



THE SPiRE

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Pittsburgh, PA

My Friends,

People are looking everywhere for help, support, and guidance for the challenges of life, especially in these days of darkness clouded by natural disasters, a global pandemic, social injustices, and partisan politics.

So, what are people of good faith to do?

For starters, we should not give in to the darkness; we should combat darkness with light.

John begins his Gospel with that image, *"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."*

Being even more specific, Jesus says it of himself, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."*

We are people of the light because the light of the universe burns inside us.

Jesus says it plain, *"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

Jesus gives us his message of love and salvation, of freedom and justice, of grace and mercy, and calls us to good works, a life of helping and serving that changes lives and comforts those in need.

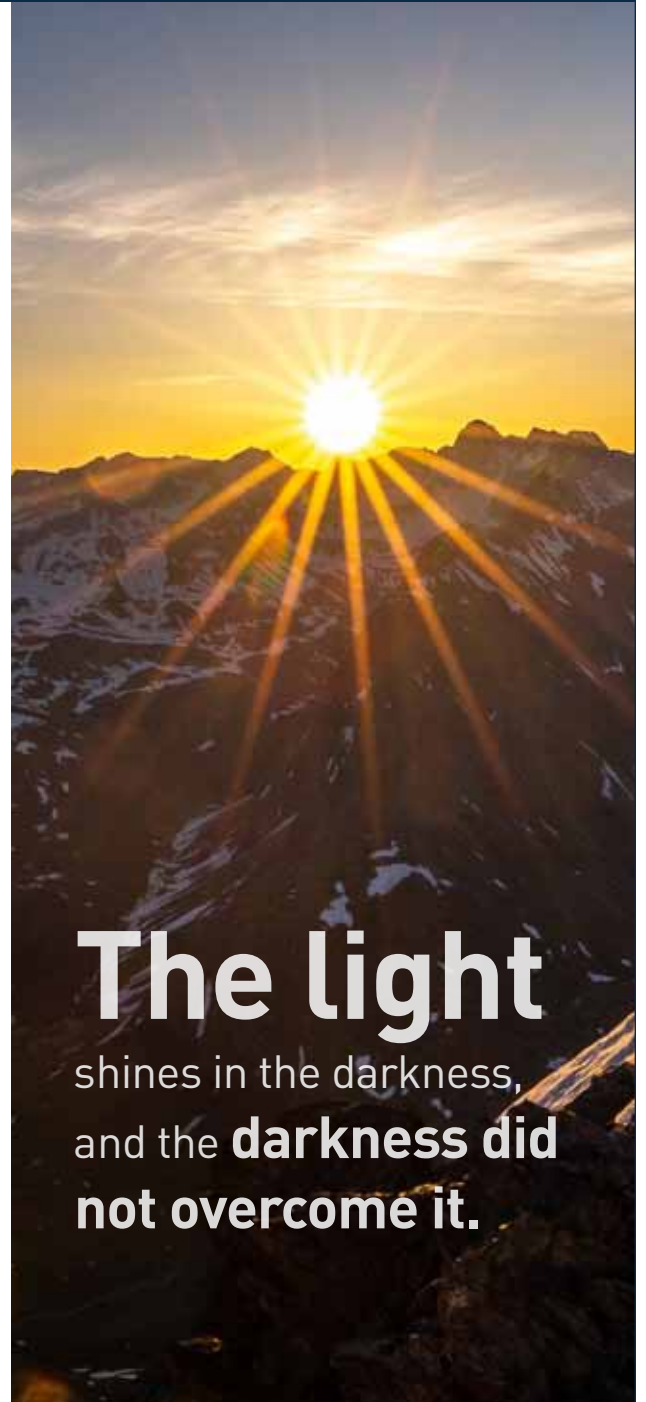
So, what brings light to your life that guides you through the darkness to a place where hope and joy reside? What shines daily in your life that provides joy, peace, and hope to the people you meet?

Frankly, I don't know of a church that has come through so much darkness itself over the last several years with as much strength as this church.

God is blessing you because even though there have been some tough times, you have tried to be a blessing by continually turning your hearts and minds outward, reaching out to others, to be the light of the world, to let your good works shine for the glory of God.

Grace and peace,

Bruce Lancaster



The light
shines in the darkness,
and the **darkness did**
not overcome it.

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*

MUSIC & ARTS

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

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.

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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.

Contemporary Worship

 Sundays
 9:00 a.m.
 Sanctuary & YouTube Livestream

Traditional Worship

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

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



Upcoming Events

- 04 OCT** **World Communion Sunday**
Peace & Global Witness Offering
Blessing of the Pets
North Parking Lot
Faith Witness: Do Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly: End Racism
Front Portico, Roadside Area

- 18 OCT** **Family Fall Fun**
Gilfillan Farm

- 25 OCT** **Stewardship Commitment Sunday**

Showing Love for Neighbors Near and Far

Seven year old Lily and her brother set up a blue canopy in their front yard inviting the neighbors to collect canned goods for SHIM, South Hills Interfaith Movement. A flier had come to our front door a few days earlier asking us to drop by to make a donation: "Anything you bring is enuff." As the weekend rolled along, I watched them sitting expectantly, hour after hour, waiting for cars to pull up with bags of canned green beans, peanut butter, soups, and pasta sauce. Any time we drove down the street on Saturday or Sunday, seeing the children hanging out in the front yard encouraged all of us to think about our South Hills neighbors in need. As Lily and Peter were packing up on Sunday, one harried lady pulled up and said, "It took me all weekend to pull this together. Thanks for giving me the chance to do something good." The kids looked at her in a strange way as they took the food and packed it away. The children didn't realize all of the ways they were touching lives beyond just the canned goods.

Here at the church, do we really have to be reminded to look out for each other? The Apostle Paul thought so. The New Testament is full of his letters to churches teaching them about important issues like theology, the divinity of Jesus, and communion practices. As Paul closes his letters, he often turns to practical advice on how the faith community, those who believe in Jesus as the Lord, should live and treat each other. What does divine love look like day to day? Paul emphasizes that we need to look out for one another. Being a Christian is not just about me and God. Each of us is a part of the body of Christ and has an important role to play in caring for one another, to build up the entire body. In Galatians Paul writes,

“So let us not grow weary in doing what is right.... So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.”

– Galatians 6:9-10

In these strange times when so much is out of our control, what is in our control is our individual expression toward one another. What can we do each day to care for someone? Better yet, what can we do to show love to another person when they don't even expect it? If Paul was writing today he might have suggested that we send an intentional email of encouragement, leave a small piece of chocolate by someone's plate, say a prayer for a person and let them know you are praying for them, write a short note of appreciation, invite a neighbor to watch livestream worship or perhaps invite them over for a watching party, give to support the offerings and special offerings that care for others, sit with a friend and really listen to what is happening in his or her life. You can decide your own best way to show love for others. We reach out in love toward others not because we just want to be nice. We love others because our lives have been touched by the love of Jesus Christ. In thanks with compassion, we extend love to our neighbors near and far.

The children sitting under the blue canopy were a visible reminder in our neighborhood of what loving one another looks like. Every time we look toward Westminster Church, the newly painted white steeple inspires us to be a beacon of hope and love to others. Jesus calls us and then we get to go out to shine with the love of the Lord each and every day. What does that mean for you?

Together on the journey,

Louise



The Right to Worship

If all goes according to plan, by the time this issue lands in your inbox or mailbox, we will have had a few chances to worship together in person. If you've chosen to hang back for a little while longer, I'm so glad that we have the capability through video, livestream, and print to stay connected. If you decided that a Sunday morning in our sanctuary was just what the doctor ordered, then I'm so glad that you had the chance to sate that need. Though this has always been true, it feels particularly salient in this season: Westminster is blessed with means, gifts, and capabilities that are difficult to measure. I'm continually honored to be a part of this community.

As many of you know, or have seen playing out across the nation, the decision to reopen churches is not being taken lightly. So many dimensions come into play in this conversation: rights, responsibilities, emotions, desires, dollars, relationships, and religion to name a few. There have been both national and local conversations taking place regarding one's right to worship. Can anyone close a church? For what reasons? For how long? Who makes the final call? If you've paid any attention at all, you know that I could ask these questions to 10 different people and get 11 different answers. It's a complicated issue, and the questions are all good. At the root, however, is one simple word that continually hangs me up: *worship*. The right, the privilege, and what it means to do it.

Let me make two points very clear before we move forward. One: I love to worship in community – as a matter of fact, I prefer it to livestreams, videos, or Zoom calls. Two: worship is equally possible in basements, offices, living rooms, back decks, recliners, and kitchen tables as it is in sanctuaries.

There's been no shortage of groups that have stood up and fought for the ability to worship as they deem appropriate. The crux of the argument, as I understand it, is that no one ought to take

away one's right to worship God freely. I can certainly agree with that sentiment! But here we bump into my definitional stumbling block: what does it mean to worship? Romans 12:1 says that we ought to offer our "bodies as a living sacrifice," that this is our "true and proper worship." The word *worship* used here literally means service rendered to God. When we give our lives as a sacrifice for God, when we offer this service to God, we show true worship, or spiritual worship as some translations would state it.

So then, what would God have us do? Hosea 6:6 sheds some light on the question: "I desire steadfast love (mercy) and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings." Who you are in relationship to God and one another is more important than what you do. This makes worship an identity issue. Your worship is not what you've done, but who you are. Steadfast love, mercy, and knowledge outweigh sacrifice. Eugene Peterson modernizes the language a bit, saying, "I want you to know God, not go to more prayer meetings." Remember Romans 12:1? Your life becomes the sacrifice. Your life becomes your worship.

Life is sacred. Worship is sacred. The two are woven intimately and inextricably together through the Christian walk. Your membership as a part of creation purchases your right to worship; Psalm 148 puts that into very clear terms for us. As it turns out, the life you live is the worship that God's been after this whole time. So how have you worshiped over the past several months? Was your life a pleasing sacrifice?

This season has opened up new doors for my understanding of what it means to live a life of faith. Has your faith changed at all since we last met? I'm so glad to be together again, and I'd love to hear about your worship over this time.

Be well!

– Ed Sutter

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”

—Romans 12:1



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.



October 4, 11, 18, and 25

All One in Christ Jesus? Christian Unity in Complicated Times

Rev. Liddy Barlow, Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania

We say that we believe in “one” holy, catholic, and apostolic church – but arguments and schisms have left the church divided into thousands of quarreling factions. In these seminars, we’ll explore what Christian unity means, why it matters, and how we can make it more visible in our own communities. We don’t have to do it alone: Greater Pittsburgh is a trailblazing leader in ecumenical work. In 2020, Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania is celebrating 50 years of nurturing unity among diverse Christians.

On **October 4**, we’ll explore the foundations of unity in scripture and how Christians have worked to bridge divides across church history. On **October 11**, we’ll watch unity take root here in Southwest Pennsylvania, using the story of Christian Associates and its predecessor organizations as a case study. On **October 18**, we’ll wrestle with living out unity in the messiness of daily life, considering the challenges and the opportunities of our own fractious moment. And on **October 25**, we’ll look ahead to consider trends to watch for as the work of Christian unity continues into a new half-century.

Sessions in this series will make reference to *All One in Christ Jesus: Southwest Pennsylvania Celebrates Christian Unity*, Christian Associates’ anniversary book, which is available for free digital download (or for purchase of printed copies) at www.casp.org/sermons. A copy of the book is not required to enjoy and participate in the seminars, but participants may find it useful in diving deeper into the topics we explore.

Rev. Liddy Barlow

Rev. Liddy Barlow is Executive Minister of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania. For 50 years, Christian Associates has convened diverse Christians from Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox traditions to build relationships and serve the common good. As Executive Minister, Rev. Barlow sets a vision for Christian Associates and manages all of the organization’s projects and relationships. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and previously served congregations in downtown Pittsburgh and North Huntingdon. She lives in Pittsburgh with her husband and their two children.

photo credit: Jennifer McKinney

Feast of St Francis: October 4

The below prayer is not written by St. Francis, but often attributed to him.

Prayer OF ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Micah 6:8

DO JUSTICE

LOVE MERCY

Do Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly: End Racism — A Faith Witness

October 4, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

*Westminster's front portico and roadside area
Masks and social distancing required*

Today's news can give us whiplash...one story shows crowds of people, black and brown and white, young and old, filling the streets with artwork and singing and calls for racial justice. The next story shows looting and burning and tearing down and even shooting. We are torn apart by watching all of this. We all know there are racial injustices, going down deep and going back far. And they rise to the surface in sometimes ugly ways. But sometimes there are beautiful responses, as in the recently celebrated life of Congressman John Lewis. Westminster also has deep roots in this struggle going back to our founding pastor, Dr. John Galbreath, joining the march in Selma, Alabama, in the 1965 fight for voting rights. Today the participants are new, but the issue is ancient: how we treat our brothers and sisters, particularly those of color. But also today the issue has become politicized, perhaps beyond repair. We are trying to decide where to stand. And into this steps Jesus, with his great call to justice:

"The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to bring release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

— Luke 4:18-19

What do these words have to do with racism as we are experiencing it today? How do they call us to change? Come and hear these words in a new way, as a call to commitment to racial justice. Hear stories, old and new, of Westminster engaged in work to reach across racial lines. Find out how you can get engaged. Make a promise to do one new thing to end racism. Sign the poster that we will hang in our church. And do all this as a faith witness under a banner inspired by the words of Micah, to "Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly: End Racism."

So join us as we gather for this time of praying and singing, remembrance and commitment to action. We'll gather at 4:30 p.m. on the lawn and sidewalk in front of the church. There will be special materials to help share these ideas with children. This could be a great way to introduce a neighbor to Westminster, so bring a friend. We'll be wearing masks and observing social distancing. And we'll be outside, so we hope for a beautiful fall day. We don't have a rain date — if it looks like rain, bring an umbrella. Please join us for this exciting new step in working for justice.

Sponsored by Westminster Peace and Justice

WALK HUMBLY

END RACISM

Jesus Christ and the “Dividing Wall”: Race and God’s Mission

W. Don McClure Lectures and World Mission Initiative, Continuing Education, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Wednesdays: October 7, 14, 21, 28

7:30 p.m.

Online

Free; registration required

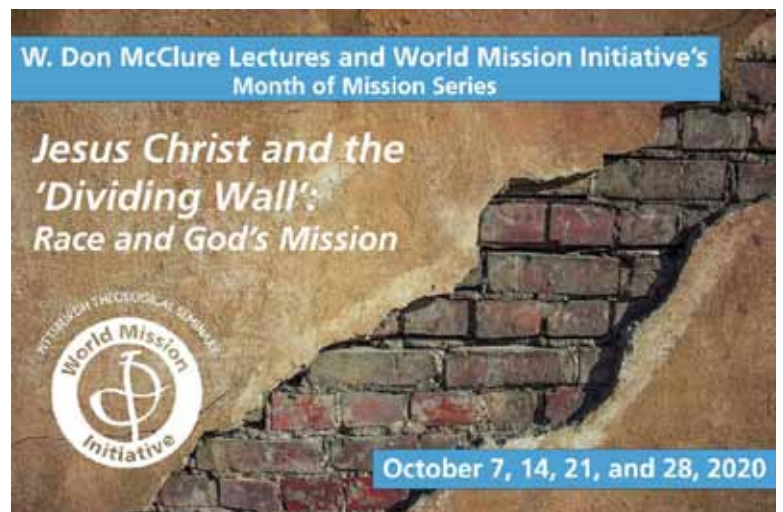
In this time of racial unrest, it is important for people of faith to know what we are called to be and where we are called to stand. We need to learn how to talk to one another and to those outside our faith community. Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, through the McClure Lecture Series and World Mission Initiative, promises to give us tools to engage in truthful conversation on the way our understanding of race influences our mission in the world.

Schedule

- October 7 – Unlearning the Habits of Slaveholder Religion
Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove
- October 14 – Crossing Cultures, Building Bridges: *Brenda Salter McNeil*
- October 21 – Where Do We Go from Here? *Salter McNeil and Wilson-Hartgrove*
- October 28 – Keys for Allies to Use Their Superpowers: Vulnerability and Compassion in Anti-Racism Effectiveness: *David Camp*

Registration

The event is free but requires registration. To register and to learn more about the program and the speakers, go to www.pts.edu/wmi-conference.



Westminster Follow-up Conversation

Thursday, October 29

7:30 p.m.

Zoom

On October 29, Westminster will host a Zoom conversation for those who participated in the series. You are invited to submit questions and comments following each session to Barbara Marsh, marshes@comcast.net, who will gather these for our October 29 conversation and provide connecting details to those who request them.

Treasures for Troops Donation Drive

October 11 – October 18

Each year the Deacons collect donations for our troops stationed in the USA and overseas. This year, our drive was set to begin in March and then COVID-19 halted our efforts. We are happy to report that we have reorganized and are continuing with our collection for Operation Troop Appreciation.

During this pandemic, it is apparent that we all want to find safe ways to connect with our community and give back. Giving to our troops, who need supplies now more than ever, is a way to do that. We hope you will join us for a **drive-by collection of donations on Sunday, October 11, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.** Look for the smiling faces of your Deacons outside of the north entry to the church. Stop by to drop off your donations and say hello! If you are unable to make it for the donation drive-by, camouflage collection boxes will be stationed outside under the breezeway at the church office entrance from October 11 through October 18.

Operation Troop Appreciation (OTA) is in need of the following items: individual serving packets of nuts, trail mix, granola bars, cookies, chips, and pretzels; men's and women's triple-blade razors; body wash, body lotion, lip balm, sunscreen, athletic socks, and thermal socks. There is no size or weight restriction on these items.

OTA is a local organization dedicated to the active and veteran members of our Armed Forces by providing them with items that contribute to their morale and well-being. All donations are used for OTA's active-duty "Wish-List" and veteran "Welcome Home Programs." Please contact Tricia Eccher at triciaeccher@gmail.com with questions. We hope to see you on Sunday, October 11.

THS TOWN HALL
South
SPEAKER SERIES
Est. 1969

A Message from Town Hall South

In the interest of keeping our audience safe and healthy, the Board of Town Hall South has made the difficult decision to postpone our 2020-2021 season for one year. Our lineup of speakers – Dan Rather, Kevin Surace, Leon Logothetis, Richard Stengel, and Dr. Temple Grandin – has agreed to move their speaking dates back one year. So this next season will effectively begin in October 2021, rather than this fall.

In the meantime, we will be in touch with news of our speakers, past and present, as well as the charities we support with subscription funds. Until we see you again next fall, be well and stay safe!

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**BLESSING
OF THE
PETS**

OCTOBER 04 2020

NORTH PARKING LOT

All people-friendly pets and their owners are invited to a designated celebration that both acknowledges and pays tribute to the loyal animal companions that love us unconditionally.

Join pastor Louise Rogers as she gives thanks for these special family members, and as she blesses the people who love and care for them deeply.

Please be sure your pets are on non-retractable leashes or in carriers, and have proof of up-to-date vaccinations.

**Blessing of the Pets
Sunday, October 4**

2:00 p.m. in the North Parking Lot*

**If weather is inclement, event will be canceled.*

Masks and social distancing required.

Pandemic Diary

A trusted friend told me
That Shakespeare wrote King Lear
while quarantined.
How I can relate to that!
I've been quarantined for months
during a pandemic,
reading the great books,
and attending to the writing,
I didn't have time for
until now.
I'm forced to wait
until the quarantine is over
like a space shuttle
waiting to return to earth.
Staying home is hard.
I'd rather flee to the supermarket
or make some other excuse to get away.
But how can I ignore this opportunity
to drop my know-it-all attitude,
raise the white flag
and ask God to show me a better way.
For instance:
How do my life decisions
look in retrospect?
What kind of person have I become?
What can I do to be a better person?
If I follow the wisdom
of the wise,
and higher guidance,
what will I do,
and how will I live?
What can I do
to be a part of making the world
a better place?
And who are the people
I've lost touch with?
Is this a good time to reach out to them
by a call or a letter?
To do all this
I'll need more time
not less.
And my life will be better
for doing them.
Rather than ask
what the world will be like
when this solitude is over,
I'll ask: "What will I be like?"
I can't be thankful for a pandemic.
But I can make the best of one.

– John Hayes

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE



Matthew 5:16

STEWARDSHIP 2021

*Let your light
so shine before
men, that they
may see your
good works,
and glorify
your Father
which is in
heaven.*

— Matthew 5:16

Thank you for your continued support of Westminster during these challenging times. The annual stewardship campaign is beginning and will culminate on Sunday, October 25, by which time we are asking each of you to make your pledge to sustain and grow the work of our church.

There is information about how you can pledge online on the facing page, and you will receive more information on pledging in the mail. This will allow the Session time to complete our budget planning for 2021.

Over the next several weeks you will hear about the work that Westminster is doing within the congregation, in our communities, and throughout the world. Though our building was closed for almost half of this year, our church continued to support the congregation and the community in different ways, through virtual worship services, prayer groups, youth activities, Bible study, and new mission opportunities.

Please pray about how you can contribute your time and talents to further the church's work in the world, and about your financial support of that work by returning some of the gifts God has given to you.

Let your light shine!

MyWPC: Submit Your Pledge and Automate Your Giving

These past six months have really enforced the idea that the church is not a building. We have had worship and meetings online; the Pastor Nominating Committee has interviewed candidates online; and some of you are giving online.

MyWPC is a secure, online tool through our online giving partner, ACS Technologies. Through MyWPC, it is easy to submit your pledge, set up your recurring gift online, and manage your payment method.

Submit Your Pledge

Pledging is a spiritual discipline that keeps God at the center of our lives, as well as an important part of our church's planning for ministry and mission.

- Click Give in the upper, right-hand corner of the church website. Here you can read about the different ways to pledge and give to the church.
- Click the Login to MyWPC button and sign in using the email address you've given to the church.
- Find the box titled My Giving Summary and click on the Pledge Now button.
- Enter the amount and frequency for your pledge; select General Fund.
- Set the dates from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021.
- Confirm the total of your pledge for the year.
- If you would like to set up automatic deduction from your checking or savings account, or credit or debit card, click Save and Set up Online Gift. If not, click Save.

Automate Your Gift

If you have already submitted your pledge and want to set up a recurring gift:

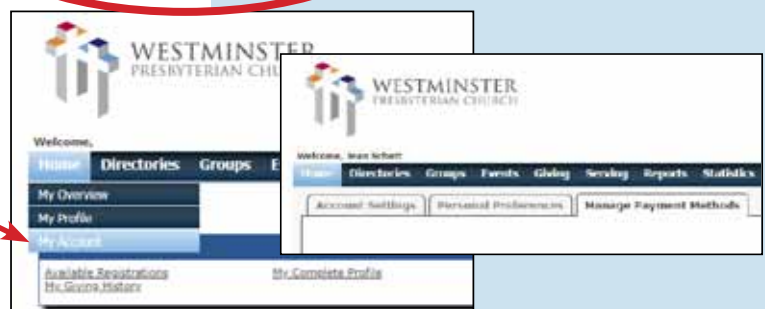
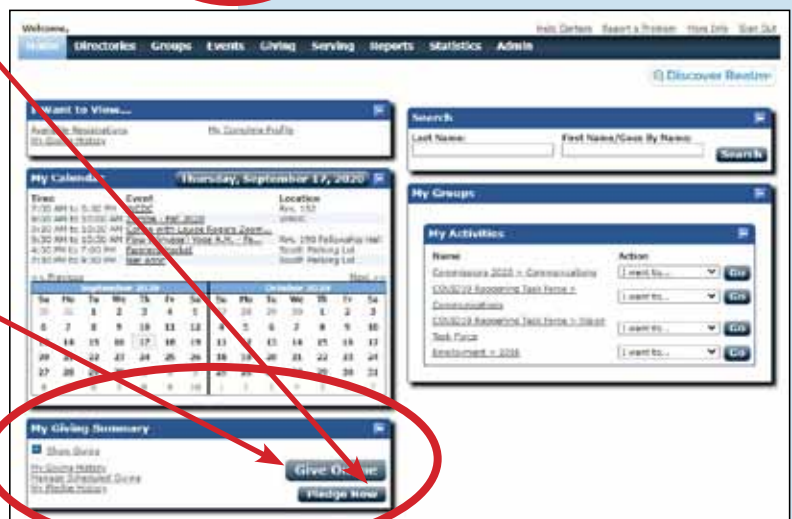
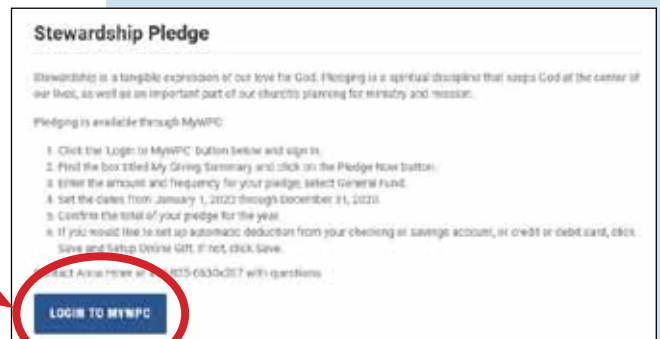
- In MyWPC's My Giving Summary box, select Give Online.
- Enter the amount and frequency for your pledge; select General Fund.
- Set the dates from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021.
- Confirm the total of your pledge for the year.
- Enter your payment information and click GIVE at the bottom of the page.

Manage Your Payment Methods

You can add a new payment method or edit those you currently have saved.

- Under the Home tab, select My Account.
- Click on the Manage Payment Methods tab.
- Here you can add or edit your preferred payment information.

Contact Anna Hiner at 412-835-6630x207 with questions.



Forward in Faith Update

We are delighted to report that despite COVID-19 and the need for continuing appropriate precautions, we have made significant headway in meeting our goals for Forward in Faith!

The campaign goal was \$3.0 million and to date we have received pledges totaling \$2.4 million. Every dollar received is divided 80%-10%-10% among Property, Outreach, and the Endowment. The campaign began in May of 2018 and most pledge commitments will be completed mid-2021. We made a \$115,000 transfer to the Endowment in May 2020 and have made Outreach disbursements in the amount of \$154,500. Be assured we will honor the even distribution of every dollar.

The Property Commission has moved forward with many planned projects, two of which we will highlight here. First, we moved forward with paving the driveways and parking lots. We cleared drains, milled and paved the entire site, rebuilt catch basins and ramps, and repainted all paving lines. The work took two weeks in March-April 2020, and we are very pleased with the result. The total cost to complete this work two years after originally planned was \$280,852.



Second, you may have noticed the enormous crane parked in the front of the church from mid-August through mid-September. A repainting project has long been planned for our iconic spire as it has not been done in at least 12 years. However, the deterioration and water damage to the interior of the spire required extensive repairs. Drains were cleared of blockages and pipes were replaced and sealed with high-tech rubber materials to drain water away from the structure for the future. Also, major preventive measures were implemented, including installation of bosun hooks to allow painters in the future to rappel on the exterior of the spire rather than needing to hire a crane. We also installed two catwalks in the interior to allow ongoing quarterly maintenance and clear-out of drains rather than having no mechanism to reach the top of the spire. And finally, the entire structure was painted and sealed in a quality manner to last for some time. Some interior plumbing work is remaining, and total cost of the project should total \$204,000.

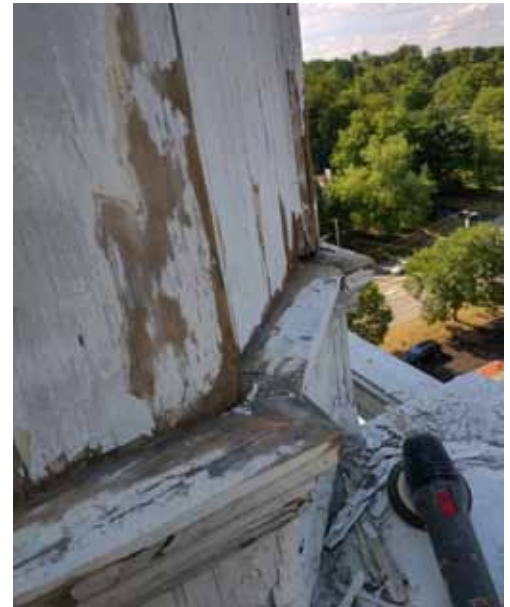
The Property Commission has completed many other projects and we are building out the Forward in Faith website with updates and pictures of everything. Future updates will also be included here in the *Spire* and in the weekly emails. We will provide links and further updates as we move forward.

Controls on all spending remain in place. Please contact Jay Galbreath or Mandy Thomas if you would like to review further details on the planned 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.



FORWARD IN FAITH



Financial Report

As of August 31, 2020

Income	
August Income	\$89,051.25
August Budget Income	\$171,143.63
YTD 2020 Income	\$1,562,554.86

Expenses	
August Expenses	\$160,846.54
August Budget Expenses	\$193,827.86
YTD 2020 Expenses	\$1,339,616.61

Session Highlights

September 21, 2020

- Opened with prayer
- Received WECEP update from Kim Tilghman, WECEP Board Chair
- Discussed continuing the WECEP claim against Brotherhood Insurance
- Received update on Forward in Faith projects
- Received updates on our first two in-person worship services
- Closed with prayer

Baptisms

September 19

Mabel

Parents: Carrie & Jim Fick

Gavin James

Parents: Kristie & Mark Proud

Deaths

John R. Goodman
September 3

Patty Twigg
August 14





**WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

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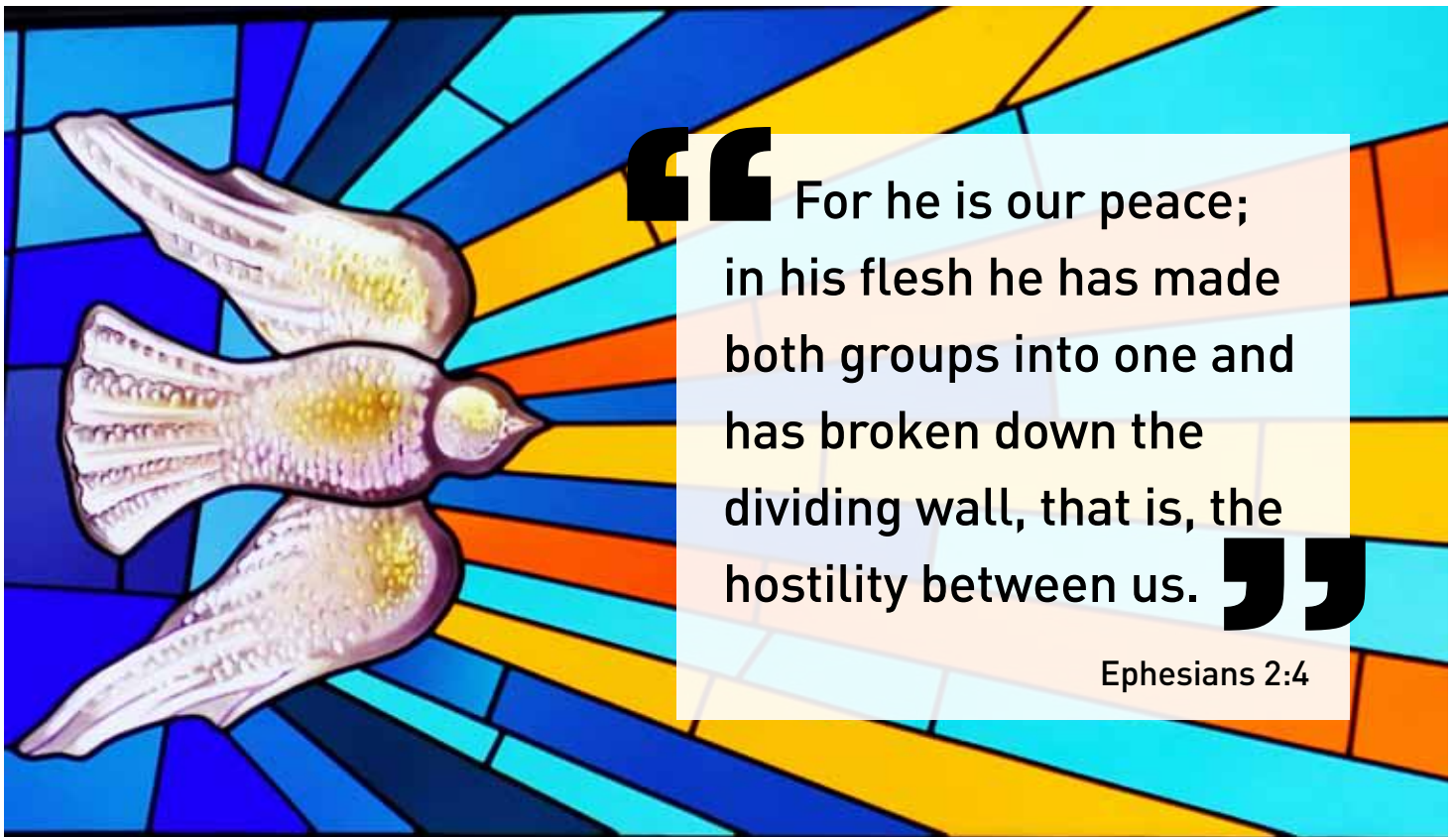
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“ For he is our peace;
in his flesh he has made
both groups into one and
has broken down the
dividing wall, that is, the
hostility between us. ”

Ephesians 2:4