

THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

September 2019

WORSHIP & EDUCATION CALENDAR

Saturday

Worship 5:00 p.m. Parish Hall
Featuring the Westminster Jazz Trio

Sunday Schedule:

Nursery 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Worship 8:30 a.m. Parish Hall

& 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary

Sunday School for Pre-K – Grade 5

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Adult Ed Forum 11:15 a.m. – 12 noon

Junior High Youth 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Senior High Youth 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

August 31 & September 1

Jeremiah 2:4-13; Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Unforeseen Opportunity Cost

September 8

COMMOTION SUNDAY

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Jeremiah 18:1-11; Philemon 1-21

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
The Potter's Wheel

September 14 & 15

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Luke 15:1-10

The Reverend Trajan I. McGill
Grumbling at Generosity

September 21 & 22

RECOGNITION OF 50, 55,
60, 70 & 75 YEAR MEMBERS

Jeremiah 8:18 - 9:1; I Timothy 2:1-7

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Refreshing Honesty

September 28 & 29

2020 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN BEGINS

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Luke 16:19-31

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Living Courageously

COMMOTION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

YOU ARE THE POTTER, I AM THE CLAY

Join your Westminster family for Commotion Sunday on September 8! The theme this year is *The Potter's Wheel*, based on Jeremiah 18. We will celebrate one 10:00 a.m. service of worship which will include commissioning of the 2019-2020 Education Leadership Team to assist the Potter in the molding of our lives and the changing of our hearts.

A brunch reception in Parish Hall will follow worship and include a slide presentation looking back on the 2018-2019 program year, pottery, ministry displays and children's activities as we begin the year together.

Commotion Sunday got its name because it describes the enormous energy and excitement aroused by God's Spirit. The term "Commotion Sunday" can be traced back to Dr. Ziegler, pastor of Westminster from 1944-1969.



FIFTY-YEAR PLUS MEMBER RECOGNITION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 DURING 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

On Sunday, September 22, during 10:00 a.m. worship, we will honor members who joined Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1969, 1954, 1959, 1964 and 1949. We are grateful for all the ways these members have enriched the life of our congregation over the years. The congregation is invited to a reception in the West Narthex following worship to express our congratulations and appreciation.

FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS:

Mary Barringer
Clifton Baxter
J. Elliott Bell
Charles Blythe
Carol Cordier
Richard Cordier

Earl Henderson, III
Evelyn Jensen
James Rigney
Marilyn Rigney
Paula Stewart

FIFTY-FIVE YEAR MEMBERS:

Coreen Collier
Jean Sherrick

William Schnirring
William Sherrick

SIXTY-YEAR MEMBERS:

Cress Maddox

Bill Parr

SIXTY-FIVE YEAR MEMBERS:

Charles Adams
June Flood

Barbara Dirksen
Betty Smith

SEVENTY-YEAR MEMBER:

Dr. Charles Kenney, Jr.

FIFTH ANNUAL "SWINGING ON A PRAYER" GOLF SCRAMBLE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT 3:00 P.M.



The Congregational Fellowship Committee will host the Fifth Annual "Swinging on a Prayer" Golf Scramble Sunday, September 22, 3:00 p.m. at Long Bridge Golf Course. It will be a four-person scramble and players of all skill levels are welcome. Non-golfers are welcome for dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Sign up in the West Narthex or online at www.wpcspi.org for an afternoon of fellowship, frolic and fun. *The committee is collecting prizes to present at this event. Those who are able and willing to make a prize donation, please contact Meg Kontio (megannek@hotmail.com) for more information.*

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

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share...so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

1 Timothy 6:18, 19b

LIVE COURAGEOUSLY is the 2020 Stewardship theme, selected by Dr. Will Wright who is chairing this year's committee. This year's theme reminds us that Christian stewardship is simply our courageous attempt, having experienced the generosity and hospitality of the God we know in Jesus, to live a life that reflects that generosity, the life that really is life.

Serving with Will are: Nichole Magalis as Vice Chair, Norma Adams-Johnson, Dr. Jane Arbutnot, Rick Duffy, Keith Hamilton, Tim Kluge, Linda Shaefer, Mike Sunquist, and Pete VanGiesen.

The Stewardship letter will be mailed following the Session's approval of the 2020 budget at their September meeting. The campaign will be introduced in worship the last weekend of September (September 28-29) and the Stewardship Dedication will be the last weekend in October, on Reformation and Harvest Sunday.

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR ENDEAVOR UPDATE

Dr. Todd Knox made a presentation to the community on Tuesday, August 6, prior to the Historic Westside Neighborhood Association 2019 National Night Out. The plan was well received by those present (approximately 20). They appreciated the communication in the letter from us in June.

The Mission Task Force met on June 18 and July 30. Members shared reports on a conversation with Alderman Proctor from Ward 5, a conversation with Bud Farrar and the president of the Enos Park Project, other Presbyterian neighborhood projects, and the Hawthorne Neighborhood Model. Jen DeJong made a presentation on behalf of *Wooden It Be Lovely* and asked for support of an added dimension of providing temporary housing for the women in their program. The 2020 Endowment Budget for mission was set at \$30,000.



Landscape and Hardscape Task Forces met with the Strategic Planning Committee on August 27. The tree removal project is complete and a sprinkling system for the southeast lawn and south side of the church has been installed. Bill Donels' landscape proposal for the south side on Edwards Street will be installed by Green View Landscaping in September. Four Red Pointe Maples will be planted on Edwards by Paul's Tree Farm in October. John Shafer has agreed to provide

architectural services on the East and West terraces. The parking lot design has been approved by the City of Springfield. Mark Vasconcelles and his engineering firm have begun preliminary drawings.

The timeline remains steadfast: We will seek bids and begin to secure a loan in January of 2020 and initiate hardscape work in June of 2020.



MUSIC NOTES by Dale T. Rogers

WESTMINSTER CHOIR resumes its regular rehearsals on Thursday, September 5 at 7:30 p.m. and will have its **annual Choir Retreat at Indian Point Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 7 from 1:00 until 5:00 p.m.** A choir dinner in Petersburg will round out the day. Choir members are advised to check their choir emails for updates on events. While the Indian Point Presbyterian Church Session has approved our retreat, renovations of their Parish Hall and restrooms may alter our plans. In addition to singing for 10:00 a.m. services, the Westminster Choir will sing at the Convent Church of St. Francis of Assisi on October 20 at 3:00 p.m. and present Christmas Vespers on Sunday, December 22. If you have considered joining the choir, now is a great time.



THE WALNUTS, our vocal quartet, will resume rehearsals on Monday, September 9 at 5:30 p.m.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS (Grades 3-5) will begin their Wednesday rehearsals on September 11 from 4:45 until 5:30 p.m. following the Bridges after school fellowship.

THE WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR (Kindergarten - Grade 2) will begin Tuesday, October 1, and meet weekly from 4:45 until 5:30 p.m.

CHURCH MICE (infants through age 4) will meet Saturday mornings beginning September 14, at 11:00 a.m. Follow the pathway of cheese to join in a delightful musical adventure. Open to church members and friends.

AROUND THE TOWN CONCERT, a free concert given by musicians of the Illinois Symphony, will be presented on Saturday, September 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This program will feature music for string quartet and clarinet. One of the pieces on the program is the effervescent Clarinet Quintet of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

PASTOR-LED BIBLE STUDIES CONTINUE IN 2019-2020

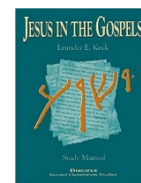
REV. MCGILL'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Rev. McGill's Bible Study will resume **Wednesday, September 11, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** in the Youth Room. Join us as we go back to basics, looking at the starting point of the faith and what has made it so compelling, to its earliest adherents and people today. We will spend time with the earliest Gospel, Mark, in its breathless telling of the story of Jesus, and with C.S. Lewis and others in exploring the eye-opening implications of that story.



DR. KIEFFER'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study will resume on **Thursday, September 12, 5:45 - 7:15 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. This year's curriculum Disciple's "Jesus in the Gospels" takes a closer look at Jesus including his relation to the Jewish religion he inherited, to the circle of disciples around him, and to the early Christians who believed in him after his death and resurrection. The curriculum is written by Dr. Leander E. Keck, Winkley, Professor of Biblical Theology Emeritus and former Dean of Yale University Divinity School. Books are available on Commotion Sunday for \$30.



FAMILY MINISTRY by Rev. Christian K. Choi

YOUTH GROUP BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

4:00 PM: Confirmation / Confirmation Prep
 5:00 PM: Youth Group Worship (Junior & Senior High)
 5:30 PM: Youth Group Dinner (Junior & Senior High)
 6:00 PM: Senior High Bible Study

Date	Confirm. Prep	Confirmation	Sr. High
Sept. 8	Session 1: Creation	Session 1: What is Confirmation?	Does God Cry when We Cry and Laugh when We Laugh?
Sept. 15	Session 2: Rebellion Session 3: Flood	Session 1: Continued	Isn't It Enough to Believe in God and Jesus and Lead a Good Life?
Sept. 29	Session 4: Promise	Session 2: How do we know and trust God?	Do We Take the Bible Literally? Why Does God in the OT Seem to Be Scary and Cruel, While Jesus in the NT is for Peace and Love?

JUNIOR HIGH AND CONFIRMATION INFO MEETING

COMMOTION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 9:30 A.M.

Join Reverend Choi at an informational meeting on Commotion Sunday, September 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary to review the exciting curriculum as our youth learn about the Bible and Presbyterian Church in preparation for membership.

CONFIRMATION PREP (GRADES 6-7) BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8

4:00 – 5:00 P.M. IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Confirmation Prep provides a solid grounding in the Bible, allowing for more expanded areas of study in 8th grade and high school. This year, 6th and 7th graders will study the New Testament through the curriculum *Echo the Story*, which offers creative responses and imaginative engagement with the biblical narratives. *Teachers: Sally Godbey, Jim Kincaid, Anna Koeppel and Sarah Zervas*



CONFIRMATION (GRADE 8)

BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8

4:00 – 5:00 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM



CONFIRMATION FOR A GROWING FAITH

Confirmation will utilize the curriculum “Big God, Big Questions” as the young people explore church membership and their personal faith. Confirmants will visit other worshipping communities, build relationships with adult mentors, serve the community and write their own statements of faith. *Teachers: Rev. Choi with guests*

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8

6:00-7:00 P.M. IN THE YOUTH ROOM

Based on PCUSA resource “Faith Questions”, High School youth will address many different topics from Christian perspective. *Teachers: Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Jen DeJong, Leigh Milward, Mary Ray, Rev. Choi*



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Karen Sherrick

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8

REGISTER ON COMMOTION SUNDAY

Parents are asked to register their children for fall Sunday School on or before Commotion Sunday, September 8. The following classes begin Sunday, September 8:



Pre-Kindergarten (Lower level Preschool Room):

Simple Bible stories based on lectionary, music, art, play and preparation for Young Children and Worship.

Pre-Kindergarten Teachers: *Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz, Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt, Valerie Leonatti, Leigh Milward*

Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel):

Young Children and Worship, a spiritual formation approach which invites children to experience the wonder of God through a storytelling format and multi-sensory materials.

Kindergarten through Grade 2 Teachers: *Cathy Brower, Cara Barnett, Meridith Bryans, Erin Winn*

Grade 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom):

Foundations, a spiritual formation providing children with the foundations of their faith. This three-year curriculum will include a rotation of Bible and worship basics, stories of the Old Testament and stories of the New Testament in chronological order. **Grades 3-5 Teachers:** *Sue Cull, Marc DeJong, Sara Eldridge, Mary Ray*

Youth Assistants (Grade 8-12): *Braden Barton, Grace Batterman, Drew Borland, Jessica Borland, Ben Brower, Emily Brower, Sam Brower, Charlie Eastvold, Kristianna Eastvold, Louisa Eldridge, Carter Formea, Caroline Haynor, Kristina Hemberger, Will Hovey, Madison Kruger, Clayton Kurmann, Ella Kurmann, Samantha Magalis, Mia Marcy, Jack Milliman, Avery Pound, Bryce Pound, Mack Shepherd, Olivia Simonson, Eli Vogler*

BRIDGES MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP

THEME: LOVING GOD, LOVING NEIGHBOR

BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Children in Grades 3-5 are invited to Bridges on Wednesdays beginning September 11, from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. in the Third Floor Tower Classroom. This fellowship bridges friendships among our children and across generations. It also includes mission and service projects.

The 2019-2020 theme is “Loving God, Loving Neighbor.” As our congregation begins the Steadfast Neighbor Endeavor, Bridges children will explore what it means to love our neighbors. This after-school program precedes Westminster Choristers which meets from 4:45 – 5:30 p.m.

Leaders: *Dr. Kieffer, Rev. Choi and Karen Sherrick*

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL NEWS

MACARONI FEST is Wednesday, September 11, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The community is invited to join us for pasta crafts, a yummy noodle dinner, and a performance by the kids' music duo Tator Tots. Tickets are \$5 per person at the door. All are welcome!

WPC is the only privately-operated preschool in the Springfield area that is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S SUMMER COOKOUT SUNDAY, AUGUST 4



Harold Hale hosted the Presbyterian Men's Cookout at the Grigsby Farm. 24 men enjoyed some exceptional fried chicken prepared by Harold and Bob Fox.

JENNA MILWARD'S MISSION PRESENTATION SUNDAY, AUGUST 11



Jenna Milward shared her experience of her medical mission to Ghana, Africa in the Children's Sermon on Sunday, August 11, and then provided a thoughtful and articulate PowerPoint presentation to 50 members who gathered in Parish Hall following worship.

Jenna expressed appreciation to Westminster for nurturing her faith as a child and teaching her the importance of mission as a youth. She also expressed gratitude for the grant provided through the Mission Endowment and the numerous hygiene products donated by members which she shared with the people she served in Ghana.

Jenna also participated in the ordination of Nancy Huston (Deacon Class of 2021) during worship.

THANK YOU, WESTMINSTER!

190 backpacks were donated by our congregation for Contact Ministries Back to School Give-Away on Wednesday, August 14.

We are grateful to Elizabeth Circle members Judy Ridinger, Lynn McMenamin, Pat McKenzie, Sue Baker and Pat McNutt for placing a Bible verse backpack tag on 250 bags. The backpacks are distributed to children in need within our community.

God is our refuge and strength!



MISSION TRIP REUNION SUNDAY, AUGUST 18



Rev. Choi spoke to those gathered at the Mission Trip Reunion, hosted by Elsie and Bob Fox. Along with swimming, boat rides, and delicious brats, the group viewed a 20-minute PowerPoint video presentation created by #16 Bob Fox which each participant received on a flash drive.



WESTMINSTER DAY LABORERS WEEK OF AUGUST 19



THANK YOU to Harold Hale, the Grigsby Farm, and Day Laborers Marc Anderson, Ted Babcock, Bob Bradford, Jim Bryans, Rich Canady, Ellen Carpenter, Ed Caupert, Dick Cordier, Scott Day, Rev. Christian Choi, Sophia Choi, Diana Choi, Bill Deemer, Bob Fox, Ann & Keith Hamilton, Dale Huston, Jay Kennerly, Beth & Jim Kincaid, Rev. Trajan McGill, Lynn McMenamin, Avery Pound, Bryce Pound, Christy Pound, Karl Pound, Bill Schlosser, Mike Sundquist, Gary Warnick, and Dick Washburn who picked corn to benefit Central IL Foodbank and Menard County Housing Authority.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS, SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND SPLASH INTO THE NEW YEAR - AUGUST 25



Following the backpack blessing, Rev. Gerald Boutelle had the privilege of baptizing his granddaughters Juliet Kathryn and Brooke Elizabeth. The day ended with Westminster families splashing into the new year at a swim party hosted by the Kieffers which included boat rides from Bob Fox.



PARISH LIFE NEWS by Rev. Trajan McGill

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

50TH ANNUAL CHURCH WORLD SERVICE CROP WALK WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

1:00 P.M. AT THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Join the Springfield community addressing hunger in our world and community. The walk begins at Third Presbyterian (1030 N. Seventh). Check-in is at 1 p.m. with a start time of 1:30. The 3-mile walk passes several area food pantries. Walkers are welcome to park in the

Third Presbyterian parking lot at Bergen and 7th Streets.

The final total for the Springfield 2018 Walk was \$ 15,720.11. 25% of money raised goes to our local food pantries, the remainder fighting hunger worldwide. Food pantries receiving funds include First Presbyterian, Grace Lutheran, Kumler Outreach Ministries and Pleasant Plains Food Pantry.

Members are invited to support WPC youth walking this year or join this meaningful and symbolic journey. Krista Steller is an event coordinator, with Becky Martin organizing the Westminster walkers. Donations can be made online at:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/springfield/Team/View/83042/Westminster-Presbyterian-Walker>

Or write WPC a check with Crop Walk in the memo line.

HELPING HANDS

The September 13 Helping Hands dinner will be prepared by Jeanne Pittman and Julie McDonough. Thanks to Nancy and Rich Canady, Betsy Ruklick, Bob Bradford, and Mary Peura for serving in August. We still need volunteers for October and November! Contact Jennie Alt or Julie James.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH SEPTEMBER MENU

Spaghetti sauce, pasta, canned or bottled 100% juice, and 100% juice or water canned fruit. **High-Demand Items:** personal hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, diapers & wipes size 3 & up, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap. Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank.

KEMMERER VILLAGE BOX TOP COLLECTION – Box tops can be brought to the West Narthex and placed in the Kemmerer Village bag on the Mission Board. Thank you to Sue Cull who mails the Boxtops, and to members who bring them in. Keep them coming!

KENYA 2020 – Our January mission trip to Kenya is shaping up to be a great trip! We are now up to 11 people on our crew: Dr. Jane Arbuthnot, Jen and Dr. Marc DeJong, Tara Fritsch, Bob Fox, Harold Hale, Mary and Charlie King and Drs. Todd and Judy Knox, and Rev. Trajan McGill. The team is planning to get to know one another and prepare for the journey by joining in a fall Bible and mission study on Sunday mornings this fall.

Many, many thanks to an anonymous member of the Westminster community for donating the funds to make sure everyone who feels led to go on this mission is able to go regardless of financial ability!

EARTH CARE TIP – As we prepare for another school year, let's consider how to pack an **Eco-Friendly Lunch**. By avoiding individually wrapped foods, using reusable containers, buying locally grown, in-season foods, including less meat, abstaining from bottled water, and bringing home recyclables and compostables, we can eat lunches which both nourish our bodies and sustain God's creation!

HONORING STEPHANIE BESS

TEN YEARS OF FAIR TRADE LEADERSHIP



Through monthly chocolate and coffee sales, as well as other events and activities designed to bring wider awareness to food justice, Westminster seeks to help make it possible for small, local growers to thrive with sustainable farming methods and fair labor practices.

After ten years of heading up this ministry, Stephanie Bess will be handing off leadership of this project to Becky Martin and Jeanne VanGieson. Thank you, Stephanie, for all your dedication and hard work to enhance the lives of growers, laborers, and everyone involved in industries where exploitative practices are commonplace. **We will recognize Stephanie on Sunday, September 15 during worship.**

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

HOME COMMUNION – If you are unable to attend worship, whether temporarily or on an ongoing basis, and you would like to receive Communion at home on September 8, please contact Jennie Alt at the church office. Four teams of elders and deacons made visits to nine home-bound members in August. Many thanks to those who participate in bringing the Lord's Supper.



MEAL MINISTRY – Our meal ministry team has shown great care and commitment in delivering numerous meals recently to members recovering from hospital visits. Thanks to Nancy Canady, Ann Collins, Virginia Dolan, Beth Kincaid, Lynn McMenamin, Pat McNutt, Betsy Ruklick, Suzie Spada, Julie Sundquist, Cheryl White, and Amy Xanders for preparing and delivering the meals, and particularly to Suzie Spada for organizing these efforts.

This great team could always use more help. If you are able on occasion to help prepare or deliver meals to church members, please contact Suzie Spada or the church office.

FLU AND SHINGLES SHOTS – Parish Nurse Ellen Carpenter will be coordinating flu shots and shingles vaccines, on **September 15 and November 17**. Please note that the shingles vaccine is administered in two doses, so for that option you will want to be present on both days. Sign-up sheets and insurance forms will be available on Commotion Sunday.

PRAYER MINISTRY

This September, Prayer Ministry at Westminster Presbyterian Church resumes. Throughout the year, every member is remembered in prayer by the pastors. Letters are sent to members two weeks prior to their being lifted up in prayer. We welcome prayer requests.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION

TUESDAYS AT 1:00 P.M.

K2P4 Mission gathers for fellowship and knitting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters meet at noon for a brown bag lunch on Tuesday, September 10. If you have questions on our current projects, contact Mary Jo Jenkins for current needs at 217-544-8657.

THANK YOU KNITTERS - The impact of our knitted prayer squares continues to surprise me. One knitter keeps one in her car while she travels and prays for safety. Another took a square to Ireland and gave it to a bus driver in need of prayers. Recently the daughters of a Westminster member carried her prayer square to the funeral, burial, and luncheon of their mother. Our knitted items do make a difference! Thank you for sharing your talents! – Mary Jo Jenkins

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW LUNCHEON will meet **Friday, September 6** at noon in Parish Hall. Kitchen Chair is Dr. Peg DiFonso and Chair of the Day is Pat Hymans. The program will on Simply Fair by Laura Camp.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet **Monday, September 9 at 5:30 p.m.** in Second Floor Classroom. Eleanor VanDeventer will lead the study on Chapter 1 “God with Us Wherever We Are” in the *2018-2019 PW Horizons Bible Study: God’s Promise – I Am with You* by Amy Poling Sutherlin. For Information, call Eleanor VanDeventer at 217-341-4032. *Additionally, Elizabeth Circle members assist at Contact Ministries every third Monday from 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon.*

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet **Tuesday, September 17 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Library. Deb Coontz will host and Sharon Turner will lead the study on Chapter 1 “Words of Love: I Am Your God” *2019-2020 PW Horizons Bible Study: Love Carved In Stone – A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments* by Eugenia Anne Gamble. For information, call Nancy Scott at 217-891-3902.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE resumes on **Wednesday, October 2 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Pat Wheat. This year’s book will be *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. For information, call Meg Kontio at 217-670-2052.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN

MONTHLY BREAKFAST RESUMES THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

The men’s group resumes its breakfast gatherings on **Thursday, September 12 at 7:00 a.m.** Rev. Christian Ko Choi will offer a program and share about his ecumenical work on behalf of our denomination.



Also, we wish to offer our gratitude to Keith Hamilton, who has served as coordinator for this group since September 2015. Under his leadership, the men of Westminster have spent many hours of enjoyable and informative fellowship together. Thank you to Pete VanGieson who has agreed to coordinate the group in the upcoming year!

DMA (DON’T MENTION AGE)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

6:30 P.M. POTLUCK & 7:15 P.M. PROGRAM

We welcome Kristen Shaffer, Director of Learning & Public Programs at the Springfield Kidzeum, will present the program “A Virtual Trip to the Springfield Kidzeum.” If you are unable to attend the potluck and fellowship, come for the program.



WESTMINSTER NEWS

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sue & Jess Werner celebrate 60 years on September 6.

Pat & Al Hymans celebrate 50 years on September 20.

Mary & Bill Schnirring celebrate 69 years September 30.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO

Rev. Trajan and Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill on the death of Trajan’s grandfather, and to Scott and Daehler on the death of their great-grandfather, Donald Hickey, on August 7.

Kelly Robertson on the death of her husband, to Dustin Robertson on the death of his father, and to Lucy and Ben Bassett on the death of their stepfather, Chuk Robertson, on August 18.

Bill Ward on the death of his cousin, Kristen Emly, on August 18.

NEW ADDRESSES

Rev. John & Mrs. Carol Stahlman, 3201 Conifer Dr., Apt. 33, Springfield, 62711



THANK YOU

Thank you to all our members who delivered Meals on Wheels July 29 - August 9. Pictured is Sam Brower, who was part of the Westminster team of ministry partners joining in community service.

THANK YOU TO ROY AHLERS

Roy Ahlers completed his tenure at Westminster in August of 2019. Roy served the Westminster faith community as a part-time custodian for 20 years beginning September 1, 1999.

We are grateful for Roy’s reliable and conscientious work, and we wish him well in his retirement.



ILLINOIS PRESBYTERIAN HOME

The Westminster pastors will be leading worship each Thursday in September at 4:00 p.m. at the Illinois Presbyterian Home.



SECOND ANNUAL JIGSAW PUZZLE CONTEST and Silent Auction on Sunday, September 8, 2:00-4:30 p.m. Tables of four compete against the clock to complete the same puzzle. For tickets or donations, please contact Anne Haaker at 217-652-4817.

JULY FINANCIAL REPORT by Lisa Runkle

It is exciting to see so many groups and classes starting up again this fall. We are grateful to the congregation for your support. The financial position ending July 31 shows income exceeding expenses by \$2,631. Expenses are under budget by \$8,666, but income received in recent months is less than what was received last year at this time.

2019 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 598,386	\$ 604,421	\$ -6,035
Expenses	\$-595,755	\$-604,421	\$ -8,666
Net Total	\$ 2,631	\$ 0	



WESTMINSTER'S WELCOME BROCHURE

The Welcome Brochure includes inserts offering introductory information about the history and architecture of WPC and outlining the church's ministries and activities in Children and Youth, Adult Education, Worship and Music, Mission and Community Service and Congregational Life. It features photos of the *Life of Christ* stained glass window located above the choir loft and contains a welcome letter from Dr. Kieffer. Look for the updated brochures on Commotion Sunday in the pew pockets or at the Welcome Table.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM INTRODUCES THE ROSENWALD STORY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 22, 29, OCTOBER 6, 13, 20

We begin the 2019-2020 Adult Education Forum on Sunday, September 15 at 11:15 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom with a six-week course on "The Rosenwald Story." Join us as we view and discuss the documentary of philanthropist Julius Rosenwald's remarkable life and partnership with African American communities. **Community member Carolyn Blackwell will join us on September 29** to share her experience as a student of one of the Rosenwald Schools in the Jim Crow South. **Rabbi Marks will join us for the final session on October 20.** Elder Jim Kincaid will lead the discussions.



FAMILY MINISTRY QUARTERLY CREDO SEMINARS

SATURDAY MORNINGS 9:00 – 11:00 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 21, NOVEMBER 23, FEBRUARY 15, APRIL 25

CREDO Seminars meet quarterly on Saturday mornings to provide stronger, spiritual guidance to our parents as they seek to share their faith and values within the home. The word CREDO means "a statement of the beliefs which guide one's actions." Childcare will be provided. This year's topics include developing family mission statements & moral/faith development, managing finances/stewardship, pursuing healthy marriage/single parenting, and discussing sexuality. Led by Karen Sherrick, Rev. Choi and Rev. Dr. Kieffer.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 6 AND 13 AT 11:15 A.M. IN PASTOR'S STUDY



Friends and visitors are invited to a New Members Class on Sundays, October 6 and 13, 11:15 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. The class will be led by the pastors. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, October 20 following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

**THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE INVITED TO
THE SIXTH ANNUAL WESTMINSTER WOMEN'S SALAD SUPPER
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IN PARISH HALL
PROGRAM**

**TEACHING ENGLISH AS A GLOBAL VOLUNTEER IN HANOI, VIET NAM
BY CAROLE KENNERLY**

Last fall Carole Kennerly and her husband, Jay traveled to Hanoi, Viet Nam as Global Volunteers, to teach English. On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, she will present in words and pictures her experiences in mysterious and intriguing Viet Nam as well as what she learned from her students at the Amamori Spa and Massage Therapy School for the Blind. It was a deeply rewarding spiritual journey that she will share with the women of Westminster at the Salad Supper. All women of the church are invited to come and learn about the gentle people and beautiful country of Viet Nam.

**Sign up on Commotion Sunday or
RSVP to Jennie Alt 217-522-4415 or jalt@wpcspi.org.**

Westminster Staff

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Pastor and Head of Staff
bkieffer@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Trajan I. McGill
Associate Pastor for Parish Life
tmcgill@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
cchoi@wpcspi.org

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

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

Deb Watts Elliott
*Saturday Worship Pianist and
Music Coordinator*
deb.watts@live.com

Karen Sherrick
Director for Children's Ministry
ksherrick@wpcspi.org

**Victoria Hollinshead,
Kimberly Hollinshead
Jaymie Hale Ngoupa**
Nursery Workers

Emily Rowley, Amy Bonansinga
Cooperative Preschool Teachers
westminstercoop@gmail.com

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse
ranell@comcast.net

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant
jalt@wpcspi.org

Haofang Chuang
Administrative Assistant
hchuang@wpcspi.org

Krista Steller
Webmaster

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

**Roy Ahlers, Terry Gietl
Bill Hibbert, Eddie Hubbard**
Part-time Custodians

*October Reporter Deadline
is Sunday, September 29*

*Reporter folding is
Wednesday, October 2.*