



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

May 2023

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

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

FAITH FORMATION:

9:45 a.m. Nursery
Children Birth – Age 3
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
following Children’s Sermon
Children Pre-K - Grade 5 and
Grade 6 -7 Confirmation
11:15 a.m. Grade 8 Confirmation
and Adult Ed Forum

May 7

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-6a
The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
A Home in God

May 14

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Acts 17:22-31; John 14:15-21
The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
God’s Offspring

May 21

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER FOUNDERS’ SUNDAY

John 18:33-37
Guest Preacher
The Rev. Dr. Lonnie Lee
Lord of Love

May 28

DAY OF PENTECOST

Numbers 11:16-17, 24-30; Acts 2:1-8, 12-17
The Rev. Christian K. Choi
When the Spirit Rests upon Us

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

BLESS THIS HOUSE BENEFIT CONCERT

SUNDAY, MAY 7 AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

Members and friends are invited to this benefit concert which will feature a broad variety of music sung by the Westminster Choir, the St. Andrew’s Sisters, the Gentlemen of the Choir, pianist, Garry Fredrickson and the finale to the musical *Candide* *Make Our Garden Grow* and *Build a House* by Leonard Bernstein to be sung by Diane Dietz and Adam Miller.

An free will offering will be received, and all proceeds will support Westminster’s Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Build.



2023 FOUNDERS’ SUNDAY, MAY 21

WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

PICNIC RECEPTION IN PARISH HALL AT 11:15 A.M.

Join us Founders’ Sunday, May 21 for worship at 10:00 a.m. and a picnic reception following in Parish Hall. We are delighted to welcome the Rev. Dr. Lonnie Lee as our guest preacher. This year’s theme, Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Build, provides an opportunity to reflect on the importance of a strong and solid foundation in building homes as well as building up the Body of Christ.

Each year on Founders’ Sunday, the Endowment Committee thanks those who have given and invites others to join the Albert Hale Circle. **Those who donate or communicate their plans to make a testamentary gift by Wednesday, May 17 will be included in the Albert Hale Circle published in the bulletin on May 21 and in the June Reporter.**

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

SPECIAL EARTH CARE ACTIVITY ON FOUNDERS’ SUNDAY - Children attending the Founder’s Picnic Reception will participate in a meaningful and fun activity called “Toys from Trash” prepared by Susan Shaw of the Earth Care Committee. Children will repurpose gently used T-shirts and socks into puppets and toys for our pets.

THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE INVITED TO
A GARDEN PARTY AT THE HOME OF LYNDA PRECKWINKLE

5 FAIR OAKS DRIVE

SATURDAY, MAY 20 AT 10 A.M.

RSVP TO JALT@WPCSPI.ORG



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

To participate in equipping the saints for ministry
in the building up of the Body of Christ. – The Apostle Paul

When the **Building a Legacy of Faith Anniversary Endowment Campaign** was introduced on Founders' Sunday in 2015, little did we know the "building up" that would be possible because of the generosity of so many. Since the completion of the campaign in 2020 we have addressed the capital and building needs in a planned and orderly way and expanded our mission outreach substantially. This year's Founders' Sunday theme, Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Build, celebrates the literal building of a new home through this Body of Christ. My predecessor, #17, the Reverend Dr. Lonnie Lee and his wife Barbara have joined us for numerous Founder Celebrations, and this year we are delighted that Dr. Lee will be our guest preacher.

MEMORIAL GARDEN HIGHLIGHTED MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND



Our Memorial Garden is a place of peace and repose for the ashes of those interred within its walls. A traditional Celtic cross, donated by Mary Alice Davis in memory of her husband, depicts the post-resurrection appearances of Christ when he appeared in the garden.

Each Memorial Sunday, Westminster's Memorial Garden is highlighted. Recent additions include a south wall in 2018, a brick trim to complement the southside landscape designed by the late Bill Donels. We are grateful to the

Memorial Garden Team of the Landscape Guild, led by Dr. Scott Day, who lovingly tends to the garden.

The cost of an individual inurnment in the South wall is \$1,000 for a member or their immediate family and \$2,000 for friends of Westminster. Persons desiring to reserve space may complete an application form located in the West Narthex and on our website. In 2016, a page was added to the Church website with biographical information about those inurned in the garden.

The Memorial Garden Committee: David Mitchell, Chair, Scott Day, Sue Donels, Marci Irvine, Jim McDonough, and Jeanne Pittman.

MILITARY PLAQUE

Each Memorial Sunday, the Military Plaque in the East Narthex is highlighted. A slide show of the Military Plaque is posted on our website. We are grateful for the sacrifices and years of service to our country by each person listed. If you or a family member have served in the military and are not included, please contact Jennie Alt at jalt@wpcspi.org with name, rank, branch, and years of service.

MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

As the summer months are fast approaching, please remember to continue to send your offering in support of Christ's work at Westminster. We continue to show income above budget by more than \$37,000 since some donors completed their pledge early in the year. Expenses are nearly \$17,000 under budget, so year-to-date income over expenses is \$54,154.

2023 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 303,666	\$ 266,301	\$ 37,365
Expenses	\$-249,512	\$- 266,301	\$ 16,789
Net Total	\$ 54,154	\$ 0	

MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR rehearses each Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Room to prepare for services for the month of May, and for the Bless This House Benefit Concert on May 7 at 4 p.m. Sunday, June 4, Trinity Sunday, will be the end of the spring season for the Westminster Choir and the day for the annual Choir Brunch at the Kontios'.

THE ST. ANDREWS SISTERS rehearse on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and join the Westminster Choir in the Bless This House Benefit Concert for the Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Build and will be the musical entertainment for the May 12 meeting of DMA (Don't Mention Age).

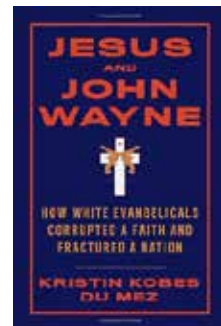
THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND CHORISTERS sang on Palm Sunday. Since circumstances prohibited a children's musical this year, this was their last presentation until practice resumes in the Fall. We are grateful to Katie Moore, who serves as Director of Children's Music, for a great first year and look forward to next season.



ADULT ED FORUM PRESENTS:

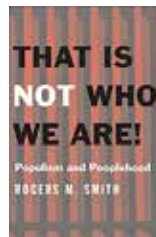
JESUS AND JOHN WAYNE
SUNDAYS, MAY 7 AND 14, 11:15 A.M. IN PARISH HALL

The Adult Ed Forum meets Sundays, May 7 and 14, 11:15 a.m. – 12 noon in Parish Hall. Join us as we explore the 2020 book Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation by Kristin Kobes Du Mez, Professor of History and Gender Studies at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI. Her New York Times best-selling book traces how over the last 75 years, evangelicals have "replaced the Jesus of the Gospels with an idol of rugged masculinity and Christian nationalism."



The forum will be led by Drs. Jonathan and Katie Carlson-Eastvold. Katie earned her Ph.D. in 19th Century British and American Literature from UNC Chapel Hill and instructs the Capital Scholars Honors Program at the University of Illinois at Springfield. Jonathan earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from Princeton University and is a political scientist and state government analyst and researcher.

APOSTLES READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP TUESDAY, MAY 23



The Apostles Read Library Book Group meets Tuesday, May 23 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss That Is Not Who We Are: Populism and Peoplehood by Dr. Rogers A. Smith. Dr. Smith grew up at Westminster and was our 2022 Bay Weekend Speaker.

New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

YOUTH MINISTRY by Mary A. Ray

JUNIOR HIGH CONFIRMATION

Sixth and Seventh Graders will have class on Sundays, May 7 and 21 during worship in the Conference Room. Their lessons will be on Peter and Paul.

Confirmation Class of 2023 met with Session and enjoyed a meal with their family and mentors on Wednesday, April 26. They were commissioned during worship on Sunday, April 30 and celebrated in a reception hosted by the Board of Deacons.



YOUTH MISSION TEAM MEETING SUNDAY, MAY 7 AT 4:00 P.M.

This Sunday, May 7 at 4:00 p.m. the Youth Mission Team will gather in the Second Floor Classroom to view the movie JUST MERCY, (based on Bryan Stevenson's book), enjoy pizza, and a discussion. **All team members are expected to attend.**



The Youth Mission Team will spend the week of **JUNE 24-JULY 1** in Selma, AL where we will assist in rebuilding following the devastating tornadoes in January. Additionally, we will visit the 16th Street Baptist Church, Civil Rights Museum in Birmingham, the Equal Justice Museum in Montgomery, and cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma. Mission Trip Participants will read and discuss Bryan Stevenson's book Just Mercy in preparation for their sojourn together. Attorney Stevenson was instrumental in the founding of The Equal Justice Museum in Montgomery.

YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISERS

The Youth are grateful to all who contributed and participated in the Trivia Fundraiser on April 30. Thirteen tables played along with a youth table. Together, we raised over **\$6,377.**



BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY, JUNE 4

On Baccalaureate Sunday, June 4, we recognize our graduating high school seniors during the 10:00 a.m. service. A reception in their honor will be held in Parish Hall following worship.

All Westminster graduates (high school, college, and graduate school) will be listed in the June 4 bulletin and the June Newsletter. Please contact Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org) with information by Friday, May 26

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen H. Sherrick

BRIDGES IN MAY



May 3: Final gathering to make Mother's Day Gifts

May 10: Children of Abraham at Temple Israel (1140 W. Governor St.)

Pictured: Cara Bryans, Harper Huston, Reece Huston and Lily Swanson help prepare a meal for the Salvation Army Warming Center last month.

THIRD GRADERS RECEIVE BIBLES SUNDAY, MAY 7

Children in the third grade will receive their personalized Bibles on Sunday, May 7, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. This year's third graders are MERRIN FLORENCE GERMERAAD AND LILY JEAN HILL.

Each child will receive a NRSV Spark Bible with an engraved name plate on the cover. It is our hope and prayer that these scriptures will become a guiding light for our children.

THE CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM

DATE: Wednesday, May 10, 2023

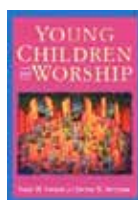
TIME: 4:30-6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Temple Israel (1140 W. Governor St.)

WHO: Children & Youth Grades K-12

Join us for our last gathering in the 2022-2023 program year as we participate in a project honoring our theme "Caring for the Earth." Participants are asked to bring used crayons for the Crayon Initiative which prevents a waxy mess in landfills by melting them down and creating new crayons for donations to children's hospitals.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS MAY 28!



Summer Sunday school begins on May 28! Children preschool age thru those finishing second grade will gather in the Third Floor Chapel to share the Parables of Jesus through the Young Children and Worship curriculum. Children finishing third grade and older will remain in worship for the summer.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS JUNE 5-9

THEME: FOOD TRUCK PARTY

June 5-9 from 9:15 a.m. to noon, children age 4 to age 11 are invited to get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the



summer's biggest party! This street party helps children build on the practice of using daily prayer to turn to God for their needs - and also to serve as the hands of God for ensuring that the needs of others are met.

Register by scanning the QR Code or use the link <https://westminster.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2023



This page highlights events during Holy Week: On Palm Sunday Rev. Choi gives the children's sermon and the Berkowitz' teach Sunday school. On Wednesday, the Bridges children learn about Psalm 23 from Mrs. Sherrick and view the Art Display with Dr. Kieffer. On Maundy Thursday, deacons lead us in the solemn stripping of the Chancel. The week culminates with the children singing "Alleluia" on Easter Sunday.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED
Palm Sunday April 2, 2023



Katie Moore Black by Reaffirmation of Faith. Katie is the mother of Lucy who just turned five years old and Elizabeth "Biz" who is two. Before motherhood, Katie worked in advertising. She is interested in aviation.

Sponsor: Eleanor VanDeventer



The Rev. Frank Gready is a member of the Wabash Valley Presbytery. A graduate of Maryville College in TN and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He has served five congregations (Covington, OH, Farmersville, OH, Paris, IL, Fort Thomas, KY, Huntington, IN) in the Presbyterian Church (USA) since his ordination 1970. He and his wife Susan of 29 years have two children and five grandchildren.



Mary Offutt Halley by Reaffirmation of Faith. Mary grew up at Second Presbyterian Church in Lexington, KY. She has spent her professional life working as a health information manager and is currently working part-time as a clinical auditor at Memorial Health. She enjoys music, reading, and needlepoint.

Sponsor: Mary Ray



Melissa & Erik Hostetter by Letter of Transfer from Laurel Methodist Church in Springfield, IL. Melissa is a 5th grade teacher in District 186. Eric works at AFSCME American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 31 as a Staff Representative. They have two children: Nathaniel is a freshman at LLCC and Rachel is freshman at Springfield High School.

Sponsors: Christie & Robyn Hovey



Joyce A. King by Reaffirmation of Faith. Joyce recently retired from ILFOP, the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police and returned to work with Prairie Telecom Services. She and her late husband have two sons, two daughters, and six grandchildren. Joyce enjoys gardening, travel, and dining out with friends and family.

Sponsor: Sandy Bellatti



Angie & Todd Lafrenz by Letter of Transfer from Douglas Avenue United Methodist Church in Springfield, IL. Angie works at Millikin University and Prairie Cardiovascular Consultants and Todd works for IEMA, Illinois Emergency Management Agency. They have two daughters; Emilie is a senior at Millikin and Maria is an eighth grader at Franklin Middle School.

Sponsor: Judy & Todd Knox



Mary H. Maddox by Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Springfield, IL. Mary retired from Ameren in 1996 as a supervisor and traveled extensively with her late husband in the United States, British Isles, Europe, and China. She has one daughter, two sons, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. She currently serves on the Illinois Presbyterian Home Board. **Sponsor: Marci Irvine**



Joyce A. Matthews by Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Witt, IL. Joyce served as an accountant for the Matthews Family Farm in Nokomis, IL. Joyce served as an Elder and Financial Officer at First Pres and was a 62-year member before its closure. She has two children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She also serves on the Illinois Presbyterian Home Board.

Sponsor: Marci Irvine



WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL

WCP is ending our year with a fun spring study - in the garden! We're exploring all kinds of bugs and plants and growing things. We've had a wonderful year with these fabulous students, their helpful families, and our new teacher, Miss Kerri. Our school year will close for the summer right before Memorial Day, and we are already looking forward to next year and having many of our students return! We do have several openings in next year's two day class (2 ½ - 3 year olds which meets Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00-11:30), so please let your friends and families know!

-Emily Rowley, WCP Director

PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Christian K. Choi

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE



THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Thank you to all who contributed to our denomination offering which was dedicated on Palm Sunday. We received **\$207.53** from our children

and a total of **\$5,450** from the congregation.

PENTECOST OFFERING

This is the fourth year Westminster will participate in the Pentecost denominational offering which unites the church by helping youth begin their life with a solid foundation of faith. **Forty percent of all gifts stay within Westminster and our portion will support the 2023 Youth Mission Trip.**



MONTHLY MEALS

HELPING HANDS - Thank you to the Westminster Cooperative Preschool Parents and their families who prepared the April 14 meal. The May 12 meal will be prepared by Ann Collins. There are

opportunities for members or groups to sign-up from July to December. You can use our QR code above, go to our website:



www.wpcspi.org to sign-up. Contact Jennie Alt for details.

SALVATION ARMY WARMING CENTER - Westminster Hunger Action Team members will prepare bagged meals for the Warming Center on May 24. Please contact Krista Steller at ksteller@wpcspi.org to participate.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH MAY MENU

PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, CANNED SOUPS WITH POP TOPS, GRANOLA BARS, DRY CEREAL (NO BABY FOOD, PLEASE.) Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank (CIFB). Thank you to Ed Caupert, Jim Rigney, Mike Sundquist, and Bernie Wiseman for delivering the food to the CIFB.



FAIR TRADE

On Sunday, May 21, 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.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

HOME COMMUNION - Thank you to the elders and deacons who visited 8 members on April 16. If you are unable to attend worship on Sunday, May 14 and would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Jennie Alt.



EASTER LILIES were delivered by Deacons on Easter Sunday, April 9 following worship. 31 members received the gift from Westminster.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS & CONSULTATION will be available on the first Sunday of the month, May 7, by Marilyn Rigney.

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR HABITAT BUILD HOUSE DEDICATION IS THURSDAY, JUNE 15

There are many opportunities in May to attend to the details of completing the Capler's new home at 626 S. Glenwood. Sign-up to work the following days: May 5-6, May 12-13, May 22-26 at



habitatsangamon.volunteerhub.com. **The House Dedication is Thursday, June 15, 5:00 p.m. at 626 S. Glenwood.**



STEADFAST NEIGHBOR MATCHING GRANTS

The Steadfast Neighbor Mission Task Force has received 25 matching grants before the April 15 deadline. We began our matching grant program four years ago in 2020.

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK: JUNE 19 - 23, 2023

We are beginning to recruit for this year's neighborhood outreach the week of June 19 - 23. This year's focus will be repairing and painting front porches. Please consider joining us for one or more days as we spread goodwill in the neighborhood! Sign-ups begin this month at wpcspi.org. **SNSW Team Meeting will be Tuesday, June 13, 5:30 p.m.**

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR LITTLE PANTRY

Thanks to those who continue stocking our neighborhood micro pantry, on the grounds of Graham Elementary. We have dates available in May if you are interested in helping, sign up using the QR code here, or use the link (<https://bit.ly/3C4s0vS>). Contact Jennie Alt for details.



WILL HOVEY'S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

ADDS LIBRARY NOOK AND RECYCLED BENCH AT GRAHAM

As part of his Eagle Scout Project, Will Hovey is building a library nook next to Westminster's Little Pantry at Graham Elementary School. Additionally, Will created a park bench using recycled bottle caps located near the library nook and micro pantry.



Will is inviting members and friends to donate books for children K-Grade 5 which will be placed in the nook for students to borrow. A collection box is located in the West Narthex.

Will is a junior at Springfield High and a youth elder. He shared his project with the children on Youth Sunday. Westminster provided a grant to cover the cost of materials and transportation for the creation of the park benches.

MAY EARTH CARE TIP

Springtime resurrects our sunny green lawns, but grass often struggles to revive itself in the shade. For shady areas, consider substituting evergreen ground cover like ivy, euonymus, or pachysandra which crowd out most weeds, need occasional pruning, and require rare watering but no fertilizers. Over one to two years, pachysandra has covered the long shady bed just north of our sanctuary with a blanket of green. Although not considered invasive in Illinois, limit these robust ground covers to bordered gardens and prevent vines from climbing trees.



- Peter Kieffer, Earth Care Team Chair

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP meets on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. A brown bag lunch will be held at noon on the second Tuesday, May 9. Beverages and dessert will be provided. You do not need to be a member or attend Westminster to join our group. Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE will meet Wednesday, May 3 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Anne Haaker (313 Thames River Dr, 62711). Christy Pound will lead Lesson Seven: Sabbath and Self-Care and Lesson Eight: Sabbath and Justice.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets Monday, May 8 at 4:30 p.m. at Sweet Basil Café for the annual spring dinner. Please RSVP to Eleanor by Friday, May 5.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets Tuesday, May 16 at 9:30 a.m. will meet at the home of Nancy Canady for coffee. Please RSVP to Nancy.

PW SPONSORS BLANKETS+ DURING MAY



PW and Springfield's Church Women United sponsor Blankets+ (formerly Blanket Sunday) during May. Church World Services collaborates with local communities to identify people with needs and secure resources to build a more viable future. Resources include blankets, tents, and food; tools and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields; wells for families in drought prone areas to provide clean, safe water to drink and to irrigate crops and gardens; literacy training and microcredit for women struggling to realize their potential. Make checks payable to Westminster with Blankets+ in the memo line or Use the QR code, click Give Now, choose the fund "Special Mission Donation", and type Blanket on the Memo line.



DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE)

DMA (Don't Mention Age) will meet Friday, May 12 at 5:30 p.m. for a potluck and Program at 6:15 p.m. Amanda Neubauer will preview the Springfield Muni Opera. The St. Andrews Sisters will perform musical selections. RSVP with weekly email link, website, or by calling the church office.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST

Presbyterian Men gather on Thursday, May 11 at 8:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. This will be a time of conversation and fellowship. Keith Beatty will provide breakfast and Jay Kennerly will give devotions. RSVP with the weekly email link, on our website, or by calling the church office.

WESTMINSTER GATHERING AT CONCORDIA

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 12 NOON

Members of Westminster will gather at Concordia Thursday, May 25 with the Pastors and the Director of Music and the Arts. Communion is at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch at 12 noon.

WELCOME JAMES CAPLER



We are happy to welcome James Capler to our part-time custodian staff. James, and his wife Paris, will be our new neighbors as their Habitat House is scheduled to be dedicated on Thursday, June 15, at 5:00 p.m.

James owns his own landscaping business and has previous experience working as a janitor. He

was born and raised in Springfield and attended Lanphier High School and received his GED from Lawrence Education Center.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Judy Dees celebrates 90 years on May 5.

Betty Dawkins celebrates 93 years on May 28.

WEDDING

Megan Wilkey and Michael Fischetti will be on married on May 6, 2023 in the Westminster Sanctuary. Megan's parents are Susan and Brinton Wilkey.

NEW ARRIVAL

Kenzo Branden Lee was born November 25 to Kara Milward and Tee Mitchell in Denver, CO. His proud grandparents are Leigh and Kevin Milward and proud aunt is Jenna Milward.

Congratulations to Morley and Mary Peura on the birth of their granddaughter Abigail Mae Johnson on Friday, April 21, 2023 to Dr. Elizabeth and Mr. James Johnson. Her proud brother is James Johnson, Jr.

IN MEMORIAM

David Coontz died on March 29 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathies of the congregation are extended to his wife Deborah, and his son Drew.

Betty Ruth Cadwallader died on March 23 in Decatur. The prayers and sympathies of the congregation are extended to her daughters Vicki (Jim) DiBartolomeo, Claudia (Matt) Cadwallader, Susanne (AJ) Hutson, and Sally (Bill) Stieglitz and their families.

Hazel June Flood died on March 31 in Springfield at the age of 101. The prayers and sympathies of the congregation are extended to her children, Chris Mayes, Caren (Bruce) Melton, Tom (Lindy) Heavisides and their families.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Michelle and Tom Power on the death of her father, and to Whitney Spearie and Nick Beck on the death of their grandfather, Alan Hollingsworth on April 11 in Houston, TX.

Mary and Morley Peura on the death of her aunt Rita Daughtery on April 23 in Naperville, IL.

Karen Kraft on the death of her sister Roberta Gail Brian on April 29 in Tucson, AZ.

NEW ADDRESS

Robyn Newton, Regency Care, 2120 W. Washington St, Springfield, IL 62704

Linda Dillard, Regency Care, 2120 W. Washington St, Springfield, IL 62704

Sharon & Jim Turner, 3960 Waterstone Way, Springfield, IL 62711

Lisa & Macklin Metzger, 1614 Ruth PL, Springfield, IL 62704

THANK YOU

Thank you for the 105 coats given for our Lenten Coat Drive.

Thank you for the 224 layette donations that will be distributed by Kumler Ministries. Members of the Knit 2 Purl 4 knitted 81 of these.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

PSALMS ACROSS TIME AND SPACE

The Springfield Choral Society will perform "Psalms Across Time and Space" concert on Friday, May 19, 7:30 p.m. at Central Baptist Church (501 S. 4th St). Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased online (<https://shorturl.at/dQT57>) or at the door.

Jennie Alt, Jim Kontio, Adam Miller, Dale Rogers, Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer of the Westminster community sing in this choral society.



YOUTH SUNDAY, APRIL 23



Westminster's youth did not disappoint as they led us on the Road to Emmaus. Thoughtful reflections were shared by Emily Brower, Aerwyna Eastvold, Louisa Eldridge, Mia Marcy and Bryce Pound. Scripture was acted out by Sam Simonson (Cleopas), Kristianna Eastvold (Cleopas' friend), and Matthew Scott (Jesus). Will Hovey shared his Eagle Scout Project in the children's sermon, Aerwyna played the clarinet and Amelia Tungett presented a stunning solo. Watch the live stream on our website and/or view photos in Photo Gallery. Thank you to Mary Ray, Interim Director for Youth, who is leading with grace.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, APRIL 30



Confirmands Sam Batterman, Maria DeJong, Abigail Eldridge, Maria Lafrenz, James Maeda, and Macklin Metzger were celebrated on Confirmation Sunday. See their thoughtful Statements of Faith in the April 30 bulletin found under the Worship & Music tab of the website.

YOUTH MISSION TRIVIA FUNDRAISER WINNING TABLE



Winning Trivia Table members (Lucky Thirteen) are pictured above left to right: Kevin Simonson, Sam Simonson, Robyn Hovey, Jim Bryans, Christie Hovey, Meridith Bryans, Cara Barnett, Greg and Megan Swanson, and Angela Mitchell-Simonson. Congratulations on another win to an incredible team.

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
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Katie L. Moore
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Leigh Milward
Nursery Coordinator

Caroline Haynor
Nursery Worker

Emily Rowley, Keri Tate
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Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator
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Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

**James Capler, Terry Gietl,
Bill Hibbert, Steve Stapleton**
Part-time Custodians

Reporter folding and mailing will be
Wednesday, May 31.