



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



**Service of Worship**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**October 22, 2017**  
**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, Faith Formation through Music  
and Arts, Teaching Artist in Residence  
Soloist/Section Leaders: Elizabeth Holmes, Sharon Babcock,  
Christian Sanders, Travis Lucas

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.

1502 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)  
An Earth Care Congregation of the PC (USA)

## **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**

Cathy Lang, Lola Miller, Carol Neff, Ann Shadduck, Jerry Spilecki, Pam White, Debbie Wise

**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 – 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**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| ➤ Sunday School for Preschoolers       | Preschool Suite D |
| ➤ Joyful Noise Choir Program for K – 2 | Youth Music Room  |
| ➤ Godly Play 2 for Grades 3 – 5        | Classroom 4       |
| ➤ Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 8    | Classroom 8       |
| ➤ Senior High for Grades 9 – 12        | Classroom 7       |
| ➤ Sunday Seminars                      | See page 7        |

**11:15 a.m.**

**Living Mosaics worship in Rodney Chapel. Children are always welcome.**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Fellowship Time**

Meeting Room

### **Later Today**

5:00 p.m.

180° Dinner and Fellowship

Community Hall/Classroom 6

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 Samuel James Blackford, born October 15, son of Jennifer and Adam Blackford, and brother to Amelia.

**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 October 29 and December 31.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

**Please remember in your prayers:**

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** Paul Fleckenstein, Bob Kline, Barbara Miller, Robin Rosser and Ed Wat.
- ❖ **Westminster's homebound** who can no longer attend worship with us, 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

- This week we pray for Brian Gorman, grandson of Art and Barbara Gorman, serving in the United States military.
- 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](http://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

*God of blessing, thank you for a new day to live for you. In the company of all the saints in heaven and on earth, I rise to sing your praise. Make me a worthy companion of my ancestors in faith; let me love others as I have been love; and guide me as I seek to leave a guidepost for all who follow me in this faith to which you call us. 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

CHORAL PRELUDE

“We Have Come to Worship the Lord”

C. Yannerella

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord said to Abram:

**“I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.”**

We are children of Abram; we are heirs of the promise –

**sent to bear God’s blessing to the world.**

Let us give thanks to the One who claims and calls us.

**Let us worship God!**

\*HYMN NO. 619

“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven”

LAUDA ANIMA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of mercy -  
all that we do, and all that we are  
should be a joyful response to your grace.  
Yet, we do not live out of constant gratitude.  
We harbor resentment for what we lack.  
We blame you; we blame others.  
We doubt your compassion, even your power.  
We find it hard to give of ourselves  
in generous expressions of gratitude and praise.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Heal and restore us  
so that we may return to you with a right spirit.  
Help us to live the holy and joyful lives  
you call us to live.  
We pray in Christ’s name. Amen.**

*At the asterisk (\*), please stand as you are able*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Susan Moseley

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

ANTHEM

"Lord, for Thy Tender Mercies' Sake"

Richard Farrant

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 12:1-4a

Old Testament, page 9

SERMON

"Blessed to be a Blessing"

Sudie Niesen Thompson

TESTIMONY OF JANET STEINWEDEL

HYMN No. 711

"Lord of All Good"  
*Verse 1*

TOULON

TESTIMONY OF CRAIG STABLER

HYMN No. 711

"Lord of All Good"  
*Verse 2*

TESTIMONY OF CARRIE SAATHOFF

HYMN No. 711

"Lord of All Good"  
*Verse 3*

OFFERING

*"Bring your tithes and your donations, your votive gifts, your freewill-offerings...  
because the LORD your God has blessed you." (Deuteronomy 12:6-7)*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"The Apple Tree"

arr. by K. Lee Scott

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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. 694

“Great God of Every Blessing”

AURELIA

BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

“May the Peace of the Lord Go With You”

C. Yannerella

GOING FORTH

*If you are visiting with us and wish to learn more about our church family, we invite you to meet today’s ambassadors, Ellie and Don Furry, at the back of the center aisle following the service. They are happy to share information about our many programs for children, youth and adults.*

## SERMON SERIES: WHY CHURCH?

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The Golden Age of the church has passed. Or has it? The church will never regain its place of importance. Or will it? The Christian Church in the West has been on a downward slide for decades. Belief in God remains high among Americans, but church membership is on the decline. Is this the long, slow death of Christianity, or is it the long, slow death of the church as we know it today? Are we living in the final days of the church or could this be the beginning of the reformation of the church?

On seven Sundays this fall, Dr. Jones will lay out the reasons that the church is absolutely crucial to the state of the world.

**October 8** The Church Plays a Critical Role in Society

**November 19** Serving the World, Finding Our Soul

**October 15** Where Community is Built

**December 3** A Prophetic Voice

**November 5** Can the Church Revive Our Sense of Enchantment with the World?

**December 10** Where We Find Hope

**November 12** Shaping Character



## Sunday Seminars

### ***Membership Exploration Classes***

Today and November 5

Classroom 5

Facilitator: Sudie Niesen Thompson

Are you interested in learning more about Westminster? Have you been considering membership? Please join us today to explore Presbyterian values and life as a member of WPC. Gathering together to share.... see you there!

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

Today

Facilitator: Randy Williamson

Classroom 3

This 4 week series will focus 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, deeply integrated in the Arabic culture of the region. We will then engage in open discussion of the parable and its theological message.

*Today's Parable: The Pharisee and the Tax Collector*

### ***Refugee Relocation Delaware: A Service of Jewish Family Services***

Today

Classroom 6

Presenter: Lourena Ghoeah, Refugee Program Coordinator, JFS

Join us today to hear former Liberian refugee, Lourena Goeah, speak about her role as Program Coordinator for the Refugee Integration Support Effort (RISE) Program at Jewish Family Services of Delaware. In that role, she oversees both refugee resettlement, and the state's émigré services programs. Lourena is committed to serving the public through her volunteer work and educational experiences, and she has six years of full-time work experience with vulnerable and marginalized populations. Lourena currently serves as a volunteer staff member with YesLiberia – a US-based international organization committed to innovative education methods for disadvantaged students in Liberia.



# FALL FESTIVAL

**Next Sunday, October 29**  
**11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Community Hall**

There will be hot dogs, apple cider, games, prizes, face painting and plenty of TREATS! All ages and costumes are WELCOME. Hope to see you there! Hosted by the Westminster deacons. Questions? Please contact Tammy Daley (302-633-0222) or Amy Bickhart at (302-547-5631).

**Please note that there is ONE worship service on Sunday, October 29, at 10:00 a.m., followed immediately by the Fall Festival in Community Hall.**



## Westminster Church Annual Bazaar

**Friday, November 10, 2017**  
**9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Collectibles, White Elephants, Children's Department, Books, Baked and Gourmet Specialties, Gift Boutique, Handcrafts, Holiday Shop

**Hot Dog Stand**  
**10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Spaghetti Dinner**  
**5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Our annual bazaar is a colossal one-day-only extravaganza of bargains. Thank you to EVERYONE for donating treasures, time, and energy! Donation drop-off begins Sunday, November 5. No donations will be received after Wednesday, November 8. Total proceeds support WPC local and global mission outreach efforts.