and number attending to the Church Office or visit the reservation link on our website or follow this QR code. Reservation forms will be in the Sunday bulletins on November 30, December 7 and 14. Large families are encouraged to reserve tables.



7:30 P.M. SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Westminster Choir will provide the choral music, and our Senior High will read the Christmas Story in this Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols. Dr. Marshall will give the meditation. In ancient times, the bells of churches were silenced during the season of Advent. Yet, at the singing of the angel's song, "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" (Glory to God in the Highest) the bells were rung. We follow that tradition by ringing bells during the singing of the closing carol.

BRING YOUR SILVER BELLS, BRASS BELLS, JINGLE BELLS, AND EVEN COW BELLS TO THIS SERVICE AND BE PREPARED TO RING OUT IN PEALS OF JOY!

10:00 A.M. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

We will continue the celebration of Christmas as we contemplate the ongoing work of Christmas in the new year.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Did you know? A group of faithful volunteers help our church office run smoothly by answering the phones so Jennie can work on projects or take her lunch break. As part of our safety team, church members rotate on Sunday mornings keeping an eye on our building ensuring that we are providing hospitality and safety. Our wonderful Krista Steller and Bill Deemer are our two-person livestream crew that allows us to share our worship service with those who live at a distance, are traveling or can't physically make it to church. We would love to add to our pool of trained individuals to help expand our ministry and ensure we have back up when people are on vacation or have other conflicts.

Since each of these ways of serving include some training, it is most helpful if people can commit to regular participation. Participation could be as little as once a month or whatever fits your schedule. If you would like to help answer phones, help with projects, or other basic church office tasks, contact Jennie Alt. If you enjoy learning tech and would like to be trained on our livestream set-up, contact Krista Steller. To join the safety team, contact John Stafford. Our mission team is also looking for new volunteers to take over our fair trade sale on Sunday mornings. Contact Jeanne VanGieson if you are interested in learning more.

Westminster Staff

The Reverend Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall
Pastor and Head of Staff
amarshall@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Sarah A. Bishop
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
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The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
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**Braden Barton, James Capler,
Terry Gietl, Francis Gyebi,
Jerry McCullum**
Part-time Custodians

*Reporter folding and mailing will be on
Wednesday, January 28
at 12:30 p.m.*

Church Offices will be closed at Noon on Christmas and New Year's Eve.
The offices will be closed all day on December 25, 26 and January 1, 2026.