

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- We do our best to answer your phone calls weekday mornings.
- You may be directed to our automated answering service at other times.
- We strive to provide access to the church building during office hours through our callbox in the rear of the church building.
- Please call ahead and inquire about building access if you are coming after 2:00 p.m.

WEEKLY DEADLINE for information to be included in the Sunday Update and Sunday bulletin is Tuesday at noon. **Note: for information in the Dec. 24 and Dec. 30 bulletins, the deadline is Monday, Dec. 17 at noon.**

WPC Staff

The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas, Pastor jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com
(cell phone 330-606-4551) (office hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 9:30-11:00 am)
Alcee Chriss III, Music Director/Organist wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com
(weekly workdays: Friday, Sunday and by appointment)
Kara Hoffman, Staff Accountant wpcfinance1250@gmail.com
(weekly office days: Monday morning, Wednesday, and Thursday)
Sheila Svoboda, Dir. of Children & Family Ministry wpcchildren1250@gmail.com
(weekly office days: Tuesday and Thursday)
Claudine Schooley, WPC Church Office wpcoffice1250@gmail.com
(weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)
Zack Troyer, Director of Adult & Youth Bells, and Children’s Choir
(cell phone 330-285-0213) wpcchildrenschoir1250@gmail.com
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Mallory Gray, Youth Coordinator wpcyouth1250@gmail.com
(weekly workdays: Monday and Thursday)
Dave Bodnar, Daytime Custodian wpcbuilding@gmail.com
(weekly workdays: Sunday—Thursday)



Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

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**Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2018
10:30 a.m. Worship**

*At the ringing of the carillon please silence your cell phones and conversations and prepare your hearts and minds for an encounter with the Living God. **Bolded text is read or sung by all.***
**Please rise in body or spirit.*

To the parents of our young children

Relax! God put the wiggle in children. Don't feel you need to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome. Sit toward the front, where it's easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, choir, etc. Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you. If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

To the members of our congregation

The presence of children is a gift to the church, and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing. Please welcome our children, call them by name and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

COME

Voluntary Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Choral Introit How Shall I Fitly Meet Thee?
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*Call to Worship Philippians 4:4-5 Marcia Holcomb
Rejoice in the Lord always.
I will say it again: Rejoice!
Let your gentleness be evident to all.
The Lord is near.
We rejoice in the hope of Christ’s coming. Let us worship God!

*Hymn Sing We Now of Christmas *See Bulletin Insert*

Lighting of the Advent Candle Isaiah 11:1-3 James and Sook Lee
A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from the roots a Branch
will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him...

We light this candle as a sign of our waiting and hope for the coming
of Christ.

ENCOUNTER

Prayer of Confession
The Lord is near. **In your presence, Holy God, we confess
that we need repentance. We have broken your
commands against idolatry. We do not live in peace with
your creation or your people. We have not trusted your
word, and we are afraid. Forgive us, restore us, and turn
our shame into praise, for the sake of the One who
proclaims the good news and for the sake of all the
world. Amen.**

Silence is observed.

Response 574 Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Calendar of Church Building Events
For December 16—23, 2018

- Sunday, 12/16 Third Sunday of Advent**
8:45 am Child Care Center opens
8:45 am Children’s Pageant Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
9:00 am Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
9:30 am Education for all ages
10:30 am Worship/Children’s Pageant (Sanctuary)
11:30 am Coffee and fellowship (WHH)
5:00 pm 3rd Sunday Dinner (WHH)
- Monday, 12/17**
No Activities Planned
- Tuesday, 12/18**
9:30 am Prayer Quilt Ministry (WHH)
- Wednesday, 12/19**
1:00 pm Sewing Circle (Room 106)
5:45 pm Bridges/Circles Holiday Dinner (WHH, Kitchen)
- Thursday, 12/20**
9:30 am Staff Meeting (Library)
12:00 pm Bible Study (Room 106)
4:15 pm Adult Bell Choir (Sanctuary)
6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- Friday, 12/21**
No Activities Planned
- Saturday, 12/22**
No Activities Planned
- Sunday, 12/23 Fourth Sunday of Advent**
8:45 am Child Care Center opens
9:00 am Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
9:30 am Adult Education (Room 106)
10:30 am Worship/Volunteers Appreciation Sunday (Sanctuary)
11:30 am Coffee and fellowship (WHH)

2019 Stewardship

As of Dec. 10, 2018, 91 households pledged \$289,694 for 2019. Thank you for your generous gifts. Westminster Presbyterian Church will need Pledges and Contributions totaling \$487,916 to avoid spending Rowley Fund principal on operating expenses in 2019. If you have not already pledged, pledge cards are in the literature racks and are available from the Finance Office. Your pledge plays a vital role in fulfilling our goals. Please give generously!

COME - ENCOUNTER - GROW - SERVE

EDUCATION CLASSES for Children, tweens and youth will not be held on **Dec. 23 & Dec. 30.** Adult education classes will be offered on those dates.

FLOWER MEMORIALS FOR CHRISTMAS Please submit the name of the person(s) you are remembering along with your donation. The deadline of December 13 is extended to today, **December 16.** You may give electronically under “chancel flowers” and then email Kara at wpcfinance1250@gmail.com with your memorial wording.

INVITATION TO CIRCLES HOLIDAY MEAL The members of Westminster are invited to their holiday meal on **Wednesday, December 19** from 5:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The meal will be catered and Santa Clause will be stopping by to visit with the children and giving each Circles child a gift. The adults will be reflecting on the past year and engage in games. Please RSVP to Robert at 330-940-1105.

WPC GIVING TREE Please donate new gloves, hats, scarves and socks this holiday season to benefit adults and children in the Access Shelter. Place all donations on or under the giving tree in the sanctuary this December.

YEAR-END GIFTS Just a reminder that your year-end gifts must be physically delivered to the Finance Office or postmarked on or before **December 31, 2018** to be included on your 2018 giving statement. The church offices will be closed Saturday, December 29 and Monday, December 31. Contributions received during worship on December 30 will be included on your 2018 giving statement. Thank you for your generous support of Westminster Presbyterian Church during 2018.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Response 567 Glory Be to the Father *Gloria Patri*
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.

*Passing the Peace
Greet both friends and strangers saying,
“The peace of Christ be with you.”

Time for Church Life

Please sign the friendship pad and pass it to those seated near you. If you are the last person to sign on that page, please tear it out and leave it on the pew for the ushers to pick up after the service.

Offertory He Shall Feed His Flock Georg Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

*Response 592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow *Doxology*
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

We invite parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends and admirers to sit back during the pageant and take in the full message the children are working so hard to give us. We have a volunteer who will be videotaping it and is willing to send you a link if you request. Send your link request to: kyates.gable@gmail.com

The Christmas Story

Youth Readers: Gabby Gray, Kinsie Willis, Sam Grau,
Pierce Ehrler, and Holden Labbe

Donkey: Tori Gable
Cow: Nora Howell
Sheep: Jensen Ehrler
Mary: Ellie Grau
Joseph: Liam Hauerwas
Angel Gabriel: Eleanora Hoffman
Angels: Lizzie Blaha, Zoe Melder, Claire Jopperi,
Lillian Hudson-Largent, and Georgia Vuchak
Kings: Dean Gable, John Jopperi, Jack Willis
Shepherds: Sam Gray, Hunter Jopperi, Sam Hoffman, Jude Hoffman,
Josh Hayes, and Xavier Vuchak

*After the pageant, please bring forward the toys and gifts for
Children Services Toy Room and then, 3 through 5 year-olds are
invited to Room 104 for age-appropriate activities. Kindergarteners
through 6th graders are invited to children's choir rehearsal in Room
207 of the Education Building. Parents and guardians, please pick up
your children following worship in WHH.*

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

The First Lesson Zephaniah 3:14-20
Pew Bible, Old Testament Pg. 877

The Second Lesson Isaiah 12:2-6 Pew Bible, Old Testament Pg. 641

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon Wells The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith from Westminster Confession

God was pleased, in God's eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, to be the mediator between God and human beings. As the mediator, he is the prophet, priest, and king, the head and Savior of the church, the heir of all things, and the judge of the world. God gave to him, from all eternity, a people to be by him, in time, redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

Prayers of the People, Silent Reflection 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.

*Hymn 40 Joy to the World ANTIOCH

*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary Trumpet Tune in D Major David Johnson (1922-1987)

Welcome to our worship this morning!
*Stay with us after worship today for coffee, fellowship and to meet
the pageant players in Wright-Herberich Hall.*

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES,
HYMNALS, CHILDREN'S BIBLES AND ACTIVITY BOXES are available.
Please ask an usher.

USHERS Dave Stobbs (head usher), Linda Stobbs, Barbara Thackeray,
Donna Gorrington, Dan Gorrington, Bill Bramley, and Joan Buehl.

VISITORS If you are new to Westminster, please pick-up your welcome bag
that is in the entrance to the church.