



THE SPIRE

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Pittsburgh, PA

My Friends,

The Pastor Nominating Committee will be making a recommendation for the Senior Pastor for Westminster Presbyterian Church at the congregational meeting on November 1.

The candidate will preach the sermon, and the PNC will present the terms of call and share their thoughts on why this person is the one whom they believe God has called to serve with you.

As I said in my very first sermon here,

“Success is not measured by how quickly a minister is called; success is measured by how the time is well spent in calling the minister God has chosen.”

Pending the approval of their recommendation, my last day in the office will be Friday, December 11, and my last Sunday with you will be December 13.

I appreciate your kind words and generous spirit over the last 20 months that made me feel at home, and I will be forever grateful.

It was a privilege and honor to be part of this gifted and dedicated staff at WPC. I valued their leadership and support as we worked together during this time of transition.

I am grateful for the work of the Pastor Nominating Committee, and I am excited for you as you begin this new path on your journey of faith.

I will keep you all in my prayers, and you will always have a special place in my heart.

With love and blessings,

Bruce Lancaster



Our Mission: We seek to be a caring community of faith committed to bringing people to Christ and developing their faith through worshipping God together, teaching the faith, and serving in mission.

PASTORS

DR. BRUCE LANCASTER, *Interim Senior Pastor, Head of Staff*
 REV. LOUISE ROGERS, *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care*

ADMINISTRATIVE & BUSINESS SUPPORT

PEG KINSEY, *Executive Assistant to the Pastors*
 RICHARD MILLS, *Church Financial Manager*
 KIMBERLY DUNKOVICH, *Associate Accountant*
 MANDY THOMAS, *Project Manager*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

NATALIE BROWN, *Director of Children's & Family Ministry*
 DEBB EGLI, *Assistant Director of Children's & Family Ministry*
 ED SUTTER, *Director of Youth Ministry & Family Counseling*
 LAURA ECKLIN, *Associate Director of Youth Ministry*

COMMUNICATIONS

ANNA HINER, *Communications & Database Manager*
 JEANNIE SCHOTT, *Graphic Design & Print/Web Manager*
 LAURA WHITCOMB, *Print Room Assistant*

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CHRISTINE HESTWOOD, *Director*
 LORRAINE MILOVAC, *Assistant Director*
 JIM BURNS, *Organist*
 EILEEN MURRAY, *Administrative Assistant*

PROPERTY

CHARLEY RICHARDSON, *Property Manager*

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

JAN BAUMANN, *Volunteer Coordinator*
 CARA DANIELE, *Kitchen Coordinator*

WESTMINSTER RECREATION & OUTREACH CENTER (WROC)

KATHY LONG, *Director*

NURSERY SCHOOL

412-835-2906

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

412-835-9450

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Staff email addresses and phone extensions are available on our website, www.westminster-church.org.

Read the *Spire* online at:
www.westminster-church.org

The Spire is published monthly by the church staff from September through June. Contributions can be made by emailing a Word document to *Spire* editor Sara Kyle at sara@ruhlekyle.org. The deadline for submitting an article is the fifth day of every month for the following month's issue. Please include the author's name, telephone number, email address, and a title. All articles are subject to editing.




Worship at Westminster




Westminster has reopened for in person worship. Please make a reservation to attend in person worship at either 9:00 or 11:00 a.m. Sunday mornings by visiting our website at www.westminster-church.org and clicking on the "Worship Reservations" link.

If you are not comfortable attending in person worship, visit our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/WestminsterUSC or our website for links to the livestream services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday mornings, or watch anytime later on YouTube.

Bridge Contemporary Worship

| |
|---|
|  Sundays |
|  9:00 a.m. |
|  WROC & YouTube Livestream |




Traditional Worship

| |
|--|
|  Sundays |
|  11:00 a.m. |
|  Sanctuary & YouTube Livestream |

The Lord's Supper is celebrated the first Sunday of each month.

Westminster Seminars Online

Live on Sundays 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

| |
|--|
|  Sundays |
|  10:00 a.m. |
|  Zoom <i>(links available on the church website and in the Friday email)</i> |

Please join us for the live Zoom meeting or watch the video later on the Westminster website. The Zoom meeting will open at 9:40 for greetings and conversation.

The seminars welcome all watchers for a time to learn and grow in faith through engaging topics, which change from month to month.

See page 7 for details about November's series and the upcoming Advent series beginning Sunday, November 29.

Upcoming Events

01 NOV All Saints' Day
Congregational Meeting

22 NOV Christ the King Sunday

25 NOV Thanksgiving Eve
No worship service – see page 15 for details about a special Thanksgiving message.

29 NOV First Sunday of Advent



Filling in the Dash

Tucked in November is the observance called All Saints' Day. This is the church occasion when we acknowledge those who have passed on from this life to the church triumphant, particularly those who have died in the past year. Our recognition will be on Sunday, November 1, when we pause to give thanks for the lives of the saints from our congregation. We also give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of believers in this and every age as we pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful too.

At Westminster Church we have a peaceful place for reflection and remembrance in the south courtyard where the columbarium and the labyrinth are located. Here is the final resting place for many loved ones. The courtyard is a beautiful place to sit, meditate, and pray for others. Day and night, people stop by the church to descend the steps for quiet time to pay respects. The names of the saints of our congregation are found in the private niches in the courtyard. Each of these individuals carried a unique story as to how he/she contributed to living out his/her faith as part of the church.

One item that each niche has in common is a small dash between the birth and death year. Everything that happens to us happens in that dash. None of us knows how many years our dash will represent until it is over. We might have a shorter number of days or a hundred years to live. What do you want that dash to mean when your life is over and both dates have been set?

Paul writes in Colossians 2:6-7,

“As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught abounding in thanksgiving.”

This is a good thought to chew on no matter what each day brings!

So much is out of our control in life, but what is in our control is how we choose to live as a person of faith, nourishing our souls so that we can grow into people of thanks. We can begin by each day reflecting on the abundant gifts God has given to us, including thanking God for the saints we have known in our lives. What counts is not so much the number of years we live, but how we live in the number of years we are given. It's how we fill in the dash.

Together on the journey,

Louise

We Remember All the Saints

On All Saints' Day, November 1, we give thanks and remember the members of Westminster Presbyterian Church who have gone on to the church triumphant over the past year. Also with thanksgiving, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age.

Louise Burnette
Laura Brown
Bekki Cain
Dolores Carlson
John Carroll
David J. Copeland
Robert Davis
Allan Dreeland
Louis H. Farmer Jr.

Miles Ford
John Goodman
Richard Heilman
Sylvia Hollinshead
William R. Kramer Sr.
Geri Kuremsky
Ross W. Lappe Jr.
Paul Page
Lorraine Sachse

Joseph Andrew Senge
Scott Robert Senge
William Shaw
Rennay Simmons
Mary Frances Smith
Jean Stockdale
Don Thomas
Patty Twigg

*For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

— William Walsham How, 1864

BETWEEN HERE AND THERE

I'd be willing to bet that just about everywhere you go these days you're inundated with three ideas: 1. Election 2. Pumpkin Spice 3. Gratitude. Together they make up the trinity of this fall season. Advertisers know it, newscasters know it, product companies of all kinds know it, and they all have us hooked. So today, for this one little article, I want to flip to the opposite side of one of these coins. We'll hear a lot about "being thankful" in the coming weeks, perhaps so much so that it becomes white noise in the mix of the other messages. So I got to thinking about the opposite of gratitude.

A simple internet search for the antonym of gratitude shed some very interesting results: the opposite of gratitude is condemnation. Simply put, you cannot live a life of gratitude if you live a life of condemnation; the two are diametrically opposed to one another. Now, to be clear, living a life of gratitude does not mean being thankful for all things. It means being thankful in all things (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Similarly, moving away from condemnation does not mean accepting all things, it means working to redeem all things.

John 3:17 tells us that Jesus came to save the world, not condemn it. Imagine if the opposite were true. Condemnation leads to division, separation, distrust, and resentment. You're surely not surprised that we've seen these things quite a lot over the past several weeks and months. Condemnation is far easier than redemption. It's easier to shove aside, move past, and carry on than it is to lean into, care for, and cooperate. Time after time Jesus turns to his disciples and says, "You go do what I've been doing." We have a part to play in the redemption of this crooked

and broken creation. You and I have a role to play in the narrative of God's Kingdom. You and I are called to be agents of unity and peace (Ephesians 4:3).


If you believe that your life as a follower of Jesus has meaning and impact, then you are called to work toward the redemption of the difficult situations that surround us. I've said it before, but it warrants repeating: Jesus never promised that this work would be easy. In fact, he guarantees the opposite: "In this world you will have trouble" (John 16:33). If you want to kick your feet up, sit back, and forget about the troubles beyond your door, then go ahead and condemn those that you disagree with. But if you want to take part in the work that we pray each week, "Your will be done on earth..." then get ready for things to get sticky. Condemnation is easy. Redemption is hard.

I pray that you have much to be thankful for in this season, and I pray that you live a life of gratitude. So here is my challenge to you: before you give thanks around your table, before you post #grateful, before you hang your Thanksgiving wreath on the front door, ask yourself, "Who have I condemned today – in thought, in word, or in action?" If we all work together toward redemption, we'll all have a whole lot more to be thankful for.

I'd love to hear what struggles you fight against in this battle, and I'd love to learn about the things for which you're thankful. As always, I'm honored to be in this work with all of you. I'd love to connect sometime soon.

Be well!

– Ed Sutter



“ Condemnation is far easier than redemption. It's easier to shove aside, move past, and carry on than it is to lean into, care for, and cooperate. ”

Westminster Seminars Online

Live on Sundays

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Zoom – link available on the church website and in each Friday church email

Please join us for the live Zoom meeting or watch the video later on the Westminster website.

The Zoom meeting will open at 9:40 for greetings and conversation.

The seminars welcome all watchers for a time to learn and grow in faith through engaging topics, which change from month to month.

November 1, 8, 15, 22

Are We There Yet? Pandemic and the End-times

*Steven Tuell, James A. Kelso Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*

Back in March, one of my students asked me, “[I]s this the end of days? I have heard a number of students joke and comment about this, and I think the jokes and comments about the apocalypse do indicate a small underlying fear.” In these next few Sundays, we will look at several texts from both testaments typically read as predicting the end of the world, and consider what the texts themselves actually say about the Apocalypse, the Rapture, the Antichrist, and the Final Judgment. Our perspective throughout will be that we need not worry: not because we know what the future holds, but because we know who holds the future.

Read more about Professor Tuell here: <https://www.pts.edu/tuells>.

Advent Series begins November 29

The Quiet Politics of Jesus

John Burgess, James Henry Snowden Professor of Systematic Theology

These seminars invite us to reflect on how the coming of Christ into the world initiates God’s peaceable kingdom. We will look at the “quiet virtues” of the Christian life (truth-telling, caring, and dignity) and the difference they make for our political life.

November 29 – The Quiet Politics of Jesus

December 6 – Truth-telling and the Politics of Jesus

December 13 – Caring and the Politics of Jesus

December 20 – Dignity and the Politics of Jesus

Read more about Professor Burgess here: <https://www.pts.edu/burgessj>.

Be generous: Invest in acts of charity.
Charity yields high returns.

Don't hoard your goods; spread them around.
Be a blessing to others. This could be your last night.

When the clouds are full of water, it rains.
When the wind blows down a tree, it lies where it falls.

Don't sit there watching the wind. Do your own work.
Don't stare at the clouds. Get on with your life.

Just as you'll never understand
the mystery of life forming in a pregnant woman,
So you'll never understand
the mystery at work in all that God does.

Go to work in the morning
and stick to it until evening without watching the clock.
You never know from moment to moment
how your work will turn out in the end.

Ecclesiastes 11:1-6
The Message

A TikTok Bible Lesson

We spend so much of lives waiting. Waiting in line, waiting in traffic, waiting for a pandemic to end, or even waiting for a child to be born. My husband and I are expecting our first baby in a few short weeks (or long, in my opinion). As you may know, babies are typically born between 37 and 41 weeks. That is a very large window of time, which is not something that really occurred to me until recently. As I write this, I am two days away from that 37-week benchmark. So, I could meet my son any day now, OR it could be another month before I get to hold him in my arms. I pray by the time this article hits your hands he is finally here.

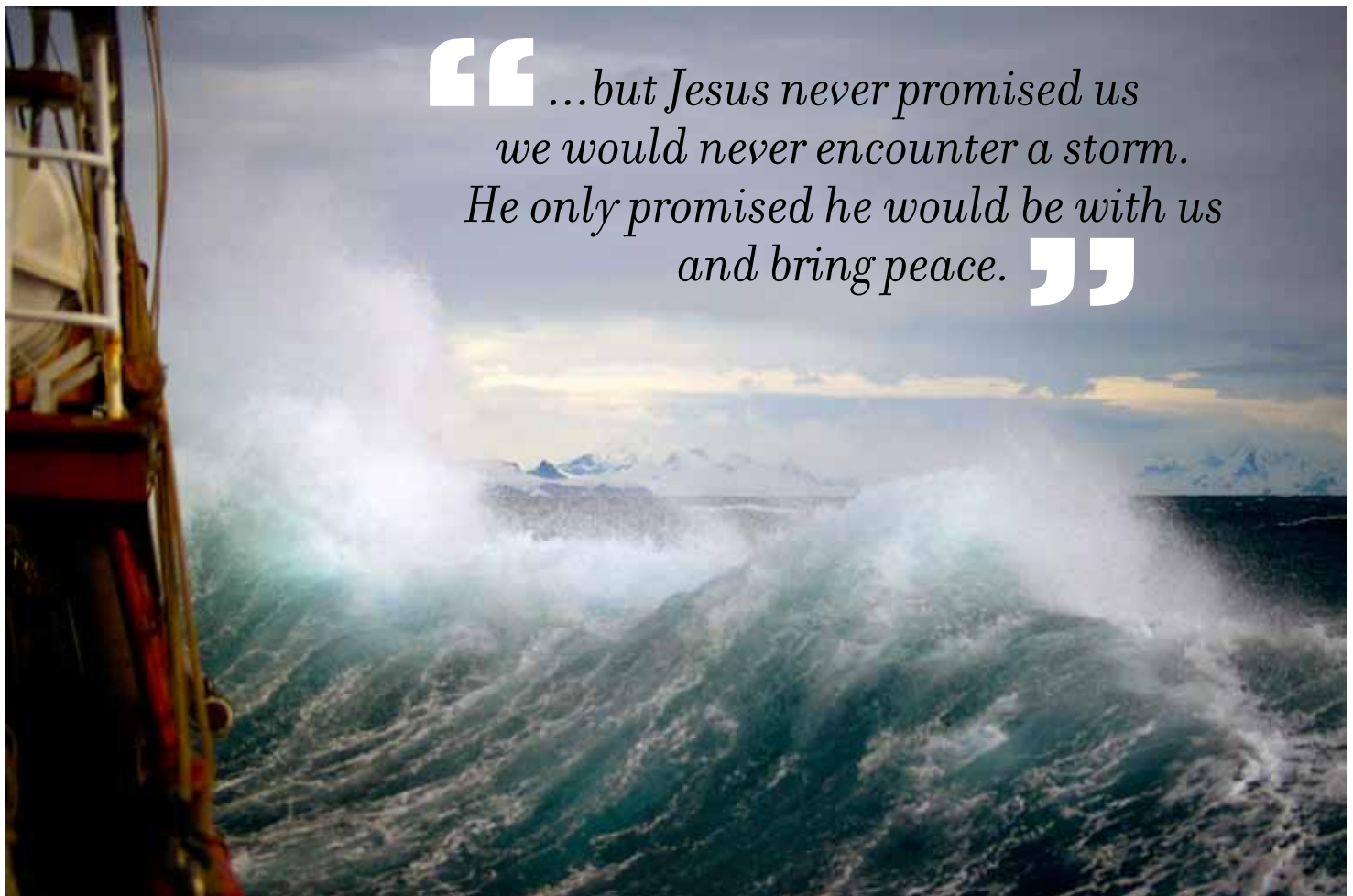
It's not often that we wait for something with no concrete finish line. Since March, we have done a lot of uncertain waiting: for restaurants to open, to come back to worship in person, to hear the plan of action for back to school, etc. When will we be able to go to the grocery store without a mask or hug a friend without hesitation? When can we go to a Steeler game or go to the beach?

When Moses led the people of Egypt through the desert to the Promised Land in the Book of Numbers, they endured a whole lot more waiting than they had anticipated. Forty years is indeed quite a long time. The people wept, they rebelled, they lost faith that God would fulfill his promise.

Have you ever heard of TikTok? It's the newest social media app teens use to upload short videos of puppies, dancing, or really anything! I downloaded it last year when all the Veritas kids started talking about it. (I am 26 years old, but they tell me I still need to worry about being "relevant.") One of our students recently sent me a TikTok video that talked about the disciples out at sea with Jesus in Mark 34. The video goes on to say the disciples were so afraid of the storm. They had never expected to come across any difficulty with Jesus in their boat, but Jesus never promised us we would never encounter a storm. He only promised he would be with us and bring peace. The ending message of the video shows that expecting to live a life without storm is dangerous to our faith. We lose trust in God's promise when we are struggling, but the promise was never a perfect life. It was a promise of life with him.

Let's remember, as Caleb and Joshua reminded the Egyptians in the desert, the Lord is with us! He is guiding us through the desert. He is standing in our boat. He is with us as we wait (impatiently) for whatever is coming next. Just because we are struggling does not mean God has abandoned us or his promise. He is right next to you, prepared to bring you peace in the storm.

– Laura Ecklin



“ *...but Jesus never promised us we would never encounter a storm. He only promised he would be with us and bring peace.* ”

Micah 6:8

DO JUSTICE

LOVE MERCY

WALK HU

On the afternoon of World Communion Sunday, the Westminster community gathered in front of the church and pledged to work to end racism in our community and society. Through scripture, prayers, and hymns, the Lord's requirement of us was clear: "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly" with our God. The following statements from the program help tell the continuing story at Westminster's commitment to loving our neighbors and working for justice.

Dan Paul: Westminster's Work in Homewood

The theme for Westminster's Faith Witness was "Do Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly, End Racism." This is exactly what Westminster is doing in Pittsburgh's poorest community, Homewood.



For the past seven years Westminster has been at the forefront of the renaissance underway in Homewood, which is protecting its most vulnerable residents. This sets it apart from redevelopment in all other communities which have left residents behind. Many call this gentrification. Avoiding gentrification is a top priority for us because 45% of Homewood's residents live in poverty and 66% of its children do.

Westminster has played a leadership role in shaping this truly exciting revitalization initiative for the people of Homewood. We've worked with a team of five black folks and five white folks; this team has held 45 meetings in Homewood and has worked in partnership with the nine leaders of Homewood's nonprofits, which is called the Collaborative. We've also worked with leaders of local government, foundations, and corporations like UPMC, PNC, Highmark, the Allegheny Conference, and 26 other key influencers. They have all been highly supportive. A top UPMC executive told us:

"I applaud your efforts to bring stakeholders from across Pittsburgh together to have this kind of cohesive impact in Homewood on behalf of Homewood's residents, Pittsburgh, and the country. The time has come to take community development to the next level as you are doing. You've proven this is possible, so its power in Homewood will be a role model for many other communities. Everyone should universally embrace what you're doing; it's amazing."



Homewood has become Mayor Peduto's top priority for rebuilding African American communities in Pittsburgh. He believes this will be a role model for other communities both here and across the country. We call it the Hope in Homewood Campaign.

This work is a reflection of what our faith tells us about service. Love our neighbor; what you've done for the least of these you've done for me; and where your heart is, there your treasure will be. God's message to us about serving others is clear, or as Bruce has told us, these are not complicated instructions.

Westminster has long shown an eagerness to make progress in social justice: One hundred forty members attended House of Manna in Homewood. Twenty-six members volunteered for nine months to help Eugene and Dina Blackwell launch their nonprofit. Four years ago, a group from Westminster joined the Grace Book Club, hosted by Grace Memorial Presbyterian Church in the Hill District, to discuss books on racial justice. Faith in Life discussed many of these same books on race for over ten years. John Wallace gave three sermons and a seminar on Homewood at Westminster. His first sermon was on privilege. It received vigorous applause which, as you know, almost never happens.

And because of all this, Westminster has become a role model for other churches: Pittsburgh Presbytery has five task forces on race; Bob Dilly and I have participated in one of them. These five groups have talked and talked for years but haven't made much real progress. Sheldon Sorge, general minister to the presbytery, tells me that Westminster's work in Homewood is moving the needle on systemic racism and social justice more than any other activity in the presbytery.

For 65 years I struggled with my faith. Homewood has changed everything for me. It's given me purpose, humility, and joy beyond anything I had imagined. I have truly been blessed with the opportunity to do God's work in Homewood. I hope you will join us.

MBLY END RACISM

Mandy Thomas: Westminster and South Hills Interfaith Movement

Today I speak to you both as a member of Westminster Presbyterian and as a member of the Board of Directors of SHIM, the South Hills Interfaith Movement. I am only one of a long line of Westminster Board members selected to ensure strong ties between the two organizations. Social justice has been woven into the fabric of SHIM over our more than 53-year history. Rev. Galbreath met with a rabbi and a priest, and together they founded SHIM in 1967 – the year before Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, and two short years after Rev. Galbreath went to Selma with MLK.



SHIM has coordinated many social justice programs during our history including an eRacism program in the late 80s and early 90s and the Fall Peace & Justice Program and the Festival of Cultures in the early 2000s. We also held Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebrations for several consecutive years in the 90s and 2000s.

Today, SHIM’s programming focuses primarily on the poor with emphasis on foreign-born, largely refugee individuals and families. As the South Hills has grown in racial and ethnic diversity, SHIM’s programming surrounding that population has as well. Of the 7,500 individuals that SHIM serves annually, more than 50% are of a minority race or ethnicity. Pittsburgh has the largest concentration of Bhutanese/Nepalese refugees in the United States, for example, and many of them are served by SHIM.

SHIM now serves individuals from over 25 countries speaking over 30 different languages and dialects, all with strong and consistent support from Westminster. The mentoring program, which partners willing volunteers (including some Westminster members) with small groups of refugee youth, has helped lead to incredible stories of first generation Americans going to college for engineering, for example. While many of these people fled their countries for fear of persecution, and are extremely grateful for the opportunities afforded by living in the United States, they still face discrimination in housing, employment, and education. So SHIM works every day to help encourage and support them, and thus by extension, Westminster does as well.

SHIM is proud to support all our neighbors, regardless of their race, ethnicity, or socio-economic status. And we are proud of our shared heritage with Westminster Presbyterian Church doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God.



Flow (Vinyasa) Yoga - A.M.

**Zoom
Option Now
Available!**

Class focuses on body awareness while stretching, breathing, building balance and strength, and increasing flexibility using a smooth flow format. Prayer and scripture will be incorporated to help build and support the spirit, mind, and body. Class is suitable for beginner through intermediate. Yoga positions will be described and modified for those new to yoga. Students should be able to get up and down off the floor with ease.

You can select either in person or a Zoom option for Flow (Vinyasa) Yoga with Rebecca Paul. Once we receive your paid registration for Zoom, you'll receive a confirmation that includes the link. You can join us from the safety and comfort of your own home.

If you prefer in person yoga, please join us in Fellowship Hall. We have successfully been holding in person classes since July. Space is limited and preregistration is required. We continue to work diligently to provide a safe atmosphere and adhere to the safety guidelines issued by the Pennsylvania Secretary of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Visit our website for a detailed list of the guidelines and protocols required for the WROC.

Bring a mat, yoga block (if desired), and water bottle. For your safety, mats and yoga blocks will not be provided and water fountains are not in use.



November 5 – December 22
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Tuesdays: \$42
Thursdays: \$36

wroc.westminster-church.org

Please visit the WROC website for details about all available classes, registration information, and WROC safety protocols and guidelines.

Alexander Gilfillan Garden

We would like to thank all our volunteers for their help this year. Gilfillan Garden, a collaboration between Westminster Presbyterian, Upper St. Clair High School, and the Historical Society of Upper St. Clair, is one of several SHIM gardens that serve over 7,500 people in need in the South Hills area.

Despite COVID, the drought, and excessive heat, we had a very good year.

Total harvest for the season was
1,105 pounds!

In March, when SHIM was deemed an essential service by the state, Gilfillan Garden began preparations. We received a grant from Rotary of Upper St. Clair-Bethel Park (Breakfast) that enabled us to purchase cattle fencing to use as vertical trellises for several vining crops. And thankfully in June, the Historical Society delivered two cisterns for water storage on site. In past years we solely relied on rainfall, which we all know was non-existent this summer.

This has been a meaningful project for everyone involved and another important way that Westminster continues to support SHIM and our neighbors. As we put the garden to bed for winter in a couple of weeks, we'll be thinking about all the fun improvements we can make next year.



Forward in Faith Property Update



FORWARD IN FAITH

This month we highlight two projects that Forward in Faith has made possible that are timely and necessary for continuing worship both remotely and in person during these exceptional COVID times.

An upgrade in the sanctuary audio-visual equipment had been on the wish list for the Property Commission for many years. During planning of the Forward in Faith campaign in 2018, it was included in a list of projects to be completed in 5-10 years, but no dollars were assigned to it. But in COVID times, ensuring the ability of the church to reach out became its most important task. Thus, the Property Commission re-prioritized and began a project that included replacing and upgrading the sanctuary's visual projection system, and replacing and adding cameras and necessary equipment for video livestreaming and recording of our worship services in both the sanctuary and the WROC. This work is still underway, but current expenditures total approximately \$57,800.

For several months, we all watched and waited. Church leadership convened a team to determine reopening strategies. One option became available that had not been considered before: making indoor air quality improvements by installing a state-of-the-art air ionizer on several HVAC units to help provide a safe indoor environment. This technology has been laboratory tested and can kill COVID-19 and other viruses at a rate of 99.4% rate of reduction. It purifies the air by eliminating airborne particles, odors, and pathogens. Several larger areas of the church now have improved air quality. Those include the sanctuary, Galbreath Chapel, Fellowship Hall, Room 194 (the enclosed room at the back of Fellowship Hall), Memorial Parlor, the studio, and the WROC. This will help in our efforts to reopen church for in person worship and for small group gatherings. There are currently no plans to install ionizers in the window units of other offices and classrooms because those systems are exorbitantly expensive. Again, this project was not included in the original Forward in Faith plans but improves the life and vitality of the church at a cost of \$16,222.

The Property Commission continues to work toward building out the Forward in Faith webpage with updates and pictures. Future updates will also be included here in the *Spire* and in the weekly emails as appropriate. We will provide links and further updates as we move forward.

Controls on all spending remain in place. Please contact Jay Galbreath or Mandy Thomas if you would like to review further details on property projects, and Richard Mills if you have any questions on the financials. The Forward in Faith binder is also available and is updated each month with copies of bids, invoices, and notes.

We continue to welcome pledges and donations to the campaign. As we continue through uncertain times, we know God is with us still and we will keep moving Forward in Faith together.

*As we
continue through
uncertain times,
we know God
is with us still
and we will keep
moving Forward
in Faith together.*



Writers of Westminster: New Book Presale This Month!

Somewhere Under the Rainbow

The Writers of Westminster are excited to introduce their fourth book for Christmas this year, titled *Somewhere Under the Rainbow*. As in past years, the book will be 92 pages long with lots of photos and illustrations that highlight our church and its members in a positive and blessed way.



Although The Writers have not been able to meet in person since the start of the pandemic, we have kept in touch via email and telephone calls, and everyone kept writing. It was our personal cure for the coronavirus and stay-at-home edicts. The pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is filled with wonderful reflections, stories, and poems that will warm you this winter.

Due to current church guidelines during COVID, we will not be able to host a signing session or sell books in person after worship. So, we are asking you to **please preorder your book** by ordering online through the church's website at www.westminster-church.org/events/event-list/the-writers-of-westminster. Or, you can mail a check, payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church, with a note in the memo line for "Rainbow Book" and the number of copies you'd like. Checks can be mailed to:

Westminster Presbyterian Church
ATTN: Rich Mills
2040 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Books are \$10 each. Books will be available for pickup at the church in time for Christmas. If you would prefer your book(s) be mailed to you, please add \$3 for postage for one book, and an additional \$1 for any subsequent books.

The Writers of Westminster thank you for your interest and support.

Thanksgiving 2020

Christ United Methodist Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church have a long partnership in serving the South Hills of Pittsburgh. For decades the congregations have gathered on Thanksgiving Eve to worship together. This year, we will not be able to join together for the worship service, but watch for a special Thanksgiving message from Pastors Louise Rogers and Chris Morgan.

Financial Report

As of September 30, 2020

| Income | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| September Income | \$129,543.80 |
| September Budget Income | \$201,276.87 |
| YTD 2020 Income | \$1,692,098.66 |

| Expenses | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| September Expenses | \$146,952.40 |
| September Budget Expenses | \$183,663.40 |
| YTD 2020 Expenses | \$1,488,000.58 |



**WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

2040 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15241
www.westminster-church.org
A PC(USA) Congregation

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Thank you for helping to care for God's creation by recycling this *Spire*.



www.facebook.com/Westminster.Pittsburgh



www.youtube.com/user/WestminsterUSC

Rejoice always,
pray without ceasing,
**give thanks in all
circumstances;**
for this is the will of God
in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

