



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship 1st Sunday in Lent February 18, 2018 9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL STAFF:

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor
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: Sharon Babcock, Elizabeth Holmes
Christian Sanders, 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.

This Morning at Westminster

8:30 – 11:15 a.m. The Holy Toast Café, in Community Hall, offers free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar per item.

Deacon Team of the Month

Teisha Fooks, Hillary King, Cathy Lang, Mary Lou McDowell, Cassandra Piovoso

8:45 – 11:15 a.m. Nursery for babies and toddlers

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Children are always welcome in worship. We also provide additional opportunities for children to grow in faith.

- ❖ **Godly Care** – Children ages 2 through 4 begin in worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they walk with a parent to the **Preschool Suite** where they are greeted by the morning coordinator and escorted into **Classroom A**. The children experience simple worship rituals and learn key stories in the Bible. They respond through crafts, songs and prayers.
- ❖ **Godly Play 1** – Children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they walk with their teachers to the Ruth Christie Room. The children learn the language of God’s people through sacred space, stories, parables and liturgical actions. You may pick up your children in the **Preschool Suite Classroom C**.
- ❖ **Sing-to-Praise Choir Program** – Children in grades 3 through 6 begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they meet their leaders in the pavilion and walk together to the Youth Music Room.

10:10 a.m. Education for All Ages

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|--|-------------------|
| ➤ Sunday School for Preschoolers | Preschool Suite D |
| ➤ Joyful Noise Choir K – 2/Musical Rehearsal K – 8 | Youth Music Room |
| ➤ Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 8 | Classroom 8 |
| ➤ Sunday Seminars | see page 6 |

11:15 a.m. Living Mosaics worship in Rodney Chapel. Children are always welcome.

12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time Meeting Room

Also Today

11:15 a.m.	Flying Solo Brunch at Catherine Rooney’s	1616 Delaware Ave.
5:00 p.m.	180° Youth Dinner and Fellowship	Classroom 6/Community Hall
6:00 p.m.	Clean But Not Straight – NA	Club Room
8:00 p.m.	AA	Club Room



Westminster is certified as an “Earth Care Congregation” by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This honor means that we have exhibited exceptional leadership in protecting God’s creation and being good stewards of earth’s resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian congregations in this country have earned this honored distinction.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The rosebud on the chancel this morning is in celebration of the birth of Eva Ruth Estevez, born February 12, daughter of Merideth Hite Estevez and Edwin Estevez.

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 March 4 and 11.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **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 Jeanne Butz and Polly McPheeters at Foulk Manor North, and Hal Schonhans at Crosslands.
- ❖ **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

MUSIC OF THE TOWER BELLS

Sue Spilecki

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Loving God, to turn away from you is to fall, to turn toward you is to rise, and to stand before you is to abide forever. Grant us, dear God, in all our duties your help; in all our uncertainties your guidance; in all our dangers your protection; and in all our sorrows your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Prélude

Gabriel Pierné

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather as a family of faith to listen for the voice of God.

**We come eager to encounter our Creator
and to be transformed by God's Spirit.**

Let us open our hearts to God

so that we may live abundant lives.

*HYMN NO. 167

“Forty Days and Forty Nights”

AUS DER TIEFE RUF E ICH

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, who would have us give thanks for all things
and fear nothing but the loss of your presence;
we confess our faithless fears and our worldly anxieties.
We have done those things we ought not to have done
and left undone those things we ought to have done.
Grant us true repentance, forgive our sins
and give us grace to put away all that is harmful. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 425

“Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace”

TAMA NGAKAU MARIE

Vs. 1: Choir

Vs. 2-3: All

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 51:1-12

Old Testament, page 483
Rick Suarez, Lay Reader

ANTHEM

“Create In Me”

Layton James

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew the spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation; uphold me with a willing spirit. Then will I teach transgressors of thy ways, and sinners will return to thee.

SERMON

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

Greg Jones

*HYMN NO. 429

“As a Chalice Cast of Gold”

INWARD LIGHT

OFFERING

*“You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”
~ John Bunyan*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”

American spiritual

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

*HYMN NO. 630

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

CRUSADERS’ HYMN

BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

Agincourt hymn, attributed to John Dunstable

O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That god, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals’ sake.

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, Marlys Kerr, 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

Parables of Jesus in Luke: A Video Series by Dr. Ken Bailey

Today, February 25

Classroom 3

Facilitator: Randy Williamson

Today's parable is "The Lost Younger Son". In this parable, Jesus turns conventional wisdom upside down and redefines the meaning of forgiveness. This four-week series, facilitated by Randy Williamson, is a continuation of a series started in October that focuses on Jesus as a Theologian through the study of selected parables from the Gospel of Luke. Each section will begin with a video presentation of Dr. Bailey providing his insights into the parable using his experience of living over 40 years in the Middle East. We will engage in open discussion of each parable and its theological message. We will be challenged to fit each session into our available 50 minutes, so participants are urged to arrive by 10:10.

Positive Parenting Strategies for Living with Young Children

Today, February 25

Classroom 5

Facilitator: Yvonne Nass, Certified Parent Educator

Session 3: Building a Strong Relationship with Effective Communication Skills – Will cover how to listen and invite cooperation.

Session 4: Deciding on Discipline – Will explore a method of discipline that will encourage a child to become responsible for their actions. It will also look at prevention strategies.

Where Are We in History? Learning to Cope with an Age of Conflict

Today, February 25

Classroom 6

Facilitator: Dave McBride

The rise and fall of civilizations is the heartbeat of history. All civilizations experience conflict triggered by a variety of interrelated social, economic and political problems. Most civilizations have succumbed to such crises, but Western Civilization uniquely has endured and prevailed over such crises in the past. These four classes will examine our current age of conflict and assess the hope that we, like our ancestors, also will prevail over the present challenges. This class is nonpartisan and will rely upon a historical analysis of the cycles of civilizations. We seek conservatives, moderates and progressives to contribute to the discussion.

WPC Networking Group

Classroom 2

Presenter: Craig Stabler

Interested in learning more about fellow WPC members and perhaps helping others with their careers or receiving help? Our congregation has members in all sorts of career fields: technology, sales, finance, medicine, law, operations, accounting, and so much more! Are you on LinkedIn? Did you know our church has a group on LinkedIn? Would you like to learn more? Then come to a session in Classroom 2 led by Craig Stabler, where we'll discuss a potential new networking group.

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) or contact the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at sniesenthompson@wpc.org or (302) 654-5214 ext. 103.



**Please join us for coffee or tea in Community Hall after the service.
Ask someone to show you the way!**

Carrie Newcomer Concert & Workshop

Our Lives as Sacred Story: A Creative Exploration of Our Personal and Shared Spiritual Stories

CONCERT: Friday, February 23, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP: Saturday, February 24, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



This event will feature Carrie Newcomer, musician, poet, author and Quaker activist. *Publishers Weekly* wrote, "What musical taste do authors Barbara Kingsolver, Parker J. Palmer, Jill Bolte Taylor, Philip Gulley, Jim Wallis, and Brian McLaren, have in common? They're all fans of singer-songwriter Carrie Newcomer. Like these authors, Newcomer's work is infused with her faith, and asks what it means to be a person of faith in today's world. The event will take place in Community Hall. **Registration required.** Visit www.cil-de.org or call (302) 540-0661.

Sponsored by Westminster and the Community for Integrative Learning