



# THE REPORTER

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
[www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org)

### June 2024 WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

10:00 a.m. In-person and  
Livestream Worship Service  
[www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org)

#### FAITH FORMATION:

9:45 a.m. Nursery  
Children Birth – Age 3

10:15 a.m. Summer Sunday School  
following Children's Sermon  
Children Pre-K - Grade 5

June 2

#### BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Psalm 81:1-10, II Corinthians 4:5-12  
The Rev. Dr. John S. Kay  
*Light Up the Dark*

June 9

#### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1 Sam 8:4-14, 19-22; Mark 3:20-35  
The Rev. Gerald W. Boutelle  
*Faith and Controversy*

June 16

#### FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

1 Sam 15:34-16:13; Mark 4:26-34  
The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
*Seed Bearers*

June 23

#### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1 Sam 17: (1a, 4-11, 19-23)32-49; Mark 4:35-41  
Youth Mission Team  
*Jumping in with Both Feet*

June 30

#### SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Psalm 84:1-7; II Corinthians 4:5-9, 16-17  
Dr. Roy Werhle  
*Bewildered, We See the Face of God*

Sermon manuscripts are located in the West  
Narthex and online at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org).

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: CAMP FIRELIGHT MONDAY – FRIDAY, JUNE 3-7

Children ages 4 - Grade 5 will enjoy Bible stories, crafts, games, music, and snacks the week of June 3-7 from 9:15 a.m. to 12 noon. *The leadership team will meet on Sunday, June 2, at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall.*

**Director and Assembly Leader:** Dr. Berkowitz **Registrar:** Pat Roller and Linda Purves

**Bible Story and Drama Team:** Dr. Kieffer and Aaron Berkowitz, Charlotte and William Affrunti, Abigail Eldridge, Sophia Llosa, Ned Moore

**Art/Crafts:** Pat McNutt **Games:** Isaac and Ethan Alt, Emily Brower

**Music:** Katie Moore **Snack:** Pat Hymans **Decorations:** Al Hymans

**Camp Counselors:** Kathy Bacon, Ann Collins, Juliana, Kristianna, and Aerwyna Eastvold, Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross, Carole and Jay Kennerley, Liliana Kennerly, Maria Lafrenz, Susan Shaw, Karen Sherrick, Julie Sundquist, and Eleanor VanDeventer

**Mission:** *The children will collect school supplies for Camp Compass:*

**Crayons**    **Markers**    **Scissors**    **Pencils**    **Sanitizer**    **Colored Pencils**  
**Book Bags**    **Glue Sticks**    **Kleenex**    **Sticky notes**    **Sharpener**    **Healthy Snacks**  
**Clorox Wipes**    **Index Cards**    **Erasers**    **Pens**    **Spiral Notebooks**

The children will make a presentation Sunday, June 9, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service followed by a reception in Parish Hall. Register online at <https://wpcspi.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

### 2024 YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO NOLA: JUNE 15-22

THEME: JUMPING IN WITH BOTH FEET – LOVING GOD AND NEIGHBOR

On Sunday, June 9, fourteen youth and ten adult mentors will be commissioned. They will be a part of Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans (RHINO) at the St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church. The team will also visit the World War II Museum in NOLA and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum in Jackson, MS.



#### YOUTH PARTICIPANTS:

William Affrunti  
Braden Barton  
Juliet Boutelle  
Aerwyna Eastvold  
Juliana Eastvold  
Kristianna Eastvold  
Abigail Eldridge  
Liam Kiszely

Maria Lafrenz  
James Maeda  
Macklin Metzger  
Sidney Miller  
Matthew Scott  
Sam Simonson

ADULT PARTICIPANTS:  
Mary Ray (Leader)

Andrew Affrunti  
Beth Allen  
Tad Allen  
Lindsay Boutelle  
Cathy Brower  
Susan Day  
Kyle Duffy  
Dave Leonatti  
Kevin Simonson

The WPC youth are grateful for the congregation's continued support and prayers and look forward to **leading worship on Sunday, June 23.**

### FIFTH ANNUAL STEADFAST NEIGHBOR

TEAM MEETING – JUNE 11; SERVICE WEEK – JUNE 17-21

The steadfast crew of ministry partners will gather for a team building meeting on **Tuesday, June 11 at 5:30 p.m.** in Parish Hall. The team leaders and projects will be presented in preparation for our service week.

During the service week beginning June 17, the team will gather each morning at 8:30 a.m. for a devotion to begin the day before arriving at our neighborhood sites. Lunches will be prepared by Pat Hymans' Hospitality Team and served at noon in Parish Hall. The congregation will hear a report on Sunday, June 23. Sign up at [wpcspi.org](http://wpcspi.org) and let us know which days you are able to serve.



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

*For everything there is a season... Ecclesiastes 3:1a*

As I tend to the details of ministry along with added responsibilities during June, I am grateful for the preachers we welcome to our pulpit. On the weekend of June 7-9, I will officiate at the wedding of Paul Kieffer's closest childhood friend, Will Shao, outside New York City. The week of June 28-July 5, Peter and I will be in Salt Lake City for the General Assembly. We continue to keep Rev. Choi in our prayers during his temporary leave. Meanwhile, the APNC is hopeful about potential candidates. I am grateful to this resilient, generous congregation and gifted staff during this season in our life together.



### THE REV. DR. JOHN S. KAY PREACHES JUNE 2

On Sunday, June 2 we are pleased to welcome Dr. Kay back to Westminster, where he served as Associate Pastor from 1984 to 1990. During the search for a new Pastor and the construction of Parish Hall, he also served as Moderator of Session and Head of Staff. John served pastorates at Farmingdale and Jacksonville and spent six years on the Denomination's National Staff as a Consultant for the Church Financial Campaign Service. After retirement in 2014, John and Betty moved to Wilmette, IL to be near their family. He also served as Interim Pastor for congregations in Decatur, La Grange, and Mt. Prospect.

### THE REV. GERALD W. BOUTELLE PREACHES JUNE 9

On Sunday, June 9 we welcome Rev. Boutelle to our pulpit. Jerry joined the staff as Parish Associate in October 2013. He has served Illinois churches in South Holland, St. Ann, Peoria, Springfield, Carrollton, White Hall, and Petersburg until his retirement in 2009. He earned a Master of Divinity and a Master of Sacred Theology from McCormick Theological Seminary.

### DR. ROY WEHRLE PREACHES JUNE 30

On Sunday, June 30 we welcome Dr. Roy Wehrle to our pulpit. Roy is an elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and has served numerous roles within the Great Rivers Presbytery including leading the theological fitness interview with Dr. Kieffer paving the way for her to be called by Westminster in July of 2013. Roy received a B.A. from Washington University and a Ph.D. in Economics from Yale. He has served as Artillery Officer, US Army, Economic Counselor to the US Ambassadors in Laos & Vietnam and Deputy and Associate Director for AID in both countries; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Vietnam, 1967/8, Senior Economist, President Kennedy's Council of Economic Advisors, Member of Rockefeller Latin America Advisory Team for President Nixon, Senior Economist, Brookings Institution, and Visiting Professor at Harvard University, CEO of HEMA, INC -- healthcare cost containment service for corporations, Author of four volume Climate Policy Study for Greenleaf, Chicago, and faculty at Sangamon State, University of Illinois, and Millikin University in Decatur. Roy retired as Emeritus Professor of Economics at UIS.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETS JUNE 25 – JULY 4

The Presbyterian Church (USA) 226<sup>th</sup> General Assembly begins with online committee meetings June 25-27. Commissioners travel to Salt Lake City June 28 and meet in person for plenary from June 29-July 4. The first item of business will be to elect Co-Moderators and then make decisions on behalf of the PC(USA) including the election of the new Stated Clerk

The theme of GA226, "Live into Hope," is based on the hymn of the same name by Jane Parker Huber. Daily themes have been chosen based on verses of the hymn.

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

**THE ANNUAL CHOIR BRUNCH** will be Sunday, June 2 at the home of Meg and Jim Kontio following the 10:00 a.m. service as we celebrate the close of the season. Summer Choir will meet on July 11 to prepare for Sunday, July 14.



### DALE'S CONTINUING EDUCATION

During the week of June 16-22, Dale Rogers will be at the annual conference for Worship and Music by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians at the Montreat Conference Center in North Carolina. Later in June, he will be attending the annual conference of the American Guild of Organists in San Francisco, California. Both events focus on worship, choral music, organ technique and repertoire. On the Sundays of Dale's absence, Linda Andrews will be the organist for Westminster services.

### NEW MEMBER CLASS

#### SUNDAYS, JULY 14 AND 21

Friends and visitors are invited to a New Member Class on **Sundays, July 14 and 21 9:00 a.m.** in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who has been visiting and would like to learn more about the church, its mission, and becoming a member is invited. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on July 28 following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

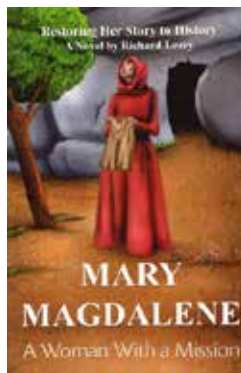


### DR. KIEFFER'S BIBLE STUDY



Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study observed the conclusion of their tenth year together by joining in a potluck dinner and celebrating the Sacrament of Communion.

### APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP



The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets Tuesday, June 25 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss Mary Magdalene, A Woman with a Mission by Dr. Richard Leary. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

As curator of geology at the Illinois State Museum, Richard has published many scientific articles. Richard is an active Westminster member and credits the adult education ministry at Westminster for inspiring his interest in Christian history and Mary Magdalene. His book is available for purchase in the church office for \$15.



## YOUTH MINISTRY by Mary Ray

### MISSION TEAM MEETING

**On Sunday, June 2 at 9:00 a.m.** the entire Youth Mission Team will gather in the Second Floor Classroom for their final meeting before this summer's mission trip.

**On Sunday, June 9** the team will be commissioned in worship.

**On Saturday, June 15** the team departs at 6:30 a.m. from the WPC parking lot.

### THANK YOU FOR "WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT"

Thank you to the following members who are writing a note for each day of the mission trip to one of the participants: Brownie Anderson, Meleah Berkowitz, Meridith Bryans, Katie Carlson-Eastvold, Ellen Carpenter, Deb Coontz, Sue Cull, Bill Deemer, Dee Dee Duffy, Joe Fierstos, Mary Jo Jenkins, Carole Kennerly, Todd Knox, Val Leonatti, Becky Martin, Lynne McMenamin, Leigh Milward, Christy Pound, Marilyn Rigney, Julie Robbs, Brad Steller, Krista Steller, Jeannie VanGieson, Sarah Zerfas. This is a cherished Westminster tradition.

### YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISERS

#### THE CAR WASH / BAKE SALE

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9 – 9:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.**



We hope members support the Youth Mission Team for their final two fundraisers before they depart for NOLA. Arrive early with your car for the youth to clean them and stop by the table of delicious baked goods prepared by members of the youth mission team and their parents.

All Mission participants will arrive at church at 9:30 a.m. in this year's mission T-shirt. Cars will be washed in our parking lot, so bring all the family cars along!

Bring baked goods for the Bake Sale! Thanks to **Dave Leonatti** for organizing the Car Wash and to **Nichole Magalis** for organizing the Bake Sale.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Meleah & Aaron Berkowitz

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the summer, children in Kindergarten through Grade 2 will continue to meet in the Third Floor Chapel with Meleah Berkowitz and Ministry Partners in the study of Parables.

Children in Grade 3 through 5 will continue to meet in the Third Floor Tower Classroom with Aaron Berkowitz and Ministry Partners and will study the Apostle's Creed and selections from the weekly lectionary.

### BRIDGES CHILDREN WELCOME THEIR ADVOCATES

Bridges concluded their year on Wednesday, May 15 with a visit from their Advocates and Dr. Kieffer. Meleah led the group in exploring the new Bibles many of the children received on May 12.

Favorite Bible verses were shared and everyone created "Joy Jars" for the summer. Joy Jars provide an opportunity to pause and reflect



on the things that bring us joy over the summer as they are written down and placed in the jar to be shared when Bridges begins again in the Fall. Thank you to all who served as an



advocate to the children in this intergenerational outreach: Pat McNutt, Jeanne Pittman, Marilyn Rigney, Karen Sherrick, Krista and Brad Steller, and Pete VanGieson.

## EDUCATION AND COMPASS LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION, SUNDAY, JUNE 2

The following members will be recognized Sunday, June 2 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. In their honor, we will purchase a **dairy cow** through Heifer International. Heifers bring health, prosperity, and peace. Heifer cow gift donations can change lives, giving hope to families in even the most difficult of circumstances. We are grateful for these individuals and their "**moo-valous**" work nurturing the faith of our children, youth, adults, and Graham Elementary School students.



**Nursery Guild:** Linda Caupert, DeeDee Duffy, Sara Eldridge, Sally Godbey, Priscilla Kluge, Dr. Judy Knox, Meg Kontio, Maria Lafrenz, Val Leonatti, Maria Lafrenz, Lynn McMenamin, Millie McNutt, Leigh Milward, Christy Pound, Sue Scaife, Julie Sundquist, Erin Winn

**Sunday School Teachers:** Dr. Aaron and Mrs. Meleah Berkowitz, Lindsay Boutelle, Cathy Brower, Sophia Choi, Dr. Marc DeJong, Juliana and Kristianna Eastvold, Adam and Chelsea Ekstedt, Sara Eldridge, Kate Morthland, Laura and Eric O'Reilly, Karen Sherrick, Julie Robbs, Erin Winn

**Bridges Midweek Fellowship:** Meleah Berkowitz, Kathy Bacon, Pat Roller

**Children of Abraham:** Meleah & Aaron Berkowitz, Dr. Kieffer, Mary Ray, Dale Rogers, Sophia Choi, Georgina Hudspeth, Pat McNutt, Susan Shaw

**Confirmation Prep (Grades 6-7):** Cara Barnett, Meridith Bryans, Joe Fierstos, Mary Ray

**Confirmation (Grade 8):** Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe Keiffer, Mary Ray

**Youth Group Leadership Team:** Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Kyle Duffy, Mary Ray

**Adult Education:** Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Dr. Katie Carlson-Eastvold, Rachael Hickman and Jess Weitzel and the Refugee Ministry Committee, Rev. Dr. Lonnie Lee, Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe Keiffer, Katie and Michael Morthland, Dr. Debbie Parker, Mary Ray and 2023 Youth Mission Team, Dale Rogers, Lyle VanDeventer, Dr. Roy Wehrle

**COMPASS for Kids:** Cathy Brower, Ellen & Rance Carpenter, Juliana & Kristianna Eastvold, Dr. Tanya DeSanto, Kris Gates, Angie Lafrenz, Jade Robinson, Jamie Robinson, Dr. Diane Rutledge.



CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM MAY 8 GATHERING



JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH'S END OF THE YEAR





# NEW HARMONY RETREAT MAY 2-4, 2024



**A Prayer For The World**

Let the rain come and wash away the ancient grudges, the bitter hatreds held and nurtured over generations. Let the rain wash away the memory of the hurt—the neglect.

Then let the sun come out and fill the sky with rainbows. Let the warmth of the sun heal us wherever we are broken. Let it burn away the fog so that we can see each other clearly. So that we can see beyond labels, beyond accents, gender or skin color. Let the warmth and brightness of the sun melt our selfishness. So that we can share the joys and feel the sorrows of our neighbors. And let the light of the sun be so strong that we will see all people as our neighbors. Let the earth, nourished by rain, bring forth flowers to surround us with beauty. And let the mountains teach our hearts to reach upward to heaven. Amen.

Rabbi Harold S. Kushner



The New Harmony Retreat enriched the lives of the twenty-seven who partook. Together, we reflected on the theological writings of Paul Tillich, renewed our baptismal vows in the Roofless Church surrounded by sculptures with theological significance, walked the labyrinth, and celebrated the sacrament of communion. Thank you to Dr. Kieffer who led the retreat and to Dale Rogers, Jay Kennerly, and Todd Knox who deepened our experience with music. We welcomed Dr. Kent Schuette for an introductory tour.





## ALBERT HALE CIRCLE

The **ALBERT HALE CIRCLE** is listed below and includes pledges, gifts, pre-campaign gifts and planned gifts. Reverend Hale, pastor from 1839-1866, laid the cornerstone for the legacy of faith and sure foundation we are building together in the Westminster Support and Endowment Fund.

In May of 2015, on the 180th Founders' Sunday, Westminster dedicated the Building a Legacy of Faith Twenty-Year Anniversary Endowment Campaign and established the ALBERT HALE CIRCLE. During the five-year campaign the market value of Westminster's Support and Endowment Fund grew from **\$1.9 to \$8.1 million**. As of March 31, 2024, the market value of the Support and Endowment Fund was **\$8,983,689**. This does not include planned gifts. We continue to welcome donations and testamentary gifts to the Westminster Support and Endowment Plan.

**Support and Endowment Committee:** Chair, Jeff Wilday, Jim Bryans, Randy Germeraad, Christy Pound, Dale Smith, Lucy Preckwinkle Stafford. Advisory Members: Dr. Diane Rutledge, Todd Wise.

### Cornerstone

*(\$250,000 and above)*

Fern Garrett Estate\*  
Betty & Henry Dale Smith, Sr.  
Henry Dale Smith, Jr.

### Foundation

*(\$150,000 to \$249,999)*

Kathy & Randy Germeraad  
Dorothy Kessler Estate  
Lynne O'Shea †  
Mary & William Schnirring Estate

### Tower

*(\$100,000 to \$149,999)*

Harry Bergmann\*  
*Memory of Ruth Bergmann*  
Garvey Estate\*  
Alice Stuart Payne Estate\*

### Keystone

*(\$50,000 to \$99,999)*

Paul Bowman Estate\*  
Linda Chronister Folse  
*Memory of Elder  
Grady Chronister*  
Linda & Grady Chronister  
Louise Cragoe †  
Sue & Roland Cull  
Linda Culver Memorial\*  
Carolyn & Dan Dungan  
Blythe & Peter Kieffer  
Judy & Todd Knox  
Barbara & Lonnie H. Lee †  
Preckwinkle Families  
Jean & William Sherrick  
Jean & William Sherrick\*  
Nancy & Bill Simpson  
Marty Sumner

### Pillar

*(\$25,000 to \$49,999)*

Silvey & James Barge  
Frances Batchelder Estate\*  
Bennett Estate\*  
Mina & Harry Bentsen  
Betty & Bill Denham Estate  
Velda & George Finney\*  
Kathy & Randy Germeraad\*  
Gerry & Harold Hale  
Alice Lambert Estate\*  
Ruth Langdon Estate\*  
Emma Mae Large Estate\*  
Ann & Bill Lienemann  
Trudy M. & Douglas C. Nelson

Karen & Andrew Sherrick  
Hannah Morrow Siebert Estate\*  
Marty & Alan Stutz  
Barbara Sutton Estate\*  
Eleanor Wahlbrink\*  
Martha & Jeff Wilday  
Martha & Jeff Wilday †  
Lisa & Todd Wise  
Sharon & Elvin Zook

### Samaritan

*(\$15,000 to \$24,999)*

Jane & Steve Arbuthnot  
*Honor of Julia & Steven  
Arbuthnot's marriage*  
Kathie & Michael Nenaber  
Rebecca & Lionel Stirrett  
Dorothea Thrasher Estate

### Advocate

*(\$10,000 to \$14,999)*

Frances & Edwin Bay\*  
Carolyn & Keith Beatty\*  
Mark Beatty\*  
Dorothy D. & William Black Trust\*  
Leah & Martin Duling  
Chris & Butch Elzea  
Sharon & Matthew Gilmour  
Helen Hansen Estate\*  
Judy and Dale Huston  
Irwin & Becker Estate\*  
Evelyn Jensen Estate  
Priscilla & Tim Kluge  
Margot Kramer  
Carol & Walter Lohman\*  
LaVerne Marlowe Estate\*  
Bev & Jim Orr †

*Honor of our Family*

Dorothy Park Estate\*  
Holly Howe Parker\*  
Jeanne & Glen Pittman  
William Schultz  
*Memory of Kyle G. Schultz*  
Cathy Schwartz & John Shafer  
Dorothy Temple\*  
Don Thompson Estate\*  
Marjorie VanNattan Estate\*  
Westminster Cooperative Preschool

### Counselor

*(\$5,000 to \$9,999)*

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
George Adams Estate\*

Katrina Archer  
Jan & Cliff Baxter  
Carolyn & Keith Beatty  
Sandy Bellatti  
Carolyn Berning  
Don Blackburn Estate\*  
Meridith & James Bryans  
Eleanor Copper Foundation\*  
William Deemer, Jr.  
Linda N. Dillard  
Sue & Bill Donels  
Hazen & Roland Folse  
James S. Francis Estate\*  
Barbara Greening  
*Memory of Dr. Gershom K. Greening*

Joseph A. Harrison  
Christie, Robyn & Will Hovey  
Louise Kuehn Estate\*  
Eleanor & Richard Leary  
Barbara & Lonnie H. Lee  
Judith & Tom Lewis  
Ann & Bill Lienemann\*  
Mary Caroline & David Mitchell  
Robyn Newton  
Sally & Stan Papp  
*Memory of Dr. & Mrs. W. J. Trainor*

Judy & Fred Prillaman  
Patricia Albrecht Purdy Estate\*  
Mary Ray  
*Memory of Doris Ray*

Julie & Randy Robbs  
Ruth Robert-Roland\*  
Diane Rutledge  
Elaine Ryder Estate\*  
Sue & Steve Scaife  
Schemmerhorn Estate\*  
Linda & Bill Schlosser  
Linda Shaefer  
Mary Anne & James Singleton  
Julie & Michael Sundquist  
Carolyn & Brad Swanson  
Eleanor & Lyle VanDeventer  
Jeanne & Peter VanGieson  
Sue & Jesse Werner  
Cheryl & Neville White  
Jean Williamson Estate\*  
Sarah & Bob Zerfas

### Companion

*(\$2,500 to \$4,999)*

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Catherine Brower  
JoAnn & Doug Brown\*  
Ellen & Rance Carpenter  
Ann W. Collins  
Deborah & David Coontz  
*Memory of David M. Coontz*  
Carol & Dick Cordier  
*Memory of John S. & Theda Muirhead  
and George & Dorothy Cordier*  
Lois Davis Memorial\*  
Gale & Jack Fixmer  
Elsie & Robert Fox  
Ione Hermann Estate\*  
Renee Housel Estate  
Nancy & Keith Huston  
Marci & Bill Irvine  
Mary & Charles King  
Mary & Bob Leffler  
McGaugh Estate\*

Patricia McKenzie  
Mary Ann Nation  
*Memory of James Nation*  
Richard Newton Estate\*  
Stan & Barbara Papp  
*Memory of Sally Trainor Papp*  
Sharon Reynolds  
Judy Ridinger  
Leona Sangster Estate\*  
Robert A. Stuart  
John Thompson Estate\*  
Alan J. Wallace

#### Friend

(up to \$2,499)

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Norma Adams-Johnson  
Marc Anderson  
Charlotte Bailey  
Jane R. Barry  
Neil Bassett  
Ella Grace & Robert Bengel Estate\*  
Lynnette Berdoll  
Meleah & Aaron Berkowitz  
Meggan & Brady Bird  
George Botanga  
**Carol & Stanley Brosam**  
**Catherine D. Brown**  
*Honor of Anne Beckner  
and Robert Sterling*  
Jo Ann L. Brown Estate  
Nancy & Richard Canady  
Linda & Ed Caupert  
Alexander Moore Chipman  
Sophia and Christian Choi  
Stephanie Churchill  
Ada & Stephen Cobourn  
*Memory of Loved Ones*  
Marilyn Cohen  
Robert Copper Estate\*  
Robert Cordier  
Catherine Cragoe  
John Cross  
Betty Dawkins  
Judy & Dan Dees  
Margery Dodds  
Virginia & Jim Dolan  
Hannah M. Dreiter  
Tempa Dunn  
Betsy Dye  
Chelsea & Adam Ekstedt  
Helen Evenson  
Joseph Fierstos  
Donna & Francis Foster  
Carmel Fratianni  
& Michael Schneider  
Deanna & Donald Funk  
*Honor of Dale T. Rogers*  
Melanie & Bud Green  
Anne & David Haaker  
Roberta & Richard Hendee  
Mal Hildebrand  
Pat Hildebrand-Culler  
Tamika & Jacob Hill  
Sandy Hill  
Sandy & Jon Hockenyo  
Katharine M. Hughes  
Thomas H. Janeway  
Kathy & Jeff Johnson

Minnie Lee Jones Estate\*  
J. M. Keller  
Kathleen H. Kenyon  
Paul Denham Kieffer  
Beth & Jim Kincaid  
Clyde Knock\*  
Karen Kraft  
*Memory of Amolee McIntyre*  
F. Wells Langbehn  
Valerie & Dave Leonatti  
Naomi & Robert Lynn  
Katie & Carl Matteson  
Teresa & Terry McElwee  
Sarah & Trajan Iliff McGill  
Jack McKee Estate\*  
June McKee Estate\*  
Kathy & Bill Meriwether  
Lisa Metzger  
*Memory of Mary & Edmond Metzger*  
Leigh & Kevin Milward  
Carolyn & R. L. Moore  
Kathy & Tim Moore  
*Memory of the Koessel  
& the Moore Families*  
Stephanie S. Moore  
Bev & Ken Morey  
Madelyn Morris Bogue  
*Memory of Richard Morris*  
Joyce Newcomb Family  
Tom Owen  
Mary & Harold Perkins  
Michelle Power  
Claire & Richard Priller  
E.L. Pruitt Co.  
Linda & Mark Ranck  
Marilyn & James Rigney  
Kelly Robertson  
Mary Gail & Steve Romack  
*Memory of Helen & Clyde Knock*  
Kim Leistner Root  
*Memory of Dorothy Irvine*  
Debra (Pollock) Rudis  
*Memory of Laura Pollock*  
Betsy Ruklick  
**Susan & Grant Russel**  
*Memory of Betty & Joseph Dawkins*  
Jo Ann & Eric Schmidt  
Rosemary Schussle\*  
Susan R. Shea  
Rebecca Sherrick  
*Honor of Dr. & Mrs. William  
Sherrick's 60th Anniversary*  
Donna Solomon  
Suzann & Thomas Spada  
Krista & Brad Steller  
Paula Stewart  
Strawbridge Estate\*  
Bruce Strom  
M. Jill Sullivan  
Debbie & Skip Turnbull  
Sharon Turner  
Elizabeth E. Unglaub  
*Memory of Margot Kramer*  
Mary Waddell Estate\*  
**Anne & Frank Waldburger Estate**  
James Wilday  
Charles Wilkin  
*Memory of Rebecca Wilkin*  
Kate Wilson  
Amy & Sam Xanders



**Cathy Yokley**  
Marlene Zimmerman

#### Testamentary

(Amount Unknown)  
Anonymous †  
Janie & Clay Bahlow †  
David Becker †  
Sandy Bellatti †  
Marilyn Cohen †  
Ann W. Collins †  
Virginia & Jim Dolan †  
Sue Donels †  
Carolyn & Daniel Dungan †  
Gale Fixmer †  
Donna Garman †  
Kathy & Randy Germeraad †  
Sharon & Matt Gilmour †  
Anne & David Haaker †  
Elaine Hoff †  
**Christie & Robyn Hovey †**  
Judy & Dale Huston †  
Thomas H. Janeway †  
Vivian Keithley †  
Blythe & Peter Kieffer †  
Rebecca Martin †  
**Kathryn & Michael Morthland †**  
Robyn Newton †  
**Kathy Culver Nickell †**  
Tom Owen †  
Jeanne Pittman †  
Richard Priller †  
Mary Ray †  
Sharon Reynolds †  
Pat Roller †  
Diane Rutledge †  
Timothy Schweizer †  
Susan R. Shea †  
Nancy Simpson †  
Kay & Gerald Smith †  
Marty & Alan Stutz †  
Julie & Mike Sundquist †  
William Wright †  
**New since last published**  
\* Pre-campaign gift  
† Planned gift



# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S GARDEN PARTY – MAY 18



Over 40 Presbyterian Women gathered at the lovely lake home of Linda and Tom Purves for the annual Garden Party. Hosted by the Ruth and Naomi Circle, we enjoyed a delicious brunch and cake. In honor of the Birthday offering, \$1,452 was collected to fund special projects serving women.

Co-Moderators Brownie Anderson and Carolyn Beatty handed the leadership to Moderator Eleanor VanDeventer. Also installed were Marilyn Rigney as Secretary, Deb Coontz as Corresponding Secretary, and Marci Irvine as Mission Coordinator.





# WESTMINSTER'S 189<sup>TH</sup> FOUNDERS' SUNDAY



“Welcome to the Neighborhood” was the 2024 Founders’ Day theme as we presented the Velasquez Alonso Family with a Steadfast Neighbor flowerpot for their front porch. Eva and Javier, Abi, and Jonathan each received a bilingual Bible. The Westminster Choir sang “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” and “Hola, Hola” during the reception. All who gathered enjoyed Nicaraguan dishes and the children’s craft was creating the Nicaraguan National Flower.



## PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Christian K. Choi

### MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### HUNGER ACTION TEAM

**HELPING HANDS MEALS** - Westminster prepares two meals each month for Helping Hands at their new location (2200 Shale Street). On 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays, Westminster provides 60 bagged meals. Thanks to Pat Hymans, Georgina Hudspeth, Judy Prillaman, and Jeanne Van Gieson for preparing the bagged meals.



On 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays we provide an equal number of hot meals to assist those who are seeking shelter. Thank you to Jim Dolan, Bud Green, Tim Kluge, Alan Schuermann, and Pete VanGieson from the Men's Breakfast Group for preparing the hot meal in May.

**WESTMINSTER'S LITTLE PANTRY** - Thanks to those who continue stocking our neighborhood micro pantry, on the grounds of Graham Elementary. If you are interested in helping, please sign up using/clicking the QR code here.



#### GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH MAY MENU

*Canned tuna or chicken, boxed meals to use with the protein, canned fruit, canned vegetables, Granola Bars, Dry Cereal (No baby food, please.)* Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank.



**FAIR TRADE** - On Sunday, June 9, following worship, Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate, tea, olive oil, nuts and other items will be sold in the West Narthex to support just, environmentally sound products and small producers. Becky Martin and Jeanne VanGieson oversee this ministry.

#### MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERIES - SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 5-9 AND 12-16



Each summer, Westminster partners with Senior Services of Central IL to deliver food to eligible senior citizens as part of their Specialty Daily Bread - Meals on Wheels program. This year's dates are August 5-9 and 12-16, where you can sign up for one day, all ten days, or the number of days you are available to help. This service of kindness is best done in pairs and the expected of time commitment is about an hour to hour-and-a-half, starting at 9:30 a.m. For more information and sign-up, click/use the QR code. **Sign-up will be available July 12.**



## COMPASS FOR KIDS END OF YEAR PHOTO



Westminster is honored to partner with Compass for Kids as they conclude their 2023-2024 school year. Kristianna Eastvold and Emily Brower will both work at Camp Compass this summer. We are providing school supplies as our VBS mission this summer. Needed supplies listed on page one.

#### STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SITE VISIT

It was a joy to meet one of our neighbors on State Street during a recent site visit who was approved for a \$1,500 matching grant. He shared with us that he regularly stocks our Little Pantry at Graham Elementary School and thanked us for our outreach. It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood!



#### JUNE EARTH CARE TIP

Although it's getting a little warmer on some days, perhaps we should rethink closing the home and turning on the AC until September. Now that seasonal allergens are receding, perhaps we can open the windows on cool nights and dry breezy days. Conversely, closing the windows mid-morning on still, hot, and humid days can keep cool dry comfort in the home. Even if we must turn on the AC in the afternoon heat or during heat waves, on nice days we can enjoy some fresh air, singing cicadas, and chirping birds while saving precious fuels, electric costs, and carbon emissions.

Thank you to Charlie King who delivered 400 lbs. of bottle



caps to Green Tree Plastics, LLC in Evansville, IN, in exchange for two six-foot benches which are being gifted to the Westminster Coop Preschool for the playground by the youth.

**EARTH CARE TEAM:** Chair, Peter Kieffer, Keith Hamilton, Charlie King, Todd Lafrenz, Lynn McMenamain, Maribeth Norton, Susan Shaw, Brad Steller

#### PENTECOST OFFERING

Thank you for supporting the ministry of young people and Westminster's Youth Mission Trip through the Pentecost Offering. This year, we have collected **\$2,695** to date. \$1,078 goes toward our Youth Mission Trip.



## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP** gathers on **Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters will meet at Douglas Avenue United Methodist Church on June 4. The monthly brown bag lunch is June 11 with drinks provided. Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657.

**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** will meet Wednesday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Pat Wheat (11 Pickering Lane, 62712). Christy Pound will lead the devotional *Finding Faith in the Mundane* by Kathleen Norris (pages 363-368).

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE, LYDIA CIRCLE AND PRESBYTERIAN MEN** will not meet until the fall.

### **DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) FRIDAY, JUNE 21 AT 5:30 P.M.**

DMA (Don't Mention Age) will meet **Friday, June 21 at 5:30 p.m.** for a potluck and program at 6:15 p.m. Erica Smith, Executive Director for Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach, will speak about "Healing Amid War: Supporting Healthcare Access in Ukraine." Erica will also speak about the resilient people she met while in the Ukraine. RSVP with weekly email link, website, or by calling the church office.

### **STEADFAST NEIGHBOR RENOVATION OF 518 S. GLENWOOD**

The 518 S. Glenwood Rental Property continues to receive tender loving care from Ed Caupert, Priscilla and Tim Kluge and Pete VanGieson in preparation for its sale this summer. Income from the sale will repay the Support and Endowment Loan. Session designated \$30,000 from the 2024 Steadfast Neighbor Mission budget to invest in renovating the home.



Flooring for the entire house has been purchased and installation began the week of May 27. Third floor carpeting has been ordered and will be installed. Drywall installation in the kitchen and bathrooms is underway and kitchen cabinets have been ordered. A major task completed in May was power washing the basement and chipping loose coating material off the walls. A substantial amount of work remains on the kitchen, bathrooms, the exterior of the house, and the yard.

### **PARISH NURSE NEWS by Ellen Carpenter**

**BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS & CONSULTATION** will be available on Sunday, June 2 by Parish Nurse, Ellen Carpenter.

**HOME COMMUNION** – Thank you to the elders and deacons who visited 6 members on May 12. If you are unable to attend worship on Sunday, June 16 and would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Jennie Alt.



## WESTMINSTER NEWS

### MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Vivian Keithley celebrates 102 years on June 2.  
Beverly Orr celebrates 93 years on June 3.  
Dr. Bill & Mrs. Ann Lienemann celebrate 69 years on June 4.  
Jan & Jim Pinkerton celebrate 64 years on June 11.  
Joyce Olson celebrates 95 years on June 12.  
Dr. Richard & Mrs. Eleanor Leary celebrate 63 years on June 18.  
Mary Barringer celebrates 91 years on June 29.

### IN MEMORIAM

There will be a joint memorial service for the Rev. Dr. James and Mrs. Silvey Barge on June 1 at 11:00 a.m. in our Sanctuary.

Robyn Elaine Newtonson died May 10. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her children Rachel McKain (husband Jason) and Randall Newtonson and to her grandson Evan McKain.

### PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY TO

Doris Melvin on the death of her mother, Wanda Louis on May 8, 2024 in Taylorville. Wanda was 100 years old.

Mal Hildebrand and Pat Hildebrand Culler on the death of their cousin, Hal Joseph Hildebrand on May 8, 2024 in Springfield.

Dale and Deborah Smith on the death of Dale's aunt, and to Chandler Smith on the death of her great-aunt, Betty Smith's twin sister, Ann Mood Miller Crockett on May 19 in Summerville, SC.

### THANK YOU

To all who donated 190 layettes for Kumler Outreach Ministries. We received 95 purchased items, 36 sewn items, and 59 items that were knitted by the members of Knit 2 Purl 4.



To all who made donations to the Church World Service BLANKETS+ offering on behalf of Presbyterian Women. **We collected \$750 thanks to the generosity of this congregation.**

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Come listen to the Land of Lincoln and Sound Celebration Choruses in Duncan Park (200 North MacArthur, 62704) on Saturday, July 13 at 7:00 p.m. There will be some seating, but you may want to bring your favorite comfy lawn chair and drinks.



### APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT by LISA RUNKLE

Thank you for your faithful support of the mission and ministry of Westminster. We continue to show income above budget by almost \$46,400 at the end of April. Expenses are under budget by more than \$31,700, so income exceeds expenses by more than \$78,000 year-to-date.

2024 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 420,664	\$ 374,283	\$ 46,381
Expenses	\$-342,537	\$- 374,283	\$ 31,746
Net Total	\$ 78,127	\$ 0	



## BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY CELEBRATED JUNE 2

Baccalaureate Sunday, June 2, we will recognize our graduating high school seniors during the 10:00 a.m. service. A reception in their honor will follow worship in Parish Hall.



Congratulations to these young people and Godspeed as they continue the adventure of life. Those attending will receive two gifts from their faith community: a copy of the PC(USA) Book of Common Worship, Daily Prayer, and a hand-knitted scarf.

**Melanie Angelo** from Legend High School in Parker, CO. attending Arizona State University Honors College. Melanie is the granddaughter of Carolyn & Keith Beatty.

**Rose Ballantyne**, from SHS attending University of Missouri. Rose is the granddaughter of Nance and Chip Woodward.

**Charlotte Beatty** from RHS attending University of Kentucky. Charlotte is the granddaughter of Carolyn & Keith Beatty.

**Matthew Bright** from Macomb HS attending Monmouth College.

**Ciearra Davis** from LHS attending college TBD.

**Finley DuBois** from SHS attending Cosmetology School.

**Kristianna Eastvold** from SHS attending Calvin University.

**Avaree Hack** from Lakes Community High School in Lake Villa, IL attending the University of Iowa. Avaree is the granddaughter of Sandy Bellatti.

**William Hovey** from SHS attending the University of Arizona.

**Benjamin Morgan** from PPHS attending SIU Carbondale. Ben is the grandson of Rev. Jerry & Mrs. Judy Boutelle.

**Sam Simonson** from SHS attending the University of Illinois.

**Henry Stutz** from Oak Park River Forest HS attending Knox College. Henry is the grandson of Marty & Alan Stutz.

## COLLEGE AND GRADUATE DEGREES

**Mervice Alah Abung** – M.A. in Accounting from the University of Illinois Springfield.

**Drew Borland** - B.S. in Finance and Business Analytics from Miami University Honors Program in Oxford, Ohio. Drew will work in Chicago as a Data Management Consultant at Northern Trust.

**Second Lt. Noah Bright** - B.S. from the United States Military Academy at West Pointe – He will be stationed at Fort Campbell, KY in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Airborne Division.

**Reaney Gaines** - M.S. in Business Analytics from Drake University.

**Sophie Lettes** - B.A. in Finance and Sustainability from University of Virginia – Sophie will work for Barclays Bank in NYC in the field of sustainable energy. Sophie is the granddaughter of Marty & Alan Stutz.

**Carolyn Lowe** - B.S. in Psychology from Belmont University. Carolyn will work in counseling for a year and then return to begin a doctorate program.

**Natalie Miller** - B.S. in Nursing from the University of Illinois Chicago.

**Jocelyn Nester** - B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, FL in December 12, 2024. Jocelyn will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy where she will continue to train as a pilot.

**Lydia Pehlman** - B.A. in History from Baylor University. Lydia will pursue her masters in Intellectual History at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Lydia is the granddaughter of Sue Cull.

**Samual Rogers** - J.D. Law Degree and M.A. in Government Organization from Creighton University School of Law and Columbus School of Law. Sam will continue to be part of the legal staff for the House Agriculture Committee in Washington, D.C. Sam is the nephew of Dale Rogers.

**Amalia Schneider** - B.S. in Industrial & Labor Relation from Cornell University – Amalia will move back to Philadelphia to look for a job in her field.

**Allison Scott** – B.A. in Diplomacy from DePaul University in Chicago, IL

**Mack Shepherd** B.A. in Special Education from Hope College. Mack will teach 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade special ed classes.

**Ethan Sommer** – B.A. from Northwest College in Boston, MA. Ethan is the grandson of Sharon Zook.

**Eli Vogler** B.S. in Microbiology from San Diego State University. Eli is headed to medical school at the University of Queensland in the fall.

## Westminster Staff

**The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
Pastor and Head of Staff  
bkieffer@wpcspi.org

**The Reverend Christian K. Choi**  
Associate Pastor for Parish Life  
cchoi@wpcspi.org

**The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle**  
Parish Associate

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

**Mary A. Ray**  
Director for Youth  
zkarmar.mr@gmail.com

**Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz**  
Co-Directors for Children's Ministry  
berkowitz@wpcspi.org

**Katie L. Moore**  
Director for Children's Music  
kkilduski@gmail.com

**Erin Winn**  
Nursery Coordinator

**Emily Rowley, Keri Tate**  
Cooperative Preschool Teachers  
emily@westminster-preschool.org  
keri@westminster-preschool.org

**Ellen Carpenter**  
Parish Nurse  
ranell@comcast.net

**Pat Hymans**  
Hospitality Coordinator  
alnpat5@yahoo.com

**Lisa Runkle**  
Financial Administrator  
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

**Jennie Alt**  
Church Administrative Assistant  
jalt@wpcspi.org

**Krista Steller**  
Communications Coordinator  
ksteller@wpcspi.org

**Gary Warnick**  
Building and Property Manager  
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

**Peter Bysko, James Capler,  
Terry Gietl**  
Part-time Custodians

*Reporter folding and mailing will be on  
Wednesday, July 3 at 12:30 p.m.*