



THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

October 2025

Come Join Us!

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

www.wpcspi.org

You can watch previous videos of the scripture and sermons by visiting our

YouTube Channel -
Westminster Presbyterian
Church Springfield IL

October 5

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
CROP WALK

1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 17:5-10
Rev. Sarah Bishop
Wholehearted Trust

Join Dr. Marshall for a four week sermon series called "The Praying Life"

What can we learn from the parables and Jesus's ministry that can help deepen our relationship with God?

October 12

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Luke 17:11-19

Nurturing an Attitude of Gratitude

October 19

Luke 18:9-16

God's Nudge

October 26

STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION
HARVEST FEST

Luke 18:9-16

The Prayer God Always Answers

November 2

Luke 10:1-10

Responding with our Lives

INSTALLATION OF WESTMINSTER'S 19TH PASTOR AND HEAD OF STAFF



THE REVEREND DR. ANNE C.S. MARSHALL
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 AT 4:00 P.M.

On Sunday, October 12, at 4:00 p.m. the Presbytery of Great Rivers will install the Reverend Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall as Westminster's 19th Pastor and Head of Staff. Presbytery Moderator Carol Sleeth (First Federated, Peoria) will lead the installation and Rev. Gray Marshall (minister-at-large) will preach. Retired Synod of Lincoln Trails Exec, Rev. Carol McDonald, will be a corresponding member who will give the charge to the pastor. PNC chair, Elder Todd Knox, will give

the charge to the congregation. Also serving on Anne's commission are: Elder and Westminster's Presbytery Partner, Marty Tarter, Rev. Susan Phillips (First Presbyterian, Springfield) Rev. Karol Schilling (First Presbyterian, Normal) and Rev. Jonathan Warren (First Presbyterian, Jacksonville).

The ministry of music presented by the Westminster Choir will be Mendelssohn's *How Lovely are the Messengers that Bring us the Gospel of Peace*, *O All Ye Works, Praise the Lord*, and *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*. The reception, hosted by Hospitality Coordinator Pat Hymans and team will follow in Parish Hall.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT CHURCH OFFICERS

On Sunday, October 12, the congregation will gather immediately following worship. The following church officers will be elected.

Elders Class of 2029: Sandy Bellatti, George Botanga, Nathaniel Brower, Deb Coontz, Cress Maddox, Sr., Lucy Stafford, Brad Swanson, and Jess Weitzel. Youth Elder: Sam Batterman

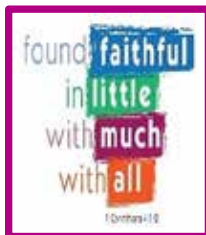
Board of Deacons Class of 2029: Deacons: John Abbo-Yobo, Maude Essell Addo-Yobo, Andrew Affrunti, Chelsea Ekstedt, Cameron Hudgins, Lisa Metzger, Joyce Matthews, Pete Sherman. Youth Deacon: Macklin Metzger

Strategic Planning Committee Class of 2029: Bud Green, Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross
2026 Nominating Committee: Brad Steller, Julie Sundquist, Carolyn Swanson, Peter Van Gieson

Church Officer Orientation for newly elected elders and deacons will be **Sunday, October 19, 11:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Lunch will be spuds in support of our Youth Spud Bake Fundraiser.



STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26



Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Found Faithful is the 2026 Stewardship theme based on 1 Corinthians 4:1-2. Members received the Stewardship Brochure containing information on Westminster and the proposed budget along with a pledge card in the mail following the Campaign's introduction on September 21.

Please complete the pledge card and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate by Stewardship Dedication Sunday, October 26, 2025. Pledges can also be made online at www.wpcspi.org or by using the QR Code printed here.



Serving on the 2026 Stewardship Campaign Committee: Julie Robbs, Chair, Linda Andrews, Adam Ekstedt, Joe Fierstos, Claudia Nash, Linda Purves, Jeanne Van Gieson, and Sarah Zerfas.

FROM THE PASTOR

September was a month of introductions. Introductions to the rhythms of ministry here at Westminster and to many of you. It has been a joy to realize I am already starting to get to know faces. I appreciate your efforts to wear name tags, so I can also continue working on learning names.

As we continue Westminster's prayer ministry and prepare for our next cycle of praying for the congregation, which will begin in December, I want to strengthen communication so the pastors can receive your prayer requests if you have them. Because mail delivery can sometimes be delayed, and the cost of postage keeps increasing, we would like to email you to gather your prayer requests prior to the week which you are prayed for.

If you are not currently receiving Weekly News emails from the church at your preferred email address, please email Jennie Alt jalt@wpcspi.org so that we can update your contact information to include email, address, and/or phone number(s).

If WPC does not have your email, we will continue to mail you letters. Also, please contact Jennie in the church office to let her know you prefer to continue receiving communication by mail regardless if we have your email on file.

Prayer letters in October and November will be mailed as we collect updated contact information from the congregation and prepare for this communication shift in December.

In Christ,

BUILDING AND PROPERTY NEWS

YOUTH ROOM UPDATE Rev. Bishop, youth mentors, and our youth are busy transforming our youth room. Below will eventually be a map showing all the youth mission trips locations since 1997. The new couches have also arrived!



MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

WESTMINSTER CHOIR continues to work on music to enrich our worship each week and has already been preparing music for the Advent and Christmas season. But before that, the choir will join with the choir of Christ the King Church to sing for a special service on Saturday, November 8 at the Franciscan Motherhouse to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis. Prior to that date special times of joint rehearsals are Thursday, October 30 at 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room and Thursday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the Motherhouse Chapel. On November 8, the rehearsal is at 9:30 a.m., prior to the 10:30 a.m. service.

CHURCH MICE (infants through age 4) meet each Saturday morning 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) rehearses on Wednesdays from 5:00 until 5:45 p.m. Led by Meleah Berkowitz and Dale Rogers, this is a choir that combines the full range of singers from Kindergarten through Fifth Grade and welcomes all young students. The choir will not meet on October 8, the afternoon of Children of Abraham.

The Landscape Guild is grateful for the ongoing care and attention that Sue Cull, Scott Day, Jeanne Pittman, and Bill Deemer have lavished on all of our gardens and potted plants throughout this very dry summer.

ADULT EDUCATION

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY



Join Eleanor & Lyle VanDeventer on **Thursdays from 5:45-6:45 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. The book, [A is for Alabaster](#), consists of fifty-two reflections on Scripture by renowned Presbyterian Minister and Professor of Preaching at Columbia Seminary, the Rev. Dr. Anna Carter Florence. New members are welcome! Books available in the office.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM

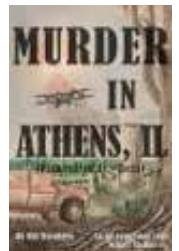
Join us following worship at 11:15 in Parish Hall for a variety of programs and speakers. All are welcome!

When Jesus became God, by Richard Rubenstein - October 5
Learn about the history of the controversy around Arianism in the early church. **Led by Jim Parker**

The Scopes Trial 100 Years Later - October 12, 19
On the 100th anniversary of the Scopes Trial, we will reflect on its meaning and insight today. **Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz**

APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets Tuesday, October 28 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss [Murder in Athens, IL](#) by Ray Roentgen (the pen name of Marty and Alan Stutz' son). The author will be joining us remotely for this event. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT DUNGEONS & DRAGONS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1 & 15, 6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

An intergenerational group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month to play Dungeons & Dragons. New members are always welcome! No experience needed. Our campaign is historically based, and is currently set in 26 CE in Teredon, a city on the Persian Gulf in modern-day Kuwait.

FAMILY MINISTRY by the Rev. Sarah Bishop

YOUTH MINISTRY by Mary A. Ray

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 AT 1:15 P.M.

THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD



Youth will meet at Third Presbyterian Church at 1:00 p.m. to begin the walk at 1:30 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 19

On Sunday, October 19, Junior and Senior High Youth will gather in the kitchen from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to prepare baked Russet and sweet potatoes with your favorite toppings to raise funds for the Contact Ministries Christmas Gift Distribution.



SAVE THE DATE: We will shop on Sunday, December 7 to share God's love with other youth in need using the donations received from the Spud Bake Sale.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 AND 26 5:00-6:30 P.M. YOUTH ROOM



Senior High youth gather Sunday, October 12 and 26, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall and Youth room for fellowship and dinner followed by Bible study.

The meal on October 12 will be provided by Dana and Andrew Affrunti. The meal on October 26 will be provided by Katie and Toshi Maeda. Mentors: Rev. Sarah Bishop, Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Kyle Duffy, Mary Ray, and Jack Sherrick

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

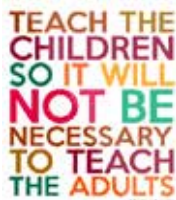
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22 5:30-7:00 P.M. YOUTH ROOM

Junior High youth gather Wednesday, October 22 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room for fellowship/games and dinner followed by Bible Study. The meal on October 22 will be provided by Lindsay and Greg Boutelle. Mentors: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop, Cathy Brower, Tara Fritsch, and Mary Ray.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM

GATHERS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Children and Youth (Kindergarten through High School) are invited to the first gathering of Children of Abraham on Wednesday, October 8, 4:30-6:00 p.m. at the Islamic Society of Greater Springfield (3000 Stanton Street). This year's theme is "Strength in Diversity." Mark your calendar for the quarterly Wednesday Gatherings: **November 12 at Westminster**, **February 4 at Grace United Methodist**, and **May 6 at Springfield Art Association**.



SUNDAY YOUTH SCHEDULE

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

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

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.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

Every year on Homecoming Sunday, the children of the congregation vote on which mission their Sunday School offering will support. Last year, the children purchased goats for people in need. That donation, for \$230, has been made.

This year, the children selected **CHICKENS** and we will support the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Be sure to bring your offerings on Sunday mornings.



BRIDGES MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP

2025-2026 THEME: VOICES OF HOPE



Children in Grades 3-5 are invited to Bridges on Wednesdays from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. This fellowship bridges friendships among our children and across generations. It also includes mission projects and interfaith gatherings. Bridges will continue using the *Living the Word* curriculum from Spirit & Truth Publishing. This curriculum will take our Bridges children through the Bible from Genesis through the New Testament over the course of the school year.

Advocates: Krista Steller, Julie Robbs, Pete VanGieson, Cathy Brower, Lyle Vandeventer, Todd Knox, Ellen Carpenter

We are still in need of 2 Advocates for the upcoming year, please reach out to Meleah Berkowitz if interested in serving.

Leaders: Meleah Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop, and Pat Roller



WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS



We've had a wonderful first month of school! We were so glad to welcome back our returning families and have many new families joining us. Each student has had a special day when we learn about them. They prepare a page to share with us and bring us three items to see in the mystery bag. We have an amazing bus in the dramatic play center and have been driven to school and all over town! The book series we're studying this year is *Pete the Cat*; there are so many neat books we've enjoyed. We also hosted our annual fundraiser- Macaroni Fest. It was a special evening for our school family. In October, we'll be studying plants, trees, & gardening. We will take a field trip to Pumpkin Creek Farms and celebrate Halloween with parties and trick-or-treating around the building.

CHILDREN SUNDAY 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

HOMECOMING SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 14



Welcome to the beginning of the 2025-2026 ministry year at Westminster. We commissioned Education Leadership during worship then gathered in Parish Hall for fellowship, a delicious lunch (thank you Pat Hymans and the kitchen crew) and informational displays of ministry, mission, and education.



TENTH BIENNIAL HEALTH FAIR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Participants from over ten health organizations provided resources, information, screenings and testing to the Westminster members for free. Thank you to our Parish Nurse, Ellen Carpenter, for coordinating this successful event.



MILESTONE MEMBERS RECOGNIZED



Front Row: Jeanne Pittman, Nancy Canady, Linda Caupert, Sue Cull **Back Row:** Eric Schmidt, Mary Ray, Fred & Judy Prillaman, Rich Canady, Ed Caupert, Mary Alice Davis, Becky Stirrett, Dr. Will Wright, and Dr. Marshall

Milestone Members were recognized in worship on Sunday, September 28 for 50, 55, 60, 65, and 70 years of membership. We are grateful for their faithful and resilient faith journeys among us.

Children's Sermon – Rev. Bishop and the children are singing and signing to the Congregational Response “God Welcomes All.”

Thursday Night Bible Study welcomed new members as they began their study, [A is for Alabaster](#) led by Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer.

DMA met on Friday, September 19 to hear WPC's Jim Kontio speak about *Sing By Heart Dementia Choir*. There were 25 attendees for the evening.

Illinois Presbyterian Home residents were led in weekly worship on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. by Rev. Sarah Bishop and Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall. On the fourth Thursday, communion is celebrated. Westminster's pastors will lead worship again in April 2026.



DMA – DON'T MENTION AGE

ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME WORSHIP



CHURCH MICE MUSIC PROGRAM is for all children from birth to age 4 on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. The children and their adult follow the pathway of cheese to meet friends and make music together. Grandparents welcome!



Dale Rogers created this free program 23 years ago to share his passion of music. For more information, please contact Dale Rogers or Meleah Berkowitz.



PARISH LIFE NEWS MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

ANNUAL CROP HUNGER WALK WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

1:30 P.M. WALK AT THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The walk begins at Third Presbyterian (1030 N. Seventh). Check-in begins at 1:00 p.m. with a start walk time of 1:30. The 2.5-mile walk will take an average walker less than one hour to complete. Park in the Third Presbyterian parking lot at Bergen and 7th Streets.

Of the money raised, 25% goes to our local food pantries, the remainder fighting hunger worldwide. Food pantries receiving funds include Grace Lutheran, Kumler Outreach Ministries, and local Little Pantries. Members are invited to support WPC youth walking or join this symbolic journey. Every walker will receive a T-shirt.

Contact Becky Martin or Krista Steller for more information. Bill Deemer serves as the Walk's treasurer. Donations can be made online by using the QR code to support Westminster Walkers or make a check out to WPC with CROP Walk in the memo line.



HUNGER MINISTRIES AT WESTMINSTER HELPING HANDS

Thank you to Judy Prillaman, Judy Huston, Jeanne Van Gieson, Julie Robbs, Pat Hymans, and Sue Sawers who prepared the September 17 bagged lunches for 70. The September 24 hot meal for 100 was prepared by the Bryans and Swanson families. It included chicken and dressing, green salad, fresh fruit, and cookies.



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*

FAIR TRADE MINISTRY

Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate and tea are sold to support just, environmentally sound products, and small producers. This month's sale will be on **Sunday, October 19** following the 10:00 a.m. worship in the West Narthex.

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING



Sowing the Seeds of peace. Zachariah 8:12.

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. Our gifts are helping our neighbors in need – those who live next door, down the street, and across the globe. Twenty-five percent of the offering stays with Westminster.

HEARTLAND HOUSED SUPPORT

In August, Westminster's Mission and Community Service Committee made a commitment to Heartland HOUSED (which is the housing organization for Heartland Continuum of Care) to support their efforts to fight homelessness in our community by donating \$30,000. Of that amount, \$20,000 is being used to support a local family for one year as they transition from homelessness into stable housing, and \$10,000 was given for landlord mitigation to assist landlords in providing affordable housing to Springfield's unhoused.



Westminster is supporting a Heartland HOUSED project called Welcome Home Baskets. Heartland HOUSED places 20-30 families in permanent housing every month. Many times, the families do not have kitchen and bath necessities. The Welcome Home Baskets provide pots and pans, dishes, cups, silverware, dish towels and other kitchenware. New residents also need bath towels, shower curtains, twin bed comforter, sheets, and pillow. While the kitchenware may be lightly used, please provide new linen and fabric items.

Rev. Josh Sabo leads the Heartland HOUSED program. He will give an Adult Ed Forum program on **November 23**. Mission Committee members would like to present him with laundry baskets filled with hope for our newly housed neighbors. Please bring household items to the display in the West Narthex this fall. Learn more about this project by visiting heartlandhoused.org.

OCTOBER EARTH CARE TIP - LEAVE THE LEAVES



The National Wildlife Federation website has an article titled "6 Excuses to Avoid Yard Work This Fall". (Go to www.nwf.org and search for "leave the leaves" to find several articles.) Who doesn't want a good reason to play instead of work? By NOT raking and bagging your leaves this fall you actually do good things for the environment.

- Provide habitat for wildlife. Salamanders, toads, and several species of butterflies and moths rely on leaf litter for winter shelter. Give the woolly worm caterpillars a place to overwinter.
- Provide nutrients for organisms.
- Increase the fertility of your soil. Decomposing leaves add nutrients to the soil. Leaves are great mulch and suppress weeds.
- Reduce waste. Over 30 million tons of yard waste go to landfills each year. Why send your leaves to the landfill when they can be put to use?
- Reduce pollution. Leaf blowers pollute, trash trucks pollute, and fertilizers used in place of natural nutrients pollute.
- Save time and (your) energy. You don't have to discard your rake, just use it to move leaves to flower beds, garden, or compost pile.

-Susan Shaw, Earth Care Committee

ADOPT A STREET

Westminster's Earth Care Committee, chaired by Keith Hamilton has organized a street clean up session on **Saturday, October 11 at 10:00 a.m.** Meet in the church parking lot for instructions on cleaning up our neighborhood near the church.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP gathers on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters are encouraged to knit cold weather items (warm hats, mittens, and scarves) for our fall and winter donations. Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN are invited to attend the Hope for the Holidays Market on November 1 & 2 from 10:00 – 4:00 at Hope Presbyterian. The PW monthly luncheon will be held on Friday, November 7 at noon. Please RSVP to the church office.

RUTH AND NAOMI will meet on Wednesday, October 1, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jeanne Van Gieson (3928 Rocky Falls Rd, 62711). Marilyn Rigney will lead the discussion of Chapter 2 in Becoming Spiritually Intelligent: Nine Paths toward Your Most Loving Self by Paul M. Burns. RSVP directly to Jeanne at 217-341-9255.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet on Monday, October 20 (note this session is on 3rd Monday) at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom and will study Lesson 2, *Mary of "a Certain Village"* from the PW Horizons Bible Study Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ by Rhashell D. Hunter.

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, October 21 at 9:30 a.m. in the Library and will study Lesson 2, *Mary "of a Certain Village"* from the PW Horizons Bible Study Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ by Rhashell D. Hunter.



The Testament Trebles (Miriam Carter, Lily Swanson, Eleanor VanDeventer, and Diane Dietz) perform "God Who Sees" for the Presbyterian Women Salad Supper on September 24, 2025.



Over 60 Presbyterian Women and guests attended the Salad Supper. It was a great night of food and fellowship.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 5:30 P.M. POTLUCK & 6:15 P.M. PROGRAM

DMA (Don't Mention Age) will meet Friday, October 17 at 5:30 p.m. for a potluck and program at 6:15 p.m. Kathy Lamsargis will speak about "Marbles in a Fishbowl: Memories in the South During the 1950's." Please RSVP to the church office or on our website is welcomed but not required.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST meets Thursday, October 9 at 8:00 a.m. at Le Peep Restaurant located at 3232 Ginger Creek Dr. Men are invited for breakfast and a social time with friends. Please RSVP on our website or contact the church office. All ages of friends and church goers are welcome to join the group.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dee Tozer celebrates 96 years on October 1.

Rich Canady celebrates 91 on October 6.

Mary Ann Armstrong celebrates 94 years on October 22.

Nancy & Lon Scott celebrate 72 years on October 10.

WEDDINGS

Sophia Nuding and Lucas Carpenter will be united in marriage on Saturday, October 4 in the Westminster Sanctuary.

IN MEMORIAM

Matthew A. Gilmour died on Friday, September 5 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to his wife Sharon Gilmour and their children Michael (wife Julie) Gilmour, Susan Seaman, and their grandchildren.

Henry Dale Smith, Jr. died on Monday, September 8 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to his wife, Deborah, their daughter, Chandler, and her partner, Eric Taxier. A service honoring his life will be held Saturday, October 18 at 10:00 a.m. in our Sanctuary with a time of visitation following.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY TO

Barb and Pete Sherman on the death of her mother, Christine Wunn, on September 9.

Pat McNutt on the death of her nephew, John and Millie McNutt on the death of his cousin, Lance Shupe, on September 10.

NEW ADDRESSES

Betsy Dye, 32624 Cable Pkwy, Dowagiac, MI 49047

Rev. Dr. Lonnie H. & Mrs. Barbara Lee, 6316 134th St., Overland Park, KS 66209

THANK YOU

Kathy Kenyon would like to express her gratitude to the congregation for the support she has received before, after, and while she is in rehab.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

IL Presbyterian Home is hosting a blood drive on Friday, October 10 from Noon – 3:00 p.m. Contact Gracie Tierney with any questions by emailing gracie.tierney@iphcom.org or calling 800-747-5401 to make an appointment.

AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

Thank you for your faithfulness to the ministry of Westminster. At the end of August, expenses exceed income by \$64,207. Donors will be receiving a contribution statement in early October. We encourage each one to check your giving compared to the pledge amount and make any donations before the year-end rush.

August incurred some large expenditures of the quarterly property insurance premium and the annual elevator maintenance agreement. We continue to look toward increased income over the next few months.

2025 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 732,974	\$ 763,267	\$ -30,293
Expenses	\$-797,181	\$- 763,267	\$ -33,914
Net Total	\$ -64,207	\$ 0	

REFORMATION AND HARVEST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

We will celebrate WPC's Harvest Festival following worship. Members of all ages are invited to **wear costumes to worship** and join Westminster families in Parish Hall following the service (11:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.).

Highlights and activities will include:

A DELICIOUS LUNCH will be provided and treat bags sent home with the children.

FALL CRAFTS AND TREATS, STORYTELLING AND FACE PAINTING in the Parish Hall.

HARVEST GAMES in the Youth Room.

This celebration provides an opportunity to highlight the origins of Hallows' Eve in our faith tradition. Don't miss this time of creative and meaningful worship.

SING BY HEART CHOIR BEGINS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1



SING BY HEART is a Springfield-area choral group for those with memory loss, their care givers and singers from the Springfield Choral Society who have been trained as specialized volunteers. Its goal is to minimize the impact of dementia and other forms of memory loss and create a joyful place for social connections.

The Sing by Heart choir will meet on Wednesdays beginning October 1 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in Parish Hall and continue for eight weeks. The final session on Wednesday, November 19 will feature a small performance at 11:00 a.m. for family, friends, and the public. This partnership of the Springfield Choral Society, Dale and Deborah Smith Alzheimer's Center at SIU School of Medicine and Westminster Presbyterian Church is in its second year of creative expression.



THE 2025 BAY WEEKEND

NOVEMBER 15-16

WELCOMES THE REV. NANETTE SAWYER

Associate Pastor at Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago and author of *Hospitality -The Sacred Art*

Saturday, November 15

Welcome Reception 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Members are invited to the home of Drs. Todd and Judy Knox (2004 Maryknoll Place, 62704) for a gathering hosted by the Adult Education Committee.

Sunday, November 16

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Sawyer will preach and lead the following Adult Education Forum.

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

All Church Lunch 12:30 p.m.

The Westminster family will share in a community meal.



Please RSVP at wpcspi.org by Friday, November 14 for the Saturday Welcome Reception and/or the Sunday 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 50 years. We are grateful to the Bay Family whose generosity and legacy have nourished our faith for more than five decades and for the Westminster Endowment Fund which has also substantially contributed to these events. With the newly established Blythe and Peter Kieffer Education Fund, we will continue to have funding to support the Bay Weekend and other educational endeavors.

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

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

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse
ranell@comcast.net

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator
alnpat5@yahoo.com

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant
jalt@wpcspi.org

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator
ksteller@wpcspi.org

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

**Braden Barton, James Capler,
Terry Gietl, Francis Gyebi,
Jerry McCullum**
Part-time Custodians

*Reporter folding and mailing will be on
Wednesday, October 29 at 12:30 p.m.*