



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship 4th Sunday of Easter April 22, 2018 9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL STAFF:

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor (on maternity leave)
Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

CHURCH EDUCATOR:

Susan Moseley

MUSIC STAFF

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music
Merideth Hite Estevez, Director of Faith Formation through Music
and Arts, Teaching Artist in Residence
Kevin Flaherty, Assistant Director of Children's Music
Soloist/Section Leaders: Elizabeth Holmes, Sharon Babcock
David Sharp (guest), Travis Lucas

YOUTH LEADERS

Merideth Hite Estevez, Susan Moseley,
Josh Cox, Chris Hickey, Tommy Neilson

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Colleen Falasco

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY

Paul Crothamel

Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

April 22 would have been the 74th wedding anniversary of our parents, Jim and Em Bercaw. The chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mom and Dad's anniversary from their family.

Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event, while expressing praise and thanksgiving to God. Please contact Linda Watson during business hours at 302-571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com for available dates. The next available dates are May 6 and 27.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** Mary Young
- ❖ **Those unable to attend worship on a regular basis** by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Betty Kelley with her daughter in Connecticut and Jim Coker at Cokesbury.
- ❖ **Westminster's Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by leaving a confidential message on 302-654-5848, ext. 335; or filling out a prayer request card (in the pew pocket) and placing it in the offering plate; or sending an email to wpcprayerlist@gmail.com.

Afghanistan and Iraq often seems far away, and we may neglect to realize that Americans, as well as Afghans, Iraqis and members of coalition forces continue to die. As Christians, we are called to pray for the spreading of peace and justice and an end to violence. If someone in your family is serving in the military, please let us know, so that we may include that person on our prayer list. Contact Cathy Lang: 302-654-5214 ext. 129, or cathylang@wpc.org.

This week we pray for those suffering from Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

WORSHIP NOTES

All children who leave the sanctuary after Time with Our Children must have a completed yellow security label on their backs. If you do not find a security label in the pew pocket, you can obtain one in the Preschool Suite. This policy is for your child's protection. Children will only be released to a parent or an adult pre-approved by the parent. Thank you for your help.

Worship Resources – You can obtain large print hymnals and hearing devices from any usher. Worship bags for children ages 3-6 include a children's bulletin designed for them. Children's bulletins for ages 7-12 are also available from the ushers.

Are you wearing a nametag? Whether you are a long-time member or new to our church family, wearing a nametag provides others the opportunity to meet you, greet you by name, and for you to become more familiar with others at church. You will find nametags and markers in baskets at all major entrances.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website www.wpc.org and click the "Donate Now" button or scan the QR code on your smart phone.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Creator of the cosmos, you have given us an amazing planet thriving with all the things that sustain life. Inspire us to care deeply for what you have made and help us to learn how to walk reverently upon the earth so that we may preserve it for future generations. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass the friendship folder, at the end of the pew, to the person next to you.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Fanfare

C. S. Lang

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in awe before the Source of all things.

We come to praise the Maker of heaven and earth.

Powerful Presence above us, below us, around us and within us, touch us with a sense of wonder
and a reverence for your good creation.

*HYMN NO. 17

“Sing Praise to God, You Heavens”

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

OPENING PRAYER

**Mighty God, in the beginning,
when the firm earth emerged from the waters of life
you saw that it was good.**

**The fertile ground was moist, the seed was strong
and earth's profusion of color and scent was born.**

Awaken our senses this day to the goodness that still stems from Eden.

Awaken our senses to the goodness that can still spring forth in us

and in all that has life. Amen.

J. Philip Newell, Celtic Benediction

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Robin Rosser

*Children through Grade 6 may leave for Godly Care, Godly Play 1, and Sing-to-Praise Choir,
or they may remain in worship.*

ANTHEM

“With a Voice of Singing”

Kenneth Jennings

With a voice of singing declare ye, and tell this; utter it even to the end of the earth. Hallelujah! The Lord hath redeemed his servant Jacob. Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands. Sing forth the honor of his Name; make his praise glorious. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Passages in **bold print** may be said by all. At the asterisk (*), please stand as you are able*

*HYMN No. 25

“O Lord, Our God, How Excellent”

WINCHESTER OLD

SERMON

“Exercising Authority over the Work of God’s Hands”

Greg Jones

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**God made human beings together with all the other creatures
and charged us to care for the earth and all that lives on it.
We acknowledge we share in the interdependence
that binds together all God’s creation.
Yet God gives us power to rule and tame,
to order and reshape the world.
We hold the earth in trust for future generations of living things.
The Lord forbids us to plunder, foul, and destroy the earth.
The Lord expects us to produce, to consume, and to reproduce
in ways that make earth’s goodness available to all people
and reflect God’s love for all creatures.
The Lord wants us to use our technical skills
for beauty, justice, health and peace.** *A Declaration of Faith, Presbyterian Church (USA)*

OFFERING

“Remember the LORD your God, for it is God who gives you power to earn wealth.” (Deuteronomy 8:18)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”
(Text: Hymn #802)

Harry Rowe Shelley

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jen Barrington

LORD’S PRAYER (page 35 in our *Glory to God* hymnal, using “debts” and “debtors”)

*HYMN No. 37

“Let All Things Now Living”

ASH GROVE

BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

H. F. Hemy/J. G. Walton

God of the earth, the sky, the sea,
Maker of all above, below,
creation lives and moves in you;
there is your pow’r; your law is there.
We give you thanks; your name we sing!
Almighty God, our praise we bring.

GOING FORTH

If you are visiting with us and wish to learn more about our church family, we invite you to meet today’s ambassador, Tammy Daley, at the back of the center aisle following the service. She is happy to share information about our many programs for children, youth and adults.



Sunday Seminars

Gratitude: The Research Behind the Attitude of Gratitude

Classroom 6

Presenter: Carmelita Whitfield

In recent news and talk shows we hear a lot about gratitude, happiness, and mindfulness; although these terms and acts of well-being have existed since the beginning of time. This interactive workshop will delve into Gratitude and examine what top researchers in the field have to say. Presented by Carmelita Whitfield, who earned her PhD in public health and is a certified positive psychology practitioner. Dr. Whitfield is a qualitative researcher with interest in spirituality and meaning with terminally ill cancer warriors. Her research had led to the creation of a six-week post-traumatic growth workshops centered around gratitude and resilience.

Genealogy

Today and April 29

Classroom 3

Presenter: Bob Cox

Where were your ancestors fifty, one hundred, or one thousand years ago? What were their names? What were their lives like? Genealogy has been rising in popularity, as evidenced by the number of television shows promoting it: “Finding Your Roots”, “Who Do You Think You Are?”, and “DNA Detectives”, to name a few. Bob Cox will share thirty years of experience, resources, and techniques for discovering family history. The first week will cover traditional genealogy in the digital age and the second week will cover genetic genealogy. Bring your questions and brick walls to explore.

Celebrate Earth Day! Plant Seeds for the Future

Community Hall

Stop by the tables in Community Hall to check out seeds for planting from the Earth Care Committee! Plant native seeds to take home that will attract birds and bees in your garden. Make it your gift to the planet. All ages welcome!

Upcoming:

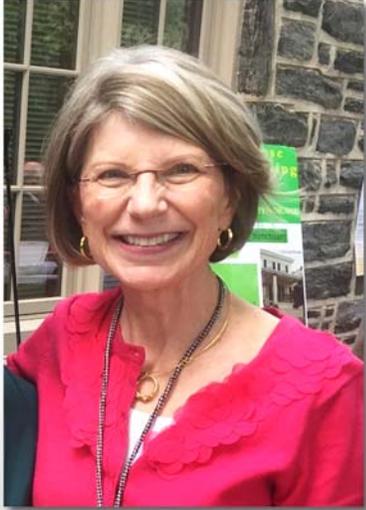
LET’S TALK ABOUT IT – A Periodic Series

Ruth Christie Room

Facilitator: Sue Linderman

White people are unaccustomed to talking about race and its implications in their lives. Yet at some level, everyone recognizes that racism and prejudice have a profound impact on our communities and our country. We need opportunities to experience the challenges and benefits that come from bringing racial issues into the light of day. Join us on **May 6th** as we begin the journey of exploring our beliefs about race, with openness to differing opinions and respect for one another.

Send-Off for Susan Moseley



**Sunday, April 29
10:10 a.m.**

After 14 years as our Church Educator, Susan Moseley is leaving us to pursue other endeavors. Please join us during the 10:TEN education hour on April 29 as we thank Susan for her service to Westminster, share memories, and say goodbye.



New to Westminster?

Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Hymnals are located on a shelf under the pew in front of you, or at the ends of the pew. Please join us in singing!
- A red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew will be passed during the service. We hope you will sign it and let us know how we can welcome you with a follow-up contact.
- There will be an Ambassador at the back of the church at the end of worship, who would love to answer any questions you might have or give you more information about Westminster.
- For more information about our community of faith, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter from the home page of our website (www.wpc.org), call the Westminster office at (302) 654-5214, or email Barbara Jobe (Convener, Membership & Evangelism Committee) at bjobe@comcast.net.



Please join us for coffee or tea in Community Hall after the service.

Ask someone to show you the way!

Music at Westminster

presents

THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE CHORALE

in concert

**Friday, April 27
8:00 p.m.**



Under the direction of Dr. Paul Head, the prize-winning UD Chorale once again brings to Westminster an evening of choral artistry at the highest level. If you've heard them before, you know what we are talking about; if you've not yet heard this amazing choir, this is your chance! Be prepared for an unforgettable musical experience.

FREE ADMISSION; OFFERING RECEIVED

Westminster Recognized for Environmental Leadership

For the ninth year in a row, we have been certified by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as an "Earth Care Congregation." This honor recognizes our efforts to be good stewards of the earth's precious resources through our leadership in worship, education, outreach, facilities management, and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian churches have earned this distinction. Read more about the steps we have taken in the April issue of our newsletter, *The Westminster Chimes* (available on our literature table or online at www.wpc.org). And be sure to check out these upcoming opportunities to learn more on Sunday mornings at 10:10 a.m.:

Today – Earth Day! Plant native seeds to take home and support local wildlife and pollinators (all ages welcome).

May 6 – Solar energy for your home.



Throughout April, we have a photographic tribute to the breath-taking beauty and awe of nature by photographer Gary Bryde. Enjoy the display in the main hallway across from the reception desk.