THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

November
2026

Come Join Us!

Sundays At 10:00 a.m.
In-person or Livestream

www.wpcspi.org

Watch us on our YouTube Channel - Westminster Presbyterian Church Springfield IL

November 1
ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY
STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION
Rev. Dr. Anne Marshall
Hebrews 12:1-2
Numbers 27:12-20

November 8
SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
PROFESSING OUR FAITH
Rev. Dr. Anne Marshall
Deuteronomy 6:4-9
Philippians 2:5-11

November 15
PROFESSING OUR FAITH
Rev. Dr. Anne Marshall
Psalm 136:1-17,23-26
Psalm 42

November 22
ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY
REIGN OF CHRIST
Rev. Dr. Anne Marshall
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

November 29
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Rev. Sarah Bishop
Luke 1:5-25

ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

On Sunday, November 1, Westminster will honor members of our church family who have died since All Saints' Remembrance in 2025. 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:

Dr. Diane K. Rutledge	02/03/26	Dr. William H. Lienemann	02/08/26
Marleen Kay King	03/15/26	Mary E. "Betsy" Ruklick	03/18/26
Jo P. Ridley	05/05/26	Judy Huston	05/08/26
William H. Post	05/08/26	Joyce H. Olson	06/28/26
Judith B. Dees	07/23/26	Gerald W. Smith	08/20/26
Mary Ann Armstrong	09/21/26	Eleanor M. Leary	10/03/26
Terry "Kate" Eastvold	10/06/26	Dolores G. "Dee" Tozer	10/22/26

STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.
1 Corinthians 3:9

Growing into God's Future: Rooted in Faith, Growing in Hope

Join us for worship and celebration as **we offer our pledges during worship.**

- Stay for a **time of fellowship in Parish Hall** as we remember those who have gone before us and **consider how we are invited to build for future generations**.
- If you are not able to attend on November 1, **you can turn in your pledge online or mail your pledge card to the church office. The QR code to the right is a link directly to the online pledge form.**
- Have a question before completing your pledge or would like to talk more about the future ministry of Westminster, the Stewardship Team's follow up members will reach out with phone calls at the end of November to encourage those who have not yet renewed their pledge or are available to answer any additional questions.

Church Officer Orientation
Sunday, November 8

Our newly elected Elders and Deacons for the Class of 2029 will meet in the Second Floor Classroom after worship on November 8. This will be a time of preparation and relationship building. Lunch will be served. Contact Jennie Alt jalt@wpcspi.org if you have dietary restrictions or are not able to attend.

From The Pastor

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SERIES OVERVIEW

Sundays, November 8 through the 22 we will return to **Foundations of Faith**, exploring topics like:

- Can I recite a creed if I am not sure if I believe every part of it?
- How do I pray, especially if it doesn't sound as "proper" as the prayers we use in worship?
- What does it look like to go beyond belief to living out my faith?

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

During our October Session Meeting, we examined Becky Martin who is fulfilling an unexpired term as Elder for the Class of 2027. She begins her work as Elder this fall. Our Class of 2029 Elders and Deacons will be examined at our December Joint Session and Deacon Meeting on Wednesday, December 9 at 5:30 p.m. and will be ordained and installed to their positions on Sunday, January 10, in worship.

The Session then held an in-depth conversation about church growth and things we can be doing to expand our welcome.

We also discussed a shift in the approach to our prayer ministry. Look for more information in the next month about opportunities to receive prayers and join our efforts in praying for one another.

MISSION STUDY UPDATES

Please plan to join our Mission and Community Service Committee on Sunday, November 22 after worship as we share the progress we are making towards identifying strategic mission partners and gather input from the congregation on your hopes for the future of our mission work. In March, the Strategic Planning Committee will share our overall progress on phase one of the mission study and provide another opportunity for the congregation at large to provide input on your dreams for the future of our ministry.

COMMUNICATION ASSESSMENT

Thank you to everyone who filled out the communications assessment in September. We received close to 70 responses that went directly to our Ministry Architect Consultant who has been analyzing our current communication efforts. Ministry Architects is in the process of providing us with a road map to refresh the look of our communication, strengthen our external communication in the community, and provide opportunities to better tell the story of Westminster both internally and externally. We anticipate this will be a multi-month process. There are some items we will begin incorporating immediately, such as providing highlights from Session meetings to the congregation and others which will take some time and effort to adjust. We will continue to update you as we make progress.

NEED COMMISSIONERS TO PRESBYTERY

Presbyterians share decision making and leadership between Pastors and Elders. Our regional association of churches meets four times a year for Presbytery of Great Rivers meetings where decisions are made and support is provided to churches in our region.

Westminster is allotted two positions for Elders to participate and vote. Any ordained Elder may be approved to represent Westminster at Presbytery meetings. You do not need to be currently serving on Session.

We are looking for at least two willing Elders to participate. Meetings are typically hybrid which means you can attend in person or online. Please contact our Clerk of Session, Tom Owen or Dr. Marshall if you are interested.

In Christ,
Rev. Anne C.S. Marshall

Adult Education

Thursday Night Bible Study

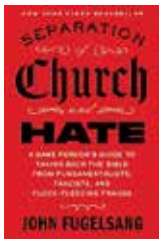
Come check out Thursday Night Bible study from 5:45-6:45 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. The fall study will conclude on Thursday, November 19. A new study will resume in January. Questions? Contact Lyle VanDeventer.

Adult Education Forum

After the 10:00 a.m. worship the Adult Education Committee will be offering these educational opportunities in November.

November 15 - ***Did You Know?*** Learn some of the history and meaning behind artwork and symbols in Westminster's Sanctuary as well as other little known facts. Meet in the Sanctuary for a Show and Tell conversation.

November 22 - Westminster's Mission and Community Service Committee will be leading a discussion in Parish Hall to learn more about the plans developing for strengthening mission efforts. Share your thoughts and passions with the Mission and Community Service Committee considers strategic mission partnerships.



Apostles' Read Library Book Group
Tuesday, November 24

The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets Tuesday, November 24 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss Separation of Church and Hate by John Fugelsang. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

Wednesday Night Dungeons & Dragons
Wednesday, November 4 & 18, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Have you ever wanted to play a Tabletop Roleplaying Game like Dungeons & Dragons but didn't know how to start? We have an ongoing D&D campaign at Westminster that's open to players of all ages, regardless of experience - the youngest player we've had has been 9, and one of our regular members is in their 80s! You don't need anything to play other than a willingness to engage in collaborative storytelling with our fun group of players! All supplies are provided, and Dungeon Master Aaron Berkowitz will teach you the rules as you play!

Right now, is a great time to join the campaign. The party are a mixed group of adventurers from around the ancient world - Greece, Persia, Judea, and more. They are currently on a quest to find the Three Magi who went missing 20 years earlier and so far, they have found and met two of them. Right now, the party is sailing towards Gaza and is hoping to head over land towards Jerusalem. The Queen of Sheba gave them an important mission - to head to a particular house in the Essene Quarter of Jerusalem where they will be given a sacred artifact to transport to safety. **Currently seeking new members! Questions, contact Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.**

Music Notes by Dale T. Rogers

ON MY OWN TIME: An exhibit of your artwork, collections, and hobbies will be held **Sunday, November 8.** Consider displaying something you collect, such as porcelain figures, Barbie dolls, Hot Wheels, fountain pens, or your photographs, paintings, or ceramics. Bring your collection to Parish Hall on Saturday morning, November 7 to set up your display on tables. Members of the Worship, Music, and the Arts Committee will be present to assist you in putting up the display. The exhibit will be on view on Sunday morning, November 8 until noon. contact Dale Rogers for late registrations.

MUSIC SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

For All Saints Sunday, November 1, the Westminster Choir will sing a new setting of *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* with Tori Calderone, flautist, and Audra Davison, 'cellist. The setting was made by Eric Nelson, the choral clinician for this past summer's Presbyterian Association of Musicians. *When Rooks Fly Homeward* and a communion hymn by David Mitchell will be sung on November 8 and Craig Courtney's *Sanctus* will be the anthem for November 15. Our annual **St. Andrew's Sunday will be on November 22**. On that day, we celebrate the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian Church with pipes and drums. Following the service, the Christmas tree team will put up the tree in preparation for decorating the following day.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS GO UP – On Monday, November 23, beginning at 9:00 a.m. members will decorate Westminster in anticipation of the first **Sunday in Advent on November 29.**

CHURCH MICE, our musical program for infants through age 4 meets in the Second Floor Classroom on Saturdays November 7, 14, and 21 at 11:00 a.m. Follow the pathway of cheese to music and fun.

THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR will meet on Wednesdays, November 4 and 19 at 5:00 p.m. On November 11, there will be a break for Children of Abraham and on November 26 for Thanksgiving. The choir meets on December 2 and 9 in preparation for their presentation of *Do Not Be Afraid* during the Advent Celebration on Sunday, December 13.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DECORATIONS FUND Members and friends are invited to donate $25 or more to the Special Music Fund and $25 to Westminster's Decoration Fund. Submit your donation with your desired wording and dedication by Monday, December 14. The poinsettias will be in the Chancel from December 20 to January 5.

SING BY HEART our choir for members of the community with Alzheimer's sponsored by Westminster, the Springfield Choral Society and under the care of the Dale and Deborah Smith Alzheimer's Institute of the SIU School of Medicine meets on Wednesdays in Parish Hall at 10:00 a.m.

Members and friends of Westminster and the Springfield Choral Society are invited to come listen to the choir for their last open rehearsal on Wednesday, November 18.

Opportunities to Serve

Mission and Community Service

The Mission and Community Service Committee met on October 7 and approved several grants including: $500 grant to Lowcountry Orphan Relief and $500 grant to Neighbors Together. Our Youth and Adult Mentors worked with both of these agencies on their mission trip this summer in Charleston, S.C.. The committee approved $15,000 financial assistance for Jose Alonso Gutierrez as he and his teen-age son move in late October from Las Vegas to Springfield to be near his sister, Eva Alonso Velasquez and brother, Javi Alonso.

Hunger Ministries at Westminster

Helping Hands Lunches & Dinners Prepared. Members of Westminster's Hunger Action Team met Friday, October 9 to prepare bagged lunches that were delivered to the Helping Hands' shelter. Dedicated Hunger Fighters including Georgina Hudspeth, Pat Hymans, Judy Knox, Becky Martin, and Judy Prillaman prepared and delivered the lunches.

On Wednesday, October 28, Linda Andrews and Claudia Nash prepared a hot meal of chicken pot pie to serve 70 along with peaches and pears, cookies and fall treat bags. Marc Anderson faithfully provides milk every month. Call Pat Hymans for information about preparing a meal.

First Annual Food and Snack Drive at WPC

Join us as we kick off our First Annual Westminster Food and Snack Drive to benefit our own micro pantry and Compass for Kids. It will be held on **Sunday, November 1, 2026** before and after our 10:00 a.m. worship service in the Narthex. Tables will be set up for donations brought to church that morning. Here is a list of suggested donations for food and snacks:

CANNED PROTEINS – peanut butter, tuna, chicken breast, pastas, chunky soups, chili, Hormel Compleats meals, meat pasta sauce.

BREAKFAST ITEMS - instant oatmeal packets, 10-12 oz. boxes of cereal, boxes of granola bars, breakfast bars and cereal bars.

SNACK ITEMS (individually wrapped) – popcorn, Nabisco variety snacks, Goldfish, Sunchips, Veggie Straws, fruit and applesauce cups, Rice Krispie Treats, pretzels, cheese crackers, Go-Go Squeeze Yogurts and pudding cups. **Feel free to call or text Ann Collins at 217-622-3847 with any questions.**

GIVE A MEAL A MONTH

Beef-a-Roni or Canned Pasta Meal, Rice (Instant, Bagged, or Mixes) and 100% juice or water canned fruit Items in High Demand: *feminine hygiene products, shampoo, diapers & wipes, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap*

GRAHAM SCHOOL LITTLE PANTRY - Join the many Westminster members who share in filling the Graham School Little Pantry. Signup is on the website or use this QR code.

Congregational Care at Westminster

HOME COMMUNION – If you are unable to attend worship and would like to receive Communion at home on **Sunday November 8,** please contact Sue Sawers or the church office.

Please contact our Interim Care Coordinator, Sue Sawers, with any questions. She would also love to help you get involved with caring for those in our church family! Or if you have specific care concerns, please email Sue at carecoordinator@wpcspi.org.

What's Happening in Children's Ministry this Fall

COME TO THE TABLE – A family Communion class was offered on Sunday, August 30 after worship by Rev. Sarah. Children (3rd- 5th) were invited, with their families, to learn more about Communion. Together, they identified Sanctuary items, studied the elements we use for communion, including, 'what does it say around the table?' and how Westminster celebrates this sacrament. They then were served Communion and encouraged to stay on World Communion Sunday, October 4, in worship.

Children of Abraham kicked off their program year by visiting the Compass for Kids Main Office, on Wednesday, September 30. Together, Westminster with their friends from the Islamic Mosque, Grace United Methodist and the Jewish Education Board, children, youth and adults learned more about Compass' mission to the community through Compass for Kids After School Program (one of their sites is Westminster) and Compass for Kids Summer Camps. Children of Abraham also collected and donated snacks!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR
Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.
Led by Meleah and Dale

Children's choir has been making some truly joyful noises this fall! We have loved learning some silly Halloween songs, and we are already practicing for Christmas! Also shared books and lessons on being confident, sharing your gifts, and not being afraid to make mistakes. Come hear us at the Advent Celebration December 13!

Harvest Fest – Sunday, October 25

Family Ministry by the Rev. Sarah Bishop
Youth Ministry by Mary A. Ray

Special Thanks from Spud Bake

We give thanks for the dedication, thoughtfulness and hard work of Mary Ray to ensure our Spuds are evenly cooked for Spud Bake. Because of your generosity, the youth raised **$2,040.** Thank you to our youth and youth mentors who prepared and served this delicious meal!

SAVE THE DATE: We will shop on Sunday, December 6 to share God's love with other youth in need using the donations received from the Spud Bake Sale.

Confirmation Classes **Confirmation Prep –** meets **Sundays November 1, 15, 23 and 30** after the Children's Sermon in the Conference Room. **Confirmation –** meets Sundays, **November 1, 8, 15 and 22** in the Conference Room following worship.

YOUTH GROUPS

Junior High Youth Group
Wednesday, November 18 5:30-7:00 p.m. Youth Room

Junior High Youth (6-8 grades) gather once a month for dinner, fellowship, games, and Bible study in the Youth Room. The meal on November 18 will be provided by Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz. Ministry Partners: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop, Cathy Brower, and Tara Fritsch

Senior High Youth Group
Sunday, November 8 5:00-6:30 p.m. Parish Hall

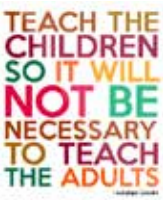
Senior High Youth (grades 9-12) gather in Parish Hall for fellowship, games, and dinner followed by Bible Study in the Youth Room. The meal on November 8 will be provided by Lisa Metzger. **There will be NO Youth Group, Sunday, November 22.** Mentors: Tad Allen, Rev. Sarah Bishop, Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Mary Ray

Senior High Youth Group Lock-In
Friday, Nov. 13 at 7:00 p.m.-Sat., Nov. 14 at 8:30 a.m. in Parish Hall

Senior High Youth (grades 9-12) will gather for a Lock-In at Westminster, Friday, November 13 through Saturday November 14. This overnight will include dinner, games, fellowship, and Bible Study. The youth e-news has links to important information including the packing list and permission slip.
Thank you to Angie and Todd Lafrenz for the meals.

Sunday Youth Schedule
10:15 a.m. Grades 6 -7 Confirmation – Conference Room
11:15 a.m. Grade 8 Confirmation – Conference Room
5:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group – Bi-monthly

Children's Ministry by Meleah Berkowitz
Children of Abraham at WPC
Wednesday, November 11 – 4:30 p.m.



Children of all faiths will gather at Westminster Presbyterian Church at 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall on Wednesday, November 11 to spend time in community, learn more about this year's theme, ***Rooted in Springfield,*** and share a meal together. Children of Abrahm is open to Preschoolers through High School and Adult Ministry Partners are welcome as well. Contact Meleah Berkowitz for more information.

Bridges Children
Bridges Children (Grades 3-5) have been hard at work diving into the Bible. Starting with creation, we have been learning the beautiful stories of faith, while also practicing our Bible literacy. The children requested to do some cooking this year, and in October we made a delicious homemade ranch dip! Thank you for the idea, Susan Shaw!

Children's Sunday School Offering
The children of the congregation voted at the All-Church Picnic what animal to purchase for people in need with their Sunday School offering. Last year, the children purchased three pairs of goats through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

This year, the children selected **a rabbit hutch and two rabbits.** To raise funds for this gift, children are encouraged to give an offering every Sunday during Children's Sermons. Follow our tracking poster to see how close we are throughout the year!

Advent Mailing
Watch for an Advent Mailing later this month, with devotions and event reminders for the holiday season for the entire family.

Advent Celebration is Sunday, December 13
10:00 a.m. Worship

Children's Choir will present Special Music.

11:15 a.m. Fellowship in Parish Hall

Families and friends gather to create ornaments, sing carols, and enjoy festive refreshments.

Westminster Cooperative Preschool
Our preschoolers have had the very best start to school! We hosted Macaroni Fest fundraiser, took a field trip to Pumpkin Creek Farms, and learned all about pumpkins and monsters. The Preschool also hosted a Family Education Night with Kate Morthland, learning more about including kids of all needs and abilities in our classroom - thank you Kate for sharing your knowledge and expertise!

Sunday Children's Schedule
9:45 a.m. Nursery for Children Birth – Age 3
10:15 a.m. Sunday School follows the Children's Sermon for ages Preschool - Grade 5

Fellowship Opportunities

Save The Date! All Women's Christmas Tea
Friday, December 11, noon to 2

Knit 2 Purl 4 Mission and Fellowship – will not meet on Election Day, November 2. The remaining Tuesdays in November will meet in the Second Floor Classroom from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Winter is coming so cold weather items (warm hats, mittens, and scarves) are needed. Questions? Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657.

Ruth and Naomi meets on Wednesday, November 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Meg Kontio (3508 Briana Dr, 62711). Christy Pound will lead the discussion of Chapter 3 of their study of *An Altar in The World*. RSVP directly to Meg at 330-472-4135.

Elizabeth Circle meets on Monday, November 9 at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Mary King will lead the discussion of dlesson 3 in their PW study and Sue Sawers will provide the devotion. Circle Contact: Lynn McMenamin

Lydia Circle meets on Tuesday, November 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the Library. Sharon Turner will host and provide the discussion of Lesson 3 in their PW study. Circle Contact: Nancy Canady.

Men's Breakfast meets on the second Thursday, November 12 at 8:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Graham Shaw, head coach of the men's UIS soccer team, will talk about leading a new era that prioritizes talent development, teamwork and leadership, while encouraging confidence and growth. RSVP's are helpful, but not necessary.

DMA - Friday, November 20 - DMA (Don't Mention Age) will meet for its last 2026 date for a **5:30** potluck and program at **6:15 p.m. in Parish Hall.** We have unique program by an actress from Chatham, Rosemary Connolly, She will provide an in character program called "Hello Girls." It tells the story of telephone operators in the history of telephone service. An RSVP is suggested but not required.

Concordia Service & Luncheon
Members and friends of Westminster will gather Thursday, November 19, at 11:30 a.m. with the pastors and the director of music and the arts, for communion followed by lunch.

November Earth Care Tip –
You have to clean out the closet and drawers of someone who has died or gone into a nursing home. You find clothing, underwear, towels and sheets, and you just don't know where to start. Maybe it's your own home that needs some work. Sure, you can take items to Goodwill, but you might want to donate clothing and household items to Helping Hands, Contact Ministries, the Washington Street Mission, or St. Martin de Porres. These organizations give items to people in need and may accept things that Goodwill or Salvation Army won't take. Check before delivering donations.

The real problem is the stuff that is worn, torn, and stained. Are there textile recycling programs? YES, but you'll have to pay a fee. If keeping textiles out of the landfill is important to you (and we hope so) there are several web sites to check out. Retold Recycling (www.retoldrecycling.com) and Trashie (www.trashie.io) are two that offer options.

Property Update
The new security system is being installed starting next week. This will enhance the security of the Pre-School access to the playground and also enable us to improve the control to securing the building when having evening events. We are having a handrail installed along the sidewalk next to the sanctuary going into the West Narthex. We are installing new flooring in the Print Room and hoping to get the heating and cooling installed later this month.

Westminster News

Milestone Birthdays
Sue Werner celebrates 91 years on November 3.
Art Cochran celebrates 100 years on November 13.
Gloria St. Lawrence celebrates 94 years on November 19.

In Memoriam
Eleanor Leary died on Saturday, October 3 in Springfield. Prayers of sympathy are extended to her husband, Dr. Richard Leary, their children, Seth! Leary and Sara (Craig Creado) Leary, and grandchildren, Trey, Laurel, Emily, Adrianne, and Dominik.

Dolores G. "Dee" Tozer died on October 22 in Springfield, IL. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her sons, Steven (Victoria) Tozer, Randall (Jodie) Tozer, and Michael (Gail) Tozer, and her 8 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Prayers and Sympathy to
Drs. Jonathan and Katie Carlson-Eastvold on the death of their child/step-child, to their siblings Aerwyna, Kristianna, and Juliana Eastvold and Everard Carlson-Eastvold on the death of Terry "Kate" Eastvold on October 6 in Urbana, IL.

Abby (Bentsen) Davis and family, on the death of her mother, Carol Bentsen, on Thursday, October 22 in Moline, IL.

New Address
Judith Barringer & Rich Kerhlikar, 26 Turnberry Pl., Springfield, IL, 62704

Amanda & Elijah Brower, 538 Pine St., Solvang, CA 93463

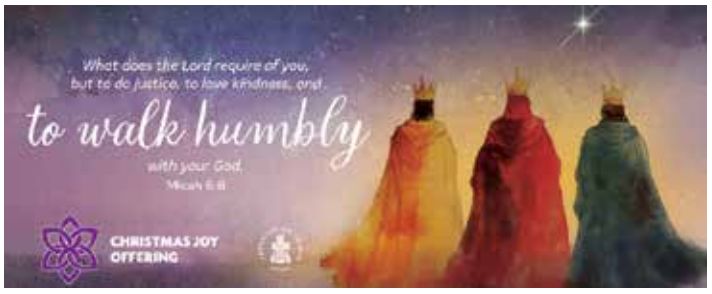
Chelsea & Adam Ekstedt, 2828 Crown Point, Springfield, IL 62704

Phyllis McCormick (as of 12/14/26), Brenden Gardens, 900 Southwind Rd, Apt. 126, Springfield, IL 62703

Vena Long, 82 Country Pl., Springfield, IL 62703

September Financial Report by Lisa Runkle
We are anticipating increased donations in November and December. As of September 30, expenses exceed income by $65,153. Income from donations is nearly $30,000 more than we received last year at this time. Total income, however, is lower than budgeted by $83,000. Expenses are under budget by $18,000.

2026 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	$ 806,922	$ 890,100	$ -83,178
Expenses	$-872,075	$- 890,100	$ 18,025
Net Total	$ -65,153	$ 0	



The Joy Offering provides support for at-risk children, youth and young adults, leadership development for people of color, Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

St. Andrew's Sunday, November 22
Worship at 10:00 a.m. with Pipes and Drums

Westminster will continue the rich tradition of celebrating St. Andrew's Sunday on November 22 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 and drummers, the pastors and 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. In Westminster's observance, elements include the 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.

Contact Ministries Adopt-a-Family

Each year Westminster sponsors the nine families living in the Contact Ministries Transitional Shelter Program, providing Christmas gifts as they work their way toward independence.

Each family will have multiple Wishlist items on SignUp Genius from which to select gifts. If you are unable to shop, please call or email Jennie Alt to identify which wish you would like to shop for and/or the donation amount. She will do the shopping for you!

The signup links will be available at wpcspi.org the week of November 1.

Gifts can be dropped off under the smaller Christmas tree in the elevator lobby or ordered for direct delivery to Westminster (make sure to notify Jennie Alt to expect a package!). **All gifts need to be at the church by Sunday, December 6.**

Advent Worship Series

Advent begins on Sunday, November 29 with the theme **Fear Not!** Across the stories of Advent and Christmas, angels show up and say "Do not be afraid" -- not because there's nothing to fear, but because in fact, the opposite is true: there is much to be afraid of. But fear never gets the final word. In this season, we learn that courage isn't the absence of fear, it's being afraid and doing the scary thing anyway. Through stories of ordinary people finding their courage and doing scary things, we discover the good news that was there all along.

Advent Devotionals will be shared for the entire church family and be sure to mark your calendar, as you don't want to miss the children sharing a special production of *Do Not Be Afraid* music and story as a part of our Advent Celebration, Sunday, December 13.

Westminster Staff

The Reverend Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall
Pastor and Head of Staff
amarshall@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Sarah A. Bishop
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
sbishop@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

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

Sue Sawers, CRE
Interim Care Coordinator
carecoordinator@wpcspi.org

Prayer Ministry
prayers@wpcspi.org

Dr. Aaron Berkowitz
Education Coordinator
berkowitz@wpcspi.org

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

Meleah Berkowitz
Director for Children's Ministry, Westminster Cooperative Preschool and Music Assistant
mberkowitz@wpcspi.org
director@westminster-preschool.org

Keri Tate, Becky Nika
Cooperative Preschool Teachers
keri@westminster-preschool.org
becky@westminster-preschool.org

Kara Milward, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator
alnpat5@yahoo.com

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant
jalt@wpcspi.org

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

Braden Barton, Terry Gietl, Lamonte Gross, Jerry McCullum
Part-time Custodians

Fall Back Daylight Savings Time on Sunday, November 1.

Church Office is closed for Thanksgiving
November 26 & 27

The next Reporter folding is on Wednesday, November 25 in the Second Floor Classroom.