THE REPORTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

533 South Walnut Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

217-522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

Summer Edition
June/July 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

June 7
BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY
Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

June 14
SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
VBS PRESENTATION
Rev. Sarah A. Bishop

June 21
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

June 28
STEADFAST NEIGHBOR PRESENTATION
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

July 5
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

July 12
SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

July 19
YOUTH MISSION TRIP PRESENTATION
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Youth Mission Trip Participants

July 26
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Rev. Sarah A. Bishop

Extra Extra Read All About it
Reporter News

THE REPORTER SUMMER EDITION WILL COVER JUNE AND JULY HAPPENINGS AT WPC, AND WE WILL RESUME OUR REGULAR MONTHLY EDITION IN AUGUST.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

MONDAY JUNE 8 – JUNE 12, 9:15 – 12 NOON

Come and join us in the garden as we celebrate who we are, learn how to use our voice, and share our gifts with our community! Gardeners in training will spend the week exploring our garden at music, games, crafts, snacks and Bible stories. Registration is open to four-year-olds through 11-year-olds.

Director and Assembly Leaders: Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz **Registrar:** Pat Roller and Cheryl White **Bible Story and Drama Team**: Rev. Bishop, Charlotte and William Affrunti, Abigail Eldridge, Sophia Llosa, August Ekstedt **Art/Crafts**: JoAnn Berkowitz, Sam Berkowitz **Games:** Isaac and Ethan Alt, Sam Kuforiji, Charlie Noll **Music:** Meleah Berkowitz, Dale Rogers **Snack**: Pat Hymans **Decorations:** Al Hymans **Garden Guides**: Kathy Bacon, Julian Carruthers, Dee Dee Duffy, Georgina Hudspeth, Camille Massey, Julie Sundquist, Logan Tipsword

We still need Garden Guides, so if you can join us, please sign-up by following the link on the Westminster's website. There is still time to register children by visiting our website as well.

Mission: *The children will collect school supplies for Camp Compass:*
Crayons, Markers, Scissors, Pencils, Sanitizer, Colored Pencils
Book Bags, Glue Sticks, Kleenex, Sticky notes, Sharpeners, Healthy Snacks
Clorox Wipes, Index Cards, Erasers, Pens, Spiral Notebooks

The children will make a presentation **Sunday, June 14**, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service followed by a reception in Parish Hall.

2026 YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO CHARLESTON, SC JULY 11-18

On Sunday, July 5, twelve youth and ten adult mentors will be commissioned for their Charleston, SC Mission Trip. Working with Charleston Youth Mission, the team will learn more about the unique challenges of historic Charleston, prepare and serve meals to homeless and hungry communities, tend community gardens, organize supplies, and provide manual labor, as requested! The team will report and lead worship **Sunday, July 19**. Participants are:

YOUTH:
William Affrunti
Taryn Barnett
Kate Bryans
Sam Batterman
Juliet Boutelle
Juliana Eastvold
Liam Kiszely
Maria Lafrenz
James Maeda
Macklin Metzger
Lily Swanson

ADULTS:
Rev. Sarah Bishop
Mary Ray
Tad Allen
Lindsay Boutelle
Cathy Brower
Angie Lafrenz
Dave Leonatti
Val Leonatti

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

It is hard to believe we are already coming to the end of my first program year with you as Pastor and Head of Staff. This year has been filled with new relationships, shared ministry, and opportunities to learn more about the life of Westminster. I am deeply grateful for the welcome and support you have extended throughout this season together.

As summer begins, I find myself looking forward to the different rhythm it brings to church life. Summer offers opportunities to slow down in some ways while engaging deeply in others. I am especially excited to experience Westminster's Vacation Bible School and Steadfast Neighbor Week for the first time and to see the ways these ministries help us grow in faith, service, and community.

The summer months also create space for planning and preparation as we begin looking ahead to the next program year. To help staff regroup, organize, and prepare for the fall, we will publish one combined June/July issue of the Reporter this year. In addition, during June and July, office phone hours will be reduced to 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. This adjustment will help us manage vacation schedules more effectively while also providing staff with some uninterrupted time for planning and preparation when they are in the office.

Even as schedules shift during the summer months, the ministry and life of the church continue in meaningful ways. I look forward to all that we will share together in the months ahead.

Sermon Series: What Is God Like?

Because God is beyond what we can imagine, the Bible uses various descriptors and metaphors to help us understand God and build a relationship with God. Starting this June, we will explore how we can know God better through a worship series titled "What is God Like?" We'll look at favorite descriptors of God like Creator, Father, and Shepherd, as well as less utilized images of God like Mother and the God who can't be labeled or contained. As summer stretches into July we will take a few weeks to explore descriptions for Jesus, like The Bread of Life and Teacher. Throughout the summer, while the choir is on break, we will be blessed by special musicians and hear from our participants of VBS, Steadfast Neighbor Week, and our Youth Mission trip.

Prayer Ministry

Interim Care Coordinator, Sue Sawers is helping us reinvigorate our prayer circle. We have set up a shared email address that allows Sue and the pastors to receive prayer requests Please email prayers@wpcspi.org if you have a prayer concern. Please put Prayer Circle in the subject line if you would like your prayer request shared with the prayer circle. Otherwise, the pastors will pray for you during their weekly prayer time.

Looking Ahead: New Opportunities for Connection, Learning, and Mission

The Strategic Planning Committee and Dr. Marshall gathered with congregation members on April 19 for a lively conversation about the initial results of our mission study. Participants reflected on interview feedback, shared hopes for Westminster's future, and offered ideas for how we can continue growing in ministry together. Session is continuing to review the feedback and discern where God may be leading us next. In response, we will experiment with new opportunities this fall that strengthen relationships within our congregation and expand our connections with the wider community.

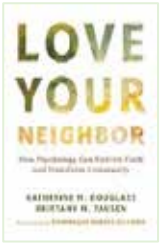
Save the Date: Homecoming Sunday Picnic — September 13

The Membership Team and the Deacons' Congregational Fellowship Committee are planning an all-church picnic following worship on Homecoming Sunday, September 13, in Parish Hall and on the church grounds. We hope you will join us for this time of fellowship and celebration as we begin a new program year together. Watch for more details in the August Reporter.

Can You Help Provide a Ride?

We are looking for ministry partners who would be willing to provide rides for members who are no longer driving but would like to attend Homecoming Sunday. If you are willing to help, please contact Sue Sawers at carecoordinator@wpcspi.org, so she can connect drivers with those needing transportation.

All-Church Book Read and Small Groups



This fall, our Adult Education Team will lead an all-church book read and small group experience from September 27 through October 18. Together, we will explore ***Love Your Neighbor: How Psychology Can Enliven Faith and Transform Community*** **by Katherine M. Douglass and Brittany M. Tausen.** The book offers practical insights into why loving our neighbors can sometimes be difficult and how we can grow in compassion, understanding, and connection.

In August, members and friends will have the opportunity to sign up for a four-week discussion group. We hope to offer groups at a variety of times during the week to accommodate different schedules. During the small group series, the regular adult forum will pause and then resume afterward. Even if you are unable to finish the book, you are welcome to participate in the conversation. We are also working on arranging a bulk book order at a discounted price.

Small Group Facilitators Needed

If you would be interested in helping facilitate a discussion group, please contact Jess Weitzel, elder for adult education or Pastor Anne amarshall@wpcspi.org. Facilitator training will be offered in August or early September.

How to Participate

- Attend the picnic
- Join a small group
- Volunteer as a driver
- Explore mission partnership

Expanding Our Mission Partnerships

Our Mission Team is continuing to explore ways to deepen our partnerships and strengthen our impact with mission partners. We also plan to form a subcommittee to research potential international mission partnerships. If you are interested in helping explore these possibilities, please contact Rachael Hickman, chair of the Mission and Community Service Committee or Pastor Anne amarshall@wpcspi.org Throughout the year, we will continue sharing updates and opportunities for participation as leadership responds to the insights and hopes shared through the mission study process.

Family Ministry by the Rev. Sarah Bishop

Youth ministry by Mary Ray

Baccalaureate Sunday, June 7

On Baccalaureate **Sunday, June 7,** we recognize our graduating high school seniors during the 10:00 a.m. service. A reception in their honor will be held in Parish Hall following worship.

All Westminster graduates (high school, college, and graduate school) will be listed in the June 7 bulletin and the June/July newsletter. Please contact Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org) asap with information if you have not done so. The bulletin will be printed the morning of June 5th.

Youth Mission to Charleston, SC 2026
Saturday, July 11 – Saturday, July 18

All youth and adults attending the 2026 Mission Trip are invited to complete the next set of paperwork and second payment of $100.00 is due June 21. The complete cost is $350.00 for youth and $300.00 for adults.

Blessing and departure Saturday, July 11 8:00 a.m.

All youth and adults attending the 2026 Mission Trip will be meeting in the church parking lot on Saturday, July 11 at 8:00 a.m. Once we pack the bus and offer a prayer together, we will begin our journey to Charleston, SC.

Please hold our youth and adults in prayer for their week of service within the Charleston area. We will overnight with First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, TN. And return Saturday, July 18 to lead worship for the congregation on Sunday, July 19. Our youth will lead worship, share the message, and show photos of mission week that we expect to be amazing.

NEXT MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER SAVE THE DATE!

Car Wash and Bake Sale Fundraiser is Sunday, June 21

Summer 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

Our children will continue to learn in their respective classrooms with the Frolic Preschool and Feasting on the Word curriculums. The Grades 3-5 will participate in a study of the Psalms.

Children's Ministry by Meleah Berkowitz

Dungeons & Dragons

A group of intrepid adventurers have been meeting with Dungeon Master Aaron Berkowitz on the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays of June 3 & 17 and July 1 & 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ziegler Library** to explore the 1st century AD ancient Near East. They recently finished a quest in ancient Nineveh and Teredon inspired by the deuterocanonical Book of Tobit. They also acquired their own ship and are sailing around the Arabian Peninsula. In March, they passed through the Strait of Hormuz, and in April they visited the Queen of Sheba! If you are interested in joining in, contact Aaron Berkowitz at berkowitz@wpcspi.org.

Pokémon Club

The Pokémon Club meets with Aaron Berkowitz on Sundays, **June 28 and July 26**, 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.

WCP Update

As the Co-op Preschool celebrated their stars on May 21, the Director and teachers will be spending the summer reviewing the successes and lessons from the year, and planning another great year of learning ahead! We are so grateful to the church for ALL of their help this year- especially Miss Jennie, Gary, Lisa, Sarah, and the custodial staff. We couldn't do what we do without you!!

Education and Compass Leadership Recognition Sunday, May 31

The following members were recognized during the 10:00 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, May 31**. In their honor, we will purchase **three pairs of goats from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog**. Goats provide much needed nutritional food from yogurt, milk, butter and cheese for those who need it most. We are grateful for these individuals and their compassionate nurturing of the faith of our children, youth, adults, and Graham Elementary School students.

Nursery Guild: Linda Caupert, Dee Dee Duffy, Sara and Abigail Eldridge, Sally Godbey, Priscilla Kluge, Dr. Judy Knox, Maria Lafrenz, Val Leonatti, Lynn McMenamin, Leigh and Kara Milward, Julie Sundquist, Erin Winn

Sunday School Teachers: Taryn Barnett, Aaron and Meleah Berkowitz, Kate Bryans, Lindsay Boutelle, Cathy Brower, Sophia Choi, Maria and Rose DeJong, Dee Dee Duffy, Juliana Eastvold, Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt, Sara and Abigail Eldridge, Leigh Milward, Julie Robbs, Erin Winn

Bridges Midweek Fellowship: Meleah Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop, Pat Roller and Mentors

Children's Choir and Church Mice: Meleah Berkowitz, Dale Rogers, Pat Roller

Children of Abraham: Dr. Aaron and Meleah Berkowitz, Rev. Bishop, Mary Ray, Dale Rogers, Adam Ekstedt

Confirmation Prep (Grades 6-7): Cara Barnett, Meridith Bryans, Marc DeJong, Joe Fierstos, Mary Ray

Confirmation (Grade 8): Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop, Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall, Mary Ray and Mentors

Youth Groups Leadership Team: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop, Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Tara Fritsch, Mary Ray, Jack Sherrick

Adult Education: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Rev. Sarah Bishop and the 2025 Youth Mission Team, Kristianna Eastvold, Dr. Katie Carlson-Eastvold, Dr. George Godfrey, Rachael Hickman, Stephanie Kamel, Carole Kennerly, Dr. Todd Knox, Dr. Richard Leary, Dr. Vena Long, Michael Long, Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall, Jim Parker, Dr. Brian Richardson, Dale Rogers, Rev. Dr. Josh Sabo, Jack Sherrick, Dr. Roy Wehrle

COMPASS for Kids: Linda Cox, Juliana Eastvold, Kris Gates, Becky Martin

Children of Abraham May 6 Gathering –

Children of Abraham had their final gathering of the 2025-2026 school year on May 6 at the Springfield Art Association. The students worked together to complete a collaborative art piece with assistance from teachers at the Art Association, toured the Liturgical Arts Display, and got an opportunity to ask questions and learn more with two of the exhibit's curators. Additionally, we debuted our own year-long collaborative craft- each student's puzzle piece fitting together into a beautiful whole. It was a fantastic year of fellowship, learning, joy, and fun!

3rd Grade Bible Presentation

On May 10, Westminster 3rd graders received their copy of The Spark Bible. This Bible gift is intended to help these students grow in their knowledge of scripture, connect with older youth of the congregation, and offer them guidance and support as they embark on their journey towards Confirmation. Receiving Bibles this year were Brice Knoedler, Jami'ona Capler, and Juniper Berkowitz.

2026 Confirmand Session, Dinner, and Confirmation Sunday

Above: Confirmation Sunday was May 3, 2026. Pictured above from right to left are Dr. Marshall, Lucy Bassett, Reese Huston, Harper Huston, Lily Swanson, and Rev. Bishop.

Below: Confirmation Session and dinner were held on April 15, 2026. Confirmation students shared their statements of faith with small groups of Session members. The Session and Confirmands recited the Apostle's Creed and prayed the Lord's Prayer. Session joyously voted to receive the Confirmands into full membership of the church.

ALBERT HALE CIRCLE

The ALBERT HALE CIRCLE is listed below and includes pledges, gifts, pre-campaign gifts and planned gifts. Reverend Hale, pastor from 1839-1866, laid the cornerstone for the legacy of faith and sure foundation we are building together in the Westminster Support and Endowment Fund.

In May of 2015, on the 180th Founders' Sunday, Westminster dedicated the Building a Legacy of Faith Twenty-Year Anniversary Endowment Campaign and established the ALBERT HALE CIRCLE. During the five-year campaign the market value of Westminster's Support and Endowment Fund grew from **$1.9 to $8.1 million.** As of March 31, 2026, the market value of the Support and Endowment Fund was **$10,362,051.** This does not include planned gifts. We continue to welcome donations and testamentary gifts to the Westminster Support and Endowment Plan.

Support and Endowment Committee: Chair, Jeff Wilday, Secretary, Jim Bryans, Joe Fierstos, Christie Hovey, Randy Germeraad, Lucy Preckwinkle Stafford, Advisory Member: Christy Pound, Treasurer, Todd Wise.

Cornerstone

($250,000 and above)
Fern Garrett Estate*
Betty & Henry Dale Smith, Sr.
Henry Dale Smith, Jr.

Foundation

($150,000 to $249,999)
Kathy & Randy Germeraad
Dorothy Kessler Estate
Robyn E. Newtson Estate
Lynne O'Shea †
Mary & Bill Schnirring Estate

Tower

($100,000 to $149,999)
Harry Bergmann*
Memory of Ruth Bergmann
Garvey Estate*
Alice Stuart Payne Estate*

Keystone

($50,000 to $99,999)
Paul Bowman Estate*
Linda Chronister Folse
Memory of Elder Grady Chronister
Linda & Grady Chronister
Louise M. & Arthur C. Cragoe Estate
Sue & Roland Cull
Linda Culver Memorial*
Carolyn & Dan Dungan
Blythe & Peter Kieffer
Judy & Todd Knox
Barbara & Lonnie H. Lee †
Preckwinkle Families
Jean & William Sherrick
Jean & William Sherrick*
Nancy & Bill Simpson
Marty Sumner

Pillar

($25,000 to $49,999)
Silvey & James Barge
Frances Batcheldor Estate*
Bennett Estate*
Mina & Harry Bentsen
Betty & Bill Denham Estate
Velda & George Finney*
Kathy & Randy Germeraad*
Gerry & Harold Hale
Alice Lambert Estate*
Ruth Langdon Estate*
Emma Mae Large Estate*
Ann & Bill Lienemann
Trudy M. & Douglas C. Nelson
Karen & Andrew Sherrick
Hannah Morrow Siebert Estate*
Marty & Alan Stutz
Barbara Sutton Estate*
Eleanor Wahlbrink*
Martha & Jeff Wilday
Martha & Jeff Wilday †
Lisa & Todd Wise
Elvin & Sharon Zook

Samaritan

($15,000 to $24,999)
Jane & Steve Arbuthnot
Honor of Julia & Steven Arbuthnot's marriage
A. Dale Huston Estate
Kathie & Michael Nenaber
William Schultz
Memory of Kyle G. Schultz
Rebecca & Lionel Stirrett
Dorothea Thrasher Estate

Advocate

($10,000 to $14,999)
Frances & Edwin Bay*
Carolyn & Keith Beatty*
Mark Beatty*
Dorothy D. & William Black Trust*
Leah & Martin Duling
Chris & Butch Elzea
Sharon & Matthew Gilmour
Ann & Keith Hamilton
Helen Hansen Estate*
Judy and Dale Huston
Irwin & Becker Estate*
Evelyn Jensen Estate
Priscilla & Tim Kluge
Margot Kramer
Carol & Walter Lohman*
LaVerne Marlowe Estate*
Bev & Jim Orr †
Honor of our Family
Dorothy Park Estate*
Holly Howe Parker*
Jeanne & Glen Pittman
Cathy Schwartz & John Shafer
Dorothy Temple*
Don Thompson Estate*
Marjorie VanNattan Estate*
Westminster Cooperative Preschool

Counselor

($5,000 to $9,999)
Anonymous
George Adams Estate*
Katrina Archer
Jan & Cliff Baxter
Sonia Beard
Carolyn & Keith Beatty
Sandy Bellatti
Carolyn Berning
Don Blackburn Estate*
Meridith & James Bryans
Honor of Kate Bryans
Eleanor Copper Foundation*
William Deemer, Jr.
Linda N. Dillard
Sue & Bill Donels
Hazen & Roland Folse
James S. Francis Estate*
Barbara Greening
Memory of Dr. Gershom K. Greening
Joseph A. Harrison
Christie, Robyn & Will Hovey
Pat & Al Hymans
Paul Denham Kieffer
Honor of his mother's ministry
Louise Kuehn Estate*
Eleanor & Richard Leary
Barbara & Lonnie H. Lee
Judith & Tom Lewis
Ann & Bill Lienemann*
Mary Caroline & David Mitchell
Robyn Newtson
Sally & Stan Papp
Memory of Dr. & Mrs. W. J. Trainor
Judy & Fred Prillaman
Patricia Albrecht Purdy Estate*
Mary Ray
Memory of Doris Ray
Julie & Randy Robbs
Ruth Robert-Roland*
Diane Rutledge
Elaine Ryder Estate*
Sue & Steve Scaife
Schemmerhorn Estate*
Linda & Bill Schlosser
Linda Shaefer
Susan R. Shea
Mary Anne & James Singleton
Judy & Harvey Stephens
Julie & Michael Sundquist
Carolyn & Brad Swanson
Eleanor & Lyle VanDeventer
Jeanne & Peter VanGieson
Sue & Jesse Werner
Cheryl & Neville White
Jean Williamson Estate*
Sarah & Bob Zerfas

Companion

($2,500 to $4,999)
Anonymous
Anonymous
Catherine Brower
JoAnn & Doug Brown*
Ellen & Rance Carpenter
Ann W. Collins
Deborah & David Coontz
Memory of David M. Coontz
Carol & Dick Cordier
Memory of John S. & Theda Muirhead and George & Dorothy Cordier
Lois Davis Memorial*
Judy & Dan Dees
Gale & Jack Fixmer
Elsie & Robert Fox
Ione Hermann Estate*
Renee Housel Estate
Nancy & Keith Huston
Marci & Bill Irvine
Mary & Charles King
Mary & Bob Leffler
McGaugh Estate*
Patricia McKenzie
Mary Ann Nation
Memory of James Nation
Richard Newtson Estate*
Stan & Barbara Papp
Memory of Sally Trainor Papp
Sharon Reynolds
Judy Ridinger
Ruth Robert Roland Estate
Leona Sangster Estate*
Nancy & Lon Scott
Krista & Brad Steller
Robert A. Stuart
John Thompson Estate*
Alan J. Wallace

Friend

(up to $2,499)
Anonymous
Norma Adams-Johnson
Beth & Tad Allen

Marc Anderson
Linda Andrews & Claudia Nash
M. "Peggy" Ashline
Charlotte Bailey
Jane R. Barry
Neil Bassett
Carolyn Beard
Ella Grace & Robert Bengel Estate*
Lynnette Berdoll
Meleah & Aaron Berkowitz
Julie & William Berger
Meggan & Brady Bird
Sarah A. Bishop
George Botanga
Carol & Stanley Brosam
Catherine D. Brown
Honor of Anne Beckner and Robert Sterling
Jo Ann L. Brown Estate
Kathy & Gary Brown
Caroline Bryans
Nancy & Richard Canady
Linda & Ed Caupert
Alexander Moore Chipman
Sophia and Christian Choi
Stephanie Churchill
Donna & Robert Clark
Ada & Stephen Cobourn
Memory of Loved Ones
Virginia Cooper
Marilyn Cohen
Robert Copper Estate*
Robert Cordier
Linda Cox
Catherine Cragoe
John Cross
Dianne Crown
Betty Dawkins
Barry Denham
Joan & Tom Dixey
Margery Dodds
Virginia & Jim Dolan
Linda & Kevin Dorsey
Hannah M. Dreitcer
Tempa Dunn
Betsy Dye
Elmer "Bud" Edman
Chelsea & Adam Ekstedt
Helen Evenson
Joseph Fierstos
Donna & Francis Foster
Carmel Fratianni & Michael Schneider
Deborah Fritsch
Deanna & Donald Funk
Honor of Dale T. Rogers
Sally Godbey
Melanie & Bud Green
Anne & David Haaker
Anita R. Hancock
Roberta & Richard Hendee
Mal Hildebrand
Pat Hildebrand-Culler
Tamika & Jacob Hill
Sandy Hill
Sandy & Jon Hockenyos
Terry & Ron Hodel
Elaine Hoff
Katharine M. Hughes
Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross
Thomas H. Janeway
Mary Jo & David Jenkins
Kathy & Jeff Johnson
Minnie Lee Jones Estate*
J. M. Keller
Kathleen H. Kenyon
Sarah Kieffer
Seon & Duk Kim
Beth & Jim Kincaid
Carla & Michael Kopec
Clyde Knock*
Karen Kraft
Memory of Amolee McIntyre
Marilyn Kushak
F. Wells Langbehn
Valerie & Dave Leonatti
Vena Long
Memory of Donald Ray Long
Naomi & Robert **Lynn**
Katie & Carl Matteson
Joyce Matthews
Julie & Jim McDonough
Teresa & Terry McElwee
Sarah & Trajan Iliff McGill
Jack McKee Estate*
June McKee Estate*
Lynn & Joe McMenamin
Kathy & Bill Meriwether
Lisa Metzger
Memory of Mary & Edmond Metzger
Leigh & Kevin Milward
Carolyn & R. L. Moore
Kathy & Tim Moore
Memory of the Koessel & the Moore Families
Stephanie S. Moore
Bev & Ken Morey
Madelyn Morris Bogue
Memory of Richard Morris
Joyce Newcomb Family
Kathy Culver Nickell
Lynne & Paul O'Shea
Tom Owen
Dorothy Padgett
Mary & Harold Perkins
Gaynell Peters
Mary & Morley Peura
Carmen Chapman Pfeiffer
Michelle Power
Claire & Richard Priller
E.L. Pruitt Co.
Kathleen & Arlon Rahn
Linda & Mark Ranck
Ellen & Jan Richter
Marilyn & James Rigney
Kelly Robertson
Dale T. Rogers
Mary Gail & Steve Romack
Memory of Helen & Clyde Knock
Kim Leistner Root
Memory of Dorothy Irvine
Debra (Pollock) Rudis
Memory of Laura Pollock
Betsy Ruklick
Lisa Demaree Runkle
Susan & Grant Russel
Memory of Betty & Joseph Dawkins
Sue Sawers
Jo Ann & Eric Schmidt
Rosemary Schussle*
Rebecca Sherrick
Honor of Dr. & Mrs. William Sherrick's 60th Anniversary
Anne & Andrew Smith
Donna Solomon
Suzann & Thomas Spada
Lucy & John Stafford
Kim & Mark Stegeman
Honor of Phyllis & Bob McCormick
Barbara Stewart
Paula Stewart
Strawbridge Estate*
Bruce Strom
Marty & Alan Stutz
Honor of Dale Rogers
M. Jill Sullivan
Megan, Greg, & Lily Swanson
Debbie & Skip Turnbull
Sharon Turner
Elizabeth E. Unglaub
Memory of Margot Kramer
Mary Waddell Estate*
Anne & Frank Waldburger Estate
Gary Warnick & Linda Klein
Becky & Paul Wernlund
James Wilday
Charles Wilkin
Memory of Rebecca Wilkin
Kate Wilson
William Wright
Amy & Sam Xanders
Cathy Yokley
Marlene Zimmerman

Testamentary
(Amount Unknown)
Anonymous †
Janie & Clay Bahlow †
David Becker †
Sandy Bellatti †
Marilyn Cohen †
Ann W. Collins †
Virginia & Jim Dolan †
Sue Donels †
Daniel Dungan †
Donna Garman †
Kathy & Randy Germeraad †
Sharon Gilmour †
Anne & David Haaker †
Elaine Hoff †
Christie & Robyn Hovey †
Judy Huston †
Thomas H. Janeway †
Vivian Keithley †
Blythe & Peter Kieffer †
Rebecca Martin †
Kathy Culver Nickell †
Tom Owen †
Jeanne Pittman †
Richard Priller †
Mary Ray †
Sharon Reynolds †
Pat Roller †
Diane Rutledge †
Timothy Schweizer †
Susan R. Shea †
Nancy Simpson †
Kay & Gerald Smith †
Marty & Alan Stutz †
Julie & Mike Sundquist †
William Wright †

New since last published
Donation in Honor of Dr. Kieffer's Ministry since last published
* Pre-campaign gift
† Planned gift

Presbyterian Women's Garden Party – May 16

Thirty-Five Presbyterian Women gathered at Westminster's beautiful Parish Hall for their annual Garden Party on Saturday, May 16. Hosted by the Ruth and Naomi Circle, those gathered enjoyed a delicious brunch and fellowship.

This year's Garden Party included a moment of reflection and remembrance of former generations of Presbyterian Women who contributed to Westminster's women's ministry and are now rest from their labors in the eternal kingdom. Participants placed a flower in a wreath as a remembrance as they spoke the name of each PW woman who is inurned in Westminster's Memorial Garden.

The total collected is $561 for the PW Birthday offering, which funds specific mission projects chosen annually to serve the needs of hurting people.

Tree Planted in Honor of Dr. Diane Rutledge

The Ruth and Naomi Circle purchased a tree in loving memory of Dr. Diane Rutledge, a longtime member whose presence and contributions meant so much to our community. We are grateful to Lyle VanDeventer and Scott Day for planting the tree and for their continued care of it.

Founders' Sunday and Celebrating Dale Rogers 40th Anniversary

Bob Blythe and Brownie Anderson took us on a 40-year adventure celebrating Dale Rogers. If you missed it, we highly suggest watching it on the Westminster Springfield IL YouTube channel. The story of Dale Rogers is truly impressive, and he was recognized for his love and dedication to Westminster. A reception followed with delicious food and wonderful fellowship as everyone continued honoring Dale, sharing memories, and enjoying a fun video highlighting Dale through the years. This video is also available on YouTube.

Music Notes by Dale T. Rogers

Westminster Summer Choir will meet on the morning of July 5 at 9:30 a.m. to warm-up and prepare *Thy Church, O God*, and *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* for the 10:00 a.m. service. On Thursday, July 23, the choir will rehearse to prepare music for Sunday, July 26, and on Thursday, August 6 to prepare music for Sunday, August 9. Rehearsals are at 7:00 p.m.

Many thanks to the congregation for the tributes and gift that honored my forty-year tenure at Westminster. The gift was a book that I had contemplated buying last summer but was too heavy to carry home in a suitcase. The book is about Alexander Girrard, an architect, designer, and collector who had strong ties to Columbus, Indiana, where I worked for ten years prior to Westminster. Also, thanks for all the personal and heart-felt cards and kind notes from members of the congregation. They were a keen reminder of many of the treasured times and friendships from over these past forty years. Additionally, thank you to Dr. Roland and Linda Folse for the Knabe grand piano that will replace a piano that developed a cracked soundboard.

Continuing in my grateful mode, I am pleased to have so many talented musicians providing music through the summer on the days when the Westminster Choir is not singing. Eva Pan, violinist; The St. Andrew's Sisters; Eleanor VanDeventer, soprano; Katie Moore, flute & Pat Moore, euphonium; Mark Lupinski, trumpet; Diane Dietz, soprano; Brian Richardson, baritone; Mike Tungett & Dennis Jones, trumpets, Lyle VanDeventer, saxophone; Amelia Tungett, soprano; Lucy Yockey, oboe; Genevieve Wages, soprano, and Linda Andrews, organ.

Property Committee

Property has replaced two windows in the preschool and will replace two additional windows in the third floor classroom next month. Leka Tree Service has removed a diseased tree and another tree that was growing against the building along the preschool fence. Drive by one evening and you'll see the cross on the west side of the Education Wing beautifully illuminated.

Parish Life News

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 August.

Contact Ministries Backpack Collection Through Sunday, August 9

We will once again collect backpacks for children served by Contact Ministries in August. Last year we collected 175. Here's how you can help:

- Backpacks can be ordered online and sent to the church
- Backpacks can be placed in the bin in the West Narthex
- You can make a donation until July 31 with the memo line or email donation mentioning "Backpack."

Daily Bread – Meals on Wheels July 27 – 31 and August 3-7

Senior Services of Central IL needs Westminster members and friends to deliver food to eligible senior citizens as part of their Specialty Daily Bread - Meals on Wheels program. This year's dates are July 27 – 31 and Aug 3 – 7! You can sign up for one day or multiple days to help. This service of kindness is best done in pairs and the expected time commitment is about an hour-and-a-half, starting between 9:00 & 9:30 a.m. For more information and to sign up, use the QR code here.

Hunger Ministries at Westminster

Helping Hands Lunch & Dinner Prepared

Members of Westminster's Hunger Action Team met Friday, April 10 to prepare bagged lunches that were delivered to Helping Hands Shelter. Kris Gates, Becky Martin, Sue Sawers, and Jeanne Van Gieson prepared and delivered the lunches.

On Wednesday, May 27, Janie Bahlow, Kris Gates, Julie James, and Jeanne Van Gieson, prepared a delicious hot meal of sloppy joes, cheesy potatoes, salad, and brownies to serve 70. Marc Anderson faithfully provides milk every month. Westminster has committed to continue providing one hot meal and one bagged lunch per month in 2026 to Helping Hands Shelter. Call Pat Hymans to get information about preparing a meal.

Give -a- Meal -a- Month May Menu Summer Months

June: Canned tuna or chicken, boxed meal to put canned meat in, canned fruit in juice/water, canned veggies (No baby food, please.)

July: Canned spaghetti or pasta meal, peas, canned fruit in juice/water, rice mixes or instant rice

Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex.

Fair Trade June 21 & July 19 –Melanie Green and DL Stanfield will be in the West Narthex on the third Sunday of most months after worship with fairly traded products from Equal Exchange.

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

Congregational Care at Westminster

Home Communion – If you are unable to attend worship and would like to receive Communion at home on Sundays June 14 and July 12, please contact Sue Sawers or Jennie Alt at the church office. Thank you to those who made visits to 8 shut-in members on May 10. Communion teams, please return your baskets to the kitchen completely clean each month. Thank you to Sue Sawers, Interim Care Coordinator for leading a training for new teams and all teams that extend the table to members each month.

Earth Care Committee

Summer Earth Care Tip

The U.S. power grid serves over 160 million customers and relies on a mix of energy sources: about 43% natural gas, 16% coal, 19% nuclear, 10% wind, 6% hydropower, and 4% solar. Because supply and demand change throughout the day, the environmental impact of electricity use varies. For example, demand rises in hot weather as AC use increases, while solar generation drops off at night. In general, the grid is cleanest around midday when solar output is highest, and dirtiest (and often most expensive) from 4 to 9 p.m., when demand is high and solar generation declines. Electricity can also be cleaner and cheaper late at night when demand is low and dirtier generators are turned off. The Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) provides a real-time dashboard (miso.singularity.energy/realtime) showing grid conditions in the Midwest. Tools like this can help people shift their energy use towards periods of higher renewable generation, reducing environmental impacts and costs.

Fellowship Opportunities

Knit 2 Purl 4 Mission and Fellowship gathers every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657 with questions. On June 9, K2P4 will knit from home during VBS.

Ruth and Naomi Circle meets on Wednesday, **June 3, 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Pat Wheat (11 Pickering, 62712). Linda Purves will lead the discussion of Chapter 9 in Becoming Spiritually Intelligent by Paul M. Burns. RSVP directly to Linda at (217)306-3455.

DMA - Fridays, *June 12 & July 17

DMA (Don't Mention Age) meets on the third Fridays in the months of March thru November with with a potluck at **5:30,** and program at **6:15 p.m.** Bring a side to share with others. **June DMA (on the 2nd Friday)** -Jill Egizii, President of W.I.L.D. Canine Rescue, will provide a program called "A W.I.L.D. Night at DMA," and will speak on the mission of the rescue and the resale store. **July DMA –** Michella and Ben Arnold, members of WPC, will speak about their "Life in Indonesia." An RSVP is suggested but not required. Go to 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.

Employment Update

We wish Francis Gyebi all the best as he steps down from his position as part-time custodian. With the demands of pursuing his education while also working at Walmart, his schedule no longer allows much flexibility. We sincerely thank Francis for his time and service as an employee of Westminster and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

Westminster Youth Group Reunion

This past April, Mary Ray joined eight former members of Westminster in Taos, New Mexico for a four-day reunion of Westminster Youth Group. These friends met at church during 1972-1976. This 50-year reunion drew friends who had participated in mission and youth group activities under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Bernie Linnartz, Westminster's youth pastor at the time. Participants in Taos included: siblings Kent Armstrong, Amy Armstrong Green, Warren Anderson, Lewisa Andrews Andrada, Rev. Dr. Linnartz, Rev. Dr. David Massey (partner Linda O'Brien), Gale Marr Myers, Mary Ray, and Chris Smith (wife Debbie both from Springfield). Jeff Jones, Patty Ray Dressen (Mary's sister), and Ruth Click joined the fun via zoom.

In true youth group fashion, the friends played games, shared meals and memories, and prayed together in a beautiful NM setting. The group had started meeting via Zoom during COVID before arranging a memorable in-person gathering. Westminster is truly the tie that has bound these friends together.

Westminster News

Milestone Birthdays

Vivian Keithley celebrates 104 years on June 2.
Beverly Orr celebrates 95 years on June 3.
Joyce Olson celebrates 97 years on June 12.
Mary Barringer celebrates 93 years on June 29.
Dick Washburn celebrates 94 years on July 13.
Ruth Schmitt celebrates 97 years on July 30.

Milestone Anniversaries

Jan & Jim Pinkerton celebrate 66 years on June 11.
Carole & Jay Kennerly celebrate 61 years on June 12.
Carole & Richard Cordier celebrate 60 years on June 12.
Dr. Richard & Mrs. Eleanor Leary celebrate 65 years on June 18.
Dr. Jane & Steve Arbuthnot celebrate 50 years on June 19.
Kathy & Randy Germeraad celebrate 50 years on June 19.
Mary & Bob Leffler celebrate 65 years on June 19.
Judy & Fred Prillaman celebrate 61 years on June 26.
Dr. Alan and Mrs. Marty Stutz celebrate 66 years on July 2.
Dr. Tom and Mrs. Judy Lewis celebrate 65 years on July 23.

In Memoriam

Jo P. Ridley died on Tuesday, May 5 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathies of the congregation are extended to her sons David, John (wife, Amy), and Mark (wife, Amy), and their families.

Judy Huston died on Friday, May 8 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathies of the congregation are extended to her children, Chad (wife, Kara) Huston, Dana (partner, Les) Huston, and their families.

William H. Post died on Friday, May 8 in Springfield. The prayers and sympathies are extended to all who loved Bill, especially those with whom he sang in the Westminster Choir.

In Sympathy to

Peter Hancock on the death of his mother, Joan Hancock on April 21, 2026 in Kansas City, KS.

Brian Richardson on the death of his daughter, Carolyn Joy Medrano, on May 24, 2026 in Prospect Heights, IL.

New Address

Ann Robert, 1626 S. Bates, Springfield, IL 62704

Nell & Jay VanSice, The Arbors at Williamsburg, 1915 Pocahontas Trail, Apt. 222, Williamsburg, VA 23185

April Financial Report by Lisa Runkle

As the summer months are fast approaching, please remember to continue to send your offering in support of Christ's work at Westminster. Income slipped below budget by just over $1,500 in April. Expenses are below budget by more than $14,000 which makes income exceed expenses by almost $13,000 for the year at the end of April. Look for your contribution statement in early July. Feel free to contact Lisa if you have any questions.

2026 Operations	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	$ 394,084	$ 395,600	$ -1,515
Expenses	$ -381,177	$ -395,600	$ 14,422
Net Total	$ 12,907	$ 0	

Apostles' Read Library Book Group
Tuesdays, June 23, July 23

The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets on the fourth Tuesday from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss June's book *There is No Place for Us: Working and Homeless in America* by Brian Goldstone and July's book *The Things We Cannot Say* by Kelly Rimmer. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

Baccalaureate Sunday Celebrated June 7

Baccalaureate Sunday, June 7, we will recognize our graduating high school seniors during the 10:00 a.m. service. A reception in their honor will follow worship in Parish Hall. Congratulations to these young people and Godspeed as they continue their adventures in life. Those High School Seniors attending will receive two gifts from their faith community: a copy of the PC(USA) Book of Common Worship, Daily Prayer, and a hand-knitted scarf.

High School Seniors

Kelso Ballantyne from SHS attending Southeast Missouri State University, MO and majoring in music education.

Benjamin Bassett from SHS attending Missouri University of Science and Technology. Ben will major in applied mathematics and aerospace engineering or mechanical engineering.

Anna Collins from LHS. Anna is undecided on which college to attend, but wants to study in the medical field.

Kate Eastvold from SHS attending University of Illinois. Kate will major in Costume Design & Technology.

Liam Kiszely from NBHS attending Lincoln Land Community College. Liam will major in video editing.

Carter Magalis from SHS attending University of Kentucky. Carter will major in business mangagement.

Luke Milliman from SHS attending University of Missouri in Columbia, MO.

Eva Pan from SHS is a Rotary Youth Exchange student from Taiwan and participates with the WPC Youth Group. She will return to Taiwan this summer to complete school.

Emma Ridley – from Mt. Zion HS attending Tarelton State University Emma is the granddaughter of Linda Folse.

Caroline Rogers – from St. Paul's School attending Wake Forest University. Caroline is the granddaughter of Linda Folse.

Associate Degrees

Cameron Hudgins – A.A. in Welding from Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield. Cameron will attend the University of Illinois Springfield and pursue his degree in English.

College Degrees

Harrison "Hank" Beatty – B.A. in marketing from University of Illinois, Champaign. Hank earned the Illinois Academic All-American and was drafted by the Tennessee Titans in the NFL.

Emma Batterman – B.A in Fine Arts and Education from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Emma will begin a Masters degree program at New York University this fall.

Jessica Borland – B.A in Middle Childhood Education from University of Miami, Ohio. Jessica graduated Magna Cum Laude. She is moving home and will begin her teaching career.

Samantha Magalis – B.A. in Psychology from University of Kentucky in December 2025.

The church office will be closed in honor of Juneteenth on Friday, June 19.

August Reporter folding and mailing will be on Wednesday, July 29.

Westminster Staff

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

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

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

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

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

Dr. Aaron Berkowitz
Education Coordinator
berkowitz@wpcspi.org

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

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

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

Kara Milward, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator
alnpat5@yahoo.com

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator
lrunkle@wpcspi.org

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant
jalt@wpcspi.org

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager
gwarnick@wpcspi.org

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

June and July
Phone & Office Hours:
9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.