



WATER SUMMER SERIES

Pool Party



Westminster Presbyterian Church

August 20, 2023 | 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

THE *Celebration* OF *Worship*

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude (8:30)

Prelude in E Flat Major

J.S. Bach

Prelude (11:00)

Meditation

Louis Vierne

Welcome and Announcements

***Share the Peace of Christ**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: God of water, God of us all.

People: **We gather to remember that you are the source of life,
to remember that through our baptisms
we are bound to you and to one another.**

Leader: May we remember our baptism
when we need most to be reminded
that we are all your beloved children.

People: **We belong to you.
We are loved.
God of water, God of all.**

*Opening Hymn No. 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

Back to School Blessing

*Prayer of Confession

Forgive us when we are just not getting it; when your call seems vague, and your word is confusing. Help us to be honest when we don't understand. Give us the gift of questioning and send us those who are willing to wrestle those questions with us.

And when we fail spectacularly in our efforts, lift us up from those moments, teach us afresh what it means to live in you and with this community of believers.

(A time of silence for personal confession)

*Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Sung Response (Hymn No. 626)

As the Deer

AS THE DEER

Sacrament of Baptism (11:00)

Prayers of the People

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Congregational Response

Threefold Amen

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Acts 8:26-39

New Testament, pages 96-97

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pool Party

Jo Forrest

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

I Will Praise Him
Holly Jones, soloist

David Clydesdale

When I think about my life on earth and why I serve the King,
I just have to share my thoughts with you and let you know why I sing:
You see he reached right down and changed my heart. He cared so much for me.
So I lift my voice of praise to him. Thank you, Lord, for Calvary.

I will praise him as long as I live. I'll serve him and I'll love him.
I'll give all I have to give. And I'll lift up my heart and voice and praise him 'til I die.
Then I'll be singing this song to him when I meet him in the sky.

Well, my life is so much different now. I've found the source of love.
But it's not an earthly source, my friend. It's the savior from above.
Now you can have this life unlimited, abundant, full and free.
Jesus said he came to give us life, a life of joy and victory.

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*Closing Hymn No. 697

Take My Life
verses 1,5, and 6

HENDON

*Benediction

Postlude

Tocatta in Seven

John Rutter

Leading in worship: Jo Forrest, Michelle Burgess, Jim Burns, and Holly Jones.

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

We rejoice with Maureen and Michael Ramos as they present Gabriel Robert; and Sarah and Luke Roode as they present Alexandra Jane for the Sacrament of Baptism.

The congregation extends condolences to Lynn Walliser on the death of her brother, Richard Trackler.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worthy Notes and Upcoming Events

Wednesdays @WESTMINSTER

Wednesdays @ Westminster have something for everyone! From children's choirs to Children's & Family Ministry programs, Food & Fellowship, Veritas Youth Group, Bible studies, and more, make plans to be here.

Go to westminster-church.org/wednesdays-westminster for more information and dates about each program.

Poetry and Prayer of the Psalms | Adult 4:30 p.m. | Rm. 231

Little Ones & Loved Ones (LOLOs) | Birth through Preschool 4:45 -5:30 p.m. | Rm. 194

Children's Choirs | K - 6th Grade 4:45 -5:30 p.m. | Cherub Choir, Rm. 176 | Junior Choir, Rm. 268

Wednesday Food & Fellowship | Everyone 5:30 -6:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Kids Connection 6:00-7:30 p.m. | PreK-2nd Grade, Rm. 233 | 3rd & 4th Grade, Rm. 176

Jesus and Me (JAM) | 5th & 6th Grade 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Rm. 257

Veritas | Youth Group for Grades 7 to 12 5:30-7:30 p.m. | Youth Dept.

Westminster Ringers | Adult 7:30 p.m. | Rm. 268



Bair Foundation Needs Your Help

Through September 3

The Bair Foundation is currently working with approximately 50 youth, ages 5-18, who are living in facility settings and do not have people who can help them prepare for their first day of school. We would love to surprise them with a back-to-school care package with school supplies and some fun items to show them they are loved!

Scan the QR Code to view our Amazon Wishlist to help!





Children and Youth Volunteer Training

Monday, August 21 | 6-8 p.m. | Yahweh Café

Weekly ministry opportunities for all ages are just around the corner and we need your help! Whether you're a longtime volunteer, or are curious for the very first time, you're invited to join and learn more about the upcoming year and the variety of ways that you can support the young people of Westminster. Contact Faith Kemmler or Ed Sutter for more information.



Elder/Deacon Nominations

There are exciting things happening every day in the life of your church. You are invited to share in the future of Westminster by sharing your unique gifts through leadership. The committee that annually nominates the elders and deacons will begin their work in September. Please let Jan Baumann know **by Sunday, August 27**, if you would like to be an elder or deacon or if you know of others who might need a little nudge.



Grow Living Stones

August 27, 3:00 p.m. | Fairhaven United Methodist Church | Overbrook

Work together with other Westminster volunteers at Fairhaven United Methodist Church to help with setup and serving food – there is a job for everyone. Transportation will be provided from the church's north parking lot. Sign up early. For more information and address, go to <https://growlivingstones.com/>.

Making Music at Westminster

Please go to the website for more information and children's registration.

Chancel Choir - Rehearsal starts August 31 on Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Rm. 268

Westminster Ringers - Rehearsal starts September 6 on Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m., Rm. 268

Junior Choir (3rd-6th grd) - Rehearsal starts September 6 on Wednesdays, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Rm. 268

Cherub Choir (K-2nd grd) - Rehearsal starts September 6 on Wednesdays, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Rm. 176

Youth Choir (7th-12th grd) - Rehearsal starts September 10 on Sunday evenings, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Rm. 268



BYOB

Every other Sunday, starting September 10 through November 19
11:00 a.m. | Youth Wing

Bring Your Own Bible - What did you think it meant? Do you want to become more familiar with scripture, or explore an opportunity to take next steps in your faith? With God's Word as our guide, we'll learn about the ways that God has worked throughout time and still works today. Contact Ed Sutter for details.

Westminster Single Women's Group Upcoming Events

Dinner at Mitchell's Fish Market

Tuesday, August 29 | 4:30 p.m. | Galleria

Mark your calendars for the last Tuesday of every month!
Registration is recommended. Space is limited to 15.



For more information and to register for any event, go to <https://wroc.westminster-church.org>.



Ron Tappy, Professor Emeritus of Bible and Archaeology
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

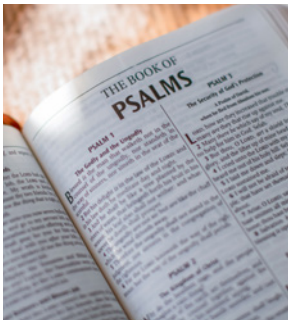
Westminster Seminars:

The History of Old Testament Israel: A View from the Bible and the Writing of Israel's Neighbors

September 10, 17, 24; October 1 | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel/Zoom

Professor Tappy will briefly discuss the history of writing and then present a series of major inscriptions about ancient (Old Testament) Israel that were written by scribes and rulers in multiple powers outside Israel. The historical information recorded in these monumental inscriptions provides a sweeping view of Israel's history and supports the basic reliability of the biblical narratives.

Read more and find the Zoom link on the church website.



Poetry and Prayer of the Psalms

Wednesdays, September 13 through October 11 | 4:30 p.m. | Room 231

At the center of faith and worship, the Book of Psalms are grounded in the experiences of life: pain and joy, fear and peace, and praise and doubt. Read today, they give us permission to speak honestly and openly to God about complicated feelings, even to shake our fist at times. Join us to delve into a selection of psalms. Explore reading as a devotional. No home work. Drop in as you are able. Contact Jo Forrest for additional info.



Washington Wild Things Faith & Family Night

September 2 | Gates open: 6 p.m. - First Pitch: 7:05 p.m. | Wild Things Park

Join the Wild Things for some summer fun with a baseball game where you can hear testimonials from the players after the game. We have 50 FREE tickets to share with the congregation. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis. Contact Faith Kemmler to reserve tickets for your family.

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

AUGUST 20-26, 2023



Scan here for complete church calendar



Scan here for a full WROC schedule & information

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

8:30	Traditional Worship	North Courtyard <i>(weather permitting)</i>
9:00	Welcome Center	North Main Entry
9:45	Bridge Contemporary Worship	WROC/Lvstrm.
	Bridge Sunday School (PreK-4th Grd.)	Rm. 176
	Wiggle Room - The Bridge**	WROC Fitness
11:00	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary/Lvstrm.
	Wiggle Room**	Rm. 239

*Sunday School – 9:45 a.m., dismissed from worship after children’s message. A time for children in PreK through 4th grade to explore the Bible, enjoy fellowship together, and grow in their faith.

Wiggle Room – 9:45 - Upstairs WROC Fitness Room; 8:30/11:00 - Room 239. Available to **families with children from birth through age 3 who would prefer a separate space to step away while listening to the worship service. Please see an usher if you need help finding the Wiggle Room.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

9:00	The Bair Foundation Staff Meeting	Rm. 273
6:00	Community Engagement Commission Meeting	Rm. 231

Wednesdays @ Westminster are on summer break. Programs resume August 30.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24

4:00	Farmer’s Market	South Parking Lot
6:00	WNSK Parent Kick Off Night (Kindergarten)	WECEP
7:30	NA Nar Anon	Rm. 107 Rm. 131

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

6:30a	Fishers of Men	Rm. 231
7:00	AA AI Anon	Rm. 107 Rm. 231

MONDAY, AUGUST 21

All Day	WECEP Closed - Teacher In-Service	
8:00	WECEP In-Service	Fellowship Hall
12:00	AA	Rm. 176
12:30	Grief Care Planning Meeting	Rm. 238
6:00	Children and Youth Volunteer Training	Rm. 273
7:00	Session Meeting	Galbreath Chapel
	The Grace - Westminster Book Club Zoom	

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

8:00	Mendelssohn Choir Retreat	Fellowship Hall
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TUESDAY, AUGUST 22

All Day	WECEP Closed - Teacher In-Service	
8:00	WECEP In-Service	Fellowship Hall
10:00	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
7:30	Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107



Children’s & Family Ministry



Music & Choirs

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

Jo Forrest, Senior Pastor, Head of Staff, forrest@westminster-church.org

Ann Morris, Parish Associate, morris@westminster-church.org

Jack Kelly, Director of Finance and Operations, kelly@westminster-church.org

Jan Baumann, Volunteer Coordinator, baumann@westminster-church.org

Christine Hestwood, Director of Music, Interim Director of Communications, hestwood@westminster-church.org

Faith Kemmler, Director of Children's & Family Ministry, kemmler@westminster-church.org

Kathy Long, Director, Westminster Recreation & Outreach Center, long@westminster-church.org

Ed Sutter, Senior Director of Christian Education, sutter@westminster-church.org



Giving to Westminster

ONLINE: <https://www.westminster-church.org/give>

TEXT-TO-GIVE: Text WPCUSC to 73256. Standard text messaging rates may apply.



Westminster Staff Contact Information

We would love to hear from you. Give us a call, drop us an email, or stop by the church office.

GET CONNECTED!



Westminster.Pittsburgh



wpc_pgh



WestminsterUSC

Westminster on Social Media

Watch worship videos, listen to the Veritas podcast, share Westminster events, find prayers, scripture, and more to like and share!

Photos/Videos at Westminster: We would like to make you aware that by participating in Westminster Presbyterian Church worship and activities, you may be photographed and/or videotaped and therefore assign and authorize the producer, Westminster Presbyterian Church, all rights to reproduce, copy, exhibit/publish, and distribute any such videotape and photography. If you have any concerns, please contact Anna Hiner, Communications & Database Manager, at hiner@westminster-church.org or 412-835-6630x207.



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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