



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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The Script June – July 2018

Pastor's Corner

Jim's Retirement

After 23 years of faithful service to Westminster and over 50 years of musically focused worship leadership in the greater church, our much-loved Music Director and Organist, Jim Mismas, is retiring. His final Sunday with the choir and at the organ is May 27, 2018. The search committee charged with finding Jim's replacement is carefully considering several outstanding candidates for the position. We will be sure to inform you about next steps in the transition process as those details emerge.

If you would like to mail a card, memory, or photograph to Jim and Bruce, you can do so at their residence, located at 954 Hereford Drive, Akron, Ohio 44303. You may be pleased to know that Session has voted to honor Jim with the designation of Music Director Emeritus, and that a plaque has been ordered, to be affixed to the side of the organ facing the congregation. It will read as follows: In Grateful Appreciation of James A. Mismas, Music Director Emeritus, Who Served Westminster from 1995-2018.

Construction

This summer, Westminster is gearing up for some much needed improvements. Beginning May 29, the flooring in the sanctuary, narthex, chapel, pastor's study, and adjacent hallways will be replaced with new materials. We expect the work to be

completed in time for the fall kick-off, Rally Day celebration in September. Until then, the aforementioned level of the church facility will be inaccessible.

In anticipation of the remodel, there are a number of items that need to be moved from the sanctuary level (e.g. hymnals, Bibles, etc.) to Wright-Herberich Hall and to other storage locations throughout the church. If you are willing to give of your time for this purpose, please arrive at the church at 9 a.m. on Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day holiday). We do not know how long it will take to complete these tasks. Thus, no end time is being publicized. If you arrive later than 9 a.m. and no one is present, then the work has already been completed.

Summer Worship

Once again, Westminster is providing two worshiping opportunities on Sunday mornings during the summer. Due to sanctuary renovations, our traditional service will be held in Wright-Herberich Hall at 10:30 a.m. In addition, a second, earlier service is offered from June 10 - August 26. This includes all Sundays in June, July, and August with the exception of June 3. On that date, Dr. Alex Sider is preaching at 10:30 a.m. in Wright-Herberich Hall and offering the Eberts Lecture over lunch to follow. Dr. Sider will be speaking about ministering to those with disabilities.

The early service meets on the Johnstone Patio, weather permitting. In case of rain, the service is held in Wright-Herberich Hall. Communion at the early service will be administered on June 10, June 24, July 8, July 22, August 12, and August 26. Communion will be administered at 10:30 a.m. on June 10, July 8, and August 12. We look forward to seeing you in worship!

Peace and best wishes,
Jon

Pastoral Time Away

Pastor Jon Hauerwas will be on vacation from June 17 to June 28 and on study leave from July 23 - July 29.

COME

Ministering To Those With Disabilities



On Sunday June 3 at 11:30 a.m.
the Discipleship Committee invites you to the
2018 Eberts Lecture
presented by Alex Sider

Dr. Sider is on the Religion Faculty at Bluffton University and will be talking about caring for the spiritual and emotional needs of the disabled.

Face to Face: Connecting Anti-Ableism with Biblical Interpretation

For many Christians today, the Bible promotes radical inclusion for marginalized people in community. Often, however, biblical texts were written in contexts - racism, ethnocentrism, classism and sexism-- that created and reinforced marginalization. Sider's lecture will examine another dimension of marginalization, ableism, and discuss three biblical texts (Genesis 16, Leviticus 21, and John 9) that pose problems for Christian interpreters who think of the Bible as straightforwardly "good news" for persons with disabilities. Our discussion will create careful theological reflection on the practice of biblical interpretation for Christians who want to use the resources of their faith to advocate for inclusion and social justice.



J. Alexander Sider, Ph.D.

*Harry and Jean Yoder Scholar in Bible and Religion
Director of Peace and Conflict Studies - Bluffton University
Bluffton, OH 45817*

Alex Sider teaches religion and peace and conflict studies at Bluffton University. His research and teaching focus on the connections among medical ethics, disability studies and Christian theology in historic peace church traditions. He is the author of *To See History Doxologically* (Eerdmans, 2011) and, with Isaac Villegas, *Presence: Giving and Receiving God* (Wipf & Stock, 2010), as well as numerous articles on theology, peace studies, and disability studies. Sider earned a Ph.D. in theology and ethics from Duke University. He lives in Bluffton, OH with his family.

ENCOUNTER

Presbyterian Women



Those pictured:
Front row: Joan Buehl,
Kris Keller, Margo
Works, and Suzanne
Grafinger.
Back row: Kristy Yates,
Char Molinaro, and
Becky Pool.

Officers of Presbyterian Women were installed to service on April 29, 2018.

GROW

Book Discussion Group

Join the Book Discussion Group for a monthly lively discussion! We meet on the second Monday of the month in the church library at 7:00 p.m.

- Monday, June 11 - *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Gann, led by Harriet Cutler
- Monday, July 9 - *The German Girl* by Armando Lucas Correa, led by Cathy Melver
- Monday, August 13 - *The Power* by Naomi Alderman, led by Kacey Yates Gable
- Monday, September 10 - *The Last Castle* by Denise Kiernan, led by Cathy Melver

SERVE

First Sunday Food Collection/Third Sunday Dinners

Please continue to support our food missions by bringing items to the church on Sundays, June 3 and July 1 to be collected during worship.

Third Sunday Dinners will be on a summer recess due to the sanctuary remodel. We will resume on September 16, 2018. If you would like to volunteer as a cook, server or dishwasher contact Gert Wilms at gertrudewilms@gmail.com.

■ *Education News*

Adult Education/Bible Study

There are no regularly scheduled adult education offerings on Sunday mornings during the months of June, July, and August.

However, you are always welcome to bring a brown bag lunch and join us for Bible Study at noon on Thursdays. We are currently studying the New Testament book of Acts.

Youth Ministry



Westminster youth recently volunteered at the Haven of Rest. They made cards with uplifting spiritual messages and a few of the youth played the piano while the residents ate their dinner. The youth also sang a song for the residents. The cards went to the women. We were told that many of the women collect the cards and several of the women send them to loved ones in prison.

The residents truly enjoyed the songs the youth played. Some of the residents sang along, clapped, and even danced to the music. A few personally thanked the youth for playing. Brooke, a youth who volunteered at the event, had the following to say, *“It was truly amazing! The people eating dinner genuinely enjoyed our music and were dancing and singing to it. It is so great knowing that music can brighten someone’s day so much.”*

WPC Youth to Kalahari

All WPC youth and friends are invited to join us for a trip to Kalahari! Lunch will be provided.

- Youth just need to bring \$30, a swimsuit, towel, and a change of clothes.
- We will meet at the church on Thursday, June 7 at 8:30 a.m. and return at 4:30 p.m.

Please register online via the google form, and share with any friends who might want to come with you. The deadline is Sunday, June 3. You can also register at wpcyouth1250@gmail.com.

WPC Youth Mission Trip 2018 to Cincinnati

6th - 12th grade youth, from WPC and friends, will take part in a Summer 2018 Youth Mission Trip in Cincinnati from June 24 - June 29.



VBS 2018 - The Parables of Jesus

The children this summer will be learning six of Jesus' Parables in a Godly Play format. We will explore them through music, art, and stories, each day, to learn to still themselves for prayer. We will also have yoga. Our goal is for the children to hear these core teachings and respond to them through art and prayer, all with God's help!

We look forward to seeing the children 4 yrs-6th grade from 9:15-noon, Monday-Thursday, July 9-12. On Thursday, July 12 at 6:00 p.m., there will be a Potluck Dinner for participants and their families. Our Mission Focus this year will be World Relief, an organization that helps refugees who are making Akron their home. They are looking for brooms with dust pans, queen and twin size bedding and blankets, alarm clocks, can openers, lamps and pots & pans. We will be collecting these all week and they will have a representative come to our potluck to speak. This is a great opportunity for making concrete to our children Jesus' call to love our neighbor!

Please share this information with anyone you think will be interested. They can register at westminsterakron.com.

Annual Ice Cream Social

Our Annual Ice Cream Social on the Johnstone Patio is Saturday August 18 7:00-8:30 p.m. Save the date! This is a great event for ALL Ages!

Children Ministries Nursery updates

Our new Childcare Director is Traci Range. She can be contacted at wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com. Traci has been with us as a substitute childcare worker and has been so consistent and so good with our youngest members that we are thrilled she is willing to step up to this position. We are hiring a new substitute worker, Chelsea Moses. We are happy to welcome her here this summer!

Our final touches in the Nursery and Preschool room are complete. Please stop in to see the Toddler Play Loft in the Nursery and also our new dress-up area in room 104.

Information to Know

Membership Inquiry

Are you interested in deepening your connection with Westminster? The next Membership Class will be held on Saturday, June 2 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 10 from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Those desiring membership will then be received during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on June 10.

Celtic Garden



In spite of the cold spring, whereby a lot of perennials hadn't yet broken ground, and in spite of the thunderstorm that blew up during Friday evening setup, and in spite of the bone-chilling cold and damp on the day of the sale and the cold wind on Sunday, the perennial sale was a success! People bought pots of perennials to the tune of \$961, which will go

Pictured are: Lou Albertson, Anna Marie Wilton, Marge Rearick, Cindy Beidler, and Earl Pierson.

toward making the garden beautiful again this summer. Thanks to all who shared and bought perennials, and to everyone who helped make the sale a success. May is spent planting the flowers that will put on a show in June, July, and August, and that will also be used for the chancel arrangements. Taking care of the garden is a lot of work, and everyone is welcome to help, no experience necessary. Upcoming workdays will be June 9 and 23, and July 7 and 21 at 9:00 a.m.



Church life

- *Weddings*: Congratulations to Sophia Louise VanDerSchyf and Ron Zito for their wedding on May 5, 2018.
- *Births*: Elle Grace Nacin, daughter of Stephanie and Jesse Nacin, born April 18, 2018. See also baptisms below.
- *Baptisms*: Cora Walston, daughter of Steve and Marnie (Wagner) Walston, was baptized on February 18, 2018.

Brooke Jordan was baptized on May 20, 2018.

Samuel Julius Gilbert, son of Rob and Bridget Gilbert, will be baptized on May 27, 2018. He was born on January 26, 2018.

Elle Grace Nacin will be baptized on May 27, 2018.



- *Confirmands*: Confirmation of Brooke Jordan, Caden Labbe, and Ryen Moorhead, on May 20, 2018.

- *Graduates*: Sarah Laferty graduated from the University of Akron, on May 12, with a Master of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology.



Hannah Stutler (pictured) graduated from Firestone High School; she will attend the University of Arizona with a focus on Environmental Studies.

Sonja Lal graduated from Firestone High School; she is currently a student at the University of Akron.

Katie Engels graduated from Clemson University with a degree in Political Science; she will attend law school at the University of South Carolina.

- *Deaths:* Sympathy is extended to the families of Richard Pence who died in Bradenton, Florida, on February 24, 2018; Muriel (Mimi) Hutchinson died on March 31, 2018; Esther Nelson died on April 13, 2018.

New Members Joined on April 22, 2018



Allan and Carolyn Doelling were previously 30+ year active members of Westminster. Their two daughters, Jenny and Amy grew up here. Jenny died in 2014. Amy (Dr. Tim Helton) lives in Atlanta. The Doellings have two grandchildren. Allan is semi-retired from a career in marketing and business development. Carolyn is a homemaker and has been a part-time substitute teacher at Our Lady of the Elms High School for the past 23 years. The Doellings will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary in August.



Greg and Suzanne Grafinger moved to Ohio last fall following Greg's retirement to be close to family (Kathryn, Kyle, Xavier and Georgia). Greg was a chemical engineer and Suzanne was a paralegal in the Buffalo area. Greg enjoys golf and other outdoor activities; Suzanne enjoys baking, working on genealogy and reading. They have been impressed with the friendliness of the people in the area and look forward to all the Akron area has to offer.



Claudine Schooley comes from Carcassonne, a Southern city of France, where she met her husband David Schooley. Dave and Claudine have two daughters: Rachelle (22) and Jordane (20) who are currently living in California. David grew up at Westminster Presbyterian Church, where Jean and Arthur Schooley, his parents, are active members. She recently joined the Rotary club of Akron. She is looking forward to meeting Westminster's members and to making new friends.

From The Church Office

Germaine Wilson was hired to serve as Westminster's part-time Director of Communications during the pastorate of Derek Starr-Redwine. She served faithfully during the remainder of his pastorate, for the entirety of the interim pastorate of Conley Zommermaand, and for nearly three years of Jon Hauerwas' pastorate. Germaine ultimately resigned from her position in April of 2018 to begin a new full-time position. We wish her all the best in her new endeavors.

Given Germaine's departure, we have welcomed Claudine Schooley to our staff team to serve as our part-time Office Administrator. Claudine joined Westminster as a member on April 22 and began working in our office, effectively assuming Germaine's duties, the following week. Please welcome her!

Worship Attendance Statistics

Year	2017	2018
March	10:30	10:30
week 1	150	149
week 2	169	136
week 3	161	139
week 4	193 (Youth Sunday)	208 (Palm Sunday)
April	10:30	10:30
week 1	156	21 (8:00) 289 (10:30) (Easter)
week 2	211 (Palm Sunday)	153
week 3	53 (8:00) 335 (10:30) (Easter)	151
week 4	190	167
week 5		163

From the Finance Office

April 2018	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$47,761.78	\$49,083.29	\$227,673.27	**\$222,968.16
Total Expenses	\$53,456.54	\$58,844.23	\$201,016.83	\$221,130.73
Net	(\$5,694.76)	(\$9,760.94)	\$26,656.44	\$1,837.43

**Budgeted total revenues include anticipated withdrawals from Rowley investments necessary to balance the budget totaling \$53,801 for the year.

Contributions year-to-date are \$24,000 above budget. This is approximately the same as last year. Unpledged contributions are under budget. As of April 30, accumulated revenues exceed budget by approximately \$4,700.

Expenses year to date are \$20,114 below budget. Variations between budget and actual expenses are often due to timing. For budgeting purposes, large dollar expenses are budgeted in the month of expenditure. However many of the lesser expense items are budgeted by one-twelfth per month. Personnel Expenses are under budget due to the custodian transition. Properties expense for snowplowing exceeds the annual budgeted amount by \$3,300. Overall year-to-date 2018 expenses are up \$9,000 from a year ago.

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the financial report for the period ending April 30, 2018.

Maintaining Our Ministries

The members of Westminster Presbyterian Church and the greater community appreciate and sincerely thank you for your years of faithful giving that has sustained our important ministries. Another way you can preserve the Church is through a charitable bequest. When estate planning, please search your heart to find a place for Westminster Presbyterian Church in your will or living trust. Let your bequest be a testament to future generations of the faithful. Thank you and God bless you.

August/September 2018 Script

August/September 2018 Script will be distributed on Sunday, July 29, 2018. Please have your articles, and pictures, about activities sent to wpcoffice1250@gmail.com by noon on July 17, 2018.

WPC on Social Media Follow us on **Facebook** at Westminster Presbyterian Church and **Twitter** @WestPresAkron.

WPC Staff

The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas, Pastor jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com
(cell phone 330-606-4551) (weekly office hours: Monday-Wednesday, 9:30-11:00 am)

Damon Horner, Daytime Custodian wpcbuilding@gmail.com
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Eileen Martinez, Staff Accountant wpcfinance1250@gmail.com
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Sheila Svoboda, Dir. of Children and Family Ministry wpcchildren1250@gmail.com
(weekly office days: Tuesday and Thursday)

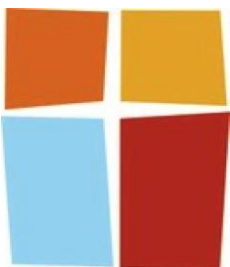
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Sean Williams, Youth Ministry Administrator wpcyouth1250@gmail.com
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Zack Troyer, Director of Children's Choir wpcchildrenschoir1250@gmail.com
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Ron Hazelett, Director of Tween/Youth and Adult Bell Choir wpcbellchoir@gmail.com
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