



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

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

## Church Family Stories

Sympathy is extended to the family of Jerry W. Durway who passed away August 29, 2104.

Sympathy is extended to the family of John Robert Wilson who passed away September 22, 2104.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Martha Siefkas who passed away September 23, 2104.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Walter W. Perkins who passed away October 19, 2104.

## Flower Memorials and Gifts for Christmas

Your gift in memory or in honor of loved ones enables the Flower Committee to provide a beautiful setting in the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Send the name of the person (s) you are remembering along with your donation (there is not set amount) to the church office, attention Robin Bennett. Checks should be made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church. The deadline is Monday, December 15, 2014.

## Westminster December Holiday Schedule

Christmas Baskets - Saturday, December 13th

Christmas Pageant-Sunday, December 14th at 10:30AM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service-Wednesday, December 24th at 5PM

Lessons and Carols-Sunday, December 28th at 10:30AM

## Pledge Cards

Our annual Stewardship mailing was sent out in October. If you did not receive a copy, letters are available online at the church's website. Or contact the church office and we will send you a letter and pledge form. Please fill out the blue pledge card and return to the church office or bring to worship on November 2nd where cards will be collected and consecrated.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

1250 W. Exchange St. Akron, OH 44313

westminsterakron.com ~ 330-836-2226

Interim Pastor, The Rev. Conley Zomermaand~pastorz.wpc@gmail.com

Director of Christian Education, Sheila Svoboda~sheilasvoboda@gmail.com

Director of Music/Organist, James Mismas~jamismas@gmail.com

## November 2014 Script

### Presbyterian Pandemonium

We must stay connected to the vine of Jesus Christ,

The very source of our faith

And the meaning for our lives.

~M.S. Lowndes

Take advantage of this opportunity to get connected to your church. Every group at WPC has been invited to share information about ministry and fellowship groups, to discover and to celebrate the diverse opportunities at Westminster for connecting with one another, with the community, and with the world. There will be food (American style tapas) to share as you browse. COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Every group has received information about this event via e-mail, and we look forward to hearing from you so that we can organize the set-up in Wright-Herberich Hall. Please contact Sharlene Santelli at ssantelli@sbcglobal.net or 330-825-7583. If you are the leader of a group and did not receive information, please contact Sharlene.

### Pageant Rehearsal, Advent Workshop and Potluck

At 4:15 on November 30th there will be a Christmas Pageant rehearsal, with the Advent Potluck and Workshop following directly afterwards. The workshop this year will help us DECLUTTER ADVENT by deciphering some core ideals and goals and create a family poster to keep the goals front & center for the season ( and afterwards).

The Discipleship Committee will provide a main dish. Please bring a salad, a side or a dessert, along with your plates and utensils. Sign ups will be online and at our display in Wright-Herberich Hall starting on November 2nd. Please join us and bring a neighbor!

### SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:

8:30 AM-Worship (Eberts Chapel, continuing through Nov. 23)

9:00 AM-Childcare available

9:30 AM-Education Classes

10:30 AM-Worship in the Sanctuary

## Decluttering Our Lives

I had the privilege a few weeks ago of helping one of my daughters move from one apartment to another. My kiddies call me “The Movin’ Machine.” How many relocations have I assisted? I don’t have time to count, but I always have fun! Who doesn’t like to be appreciated?!? Lydia (a regular presence at WPC) was moving from a studio to a one-bedroom apartment nearby. Several times we all (my wife and son were co-schleppers) said, “How did you get all that stuff in there??” I also reminded her, as I left her, barely visible, in the middle of the boxes, “Good time as any to decide to throw some stuff out!” I’ll see soon if she’s listened.

The Holiday Season is fast approaching. We are going to be tempted, and we will succumb, to stuffing even more into our already-bulging lives. My annual words of encouragement to congregations often feel a little like spittin’ into the wind; but every now and then someone tells me how helpful my prodding has been. So here goes, for the thirty-somethingth time.

There are still only so many hours in a day, days in a week, and weeks in a month. If you are feeling full-up, make this pledge: “I will not add one more \_\_\_\_ until I have deleted at least one \_\_\_\_ from my life.” I’m giving you permission to say, “No,” even to the church. A silly example: I’m an interim and therefore I move a lot. My interim stuff never goes home to Xenia, Ohio. It moves on to my next place of service. My hard and fast rule is that my traveling possessions need to fit into the back of a 12-foot (yellow) Penske truck. If I pick up something in Akron that I want to take to Togo or Timbuktu, something has to stay behind (usually finding it’s way to Goodwill). It works!

You’ve got the better part of a month to make your plans. I’ve hardly ever seen a person or a family benefit from being too busy. Think **now** about what it means for you to declutter your life. If you have others close to you who will be impacted by your decisions, let them know of your plans in advance. Then strengthen yourself until the turbulence strikes. If you’ve made a significant change in your behavior, you will certainly find many folks who push back against your actions. Don’t be so dogmatic about it that you destroy important connections. Remember, however, that you are trying to be an emotionally-healthier you; and when you are healthier, you will be more effective in being the person God has crafted you to become.

Think about it. You’ve got some time. Well, a little, anyway.

Peacefully, Pastor Zomermaand

## Good Neighbors

The demand for food at Good Neighbors remains high. Don't forget their need by bringing food to church on November 2, and December 7. They also can use your paper and plastic grocery bags. Place them in the box marked Good Neighbors that is in the coat room.

## Sewing Group

The group is in need of adult size bath towels to make bibs for local nursing homes. A box for your donated towels is in the coat room. Thank you for your support.

### Five at Five Concert Series -- Season Sixteen

September 28, 2014

November 2, 2014

February 1, 2015

April 12, 2015

May 10, 2015

Philip Thomson, piano

Festival Chorus and Orchestra

Highlights from *Messiah*

Akron Baroque: Super Bowl Baroque!

James Mismas, *organ*, friends celebrate his 50th year as a church musician!

Opera/Broadway Gala

Mark your calendars for this unique season of musical concerts -- something that truly makes WPC unique. Children are always welcome and childcare is available. These events are very popular. Come early for a good seat. Concerts are from 5:00-6:00 PM.

## Electronic Giving

Many of you already support the congregations with your time, talent, and financial support but great participation is always welcome. We encourage you to look into our electronic giving program at [westminsterakron.com](http://westminsterakron.com), it only takes a few minutes to setup a recurring giving plan.

## New Childcare Director and Childcare Request Procedures

Welcome to our new Childcare Director, Kayla Elefritz, a junior at the University of Akron working on her bachelor's in communication. She has worked at Rockynol as an activities assistant, for the last 4 years. Prior to that she worked at “A Beautiful Child Preschool and Daycare” where she started as a teacher assistant in the toddler room working her way up the ladder to lead teacher of the preschool room, to supervisor of all teachers, and finally ending her 5 years there as the administrative assistant. She is very excited to join the team here at Westminster. For childcare requests (other than Sunday mornings) please email her at [Kayla\\_Elefritz@yahoo.com](mailto:Kayla_Elefritz@yahoo.com) or call at 330-255-9887.

## GROW

### **Eye-Opener Bible Study**

We meet Thursdays at 8:00 AM in Room 106 and will continue to study the book of Acts during the Fall. Come enjoy the fellowship and discussion. All are welcome!

### **Book Club**

We meet the first Monday of the month in the library at WPC at 7 PM. All are welcome!

- November 3, *Under the Wide and Starry Sky* by Nancy Horan.
- December 1, *Longbourne* by Jo Baker. Longbourne is set among the servants in the world of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, so come enjoy a Potluck dinner and viewing of the 2005 movie, *Pride and Prejudice*. All are invited, we would love to see you!
- January 5 - *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, (led by Linsy Biege)
- Feb 2 - *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd, (led by Kristy Yates)

## SERVE

Save the dates for our Holiday Outreach Activities:

- Red Kettle Bell Ringing: On November 22, 2014 WPC will be supporting the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Program at Acem #1. We will be ringing from 9 AM to 8 PM. Sign-ups will be after each Sunday worship service in Wright-Herberich Hall or on the bulletin board in the hall. Contact Joh Daugherty at 330-666-5645 if you have any questions.
- Christmas Baskets for families in need will be available for purchase starting in November, and will be delivered on Saturday, December 13.
- The Giving Tree will be in the Sanctuary throughout Advent to collect hats, scarves and gloves for children at ACCESS. Please encourage children to participate and help keep children in the local community warm this year.
- Our denomination's Joy Gift offering will be taken during worship on December 21, 2014.

### **Be a Communion Volunteer**

All former and current Elders and Deacons are invited to serve our congregation by volunteering as a Communion Server. Sign-up sheets for December 7, 2014 and January 11, 2015 are on the bulletin board by Wright Herberich Hall. If you wish, to receive the sign-up sheets via e-mail, please add your name to the list hanging next to the sign-up sheets. Thank you for service to Westminster. you think at westminsterakron@gmail.com.

## **Support Our Children's Education Program! Godly Play® – 1st through 5th Grade Curriculum Fall 2014 – Winter 2014– Spring 2015**

On Sunday, September 21, and Sunday, September 28, members and friends of WPC had an opportunity to visit and support our new Godly Play classroom for children in grades 1-5. Godly Play teaches children the art of using Christian language - parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action - helping them become more fully aware of the mystery of God's presence in their lives. Godly Play values the oral tradition of storytelling, and the stories are told using beautifully crafted objects. Godly Play is practiced in a "prepared environment" in the tradition of the Montessori method of education. The materials are very sturdy and should last for many years. Westminster has purchased several stories to complete the 2014-2015 curriculum for 1st through 5th grades. Please show your support by contributing. The price range for Godly Play stories is \$15 to \$400. The opportunity to donate online to the overall Godly Play program is available at westminsterakron.com or send a check to Westminster Presbyterian Church 1250 W. Exchange St. Akron, Ohio 44313 noting "Godly Play" in the memo line.

### **Thank you to our Godly Play® Sponsors!**

Thanks to those who have pledged to help buy stories and books: Cathy & Kevin Melder, Andi & Eric Jopperi, Pat & Sharlene Santelli, Cindy Weiss, Jim Mismas, Erin & Kevin Spring, Tom Freeman, Barb & Jim Shriner, Polly Fisher, Kelly & Ryan Adams, Edith Willoughby, Marian Wahl, Todd & Jamie Willis, Tracy McLean Ehrler, Teri Zolman, Barbara Thackeray, Labbe Family, Todd Feemster, Walter Hayes, Bob Leonard, Edith Willoughby, Pat & Amanda Schumaker, Kate & Mike Grau, and Lisa Bensen-Harp. And thanks to those who built the shelves for this unique room: Mike Keenan (Barberton FPC), Bob Leonard, Karl McConnell (Barberton FPC), Bill Melder, Don Rearick, Pat Santelli, Dave Stobbs.

### **Christian Education for All Ages, Sundays, 9:30-10:15 a.m.**

- Godly Play Bible Story Room: 3 year-olds-kindergartners, Room 104
- New Godly Play Class: Grades 1-5, Room 202
- Grades 6-12 in the Student Center.
- Parents: Library Conversations in the library
- Adults in Room 106: studying "Discovering the Psalms." We will study a new topic when Advent starts.
- Children's Choir Rehearsal: Sundays during the second half of worship

All children in kindergarten-5th grades are invited to attend rehearsal for children's choir each Sunday. Children will be dismissed to Room 207 in the Education Wing

for rehearsal after the Doxology in worship (approximately 10:50 am) and can be picked up after worship.

- **Preschoolers-Kindergartners Child Care:** During 10:30 Worship After the Doxology in worship, 3 year-olds through kindergartners may go to Room 104 for supervised, age-appropriate activities. They may be picked up there after worship.

**Sunday School WILL be in session** on the 1st Sunday of Advent, November 30, at 9:30 AM, as we begin our journey to Bethlehem. Please make a point to begin the season with this beautiful story.

### **Children's Pageant-Practices and Sign-Ups**

Pageant plans are in the works! The children will present the Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 14 during the worship service. Besides rehearsing the hymns during the children's choir time on Sundays, there will be a full rehearsal on Sunday, November 30 at 4:30 PM {right before the Advent Workshop and Potluck} and at 8:45 AM on the day of the Pageant, December 14th. Stacy Franzmann and Sheila Svoboda are our talented directors this year. On Sunday November 9, there will be a table set-up at the Presbyterian Pandemonium for sign-up for the Pageant. We hope to have many children participate so please make a point to sign-up and join us!

A part of the children's pageant, we will bring gifts forward to the altar. These gifts will be delivered that day to Children Services to be put in the Holiday Room Program. These gifts are selected by foster parents and grandparents for children in their custody. Some items of greatest need include:

*For tweens & teens:* personal care products, body pillows and pillow cases, hand held games, brightly colored slippers, trendy purses, wallets and jewelry. *For School Age children:* dolls (all ethnicities), large cars & trucks, craft kits, action figures, puzzles and activity books. *For Infants & Toddlers:* baby dolls, baby blocks, new stuffed animals, educational toys, cloth or board books and large sized cars and trucks. *Thank you for helping to instill the joy of giving in your children and the joy of Christmas to families in need.*

### **Well Made Cinnamon Rolls**

The Third Annual Well-Made Bake Sale: The members of the Well (WPC's youth group) want to make your holiday preparations a little bit easier. We will be making homemade cinnamon rolls on December 14. Students will be taking orders in Wright Herberich Hall following worship starting November 24 into early December. You can also send orders to Kevin Melver ([wpcoffice1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcoffice1250@gmail.com)).

### **Adult Education Interest Study, we want your input!**

Westminster currently offers several opportunities for adults to study the Bible, Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM and Thursday morning at 8:00 AM. Since these time may not work for everyone we want to know if and when you would like a Bible study class offered. An insert will be in the bulletin on Sunday, November 9 to give your opinion and preferred times. Or email the church office and let us know what you think at [westminsterakron@gmail.com](mailto:westminsterakron@gmail.com).

## **COME**

### **Men's Group**

The next meeting of the Westminster Men's Club will be at 11:30 AM on Monday, November 10 at the Olive Garden on Market Street in Montrose. All are welcome to this time of fellowship. If you are not contacted and want to come, please let Jon Daugherty know at 330-666-5645.

### **Third Sunday Dinners**

The next dates for Third Sunday Dinner will be November 16 and December 21. We look forward to everyone joining us, please invite a neighbor, friend, or someone in need. Enjoy a fall walk in the Celtic Garden after the wonderful dinner!

## **ENCOUNTER**

### **Monday Supper Club**

October 27 at 6:00pm. All members are welcome to join us for dinner. Bring a casserole, vegetable, salad, or dessert to share and your own place setting. Beverages are provided. Our program will be presented by The Summit County Historical Society, "Understanding the American Hobo" from their "Remember When" series. For reservations, please call Harloe and Harriet Cutler at 330-836-9036. Monday Supper Club will have their Christmas dinner and program on Monday, December 1st at Concordia at Sumner on Ridgewood Road. Mark your calendar. Details to come.

### **Presbyterian Women**

Save the dates and watch for more details on our quarterly church wide PW gatherings:

- Saturday, December 6, from 1 PM-3 PM **Recharging your Soul** – A holiday tea hosted by the Evening Circle with vocalist Heather Parr.
- Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 10 AM-2 PM
- Saturday, April 25, 2015 from 10 AM-2 PM