

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Knowing Christ.....Making Christ Known

March 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent

11:00 A.M. Contemporary



## GATHERING THOUGHT

"Don't search for the answers, which could not be given to you now, because you would not be able to live them. And the point is to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps then, someday far in the future, you will gradually, without even noticing it, live your way into the answer."

– Rainer Maria Rilke

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

11:00 A.M.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad in your pew)*

## SONGS OF PRAISE

*Blessed Be Your Name*

Matt&BethRedman

Blessed be Your name, in the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow, Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be Your name, when I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness, Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out, I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say

***Refrain:*** *Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name*

Blessed be Your name, when the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be, Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be Your name, on the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering, Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out, I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say *Refrain (2x)*

You give and take away, You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say, Lord, Blessed be Your name (2x)  
*Refrain (2x)*

See how good it is, gathering with friends  
Welcoming the stranger in, See how good it is.

***Refrain:*** *When God's children live as one, by the Spirit we  
become the open arms of God to a world in need of love.*

Sad divisions cease, we're ordained as priests,  
Spreading out God's joyful feast, see how good it is. *(Refrain)*

See the earth renewed, by the morning dew,  
All creation sings the truth, see how good it is.

*When God's children live as one, by the Spirit we become  
The open arms of God to a world in need of love,  
to a world in need of love, to a world in need of love*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Nettleton

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be.  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee;  
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

## **THOUGHT FOR CHILDREN**

## **CONGREGATIONAL GREETING – “The Peace of Christ”**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

### **SHARING OUR GIFTS**

*I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

I want Jesus to walk with me;  
I want Jesus to walk with me;  
All along my pilgrim journey,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
When my heart is almost breaking,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
When my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**    Matthew 18 :15-22    (Pew Bible Page 799)

If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to,

take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

*Pastor: The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Wandering Heart: Teach Me*

Leah Hrachovec

**SONG OF RESPONSE**

*All The People Said Amen*

M.Maher,P.Moak,T.Morgan

You are not alone if you are lonely,  
When you feel afraid you're not the only,  
We are all the same in need of mercy,  
To be forgiven and be free; It's all you got to lean on,  
But thank God it's all you need.

**Refrain:** And all the people said amen whoa,  
And all the people said amen.  
Give thanks to the Lord for His love never ends,  
And all the people said amen.

If you're rich or poor well it don't matter,  
Weak or strong you know love is what we're after,  
We're all broken but we're all in this together,  
God knows we stumble and fall, and God so loved the world,  
He sent His son to save us all.   *(Refrain)*

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart,  
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart,  
Blessed are the people hungry for another start.  
For theirs is the kingdom the kingdom of God.   *(Refrain 2X)*

## BENEDICTION

## SONG OF SENDING

*All The People Said Amen*

M.Maher,P.Moak,T.Morgan

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Worship Times:  
9:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

**WELCOME VISITORS!** We are glad you are here today. To help us welcome you personally, please sign the *Friendship Pad* with your name, address, email and/or phone number.

If you are interested in knowing more about being a follower of Jesus, have any questions, or desire follow-up information, please speak to one of the pastors. Following worship, they can be found greeting at the doors of the sanctuary.

The next new member class will be held on Saturday, May 11 from 9:00am-1:30pm. Nursery care is available if requested by May 6.

**LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR TODAY** are: Jeremiah 31:31-34 *and Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16*; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33.

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** is administered this morning at the 9:30am traditional service to Cambrie Hope Chaney, daughter of Tom and Christina Chaney.

**WORSHIP BAND:** Jon Frost, acoustic guitar; Noah Dzielawa, bass guitar; Rick Kiewel, drums; Tom Russell, piano; Lauren Coffey and Lisa Merrill, vocals

**USHERS:** Chuck Lambing and Joyce Carey

**KIDSCONNECT MORNING SCHEDULE:**

11:00am – **Young Children & Worship** will start out in worship with their parents and after the Thought for Children will be dismissed to the Chapel. Pick up is at 12:10 p.m.

**NURSERY CARE.** Our littlest of littles need us! Do you recall making these vows? “... *in the name of the whole church of Christ, we undertake with these parents the Christian nurture of this child so that in due time she/he may confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?*” Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we could help fulfill these Baptismal promises by helping to care for them during our times of worship and special events? Our Nursery Care Team is in need of volunteers to help care for our youngest ones. We can work with your schedule. Background clearances are required, but we can help you with those. Please contact Mary Maina, Childcare Coordinator at [childcare@westminsterpc.org](mailto:childcare@westminsterpc.org).

# WORSHIP INFORMATION

## WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### *Sanctuary*

9:30am – Traditional worship

11:00am – Contemporary worship with band

### *Wednesday Morning in the Chapel*

9:10-9:30am – Prayer and Communion worship

**PHONE MINISTRY - Calling in for Worship** is offered for those who want to listen to the 9:30 am service by phone. Contact Nancy Christy at 610-696-3284 for dialing instructions.

**A REMOTE TV MONITOR** is in the Quiet Room (just outside the sanctuary in the west hallway) to view and hear worship in progress for those with restless children or who need to leave the sanctuary.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES** are available for worship at the Information Center in the Narthex. Additionally, the sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop system that transmits to hearing aids and cochlear implants with telecoils. **PEW CUSHIONS** also available at the Information Center.

**PRAY GROUNDS ARE LOCATED** along the sides of our Sanctuary and are geared towards young children to engage in items from the cart during worship. This allows a space more suitable for them to be a part of the worship service.

**TEXT GIVING** is available. Text keyword “egivewpc” and then your donation amount to 73256 on your mobile device. Click the response link, make selections, hit continue, and add payment information. Contact Sandy Kurek at [skurek@westminsterpc.org](mailto:skurek@westminsterpc.org) for more information.



**PRAYER MINISTRY** members receive a weekly list of prayer requests via email and members include them in their conversations with God. To have a prayer request included in the Prayer Ministry or to become a member, contact Janet Gauger at [gauger.janet@gmail.com](mailto:gauger.janet@gmail.com) or the church office.

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION** is celebrated the first Sunday of every month in all services. If you desire or know of someone desiring **HOME COMMUNION**, please contact Ann Hatfield, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care at 610-399-3377 ext. 114.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ministers of Jesus Christ

Pastors

Pastor Emeritus

Director of Music Ministries

Associate Director of Music Ministries

All the Members of the Congregation

Leah Hrachovec, Jon Frost, Ann Hatfield

Bob Young

Tim Evers

Kirsten Santos Rutschman



**Westminster**

Presbyterian Church

10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd. West Chester, PA 19382

610.399.3377 • [westminsterpc.org](http://westminsterpc.org)

# NEWS AND EVENTS

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March 17, 2024



**Knowing Christ,  
Making Christ Known**

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd. West Chester, PA 19382  
610-399-3377 [www.westminsterpc.org](http://www.westminsterpc.org)

## MEET THE STRATEGIC VISIONING LEAD TEAM



From left: facilitator Joe Gill, Rob Necarsulmer, Ruth Simonson, Tom Russell, Katie Cloutman, Leslie Robertshaw, Steve Brown, Mark Stanisz. Seated from left: Mary Maina, Emily Bowman, Jane Wendel, facilitator Suzanne Farnham, Pastor Leah Hrachovec. Not pictured: Chris Carpenter.

In its February 2024 meeting, the Session of Westminster approved a Strategic Visioning Lead Team to guide the congregation while working with ecumenical partners to discern God's call upon Westminster into the future.

The Strategic Visioning Lead Team, pictured above, met March 8-9 at The Welcoming Place, a retreat center of the Mennonite Central Committee. They were joined by facilitators Suzanne Farnham and Joe Gill from Listening Hearts Ministries in Baltimore, MD. Farnham and Gill led the Team in prayer, song, Scripture study, and creative spiritual practices. They also introduced guidelines for spiritual discernment, which will help Team members facilitate small group discussion and focus conversations in the congregation and community. The Center for Healthy Churches will also offer guidance. This Strategic Visioning process in 2024 is supported by a generous gift from an anonymous Westminster member, for which we are deeply grateful.

Last year marked five years since Westminster's previous work to develop "God-sized dreams:"

1. Expanding Our Witness
2. Serving Our Neighbors
3. Working toward Affordable Housing

#### 4. Equipping the Emerging Generation

These dreams spurred investment of time, prayers, and efforts toward these long-term goals and relationships with community partners. The Team hopes to build on this work and expresses an openness to God's Spirit moving us forward in "knowing Christ, and making Christ known."

Rooted in our DNA as an adaptive congregation and part of the larger Reformed Christian tradition, we trust that God has a "future and a hope" (Jer 29:11) for Westminster, Christ's church in the world, and the whole of God's creation.

#### EASTER SPRING FLOWERS

If you'd like to order an Easter Spring Flower in memory of or in honor of a loved one or friend, contact Barb Drain at [bdrain@westminsterpc.org](mailto:bdrain@westminsterpc.org) with your name and the dedication you would like listed in the bulletin. The cost this year is \$15.00.

Session also encourages those who wish to contribute to the Endowment Fund in memory or honor of a loved one or friend to do so; names will also be listed in bulletin.

Orders will be taken through Tuesday, March 26.



**Camp SPARK (Spiritual Practices And Recreation  
for Kids)**

Monday-Friday (June 24-28)

**Theme: I'm So Blessed! ("For I am convinced that... NOTHING can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:38-39)**

**Flyers with more complete information are available at the welcome desk and office.**

## **HELP SUPPORT COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE**

**CVIM provides free, high-quality healthcare to uninsured working people with low incomes to help them live healthy, productive lives and to assure health equity in the Chester County Region.**

*Westminster's Outreach Committee is collecting the following items during the month of March:*

- Toothbrushes (Adult and Children) Soft Bristle
- Toothpaste with Fluoride
- Dental Floss and Flossers
- Interproximal Brushers
- Mouthwash (MUST BE ALCOHOL FREE)
- Feminine Hygiene Pads
- 

Please bring these items to church during the month of March and place them in the marked bins located in the Heckert Center.

Thank you for supporting this ministry partner in our local community! Questions? [Contact Angela Emrich](mailto:ang.emrich@gmail.com) at [ang.emrich@gmail.com](mailto:ang.emrich@gmail.com)

## **SUPPORT ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special offering has provided avenues of partnership with those who have the least. The ministries supported by OGHS - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - work in a variety of ways to rebuild and restore the lives of families and communities. OGHS is the single, largest way Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience, and sustainability. Each donation to OGHS helps change the lives of people who are in these challenging situations. Please consider donating during the season of Lent. Offering envelopes are in the pew racks to donate to One Great Hour of Sharing. Thank you for your generous support!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PLEASE NOTE: NO BAPTISM CLASS DURING MARCH.** Next baptism class is scheduled for April 28, 2024 at 10:30am in room 405.

**Men's Retreat: April 12-14.** Registration forms are available online at our website or in the church office and at the Welcome desk.

**Tuesday Fellowship:** Our speaker next Tuesday, March 19 is **Nathaniel H. Cooper** who is married to Pastor Leah Hrachovec. Come and meet Pastor Leah's husband and hear his unique presentation: **10 Interesting Facts about Oklahoma.** We will meet in **Spellman Jr.** at 9:30AM for fellowship, coffee, tea and treats. And from **10-11AM Nat Cooper** will present his **10 Interesting Facts about Oklahoma.** Contact Dave Goodale ([dbgpharma@gmail.com](mailto:dbgpharma@gmail.com)) to be sent the **zoom** link information.

### **Eat Out with WPC Thursday Lunch Bunch**

March 28, NOON at Pica's Restaurant

1233 West Chester Pike, West Chester

Call Carol Olver at 610 883-6176 or Carol Edwards at 610 306-0674 for reservations and details.

**Westminster's Library-**Please visit the library to see our Easter display. While there, feel free to check out any books or DVDs of interest. The blue library cards are one per family. If there are any questions, please contact Phyllis Simmons at [simmphyl@msn.com](mailto:simmphyl@msn.com).

**Celebrate Recovery** meets every Thursday at 7:00 pm in the Site. We also offer a zoom option for those who are unable to meet in person. This is a valuable ministry where lives are transformed and hurts and habits are overcome. It is not solely for addiction issues but for all of life's challenges. Join us and let God work in your life through Celebrate Recovery. If you have any questions, you can email us at [westminsterpresCR@gmail.com](mailto:westminsterpresCR@gmail.com).

You don't have to handle your struggles alone anymore.

**Thrift shop: Annual Spring Drop Off is just around the Corner!!** It's so nice to welcome spring and if you are or have been downsizing, housecleaning, redecorating, etc. for spring, then trying to decide what to do with all that stuff, **please consider the Westminster Thrift Shop's Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. drop-off under the Westminster church portico.**

Volunteers will be there to help with your donations. **We are in need of:** women's **spring clothing** (small, medium, large to Xlarge, 1X, 2X, 3X), jewelry, men's clothing (no suits), house decor, housewares, small pieces of furniture, collectibles, antiques, books, board games, puzzles. Your generosity helps us continue our mission of supporting community organizations in need, to date 50 organizations have received our support. **THANK YOU!!!**





**Red Cross Blood Drive at Westminster,** Friday, March 22, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm in Spellman Hall. Sign up at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use sponsor code WPC.

**Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group.** If you are a loved one supporting someone with dementia, please join us! Our meetings are on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00p.m. in Spellman Jr. or via zoom. Next meeting is Tuesday, March 26, at 6:00p.m.

**Community Warehouse Spring Pick Up.** If you have dining tables and chairs, mattresses, couches, etc. that you would like to find a new home for, The Community Warehouse Project can help! The Community Warehouse Project of Chester County is a service organization that collects and redistributes donated furniture to individuals and families in need within the region. Westminster will pick up your used furniture on Sat., April 13 from 8 am -11 am, and deliver for you! Email [nancy@tuttlemarketing.com](mailto:nancy@tuttlemarketing.com) with your name, address and pictures of the items you wish to donate, and we will make the arrangements. If you want to help us that day, please let us know as well – we could use some strong bodies!!! For other smaller furniture and all household items, we encourage you to donate them to Westminster's Thrift Shop.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### Our Children's Ministry Needs You!

Nursery	Camp SPARK
9:30am – Easter Sunday (March 31)	<b>Volunteers Needed...</b> and YOU, too, can do this!
2+ Additional Adults	Spread the word about Camp SPARK (share flyers, share through email, share on social media)!
Help us show our best hospitality to young families on Easter Sunday!	During camp, befriend a child, help them in their workshops, be on a safety team, us keep safety a TOP PRIORITY! So many ways to help that everyone do!
Come love on some littles!	We <b>DO NOT NEED</b> workshops leaders! Yay!!!
Moving forward... the <b>GREAT NEWS</b> is that we have a continued need for volunteers because more and more families with littles are coming!	We <b>DO NEED</b> extra hands-on helpers!
So, help... once per month? Once per 6 weeks? Once every couple of months or per quarter? Yes!	We <b>DO NEED ADULTS</b> in all workshops!
 	We <b>DO NEED YOUTH</b> in all workshops!
 	<b>WE DO NEED YOUTH</b> with energy and excitement to lead “Energizers” and “Motivators!”
 	Help in the am. Help in the pm... or both!
Contact Mary Maina at <a href="mailto:childcare@westminsterpc.org">childcare@westminsterpc.org</a>	Contact Jill Reichert at <a href="mailto:jreichert@westminsterpc.org">jreichert@westminsterpc.org</a>



## FINANCIAL



**Donate from your smart phone.** Scan this image using your phone's QR code reader.

**February 2024**

### **General Fund – Mission and Church Operations**

Year To Date	Actual	Budget	% vs Budget Better/(Worse)
Pledge Giving	\$ 546,474	\$ 527,109	3.7%
Total Revenue	\$ 682,163	\$ 622,779	9.5%
Expense	\$ 397,123	\$ 413,834	4.0%
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 285,040	\$ 208,945	36.4%

*Message from our Church Administrator, Gerry McShane*

February was another strong month as IRA QCD donations soared well beyond last February. To put it in perspective, IRAs represent 47% of YTD pledged giving, a significant jump over the prior year. A trend is developing where 50% of our giving now occurs in four months of the year, the first two and the last two. This makes it interesting in managing our cash flow. We have invested excess cash in bank CDs that provide returns of more than 5%, which has enhanced our other revenue. Our goal is to find other sources of revenue, facility use for example, to continue to supplement our primary revenue source. The Tromba Mundi concert provided us with \$1,000 in facility revenue in February. We have an excellent opportunity to host more of these type of concerts to take advantage of our beautiful space and ample parking as well as our partnership with WCU. Expenses have remained in check, with all ministry lines under budget, save for worship and arts and admin, and those are due to timing. Property Reserve investments for this year included the Spellman and front entrance portico roofs. This project is complete except for minor work. Our next big project will be replacing exterior doors and lower windows on the Sanctuary wing.

**Offering Figures for 3/17/24 (includes online giving)**

General Fund-Sunday Svc/Mailed/Online	\$32,854.50
Per Capita	230.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	303.00
Music Fund	<u>25.00</u>
Total	\$33,412.50

**Attendance: 3/17/24**

In Person	324
Phone	7
Wellington	19
Live Stream	<u>552</u>
Total	902

## Calendar for week of March 17, 2024

### Sunday, March 17

- 8:30 A.M. Nursery Care (109)
- 9:30 A.M. Traditional Service/WeeConnect 3-4 yrs  
KidsConnect (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade)
- 10:45 A.M. Journey Class (Spellman Jr.)
- 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service/ Children and Worship
- 4:00 P.M. Verdi Requiem Concert (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 P.M. Youth Group (Cove)

### Monday, March 18

- 9:00 A.M. Thrift Shop workday until 3PM

### Tuesday, March 19

- 9:30 A.M. Tuesday Morning Fellowship (Spellman Jr.)
- 9:30 A.M. Tuesday Women's Bible Study (407)
- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3 P.M.
- 1:00 P.M. Westminster Knitters (Quiet Room)
- 7:00 P.M. Session Meeting (Spellman Jr. and Zoom)

### Wednesday, March 20

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Weekly Bible Study (Spellman Jr.)
- 9:10 A.M. Prayer and Communion Service (Chapel)
- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3 P.M.
- 11:00 A.M. Better Days Together at WCU
- 4:30 P.M. Contemplative Small Group via Zoom
- 5:00 P.M. Children's Choir (Spellman Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. Gathering of Men (Spellman Jr)
- 7:00 P.M. Handbell Rehearsal (Spellman Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, March 21

Thrift Shop Closed

- 10:00 A.M. Tech Time with Lynn (Zoom)
- 7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
- 7:00 P.M. Celebrate Recovery (414)
- 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts (Spellman Hall)

### Friday, March 22

- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3 P.M.
- 11:00 A.M. Blood Drive (Spellman Hall)

Saturday, March 23

9:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until noon.

Sunday, March 24

8:30 A.M. Nursery Care (109)

9:30 A.M. Traditional Service/WeeConnect 3-4 yrs  
KidsConnect (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade)

10:45 A.M. Journey Class (Spellman Jr.)

11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service/ Children and Worship

5:00 P.M. Vespers (Sanctuary)

5:00 P.M. Youth Choir (Music  
Room)

5:30 P.M. Youth Group (Cove)

**FOOD FOR OUR NEIGHBORS**  
**MARCH – SPAGHETTI SAUCE AND PASTA**

**For questions about any of our activities or events, please visit the  
website at [westminsterpc.org](http://westminsterpc.org) or call the church office.**