



Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

1250 W Exchange • Akron, Ohio • westminsterakron.com • 330-836-2226

The Script February – March 2017

*Begin Lent with our Ash Wednesday Service
at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 1!*

Dear Friends,

As Lent approaches, I invite you to enter more deeply into this contemplative, somber, and transformative season by participating in a six-week offering on Sunday evenings. I will be leading our discussions, along with Adam Hamilton's "The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus." The first five sessions focus on different aspects of Jesus' life, and the sixth session examines his final week.

This six-week Lenten offering will be held on the following dates and times in the locations mentioned. We will always begin with a complimentary dinner!

- Sunday, March 5 – 5:00 pm dinner in Tween room (Room 107 on the first floor) followed by the first lesson
- Sunday, March 12 – 5:00 pm Five at Five concert in the sanctuary. 6pm dinner in Tween room (Room 107 on the first floor) followed by the second lesson
- Sunday, March 19 – 5:00 pm Third Sunday Dinner in Wright-Herberich Hall followed by the third lesson in the Tween room (Room 107 on the first floor)
- Sunday, March 26 – 5:00 pm dinner in Tween room (Room 107 on the first floor) followed by the fourth lesson
- Sunday, April 2 – 5:00 pm dinner in Tween room (Room 107 on the first floor) followed by the fifth lesson

- Sunday, April 9 – 5:00 pm dinner in Tween room (Room 107 on the first floor) followed by the sixth lesson

In addition to these Lenten discussions, we will also offer 40 scriptures for the 40 days of Lent. If you would like to receive these daily musings and/or the Wednesday Evotionals electronically, please contact Germaine Wilson at gwilson1250@gmail.com to be added to the list.

Peace,
Jon

ACTIVITIES FOR LENT

Lenten Yoga is coming!

Join us Saturday mornings during Lent, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1 and 8 from 9:00 – 10:00 am in the basement dance studio at WPC. An experienced yoga instructor will lead us in gentle yoga practice that promotes mindfulness and relaxation. Invite your friends! No previous yoga experience necessary. Free will offering will go to the instructor.

40 Scriptures for 40 Days

Quick daily reminders of the importance of Lent will be sent to your email at 12:00 pm, noon, each day. Be added to the email list by notifying Germaine at gwilson1250@gmail.com.

Lent In a Bag

This year the Children and Family Ministry is sending home *Lent In a Bag* starting on Sunday, March 5. These bags have prompts that will help you and your family focus on some scripture, meditation and discussion opportunities. We want to encourage family discussions as well as personal reflection. Bags will be given out on Sunday, March 5 in WHH, at the back of church and during Time for Young Disciples. Make sure to pick yours up!

Lent and Easter Dates

Ash Wednesday: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 Service at 7:00 pm

Palm Sunday: Sunday, April 9, 2017 Service at 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday: Thursday, April 13, 2017 Service at 7:00 pm

Good Friday: Friday, April 14, 2017 Service at 12:00 pm (noon)

Easter Sunday: Sunday, April 16, 2017 Service at 8:00 am

and Communion Service at 10:30 am

COME

St. Patrick's Day Party

Westminster is hosting a St. Patrick's Day Party on March 18, 2017 from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm. We hope you can join us for a night of wonderful food and entertainment. Please sign up at the Connection Point in Wright-Herberich Hall if you plan to attend. Sponsored by Deacons and Discipleship Committees.

ENCOUNTER

Book Discussion Group

WPC Book Discussion Group invites all interested bookworms to join us for fellowship and book discussion on the second Monday of each month from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Anderson Library. Our upcoming books are:
February 13: *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green, led by Cathy Melder.
March 13: *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams, led by Kacey Yates Gable.
April 10: *The Whistler* by John Grisham, led by Ginny Melder.

FIVE AT FIVE

Season Eighteen Schedule

- March 12, 2017 John Sherer, *organist* at Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago with Cole Seaton, *tenor*
- May 14, 2017 Mother's Day Opera/Broadway Gala

GROW

The Men's Club of Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Men's Club will meet at the Olive Garden in Montrose on Monday, February 13 and on Monday, March 13, 2017. We meet at 11:30 am. All men of Westminster are welcome. If you would like to be added to the reminder list, please call Art Schooley (330-666-3816) or Joe Henninger (330-867-5938).

SERVE

Hope Totes

We will once again be participating in the special Easter outreach ministry of the Haven of Rest to needy and homeless men, women and children in our community. We will be collecting full-sized or large-sized personal care items beginning on Sunday, March 19, through Sunday, April 2. The Haven of Rest will distribute the items the week before Easter. Personal care items that we take for granted are luxuries for many needy people, so please be generous. The items can be placed in the collection box in Wright-Herberich Hall or the front narthex of the church. The needed items are: toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, shaving cream and disposable razors, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, lip balm, socks, brush and comb, shoelaces, hand or body lotion, and facial tissues.



Third Sunday Dinners

WPC members will be hosting our friends and neighbors from the community for dinner on Sunday, February 19 and March 19 in Wright-Herberich Hall. Dinner is served at 5:00 pm. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Third Sunday Dinners, please feel free to contact Betsy Melick, volunteer coordinator, at betsy@melick.net. Please come enjoy a meal with fellow church members and our community guests.

Thank You for Our Giving Tree

As Advent gave way to Christmas morning, **Our Giving Tree** stood adorned by your bright colored gifts of warmth so needed by the children of homeless mothers who are and will be sheltered this winter by ACCESS, local provider of emergency shelter and services. Westminster's caring gifts of **7 scarves, 52 hats, 10 pairs of mittens, 69 pairs of gloves and 2 pairs of socks** will mean so much to the children who had none, and the **2 dolls and 2 art kits** will provide hours of play to help relieve their stress. The Outreach Committee thanks everyone who donated to this heartwarming ministry.

EDUCATION NEWS



We have much going on in Children & Family Ministry this year including growing families and many babies joining us! Due to all this growth we are in the process of updating the nursery with the help of a few generous donors. We have a talented carpenter making cabinets to separate the space between infants and toddlers that will double as a place to store the toys. This will make the nursery a safe, more inviting and better organized space. Before the cabinets are delivered, we want to add a fresh coat of paint to the walls! We could use as much help as possible. Many hands make light work and a great fellowship opportunity! Please let Sheila know if you can help prepare the nursery walls for painting (taping, washing walls, moving toys) on Sunday, February 12 after worship. Or help with painting on Sunday, February 12 at 4:00 pm or finish painting Monday, February 13 at 6:00 pm, pizza provided.

WPC Children & Family Events 2017

FEBRUARY 2017

Tween ***Service Event with Good Neighbors*** February 25 11:30 - 3:00 pm

MARCH 2017

All Church Event ***St. Patrick's Day Party***
March 18, 5:30-8:00 pm

APRIL 2017

All Church Easter ***Egg Hunt*** April 16, 10:00 am
Tween ***Earth Day Service Event*** April 22

MAY 2017

Teacher Appreciation May 21
Last day of ***Sunday School &***
All Church ***Memorial Day Picnic*** May 28

JULY 2017

Vacation Bible School July 10-13



THE SPIRITUALITY OF CHILDHOOD
for parents/teachers
&
GODLY PLAY TRAINING
for teachers

Friday and Saturday, March 3-4, 2017

Spirituality of Childhood Conversation and Dinner

Parents, teachers, grandparents! Grab a friend and join us for dinner and a conversation about the Spirituality of Childhood on *Friday, March 3, 2017 from 6:00-8:00 pm*. The Reverend Emily Griffith, a certified Godly Play trainer, will present this evening event. She will focus on recognizing and nurturing the spiritual lives of children. How do we help them remember the divine imprint on their lives?

Childcare will be provided if requested. A complimentary dinner will be served. Please RSVP at westminsterakron.com.

Godly Play Teacher Training Day

The Godly Play training session with Reverend Emily Griffith will be held on *Saturday, March 4* from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. All storytellers and doorkeepers are invited and encouraged to attend. If you are thinking of volunteering in Godly Play, this is also the event for you. Contact Sheila if interested at wpcchildren1250@gmail.com. A light breakfast and lunch will be served. Childcare will be provided, if requested.



Tween Service Project

Saturday, February 25, 2017

- 11:30-12:10 pm Pizza lunch in Westminster Tween Room
- 12:10 pm Carpool to Good Samaritan Food Pantry
1453 Goodyear Blvd.
- 12:30-3:00 pm Sorting cans and boxing food for distribution

The Tween class, 4th through 6th graders are heading to Good Neighbors on February 25 to sort canned and boxed food for distribution to the hungry in Akron. Each month they have been collecting the food during worship, now they will be part of what happens to the food they gather here. We will meet at WPC at 11:30 am for some pizza and then head to Good Neighbors, 1456 Bingham Path, Akron, OH to help out. The students can be picked up there at 3:00 pm or if they need a ride, back at WPC at 3:30 pm.

This is where our First Sunday collection is sent. It's a great opportunity for our Tweens to get a bigger picture of where these donations go and all the work that goes into feeding the hungry in our community. A great place to be the body of Christ!

Please sign up in Wright-Herberich Hall and pick up a permission slip from Connection Point. Return the slip to Sheila or Tween teachers, Margo or Walter. Any questions? Ideas? Contact Sheila at wpcchildren1250@gmail.com. Let us know if you can drive or help.



February Youth Event

February 4, 2017 from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm
BALLOON BONANZA and SUB MAKING

On the eve of the Super Bowl, join us for a bang up night of balloon fun. Bring a friend and wear washable clothes! This could get messy! We'll be making Super Subs that night too, and there will be a six inch sub sandwich for each of our youth to sample. WPC Youth events are for students in grades 7-12.

Super-Sub Sale

Pick-up on February 4 and 5

If you ordered a Super Sub, it will be available on Saturday, February 4, between 7:30 and 8:00 pm or on Sunday, February 5, between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. Most of you have indicated when you will pick up your subs. Just let us know if your plan has changed. Email Pat (psantelli@sbcglobal.net). **All subs remaining after 12:30 pm on Sunday will be donated to Haven of Rest Ministries.** Mark your calendar!

Youth Event in March!!

Attention YOUTH. Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 26 and plan to join us for some fun and fellowship starting with Worship, followed by lunch and then afternoon games at Laser Quest/Key Quest. Friends are welcome! Cost per Youth is \$10.00. For more information, contact us at wpcyouth1250@gmail.com.



Library Conversations

We will soon finish the book, *Five Love Languages of Children*. We will discuss how to consider your child's love language while disciplining. All are welcome on Sunday's at 9:30 in the library.

Eye-Opener Bible Study

Eye-Opener Bible Study is another option for study. Join us on Thursday mornings at 8:00 am in Room 106 at the church. Come enjoy fellowship and discussion. All are welcome!

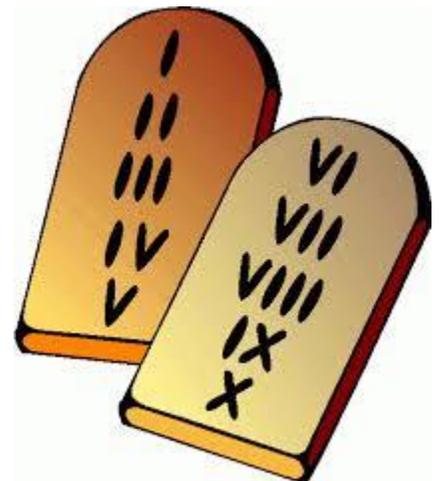
Lenten Bible Study

Please see Pastor Jon's front page article to read about the Lenten Bible Study being offered from Sunday, March 5 – Sunday, April 9, 2017. A complimentary dinner will be served at 5:00 pm followed by a discussion focused on different aspects of Jesus' life.

Adult Education Class

The Ten Commandments are one of the most recognized passages in the Bible. Though the words are familiar, what about their real meaning and the convictions that underlie them? We will consider the commandments in the context of the story of God's people, Israel, but also examine how they are reflected in the ministry of Jesus Christ. Come join us as we re-discover these guideposts for the basis of our faith today.

This is a ten-week series, February 5 - April 9, 9:30 am in room 106, ending on Palm Sunday.



Presbyterian Women Gathering and Meetings

PW News

All Presbyterian Women members have received a letter, copy of the budget and annual Mission Pledge Form. Please read over the information and contact any member of the Coordinating Team if you have any questions or concerns. Your generous pledges allow us to continue supporting worthy organizations.

Our Spring Gathering will be on Sunday, April 2 at 2:30 pm. We are going to Weathervane Playhouse to see “Jesus Christ Superstar”. Come join us! Bring a friend! We have a limited number of tickets at \$20 each. Reservations are necessary, so please contact Shelley Koutnik at skoutnik@infionline.com or 330-603-9233 as soon as possible. Child Care will be provided at the church upon request. We will have election of officers and a freewill offering to help support our ILP.

Rockynol Bazaar will be Friday, April 7 at Ohio Living (formerly Rockynol) from 9 am to 1 pm. We need help with set up on Thursday, April 6. If you can help for a couple of hours contact Ginny Melver at ginnymelver@gmail.com or 330-256-0742 or just come and shop! There will be irresistible items at unbelievably great prices.

Circle Meetings and Leaders

Circles are always welcoming new members. Please consider joining one of the following Circles. Contact the listed leader for more information.

Discussion Circle: Meets first Tuesdays at 10 am.
Contact Polly Fisher at 330-664-1022.

Evening Circle: Meets third Mondays at 7 pm.
Contact Ginny Melver at 330-374-1157.

Martha Circle: Contact Cathy Melver at 330-873-1156.

Mary Circle: Contact Denise Howell at 330-780-6763.

Metanoia Circle: Meets fourth Thursdays at 1:00 pm.
Contact Mary Lou Griffiths at 330-688-7196.

OTHER NEWS

Birthday Cake

2016 has been another successful year of monthly birthday cake sponsorships with cakes being sponsored each month. Thank you to everyone who made it possible. Now it is time to focus on 2017, and the birthday cake sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board across from the coat-room just outside Wright-Herberich Hall. The cost to sponsor a cake is \$50. You may choose how to designate the cake. It might be in honor of that month's WPC birthdays, for a particular person's birthday or possibly in memory of someone whose birthday is that month. But don't wait. The sponsorships will go quickly. If you have questions, contact Marian Wahl at 330-475-4340.



Good Neighbors/First Sunday Food Collection

The demand for food at Good Neighbors remains high. Remember their need by bringing food to church on February 5 and March 5. They also can use your paper and plastic grocery bags. Place them in the box marked Good Neighbors that is in the coat room.

Email Communications...are you receiving them?

Evotionals and Sunday Updates are sent out via email each week to keep our congregation connected and informed. We even send out funeral announcements and special emails for PW and the holidays. If you are not receiving our electronic communications, please contact Germaine Wilson so you can be added to the list, be kept informed and read the insightful Evotionals from Pastor Jon each week.

Building Use Policy and Forms

In the spring of 2016 a new WPC building use policy, agreement and request form was created and implemented. Check our website for building use requests for outside groups under "room use requests, outside groups." For church affiliated groups and committees the building use request is under "congregational resources." Dates can be reserved by emailing Germaine at gwilson1250@gmail.com. For church groups the building use form is needed by the staff for set-up information and special programs. Please help the staff stay organized and informed!

VOLUNTEERS

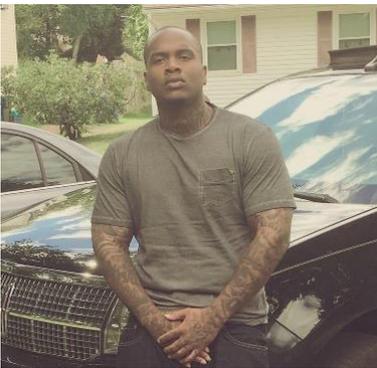
Library Coordinator Needed

We are looking for someone to take over as Library Coordinator for our library. The library coordinator schedules the weekly library volunteers and also catalogs any new books or magazines that come in. If you are interested, please contact Jamie Willis at willisjm1@gmail.com or 330-338-2544 for more details.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Please join us Sunday, March 12, 2017 for our Annual Congregational Meeting after worship at 11:30 am in the Sanctuary.

NEW CLEANING SERVICE



Arthur Jefferson was born in Lawrenceville, Ga moving to Ohio with his mother when he was 3-years-old. He is the second oldest of 5 siblings, 3 brothers and 1 sister. He is also the father of 3 sons. Hobbies are working out, traveling, sports activities and hanging out with family and friends.

Toy Wilkson is a Licensed Managing Nail Technician, the owner of Details and Nails Nail Salon and Detailed Cleaning and Maintenance Service. She is the proud mother of 4 sons and 1 daughter. Toy is an alumna of Akron East High School. Her hobbies include reading, singing with her church praise team, traveling, spending time with her grandchildren and enjoying nature.





Attendance Statistics

November	2015	2016
	10:30	10:30
week 1	163	167
week 2	168	179
week 3	191	150
week 4	143	182
week 5	175	
December		
week 1	189	175
week 2/ Children's Pageant	254	157
week 3	176	134
Candlelight Service	644	482
week 4	75	42 (Christmas Day)



Sympathy is extended to the family of Tom Fisher, who passed away December 20, 2016.

We welcome our newest members who joined the church on Sunday, December 4, 2016. Ron and Ann Allan, Scott Vollmer and Celeste Farmer, Michael Dunbar, David and Karen Grau, Adam and Elizabeth Crabtree, Brian and Kristin Jordan, Kimberly P. Cheng and Jeff Bornstine.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Monthly Financial Report

December 2016	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$68,225.82	\$53,365.61	\$557,396.72	**\$658,883.36
Total Expenses	\$62,882.27	\$66,946.21	\$595,049.54	\$658,883.36
Net	*\$5,343.55	\$13,580.60	*(37,652.82)	\$0.00

*Rowley Funds in the amount of \$37,652.82 were spent to support operations in 2016. **Budgeted total revenues include anticipated withdrawals from Rowley investments necessary to balance the budget totaling \$116,400 for the year.

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending December 31, 2016.

The final Financial Report for 2016 will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

2017 Stewardship - Goal \$425,000

Our 2017 Stewardship Campaign resulted in 107 pledges totaling \$328,190 to support operations in the coming year. This represents 77% of our goal. Thank you for your generosity and support of the programs and ministries at Westminster.

Session Highlights

Kimberly Chen has been received under care by our session as she considers a call to ordained ministry.

FLOWERS FOR EASTER SUNDAY



Your contributions, given as memorials of loved ones, will enable the Flower Committee to provide a beautiful setting in the Sanctuary for our Easter celebration. A list of the donors together with the names of loved ones will be published in the Easter bulletin. Please make your check payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and send it the attention of Eileen Martinez. There is no set amount.

There is a link on the WPC website where you can give electronically: <http://www.westminsterakron.com> under "Electronic giving."

The deadline is Monday, April 3, 2017.

Options:

In Loving Memory of:

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Your name: _____

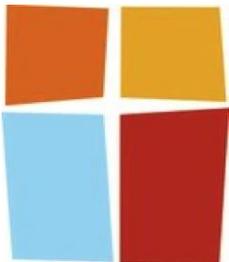
Donation Amount: _____

April/May 2017 Script deadline: March 14, 2017. Please have your articles about activities into the church office by 12:00 (noon) that day. The publication date will be Sunday, March 26, 2017.

WPC on Social Media Follow us on **Facebook** at Westminster Presbyterian Church and **Twitter** @WestPresAkron. Evotionals and Sunday Updates are posted on these social networking sites, as well as upcoming events, pictures, and information. If you would like to be added to our email list please contact gwilson1250@gmail.com.

WPC Staff:

The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas, Pastor (cell phone 330-606-4551) (weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)	jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com
Sheila Svoboda, Dir. of Children and Family Ministry (weekly office days: Tuesday and Thursday)	wpcchildren1250@gmail.com
Sean Williams, Youth Ministry Administrator (cell phone 717-271-1221)	wpcyouth1250@gmail.com
James Mismas, Director of Music/Organist	musicdirectorwpc@gmail.com
Germaine Wilson, Director of Communication (weekly office days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)	germainewilson1250@gmail.com
Eileen Martinez, Staff Accountant (weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)	wpcfinance1250@gmail.com
Jeremiah Ward, Daytime Custodian (Monday-Friday)	wpcbuilding@gmail.com
Kayla Elefritz, Childcare Director (cell phone-330-564-7580)	kayla_elefritz@yahoo.com
Samuel Olin-Hitt, Director of Children's Choir (cell phone-330-936-8489)	wpcchildrenschoir1250@gmail.com
Toy Wilkson, Evening and Sunday Custodian (cell phone-234-716-4716)	
Arthur Jefferson, Evening and Sunday Custodian (cell phone-330-433-3356)	



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