



THE SPIRE

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Pittsburgh, PA

The great command issued from the ancient of days to *love God* and built upon by Jesus to *love God and neighbor* echoes throughout our faith and calls us forward. Westminster embraced Jesus' twofold command at her inception and each successive generation brings these lofty ideals to life through concrete ministries. Westminster has and will continue to thrive when focused on spiritual growth in this community.

Having weathered financial distress in the past and the uncertainty of the pandemic, this congregation proved its strength by relying on the promises of Jesus Christ, one another, and lots of patience with technology. Although many churches struggled to engage people and crumbled from so much change, Westminster became nimble and re-imagined ministry. We look to 2022 with clear priorities.

First and fundamental to all ministry areas is to *accept everyone with love*. Because of your openness, new members and visitors remark on the refreshing and inclusive reception at worship and in classes. I marvel at the deep affection I witness among members and the sense of belonging to one another and God through Westminster. Unlike so many other congregations and organizations over the last several years, we find a way to sit together in common faith despite the wide ranging bipartisan political views.

At the heart of our work is to *inspire wonder and meaning*. This soul-stirring ranges from the vibrant music offered in worship, hearing Jesus' stories with an open heart,



the tender children's message during the Bridge, to the mundane tasks of packing food bags and working together on behalf of someone who is hungry. As the prophets cried and Jesus lived, we pick up the ever-present call to *seek justice, without exception*. Our work in Volunteer ministries, Outreach, and the Peace and Justice Committee is motivated by the desire to salve the wounds where people hurt. All ages discover ways to courageously seek the change that will make our community stronger.

Throughout each of these areas, but deserving special notice, is the call to *energize the next generation*

so the gospel thrives. As so many churches stumble trying to attract youth and remain relevant, Westminster becomes the safe harbor to explore the gospel. Honest conversations, silly games, and constant care encourage a little one's imagination feel Jesus' love.

All of the programs organized within these priorities rely upon the generosity of members who give. As God has blessed so many with resources of wisdom, money, and time, those who return a portion to further this work participate in the privilege of Christian discipleship. We are investing in people, in projects, in tools for ministry for the sake of making earth a little more like heaven. Thank you for your commitment to Westminster.

In faith,

Jo Forrest

PASTORS

DR. JO FORREST, *Senior Pastor, Head of Staff*
 REV. LOUISE ROGERS, *Associate Pastor*
for Congregational Care

ADMINISTRATIVE & BUSINESS SUPPORT

HOLLIE DOWLING, *Temporary Executive Assistant*
 RICHARD MILLS, *Church Financial Manager*
 KIMBERLY DUNKOVICH, *Associate Accountant*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

FAITH KEMMLER, *Director of Children's & Family Ministry*
 CASSANDRA MILLIS, *Children's & Family Ministry Advisor*
 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

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 JEANNIE SCHOTT, *Graphic Design & Print/Web Manager*

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

PROPERTY

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 WALTER GERODA, *Head Custodian/Maintenance*

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

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 CARA DANIELE, *Kitchen Coordinator*

WESTMINSTER RECREATION & OUTREACH CENTER (WROC)

KATHY LONG, *Director*

WESTMINSTER EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS (WECEP)

DENISE BURKE, *Executive 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




All are welcome to join Westminster for worship! Reservations are no longer required to attend in person worship services. At the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. traditional services, we invite those who are fully vaccinated to worship without a mask and strongly encourage those who are not vaccinated to wear a mask. At the 9:45 a.m. Bridge service, masks are required of all attendees regardless of vaccination status.

If you are not comfortable attending in person worship or are traveling, visit our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/WestminsterUSC or our website for links to the livestream services at 9:45 and 11:00 a.m., or watch anytime later on YouTube.

Bridge Contemporary Worship

 Sundays
 9:45 a.m.
 WROC & YouTube Livestream

Traditional Worship

 Sundays
 8:30* & 11:00 a.m.
 Sanctuary & YouTube Livestream (11:00 a.m. only)

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

**Through the fall, the 8:30 a.m. worship service will be held outdoors in the north courtyard, weather permitting.*

Upcoming Events

02 Giving Gala
OCT Valley Brook Country Club

03 World Communion Sunday
OCT Peacemaking Sunday
Peace & Global Witness

Blessing of the Pets
2:00 p.m.
North Parking Lot

09 Inquirers' Gathering – In Person
OCT

12 Inquirers' Gathering – Virtual
OCT

13 Grief Care
OCT

31 Reformation Sunday
OCT

Using Our Gifts from God

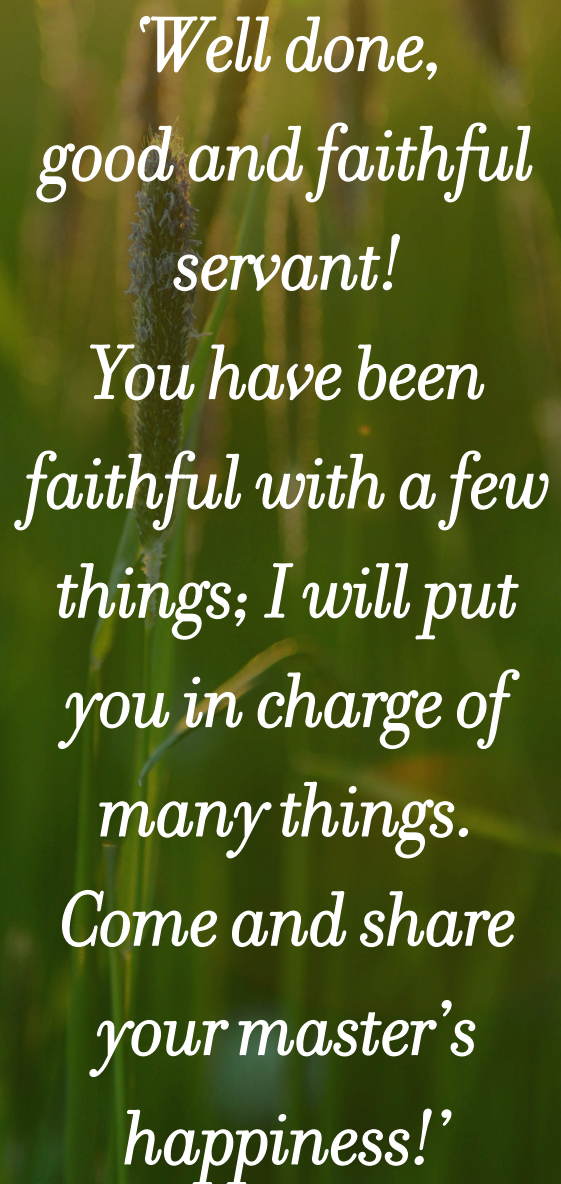
Have you received any gifts lately? In the Gospel of Matthew 25:14-30, we find the Parable of the Talents about a wealthy landowner who is going on a journey. Before he leaves, he calls together the servants and gives each one talents according to their ability to use while he is away. (A talent was an amount of money.) To one he gives five talents, one received two, and one received a single talent. During the owner's absence each servant got busy doing something. The first two servants increased their money. But the third servant buried his money in the ground because he was afraid it would be stolen. When the master returned, the first two servants were rewarded, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." The message was far different for the third servant, as the master was angry that there was no growth of the initial gift. His initial gift was taken away and given to others.

This parable teaches us a great deal about the gifts we give and receive. First, we see that God is the giver of all gifts. Yes, we are the ones who receive the gifts, and if we are honest, we may think we deserve a gift from time to time. After all, we do have birthdays! Yet, we find that we can never earn God's grace. Grace flows to us through Christ's self-sacrificing love. With humility, our works flow in response with gratitude and faith from what we have received in love. We get to use our gifts to build up individuals and communities, not break them down. Each person can be a master builder.

Sometimes a person may say, "I don't have any gifts for God." Not true! When the master left, the talents were given out to the servants according to their ability. God continues to extend unique gifts to us. Some of us have remarkable musical talents or the ability to teach children or the ability to maintain a building. Each one of us has a role to play in the community of faith. There is no such thing as a giftless Christian. Our talents, along with the Spirit, allow us to be good stewards of the time, talent, and treasure the Lord has provided. Supporting one another through care is something each one of us can do. We can all be kind, listen well, write an encouraging note, and pray for each other. Greeting each other warmly at worship or checking in on someone we have been thinking about but have not seen are simple yet meaningful acts. With all of the talents we have at Westminster Church, I know we can be overflowing with kindness and compassion in service to God and one another.

Together on the journey,

Louise



*'Well done,
good and faithful
servant!
You have been
faithful with a few
things; I will put
you in charge of
many things.
Come and share
your master's
happiness!'*

—Matthew 25:23

BETWEEN HERE AND THERE

What makes for a good gift? Is it something you've always wanted, or something you never knew you needed? Is it from someone you know and care for, or someone unexpected, perhaps even unknown? Is it expensive and extravagant, or simple and sentimental? Ask these questions to ten different people and you may wind up with eleven different answers. I'm not aware of an equation to solve this one. So, what makes for a good gift? Well, as I find myself saying quite often these days, it depends.

There's another component to this conversation that can't be overlooked: at least a part of what makes a gift good is our ability to recognize its value, be it sentimental, practical, emotional, or otherwise. A gift that we don't recognize will, at the very least, leave us confused. So how do we recognize the gifts that come from God? Maybe it's more apt to ask *if* we recognize the gifts that come from God.

Matthew 7 tells us that the good gifts we give pale in comparison to the good gifts that God gives. If I'm honest with myself, God has given me gifts in each of the above categories. Gifts that I've wanted, and gifts that I didn't know I needed. Gifts when God felt close, and gifts when God felt like a stranger. Gifts of extravagance, and gifts of simplicity. Gifts that I recognized immediately, and gifts that I only saw in the rearview mirror. Good gifts from the best giver. I believe that.

So why can it be so hard, as Matthew 7 tells us, to ask God for the deepest desires of our hearts? We want a miraculous healing, and we pray for "Your hand of peace." We want close and intimate relationships with people we can *truly* know, and we pray for "community."

We want satisfaction and purpose in our work, and we pray "for direction." Why have we become so vague in our conversations with God? Why not be bold? Why not approach the best giver with our best gift ideas? Well, that would take an awful lot of humility, wouldn't it? When we present ourselves as vulnerable with our deepest desires, we open ourselves to the possibility that the answer might be "No." So we hedge our bets. We leave the door open for interpretation. We live in the gray.

But remember, God is the best giver. A "no" from God must surely mean something else is on the way. Now, before we run down the line of a prosperity gospel, we must also remember that we might only recognize God's gifts in the rearview mirror. I wonder how many gifts we'll notice when we look back from the other side of the Kingdom. God's gifts don't always look like the gifts we'd expect, or even ask for. They're good gifts, nonetheless.

If you were to lay yourself vulnerable before God right now, risking a "no," what would you ask for? What do you learn about yourself when you think about your deepest desires? What would change if God gave you a "yes"? Would you keep your eyes and your heart open if not? Be bold, be humble, take a chance, and keep your heart open. I wonder what gifts God might show you.

I'd love to hear what you've been praying for these days. Feel free to drop me a line.

Be well, friends.

— Ed Sutter



Westminster Seminars

In Person and Online

Sundays, 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.
Galbreath Chapel & Zoom

The Westminster Seminars address, in various ways, how our beliefs and practices as Christians enrich our lives in today's culture. Everyone is welcome – come every week or whenever the topic appeals and your schedule allows.

If you can't join in person or on Zoom, plan to watch or listen later on the Westminster website – under News & Media – here: <https://www.westminster-church.org/news-&-media/westminster-seminars>.

The Zoom meeting opens at 9:30 for greetings and conversation. Find the link on the church website under Featured Events or in the Friday church email.

October Series

Thoughts on God as Trinity

James E. Davison



Luca Rossetti da Orta | Wikipedia Public Domain

What's the Trinity mean to you? For you? This most significant doctrine of our faith is often misunderstood, and it can easily leave us mystified. In these four sessions, we'll engage this mystery of God's nature as three-in-one. Come with your own thoughts and questions, and see how focusing on the triune reality of God can help deepen our faith, our relationships, and our approach to life in this world!

- October 10** **The Mystery of Mysteries**
- October 17** **Enigmas and Issues: The Oneness of the Three**
- October 24** **“Specialties”: The Threeness of the One**
- October 31** **The Trinity in Our Lives and Our Faith**

Dr. James E. Davison is well known to many of us at Westminster. He served here as Minister of Education from 1984 to 2001, before moving to Pittsburgh Theological Seminary as Director of Continuing Education and Instructor in New Testament Greek. Earlier, Jim taught religion and philosophy at Sterling College in Kansas. He is a graduate of Westminster College, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, the Free University of Amsterdam, and the University of Iowa. He has written a number of books and articles for pastors and laypersons, including the congregational program “The Year of the Bible,” which he developed here at Westminster. Jim and his wife, Reeny, have three sons and six grandchildren.

Westminster Book Group

Wednesday, October 27

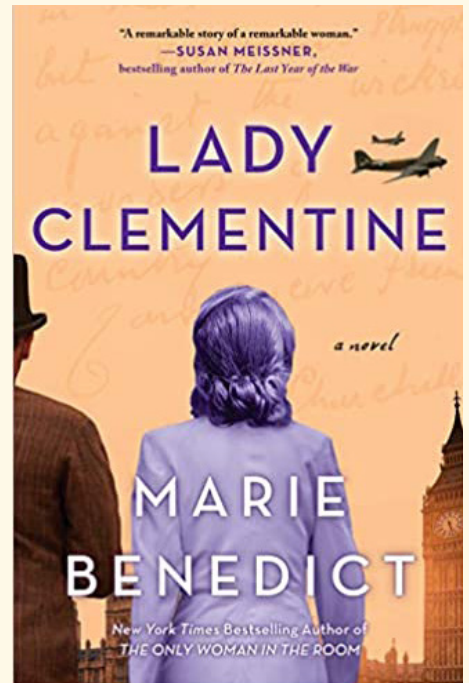
Noon – 1:15 p.m.

Room 238 or Zoom

The next meeting of the Westminster Book Group will be in Room 238 and via Zoom. Find the Zoom link in the meeting announcement on the church website. We will discuss *Lady Clementine* by Marie Benedict. We invite you to bring a brown bag lunch and join us.

“With a historian's eye and a writer's heart, Benedict provides an unforgettable glimpse into the private world of a brilliant woman whose impact and influence on world events deserves to be acknowledged.”

– Lynda Cohen Loigman
author of *The Two-Family House* and *The Wartime Sisters*



Silence for our lives

P
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ADULT SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

“I am becoming more aware that silence indeed makes you more sensitive to the good in people.... “There is no way of telling people that they are all walking around shining like the sun’ but God’s glory in you can bring out God’s glory in the other when you have become more conscious of this shared gift. God speaks to God, Spirit to Spirit, Love to Love. It is all a gift, it is all grace.”

– Henri Nouwen
(quoting Merton)

Home

Throughout my childhood years, church was my favorite place to be. I loved showing up to Sunday school to be greeted by my teachers each week and running into the sanctuary with my friends before splitting up to sit with our parents for worship. When my parents had meetings, my siblings and I would explore the building, learning all of the “shortcuts” and rooms and tucked away spaces. I was the kid who read the announcements in the bulletin so I could remind my mom throughout the week of all the opportunities we had to go to church events.

For me, church has been a place where I felt safe, comfortable, and able to be myself. Church has been a home.

Beyond the familiarity and comfort of the physical church building, church became a home because of the people I encountered there. I experienced God’s love firsthand through the ushers who greeted me week after week and the volunteers and teachers who showed interest in my life and activities.

My church family grew as I made friends from different schools. To be at church meant to be known and loved and safe and cared for. To be at church meant to be at home.

As I’ve ventured into ministry, I have been blessed to be welcomed into new church homes and to play a part in cultivating safe, loving spaces for children to find a home in church. Whether at JAM or Sunday school, worship or choir, Wednesday Food & Fellowship or special events, where do you find your home at Westminster? Where do your children find their home here? Where does your family feel at home in the life of the church? My hope is that through our staff and volunteers your family will find a place of welcome, safety, and love. A place where you can be yourself. A church home.

– Faith Kemmler
Director of Children’s & Family Ministry

Where does your family feel at home in the life of the church?



What Is a QuickKit?

A QuickKit is the product of a mission project started over the summer by members of Westminster’s youth. The kits are bags filled with essential items to be handed out to individuals in need you may come across. When you’re driving to work or headed to a Steeler game, you may see someone asking for assistance. With a QuickKit, you can help in a small way. The project’s goal is for these packs to be available for members of the church to pick up and distribute as a meaningful way to help people in need.

So far, the members of the youth group have made roughly 100 bags. The drawstring bags are in a bin in the narthex for people like you – members

of the congregation – to hand out. However, we need your help to continue this new project. If you would like to contribute items, please bring fully completed drawstring (or any type of reusable) bags containing the following items:

- Water bottle
- Toothbrush + toothpaste
- Travel size shampoo + deodorant
- Black socks
- Granola bars



Drop off your bags in the bin in the narthex, or contact Ed Sutter or Laura Ecklin. Thank you all so much. We cannot wait to see the progress we can make together.

Deacons Share “Gifts from the Heart” Buckets for Presbyterian Disaster Relief

Under the leadership of Steve Danielle with committee members Jerome Ecklin and Molly Brown, the Westminster Deacons organized a Service of Giving that came to fruition during an evening of fun, fellowship, pizza, beverages, and bucket filling in Fellowship Hall the evening of August 30. Approximately 36 volunteers gathered to fill 50 five-gallon buckets with cleaning supplies that will be directed to areas such as those recently ravaged by hurricanes and flooding. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program is one of the mission areas the Deacons chose to sponsor wholeheartedly this year.



The Deacons wish to thank our church family for their generous contributions of cleaning supplies, clothespins, rags, scrub brushes, buckets, sponges, and other supplies as well as for the great turnout of volunteers, from teens to older adults. It made for a wonderful evening of sharing, not only with our own church family nearby, but as we planned for our neighbors in need from afar.

– Carol Couch

Friendship Church — Our Partner since 1958

Doug Mitchell, Outreach Commission

How many churches do you know that invested in a separate commercial property, have renovated it twice, and have maintained a robust, laity-driven, multi-racial ministry for 63 years?

In 1958, Westminster Church joined several other Pittsburgh Presbytery congregations to form a multi-racial experiment. It became Friendship Community Presbyterian Church, facing the neighborhood's many opportunities for ministry. Friendship's ministry continues in the Upper Hill on Robinson Street next to Pitt and behind Carlow University.

It now reaches Pitt and Carlow's faculty and students, the Terrace Village neighborhood, and several other families who continue to come there from their suburban homes.

Barbara Brewton, one of its longtime members, proudly points out that although it certainly "lives by faith," its budget has not shrunk during the COVID-19 outbreak, and it has attracted a new pastor within the past month. Through the Outreach Commission, Westminster has continued to support Friendship Church since its founding, helping to fund its youth and child ministry staff.



Westminster initiatives through the years



Mary Kay Mitchell worked two months (with Grandma Lee, left) to help Friendship's Child Care be recertified by PA DHS.



The annual Corner Fundraiser brought WPC and Friendship members together for games, dinner, and jazz.



Friendship's youth Pantomine Group joined WPC at the Bridge.



The Corner brings jazz and community gatherings together across the street.

In addition to the initiatives shown on the previous page, Westminster volunteers renovated the church's lower level, which provides its Child Care program.

Here are more examples of Westminster's engagement with Friendship Church:

- In 1997, Westminster and Friendship members traveled with the Promise Keepers Stand in the Gap March in Washington, DC.
- The Corner fundraisers: Jan Baumann, Sue Wyble, Carolyn Kerr, Bonnie Bacik, and others helped The Corner to raise funds for two years with "Jazz on the Hill," which was curtailed last year due to COVID-19.
- Over the years, Westminster members have organized visits to Friendship's Sunday worship services. (This is a treat not to be missed!)
- Friendship's youth program is restarting its homework assistance program, initially on Zoom, and is distributing 61 laptop PCs to do so. Volunteers are welcome!

The New Beginnings Learning Center became The Corner



In the 1980s, Earl Weaver, John Redfield, and several other Westminster members renovated the New Beginnings Learning Center in a rented building across the street from the church, providing study areas and job search assistance upstairs. The Weaver family, Jeff and Debby Underwood, John and Sue Redfield, and other volunteers provided tutoring and PC training for school age children and youth.

After the building was nearly lost through the property owner's bankruptcy, Doug Mitchell assisted Friendship to raise funds for Friendship to acquire the building.



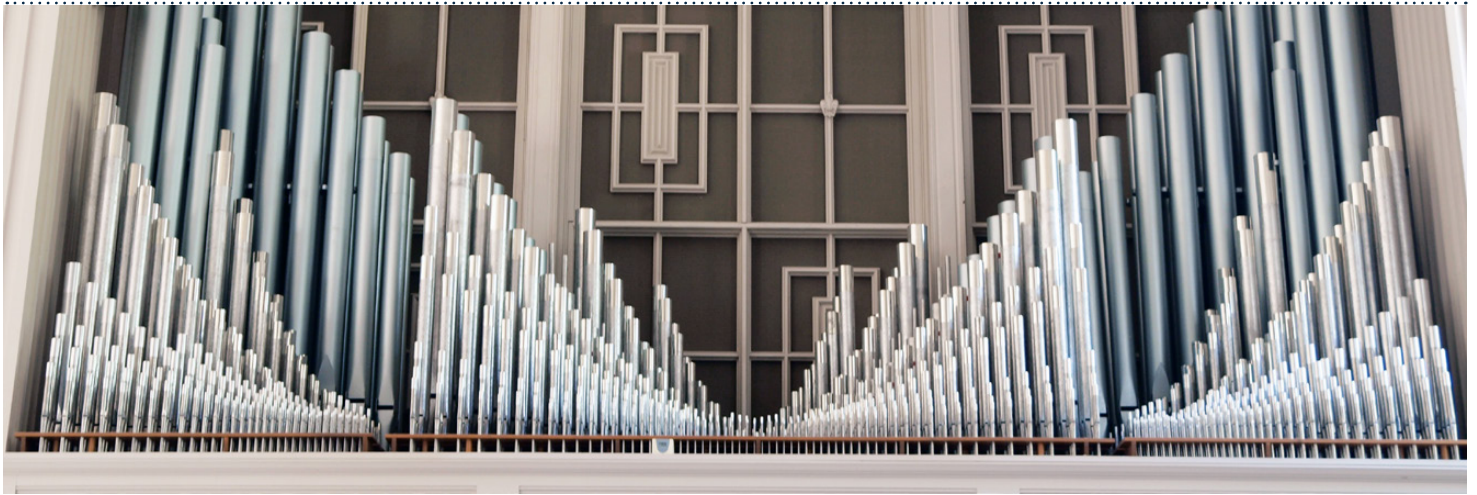
The newly acquired building became The Corner, which provided a community center, after school study space, and quality affordable housing in two upstairs apartments.

In January 2019, only a few weeks following its successful renovation and adding a coffee and baked goods counter, an electrical fire destroyed the apartments and the new performance venue. Over many months now, Massaro Construction has restored the apartments upstairs and the main floor's art display space. And Friendship has just begun The Corner's \$30,000 Phase III capital campaign to restore a larger performance space with bathrooms and a café.



The Corner's jazz nights will return soon, now that the apartments have been restored and are being rented as Section 8 apartments, considered to be part of Friendship's community ministry.

For more information about Friendship Church and The Corner, download the PDF document here: <https://www.westminster-church.org/assets/media/pdfs/mission/TheCorner-programinfo-2021.pdf>.



Westminster's Austin Organ at 30

The year 2021 marks the 30th year that Westminster Presbyterian Church has worshiped to the glorious sound of the large Austin pipe organ in the sanctuary. It is a time to rejoice and give thanks for the strong and distinctive musical leadership that our pipe organ offers. At 10:00 a.m. on October 6, 1991, the Austin organ was “dedicated to spiritual growth through music for years to come.” The service of dedication began with Louise Vierne’s “Carillon de Westminster” played by organist William Evans. With the processional hymn, “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee,” the congregation joined with the organ to give praise and adoration to the “God of glory, Lord of love.” It must have been thrilling for the congregation to be carried along with such power and beauty coming from the pipe organ. Imagine the excitement of hearing the opening chords of this beloved hymn after over 30 years of hearing and singing to the limited sounds of an electronic organ.

The excitement surrounding the new organ was so great that the inaugural recital was performed twice, on the two evenings before the dedication. The sanctuary was filled with church members and people from the wider community. For the Pittsburgh area and especially for the South Hills, a fine new pipe organ was something to celebrate. Today, the Austin organ continues its tradition of excellence in worship services and public concerts.

We might wonder, what makes the pipe organ so special? In a word, variety. The 4,772 pipes of Westminster’s organ allow for endless combinations of musical sounds, from as quiet and gentle as a whisper to as loud and majestic as an orchestra. From flutes and strings to woodwinds and brass, all grounded by the unmistakable “organ sound” known as a principal chorus. The impressive variety ensures that well-chosen organ music never gets boring. But perhaps most important, the versatility of the organ and its music guides and inspires the congregation in worship throughout the year. From the waiting and expectation of Advent to the joy of Christmas, from the introspection of Lent to the jubilation of Easter, the organ supports the themes of worship week after week. Beyond Sunday mornings, the organ provides music of celebration for weddings and music of comfort for funerals and memorial services. In all these ways, the organ serves as an instrument of God and God’s grace to us.

As we celebrate the Austin at 30 this month, we remember David Hilty, who chaired the Organ Committee and oversaw

the installation of the organ during the summer of 1991. Dave spent the next 30 years making sure that the organ was well cared for and meaningful for the church and community. He also contributed to our celebration by providing documents from 1991, including the bulletin for the service of dedication, the inaugural recital program, and the organ brochure. Dave passed away this past June, yet his legacy through this beautiful instrument will enrich Westminster congregations for many years to come.

– Sara Kyle

Austin Organ Inaugural Recital Program

*William Evans, organist
October 4 & 5, 1991*

Prelude and Fugue in D Major	J.S. Bach
Andante (from <i>Unaccompanied Violin Sonata in A Minor</i>)	
Fugue in G Major (<i>a la Gigue</i>)	
Solemn Melody	H. Walford Davies
Toccata	Joseph Jongen
Prelude and Fugue in G Minor	Marcel Dupré
Adagio cantabile	Camille Saint-Saens
Pasticcio	Jean Langlais
Carillon	Leo Sowerby
Finale from Symphony No. 1	Louise Vierne

Excerpts from the pastor's message in the brochure introducing Austin Organ, Inc., Opus 2734, October 1991

This weekend all of us at Westminster will be celebrating with praise and gratitude a major step into our vision for an expanded and enhanced witness for Christ. We will be sharing this celebration with many of our friends and neighbors. This is fitting because our witness is not simply for ourselves, it is also for our friends and neighbors.

The dedication of our magnificent pipe organ...is another affirmation of Westminster's capacity to reach beyond its established patterns and forms of witness. Through the faith, imagination, courage, and generosity of its members, Westminster has often demonstrated a progressive spirit ever since it was established in 1946.

Our organ is dedicated to the glory of God. Its music will draw us closer to God; its music will lift up our praise; its music will strengthen our voices as we affirm our faith and purpose in our hymns. We believe this organ will bring a whole new dimension to all occasions when we worship God.

Worship is our central act as a community of faith. While we worship, we are given the inspiration and encouragement for all of our ministry and mission. Through our worship, this new organ will influence our entire witness to Jesus Christ. Its music will become acts of discipleship and service in the lives of all the people who come to Westminster to worship and to serve the Lord.

— Laird J. Stuart



Perspective from Westminster Organist Jim Burns

For the past 17 years I've had the privilege of playing the Austin Opus 2743 at Westminster. There is so much to like about this instrument that it's hard to know where to begin. With its powerful reeds and broad 8-foot tone this organ is especially suited to the romantic French repertoire. At the same time, it can provide excellent transparency and clarity for the contrapuntal music of J.S. Bach and his contemporaries. The big solo nave trumpet is thrilling for wedding processions and other festive occasions. But for all its power, my favorite sounds are the gentle solo stops of the choir division. The clarinet, flûte traversière, and especially the English horn can create moments of quiet beauty.



In recent years the organ has seen much use as a concert instrument. Since the beginning of the Organ Summer concerts in 2011, approximately 30 organists from Pittsburgh and New York City have performed on the Austin. Thanks to livestreaming during COVID, the last two seasons can be seen on YouTube. Paul Jacobs has been a frequent recitalist, from his 18-hour Bach marathon in 2000 to his recent performance this past August, one of several concerts by renowned organists presented at Westminster by the Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh.

Of course, the most important function of a church organ is to enhance the worship service by supporting hymn singing, accompanying choirs and soloists, and providing appropriate incidental music. This organ does all that and more. Thanks to the efforts of Bill Evans, Dave Hilty, and the organ committee, Westminster has an instrument that not only enhances the worship experience, but is an asset to the musical community of Pittsburgh.

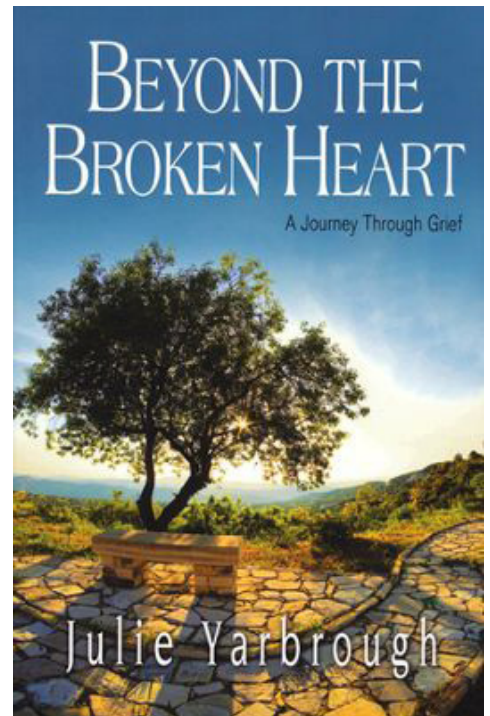
Grief Care

If you have lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, it may be hard to feel optimistic about the future right now. You may have found that people don't always understand the deep hurt you feel. This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have many questions about things you've never before faced.

Grief Care is a faith-based grief support group that can help you face the challenges of loss and move toward rebuilding your life. Please contact Louise Rogers if you have any questions.

The group uses the book *Beyond the Broken Heart: A Journey Through Grief* by Julie Yarbrough. To register and for more information, complete the online registration form on the church website or call Hollie Dowling at 412-835-6630. To help defray the costs of materials, a donation of \$10.00 is suggested.

The fall session will meet Wednesday evenings October 13 through November 10 from 6:45 to 8:00 p.m. in Room 231.



Rummage-Recycling Sale on Hold

Westminster will not have a Rummage-Recycling Sale this November for two reasons. First is the uncertainty of the resurging COVID virus. Second, we have lost many of our regular volunteers, in part because there has been no sale for two years. We hope to resume the sale in the spring, but only if we have a large number of new volunteers. The sale is an excellent opportunity to serve God and the community while supporting a wide variety of mission projects. If you have an interest in volunteering in April, or have any questions, please call Marilyn Hayes at 412-831-504.



Baptisms

September 19

Beatrice Joy Falconer

parents:
Eric & Emily Falconer

Maeve Cahill Walker

parents:
Paul & Samantha Walker

Sophia Eileen Sweeney

parents:
Shaun & Megan Sweeney

Financial Report

As of August 31, 2021

AUGUST 2021	Actual	Budget
Income	\$114,261	\$99,522
Expense	\$140,041	\$154,517
Variance	(\$25,780)	(\$54,995)

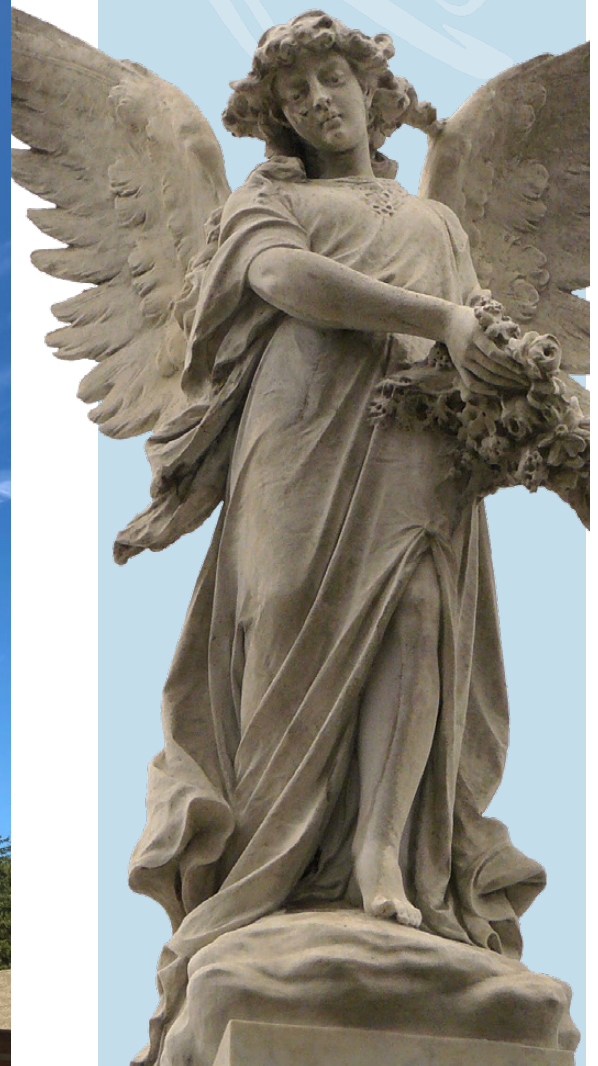
YTD 2021	Actual	Budget
Income	\$1,251,388	\$1,242,948
Expense	\$1,258,996	\$1,137,610
Variance	(\$7,608)	\$105,338

**ENDOWMENT LOAN
BALANCE** \$1,092,134



Deaths

Eugenie "Genie"
Ferrell
August 25





WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering will help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone, everywhere—regardless of boundaries or the walls that separate us.



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

SEPTEMBER 5-OCTOBER 3, 2021