

THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

January 2019

SUNDAY WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

Sunday Schedule:

Nursery 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon

*Worship 8:30 a.m. Parish Hall
& 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary*

*Sunday School for Pre-K – Grade 5
10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.*

*Confirmation & Adult Ed Forum
11:15 a.m. – 12 noon*

*Senior High Youth
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.*

January 6

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Light and Truth

January 13

BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:21-22

Rev. Christian K. Choi

You are Mine

January 20

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Isaiah 62:1-5; John 2:1-11

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

But the Servants Knew

January 27

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP

ANNUAL MEETING

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Luke 4:14-21

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Doing Our Part

BETTY SMITH RECOGNIZED FOR ENDOWMENT GIFT SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

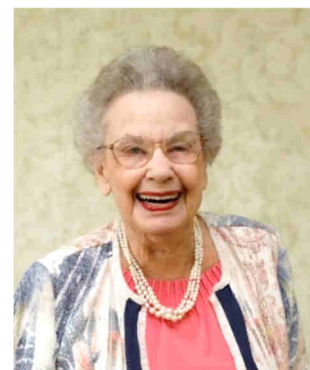
On Sunday, January 27 during worship we will recognize Betty Smith for her gift of \$2.4 million to Westminster's Endowment. \$1.4 million will go to the General Endowment and \$1 million will establish the Betty Smith Mission Endowment Fund.

Betty and her husband Henry Dale traveled to Springfield in 1953 to meet the needs of an underserved region of local pharmacies in Central Illinois and to fulfill a vision of his father, James Matthew Smith, also a pharmacist, who died unexpectedly when Henry Dale was a young man beginning his profession. Their sons Henry Dale, Jr. and Rogers joined them on that journey of faith. Chris and Andy would complete their family in the years that followed. Becoming a part of a church was a priority for Betty and Henry Dale who joined Westminster on February 7, 1954. They wanted to be a part of something larger than their individual lives, and they sought a church family that would nurture their faith and the faith of their sons on life's unpredictable journey.

H.D. Smith Wholesale Drug Co. was formed in 1954. Henry Dale was its sole employee, making sales, picking, packing, and shipping orders and taking care of the day-to-day business. Henry Dale's hard work began a story of tremendous growth and success. By the time the company was sold in 2018, it had over 1100 employees nationwide with operations in 14 cities.

We hope you will join us as we honor Betty for her thoughtful generosity. When appreciation was expressed to Betty for what this gift means to Westminster, she replied, "It's my church!" Her son, Dale, who was instrumental in the timing of this gift said, "We are glad to do our part."

When the Endowment Anniversary Campaign was introduced in 2015 with the goal to grow Westminster's Endowment from \$1.9 million to \$5 million by 2020, we realized this was a reach. How fortunate are we to have members within our church family who are "glad to do their part." The Smiths join the 240 families who, through gifts & pledges to our endowment, are making our goal a reality!



SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

ANNUAL MEETING

8:30 – 9:45 A.M. EGG-TASTIC BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

Members are invited to an incredible English breakfast served by youth attending the 2019 Youth Appalachia Mission Trip to Virginia. The Mission participants will serve a delicious breakfast before worship at 10:00 a.m. Come support the Mission and be well-nourished for the work of the church at the Annual Meeting following worship! **Please reserve your seat online at www.wpcspi.org or sign up in the West Narthex by January 20.**

10:00 A.M. ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP

11:00 – 11:30 A.M. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

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

His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years... Luke 2:51b-52a

Christmas Eve at Westminster was a holy and joyous occasion as we delighted in our children acting out the story of Jesus' birth, enjoyed a delicious meal hosted by the Board of Deacons, bathed in the light of candles, lessons and carols, and partook in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Each service had its own character and we welcomed 575 in worship.

The First Sunday after Christmas Day our lectionary reading was Luke, chapter 2, where we discover twelve year old Jesus sitting in the temple with the teachers, listening and asking questions. Luke is the only gospel writer that gives us a glimpse into the faith development of Jesus' young life and for this we are grateful. We learn from Luke that Jesus' childhood revolved around his home and faith community. Jesus did not come into his own without the relationships that shaped his faith growing up.

What is true for Jesus is also true for us. Children growing up in Westminster celebrate milestones on their faith journey. The rituals around baptism, the third grade Bible presentation, and confirmation mark transitions as our children *increase in wisdom and in years*.

On December 23rd we welcomed Jenna and Becca Hill (pictured reading their Rhyme Bibles), their brother Noah (Baby Jesus), and Henry Opperman in the Sacrament of Baptism.



As we move into the New Year and reflect on Jesus' birth and childhood together, may we take this opportunity to treasure and give thanks for the people who have shaped our lives, nurturing our identity as God's children. May we keep our minds and hearts open to what God would have us do in this time and place as people who are "doing our part" and may



we continue to grow in wisdom and in years.

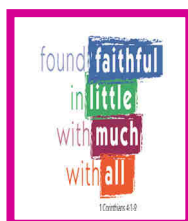
NOVEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

We have received strong support throughout 2018 for the ministry of Westminster! At the end of November, income and expenses are each under budget. Our net total is \$20,832 income exceeding expenses.

| 2018 Operations | Actual | Budget | Difference |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Income | \$ 918,368 | \$ 946,559 | \$ -28,191 |
| Expenses | \$-897,536 | \$-946,559 | \$ -49,023 |
| Net Total | \$ 20,832 | \$ 0 | |

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

As of Wednesday, January 2, we have received **263** pledges for a total of **\$822,388**. This is **98.5%** toward our dollar amount goal. We are so close to meeting our goal. If you have not made a pledge and intend to, please do so asap!



MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS will resume rehearsals in the new year on Wednesday, January 9 at 4:45 p.m. We will revert back to the old pattern of this musical group being for students in third through fifth grades. The project for the coming months is the preparation of music for the Ash Wednesday service and the musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. We do this clever and now classic musical every four years so that each class of choristers experience this memorable telling of the Old Testament story of Jacob and all his sons. Young singers in grades 3-5, even if you weren't in Choristers last semester, this is a good time to join.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR will sing *Star of Bethlehem* and *Brightest and Best* on Sunday, January 6 for the 10:00 a.m. service for the Epiphany. We have prepared these anthems so that they can be pulled together without rehearsals on December 27 and January 3. Rehearsals resume on Thursday, January 10 at 7:30 p.m. In addition to the upcoming Sunday morning services, we will be preparing music for the installation service for the Rev. Christian Choi.

CHURCH MICE, our musical experience for infants through age four will begin its new year on Saturday, January 12 at 11 a.m.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR, our choir for Kindergartners through second grade will begin rehearsals in February.

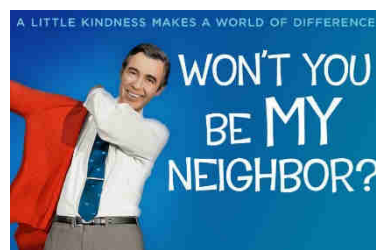
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS TAKE DOWN will be Monday, January 7 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Many thanks to those who assisted in decorating the church. We have enjoyed these adornments through the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany day. Come help store things away for another year.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM PRESENTS:

WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?

SUNDAYS, JANUARY 6, 13, 20

In January the Adult Ed Forum will study the Rev. Fred Rogers, an ordained Presbyterian pastor, who brought the good news into the homes of millions of Americans for decades. Learn more about his brilliant, subversive ministry from pediatrician Dr. Peter Kieffer. The class meets Sunday mornings at 11:15 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom.

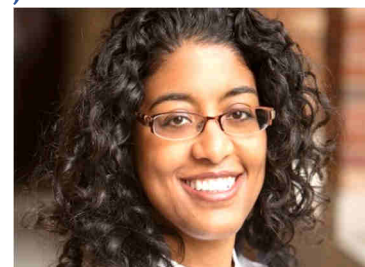


WPC BECOMES 2019 PLATINUM SPONSOR

MLK BREAKFAST ON MONDAY, JANUARY 21

The 44th Annual MLK Breakfast will be held Monday, January 21, 7:30 a.m. at the Wyndham Hotel (7th & Adams).

Tracey L. Meares, J.D., Yale Law professor, will be the Keynote Speaker.



This year, WPC stepped up to become a Platinum Sponsor, donating \$1,500 from the Endowment Fund. It is symbolic and meaningful for us to have a presence at this community celebration especially in light of our rich history as advocates for racial justice and equality. If you would like to join the pastors and attend, please contact Stephanie Moore at smoore@wpcspi.org.

FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi

YOUTH DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



The Youth Contact Ministries Shopping adventure on December 2 was a joyous way to share Christ's love with other teenagers. A successful Spud Bake and the generosity of WPC members provided \$1844 to purchase Christmas gifts for teens and a family of four.



The Youth Christmas Party at the DeJong Home on December 16 was a festive evening which included good food, fellowship, and a White Elephant Gift Exchange.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH ANNUAL WINTER LOCK IN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 12:30 P.M. – JANUARY 6, 11:00 A.M.

32 youth will join Rev. Choi and adult leaders Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Jen DeJong, Anna Koeppel, Elizabeth Marcy, Mary Ray for a day trip to St. Louis' City Museum and dinner followed by a church-wide scavenger hunt, worship, and fellowship! We will conclude Sunday, January 6, at 11:00 a.m. following the 10:00 a.m. worship as we support our youth elder Drew Borland and deacon Ella Kurmann who will be ordained and installed. We will not meet for Confirmation, Confirmation Prep or youth group Sunday.

CONFIRMATION PREP AND CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Prep and Confirmation will meet Sundays, January 13 and 20 at 11:15 a.m.; however, these classes will move to 4:00 p.m. beginning in February.

ANNUAL MEETING BREAKFAST MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

All youth attending the 2019 Mission Trip are expected to work the third annual Mission Trip Breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, January 27. **Plan to arrive by 8:00 a.m. and work through the morning!** The Mission participants will prepare and serve a delicious English Breakfast before worship at 10:00 a.m. Come support the Mission and be well nourished for the work of the church at the Annual Meeting following worship! The youth will return to Appalachia July 7-14 where we will be working to repair homes and to build relationships in Virginia.



WPC YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adults ages 18-29ish are invited to brunch at Obed and Isaac's (500 S. 6th Street) on Sunday, January 27th following the Annual Meeting!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

CAROLING AT CONCORDIA VILLAGE

Bridges Children, led by Dale Rogers, sang carols at Concordia Village on December 12. They also passed out Christmas tree ornaments for our church members who reside at Concordia. Afterwards, children and their parents enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate to wrap up the sharing of Joy.



BRIDGES JANUARY SCHEDULE

Bridges Midweek Fellowship for children in grades 3-5 meets Wednesdays from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. prior to Choristers. This year's theme is "Who Am I?"

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9 –

We will continue to discuss the history of our faith and the history of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

Who are we and what do we believe? We will discuss the Nicene Creed and how it shapes our Christian living.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

We will meet with our Advocates and talk about the stained glass windows of Westminster.

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 30

Bridges will not meet. Children are invited to the Children of Abraham gathering which begins at 4:30 p.m.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

Children and youth (K-Grade 12) will gather Wednesday, January 30, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church (1612 E Capitol). We will join friends from other faith communities to build friendships, learn about one another and share fellowship over a meal. This year's theme is "What We Share." *If your child needs transportation, please email Karen Sherrick at ksherrick@wpcspi.org.*

TEACH THE
CHILDREN
SO IT WILL
NOT BE
NECESSARY
TO TEACH
THE ADULTS

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS



December for the preschool was full of holiday traditions and gingerbread cookies! Our family holiday party on the 6th of December was a treat! We made crafts, ate pizza, decorated cookies, and listened to a holiday story. It's our preschool tradition to make gingerbread cookies before winter break! We will be on winter break until school resumes on January 3rd.

Applications for the 2019-2020 school year will be available to current/alumni and church members when we return from break. Applications will be available on our website and on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the preschool. Applications are due January 31st (along with the \$40 application fee). Families will be notified of their placements by February 15th, after which the general public will be invited to apply.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2



Lindsay Boutelle by Certificate of Transfer from the Petersburg United Methodist Church and **Greg Boutelle** from the Petersburg Central Presbyterian Church. Lindsay graduated from Illinois College and is an Analytics Manager for Diversified Crop Insurance Services. Greg works for the IL EPA as an Environmental Specialist, enjoys hunting, and focusing on conservation of wildlife habitat practices. They have been married for 15 years and have two daughters, Brooke and Juliet. *Sponsors: Meredith and Jim Bryans*



Roger Fenstermaker joins as an Affiliate Member with the First Presbyterian Church in Divernon, IL. He grew up in the Springfield area, attended Benedictine University, and has been attending WPC for over 50 years. Roger and his late wife, Rose, owned Flowers by Mary Lou for 15 years and has a son, Roger F. Fenstermaker III. *Sponsor: George Preckwinkle*



Terry Haynor by Certificate of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Springfield, IL. She was raised in New York, attended the University of South Carolina, worked retail in different states before moving to IL in 1997, and now works for the IL Dept. of Revenue. Terry has a daughter, Caroline, who attends Sacred Heart. *Sponsor: Peg DiFonso*



Richard Rockwood by Sacrament of Baptism. He is a graduate of the University of IL with a degree in Economics, works as a budget analyst at the State Capital. Rich has attended WPC for many years and is married to long time member, Sarah Rockwood. They have two sons, Carson and Brady. *Sponsor: Darren Volle*



Susan Shaw by Certificate of Transfer from Grace Lutheran Church in Springfield, IL. She graduated from Carthage College in WI with a BA and MA in Political Science, is a retired environmental educator and director of Adams Wildlife Sanctuary. She volunteers at Lincoln Memorial Gardens, the Dana-Thomas House, and the LLCC Bird Banding Station. She and her husband of 46 years, Michael, have a son, Scot. *Sponsor: Jeanne VanGieson*



Brinton Geoffrey Wilkey by Certificate of Transfer from First United Methodist Church in Springfield, IL. Brinton has worked for Xerox for 38 years. He and his wife Susan have three children: Megan, Brinton Jr., and Allison. Brinton enjoys golf and the Chicago Cubs. *Sponsors: Dee Dee and Rick Duffy*



Erin Winn by Certificate of Transfer from Elim Reformed Church in Kings, IL. Erin was born and raised in Wisconsin. Currently she is an intern with the IL Legislative Staff Intern Program. She attends the University of Illinois in Springfield working on her master's degree in social work. *Sponsor: Tara Fritsch*

ADVENT GATHERING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

On the 200th anniversary of the writing of the carol "Silent Night, Holy Night," the Westminster Choristers (Children in K – Grade 5) presented the musical based on the story during the 10:00 a.m. Service of Worship.

Following worship members and friends gathered in Parish Hall for the Advent Celebration which included festive food, the singing of carols, and creating ornaments together.



CHRISTMAS EVE AT WESTMINSTER

5:00 P.M. CHILDREN'S SERVICE



135 members and friends gathered at 5:00 p.m. to hear the Christmas Story read by members of the 2019 Confirmation Class: Braden Barton, Emily Brower, Caroline Haynor, Louisa Eldridge, Bryce Pound, and Mia Marcy as the children created tableaux under the direction of Karen Sherrick and Rev. Choi. Tamika, Jacob, and Noah Hill portrayed the Holy Family and special music was presented by Mia Marcy, Julia Musgrave, and Olivia Simonson accompanied by Dale Thomas Rogers.

170 joined in the Christmas Eve Dinner at 6:00 p.m. between services.



99TH ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



380 members and friends gathered for the 7:30 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols. Seniors Emma Batterman, Will Formea, Katie Kruger and Matt Knox join the pastors on the Chancel for the ringing of the bells.

60 members and friends greeted Christmas Day following the 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service.

PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Mission & Community Service Committee thanks Westminster for your generosity this Advent and Christmas!

ADOPT-A-FAMILY: WPC members provided **120 gifts for nine families** in difficult circumstances. These gifts were distributed by Contact Ministries. Special thanks to Kay Smith and Brad Milliman, who coordinated this tradition in 2018.



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING: This special offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is used to support Racial/Ethnic leadership development, schools and colleges, and supply financial assistance to active and retired ministers having special circumstances of need. The total received in December 2018 was **\$3,219.40**.

CONTACT MINISTRIES DISTRIBUTION



On December 12, Westminster hosted Contact Ministries' annual Christmas Distribution. Our church was filled with warmth and good cheer as **70 VOLUNTEERS** assisted in distributing toys, shoes, books, food, and hygiene kits to over **400 FAMILIES**. We are honored to be a part of the generosity within our community. **OUR YOUTH ALSO RAISED \$1,300**, purchasing and donating numerous gifts for teens.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION: WPC knitters continue to create and deliver hand-made items throughout the community. This Advent, K2P4 lovingly supplied bags of knitted goods to Kumler Outreach Ministries and M.E.R.C.Y., filled much of the Mitten Tree for Contact Ministries, and purchased gloves for Graham Elementary School and Kumler. Thanks to all other WPC members who contributed to the Mitten Tree as well.



TOYS FOR TOTS: Thanks to those who responded so generously to this children's program of the United States Marine Corps Reserve. We received over 100 toys from members and an additional 50 footballs from Qik-n-EZ, thanks to Linda Chronister.



ONGOING MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

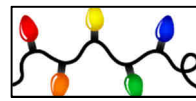
COMPASS FOR KIDS resumes from its break on January 8.

HELPING HANDS – The December meal was provided by Judy Ridinger and Sue Sawers. January will be provided by Carolyn and Brad Swanson. We still have meal dates available for 2019: February – March and May - December.

WPC MEMBER MISSION TO GHANA – Jenna Milward will be traveling in March to Ghana on a Medical Mission trip with Global Brigades, and has asked for donations of basic hygiene items to bring. The following items are requested by the end of January: **Toothbrushes (all sizes), travel-sized shampoo and toothpaste, dental floss, bar soap, paper lunch bags, ziplock bags, used reading or prescription glasses, and used sunglasses.** Look for the basket in the West Narthex. Thanks!

JANUARY EARTH CARE TIP

If you put up a real Christmas tree this year, Springfield crews will pick it up curbside starting 7:00 a.m. January 7th to repurpose it for mulch. Hold on to your artificial tree as long as possible! After its 23rd year, a plastic tree becomes “greener” than growing, cutting, transporting, and mulching a real one every year.



Thank you to everyone responding to the effort to preserve God's creation by bringing your ink, batteries, and Christmas tree lights to the **RECYCLING CORNER** in the West Narthex.

2018 MISSION ENDOWMENT GIVING

Many thanks to all of the Westminster community who have given to the WPC Support & Endowment Fund. This fund provides a significant source of our financial support beyond our annual operating budget and denominational offerings to mission and community service projects in Springfield and worldwide. Below are the efforts supported in this way by Westminster in 2018. This list comes not only from your donations but also from your ideas—if you have any service projects or organizations that are near and dear to your heart, Mission and Community Service Committee members are always interested in hearing from you!

| Program | Description | Funding |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| IAMM | WPC member medical mission trip | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Westminster Coop Preschool | Scholarship fund | \$ 1,220.00 |
| Children of Abraham | Interfaith service project | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Wooden it be Lovely | Children's nutrition program at a women's job-training ministry | \$ 1,040.00 |
| Habitat for Humanity | "1000 Women Strong" home-building project | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Kemmerer Village | Equine therapy and summer projects for children in Kemmerer's residential program | \$ 2,000.00 |
| H.I.S. Home Haitian Orphanage | Sponsorship of annual bike ride fundraiser for housing homeless children | \$ 500.00 |
| Contact Ministries | Fall donation | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Presbyterian Disaster Assistance | Hurricane relief (in addition to funds given by members) | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Faith Coalition for the Common Good | Annual dues and fall donation for this group dedicated to bringing faith communities together and organizing for the betterment of the region | \$ 3,670.00 |
| James Project | Organization which educates and provides substantial support to families fostering children | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Youth First | Funding to provide youth mentor training for a successful Los Angeles-based after-school program | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Outreach Foundation | Allocation of funds toward a January 2020 church-building mission trip to Kenya | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Boys and Girls Clubs | Support of an educational urban gardening program for city children | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Missions for Taylorville | Disaster relief following a destructive tornado | \$ 2,070.00 |
| Total | | \$ 30,000.00 |

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION

TUESDAYS AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE SECOND FLOOR CLASSROOM

K2P4 Mission gathers every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters will meet for a brown bag lunch in the kitchen at 12:00 p.m. and knit at 1:00 p.m. on January 8.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW LUNCHEON will not meet in the month of January. The next luncheon will be on Friday, February 1.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet **Monday, January 14 at 5:30 p.m.** for a Post-Holiday Hors d'oeuvre Party and video of "Really Bad Girls of the Bible" in the Second Floor Classroom.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE will not meet in the month of January and will resume on **Wednesday, February 6 at 7:00 p.m.**

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet **Tuesday, January 15 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Library. Nancy Scott will host and lead devotions. Sharon Turner will lead the discussion on Lesson 4 "God With Us: When We Seek God." If you would like information, call Nancy Scott at 217-891-3902

ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME

Cake donations are needed for the Presbyterian Home's monthly Birthday Celebration. If you would like to be part of this & help out, please contact Nancy Canady 546-8469.



PRESBYTERIAN MEN

Presbyterian Men will meet **Thursday, January 10 at 7:00 a.m.** for a breakfast gathering. Dick Leary will give a presentation on "Travels through Time – Northern Greece, Albania, and Macedonia". Jay Kennerly will lead devotions, and breakfast will be provided.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) will resume in March 2019.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME TO RSVP FOR EVENTS ON THE FELLOWSHIP WEBPAGE AT WPCSPI.ORG.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

WESTMINSTER PRAYER CIRCLE

If you have joys, concerns, hopes, or needs you would like included in the prayers of the Westminster community, please complete one of the prayer cards in the pews, speak to a pastor, or call the church office, so your prayer requests can be shared with the prayer circle.

HOME COMMUNION - Our next Communion Sunday is January 13. If you are unable to attend worship and would like to receive the sacrament at home, please contact the church office. Many thanks to those who visit members with the Lord's Supper. If you are an Elder or Deacon (currently or formerly serving) and you would enjoy calling on other members in this way, please contact Rev. Trajan McGill.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH JANUARY MENU – Canned Spaghetti and Meatballs or Pasta/Sauce. Canned Veggies & Fruit in 100% juice/water, and Instant Pudding or Jello. **Items in High Demand:** feminine hygiene products, shampoo, diapers & wipes size 3 & up, granola/nutri-grain/breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.

Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Roy Baker celebrates 92 years on January 4.

Judith & Ted Flickinger celebrate 55 years on January 2.

John Jaech celebrates 90 years on January 20.

AN INVITATION

Please join Edith Irwin for her 95th Birthday Open House on **Sunday, January 13** from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Concordia Village in the Harmony and Concordia rooms.

NEW ARRIVAL

Camille Grace Knoedler was born on December 4 to Lizzy and Joe Knoedler. Camille's big brother is Brice and her proud grandparents are Krista and Brad Steller.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Tamika and Jake Hill presented their children, Becca Mae, Jenna Belle, and Noah Tate for baptism on December 23.

Katrina and Doug Opperman presented their son, Henry Austin for baptism on December 23.

IN MEMORIAM

Madelyn Morris-Bogue died on December 3, 2018. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her husband, Jim Bogue, her children Mark Morris (wife Pamela), Joyce Nuernberger (husband David), and David Morris (wife Amanda), and their families.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Jeanne and Pete VanGiesen on the death of Jeanne's mother and to Shelby VanGiesen and Kelsey (Jeremy) Baiers on the death of their grandmother, Vivian Bright Shire, on December 31, 2018 in Angola, IN.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the gift of \$1000 donated to our students at Blackburn College. Already your gift is going to work for the benefit of the students and their education, and we appreciate it very much. On behalf of all of us at Blackburn College, thank you for your support. *Mark A. Zobel, Executive Director for Philanthropy and Stewardship*

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Dick Cordier, whose baseball team, "The Avengers," won first place in the 75-Year Plus Division at the Roy Hobbs World Series in Fort Myers, Florida in 2018.

Randy Germeraad, who received the Western Illinois University Alumni Achievement Award on December 15 in recognition of outstanding contributions as an electrical distributor, in community service, and in support of the University.

Bob Leffler, who will host an art show "Brilliantly Natural" at the David Strawn Art Gallery in Jacksonville from January 12–27, 2019. The open house is Saturday, January 12 from 6-8 p.m. with wine and hors d'oeuvres. Bob will have more than 80 photographs of brilliantly colored outdoor sights.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE JANUARY 10

Session and Deacon Committee 2018 reports are due Thursday, January 10, 2019. Please submit your reports to Jennie Alt jalt@wpcpi.org. These reports are included in the 2018 Annual Report for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 27, 2019. Copies will be available at the meeting.

CHURCH OFFICES HOURS

Church Offices will be closed January 21, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

NEW OFFICER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

On Epiphany Sunday, January 6, our newly elected Church Officers will be ordained and installed during the 10:00 a.m. service of worship. The following persons were elected at the Congregational Meeting on October 14, 2018. Their bios can be found on the church website (www.wpcspi.org) in Church Leadership.



SESSION

Class of 2021: Norma Adams-Johnson, Marc Anderson, Deb Coontz, John Cross, Dee Dee Duffy, Jim Kincaid, Dr. Todd Knox, Mary Caroline Mitchell

Youth Elder: Drew Borland **Class of 2019:** Suzanne Borland

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2021: Sara Eldridge, Tara Fritsch, Fiona Irvin, Mary Peura, Nathaniel Brower, Gregg Humphrey, Bob Leffler, Pat Moore

Youth Deacon: Ella Kurmann **Class of 2020:** Amanda Kurmann, Ted Babcock

THANK YOU TO CHURCH OFFICERS CLASS OF 2018

We are grateful to the following elders and deacons who have served our congregation faithfully:

SESSION: Dr. Mark DeJong, Dr. Peg DiFonso, Joe Fierstos, Christie Hovey, Julie James, Dr. Judy Knox, Steve Scaife

BOARD OF DEACONS: Scott Hibbert, David Jenkins, Tim Kluge, Tom Massey, Stephanie Moore, Lynne O'Shea, Mary Ray

REVEREND CHOI'S SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20



On Sunday, January 20, at 4:00 p.m. the Presbytery of Great Rivers will install the Reverend Christian K. Choi as Westminster's Associate Pastor for Family Ministry.

The Rev. Dr. Pat Sheahan, Pastor and Head of Staff at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Fresno, California will preach. Also serving on Christian's commission are: APNC Chair Susan Day, Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Eby, Rev. Dr. Blythe Kieffer, Rev. Dr. Jong Heon Ham, Rev. Yunchun Han, Rev. Ryan Landino, Rev. Trajan McGill, Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill, Rev. Susan Phillips, Rev. Adam Quine, Elder Mary Ray, Commission Ruling Elder Sue Sawers, Elder Gary Terpstra.

The ministry of music will be presented by the Westminster Choir including Mendelssohn's "How Lovely are the Messengers that Bring us the Gospel of Peace." The reception, hosted by Pat Hyman & team, will follow in Parish Hall.

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Roy Ahlers, Steve Council,
Bill Hibbert, Eddie Hubbard
Part-time Custodians

THE PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE INSTALLATION SERVICE OF
THE REVEREND CHRISTIAN KO CHOI
AS ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR FAMILY MINISTRY
OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, JANUARY 20 AT 4:00 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON
A RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW IN PARISH HALL

February Reporter deadline is
Sunday, January 27
Reporter folding and mailing will be
Wednesday, January 30