



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# 2025 Annual Report

Presented to the Congregation Sunday, January 25, 2026



*"So [Christ] came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near...So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God."*

-Ephesians 2:17,19



As we step into a new year of mission and ministry together, I am filled with gratitude for the ways God has been at work among us in 2025. Your commitment to our mission of Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known shines through in the care you extend to one another and the joy with which you share Christ's love beyond our walls.

This past year was rich with opportunities to grow in faith. We launched new small groups—including a study of The Chosen and the Mourning Star grief support group—creating spaces for deeper connection and spiritual growth. Our music ministry explored the vibrant sounds of the music in many traditions through concerts with Elevation vocal ensemble, Celtic Psalms from Northern Ireland, and Sandra McCracken, as well as concerts from our own choirs and the Worship Collective. We celebrated the faithful ministry of Rev. Ann Hatfield upon her retirement and look forward to honoring Gerry McShane as he concludes his years of dedicated service as our church administrator.

Beyond our congregation, we partnered in another Living Waters for the World installation in Honduras, continuing our commitment to global outreach and partnership. We also shared good news and great joy with our community through Westminster's first (annual!) participation in the West Chester Christmas Parade. Online engagement remained strong throughout the year, with worship livestreams, sermon archives, and event updates among the most visited resources, helping us extend Christ's welcome far beyond our physical doors.

As we look ahead, we continue to unfold the Guideposts that shape our ministries and focus our mission. May we embrace this new season with hope and hospitality, deepening friendships and growing in faith and service together. I am excited for the year ahead and the many ways we will witness God's work in our midst. I rejoice that you are part of this beloved "household of God" at Westminster.

With gratitude and hope,

*Leah*

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# SESSION

**2025 Officers:** Ed McFalls, *Clerk of Session* • Rev. Leah Hrachovec, *Moderator of Session* • Rev. Eric Dorville • Rev. Jon Frost

## 2025

Ann Jaques  
Jim Magee  
Rob Necarsulmer  
Meg Pope  
Kathy Smedley  
Lynae Young

## 2026

Chris Birkenmaier  
Angela Emrich  
Suzanne Mecouch  
Phyllis Simmons  
Jim Scanlon  
Matt Steele

## 2027

Karen Goldsborough  
Gail Lee  
Tom Russell  
Ruth Simonson  
Laureen Smith  
Jane Wendel

# DEACONS

**2025 Officers:** Paul Zamrowski, *Moderator* • Amy Flynn, *Vice Moderator*

## 2025

Lisa Antonucci  
Judy Bianchi  
Dave Carpenter  
Nancy Daly  
Judy Eberhardt  
Joanne Ebert  
Karen Finley  
Marty Ollenschleger  
Jean Pitts  
Paul Zamrowski

## 2026

Sherry Brady  
Wray Brady  
Sharon Davies  
Jane Deacon  
Shawn Dzielawa  
Rick Griste  
Rita Ollice  
Kim Prann  
Joni Taylor  
Nancy J. Tuttle

## 2027

Laurie Albrecht  
Marty Bonds  
Ronnie Carrone  
Bill Casswell  
Amy Flynn  
Danica Frazier  
Kaitlyn Harris-Young  
Terry Hawkins  
Amy Spaziani  
Don Urban

# TRUSTEES

Roger Deacon, *President*

## 2025

Jonathan Bonds  
Scott Boorse  
Steve Brown  
Doug Pitts

## 2026

Rick Bates  
Will Coffey  
Roger Deacon  
Jay Mossman

## 2027

Lee Flurer  
Robbe Healey  
Chuck Lambing  
Sharlee Van Tine

# MISSION

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

# VISION

As followers of Jesus Christ, we commit to: worship that glorifies God and transforms us, intentional, hope-filled community, a lifetime of spiritual growth and joyful generosity, as we are sent to demonstrate the Kingdom of God in the world.



Pastor Leah Hrachovec baptizes a child

# GUIDEPOSTS

In spring 2025, our Strategic Visioning Lead Team introduced new Guideposts to inform and focus our ministries into the future. Approved by Session, the Guideposts act like a compass, with Christ as our center. We encourage all ministry teams of the church and each member to use these Guideposts for inspiration and guidance in our mission and life together.

## Westminster is...



- **A beacon of unconditional welcome and acceptance.** For those imperiled, broken, seeking refuge, or simply coming home, Westminster's people offer safe harbor and inviting hospitality without judgment or restraint. Our welcome radiates from our church home outward to God's kingdom, where we are all one, all accepted, and love is fully and perfectly expressed in Jesus Christ.
- **A wellspring of deeper learning.** We are lifelong learners, seeking to know God through the divine connection and humanity of Jesus Christ. We give both voice and ear to hard questions, and do not despair when the answers are not apparent. We learn so that we can do, and so that we in turn can teach and share what we have learned.
- **A spiritual center for transforming gifts into service.** We live in and grow into awareness of our abundant individual and collective gifts from God. Guided by the Holy Spirit, and following Christ's example, we vigilantly seek opportunities to share our gifts, always serving with gratitude and respect. In our service, we care for God's creation in all its forms; we partner, collaborate and take risks to realize shared visions.
- **A source of worship that transcends barriers.** We embrace broadly diverse expressions of worship, to refresh and renew our faith in God. We honor and respect tradition, and we joyfully sing new songs to the Lord. Unconstrained by distance, time, or place; language or culture; age or ability; gender or identity, we reach outward to encounter God by engaging one another.
- **A community that cultivates authentic and sustaining friendships.** Through shared dreams, trials, and experience, we know one another as unique and valued creations. We identify the obstacles that inhibit time together in community and find creative ways to remove them. We, Christ's followers, lean on each other for support, share ourselves with trust and forgiveness, have fun together, and know that in friendship we experience God's grace.

# INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

In response to God's unconditional love for all people, made known to us in Jesus Christ, Westminster Presbyterian Church is called to embody that same love in our life and ministry.

As a community of faith, we affirm the image of God in people of every racial identity, ethnicity, socio-economic status, age, gender, relationship status, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression. We welcome all who desire to participate in our congregation, for everyone brings gifts and experiences that strengthen and enrich the life of the church. We commit ourselves to making inclusivity a reality for this congregation and our local community by continuing to learn and grow in friendship with one another.

We especially proclaim this statement of welcome to those who have been excluded and/or told that they do not fully reflect the image of God. If you are looking for a place to share in God's great love and affirm that all people are God's children, we invite you to join us in our faith journey toward greater love, respect and understanding of one another.



Our new members class in February

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

**Number on Church Roll on 1/1/25**  
1,631

**Additions in 2025:** 41

27 New Members  
12 Confirmation Class  
2 Restored to Active Membership

**Baptisms in 2025:** 13

13 Children  
0 Adult

**Loss of members in 2025:** 133

19 Deaths  
5 Transfers  
109 Others

**Number on Church Roll on 12/31/25**  
1,539

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

*The live stream numbers indicate IP addresses (a single computer, TV or mobile device). In many homes more than one person is watching, so for actual attendance, it's realistic to estimate 1.5 to 2 times the numbers shown. The number of IP addresses were used to determine the live stream statistics.*

	In Person	Live Stream	All
<b>Traditional Average</b>	283	442	731
<b>Contemporary Average</b>	91	118	210
<b>Wed. Chapel Average</b>	15	27	41
<b>Taizé Average</b>	23	22	45
<b>Vespers Average</b>	27	--	27
<b>Phone Ministry Average</b>	6	--	6
<b>Wellington Average</b>	7	--	7
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	183	138	321
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	497	708	1,220
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	203	185	388
<b>Good Friday</b>	86	151	237
<b>Easter</b>	1,042	784	1,826
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	1,885	977	2,862

**2025: 40%** of our worship attendance was in person and **59%** of our worship attendance was live stream

**2024: 44%** of our worship attendance was in person and **55%** of our worship attendance was live stream

From 2024 to 2025, our average in person worship attendance decreased by **4%**, our average online worship attendance increased by **5%** and our average overall attendance increased by **4.5%**.



Third graders celebrate after they receive their Bibles



Our 2025-2026 preschool teachers



Introduced child acolytes on communion Sundays



We packed 1,000 meals on Martin Luther King Jr Day!



Children at the 10 am Christmas Eve service



Our preschool celebrated its 30th anniversary with a party in May. Bluey, Paw patrol, mini pony visited as well as food, games and more.

## NECROLOGY REPORT 2025

Joan Petrak  
 Brian Miller  
 Pat Gray  
 Cliff Franks  
 Anthony J. Diyenna  
 Bob Fromm  
 Jane Wylie  
 Pauline Sumner  
 Patricia Hemphill  
 Edward Lovitch  
 Bette Alburger  
 Bob Sumner  
 Harry Musser  
 Sharon Anderson  
 Thomas Smith  
 Wendell Lofland  
 Carol Jo (CJ) Heald  
 Jill Franks  
 Janet Miller

January 7  
 February 3  
 February 24  
 March 6  
 June 3  
 July 20  
 July 20  
 August 14  
 August 31  
 September 8  
 September 30  
 October 4  
 August 1  
 April 14  
 September 26  
 November 4  
 November 5  
 November 16  
 November 24

## PRESCHOOL

**Staff:** Megan Potts, Carrie Boyea, & Kristin Flaim

**Elder:** Suzanne McCouch

**Questions:** Megan Potts, Preschool Director  
[mpotts@westminsterpc.org](mailto:mpotts@westminsterpc.org) or 610.399.3910

- Our Preschool is Growing:** Added an additional classroom. We are excited for our ministry to grow and reach more families in our community.
- Office Remodel:** The preschool office received a much-needed update after nearly 30 years! It now includes enough desks for all administrative staff and a cozy meeting space for families.
- Teaching Staff:** We continue to be very proud of our amazing, dedicated teachers. We are blessed to have quite a few teachers who have been a part of Westminster's Preschool for over 20 years! The love and care they pour into each student is what makes Westminster's Preschool truly one-of-a-kind.

# CHILDREN'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH

**Elder:** Kathy Smedley, Jane Wendel, Suzanne Mecouch • **Staff:** Mary Maina, Jill Reichert

**Questions?** Kathy Smedley, *Chair*, [ksmed@aol.com](mailto:ksmed@aol.com)

- Made a concerted effort for **children to engage within the church**; they helped in The Shop for Hope, Care for Creation, Safe Harbor, and Family Promise.
- **Implemented SummerConnect** classes on Sunday mornings. Children experienced stories through art, drama, music, and service.
- Our Sunday morning WeeConnect, KidsConnect and Young Children and Worship classes continued to grow spiritually, involving many new volunteers. This Fall we implemented some changes. On the first Sunday of each month, children remain in worship to participate in communion and learn to be a part of our worshiping community (e.g., acolyting, liturgists, storytelling, & more).
- Lined up our curriculum with the **Narrative Lectionary**, which is being preached, allowing the Message for Children to align with the sermon as well as what they will learn in class.
- **Camp Spark:** this weeklong full-day worship arts summer camp continues to be a highlight of our year for PreK through rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Staff, members, teams, and groups from worship, music, technology, knitting/weaving, outreach, pickleball, friends from Maris Grove, Habitat, Good Works, Café 10 W and Deacons, youth, Gleaning Garden, Care of Creation, KidsConnect/WeeConnect leaders, and an outside dance studio in the community all connected to share their gifts with children to show them how we can creatively come together in worship, as well as to use our gifts and creativity to serve others.
- **Fall Fest** included a chili cook-off, dinner, crafts and activities for the whole family.
- Children decorated ornaments for the Family Christmas Tree as well as Family Promise, made new cards out of old ones, played games, and made a family Advent paper chain at our **Advent Night**.
- Over 16 children acted out Jesus' birth at our 10 am **Christmas Eve Family Service**. Our Cherub and Children's choir led us in song.



Youth at their annual Christmas party



Youth after a fun Color War

# YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTRIES

**Elder:** Matt Steele • **Staff:** Chris Clark

**Questions?** Chris Clark, *Director of Youth and College Ministries*, [cclark@westminsterpc.org](mailto:cclark@westminsterpc.org) • 610.399.3377 ext. 110

- This summer we hosted **our first Middlers' Gaming Haven** for middle school youth to come together as a community of tabletop gaming and care. Youth had fun engaging in the joy of play and creativity as the group even created their own table top game over the five weeks together!
- Our **Spring retreat** in May was a success as youth explored themes about hope amidst mental health. With worship, workshops, recreation, and community conversation, the weekend was a transformative experience for returning and first time youth attendees.
- We **returned to Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference** for the first time in over ten years with six youth and three adult leaders. The theme was Wholly Loved based on 1 John 4.
- In collaboration with CSG, youth families helped us make and collect over a thousand bagged lunches for **Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service!** Lunches were shared with ministries and organizations throughout Chester County through the Vine Ministry.



Leaders of our Juneteenth celebration and learning event

## ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

**Elders:** Meg Pope & Ruth Simonson • **Staff:** Eric Dorville  
**Questions?** Meg Pope, *Chair*, megpope@hotmail.com

- **Increased small groups in 2025** provided opportunities for members to grow spiritually through community, relationships, prayer, study and mutual encouragement:
  - 61 people engaged in discussion groups based on the TV series The Chosen.
  - 18 people mourned together in a grief group
  - Continued to expand and support remote worshipers with fellowship and study groups.
- Held an engaging and educational celebration of the **Juneteenth**, bringing community groups and reenactors to the church who presented stories and information about the events behind the holiday.
- **The Anxious Generation** for parents and Leah's Mourning Star grief group were held and the ongoing Gathering of Men saw a surge in 2025.
- Rev. Cheryl Galen returned to Westminster to **lead 85 participants at the Women's Retreat** in March, while the Rev. Michael Wilson led the Men's Retreat at Sandy Cove in April.



Celebrating Gerry McShane's retirement

## PERSONNEL

**Elders:** Karen Goldsborough, Gail Lee, Phyllis Simmons, Lynae Young  
**Staff:** Leah Hrachovec & Erin Sheffield  
**Questions?** Lynae Young, *Chair*, lynaeyoung@comcast.net

- We said “farewell” to Rev. Ann Hatfield, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Outreach, **Gerry McShane**, our Church Administrator, and **David Benton**, one of our custodians.
- We **welcomed Erin Sheffield** as our new Church Administrator, along with **Patrick McDonald** as a custodian.
- The congregation approved reducing the number of installed pastors on staff from four to three and we **started a search for a Director of Spiritual Care**.
- We signed a **covenant with Rev. Dr. Emily Chudy** so that she can serve as a Parish Associate at Westminster.
- Session **renewed our covenant with Rev. Eric Dorville**, serving as Transitional Associate Pastor for Spiritual Growth, for another year. The congregation elected an APNC and began the search process for a called and installed Associate Pastor of Spiritual Growth.
- We recognized **Leah Hrachovec's 20-year ordination anniversary**.



Our staff celebrates Pastor Ann Hatfield's retirement in February



Children at our summer music camp



Pastor Jon blesses Kim's dog at the Blessing of the Animals



Elevate Vocal Arts concert in February



Westminster members participate in the West Chester Christmas parade.

## WORSHIP & ARTS

**Elders:** Chris Birkenmaier & Laureen Smith

**Staff:** Jon Frost, Tim Evers & Leah Hrachovec

**Questions?** Tim Evers, *Director of Music Ministries*, [tevers@westminsterpc.org](mailto:tevers@westminsterpc.org)  
Jon Frost, *Associate Pastor of Worship*, [jfrost@westminsterpc.org](mailto:jfrost@westminsterpc.org)

- Thanks to an Endowment grant, hosted **Elevate Vocal Arts** in February for a Saturday workshop and Sunday concert to gain a deeper understanding of performing music from the Black diaspora.
- 100 Singers of the Chancel Choir augmented with guest concert singers performed **Fauré Requiem** and **Light of Life** by Edward Elgar as well presented four **Christmas Concerts** with the theme *And on Earth, Peace*. They featured Ralph Vaughan Williams's **Hodie** as the anchor work of the program.
- Held **combined worship** services on the following occasions:
  - Annual Meeting Sunday
  - Pastor Ann Hatfield's retirement
  - Pentecost
  - End of Summer
  - Sunday after Christmas
- Held evening **Vespers** services throughout the year including our annual Blessing of the Animals in October.
- In March, **shifted Sunday worship** service times 30 minutes earlier (9:00am & 10:30am).
- Restarted the **Youth Choir Cabaret** in May to culminate their season. The Children's Choir also sang as part of the program.
- Began phase two of maintenance **work on the Organ**. This included upgrading the existing Peterson ICS 400 pipe organ control system, installing new draw knobs and rewiring the new components.
- **Chancel Choir Tour to Scotland** where they sang in worship at Wellington Church (Glasgow) and in concert at Sterling Castle, Iona Abbey and St. Giles Cathedral (Edinburgh).
- Hosted our second **Children's/Chester Choir Music Camp** in late August. Youth and Adult volunteers provided support for the week which culminated with a concert in the Sanctuary.
- **Chancel Ringers** welcomed several new members who participated in recent rounds of the Genesis Ringers beginners' handbell class.
- Through Westminster Music & Arts funding, presented **Sandra McCracken** in concert. Jon Guerra opened.
- A subcommittee of Worship & Arts organized a Westminster Float to participate in the **West Chester Christmas Parade**. It won **First Place** in the Nonprofit Entry category.
- **The Worship Collective**, led by Pastor Jon Frost, presented their second Christmas concert.
- The **Children's Choir** presented a Christmas Concert in the Sanctuary and the **Youth Choir** returned to Maris Grove.
- 24 musicians participated in an intergenerational **Christmas Band** on December 28.



Deacons prepare pancakes at our annual pancake dinner on Ash Wednesday

## DEACONS

**2025 Officers:** Paul Zamrowski, Moderator & Amy Flynn, Vice Moderator • **Staff:** Eric Dorville

**Questions?** Amy Flynn, [apflynn@msn.com](mailto:apflynn@msn.com)

- The Deacons **served fellowship and food** at the Lenten Pancake/Sausage Dinner, Strawberry Festival, Peach Festival and at the Reception for Rev. Ann Hatfield's Retirement.
- Continued the **New Deacon Mentorship Program** for incoming new Deacons and **quarterly Potluck dinners** before our monthly meeting. Very successful hour of fun and fellowship.
- Hosted a successful **Plant Share** event in May.
- Continued serving **Extended Communion**, interacting with **Adopted Friends**, supporting those in need with Cards, Flowers and Casseroles, and generally being a smiling face of the Church as Greeters and at the Information/Welcome Desk every Sunday.

## HOME TEAM

**Elders:** Tom Russell • **Staff:** Leah Hrachovec

**Questions?** Ruth Simonson, Co-Chair, [rsimonson19@gmail.com](mailto:rsimonson19@gmail.com)

- Home Team members **represented Westminster at multiple housing advocacy events**, including:
  - An open house tour and information session for a formerly abandoned home in Oxford County rehabilitated under a new conservatorship program of the Housing Partnership of Chester County
  - A web-based conference on YIGBY (Yes, In God's Backyard) faith-community-based housing initiatives, with perspectives on the movement nationally and in the local area
  - A summit on affordable housing in Coatesville sponsored by Allies for Housing in Chester County, focused on various YIGBY housing projects in the local region
  - An appreciation event by the Chester County Partnership to End Homelessness.
- In May, Home Team members made a brief presentation to the Westtown Board of Supervisors discussing the possibility of **establishing an attainable housing community on land owned by Westminster** and adjoining the Westminster property. As follow up to the meeting, supervisors attended tours of the Pinckney Hill Commons community in West Chester to better understand current practice for attainable housing.
- Working with Church Housing Corp, Home Team members facilitated multiple **conversations with Session and Trustees** to discern whether God is leading Westminster to use a portion of our property resources for an attainable housing community. As a result of these thoughtful and open conversations, we now plan to expand this dialog and discernment to the Westminster congregation in 2026.



Nancy checks our supply of frozen meals for people in need of extra meals during challenging times in life.

# OUTREACH

**Elders:** Angela Emrich, Cathryn Schenk, & Laureen Smith

**Staff:** Jon Frost

**Questions?** Angela Emrich, *Co Chair*, ang.emrich@gmail.com

- The congregation responded to the **Emergency Food Drive** (cover photo) with overwhelming support. In response to the Government Shutdown and cuts to SNAP benefits, our congregation donated 4,253 lbs of food and \$5,810 of financial donation and gift cards which were split between the West Chester Food Cupboard and Kennett Area Community Service.
- In October, Westminster celebrated the packaging of its **1 Millionth Meal for Rise Against Hunger**, since beginning this partnership in 2012. In addition, we extended this ministry to Cheyney University where we packaged 6,000 meals with 40 students.
- 2025 saw the creation of our **Racial Allies Group** and our first Juneteenth Celebration. Representatives from the Underground Railroad and The Chester County History Center joined us as we celebrated African American freedom and reflected on the struggles and achievement for equality.
- **You Made an IMPACT!** Our congregation made a difference in 2025 to reduce waste and protect God's creation. Together, we have achieved many things, but critically we kept hundreds of pounds of materials out of landfills, including:
  - **750 pairs of sneakers** collected during our April Earth Day celebration
  - **2.5 tons of scrap metal** recycled
  - **200 lbs of batteries** and **30 lbs of oral care products** responsibly diverted from landfill
- Over 70 volunteers sewed and **assembled 270 menstrual kits** for Days for Girls (with 300 more in progress). Days for Girls works to eliminate the stigma and limitations associated with menstruation so that women and girls have improved health, education and livelihoods.
- Held our annual **5K for Living Waters** and raised over \$15,000 for our work with Living Waters for the World.



Troop 93 on Scout Sunday



The tower of 750 sneakers we collected for recycling during Earth Care month.



Celebrating packing our 1 millionth meal with Rise Against Hunger by ringing our own gong.

## BOY SCOUT TROOP 93

**Scoutmaster:** Mark Pontzer

**Questions?** Mark Pontzer, markpontzer@gmail.com

- Our 70 Scouts focus on building character and leadership through adventure, including attending **two different summer camps** and completing a canoe trek in Maine.
- **46 boys advanced in rank this year**, including five Scouts who achieved the prestigious rank of Eagle.
- The year was full of activities, including **14 different camping trips** and a multitude of service hours. These outings provided hands-on learning opportunities and strengthened friendships within the troop. Our service projects allowed Scouts to give back to the community while living out the Scout Oath and Law.



A typical day at the Westminster Thrift Shop

## THRIFT SHOP

**Address:** 543-545 East Gay, West Chester, PA 19382 • **Telephone:** 610.692.9298

**Thrift Shop Manager:** Karen Koepke • **Questions?** Karen Koepke, [thriftshop@westminsterpc.org](mailto:thriftshop@westminsterpc.org)

- **Celebrated its 36<sup>th</sup> season** of business. Our mission continues to be to provide a place to recycle/reuse goods, and to be a caring presence in our community.
- We continue to see an increase in the number of thrift shoppers, which results in increased sales. In October, we gave \$10,000 to the **Thrift Shop Mission Fund**. Outreach designated these funds: \$5,000 to West Chester Community Center, \$2,500 to ACT Now (Act in Faith), and \$2,500 to Chester County Housing Authority-Fuel Assistance.
- Took part in Westminster's **Shop for Hope**, which included a Care for Creation emphasis on recycle, repurpose, and reuse.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

**Leadership Team:** Susan Hunter, Susan Morris, Mary Anna Reimann, and Wayne Robertshaw

**Staff:** Leah Hrachovec • **Questions?** Leah Hrachovec, [lhhrachovec@westminsterpc.org](mailto:lhhrachovec@westminsterpc.org) • 610.399.3377 ext. 114

- **Stephen Ministers are the “silent angels”** who work behind the scenes, caring for church members, and it is totally confidential. They provide emotional support and spiritual encouragement on a one-to-one basis for members going through any type of personal crisis or concern.
- We celebrated our **31st year of continuous Stephen Ministry** at Westminster!
- Currently have a total of **14 active Stephen Ministers** to assist our clergy in caring for those hurting in our congregation. We have ample resources to help everyone, even those who might feel that others might be in greater need of assistance.
- If you feel that you or someone you know could benefit from talking with a Stephen Minister on a weekly basis, please contact Pastor Leah or one of the Stephen Leaders.



Three of our church librarians

## WESTMINSTER LIBRARY

**Questions?** Phyllis Simmons, *Chair*, [simmphyl@msn.com](mailto:simmphyl@msn.com)

- An inventory was completed, the **library continued a theme of the month to feature books** and DVDs in our collection, and there was collaboration with committees to support programs.
- The library added 158 items that brought the **total number of books and multimedia resources to 4,268**. There were 568 books deleted due to age or multiple copies. These items in addition to 25 sets of DVD and CD courses with accompanying books were given to thrift stores and little libraries throughout the community.

# TRUSTEES

**Staff:** Erin Sheffield & Sandy Kurek

**Questions?** Roger Deacon, *President*, [rogersdeacon@aol.com](mailto:rogersdeacon@aol.com)

- **General Fund:** We ended 2025 with a deficit to budget of \$102,355. Identified giving was \$2,129,104, representing a 2.9% increase over 2024, but \$80,896 short of budget which assumed a 6.8% increase. Additionally, and unfortunately, we also incurred significant overages in property expense related to storm damage, snow removals and building maintenance and repairs. We also incurred increased security costs related to a police presence on Sundays in accordance with our safety plan. Going into 2025 we had an operating reserve of \$257,306. The 2025 deficit will reduce our operating reserve to \$154,951.
- **Property Investment:** Property investments in 2025 amounted to \$273,985. The largest investment related to replacing controls, valves and pipes in our HVAC system which totaled \$124,006. We also replaced the Sanctuary doors and windows and installed a new interactive electronic sign on Route 202. The 2026 Budget for Property investment is \$135,000 and we anticipate ending 2026 with a Property Reserve of approximately \$150,000.
- **Employee Retention Credit:** We received from the IRS \$476,472 of employee retention credits related to COVID. These funds have been set aside in a separate ERC Fund to pay for special initiatives as approved by Trustees and Session. To date, we have spent or committed to spend \$225,948 of these funds which includes the final payment on the new sound system, an additional preschool classroom, a new roof for our administration wing and new sanctuary gutters.
- **Church Audit:** Rainer & Company completed an agreed upon procedures review of our Accounting and Finance Functions during 2025. There were no significant findings and minor findings have been reviewed and addressed by the Church staff. Rainer has been engaged in late 2025 to complete additional agreed upon procedures, which includes a review of prior findings.
- **Budget for 2026:** Trustees and Session approved the 2026 Budget which assumes \$2,244,875 of identified giving representing 5.4% increase compared to 2025 results. In order to balance the budget some difficult decisions were made by the budget committee. This included a reduction to the employer portion of employee medical insurance coverage to a level more consistent with other non-profit organizations, reduced outreach expenditures to 9% of identified giving from our historical 10% and a decrease in the transfer to property reserve to \$135,000 from \$150,000.



Installing our new outdoor digital sign.

## MEMORIAL FUND

**Staff:** Sandy Kurek

**Questions?** Carol Olver, *Chair*, [colver@comcast.net](mailto:colver@comcast.net)

Remember or honor a loved one through the Memorial Fund. The Fund's purpose is to provide funding for tangible and lasting fixtures that enhance Westminster's physical surroundings and mission. The Committee meets as needed to review and discuss funding opportunities.

### 2025 Highlights:

- Received 12 contributions to the Fund totaling \$1,575.
- Funded Southbend double convention oven to support our food ministries
- Celebrated two new committee members

<b>Beginning 2025 Balance</b>	<b>\$19,825</b>
Contributions to the Fund	\$1,575
Disbursements	\$10,386
<b>Ending 2025 Balance</b>	<b>\$11,014</b>

## Property Reserve

### Major Actions

HVAC Controls	89,700
HVAC Pipes, Valves and Insulation	34,306
New Interactive Sign on Route 202	73,943
Sanctuary Doors and Windows	55,000
Officer Furniture & Organ Tuning Reeds	21,0
<b>Total</b>	<b>273,985</b>

# STEWARDSHIP DEVELOPMENT

**Elders:** Rob Necarsulmer & Jim Scanlon • **Trustees:** Steve Brown & Robbe Healey • **Staff:** Leah Hrachovec & Sandy Kurek  
**Questions?** Roger Mecouch, Co-Chair, rme couch@gmail.com, Rob Necarsulmer, Co-Chair, robnecar@gmail.com

- **Giving commitments for 2026 are 3% higher than the previous year!** We are grateful for the generous response to the stewardship program.
- There were a few different **legacy planning activities** in 2025, including a Celebrate Your Life event, a Wills Emphasis Sunday program and a Legacy Brunch program. All of these programs were designed to provide participants with practical information on long term planning needs
- Several Westminster members made generous gifts to support specific projects, programs and initiatives.

## ENDOWMENT FUND

**2025 Endowment Fund Leadership:** Alison Wood, President; Fran Atkinson, Vice-President, John Himes, Treasurer & Kemper Young, Secretary

**Staff:** Sandy Kurek

**Questions?** Fran Atkinson, franatkinson@comcast.net

**2026 Grant Deadlines:** Feb. 6, April 3, June 5, Sept. 4 & Nov. 6

- **Grant Making:** We received 12 proposals and approved all. The total granted in 2025 was \$96,611. We strongly encourage Westminster members to submit funding applications for priorities consistent with the work and ministry of the congregation.
- **Growth:** Received gifts of approx. \$40,000 from members. The Donald D. Lincoln Westminster Fund, a fund established to provide annual support for priorities selected by the Session and Trustees made its first payment in 2025. We are grateful for all Westminster members who include the Endowment Fund in their estate plans and encourage anyone considering such a gift to talk with us about your objectives and how we can best meet them.
- **Fiscal Stewardship:** The Board continues to closely monitor our investment and spending policies, as well as market performance. We are confident our investment policy is sound – and the portfolio is stable, given market conditions.



*The Endowment Fund gave money to purchase a new van for Good Works.*

## 2025 Endowment Fund Operating Summary

Description	2023	2024	2025
Revenue Income	29,562	30,983	33,369
Gifts	84,849	70,991	40,025
Grants Approved	78,241	82,415	96,611
Grants Paid	97,192	47,067	118,564
Grants Returned	3,943	5,000	2,697
Fund Values			
Internally Managed	1,340,485	1,429,302	1,715,024
Beneficial Interests in Trusts	672,233	708,474	809,253
<b>Total Fund Value</b>	<b>\$2,025,082</b>	<b>\$2,137,776</b>	<b>\$2,524,277</b>

# GENERAL FUND OPERATING REPORT

Description	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>					
Offering	1,920,600	2,069,736	2,210,000	2,129,103	2,244,875
Offering Plate/Sunday School	35,000	22,933	21,500	21,255	21,500
Per Capita Revenue	25,000	19,414	22,000	16,606	17,000
Initial Offering	1,600	460	600	795	600
Music Offering	22,000	35,507	10,000	5,000	0
Special Offering (Pass Throughs)	48,000	42,703	48,000	30,466	48,000
Spiritual Growth Collections	19,071	25,205	30,260	25,494	27,368
Worship & Arts Collections	7,500	4,404	0	0	0
Congregational Life Collections	3,800	2,524	2,500	2,274	2,500
Youth Collections	5,300	2,350	5,300	4,732	5,300
Outreach Collections	5,000	5,929	3,500	2,471	3,500
Preschool Property Reimbursement	35,000	35,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Preschool Custodian Reimbursement	19,500	11,478	2,500	236	0
Preschool Surplus	10,000	--	10,000	810	--
Investment Income	40,000	49,930	30,000	24,937	20,000
Truist CDs change in MV	--	313	--	(209)	250
Use of Building	16,000	21,320	18,000	17,327	18,000
Bequests: Income Distributions	2,200	2,253	2,525	2,282	2,340
Other Revenue	6,000	5,936	5,300	5,431	5,034
Endowment Fund	1,200	1,200	1,200	--	--
DD Lincoln/Westminster EF	--	--	5,411	5,411	8,659
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$2,222,771</b>	<b>\$2,358,595</b>	<b>\$2,468,596</b>	<b>\$2,334,636</b>	<b>\$2,464,926</b>
<b>Expense Summary</b>					
Spiritual Growth & Development	38,521	35,281	51,410	45,670	51,593
Worship and Arts	71,300	71,788	36,300	31,976	39,550
Congregational Life	21,845	17,941	18,420	18,332	18,420
Youth and College	17,500	11,667	17,500	17,147	18,000
Outreach	245,060	255,905	272,500	244,288	253,487
Personnel	1,404,306	1,377,955	1,478,906	1,447,123	1,498,244
Property	254,394	255,383	268,900	304,384	264,202
Property Reserve	125,000	125,000	150,000	150,000	135,000
Administration	164,846	174,170	174,660	177,862	186,430
<b>Total Expense:</b>	<b>\$2,342,772</b>	<b>\$2,325,091</b>	<b>\$2,468,596</b>	<b>\$2,436,782</b>	<b>\$2,464,926</b>
<b>Net Revenue Over Expenses:</b>	<b><u><u>\$(120,001)</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>\$33,504</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>0</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>\$(102,146)</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>0</u></u></b>

Copies of the complete budget are available in the office upon request.

# THE YEAR IN PICTURES



Our Chancel Choir gets new choir robes



Members raised \$4,302 for Super Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday



85 women attended our women's retreat.



We introduced and dedicated new white paraments.



Each month volunteers prepare lunches for Safe Harbor.



Held a 40 minute peace and justice service during Lent



We cooled down with an ice cream truck after worship at the end of August.



Children and volunteers at our second Camp SPARK, a worship, arts and recreation camp for kids in June.