October/November 2018 Script

October/November 2018 Script will be distributed on Sunday, September 30, 2018. Please have your articles and pictures about activities sent to wpcoffice1250@gmail.com by noon on September 18, 2018.

WPC on Social Media Follow us on **Facebook** at Westminster Presbyterian Church and **Twitter** @WestPresAkron.



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The Script August – September 2018



PROGRESS ON MANY FRONTS

Sanctuary Remodel

This summer, our Properties Committee has been hard at work overseeing the efforts of paid contractors who were hired to replace the flooring in the sanctuary and adjacent areas. As of my deadline for writing this article (July), the work has been progressing well. The old tile and carpet have been removed. New vinyl planking has been installed and new carpet is on the way. The space is beginning to take shape once again. I am confident that the result will provide us with a beautiful worship space for many years to come. Please take a moment to thank the Properties Committee members collectively, and Dave Stobbs, especially, for their daily dedication to these efforts.

Conclusion of Worship in Wright-Herberich Hall

This summer, we have been worshipping on Johnstone Patio at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, weather permitting, and in

Wright-Herberich Hall at 10:30 a.m. on the Sabbath. We thank you all for your patience this summer as the work is completed in the sanctuary. Rather than hearing complaints about the change of scenery or the possible inconvenience, we received feedback from some that this experience has made them feel more connected to others in the church. For this sense of renewed community, I give thanks. We will continue to worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. through August 26. On September 2, we will have one service at 10:30 a.m. in Wright-Herberich Hall.

Deep Cleaning of the Sanctuary

In preparation for our return to worship in our newly remodeled sanctuary, the Properties and Worship Committees are recommending a deep cleaning of our primary worship space. Once the contractors have completed their work, the congregation will be invited to help polish the sanctuary to a shine. The date of this work is yet to be determined, and more details will follow.

Organ Refurbishment

Also in process is a 20-year refurbishment of our organ. There are many factors that will impact the timing of this work. We will keep you informed as more details are available.

Rally Day is September 9

In considering our past traditions, our current sanctuary remodel timeline, and Worship Committee recommendations, we anticipate returning to the sanctuary for worship on



June 2018	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$45,839.92	\$63,570.79	\$307,771.92	**\$333,369.74
Total Expenses	\$43,647.56	\$62,202.22	\$292,767.65	\$333,197.97
Net	\$2,192.36	\$1,368.57	\$15,004.27	\$171.77

^{**}Budgeted total revenues include anticipated withdrawals from Rowley investments necessary to balance the budget totaling \$53,801 for the year.

Total contributions year-to-date are \$1,600 below budget and approximately \$7,750 less than last year. Unpledged contributions are \$6,800 under budget. As of June 30, accumulated revenues closely equal the amount budgeted without the use of Rowley principal.

Expenses year to date are \$40,430 below budget. Office and administration expenses are below budget due to savings in copier and computer related costs. Personnel Expenses are under budget due primarily to the custodian transition. Properties expense for snowplowing exceeds the annual budgeted amount by \$3,300.

As always, many thanks to our committee moderators and volunteers for providing quality ministries at a minimal cost.

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the financial report detail for the period ending June 30, 2018.

Giving Statements

Giving Statements were emailed in mid-July. If you did not receive an email or want a copy mailed to you, please contact Eileen at wpcfinance1250@gmail.com.



Claudine Schooley will be on vacation in August. Kevin Melver will work in the church office. You can e-mail him at wpcoffice1250@gmail.com for any concerns.

Worship Attendance Statistics

Year	2017	2018	
May	10:30	10:30	
week 1	182	146	
week 2	171	184	
week 3	153	192	
week 4	112	429 (Jim Mismas' Last Sunday)	
June	8:30 & 10:30	8:30 & 10:30	
week 1	33 (8:30)	113 (10:30)	
WEEK I	119 (10:30)	(Eberts Lecture Speaker)	
week 2	26 (8:30)	31 (8:30)	
Week 2	83 (10:30)	79 (10:30)	
la o	27 (8:30)	35 (8:30)	
week 3	79 (10:30)	79 (10:30)	
wools 4	28 (8:30)	66 (8:30)	
week 4	97 (10:30)	64 (10:30)	

September 9. That Sunday will be particularly meaningful for our congregation. Rally Day will feature a return to weekly educational opportunities for all ages.

In addition, we will celebrate the return of our choir and will officially present Jim Mismas, our now retired Music Director/Organist, with Emeritus status. Jim has confirmed that he will be present on Rally Day as we unveil a plaque, affixed to the side of the organ, in honor of his many years of faithful service to Westminster.

Arrival of Alcee Chriss III

Following Jim Mismas' retirement announcement, a Music Director/Organist Search Committee was formed by Session with the purpose of providing a successor to Jim. The committee, under the very capable leadership of Stacy Franzmann, unanimously recommended Alcee Chriss III to serve Westminster in this capacity. Alcee has been hired by our Session and his start date is scheduled for September 30. If you would like to read more about Alcee, you can find his biography in the pages of this newsletter.

With thanksgiving for our shared community and spirit of cooperation,

Jon



Our time has officially come to an end with the consultants at Ministry Architects. We are grateful to their staff who have assisted us in building more sustainable ministries for our children and youth. As we make preparations for the fall, Session will be considering the job description for a new Youth Coordinator with the hope of bringing a new, part-time staff member to our team in the near future. If you or someone that you know might be interested in receiving a copy of the job description, please contact our pastor.





Annual Ice Cream Social

Put this date on your calendar: **Saturday**, **August 18.** This is the date for the annual Ice Cream Social at Westminster Presbyterian Church. All ages are

welcome. Hal Walker will be there as our guest musician with his "fun and games" for children. There will be lots of ice cream and toppings to make your evening perfect. So, remember to be at the church from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for a wonderful summer evening!

Akron Pride Festival

WPC will be represented at the Pride Festival in Hardesty Park on **Saturday**, **August 25.** Please stop by the Connection Point to sign up to welcome visitors to the WPC table at the event. Volunteers are needed for 2 hour shifts from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please contact Kara Hauerwas with questions or offers to help at khauerwas@gmail.com or 360-510-1710.

Five at Five Concert

The next Five at Five concert will be "Akron Baroque" in our remodeled sanctuary on **Sunday**, **September 9** at 5:00 p.m. Childcare will be provided from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the nursery.

Wedding: Mandy Molinaro and Tim Duerler will be married on July 21, 2018 at Furnace Run.

Birth: Ella Greathouse, daughter of Kayla and Brad Greathouse, was born on June 11, 2018. Her baptism will be August 19 at the 8:30 a.m. service.

Baptism: James Crabtree, infant son of Elizabeth and Adam Crabtree, is to be baptized on August 26, 2018 at the 10:00 a.m. service. He was born on February 22, 2018.

Death: our sympathy is extended to the family of former member Wilma Cheslock, who died in North Carolina at age 100.

New Members Joined on June 10, 2018



Dave Allison was born in Akron and lived in the Cuyahoga Falls area most of his life. He is a graduate of the University of Akron. He retired as Information Technology Manager with his entire career spent in that field. He is a member and officer in many historical and patriotic organizations and is a frequent speaker at local events. His hobbies are History and Genealogy. He and his wife Dianne like to take genealogy vacations here in the States and the United Kingdom.



Dianne Hall Allison was born and grew up in Wadsworth. She is a graduate of Heidelberg University. Her career was spent in insurance claims management and risk management. She is very active in many heritage organizations. She and Dave have been married twenty years and have a combined family of three children, five grandchildren and one great grandchild.



Scott Barnhouse grew up in Saint Clairsville, Ohio. He graduated from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. Father of three, grandfather of nine, he played five years of professional baseball. He has 30 years' experience in Italian food sales. He is engaged to Sue Heckman Smith, a Westminster member. He currently resides in West Akron.

Alcee Chriss' Bio



Winner of the 2017 Canadian International Organ Competition and Firmin Swinnen Silver Medalist at the 2016 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition, Alcee Chriss III has been celebrated for his "grace, skill and abundant proficiency" by the Journal Assist News, Albuquerque. And of his prize-winning performance at the Longwood Gardens Competition, Choir and Organ Magazine declared, "Chriss stole the show." Alcee also won First Prize

and Audience Prize in the Miami International Organ Competition (2014), the Fort Wayne National Organ Competition (2016), the Albert Schweitzer National Organ Competition in Wethersfield, CT (2013), and the Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists in Austin, TX (2013).

Alcee has performed throughout the United States and France, and in 2014 was a featured "Rising Star" at the national convention of the American Guild of Organists in Boston. Recent and upcoming performances include the Meyerson Symphony Center (Dallas, TX), John F. Kennedy Center, Washington National Cathedral, Caruth Auditorium, and St. Olaf's Catholic Church (Minneapolis MN), among others.

Alcee is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at McGill University where he studies with Hans-Ola Ericsson. He previously studied at Oberlin Conservatory of Music where he received the Master's degree in historical keyboard and a Bachelor's degree in Organ Performance. At Oberlin, he studied organ with James David Christie and Olivier Latry, improvisation with Marie-Louise Langlais, and harpsichord and continuo playing with Webb Wiggins and Hank Knox. He also received a grant from Oberlin's 1835 fund to spend a month in France studying historic organs and repertoire. Alcee is regularly featured at various organ festivals, including the Atlanta International Organ Festival, and he returned to France in April 2016 and November 2017 to perform solo recitals as a part of the Festival Myrelingues in Lyon. He also continues international volunteer work as the parrain of a music immersion course in Lyon's Duchère district.

In addition to his organ and harpsichord performances, Alcee is also active as a conductor and jazz pianist.

WPC Adult Choir: Come - Rejoice - Sing

Come and be part of Westminster's Adult Choir this fall as we begin a new chapter of making music with Alcee Chriss III. We are always interested in having new faces and new voices to participate in our wonderful choir. We all have been given gifts from God. For some it is the gift of song and music. The choir has the purpose of bringing the message of Jesus Christ to the worship service through music and enhancing the spiritual experience.

There are no auditions and high school students are welcomed. Reading music is helpful. This is an opportunity for people to come together weekly and worship God through the gift of song. The choir knows there are some good singers in the congregation. We hear you as we pass by the pews on Sunday mornings. So, if you have hesitated to join us in the past, make the commitment and experience the joy of community and making music together. Watch for announcements in the Sunday Update and the bulletin as September approaches for the choir's start date. See you in September.



"Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with His gracious presence." – J.S. Bach



Presbyterian Women

Save the date: **Saturday, October 6** is the Fall PW Gathering. Guaranteed to be a fun, creative activity!



WPC Book Group

As always, all are welcome to join our intrepid band of bookworms for fellowship and discussion; we meet in the Anderson Library on 2nd Mondays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For the next few months we are reading:

•	8/13/2018	The Power	by Naomi Alderman
•	9/10/18	The Last Castle	by Denise Kiernan
•	10/8/2018	The Weight of Ink	by Rachel Kadish



Third Sunday Dinners

Third Sunday Dinners will start on September 16, 2018. If you would like to volunteer as a cook, server or dishwasher contact Gert Wilms at gertrudewilms@gmail.com.



WPC Men's Club

The Westminster Men's Club will hold the first meeting of the new season on **Monday**, **September 10** at the Olive Garden on West Market Street in Montrose.

The luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m. All men of Westminster are welcome. While our purpose is primarily social, much of our discussion is about the activities of the church. Usually, schedule permitting, Pastor Jon joins us. So, if you would like good discussion, good food, and good companionship, please plan to join us. If you have any questions, please call either Art Schooley at 330-666-3816 or Joe Henninger at 330-867-5938.



Spending time among the flowers is a perfect stress reliever - and our garden is a peaceful place to sit among the flowers and count our blessings.

The upcoming garden work days will be 9:00 a.m. on August 4 and 18, and September 1, 15, and 29.



The gardeners are a fun group, and would love to have you join them, no experience necessary!



Departing Staff

We gave thanks to the following staff members for their dedication to the ministries of Westminster. Ron Hazelett, our Adult and Youth Bell Choir Director has completed his last season with us. He will now be spending more time at home caring for his partner, Rick, who has some medical needs at this time.

Maggie Weiss-Vopat, our childcare provider for the past 4 years, is heading to McGill University in Toronto this fall. She plans on being with us until the end of August. She has been a consistent, kind and helpful member of the Nursery Staff through her high school years.

Thank you, Ron and Maggie! You will both be greatly missed.







WPC Children & Family Events 2018					
September 9	October 7	December 2			
Rally Day. Sunday School begins	Tween Event SKYZONE 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m.	Children & Youth Pageant Rehearsal, Advent Potluck and Workshop 4:30 p.m 7:00 p.m.			
at 9:30 a.m.	October 20	December 16			
	Reverse Halloween Party 3:00 p.m 5:00 pm	Christmas Pageant during worship			





Celtic Garden News

It was a long, cold spring, but now summer is here and the living is easy. Our Celtic garden will be at its peak for the next few weeks, so please check it out.

Adult Education/Bible Study

Where Did the Bible Come From?

Starting **September 9** the adult education class will study the topic of how the Bible came to be in its present form. How were books chosen or not chosen to be included? Why are Catholic Bibles different from Protestant Bibles? Why are translations from original languages sometimes different? How did our English Bibles come to be, and why are there differences between versions today? In October and November, after answering these questions, the class will explore the unity of the Bible as a whole by studying how the theme of God continually saving his people runs throughout the entire Bible. From God's deliverance in the exodus experience and at many other times in the Old Testament, through God's saving act in Christ, and God's deliverance of the church in the New Testament, the theme demands our attention. As we unravel this strand, we will also see God's promise of future deliverance in the book of Revelation.

If you have any questions, contact Rae Leonard. Come join us at 9:30 a.m. in room 106 on September 9.

Youth Ministry



The last week of June, 6 youth and 2 adults attended the WPC mission trip to Cincinnati. The group participated in Week of Hope, serving several different missions in the Cincinnati area with 3 other church youth groups. Mission work included working with an inner city ballet mission, making lunches for food insecure children, working at the Boys and Girls Club, and visiting with the elderly. All involved found the experience to be spiritually enriching and fulfilling through serving others. Attendees were Wesley Howell, Brooke Jordan, Caden Labbe, Natalie Labbe, Olivia Litvin, Colin Wood and adult leaders Laurel Labbe and Gregory Works.

Youth Fall Kickoff

The Youth Ministry will be kicking off the school year with a Back-to-School Pool Party at the Shaw JCC outdoor pool after church on Sunday, August 26. If you are entering the 7^{th} – 12^{th} grades, please join us for a day of fun in the sun! More details coming soon.

Save the date: Sunday, October 14, the youth are headed to Ramseyer Farms for corn mazes, pumpkins, and more fall fun! More details coming soon!

VBS 2018 - The Parables of Jesus



VBS 2018 was a wonderful week of learning parables and praying. We had 54 children and youth with 11 adult leaders. Each day there were Godly Play Parables and in depth discussions on all the ways we pray always!

Music supported the stories in deep and active ways. This congregation has an extraordinary volunteer staff for VBS and our larger community attends with enthusiasm.

We collected needed goods for refugees who come to Akron through World Relief Akron and a speaker from the organization spoke at our potluck. Thank you to all who make it such a lovely success!

On Rally Day, September 9

Sunday School for all ages will begin at 9:30 a.m. and we will have a Ministry Fair with representatives from many of our committees after 10:30 a.m. worship. Join us in WHH for information and insight into our many ministries here at WPC.

This is a great day to bring a friend to share our exceptional educational and ministry opportunities.







