



# THE REPORTER

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415  
www.wpcspi.org

October 2023

### WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

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

#### FAITH FORMATION:

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

10:15 a.m. Sunday School following Children's Sermon  
Children Pre-K - Grade 5  
Confirmation Prep Grade 6-7

11:15 a.m. Confirmation Grade 8  
Adult Education Forum

5:00 p.m. Youth Group

October 1

#### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

I Corinthians 12:4-13

The Rev. Dr. Lonnie H. Lee  
The Table of God

October 8

#### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Exodus 17:1-7; Matthew 21:23-32

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
Yeas and Nays

October 15

#### NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Matthew 21:33-46

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
TMI

October 22

Exodus 33:12-23; Matthew 22:15-22

The Rev. Christian K. Choi  
Return to Sender

October 29

#### REFORMATION SUNDAY AND STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION

Deuteronomy 34:1-12; I Thessalonians 2:1-8

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer  
Bubbles Up

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

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, October 8 following 10:00 a.m. Worship

On Sunday, October 8, the congregation will gather immediately following worship to elect the following church officers.

**Elders Class of 2026:** John Cross, Tara Fritsch, Rachael Hickman, David Jenkins, Dr. Vena Long, Greg Swanson, Julie Robbs, Brinton Wilkey

**Youth Elder:** Kristianna Eastvold

**Board of Deacons Class of 2026:**

Julie Barton, Greg Boutelle, Kyle Duffy, Deb Fritsch, Melissa Hostetter, Todd Lafrenz, Joyce King, Bernie Wiseman

**Board of Deacons Class of 2025:** Bill Schlosser

**APNC Committee:** Kristianna Eastvold

**Strategic Planning Committee Class of 2026:** Jeanne Pittman, Pete VanGieson

**2024 Nominating Committee:** Brad Steller, Alan Stutz, Julie Sundquist, Carolyn Swanson



Congregational Meeting

**Thank you to the 2023 Nominating Committee for their good work!**

Eleanor VanDeventer, Chair, Dr. Mike Nenaber (Elder), Mary King (Deacon), Brad Steller, Alan Stutz, Julie Sundquist, Carolyn Swanson

**Church Officer Orientation** for Newly elected elders and deacons will be Sunday, October 15, 11:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Lunch will be Spuds in support of our Youth Fundraiser.

### STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

**Blessed are those whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought, it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. Jeremiah 17:7-8**

**Growing in Generosity - Rooted in Faith** is the 2024 Stewardship theme. Our church family is made resilient through the faith and generosity of our members. We are grateful for the deep and elaborate root system within this faith community that has grown strong through the years. The faith in which we are rooted is evident in all the ways Westminster branches out in ministries beyond our doors. We value the connectedness among us as we stand tall in our community to proclaim the love of Christ.

Members received the Stewardship Brochure containing information on Westminster and the proposed budget along with a pledge card. Please complete the pledge card and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate by Stewardship Dedication Sunday, October 29, 2023.

Pledges can also be made online at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org) or by using the QR Code printed here.

**2024 Stewardship Committee:** Jay Kennerly, Chair. Susan and Scott Day, Bill Deemer, Jim Dolan, Becky Huston, Becky Martin, Jeanne Pittman, Steve Scaife, Bill Schlosser, and Brad Steller



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

Among the many opportunities to grow in our faith at Westminster is the Adult Education Forum which meets Sunday mornings, 11:15 a.m. – 12 noon in Parish Hall. Below is a list of courses for the 2023-2024 church year.

### Camino de Santiago in Spain - September 24

Learn about this spiritual pilgrimage from one who has taken the journey. Led by Dr. Debbie Parker

### Virginia Huguenot Anglican Refuge - October 1

Learn about the journey and research which led to the publication of a new book. Led by Dr. Lonnie H. Lee

### Reformation, Justification, and Ecumenism - October 15, 22

Explore the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz

### Reinhold Niebuhr - Nov.19 and 26

Learn about one of the great reformed theologians of the 20th century. Led by Dr. Roy Wehrle

### No Room at the Inn: Homeless & Refugee Ministries

December 10 and 17

We will hear the final report from the Heartland Continuum of Care and an update on WPC's Refugee initiative with Welcome Corps.

### Road to Selma - January 14

Our youth will report on their life changing 2023 Mission Trip to Selma, Alabama.

### The Regulation of Guns in USA - January 21, February 4, 11

An overview of the regulatory oversight of guns in America and the PC(USA) position on gun control measures. Led by Kate & Michael Morthland

### God's Gift of Sexuality and Gender - Feb. 18 and 25

This class will review faith-based sexuality curriculum and define the many facets of sexual and gender identity. Led by Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe Kieffer

### Rooted in Faith - March 3, 10, 17

This class will explore tree imagery in Scripture, the Christian Tradition as well as the Native Trees in Illinois. Led by Dr. Katie Carlson-Eastvold

### Journey through the Psalms

March 24, April 7, 14

We will journey through the Psalms with theologian Dr. Denise Hopkins. Led by Lyle VanDeventer

### Paul Tillich: The Courage to Be

April 21, 28

A review of the man and his writings in preparation for the New Harmony Retreat May 2-4, 2024. Led by Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe Kieffer

### The Gospel of J. Edgar Hoover

May 5

On the 100th Anniversary of J. Edgar Hoover's FBI career, learn his story. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz

### Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

May 12

On the 200th Anniversary of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, learn the story. Led by Dale T. Rogers

## MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

**WESTMINSTER CHOIR** meets each Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m., an earlier time than in previous years. This choir prepares music for the weekly services and is already working on music for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

**CHURCH MICE** (infants through age 4) meets on Saturday mornings at 11:00 a.m. Follow the pathway of cheese for a delightful musical adventure. Open to members and friends. Mr. Rogers leads Church Mice.



### THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR

(Kindergarten - Grade 5) will begin Wednesday, October 4 led by Katie Moore, our Director for Children's Music, and

meets weekly from 5:00 until 5:45 p.m. This is a choir combining the full range of singers from Kindergarten through Fifth Grade and welcomes all young singers to join in the fun.

### NEW HARMONY SPRING RETREAT

MAY 2-4, 2024

New Harmony, Indiana is a Holy space where visitors meditate and celebrate the wonder and beauty of life and the God who created it. Along with award-winning architecture and sculpture, one can discover and explore labyrinths and a park dedicated to 20<sup>th</sup> century theologian, Paul Tillich. The retreat will be based on John Philip Newell's book A New Harmony: The Spirit, the Earth, and the Human Soul.

Members and friends are invited to join Dr. Kieffer and Dale Rogers on a journey to New Harmony the first weekend in May, 2024. Participants are welcome to drive down Thursday

morning to visit the historic city, shop, and enjoy lunch. The retreat will begin late afternoon on Thursday and conclude at 12 noon on Saturday. The cost of the two-day retreat (based on single and double occupancy) will be available soon.



## THE 2023 BAY WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 11-12

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Krause

Professor of New Testament and President, Eden Theological Seminary

Presentation: The Bible in The Public Square

### Saturday, November 11

Welcome Reception

5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Members are invited to the home of Drs. Todd and Judy Knox for a gathering hosted by the Adult Education Committee.

### Sunday, November 12

Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Dr. Krause will preach.

Education Forum

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Presentation

All Church Lunch

12:30 p.m. We will share a community meal.

**Biography:** Dr. Deborah Krause teaches courses in the gospels, early Jewish exegesis, the Deutero-Pauline and pastoral epistles, and feminist-womanist, post-colonial, and postmodern biblical interpretation.

Dr. Krause joined Eden's teaching staff in 1992, served as Academic Dean from 2005-2018, and began as Eden Seminary's president in July 2020. An ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Rev. Dr. Krause serves the church through social justice advocacy work, teaching, preaching and scholarship. Her academic resume includes Amherst College, B.A., 1984, Eden Theological Seminary, M.Div., 1988, Emory University, Ph.D., 1996.



## YOUTH MINISTRY by Mary Ray

### YOUTH WALK CROP WALK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 AT 1:00 P.M.

THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD



Youth will meet at Third Presbyterian Church at 12:45 p.m. to begin the walk at 1:00 p.m. joining other fellow CROP walkers in the

Springfield area to walk in solidarity with those who are hungry around the globe. Please wear your Westminster or youth mission trip T-shirts.

### THE ANNUAL SPUD BAKE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

On Sunday, October 15, Junior and Senior High Youth will gather in the kitchen from 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon to prepare loaded baked and sweet potatoes to raise funds for the Contact Ministries Christmas Gift Distribution.



**SAVE THE DATE:** We will shop on Sunday, December 3 to share God's love with other youth in need using the donations received from the Spud Bake Sale.

### SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

#### CO-HOST GREEN TEAM SUMMIT WATCH PARTY

On Sunday, October 8, 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. the Senior High Youth will co-host the Green Team Summit Watch Party with the Earth Care Team. Pat Hymans and Kelly Robertson will provide the meal.

On Sunday, October 22, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m., youth meet for dinner, games, & Bible Study. Katy Maeda provides the meal.



Senior High Youth began the year sitting on the two benches near our Little Pantry and Library Nook created from recycled caps. The youth will collaborate with the Earth Care Team and host a Recycling Caps Gathering on Sunday, January 21. Will Hovey

will lead in the effort to recycle 300 lbs of caps left over from his Eagle Scout Project. We hope you will consider joining us.

### JR. HIGH CONFIRMATION OCTOBER SCHEDULE

Grades 6-7 Confirmation Prep will meet on October 8 (Flood), 22 (Jacob and Esau) and 29 (Joseph) during worship. They are invited to work the Spud Bake on October 15.

Grade 8 Confirmation will meet on October 1 (Fall of Jerusalem) and 22 (Roman Persecution). They are invited to "On My Own Time" on October 8, Spud Bake on October 15 and Harvest Fest on October 29.

### WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS

**THE MACARONI FEST FUNDRAISER** on Thursday, September 21, raised \$1,695. We welcomed over 100 friends from the community and thank all who participated.

This month, we will be taking field trips to Pumpkin Creek Farms and have conferences with parents to set goals for our students for the year. Come support us on October 30th at 11:00 am and on October 31st at 11:00 am and 2:30 pm, we will be parading through the building in our costumes! **Emily Rowley, Director**



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Meleah & Aaron Berkowitz

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

#### OCTOBER LESSONS:

10/1: Finding God's Ways	Matt. 21:23-32
10/8: Serving God	Matt. 21:33-46
10/15: Come to the Party	Matt. 22:1-14
10/22: Paul Gives Thanks	1 Thess. 1:1-10
10/29: The Greatest Commandment	Matt. 22:34-46

**THE CHILDREN'S OFFERING** for 2023-2024 will go to Heifer International. The children selected dairy cows this year. Every \$500 provides a family a heifer to provide milk and fertilizer. **The 2021-2023 Sunday school offerings totaled \$500. A check was mailed to Heifer International and divided between the ducklings (2021-2022) and chicks (2022-2023).**

**Please pick up your box of weekly offering envelopes in Sunday School or from the table near the children's check-in.**

### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

#### BRIDGES CHILDREN PROCESS WITH BREADS OF THE WORLD

Bridges Children (Grades 3-5) will process during the 10:00 a.m. voluntary Siyahamba, "a Zulu Melody", with the breads of the world as we celebrate World Communion Sunday and lead the Call to Worship. The Communion table will be adorned with African textiles, a gift of the late Andrea Butler.



### BRIDGES MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP

Children in Grades 3-5 are invited to Bridges on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Tower Classroom. This year's theme is "Created in God's Image."



Bridges hosted their kick-off event with a tie-dyeing event creating tie-dye t-shirts and tote bags in celebration of God's creativity. The children also stocked the Little Pantry and visited the Library Nook at Graham Elementary School.



### FAMILY BOARD GAME DAY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 AT 12 NOON



As part of our goals for the young families of Westminster, we would like to create opportunities to gather as a group, support each other, build community, and have fun!

To that end, there will be a few get-togethers throughout the year. The first will be a board game party - Saturday October 21, from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (right after Church Mice). Plan to meet in the Third Floor Chapel for board games designed for multiple age groups. Feel free to bring your lunch along!



## HOMECOMING SUNDAY INTRODUCES NEW MINISTRY YEAR



WPC began the 2023-2024 ministry year commissioning the Education Leadership Team and welcomed over 100 in Parish Hall for a delicious brunch, ministry displays, and children's activities.

The first Senior High Youth Group gathering celebrated Will Hovey's Eagle Scout Project as he installed the Library Nook at Graham Elementary School.

The Choir began the year with their annual retreat at Indian Point with a potluck hosted by the Kontios.



## WILL HOVEY INSTALLATION OF LIBRARY NOOK AND SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP



## CHOIR RETREAT AND POTLUCK DINNER





## NINTH BIENNIAL HEALTH FAIR



Ellen Carpenter and the Congregational Care Committee hosted another informative health fair on Sunday, September 17. Along with interactive stations presented by health professionals, twenty-five members received a flu vaccine thanks to pharmacist, Dr. Tamika Hill.

Those celebrating milestone membership anniversaries were recognized on Sunday, September 24. The cookie reception featured personalized cookies in the shape of numbers: 50, 55, 60, and 70.

We also celebrated Rev. Choi's tenth ordination anniversary on September 24. His mother drove from Chicago for the occasion and is pictured with Christian and Sophia. The gift presented to Christian was a handsome rotating wooden tray with silver handles for the center of their family's table which is symbolic of his hospitable, generous and inclusive leadership.



## MILESTONE MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION



## REV. CHRISTIAN CHOI ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION





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

### MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### COMPASS FOR KIDS

Graham Elementary Compass began its 3-week fall break September 25. They have 14 kids enrolled and expect that number to grow.

Upon their return, on October 17, they will plant a tree at the Capler's Habitat home.

This is a collaborative effort with First Presbyterian Church and their Earth Care Team. We thank ministry partners from WPC: Cathy Allen, Cathy Brower, Kristianna and Juliana Eastvold. Kris Gates and Angie Lafrenz who serve at different sites. If interested in being partner in tutoring ministry and help nurture young minds, contact Sam Lipp at [sam@compassforkids.org](mailto:sam@compassforkids.org).



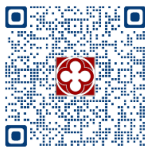
#### HUNGER MINISTRIES AT WESTMINSTER

**HELPING HANDS** - Thank you to Pat Hymans and Melanie Green, who prepared the September 8 meal. October 13 meal will be prepared by Westminster Ladies Who Lunch.

**SALVATION ARMY MONTHLY MEAL** – Thank you to the Hunger Action Team who prepared the September 27 bagged meals. We will gather again on Wednesday, October 25.

#### STEADFAST NEIGHBOR LITTLE PANTRY

In October, there are two days designated for World Homeless Day (Oct. 10) and World Hunger Day (Oct. 16). Westminster continues to work towards eradicating systemic poverty in our neighborhood by supplying the basic food necessities through the Little Pantry at Graham. There are still a few slots open for the month of October. Please sign up using/clicking the QR code here.



#### FAIR TRADE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

On Sunday, October 15, following worship, Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate, tea, olive oil, nuts and other items will be sold in West Narthex to support just, environmentally sound products and small producers.

#### GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH OCTOBER MENU

Canned chili or soup with pop tops, biscuit mix, 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.*

#### PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God. Matthew 5:9**

This year, we are joining PC(USA)'s 40<sup>th</sup> annual commitment to peacemaking. Each September and October WPC receives the Peace & Global Witness Offering which enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world.

#### PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

PDA is busier than ever, responding to 6 national disasters, covering 25 States + Puerto Rico, and 26 international disasters: 5 in Africa, 5 in Asia, Ukraine in Europe, 11 in Latin America, and 4 in the Middle East ([pda.pcusa.org](http://pda.pcusa.org)). If you would like to give towards any of PDA's response, contact Lisa Runkle ([lrunkle@wpcspi.org](mailto:lrunkle@wpcspi.org)) or place it in an offering with PDA as its designation.



## 2023 GREEN TEAM SUMMIT WATCH PARTY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8,

4:30 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. IN PARISH HALL

The Earth Care Team is hosting an online 2023 Green Team Summit watch party facilitated by Faith in Place, featuring keynote speaker, Leah Thomas – Founder of Intersectional Environmentalist & Author of The Intersectional Environmentalist: How to Dismantle systems of Oppression to Protect People + Planet.

This first of six sessions will inquire into the intersection of spirituality, the environment, and justice. **A light dinner will be provided at 4:30 p.m., and the viewing session and discussion will follow at 5:00 p.m.**



#### OCTOBER EARTH CARE TIP

Remember back in the old days when many families had only one car? Bus and bike commuting, walking, and especially carpooling helped us get through those years and are now coming back as we consider options to limit the consumption of God's precious resources and the production of earth-warming greenhouse gases. Consider a rideshare with family or friends and enjoy the camaraderie and conversation! Please contact Reverend Choi if you would like to share your wheels on the way to Westminster through service on the Transportation Guild.

- Dr. Peter Kieffer, Earth Care Team Chair

#### MISSION OPPORTUNITY: WOODEN IT BE HELPFUL

If you are wanting to learn woodworking craft while contributing to a wonderful cause? Join Coleman Moore and his team (Ellen Carpenter, Joe Fierstos, Andy Sherrick) to make furniture for Wooden It Be Lovely.



Contract Coleman Moore at [csmoore56@yahoo.com](mailto:csmoore56@yahoo.com).

#### ENDOWMENT GRANT AWARDS

At their September meeting, the Mission and Community Service Committee awarded the following grants to applicants: Motherland Gardens (\$1,000), Compass for Kids (\$1,000), and Western Illinois Dreamers (\$1,750).

#### CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

**HOME COMMUNION** – If you are unable to attend worship and would like to receive Communion at home on October 1, please contact Jennie Alt at the church office. Thank you to the four teams of elders and deacons who made visits to ten shut-in members on September 10.

**TRANSPORTATION GUILD** – Westminster is restarting the transportation guild to provide a ride to individuals who desire to come to worship. We ask that you:

- are **NOT** wheelchair bound
- can get in & out of vehicles with minimum assistance
- have clear access to the residence (for inclement weather)



We need ministry partners who are willing to provide rides. For those who are willing to provide rides or need rides to worship, please contact Reverend Choi at the church.

**PARISH NURSE MINISTRY** – Parish Nurse, Ellen Carpenter will be available for blood pressure check & consultation on Sunday, Oct 1.

## 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, October 10. 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.

**PW LUNCHEON** is on October 6 at 12 noon in Parish Hall. John Stafford, Retired FBI agent and coordinator of the WPC Safety Team, will speak to us on Church Safety. Please RSVP on website or with Jennie Alt by Wednesday, October 4.

**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** meets on Wednesday, October 4, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Dr. Diane Rutledge (3925 Surry Place Lane, 62711). Linda Folse will lead the devotional on chapter 6 Bernard of Clairvaux and the Four Degrees of Love including the passage 1 John 4:7-21 from the book, Devotional Classics, edited by Richard J. Foster and James Bryan Smith. Call Christy Pound (217-971-3082) for details.

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** meets on Monday, October 9, 1:00 p.m. at the IL Presbyterian Home. Eleanor will host and lead lesson 2 “The Exorcism of Gerasa” from the 2023 Horizon’s Bible Study Sacred Encounters by Olive Mahabir. Call Eleanor VanDeventer (217-341-4032) for details.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** meets on Tuesday, October 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the Ziegler library. Sharon Turner will host and lead lesson 2 “The Exorcism of Gerasa” from the 2023 Horizon’s Bible Study Sacred Encounters by Olive Mahabir. Call Nancy Canady (217-899-9890) for details.

**PW HANDBOOKS** are available in the church office.

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN’S BREAKFAST** meets on Thursday, October 14 at 8:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Scott Dahl, Director at Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau, will speak on “Tourism in Springfield” Members will provide breakfast and devotions. Please RSVP on our website or by contacting the church office.

### **DMA (DON’T MENTION AGE) FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT 5:30 P.M.**

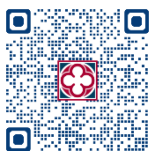
DMA (Don’t Mention Age) will meet Friday, October 20 at 5:30 p.m. for a potluck and program at 6:15 p.m. Dena Gilly, owner of Gilly’s Organizing, will speak to us on “Organizing for Everyone.” RSVP using the weekly email link, on the website, or by calling the church office.

### **CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE HOSTS: AN AFTERNOON AT THE SHEEDY SHORES WINEGARDEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 FROM 2:00 - 5:00 P.M.**

On Sunday, October 22, from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. members and friends are invited to a time of fellowship at Sheedy Shores WineGarden. Bring a snack to share with others in the beauty of fall as we enjoy the cooler weather together. There are lots of tables, chairs, and umbrellas to sit under and



live music. The WineGarden sells a variety of wines from Chardonnay to Cabernets by the glass or bottle as well as some beers. None of the wine is produced in Illinois. Sheedy Shores WineGarden is located at 10300 Johns Creek Rd, Loami, IL 62661. RSVP at <https://rb.gy/8zf3r>. More info available from Melanie Green.



## WESTMINSTER NEWS

### MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dee Tozer celebrates 94 years on October 1.  
Nancy & Lon Scott celebrate 70 years on October 10.  
Dr. Jim Singleton celebrates 93 years on October 14.  
Mary Ann Armstrong celebrates 93 years on October 22.

### PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Diane and Steve Rutledge on the death of their niece, Madeline Rutlege, on August 27 in Nashville, TN.

### NEW ADDRESS

Sarah Graham, 2125 Lindsay Rd., Springfield, IL 62704  
Mary Caroline and David Mitchell, 100 Terridge Drive, Springfield, IL, 62702  
Matthew Knox, 344 E. 85<sup>th</sup> St. Apt. 1H, New York, NY 10028

**CHURCH OFFICES ARE CLOSED ON OCTOBER 9 FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE/COLUMBUS DAY.**

### NEW MEMBER CLASS

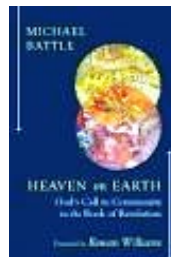
#### SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 1 AND 8

Friends and visitors are invited to a New Member Class on **Sundays, October 1 and 8, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.** in the Pastor’s Study.



Anyone who has been visiting and would like to learn more about the church, its mission, and becoming a member is invited. **New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on October 15** following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m in the Church Library.

### APOSTLES’ READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24



The Apostles’ Read Library Book Group meets Tuesday, October 24 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss Heaven on Earth: God’s Call to the Community in the Book of Revelation by Michael Battle. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Sangamon County Historical Society is hosting cemetery tours called the “Echoes of Yesteryear: A Walk Through Oak Ridge Cemetery” on Sunday, October 1, 12 Noon-4 p.m. Actors in character will share the stories of eight individuals who made significant contributions to our community and are buried there. For more info – [www.sangamonhistory.org](http://www.sangamonhistory.org).

The Lincoln Library is hosting a free program on the “Legacy of Mahatma Gandhi” on Saturday, October 7 from 2:00 – 4:45 p.m. in the Carnegie Room. The program includes local adult and student speakers as well as musical tributes to Mahatma Gandhi.

### AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

August donation income was higher than in recent years, so income is \$56,352 higher than the budget to date. Expenses are over budget by \$10,926, so year-to-date total income exceeds expenses by \$45,426. Donors will be receiving a contribution statement in early October. We encourage everyone to check your giving compared to the pledge amount.

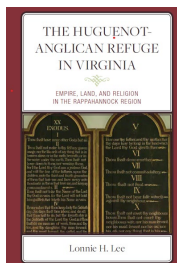
2023 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 766,489	\$ 710,137	\$ 56,352
Expenses	\$-721,063	\$- 710,137	\$-10,926
Net Total	\$ 45,426	\$ 0	



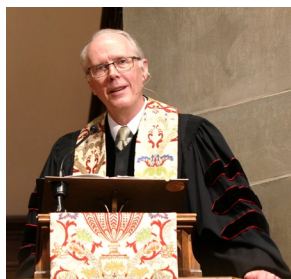
## DR. LEE PREACHES AND PRESENTS NEW BOOK WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

The Reverend Dr. Lonnie H. Lee will preach during worship and speak about his new book, *The Huguenot-Anglican Refuge in Virginia* during the Adult Education Forum on Sunday, October 1, at 11:15 am in Parish Hall.

Hardback copies of the book may be purchased for \$60 and signed by Dr. Lee at the end of his presentation. Anyone who is unable to attend on October 1 and would like a copy of the book can place an order through the WPC church office.



Dr. Lee served as Westminster's Seventeenth Senior Minister from 1995 – 2012. It is always a joy to welcome him home on Founders' Sundays and we are grateful for this opportunity to learn about his newly published book.



## ANNUAL CHURCH WORLD SERVICE CROP HUNGER WALK WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

1:00 P.M. AT THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The walk begins at Third Presbyterian (1030 N. Seventh). The walk begins at 1:00 p.m. The 2.5-mile walk passes several of our supported food pantries. Park in the Third Presbyterian parking lot at Bergen and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets. 25% of money raised goes to our local food pantries, the remainder fights hunger worldwide. Local food pantries receiving funds include Grace Lutheran, Kumler Outreach

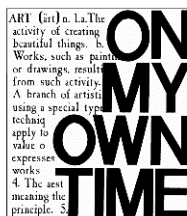


Ministries, and smaller amounts to other food pantries. Members are invited to support WPC youth walking or join this symbolic journey. Contact Becky Martin or Krista Steller for more information. Donations can be made using the QR code to give to Special Mission noting CROP as a memo or write a check to WPC with CROP Walk in the memo line.



## ON MY OWN TIME EXHIBIT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Calling All Members—The Worship, Music and Arts Committee will again host the very popular **On My Own Time** Exhibit on Sunday, October 8 in Parish Hall following a brief Congregational meeting. Start thinking of the things that you do as a hobby and are willing to share with the congregation.... from Precious Moments, Barbie Dolls, to Woodcarving or your collection of arrowheads. If you would like to participate, contact Dale Rogers (drogers@wpcspi.org).



## REFORMATION AND HARVEST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

Westminster will continue the tradition of dressing in costume on Reformation Sunday. This provides an opportunity to highlight the origins of the Hallowed Eve in our faith tradition.



Members are invited to **wear costumes to worship** and join Westminster families in Parish Hall following the service (11:15 a.m. -12:30 p.m.) for a festive gathering.

Highlights and activities will include:

**A DELICIOUS LUNCH** will be prepared by Pat Hymans and the Hospitality Team.

**PUMPKIN CRAFTS** will be provided by Aaron and Meleah Berkowitz.

**FACE PAINTING** - Elizabeth Marcy will do her magic in Parish Hall.

**STORYTELLING** - Children will enjoy stories read by Sue Baker in the West Narthex.

**A HARVEST MAZE** created by Al Hymans will provide adventure in the Youth Room.

Don't miss this time of meaningful worship and creative fellowship with the families of Westminster. Kids of all ages are welcome.

## Westminster Staff

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Terry Gietl, Bill Hibbert,**  
Part-time Custodians

Reporter folding and mailing will be  
Wednesday, November 1.