THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

September
2026
Come Join Us!
Sundays At 10:00 a.m.
In-person or Livestream

www.wpcspi.org

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

September 6
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Rev. Sarah A. Bishop
Rule of Faith
Ephesians 4:1-16

September 13
SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall
Love Your Neighbor: Meant for Community
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

September 20
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall
Overcoming Scarcity: Trusting God's Abundance
Exodus 16:13-21; Acts 4:32-.37

September 27
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall
Seeing Who is Missing
Numbers 27:1-11; Acts 6:1-17

ALL CHURCH PICNIC
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Join us for our All Church Picnic after worship on September 13. Wear your casual clothes to worship, so you are ready to play and enjoy a time of fellowship. A potluck lunch will be set up in Parish Hall. Seating will be available inside Parish Hall and outisde on the West Terrace. The Westminster Membership Committee will be providing the main dish, chicken strips from County Market. The congregation is encouraged to bring a dish to share. Families with the last name beginning with A-M bring a side or salad to share. Families with the last name beginning with N-Z bring a dessert. Please drop your food off in the Kitchen before worship. The kitchen crew will make sure everything gets set out to enjoy.

An ice cream cart from Park and Chill will be scooping free ice cream. Weather permitting, child-friendly activities, including an inflatable obstacle course will be set up outside. Bring a lawn chair if you want to sit outside. In case of rain, alternate activities, for all ages, will be provided indoors.

A slideshow with photos highlighting our various ministries will be playing in Parish Hall. Leaders will be wearing buttons encouraging you to ask them about their ministry. This will be an opportunity for long-term members and newcomers alike to meet new people and learn about a ministry or ministries you don't know much about. Be sure to join the fun!

Do you need a ride to the picnic? Please contact Sue Sawers at carecoordinator@wpcspi.org or 217-299-4022 if you need someone to help you get to church and the picnic on September 13.

FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
11 A.M. – 12 NOON IN THE CHURCH OFFICE
BRING YOUR INSURANCE CARD

NEW CHURCH APP COMING SOON!

Our cherished Church Life app for members phones is no longer being supported thus many members are no longer able to access the membership directory on the app. But because it is such a great accessible feature for Westminster, we have ensured the new church data management software included an app for members' phones for free. This new app is titled, My Church Home.

Look for an email in the coming weeks with more information about how to download the app. At the All Church Picnic there will be a table to help those who need assistance in downloading the app as well as answer any questions on what features are available. If you would like someone from the church to help you get the app downloaded, you will need to bring your Apple Store or Google Play Store ID and current password with you to log in and download the church app.

My Church Home -Westminster app will have the church calendar, an online giving page, reminders about upcoming events, and even registration forms. Other features such as the membership directory will require verification and setting up a login to keep information secure. Our goal is to get the basic functions up and running in September and over time we will begin to use more of the additional features that are above and beyond what we were able to do in Church Life.

From The Pastor — The Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

Love Your Neighbor Worship Series

Most people want deeper relationships, stronger communities, and a greater sense of belonging. Yet fear, assumptions, busyness, and division often get in the way.

On September 13, we will kick off a five-week worship series that explores practical ways, based on scripture and modern psychology, that we can build meaningful connections with others and nurture love for our neighbors. We'll start with recognizing the need and benefit of being in community. Then we will look at how to move beyond feelings of scarcity, notice those who are overlooked, approach differences with curiosity, and remain open to growth and change.

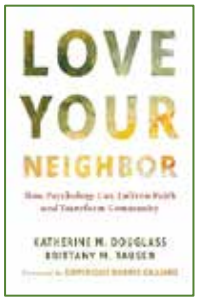
If you're wondering how we can better care for one another in a divided world, this series is for you. If you have fallen out of the habit of attending worship regularly, this is the perfect opportunity to come back and join us as we consider how we can strengthen our own church community. If you have friends and neighbors who are longing for community and connection, encourage them to check us out.

During the series, you will have the opportunity to share your responses to reflection questions. Those responses will be built into a visual art piece that will be displayed in the West Narthex.

Small Groups and All Church Book Read

We have already begun distributing copies of *Love Your Neighbor: How Psychology Can Enliven Faith and Transform Community.* It's not too late to get your copy! Kindle and Audio versions of the book are also available online for download. On September 20, Dr. Marshall will lead our Adult Education Forum, provide an intro to the book, and kick off our explorations on how we can love our neighbors better. We'll also answer questions you may have about taking part in small groups. From September 27 through October 18 we will host small group gatherings so that you can get to know people in the congregation on a deeper level as you share your reflections on topics from the book. While we encourage folks to read the book, your own life experiences will allow you to participate in the conversation even if you have never opened the book. Many of the small groups will gather before or after worship on Sundays, so the Adult Forum will pause during the small group series and resume later this fall. There will also be midweek options for those who prefer them. You are encouraged to sign-up for a small group even if you aren't able to attend every session.

If you want to read the book, but are short on time, small group discussions will be structured as follows:



1: Week of Sept 27	**Ch. 2 - Hurrying Less**
2: Week of Oct 4	**Ch. 6 - Recognizing Everyone's Full Humanity**
3: Week of Oct 11	**Ch. 9 - Being Open to Thinking Again**
4: Week of Oct 18	**Ch. 11 - Strengthening Your Empathy Muscles**

Come to the Table – World Communion Sunday, October 4

Once children are dismissed to their Sunday School classes, while children are always welcome to stay with their families during the entire worship service, we realized that many of our children have not experienced the sacrament of communion. Current research indicates that children learn how to worship by being included in worship and that we come to understand the fullness of the meaning of the Lord's Supper by partaking at the table. So, this World Communion Sunday, October 6, we are specifically inviting our third through fifth graders to stay during the entire worship service and to help us set the table for the sacrament of communion. This will allow them, along with the whole congregation, to *taste and see that the Lord is good*. We are also putting together worship bags with materials meant to help educate and support people of all ages who are new to worship in the Presbyterian tradition or would like to learn more about what happens in worship. Worship bags will be available on Sunday, October 4, and can be picked up from the table at the Tower Sanctuary door. Ask an usher if you need assistance to locate these.

On August 30, a *Come to the Table* educational workshop occurred after worship for families to learn more about the meaning of communion. After the completion of the workshop, children will be invited to stay for communion on World Communion Sunday. If your family was not able to attend or you are curious, Rev. Sarah has created a brochure regarding the meaning of communion that is available in the information rack in the West Narthex.

Westminster hopes to offer occasions for our children to learn and experience more of the fullness of worship. We encourage our entire congregation to see the wiggles and sounds of children in worship not as a distraction from true worship, but as evidence of life and growth. In the gospels, Jesus says, "the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." May that be the hope and practice of Westminster as well. Amen

Music Notes by Dale T. Rogers

The regular season of the **Westminster Choir** resumes on Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Music Room. If you have considered joining the Westminster Choir, this is the ideal time. Our choir is a warm fellowship group of dedicated singers. They take their role of providing music of worshipful praise seriously while having fun, supporting each other, and enjoying each other's company.

The Annual Choir Retreat will be on Saturday, September 12 from 1:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the picturesque Indian Point Presbyterian Church, north of Athens. At the retreat we will read through the music for the fall and even into the Advent and Christmas seasons. Throughout the afternoon we will have breaks for snacks and times for walks down the country lanes where rolling meadows meet the high prairie. Following a closing service of Evensong, the choir will meet at the home of Jim and Meg Kontio for a 5:30 p.m. potluck dinner with at Tropical theme.

St. Andrew's Sisters will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, September 15, at 7:00 p.m. at Julie Blythe's home. This women's vocal trio will receive a new packet of music for the coming season, including selections for worship services, outreach programs, Advent, and Christmas.

Church Mice is our introduction to music for infants through age four that meets each Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m. This early childhood development program is based on the Music Together concept of music and activities for young children and their parents, grandparents, or care-givers. With shakers, rhythm sticks, beanbags, and percussion instruments, the 45-minute-long session is fun for everyone. Just follow the pathway of cheese.

Children's Choir Our Children's Choir for kids in Kindergarten through 5th grade will start their fall season on Wednesday, September 16. Our music selections will focus on the fun holidays of fall, while also preparing to perform at our Advent and Christmas celebrations. By tying the music to stories of faith, the children learn all the wonderful ways they can use their talents to bring them closer to God and to each other.

John W. W. Sherer, Organist in Recital on Sunday, October 4 at 4:00 p.m. John was the organist at the Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago for 28 years before moving to Rochester, New York, where he is the organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. John has been hailed by critics as a "terrific musician, a pronounced virtuoso who plays with assurance, authority, and superb energy." On this return concert, John will play a program of English organ music he is calling "The British are Coming."

Opportunities to Serve

Mission and Community Service - Mission Grant applications are located on our website. Applications are reviewed by the committee on the first Tuesday of the month. All summer applications will be reviewed in September.

Hunger Ministries at Westminster

Helping Hands Lunches & Dinners Prepared Members of Westminster's Hunger Action Team met Friday, August 14 to prepare bagged lunches that were delivered to Helping Hands Shelter. Dedicated Hunger Fighters including Kris Gates, Nancy Huston, Pat Hymans, Becky Martin, Sue Sawers and Jeanne Van Gieson, prepared and delivered the lunches.

On Wednesday, August 26, Marc Anderson, Keith Hamilton, Tom Owen, Bill Schlosser, and Pete VanGieson of the Westminster Men's Breakfast group gathered to prepare the Big Ten casserole full of ground beef, veggies, and noodles to serve 70 along with rolls, fruit, and cookies. Marc Anderson faithfully provides milk every month. Call Pat Hymans to get information about preparing a meal.

The next Fair Trade Sale is on Sunday, September 20

Give -a- Meal -a- Month Suggestions:

Beef Stew, Applesauce, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Canned Fruit in juice or water High-Demand Items: personal hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, diapers & wipes size 3 & up, granola / nutri-grain / breakfast bars, individual cereal packs, soap.

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

Compass For Kids Welcomes Ministry Partners

Compass for Kids is looking for ministry partners on Tuesdays 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Westminster hosts this weekly tutoring after-school program, Club Compass, for the Graham Elementary students. This community-based program helps develop social-emotional/leadership skills while also giving kids the opportunity to participate in interactive life-skills and enrichment activities. If you would like to be a part of this meaningful outreach, please contact Shelly Kinner by phone at 217-414-7940 or by email shelly@compassforkids.org.

September Earth Care Tip - Keep Water Clean and Close

A watershed is an area of land where all the water drains into a single, shared body of water. We not only live in a watershed, we drink from it, swim in it, and all our actions affect the health of our watershed. Half of assessed rivers and streams are polluted. Sewers spill an estimated 850 billion gallons of untreated sewage and runoff into U.S. waters every year. Lawns use 9 billion gallons of water each day and are America's largest irrigated crop – more than corn, wheat, and fruit orchards combined – and that drives up water prices and causes water shortages. Most water pollution comes from us: lawn chemicals, runoff, overflowing drains. But we can help! Too much water? 1) Redirect a downspout or set out a rain barrel. (CWLP offers rebates on rain barrels.) 2) Reduce a thirsty lawn and replace with native plants. 3) Stop using synthetic fertilizers and pesticides that rain carries straight to our watershed.

Congregational Care at Westminster

Home Communion – If you are unable to attend worship and would like to receive Communion at home on Sunday September 13, please contact Sue Sawers or the church office. If you like to visit with people in person that aren't able to get out, Sue Sawers would love to help you get involved! Email her at carecoordinator@wpcspi.org.

World Communion Offering

The World Communion Offering, received during A Season of Preparation leading up to World Communion Sunday, October 4 is a new way for Presbyterians to "love kindness" expressed in action, often involving mercy, faithfulness and steadfast commitment. Racial justice, gender justice, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith engagement are the important causes supported by this Offering.

What's Happening at Westminster

Westminster Cooperative Preschool

One of the summer storms caused us to remove the tree near the preschool playground entrance. We're happy to share that a new tree has been purchased and planted in its place!

The preschool hosted current, past, and future students on Wednesdays in July to enjoy water play on the playground to keep children engaged and active throughout summer break. See photos of the children enjoying time together!

Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School will come to an end on Sunday, September 6. We are grateful to those who serve as Ministry Partners in the nursery and in Sunday School.

Sacrament of Baptism

On Sunday, August 2, Erica and Andrew James, along with big sister Cora, presented their daughter, Audrey, for the Sacrament of Baptism. This was Dr. Marshall's first infant baptism at WPC. We rejoice with the James family and give thanks for this special celebration of faith and new life in Christ. Roscoe Ekstedt and Simon Marshall presented the Rhyme Bible on behalf of the Westminster children.

Mission Trip Reunion & Youth Kick Off Sunday, August 9 at the home of Susan & Scott Day

Splash Into the New Year - Friday, August 21 at the home of Judy & Todd Knox

New Member Received on Sunday, August 23

Dr. F. Cal Robinson PsyD. joins Westminster by Letter of Transfer.

Cal is a clinical and medical psychologist who assists individuals with chronic medical conditions such as chronic pain, neurological disorders and traumatic conditions. He also serves in leadership roles in national pain organizations. Cal is a classically trained musician who attended Eastman School of Music in his youth and graduated from the College Conservatory of Music. He has served as Minister of Music in other Presbyterian churches over the years. Cal and his spouse, Daniel Jones, own and manage the Exquisite Victorian home in Springfield.

Sponsors: Pat and Steve Jacobs

Westminster Welcomes Janitorial Staff Member - Lamonte Gross

We are happy to welcome Lamonte Gross to our custodial staff!

Lamonte graduated in June 2026 from Midwest Technical Institute and brings experience in general maintenance and janitorial duties. He enjoys taking on a challenge and is looking forward to putting his skills to work at Westminster.

Lamonte describes himself as family-oriented and easygoing, with a huge love for sports. He is engaged and has a teenager at home, whom he is very proud of. Originally from Minnesota, Lamonte is fairly new to Illinois.

When he's not working, Lamonte enjoys life, loves trying all types of food, and is always up for a shopping trip—especially if there's a hat involved!

Please join us in welcoming Lamonte to Westminster. He looks forward to getting to know our members and becoming part of the Westminster community!

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

Jr. High Confirmation begins Sunday, September 20

Confirmation is the process through which youth affirm the vows made at their Baptism and become active members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Three-year Confirmation Class provides a comprehensive review of our faith based on the Scripture.

Grades Six and Seven meet Sunday mornings 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. in the Conference Room during worship (except) Communion Sundays. They will study the New Testament during these preparatory years and utilize "Fathom: A Deep Dive into the Story of God" curriculum. Teachers: Cara Barnett, Meridith Bryans, Marc DeJong, Joe Fierstos, Mary Ray

Grade Eight meets Sunday mornings from 11:15 – 12 noon in the Conference Room following worship. The curriculum, written by Dr. Peter Kieffer, will explore Church History, Presbyterian Polity and Beliefs. Teachers: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop, Dr. Anne Marshall, Mary Ray

Confirmation Parent Meeting
Homecoming Sunday, September 13

Parents and youth are invited to a brief organizational meeting on Homecoming Sunday, September 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom with Rev. Sarah Bishop. The purpose of the meeting is to meet one another, to meet the Confirmation Teaching Teams, and to review the 2026-2027 schedule and expectations.

Junior High Youth Group
begins Wednesday, September 23 5:30-7:00 p.m. Youth Room

Junior High (6-8 grades) youth will gather once a month for dinner, fellowship, games, and Bible study. Parents are asked to prepare a meal on a rotating basis. Ministry Partners: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop, Tara Fritsch

Senior High Youth Group
begins Sunday, September 13 5:00-6:30 p.m. Parish Hall

Senior High youth will meet two Sunday evenings each month, beginning September 13. High School youth will gather in Parish Hall for fellowship/games and dinner followed by Bible Study. Parents are asked to prepare the meal on a rotating basis. Mary Ray will reach out to schedule the meals. Mentors: Rev. Sarah Bishop, Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Kyle Duffy, Mary Ray

Youth Worship Leadership: The participation of youth enriches our worship service and heightens their sense of belonging. Junior High serve as acolytes each Sunday. Senior High serve as worship leader most Sundays and Bible/Cross carriers on Communion Sundays. Mary Ray will reach out to confirm scheduled youth participation.

Sunday Youth Schedule

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

Children's Ministry by Meleah Berkowitz

Fall Sunday School Our teachers and ministry partners are really looking forward to a year of fellowship and learning with our Sunday School students! PreK-2 will meet in the Chapel each week, with 3rd-5th will meet in the Tower Room. We will be following our *Feasting on the World* Curriculum in both classes, as well as learning more about the structure and contents of our Reformed worship services.

Watch the e-news for the next date of the Children of Abraham Gatherings!

Bridges will resume on Wednesday, **September 16 at 5pm** in the Tower Room. Please note the NEW time! We will have our kickoff on the playground, making tie-dye shirts and items for each other, and enjoying popsicles and fellowship. Families are welcome to join our kickoff!

Blessing of the Backpacks was held on Sunday, August 23rd.

A group of intrepid adventurers have been meeting with Dungeon Master Aaron Berkowitz. On the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays of September 2 & 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ziegler Library** they'll explore Alexandria, Egypt and prepare for a cruise on a pleasure ship (where nothing bad will happen, I'm sure). They recently completed a quest for the Queen of Sheba and rescued one of the Three Magi in the 1st century AD ancient Near East. If you are interested in joining in, contact Aaron Berkowitz at berkowitz@wpcspi.org.

Pokémon Club

The Pokémon Club meets with Aaron Berkowitz on **Sunday, September 20**, from **12:30-2:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. All children and the young at heart are welcome. No experience necessary and all supplies will be on hand.

Westminster Cooperative Preschool

We are looking forward to a fantastic year at WCP! With 34 families enrolled for the upcoming school year, we can't wait to welcome them all to a year of fun and learning. The school bus (graciously built by Coleman Moore) is up and ready for some preschool passengers! Our first fundraiser for the year will be Macaroni Fest- join us on October 5 for a delicious dinner, crafts and activities, and live music!

Sunday Children's Schedule

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

Fellowship Opportunities

Knit 2 Purl 4 Mission and Fellowship gathers on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters of any skill level are welcome. It's that time of year to knit cold weather items (warm hats, mittens, and scarves) for our winter donations. Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657.

All Women's Salad Supper
Wednesday, September 23 at 6:00 p.m.

Please join the women of Westminster and friends of the congregation for a salad supper in Parish Hall. Bring a salad to share with those attending. We look forward to fun, fellowship, and a chance to meet someone new. RSVP's on our website or by calling the church are welcomed, but they are not required if should find yourself available on this day.

Ruth and Naomi will resume on Wednesday, September 9 7:00 p.m. at the home of Judy Knox (2004 Maryknoll Pl, 62704). Judy will also lead the discussion of Intro and Chapter 1 in An Alter in the World: A Geography of Faith by Barbara Brown Taylor. RSVP directly to Judy Knox at 217-691-1057.

Elizabeth Circle resumes on Monday, September 14 at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom and will study Lesson 1, "Unity in Christ, Wisdom from God" from the PW Horizons Bible Study United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other by Rhonda Mawhood Lee. Circle Contact: Lynn McMenamin

Lydia Circle resumes on Tuesday, September 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the Library and will study Lesson 1, "Unity in Christ, Wisdom from God" from the PW Horizons Bible Study United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other by Rhonda Mawhood Lee. Circle Contact: Nancy Canady

Men's Breakfast resumes for the fall on the second Thursday, September 10. This month will be offsite. Details to come in an email closer to the date.

DMA - September 18 - DMA (Don't Mention Age) meets on the third Friday of each month with a potluck at **5:30** and program at **6:15 p.m.** Bring a side to share with others. Carole & Jay Kennerly will speak to us on "Teaching the Enchanting Children of the Cook Islands"on Friday, September 18. An RSVP is suggested but not required either on the WPC website under fellowship or by calling the church office. If you should find yourself with time to attend and did not call or email, please come.

Apostles' Read Library Book Group
Tuesday, September 29

The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets on the fourth Tuesday from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss *Jesus and the Powers* by N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

Illinois Presbyterian Home, Thursdays at 4:00 p.m.

The Westminster Pastors and the Interim Care Coordinator will lead worship each Thursday in September at 4:00 p.m. at the Illinois Presbyterian Home.

Julius Rosenwald Documentary Screening
Friday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

Celebrate the upcoming Julius Rosenwald Festival & Concert with the Springfield Choral Society for a free movie night here at WPC in Parish Hall featuring popcorn, snacks, and drinks. Feel free to bring a friends & family. Many thanks to Meg & Jim Kontio and Springfield Choral Society for sponsoring this amazing night. RSVP to churchoffice@wpcspi.org.

Westminster News

Milestone Birthdays & Anniversaries

Lon Scott celebrates 92 years on September 1.
Diana & Dale Hedrick celebrate 63 years on September 7.
Judy & Harvey Stephens celebrate 67 years on September 12.
Richard Leary celebrates 90 years on September 19.
Sharon & Larry Reynolds celebrate 65 years on September 24.
Ann Lienemann celebrates 92 years on September 26.

In Memoriam

Judith B. Dees died on Thursday, July 23 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to her husband, Dan, their children, Susan (Tim) Hargrove and Paul (Kay) Dees, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and their families.

Gerald "Jerry" W. Smith died on Thursday, August 20 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to his wife, Kay, and to their family. A service honoring his life will be held at Westminster on Friday, September 11 at 1:00 p.m.

Prayers and Sympathy to

Pat and Phil Wheat on the death of her cousin, Gary Morgan, in Decatur, IL.

Thank You to The following ministry partners who delivered Specialty Meals on Wheels: *Sandy Bellatti, the Berkowitz Family, Cathy Cragoe, Susan & Scott Day, Georgina Hudspeth, Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross, Judy Knox, Becky Martin, Lindsay & Hazel McClendon, Mary Caroline Mitchell, Debbie Parker, Christy Pound, Linda Purves, Mary Ray, , Karen Sherrick, D.L. Stanfield, Krista & Brad Steller, Genevieve Wages, Gayle Wilson.*

Members and friends who donated backpacks to the Contact Ministries' back to school event for children in need. We received 267 backpacks. What an amazing response from the WPC congregation!

Congratulations to

Ann Collins and Phil Casella for their first-place finish in Duplicate Bridge at the Illinois Senior Olympics on Thursday, August 13. Competitors traveled from all over Illinois to participate. This is an outstanding achievement!

New Address

Valerie & Mark Nester, P.O. Box 1911, Cedar City, UT 84721

Judy & Fred Prillaman, IL Presbyterian Home, 2101 W. Lawrence, Unit 609, Springfield, IL 62704

Judy & Tom Lewis, Evertrue Concordia, 4101 W. Iles Ave, Apt. 2305, Springfield, IL 62711

Community Event Join the Sound Celebration Chorus on Saturday, September 12, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., at the Hoogland Center for the Arts. Join the chorus for an afternoon of adventure for their program "Radio Hits on Route 66." Tickets can be purchased at www.hcfta.org/tickets

July Financial Report by Lisa Runkle

We are thankful for your continued, faithful support. We received over $92,000 in income for the month of July. The financial report for the year on July 31 shows income exceeding expenses by $6,632. Both income and expenses are under budget year-to-date.

2026 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	$ 670,288	$ 692,300	$ -22,012
Expenses	$ -663,656	$ -692,300	$ 28,644
Net Total	$ 6,632	$ 0	

Milestone Membership Recognition
Sunday, September 27

On Sunday, September 27 we will honor members who joined Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1976, 1971, 1966, 1961, 1956, 1955, 1954, 1953 during worship.

Fifty-year Members:	Carolyn Beatty	Keith Beatty
	Sandy Bellatti	Kathy Kenyon
	Mary Caroline Mitchell	Hal Perkins
	Judith Rader	Sue Scaife
Fifty-Five-year Members:	David Barringer	Doug Barringer
	Elsie Fox	Bob Fox
	Ralls Melotte	
Sixty-Year Members:	Jerry Davis	Marilyn Davis
	Linda Folse	Tom Massey
	Morley Peura	Marlene Rinehart
	Linda Schlosser	Bill Schlosser
Sixty-Five Year Member:	Carol Bloemer	
Seventy-Year Member:	Gaynell Peters	
Seventy-One- Year Member:	Dee Tozer	
Seventy-Two Year Member:	Charles Adams	
Seventy-Three Year Member:	Camille Degner	Dr. Tom Lewis
	Anne Smith	

We are deeply grateful for the many 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 as we celebrate them and express our congratulations and appreciation.

Legacy Of Faith Planned Giving Reception
Wednesday, September 30, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, September 30 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., the Support and Endowment Committee, chaired by Jeff Wilday, will host a Legacy of Faith Planned Giving Reception at the home of Christy and Karl Pound (100 Pinehurst Dr., Springfield).

The purpose of the gathering is to thank those who have remembered Westminster in their will and to invite others to consider this opportunity. All are welcome. Please RSVP with Jennie Alt by Monday, September 21 at noon.

A Gift for Westminster's Future

We give thanks for an extraordinary legacy gift made to Westminster Presbyterian Church by the Dale and Deborah Smith Foundation in memory of the life and legacy of Henry Dale Smith, Jr. The Foundation has chosen to make this gift as an expression of Dale's love for Westminster and a desire to continue to strengthen the church's ministry.

The $3 million gift given over the next 18 months will establish the Henry Dale Smith, Jr. Endowment for Ministry and Innovation. Investment earnings from this gift will be designated for ministry and innovation in the Support and Endowment Fund, providing Westminster with new opportunities to strengthen our ministry and invest in our future.

We give thanks for this remarkable generosity and for the many people whose gifts, prayers, time, and leadership continue to sustain and strengthen Westminster's ministry.

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
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Sue Sawers, CRE
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Mary A. Ray
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Meleah Berkowitz
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Kara Milward, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

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Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant
jalt@wpcspi.org

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

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

The next Reporter folding is on Wednesday, September 30th Second Floor Classroom.

Come fellowship with a great group of ladies & they will show you all you need to know.