

THE REPORTER WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street Springfield, Illinois 62704 217-522-4415 www.wpcspi.org

July 2019

WORSHIP& EDUCATION CALENDAR

Saturday Worship 5:00 p.m. Parish Hall Featuring the Westminster Jazz Trio

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 2 10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

July 6 & 7 2 Kings 5:1-14; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 The Reverend Sarah I. McGill WANDERING

Saturday, July 13 Acts 10:1-8; John 17:1-11 The Reverend Trajan I. McGill Prayer

Sunday, July 14 MISSION TRIP PRESENTATION Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37 The Reverend Christian K. Choi For This Reason

July 20 & 21 SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION Luke 10:38-42 The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer Collaberation

July 27 & 28 Hosea 1:2-10; Luke 11:1-13 The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer The School of Hard Knocks THE 2019 YOUTH MISSION: JULY 6-13 THEME: BE THE PEACE!

Thus you shall salute him: Peace be to you, and peace be to your house. Peace be to all that you have." I Samuel 25:6

On Saturday, July 6, the following twenty-six youth will join adult sponsors Nathaniel Brower, Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Jen DeJong, Kyle Duffy, Anna Koeppel, Elizabeth Marcy, Leigh Milward, and Mary Ray led by Rev. Christian Choi (Associate Pastor for Family Ministry) on a mission to Wise County, Virginia sponsored by the Appalachia Service Project.

Braden Barton Emma Batterman Grace Batterman Drew Borland Jessica Borland Ben Brower Sam Brower Emily Brower Louisa Eldridge Caroline Haynor Madison Kruger Clayton Kurmann Ella Kurmann Ella Kurmann Soss Lochbaum Samantha Magalis Mia Marcy Natalie Miller Sidney Miller Jack Milliman Benjamin Parker Avery Pound Bryce Pound Allison Scott Matthew Scott Mack Shepherd Jack Zerfas

Throughout the week, crews of youth and adults will be assigned a painting, drywall, roofing, or construction project on a specific home. The WPC youth will **lead worship at both services on Sunday, July 14**.



Team Commissioning on Sunday, June 30

2019 YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISERS: \$ 1,950 Egg-tastic Annual Meeting Breakfast & Sausage Sales (January) \$ 5,000 Trivia Night (March) \$ 1,874 Car Wash and Bake Sale (June) \$ 1,248 Applebee's Pancake breakfast (June) \$ 1,063 Additional Donations \$ 11,135 Total

Many, many thanks to everyone who supported the 2019 Youth Mission through our fundraisers! We could not do it without you. This year's fundraisers have netted a total of **\$11,135** thanks to the collaboration and teamwork of our youth, their parents, leaders, and this generous congregation.

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

I will sing praises to you among the nations, for your steadfast love is as high as the heavens; your faithfulness extends to the clouds.



Dear Friends, *Psalm 57:9b-10* June was a month of rejoicing in the steadfast love of God as we celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism, hosted new members

Sacrament of Baptism, hosted new members at the All Church Cookout, taught neighborhood children in VBS, and retreated to the Sherrick Farm for three days of worship planning.

The Strategic Planning Committee and related task forces continue their work on the **Steadfast Neighbor Endeavor**. The Mission Task Force heard a presentation from Wooden It Be Lovely Board Member Jen DeJong about an exciting collaboration in the neighborhood.

Four gumball trees on Walnut and the magnolia

tree at the East Entry were removed in June to prepare for the Site and Landscape Plan. Communications to our neighbors and renters were mailed this month.



Dr. Todd Knox will make a **presentation to our neighbors on Tuesday, August 6, from 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom prior to the Historic Westside Neighborhood Association National Night Out which we will host.

THE HISTORIC WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 6:00 – 7:30 P.M.

Westminster will host the 2019 National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 6, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.** Head West sub sandwiches, ice cream treats, and beverages will be provided. There will also be an opportunity to meet our Neighborhood Police Officers, Kathy Martin and Officer Maddy Cunningham and see a SWAT vehicle. Please RSVP if you are attending to Sharon and Darrel Riffey at 726-5751.

New Administrative Assistant



The Personnel Committee is pleased to introduce Haofang Chuang who joins our administrative staff. Haofang (pronounced How'fung) began Tuesday, June 25. She will work part-time on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Haofang lives in Lincoln with her husband Weilun Lee, the Director of the China Institute at Lincoln Christian University, and their children Irene (9 years old) and Ian (5 years old). She has been home

with their children and assisting with the Student Ministry since their move to Lincoln from Boston. Haofang received a G.D. in Vocal Performance from the New England Conservatory, a M.M. in Vocal Performance and a B.A. in Music from the National Taiwan Normal University. Haofang grew up in the Eng-Hok (Forever Blessing) Presbyterian Church in Changhau, Taiwan.

The committee would like to thank Jennie Alt who has worked with efficiency and grace during this time of transition.

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

SUMMER MUSIC SCHEDULE

THE SUMMER CHOIR WILL SING SUNDAY, JULY 21 at the 10:00 a.m. service, with a rehearsal on Thursday, July 18 at 7:30 p.m., AND SUNDAY, AUGUST 11 at the 10:00 a.m. service with a rehearsal on Thursday, August 8 at 7:30 p.m. On the other summer Sundays, soloists and small ensembles will provide music. Many thanks to those sharing their musical gifts through the summer:

June 16: Adam Miller June 23: Jay Kennerly June 30: Matthew Knox July 7: Lyle Van Deventer July 14: Youth Mission Trip July 21: Westminster Summer Choir July 28: Krista Steller August 4: Jim Bogue August 11: Westminster Summer Choir August 18: Katie and Pat Moore August 25: Carolyn Lowe September 1: Kelly Robertson and Ben Bassett

The Westminster Choir will be back in session on September 8.

SING IN THE PARK SATURDAY, JULY 13 AT 7:00 P.M. AT DOUGLAS PARK

Westminster is a sponsor for "Sing in the Park" on Saturday, July 13, 7:00 p.m. at Douglas Park. This event will feature the Sound Celebration Chorus and the Land of Lincoln Chorus. We are pleased to be sponsors of both of these local musical organizations. (Westminster singers in Sound Celebration Chorus are Sue Baker and Mary Gail Romack.) The concert will also include an old fashioned "ice cream social" beginning at 6:30 p.m. Those attending are encouraged to bring their own comfortable lawn chairs and to arrive early.

SPERO CHAMBER CHORALE SUNDAY, 21 JULY AT 4:00 P.M.

This chorus of 26 singers under the direction of Abby Musgrove will present a concert at Westminster featuring works of Smallwood, Handel, Palestrina, Joseph Martin, Randall Thompson, and others. The chorus, in its second season, is a



group of professional musicians and amateur singers from Springfield, Williamsville, Rochester, Chatham, and Jacksonville who come together to share their love of music and their over-arching sense of hope. SPERO, is the Latin word for Hope. Mark your calendars for this very special summer music event.

SATURDAY WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER



Saturday worship begins at **5:00 p.m.** at Westminster in Parish Hall. Innovative music is provided by Deb Watts and the Westminster Jazz Trio. Members are welcome to this meaningful, intimate worship experience!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: TO MARS AND BEYOND

Thank you to our incredible leadership team of **54 youth and adults**, we welcomed **84 children** to VBS. (66 from the community). Each day our children were greeted by the alien EP3:20, whose name comes from our Bible verse for the week, Ephesians 3:20. Glory to God who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by God's power at work within us. EP3:20 reminds us to Go Beyond with faith, boldness, kindness, thankfulness and hope.

MONDAY'S LESSON: GO BEYOND WITH FAITH!

Daniel Trusts God in the Lions' Den - Daniel 6

No matter what circumstances we face, we can always have faith in God to help us in amazing ways!

TUESDAY'S LESSON: GO BEYOND WITH BOLDNESS!

Queen Esther Takes a Stand - Esther 4-9

Because of our faith, we can be bold and stand up for God, for others, and for ourselves!

WEDNESDAY'S LESSON: GO BEYOND WITH KINDNESS!

The Good Samaritan Helps a Fellow Traveler– Luke 10:25-37

Because of our faith, we can be kind to our neighbor!

THURSDAY'S LESSON: GO BEYOND WITH THANKFULNESS! Jesus Heals 10 Leper - Luke 17:11-19

Because of our faith, we can make the world a better place by giving thanks in powerful ways!

FRIDAY'S LESSON: GO BEYOND WITH HOPE!

Friends on the Way to Emmaus - Luke 24:13-25

Because of our faith, we can have hope as we walk with Jesus...at VBS and beyond!

MISSION: We chose to go beyond by collecting much needed personal hygiene supplies for the children of Harvard Park Elementary School. To date we have collected 447 tubes of toothpaste, 34 bars of soap, 97 toothbrushes, 12 deodorants, 232 feminine hygiene pads, 107 bottles of body wipes, and 6 packages of baby wipes through the generosity of our VBS families and the congregation of Westminster.

Thank you to the members who joined in this collection. It's not too late to give. *A final total will be in the August Reporter.*









All Church Cookout June 7 at the Home of Blythe and Peter Kieffer





















1000 Women Strong Habitat Build Saturday, June 8





Westminster Choir Brunch June 9 at Home of Jeanne Pittman











Third Grade Bible Presentation Sunday, June 16



Northside VBS June 24-28



Along with providing \$500 in financial support, preparing the Monday meal, and donating two bicycles to the Northside VBS, Rev. Choi and Karen Sherrick served on the leadership team working with the children each evening of the week of June 24-28.

PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE **1000 WOMEN STRONG HABITAT HOUSE**



On Saturday, June 8, a team of women from WPC spent the morning painting with new homeowner Sonia Kenney. The team included Beth Allen, Sandy Bellatti, Ellen Carpenter, Dr. Judy Knox, Lynn McMenamin, Mary Ray, Lisa Runkle, Dr. Diane Rutledge, and Dr. Kieffer. Special thanks to Sue Sawers who organized food for several weekends as well for the House Kickoff and Home Dedication. Women who assisted her include Peggy Ashline, Sylvia Bradley, Lynne Cleverdon, Ann Collins, Elaine Hoff, Mary Jo Jenkins, Sharon Reynolds, Judy Ridinger, Pat Shafer, Nancy Scott, and Gloria St. Lawrence. Additionally, Susan Day framed all the windows in the new home.

The bulk of the house was financed by numerous women throughout the city of Springfield giving \$100 donations, including members of the WPC congregation. Kathy Germeraad received special recognition for her family's gift at the House Dedication on Thursday, June 27.

WOODEN IT BE LOVELY FURNITURE SALE SATURDAY, JULY 27 FROM 9:00 A.M. TO NOON

Wooden It Be Lovely, a neighborhood ministry with which WPC is involved, helps single women with significant life challenges onto their feet with employment skills and work experience. Please visit Douglas Avenue Methodist Church on July 27 to see and purchase some of the fantastic furniture



created by the women of this program! Come early-items sell out quickly! Please park in the lot on the south side of the church and enter by the courtyard door.

Westminster members Cindy Davis and Jen DeJong serve on their board, and the Mission Taskforce of the Steadfast Neighbor Endeavor is considering a future collaboration with this community mission.

GIVE -A- MEAL -A- MONTH JULY MENU



Canned Spaghetti or Pasta Meal. Peas. Canned Fruit in Juice/Water, Rice Mixes or Instant Rice personal hygiene High-Demand Items: products, shampoo, conditioner, 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.

KENYA MISSION TRIP JANUARY 14-30, 2020

We are delighted to introduce the Kenya Mission Team as of July 1, 2019. Dr. Jane Arbuthnot, Dr. Marc and Jen DeJong, Drs. Todd and Judy Knox, Mary and Charlie King and Harold Hale have committed to join Rev. McGill on this exciting mission. It is not too late to join this exceptional team. If you have interest, contact Rev. Trajan McGill at tmcgill@wpcspi.org.



This is Westminster's first international mission trip as we partner with the Outreach Foundation to fund a new church building as well as participate in the construction and dedication. \$15,000 from Westminster's Mission Endowment has been designated.

HELPING HANDS

WPC delivers meals to the Helping Hands shelter on the second Friday of each month. The July 12 meal will be prepared by Pat and Al Hymans. Thank you to Janie Bahlow, Sally Godbey, Julie James, Pat Picchi, and Amy Xanders for providing the June 14 dinner.

We are still in need of volunteers for September, October, and November! Details are available from Jennie Alt, Church Administrative Assistant or Julie James.

MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERED JULY 29 – AUGUST 2 AND AUGUST 5-9!

For two weeks in August, Westminster will again be helping Senior Services of Central Illinois deliver food to eligible senior citizens as part of their Specialty Meals on Wheels program. We will need ministry partners to take each of the delivery routes for those weeks.



Sign-up and info sheets will be out between and after worship services. If you are interested and able to help make deliveries JULY 29-AUG. 2 AND/OR AUG. 5-9, please sign up in the West Narthex throughout the month of July.

EARTH CARE

EARTH CARE TIP – Vinegar is a natural acidic product of plant fermentation with a miraculous potential to replace harsh chemicals for many household purposes including disinfecting



bathroom and kitchen surfaces, killing insects, removing ink stains, and washing windows. A spray bottle with vinegar in the home can help save dollars at the supermarket and keep our waters clean.

Earth Care Team: Dr. Peter Kieffer, Keith Hamilton, Charlie King, Lynn McMenamin, Becky McDonald, Maribeth Norton, Susan Shaw, and Brad Steller

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

HOME COMMUNION - If you are unable to attend worship, whether temporarily or on an ongoing basis, and you would like to receive Communion at home on July 21, please contact Jennie Alt at the



church office. Five teams of elders and deacons made visits to eleven home-bound members in June. Many thanks to those who participate in bringing the Lord's Supper.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION

TUESDAYS AT 1:00 P.M.

K2P4 Mission gathers for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters are also invited to meet for a brown bag lunch in the WPC kitchen on Tuesday, July 9. If you are unable to attend and would like to donate knitted items, please contact Mary Jo Jenkins for current needs at 217-544-8657.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW collected **\$862** for Church World Service during Blankets Plus Sundays in May. Thank you to all who contributed.

PW collected **\$1,047** for the Birthday Offering. Thank you to all who contributed to this mission offering.

PW LUNCHEON resumes Friday, September 6 with Peg DiFonso as the Kitchen Chair and Pat Hymans as Chair of the Day. **ELIZABETH CIRCLE** resumes on September 9 with Eleanor VanDeventer leading the lesson. For information, call Eleanor VanDeventer at 217-341-4032. LYDIA CIRCLE resumes on September 17 with Sharon Turner as the hostess and provide the program. For Information, call Nancy Scott at 217-891-3902. **RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** resumes on October 2 with Pat Wheat as the hostess. For information, call Meg Kontio at 217-670-2052.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE)

FRIDAY, JULY 19 – 6:30 P.M. POTLUCK & 7:15 P.M. PROGRAM



We welcome Tony Rothering, Professor of Biology at LLCC and dedicated volunteer of the Bird Banding Station at LLCC, will present a program on the "Adventures with Birds". This is a different program from 2018. If you are unable to attend the potluck and fellowship, come for the program.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUMMER COOKOUT SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, AT 5:00 P.M.

Men of the congregation and their significant others are invited to a summer cookout at the Grigsby/Hale Farm (15594 Rogge Street, Tallula 62688) on Sunday, August 4 at

5:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Jennie Alt and let her know whether you will bring a side dish or dessert.



MAY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Thank you for your financial support of Christ's work at Westminster. Our income for the first 5 months of the year is above budget by \$36,346. Year-to-date expenses are under budget by \$9,519. The net total is \$45,865 income above expenses at the end of May.

2019 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 468,075	\$ 431,729	\$ 36,346
Expenses	\$-422,210	\$-431,729	\$- 9,519
Net Total	\$ 45,865	\$0	

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Ben Foster celebrates 92 years on July 3. Wilbur Wright celebrates 105 years on July 6. Ruth Schmitt celebrate 90 years on July 30.

WEDDING

Carrie Germeraad and Nick Walton will be united in marriage on July 6 at the home of Kathy and Randy Germeraad in Holland, MI.

New Arrival

Harper Anne Huitt was born on May 3 to Samantha and Kyle Huitt. Harper's big brother is Noah and her proud grandparents are Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer.

Nathaniel Robert Lawton was born on June 11. Nathaniel's parents are Hilary Wilson and Chris Lawton and her proud great grandparents are Drs. Bob and Naomi Lynn.

IN MEMORIAM

Patricia R. Baker died on May 16 in Springfield. The sympathy and prayers of the congregation are extended to her husband, Roy A. Baker, her daughters, Debra (Ray) Wellman and Linda Austin, and their families.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Sandy and Jon Hockenyos on the death of Jon's sister, Dr. Karen Goodwin, in Phoenix, AZ on April 24.

Margie and Bill Wheelhouse and family on the death of Bill's brother, Robert S. Wheelhouse, in Barrington, IL on June 13.

Judith Pensoneau-Feurer on the death of her husband, William E. Feurer, in Springfield on June 23.

Dr. Roland and Sue Cull on the death of Sue's brother, Jack Ryder, in La Grange, IL on June 26.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Drew Borland who represented Springfield High at the National Scholastic Bowl in Atlanta. Their team placed third in the Pop Culture tournament and Drew placed eighth individually.

Matthew Knox who graduated as salutatorian of the Springfield High School Class of 2019.

Toshi Maeda and Sophia Choi who became naturalized citizens of the USA on Friday, June 14 at the State Capitol.

Dr. Peter Kieffer who received the 2019 Pediatric Teacher of the Year Award from SIU School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics.



David Eldridge who was named as one of seventeen voting members of the USA Volleyball Board of Directors for Team USA.

ADDITIONAL GRADUATES

Erin Winn received a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Nathaniel Brower received a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Illinois at Springfield.

New Address

Cathy and Carolyn Lowe, 1227 Ivywood Drive, Springfield, IL, 62704

Kathy and Gary Brown, 38 Cheshire Ct, Chatham, IL, 62629

SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTED TO EDISON ZOHFONYI SUNDAY, JULY 21

On Sunday, July 21 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service, Edison Zohfonyi will be presented \$1,000 to subsidize his tuition from Westminster's Minority Scholarship Fund.

Edison joined WPC in October 2016 by Certificate of Transfer from the Presbyterian Church of Bonaberi, Doualla, Cameroon. Edison won a green card and a work visa in a lottery organized by the United States Embassy through the Diversity Visa Program. He moved to



Springfield in May of 2015 leaving behind his parents and siblings. He worked full-time at St. John's and completed an associate's degree in Engineering Science from LLCC in May. He will attend SIUE this Fall in their School of Engineering. His sister, Mervice Alah Abung, recently moved to Springfield and will join WPC with the next new member class.

In the past, the scholarships from this fund have been disbursed to Blackburn College and the Springfield Chapter of Frontiers International, Inc. We are delighted to honor one of our members with this scholarship.

2019 BACKPACK COLLECTION

THROUGH SUNDAY, AUGUST 11



Once again WPC will partner in ministry with Contact Ministries as we collect backpacks to be distributed at their Ready for Success Back to School Event on Thursday, August 15, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. We will collect backpacks through Sunday, August 11. Around 250 school-aged children will receive a new backpack from Contact Ministries and a new pair of Payless shoes from Share the

Spirit! Last year, we collected 163 backpacks! *The basket is in the West Narthex.*

CHURCHES UNITING IN CHRIST (CUIC) PLENARY GATHERING

Reverend Choi represented the PC(USA) at the CUIC gathering June 6-10, 2019. CUIC is covenant а organization of eleven US denominations who are committed to live more closely together in expressing their and unity in Christ in CUIC combating racism. gathers regularly to partake in the Lord's Supper together, to work towards reconciliation of ministries, and to seek unity



with justice. This year, CUIČ met in Montgomery, AL. The city gave CUIC members an opportunity to explore the deeper truth of the US's history of slavery at the Legacy Museum. Also, by visiting Dexter Avenue Church, where Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. was the pastor, we reflected on the era of the Civil Rights Movement. Rev. Choi has the privilege of representing PC(USA) at CUIC for another three-year term. *2019 PC(USA) delegation pictured above.*

NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICERS

The 2019 Nominating Committee is now receiving nominations for the following positions of leadership at Westminster.

DEACON (CLASS OF 2022) ELDER (CLASS OF 2022)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2020)

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2022)

Nominations may be placed in the offering plate, emailed to the committee chair, Jim Kincaid, at <u>jbkin@comcast.net</u>. Please complete by August 15, 2019. Nominees will be presented at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2019. **2019** Nominating Committee members: *Jim Kincaid (Chair), Norma Adams-Johnson, Bill Donels, Amanda Kurmann, Camille Massey, Julie Sundquist, Phil Wheat.*

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 tmcgill@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Christian K. Choi Associate Pastor for Family Ministry cchoi@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle *Parish Associate*

Dale T. Rogers Director of Music and the Arts drogers@wpcspi.org

Deb Watts Elliott

Saturday Worship Pianist and Music Coordinator deb.watts@live.com

Karen Sherrick

Director for Children's Ministry ksherrick@wpcspi.org

Victoria Hollinshead, Kimberly Hollinshead Jaymie Hale Ngoupa *Nursery Workers*

Emily Rowley, Amy Bonansinga Cooperative Preschool Teachers westminstercoop@gmail.com

Ellen Carpenter Parish Nurse ranell@comcast.net

Lisa Runkle Financial Administrator lrunkle@wpcspi.org

Jennie Alt Church Administrative Assistant jalt@wpcspi.org

Haofang Chuang Administrative Assistant hchuang@wpcspi.org

Krista Steller Webmaster

Gary Warnick Building and Property Manager gwarnick@wpcspi.org

Roy Ahlers, Terry Gietl Bill Hibbert, Eddie Hubbard *Part-time Custodians*

August Reporter Deadline is Sunday, July 28.

> Reporter folding is Wednesday, July 31.