



# THE REPORTER

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

November 2021

### 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*

*11:15 a.m. Jr. High Confirmation*

*11:15 a.m. Adult Ed Forum*

*5:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group*

November 7

#### ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Mark 12:38-44

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*Unexpected Blessings*

November 14

#### SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

BAY WEEKEND

1 Samuel 1:4-20; Mark 13:1-8

Dr. Chad Schrock

November 21

#### CHRIST THE KING AND

ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY

2 Samuel 23:1-7; John 18:33-37

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*Truth Telling*

November 28

#### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### DEDICATION OF NEW WORSHIP SPACE IN ZIEGLER LIBRARY

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36

The Rev. Christian K. Choi

*Coming Soon*

### ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

On Sunday, November 7, Westminster will honor members of our church family who have died since All Saints' Remembrance in 2020. A bouquet with one white rose for each member whose life we commemorate will be placed in the chancel. The litany, which includes the reading of our loved ones' names, the tolling of our historic bell, and silence will be a part of the worship service. Those members who will be remembered are:

Evelyn N. Jensen	11/22/20	Raymond A. Phipps	03/15/21
Dr. Elvin G. Zook	11/24/20	Alan J. Wallace	06/08/21
Renee M. Housel	11/28/20	Sandra E. Deilkes	06/20/21
Joe D. Burgess	12/09/20	Judith H. Barthoff	07/03/21
Patrick A. Noonan	12/11/20	Paula R. Stewart	07/27/21
Roy A. Baker	01/17/21	Stanley J. Papp	07/28/21
Dr. Robert A. Lynn	02/20/21	Pamelia Waughop	08/06/21
		Betty Jellema Denham	10/25/21

### ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M. WITH PIPES AND DRUMS



Westminster will continue the rich tradition of celebrating St. Andrew's Sunday on November 21 with a flourish of bagpipes and drums presenting traditional Scottish music. *The Little Entry* is the opening procession of the service. Along with the pipers, drummers and the pastors, youth will enter with the Bible to underscore the importance of the Word of God in Reformed liturgy, and the cross to highlight its centrality in our faith.

The day commemorates the feast of St. Andrew, who was the elder brother of the apostle, Peter. Relics of St. Andrew were brought to Kilrymont in Scotland (renamed St. Andrews, the location of the famous golf course) and for this reason Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland. The Presbyterian Church was established as the Church of Scotland in 1560 by an act of the Scottish Parliament. The newly reformed Scottish Church emphasized universal education, government support of the poor, and a church that is free from interference by the crown.



In Westminster's observance, elements that remain constant are bagpipes, the flag of Scotland, singing from the Scottish Psalter, and the clergy tartan paraments presented to Westminster in 1985 in loving memory of Scott Hoff.

Westminster's Choir will sing A Scottish Blessing by David Blackwell. This year we welcome our Financial Administrator, Lisa Runkle, and Augusta Leigh Harris-Patel who will dance the Village Maid/Highland Laddie.

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

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, October 10 the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee was elected by the congregation. We are grateful for the following members who will be a part of the discernment as we seek an Associate Pastor for Family Ministry.

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

**Dr. Craig Batterman** is an Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at SIU School of Medicine, specializing in pediatric primary care. He earned a medical degree at Rush Medical College in Chicago, IL, and completed a pediatric residency at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield, IL. Craig and his wife, Dr. Tanya DeSanto, have three children: Emma, Grace, and Sam.

**Meleah Berkowitz** is a Patient Care Facilitator at Springfield Memorial Hospital and earned her B.S.N. at Millikin University. Meleah and her husband, Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, have three children: Sadie (6), Juniper (5), and Benjamin (1).

**Meridith Bryans** is currently a stay at home mom spending lots of hours volunteering. Meridith and her husband, Jim Bryans, have two daughters: Katherine (10) and Caroline (8). Meridith earned her B.A. at Miami University and her M.S. at the University of Illinois, Springfield participating in the Graduate Public Service internship. She went on to work in for the Illinois Department of Transportation for 16 years.

**Adam Ekstedt** is a Radioactive Material License Reviewer and Inspector for the IEMA Division of Nuclear Safety. He received his B.A. in Chemistry from Northern Illinois University. Adam and his wife, Chelsea, have three sons, August (7), Roscoe (5), and Theodore (1).

**Tom Owen** recently retired as Membership Representative from the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce and currently works as a handyman. He earned his B.A. in Communications from the University of Illinois. Tom was baptized at Westminster and has served as Clerk of Session since 2014.

**Krista Steller** is a retired software instructor, having worked at Levi, Ray & Shoup for 21 years and serves as Westminster's webmaster. Krista received her B.S. degree in Music Education from University of Illinois in Champaign. Krista and her husband, Brad, have two daughters, Drs. Erin Schey and Lizzie Knoedler and three grandchildren: Brice and Camille Knoedler and Jackson Schey

**Youth Representative Emily Brower** is a junior at Springfield High School, a member of the Girls Swim Team, and Art Coordinator of the Feminists Club. Emily was baptized and confirmed at Westminster and recently elected as a youth elder.

The committee will begin meeting this month. Keep the APNC in your prayers as we begin this important work together.

## STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION UPDATE

This year's stewardship theme, **I Have Called You Friends**, is based on John 15:15b. Each offering of gratitude opens the doors of Westminster to become a way to serve friends beyond our faith community and to welcome friends into the joy of the life we share in Christ.

As of Tuesday, November 2 we have received **181** pledges for a total of **\$678,117**. This is **85%** toward our dollar amount goal. If you have not made a pledge and intend to, please do so soon. Thanks!



## MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

CHURCH MICE meet each Saturday at 11:00 a.m.



**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** (K-Grade 2) rehearse Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. and **CHORISTERS** (Grades 3-5) rehearse Wednesdays at 4:45 p.m. The Choristers

will sing on All Saints' Remembrance, November 7.

**WESTMINSTER CHOIR** rehearses Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in Parish Hall and provides music for the 10:00 a.m. service each Sunday. Their repertoire spans several centuries of choral literature and enriches the worship life at Westminster.

**ILLINOIS SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRAS** present a Benefit Concert "Banks of Thanks" on Saturday, November 20 at 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. All proceeds will be donated to the Central Illinois Food Bank. Admission: 3 canned food items per person.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS** - On Monday, November 22, members will decorate Westminster in anticipation of the first Sunday in Advent on November 28. We begin at 10:00 a.m. If you are able to help, call Dale Rogers at 217-522-4415.

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DECORATION FUNDS** Members and friends are invited to donate \$25 or more to the Special Music Fund and \$25 to Westminster's decoration fund. The music fund assists in providing pipers and drummers for St. Andrews, the Millikin Brass for Easter and other special music. The decoration fund purchases flowers including poinsettias and lilies. Please submit your donation with your desired wording and dedication for the poinsettias by December 14.

## DEDICATION OF WORSHIP SPACE IN NEWLY RENOVATED ZEIGLER LIBRARY FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, NOVEMBER 28

On Sunday, November 28, we begin Advent with the dedication of the worship space in the newly renovated Zeigler Library, named for the Rev. Dr. Edward Zeigler who served Westminster from 1944 – 1969. A litany of Dedication will be included in the service. Following worship, members are welcome to visit the library.

Deep appreciation is expressed to members Sue Cull, Dr. Roland Folse, Mal Hildebrand, the Special Church Support Fund, and Worship, Music & The Arts Fund within our General Endowment for financial contributions, to Bob Fox and Dr. Roland Folse for their woodworking skills creating the Communion table and library tables respectively, and to Dale Rogers, who attended to the details and interior design of the renovation including removing and replacing the books with assistance from the Library Guild.

Special thanks is also extended to the Property Committee, chaired by Mal Hildebrand, who coordinated the renovation and to Gary Warnick, Building and Property Manager, who oversaw the work. Evans Construction was the general contractor, B&B Electric was the electric contractor, and E.L. Pruitt was the mechanical contractor. Marx Fireplace installed a gas fireplace. Staff Carpet replaced the floor, Jennings Painting stained the woodwork, and members painted the soffit and walls as a part of the Steadfast Neighbor Service Week. Ash Street Upholstery reupholstered the library chairs given in memory of Betty Blythe. *-Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer*

**FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi**  
**SPECIAL THANKS FROM SPUD BAKE FUNDRAISER**



Thank you Westminster for your amazing support of our youth and their Spud Bake Fundraiser. We have raised \$1376 to share the gift of love with other youth this Christmas. Special thanks to Mary Ray, who organized the fundraiser along with Suzanne Borland, Amanda Kurmann, Nichole Magalis and Bill Deemer.

**SAVE THE DATE:** We will go shopping for Christmas gifts on **Sunday, December 5 at 12:30 p.m.** (following the Advent Celebration) to share God's love with other youth in need using the donations received from the Spud Bake Sale.

**YOUTH GROUP MONTH'S GATHERINGS (GRADES 6 -12)**

DATES	JR. HIGH CONFIRMATION 11:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.	SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP 5:00P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
11/7	ECHO SESSION 5: JACOB & ESAU	PERSISTANCE
11/14	NO GATHERING - BAY WEEKEND SPEAKER	GUEST SPEAKER: LEARNING TO DE-STRESS
11/21	ECHO SESSION 6: JOSEPH	BIBLE & DREAMS
11/28	NO GATHERING – THANKSGIVING BREAK	

**SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION TO MERVIC ALAH ABUNG  
 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21 DURING WORSHIP**

On Sunday, November 21 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service, Mervic Alah Abung will be presented \$1,000 to subsidize her tuition from Westminster's Scholarship Fund.



Mervic joined WPC in October 2019 by Certificate of Transfer from the Presbyterian Church of Bonaberi, Doualla, Cameroon. Mervic was born in Douaoa Cameroon, the second of eleven children. She attended a boarding school for her secondary education and continued at the University of Dschang where she

graduated with a master's degree in accounting and finance. Mervic and her husband Donatus Afeseh were chosen by the United States Diversity Visa Program which permitted them to move to the USA with green cards. They moved to Springfield in the summer of 2019 to join her brother Edison Zohfonyi. They welcomed their daughter Myra Afeseh February 19, 2020. Mervic is currently enrolled in the University of Illinois at Springfield Master's degree program in accounting with a goal to become a CPA.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen H. Sherrick**  
**BRIDGES MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP**

Children in Grades 3-5 are invited to Bridges on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. Children grades 3-5 remain in the sanctuary on Communion Sundays. Our lessons in November invite our Bridges children to participate in interfaith fellowship and to engage in the mission of our church to serve the community. (11/3: Service Project-cookie dough for Helping Hands. 11/10: Children of Abraham Gathering at Westminster Presbyterian 11/17: Friendsgiving 11/24 NO BRIDGES This after-school program is led by Rev. Choi and Mrs. Sherrick.

**THE SEASON OF ADVENT  
 BEGINS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28**

Advent, the season of waiting, is a time to prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of baby Jesus. This year our children will make Advent wreaths in Sunday school to take home for their family to light during the four weeks of Advent. An Advent devotional will be mailed to your home to guide in the lighting of the wreath.

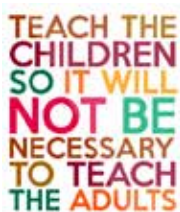
**ADVENT CELEBRATION IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5**  
**10:00 a.m. Worship**  
 Children's Choir and Choristers will present  
 Hanging of the Greens Musical.  
**11:15 a.m. Fellowship in Parish Hall**  
 Members and friends gather to create ornaments, decorate  
 cookies, sing carols, and enjoy festive refreshments.

**WCP PRESCHOOL NEWS**

October began with beautiful weather for our annual field trips to Pumpkin Creek Farms. We enjoyed the corn bin, apple cider and donuts, playing on the haystacks, and learning how pumpkins grow right in the patch. Since then,



we've been reading books about pumpkins, practicing fine motor skills by hammering golf tees into pumpkins, decorating pumpkins, playing with carved pumpkins in the sensory table, and much more. We ended the month with Halloween celebrations. We had a normal day of preschool, including costumes, Halloween games, and special snacks. The children love showing their costumes to everyone! Thank you so much for letting us walk through your amazing maze and inviting us to your Harvest Fest. We are so thankful for these fun experiences that you share with us! – *Emily Rowley*



**CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM GATHER WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

Westminster will host Children of Abraham **Wednesday, November 10, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.** Children and Youth (Kindergarten through High School) are invited to join us as we welcome our friends from other faith communities. The 2021-22 theme "Be the Light" is based on Amanda Gorman's inauguration poem, "The Hill We Climb." We will view a portion of Amanda reciting her poem, read "I am Courage" by Susan Verde, and consider those times in our lives when we have had the courage to be the light in God's world.

## CROP WALK SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3



The 2021 Annual CROP Walk did not disappoint. Despite threatening weather over 30 from the community walked with Westminster well represented. Thank you to Krista Steller, Becky Martin, and Linda Shaefer for their community leadership. To date, we raised \$13,274 with Westminster contributing \$4,470.

## SHEEDY SHORES WINEGARDEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17



## READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR CELEBRATORY DINNER FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29



Nearly twenty members gathered for a delightful afternoon at Sheedy Shores Wine Garden. The event was hosted by the Congregational Fellowship Committee of the Deacons. Thank you to Chair Julie Pittman McDonough and her committee.

Last November 1, 2020 as we persevered the pandemic, nearly 40 members committed to reading the Bible in a Year. The readings were completed October 31, 2021.

On Friday, October 29 several participants gathered for a celebratory dinner at Finley's Tap House.

## WESTMINSTER ART EXHIBIT - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24



Thank you to the nineteen artists who participated in the October 24 exhibit: Katie Carlson-Eastvold, Diana Choi, Sophia Choi, Linda Chronister, Scott Day, Roland Folse, Bob Fox, the late William T. Kieffer, Jr. (Peter's dad), Priscilla Kluge, Richard Leary, Bob Leffler, Elizabeth Marcy, Camille Proud, Dale Rogers, Sue Scaife, Pat and Phil Wheat.

## SPUD BAKE - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24



DEDICATION OF WORSHIP SPACE IN THE NEWLY RENOVATED ZIEGLER LIBRARY WILL BE THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, NOVEMBER 28



## MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

### FAITH COALITION FOR THE COMMON GOOD

#### VIRTUAL FALL BANQUET SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6



Members are invited to attend the FCCG Virtual Fall Banquet on Saturday, November 6. The theme is "Building Power to Transform Power." Meal pick-up is from 4-6 p.m. at the Local 137 Plumbers and Steamfitters (2880 E. Cook Street). Enjoy the meal at home while

viewing the program on Zoom from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Guest speakers include Senator Elgie Sims, Rep. Justin Slaughter, Rep. Sonya Harper, and County Clerk Don Gray.

The Mission and Community Service Committee designated funds to support this event. Please contact Jennie Alt for tickets.

#### ADOPT-A-FAMILY 2021

This year, Westminster will again sponsor the nine families living in the Contact Ministries transitional shelter, helping supply Christmas gifts for people working their way toward independence. **In 2020, we created an online SignUpGenius for each family and it was very successful. We will again have these available the week of November 15.** Gifts can be dropped off or ordered for direct delivery to Westminster (make sure to notify Jennie Alt to expect a package!), and all gifts need to be at the church by December 5. **Watch our weekly email and website for a link to see what is needed and sign up! For assistance signing up for a gift(s), please contact Jennie Alt at the church office.**



#### NOVEMBER EARTH CARE TIP



The 23rd Psalm reminds us that our cup overflows, but from which earth-friendly cup should we drink? Although Styrofoam cups insulate well with low production and transportation costs, we cannot reuse or recycle them so their tiny bits end up all over creation. Ceramic mugs and glasses have the lowest environmental impact if reused hundreds of times, cleansed in the dishwasher, and left to air dry. Dedicated sippers can sup from reusable and recyclable stainless steel thermally-insulated coffee mugs (e.g., Contigo) which keep hot drinks hot, cold drinks cold, and soda fizzy all day long. *-Dr. Peter Kieffer*

#### PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

As of November 2, 2021, nine members and friends of Westminster have donated \$1,365 to the Peace and Global Witness Offering. Thank you!



#### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

##### NOVEMBER DEDICATION CEREMONY



Look for the upcoming Dedication of the Unity Build this month. Westminster contributed \$5,000 in 2020 from our Mission Endowment.

Congratulations to the new homeowner, **Kendra Cutler and her daughter, Anijha**, who will reside at 2037 E. Cedar Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Kendra is registered at Target

for those who would like to purchase a housewarming gift.

## HUNGER AND HOMELESS OUTREACH

### HELPING HANDS MEAL SECOND FRIDAY

The Helping Hands meal prepared and served by ministry partners on the Second Friday of each month serves 50 homeless men. **Ann Collins and Sue Sawers** will prepare the November 12 meal. Thank you to **Nancy Canady, Melanie Green, Pat Hymans, and Krista Steller** for collaborating on the October 8 meal and to Marc Anderson for donating the milk.

### SPRINGFIELD WARMING CENTER MEAL FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

The Hunger Action Team will prepare the meal on Friday, November 19 for up to 60 homeless persons finding respite at the Springfield Warming Center. Krista Steller and Pat Hymans welcome friends to join them.

### BREADLESS BREADLINE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

For decades, each year on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, churches in Springfield have sold bread donated by a local grocery store to raise money for St. John's Breadline, which serves hot food 365 days a year to those who need it. This year, we will once again host the "Breadless Breadline Sunday." WPC members are encouraged to provide additional donations on Sunday, November 21 marked for St. John's Breadline.



### WESTMINSTER'S LITTLE PANTRY

Thank you to all who stock Westminster's Little Pantry at Graham School. Please check SignUpGenius for open dates in November. Items are located on shelves on the lower level by the elevator. We encourage our ministry partners to use the supplies that are provided. Thank you to shoppers Bill Deemer, Peter VanGieson, Nancy Huston and to Bill Ward who stock organize our shelves weekly.

### GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH NOVEMBER MENU

**Beef-a-Roni or Canned Pasta Meal, Rice (Instant, Bagged, or Mixes) and 100% juice or water canned fruit.** Thank you to those who place items in the West Narthex baskets for the Central Illinois Foodbank. **Items in High Demand:** *feminine hygiene products, shampoo, diapers & wipes, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.*

### FAIR TRADE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate and tea are sold to support just, environmentally sound products and small producers. **Becky Martin** and **Jeanne VanGieson** will host the table in the West Narthex Sunday, November 21.



### CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

**PRAYER CIRCLE** – If you would like members of the congregation to pray for you, or if you would like to join the Prayer Circle, please contact Dr. Kieffer or Rev. Choi.

**H.E.A.L. FUND** – The "Helpful Emergency Assistance for Living" Fund provides resources to church and community members facing financial challenges. If you or someone you know could benefit from this, please reach out to one of the Westminster pastors.

### PARISH NURSE MINISTRY BY ELLEN CARPENTER

Blood Pressures will be taken on the First Sunday of November. The third COVID-19 booster is available to anyone 18 & over as long as it has been 6 months since their 2nd vaccine (or 1st vaccine with J&J). **Sangamon County Health Dept. Operating Hours: Drive-thru Mon-Sat: 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and Walk-in Clinic Mon: 8:30 a.m.-6:15 p.m., Tues-Fri: 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.**

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**KNIT 2 PURL 4** meets in person on **Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom**. On the first Tuesday of the month, bring your lunch and enjoy the fellowship from 12:00 - 1:00p.m. in the same location. We are working on hats, mittens, and scarves for the mitten tree. Please let Sue Cull know what you have placed in the basket.

**PW LUNCHEON** will be **Friday, November 5 at 12 noon**. The program highlights Jubilee Farms in Clinton, Il by the Rev. Cyndy Ash. Jeanne Pittman and Julie McDonough will prepare the meal.



**RUTH AND NAOMI** meet **Wednesday, November 3, 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Meg Kontio, 3508 Briana Dr. (62711) for Bible Study and fellowship The lesson is "Tamar." Please RSVP to Meg Kontio at 217-670-2052.

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** meets **Monday, November 8 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom for Bible Study and fellowship. The lesson is "Rahab." For info, contact Sue Baker 217-299-5216.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** meets **Tuesday, November 16 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom for Bible Study and fellowship. Carolyn Beatty will lead the lesson "Rahab" and provide devotions. For info, contact Nancy Canady at 217-899-9890.

### ELIZABETH CIRCLE HOSTS A CHRISTMAS GATHERING MONDAY, DECEMBER 13 FROM 1:00 - 3:00 PM.

All women of Westminster are invited to the Village Tea Room (3301 Robbins Rd) to enjoy tea and a musical program by the St. Andrew Sisters. The cost is **\$12**. To ensure there are enough participants (30 minimum), preregistration is required. Guests are welcome! Please R.S.V.P. to Jennie Alt in the church office.

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST** will be **Thursday, November 11 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Harvey Stephens will provide breakfast. Brad Swanson will speak to us on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Public Radio. Please RSVP via the weekly email link, our website, or by calling the church office.



**DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE)** will meet **Friday, November 19 at 6:30 p.m.** for their monthly meeting. Following a meal provided by the church, Diane Dietz and friends will provide a music program "Sing All About Love." Please RSVP via the weekly email link, our website, or by calling the church office.

## ADULT EDUCATION FORUM

### What Is the Christian Imagination?

**Thursday, November 4 and Sunday, November 7**

In preparation for the Bay Weekend, members are invited to attend this two-session presentation on Christian Imagination by Dr. Katie Carlson-Eastvold, Adjunct Professor of English at Lee University. **The first session will be during Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study on Thursday, November 4, 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.** followed by a presentation on Sunday, November 7, 11:15 a.m. - 12 noon. Join us as we examine the question of creativity through the works of nineteenth- and twentieth century voices with an overview of C.S. Lewis.

### Twentieth Century Presbyterian Creeds

**Sundays, November 21, 28, December 5**

**11:15 a.m. - 12 noon in the Second Floor Classroom**

These three sessions will summarize the four 20th century creeds in the PC(USA) Book of Confessions: Theological Declaration of Barmen, Confession of 1967, Confession of Belhar and Brief Statement of Faith. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Professor of History at Lincoln Land Community College.

## WESTMINSTER NEWS

### MILESTONE BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARIES

Char Barker celebrates 93 years on November 2.

Aggie & Don Harmon celebrate 55 years on November 4.

Dr. Charles Kenney celebrates 90 years November 15.

### NEW ARRIVAL

Carys Willa Germeraad was born to Colleen and Scott Germeraad on October 19. Carys joins older brother Declan and sisters Merrin, Verity and Isla. Her proud grandparents are Kathy and Randy Germeraad, and her aunt and uncle are Carrie and Nick Walden.

Congratulations to Jan & Jim Pinkerton on the birth of their great-grandson Max Henry Pinkerton, born on September 20 to Maggie & Jason Pinkerton.

### IN MEMORIAM

Betty Jellema Denham died on October 25, 2021. Prayers and sympathy are extended to her children Barry Denham, Becky Wernlund (Rev. Paul), Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer (Dr. Peter), grandchildren Joel Wernlund, Rev. J. Barrett Wernlund (Evonne), Corey Wernlund (Kelli), Paul Denham Kieffer, and four great-grandchildren. A service honoring Betty's life will be held Saturday, November 27 at 3:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary.

### SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Stephanie and Bennett Bess on the death of his mother, to Claire Bess on the death of her grandmother, Marilyn Bess, on Wednesday, October 6 in Paris, IL.

Carrie and Mark Pennell on the death of Carrie's sister, and to Jacob, Mia, and Olivia on the death of their aunt, Christina Cunningham, on October 7 in Springfield.

Chris Chapman on the death of her former husband, and to Collin, Elizabeth, and Julia on the death of their father, Dr. David Chapman, who died October 13 in Jensen Beach, FL.

Chris and Butch Elzea on the death of her father, to Megan and Meredith Elzea on the death of their grandfather, Edward Calcaterra, on Friday, October 15 in St. Louis, MO.

### NEW ADDRESSES

Jamie & Tom Bilyeu, 15005 Timberbrook Dr, Auburn, IL 62615

Colin Dungan, 628 West Briar Pl Apt 3, Chicago, IL 60657

Cynthia Little, 23 Forest Knoll Ct., Troy, IL 62294

Katy & Keegan MacDonna, 64 Greentail Dr, Chatham, IL 62629

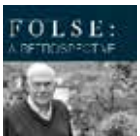
Bob Richardson, Regency Care, 2120 W. Washington, Rm 315, Springfield, IL 62704

Kyle Spalding, 731 S. Plymouth Apt. 611, Chicago, IL 60605

Danielle Zerfas, 705 Boardwalk Dr Unit 411, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

Dr. Roland Folse whose bonsai collection was on exhibit at the Pacific Bonsai Museum in Seattle, WA. May 29 - August 28, 2021.



## SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

At the end of September, income is under budget and expenses are over budget. Currently, the year-to-date expenses exceed income by \$59,843. We are expecting strong year-end giving and pledge donations to bring the amount of income up to the level budgeted.

2021 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 725,358	\$ 743,665	\$-18,307
Expenses	\$-785,201	\$-754,915	\$-30,286
Net Total	\$ -59,843	\$ -11,250	



THE 2021 BAY WEEKEND  
NOVEMBER 13-14  
WELCOMES DR. CHAD SCHROCK  
Associate Professor of English  
at Lee University

Presentation:  
Knowing God in Paradise:  
C. S. Lewis's *Perelandra*

Saturday, November 13

**Welcome Reception 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.** Members are invited to a welcome reception at the home of Dr. Andrew and Karen Sherrick hosted by the Adult Education Committee.

Sunday, November 14

**Worship Service 10:00 a.m.** Dr. Schrock will preach.

**Education Forum 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** Presentation

*Description:* There's a cliché that bad characters are more interesting than good characters, pain and conflict more interesting than happiness, and the roster of fantastic literature and film bears that out these days: stories from *Game of Thrones* to the *Hunger Games* strongly feature dystopia and grim violence. Yet in the second novel of his space trilogy, *C. S. Lewis* uses a Christian imagination to conceive of a perfect (and also interesting) world, the planet Venus. His protagonist, a Christian from Earth named Elwin Ransom, meets God on Venus. How might we learn to relate to God from Ransom's strange encounters with the Golden Voice in the Garden?

**All Church Lunch 12:30 P.M.** The Westminster family will share an English theme meal.

*Biography:* Chad Schrock is Associate Professor of English at Lee University in Cleveland, TN and secretary of the Conference on Christianity and Literature. His academic interest, the relationship between the Bible and English literature (especially from 1350-1650), has produced a book (*Consolation in Medieval Narrative*) and numerous articles on topics ranging from *Beowulf* to *C. S. Lewis* and twenty-first-century mysteries and science fiction. He is a graduate of Pensacola Christian College (B. A. English major, history minor), Eastern Mennonite Seminary (M.Div.), James Madison University (M.A. English) and The Pennsylvania State University (Ph.D. English, medieval literature). He and his wife of twenty-two years, Rachel, have two children, Toby (12) and Lucy (will turn 6 the Tuesday after Westminster's Bay Weekend).

Please RSVP at [wpcspi.org](http://wpcspi.org) by Thursday, November 12 for the Sat. Welcome Reception and/or the Sun. All Church Lunch.

The Bay Weekend was established in 1974 by the family of Frances and Ed Bay with the formation of the Frances M. Bay Lay Education Fund. This fund has provided the Westminster congregation and community with educational weekends for over 40 years. We are grateful to the Bay Family whose generosity and legacy have nourished our faith for more than four decades, and for the Westminster Endowment Fund which has also contributed to these endeavors.



Saturday, November 6 is daylight savings time. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour!

Westminster Staff

**The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*  
[bkieffer@wpcspi.org](mailto:bkieffer@wpcspi.org)

**The Reverend Christian K. Choi**  
*Associate Pastor for Parish Life*  
[cchoi@wpcspi.org](mailto:cchoi@wpcspi.org)

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

**Dale T. Rogers**  
*Director of Music and the Arts*  
[drogers@wpcspi.org](mailto:drogers@wpcspi.org)

**Deb Watts Elliott**  
*Saturday Worship Pianist and Music Coordinator*  
[deb.watts@live.com](mailto:deb.watts@live.com)

**Karen H. Sherrick**  
*Director for Children's Ministry*  
[ksherrick@wpcspi.org](mailto:ksherrick@wpcspi.org)

**Leigh Milward**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Ella Kurmann**  
*Nursery Worker*

**Emily Rowley, Kacey Belitsos**  
*Cooperative Preschool Teachers*  
[emily@westminster-preschool.org](mailto:emily@westminster-preschool.org)  
[kacey@westminster-preschool.org](mailto:kacey@westminster-preschool.org)

**Ellen Carpenter**  
*Parish Nurse*  
[ranell@comcast.net](mailto:ranell@comcast.net)

**Pat Hymans**  
*Hospitality Coordinator*  
[alnpat5@yahoo.com](mailto:alnpat5@yahoo.com)

**Lisa Runkle**  
*Financial Administrator*  
[lrunkle@wpcspi.org](mailto:lrunkle@wpcspi.org)

**Jennie Alt**  
*Church Administrative Assistant*  
[jalt@wpcspi.org](mailto:jalt@wpcspi.org)

**Krista Steller**  
*Webmaster*

**Gary Warnick**  
*Building and Property Manager*  
[gwarnick@wpcspi.org](mailto:gwarnick@wpcspi.org)

**Terry Gietl, Bill Hibbert, Eddie Hubbard, Steve Stapleton**  
*Part-time Custodians*

*December Reporter Deadline is Sunday, November 28.*

*Reporter Folding is Tuesday, November 30 at 12:30pm.*