

## February/March 2019 Script

February/March script will be distributed on Sunday, January 27, 2019. Please have your articles and pictures about activities sent to [wpcoffice1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcoffice1250@gmail.com) by noon on Tuesday, January 15, 2019.

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

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# Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

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## *The Script*

### December 2018-January 2019

### **Pastor's Corner**

#### **Adult Education**

Jim Simons is a Pittsburgh native and has been a priest in the Episcopal Church since 1985. He writes that “as Christmas Eve approached I made the decision that instead of preaching a sermon I would write and tell a story.” The stories that Jim has told over the years now fill the pages of his book entitled *A Dog in the Manger and Other Christmas Stories*. In the month of December, beginning at 9:30 a.m., I will be offering a new, five-week exploration of Jim's book. I have chosen five of his narratives for us to discuss, and I hope you will join me in Room 106. In the meantime, here are some quotes from the stories in Jim's book that will not be discussed in the class.

When you remain stuck in the past, “you cannot be your best and you cannot give your best to God.” (21)

“I think I understood grace. That God takes us as we are, imperfect and flawed, and touches our lives and says, ‘I know you're not going to get this right all of the time, but that's okay.

“Because my love is greater than your shortcomings. And there’s nothing you can do to make me love you any less.” (26)

“Christmas is about God bringing his grace into the world in the form of Jesus because we need it, not because we could ever do anything to deserve or earn it.” (75)

Then, in the month of January, I invite you to join me at the same time and place for a discussion of Liz Theoharis’ book called *Always with Us? What Jesus Really Said About the Poor*. Bring your faith, your questions, your intellectual and spiritual curiosity, your desire to pursue justice, and your longings to meet Jesus. I look forward to hearing your perspectives.

Peace, best wishes, and merry Christmas!

Jon



Sebastian Bach. Don't miss hearing the sounds of the Schantz organ under his fingers!

## Church Events

### Five at Five Concert

The next Five at Five free concert will be held on **Sunday, December 9, 2018** at 5:00 p.m. Childcare will be provided from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the nursery.

Please join us for a recital of Advent and Christmas-themed music to celebrate the talents of our Director of Music/Organist, Alcee Chriss III. The concert will feature a wide variety of music, including works by Marcel Dupré, Art Tatum, Leo Sowerby, and Johann

## 2019 Stewardship

As of November 5, 2018, 64 households pledged \$222,037. Thank you to all who stepped forward with a financial commitment for the coming year.

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.

## Fostering Ongoing Stewardship

The members of Westminster Presbyterian Church and the greater community appreciate and sincerely thank you for your years of faithful giving that has sustained our important ministries. Another way you can sustain the Church is through a charitable bequest. When estate planning, please search your heart to find a place for Westminster Presbyterian Church in your will or living trust. Let your bequest be a testament to future generations of the faithful. Thank you and God bless you.

## Let's Talk Taxes

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 giving statement. We follow this policy to be in compliance with IRS regulations regarding tax deductions allowable in a specific year. 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.

Church Office Closed

Please note when the church office will be closed over the holiday season:

Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, Monday and Tuesday, January 31 and 1, 2019.

Please email the office with any concerns and we will reply when we return to the office.

Change of Pastors Office Hours

As we seek to provide adequate office and building coverage for the needs of our congregation, the pastor's day off is changing from Friday to Wednesday. The pastor's office hours are now 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

 From the Finance Office

Monthly Financial Report

October 2018	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$54,726.31	\$47,055.16	\$493,932.72	*\$536,431.60
Total Expenses	\$49,697.63	\$53,861.51	\$485,065.68	\$549,682.78
Net	\$5,028.68	(\$6,796.35)	\$8,867.04	(\$13,251.18)

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

No Rowley Funds have been expended for operations as of 10/31/18.

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the financial report detail for the period ending October 31, 2018.

Advent/Christmas Worship Celebrations



- ♦ **Sunday, December 16 at 10:30 a.m.**  
Children's Christmas Pageant  
and gift giving for Children's Services  
Holiday Toy Room
- ♦ **Sunday, December 23 at 10:30 a.m.**  
Lessons and Carols Service
- ♦ **Monday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.**  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- ♦ **Sunday, December 30 at 10:30 a.m.**  
Sunday Morning Worship

Education for children, tweens and youth will NOT be held on Sunday, December 23 and December 30. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 6, 2019.

Adult Education WILL be offered December 23 and December 30. Please read the Pastor's Corner for class offerings.

**The 2019 WPC Talent Show and Chili Tasting**  
**March 9, 2019**



We hope you know now of how you can share your talents with your fellow WPC members for this evening of fun, food, and fellowship. Here are some possibilities for all ages:  
**Culinary Arts** (i.e. chili cooking!),  
**Musical Acts** (solo, group, or family; instrumental or vocal),  
**Art** (all media), **Crafts, Dance,**  
**Writing** (or readings from your favorite authors / poets),  
**Variety Acts** (magic tricks; juggling acts; comedy sketches; etc...).



### Christmas Food Baskets

Our annual Christmastime delivery of 250 food baskets to Greater Akronites in need will take place on Saturday, December 15. The groceries purchased from Acme #1 will be assembled in the church parking lot beginning at 7:30 AM with deliveries beginning at 9:00 AM. We will need plenty of volunteers to make this a success. Your family can make another family's Christmas a little brighter by delivering and/or contributing money to help fill the baskets. Each basket should cost \$50, but any donation is appreciated. Special donation envelopes will be in the pews for your convenience. Alternatively, you can give on-line at [westminsterakron.com](http://westminsterakron.com), under "electronic giving." Please sign-up to volunteer for basket assembly and/or delivery at the Connection Point in Wright-Herberich Hall. For those on your Christmas list who have everything, consider donating a basket in their name. Acknowledgement letters will be available at Connection Point for you to send to those in whose names baskets were donated.

### 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.

### Flower Memorials and Gifts for Christmas

Your gift in memory or in honor of loved ones enables the Flower Committee to provide a beautiful setting in the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Send the name of the person(s) you are remembering along with your donation (there is no set amount) to the church office, attention Kara Hoffman. Checks should be made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church. The deadline is **December 13, 2018**. You may also give electronically under "chancel flowers" and then emailing Kara at [wpcfinance1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcfinance1250@gmail.com) with your memorial wording.



### Worship Attendance Statistics

Year	2017	2018
July	8:30 & 10:30	8:30 & 10:30
week 1	27 (8:30) 93 (10:30)	28 (8:30) 82 (10:30)
week 2	19 (8:30) 79 (10:30)	29 (8:30) 92 (10:30)
week 3	23 (8:30) 141 (10:30)	26 (8:30) 79 (10:30)
week 4	31 (8:30) 77 (10:30)	43 (8:30) 84 (10:30)
week 5	38 (8:30) 71 (10:30)	24 (8:30) 64 (10:30)
August	8:30 & 10:30	8:30 & 10:30
week 1	43 (8:30) 85 (10:30)	33 (8:30) 87 (10:30)
week 2	31 (8:30) 77 (10:30)	28 (8:30) 90 (10:30)
week 3	38 (8:30) 93 (10:30)	51 (8:30) 76 (10:30)
week 4	19 (8:30) 114 (10:30)	25 (8:30) 103 (10:30)



### Rosemary Wright

“I am a former member of Westminster, from 1985 to 1994. I retired from Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs law firm in 2001, after working there for about 18 years. I was married to member Larry Zarrilli, who died in 2011. I am a graduate of Buchtel High School, the University of Akron with a B.A. in English and Florida Atlantic University with an M.A. in English. I still take classes at AU in the 60+ program. My daughter, Judge Alison McCarty, and her husband, Tom, are also former members of WP. They have two daughters: Grace, who lives in Paris, and Eve, who is a sophomore at Heidelberg College. I also have a son, Andrew, who lives in Akron and works with Jim Laria at the Municipal Clerk of Courts. My son, Douglas, died in 1992. I still swim regularly and enjoy riding my bike. I am delighted to become a member of WPC again and look forward to a long relationship.”

### New Staff Member

- ♦ Daytime Custodian: **David Bodnar** was officially hired to serve as Westminster's full-time custodian.



“I was born in Steubenville, Ohio and grew up in Toronto Ohio, where I graduated from Toronto High School. After my graduation I joined the U.S. Navy where I served for nine years. Since discharged I have lived and worked in Ohio. I worked in building maintenance for twenty years at Retiree Housing MGMT, and the last two years for the Central Stark County YMCA.”

### WPC New Website Almost Ready!

Our church website is currently being redesigned with the guidance of our Membership Committee. However, as the new site is built, the existing site will remain available to you. On our church website, you can find many important forms, policies, and communications.

### Acme Cash Back Program

Please remember to continue to save Acme receipts until **December 29, 2018** to help support the missions of the Presbyterian Women.

### *Information to Know*

#### Befrienders

Watch for details about the Befrienders' Bake Sale on January 21, 2019 in your bulletin.

#### Prayer Quilt Ministry

Because November and December are busy months, we have decided not to meet again until January. But, if you need a quilt, we have lots made so let us know!!! We love giving prayer quilts to those who would like one. And anyone who would like to join us is welcome to come on January 15th at 9:30 to WH hall. We look forward to seeing you!

#### Hanging of the Greens

Hanging of the Greens is scheduled for Sunday, December 2, following worship. Please meet in Wright-Herberich Hall. Items will be placed on tables, so we just need help decorating. The more the merrier, so join in the fun! And put Sunday, January 6, on your calendar for clean-up!



## *Encounter*

### **Presbyterian Women, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Sat. December 8: 12:00 p.m.

PW Christmas Gathering

Includes lunch(\$5), holiday cheer

And entertainment by the ILP dancers. Bring a favorite ornament and share its story. DONATIONS WELCOME for THE SNOW ANGELS

WHO ASSIST THE HOMELESS: warm socks, hats, scarves.

If you need childcare, text Margo @ 330-396-0408 by 12/1.

BAKERS NEEDED! Help provide Christmas cookies to bring smiles to Rockynol residents. Drop off at church by Sun, Dec. 3. Please call or text Margo about how many dozen you can provide: 330-396-0408.

### **WPC Men's Group**

The Westminster Men meet for lunch on the second Monday of each month at the Olive Garden in Montrose, This will be **Monday, December 10** and **Monday, January 14**.

The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m, All men of Westminster are welcome. While our purpose is primarily social, some of the discussion may be about activities of the church. Usually, schedule permitting, Pastor Jon joins us. The Olive Garden provides excellent service and a selection of food from the menu. If you would enjoy good discussions, good food and good companionship, please plan to join us. If you have any questions, please call Art Schooley at 330-666-3816.

## *Grow*

### **Discipleship**

Your WPC Anderson Memorial Library -

Our youngest members are most aware of the kids books and videos in the library, but others may not aware of the wide range of books for adults. A project is under way to refresh the library, but all are encouraged to take a moment to explore the resources there now. Contact Cathy Melver with questions or feedback at [chwdoc@gmail.com](mailto:chwdoc@gmail.com).

## **New Members**

### Gordon and Virginia Wepfer



met as students at the University of Michigan and have a long history in the Presbyterian Church. Both Gordon and Virginia have sung in church choirs, as they currently do at Westminster, and have each served as deacon and elder. The Wepfer's were founding members of a Presbyterian Church in North Lima, Ohio and were most recently members of Canfield Presbyterian Church while residing in Lake Milton. This year, the couple relocated to an apartment within Ohio Living-

Rockynol in Akron. They are the parents of five children, one of whom lives in Cuyahoga Falls. Gordon is a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel with responsibility for physics research. Virginia is a retired Home Health Nurse.

### George Leidy & Christine Harper- Leidy



George served his country for 21 years in the National Guard as a helicopter pilot. He was a corporate jet pilot for a living. He, too, grew up attending church in Barberton. He is currently selling real estate at Stauffer Realty. Christine is a third-generation member of this church since birth, her maiden name being Harper. She left 20 or so years ago for the reason so many did,

and with her husband they joined Bath United Church of Christ. They very much enjoyed their years there, but Westminster was calling them home. Her husband joined Westminster when they got married. They have two daughters Rebecca and Stephanie, and five grandchildren, four girls and a boy who recently joined the Army. Happy to be Home again!



## *Church Life*

Next Five At Five Concerts:

**December 9, 2018**

Alcee Chriss III

**MARCH 10, 2019**

The Palace Trio

**MAY 5, 2019**

Samuel Gordon Singer's Companye

### **Church Leadership**

The following individuals have completed their terms of service as elders, deacons, and members of the endowment trust. In addition, we also wish to recognize Kyle Vuchak for four years of service to the Personnel Committee. Westminster thanks you all for your service to our congregation!

#### **Elders**

Harriet Chapman

Ellen Daugherty

Nancy Keogh

Sue Wallin

Gert Wilms

#### **Deacons**

Phil Fry

RaeAnn Hall

Becky Harlow

Walter Hayes

Pat Schumacher

Jamie Willis

#### **Endowment**

Ben Hoffman

Bill Bramley

## **WPC Book Group**

As always, all bookworms are welcome to join the WPC book group for fellowship and informal discussion of an eclectic range of books. We meet 2nd Mondays from 7-8:30 in the library.

Upcoming books:

11/12/18 - The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish

12/10/18 - Holiday dinner out, location TBA

1/14/19 - Ship of Brides by JoJo Moyes

2/11/19 - Two Steps Forward Graeme Simsion and Anne Buist

## *Serve*

### **Third Sunday Dinners**

Please donate your time and talents at WPC Third Sunday Dinners:

Cooks

- time commitment 2pm to 5pm

- help with entire meal preparation

Set-up/Servers

- time commitment 4pm to 6:30pm

- set up fellowship hall for meal service

- food service

Cleanup

- time commitment 5pm to 7pm

- bus tables

- wash and put away all dishes

Kitchen Manager

- time commitment 2pm to 7pm

- oversee and manage all volunteers for 3rd Sunday start to finish

Desserts

- make enough to serve 24

- drop dessert off by 4pm day of dinner

Anyone interested in volunteering can

email, [gertrudewilms@gmail.com](mailto:gertrudewilms@gmail.com). Let me know which date and task interests you.

## Education News

### Youth Ministry

The Youth's trip to Ramseyer Farm was a great success and a lot of fun!

**On December 9th**, the Youth Ministry (7th – 12th grades) will be heading to Lock 3 for ice skating after our Christmas party. We will gather after service and have lunch and fellowship before we hit the rink! Please be sure you and your friends RSVP!



### Children's Ministries

Tween Trip to  
Sky Zone



**Reverse Trick or  
Treat**

Our Reverse Halloween  
Party

was a great success. We had 23 children along with 16 adults who made crafts, assembled gift bags and paraded over to Rockynol. Once there, the children sang under the direction of Zack Troyer, gave out their gift bags and sat with residents while doing a craft. We received a lovely thank you note from a resident for the joy the children brought with them. So happy to share these lovely children with the residents of Ohio Living– Rockynol.



### Advent Workshop and Potluck



This year after the first pageant rehearsal at 4:00pm on December 2nd we will have a mouthwatering Family Potluck at 5:00 pm followed by an Advent Workshop...for one and all! This year we will be making a Nativity Scene that will be added to each Sunday of Advent with a family prayer. Please bring a dish to share for 8 people, side, salad or dessert. Also to keep waste down, please bring place settings and silverware. We will provide the main dish and drinks.

Please sign up in WHH! See you there!

Questions? Ideas? Contact Sheila 330.836.2226, ext. 105  
[wpcchildren1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcchildren1250@gmail.com)

The Children's Pageant will be during worship on December 16th. We will be bringing forth gifts for the Summit County Children's Services Holiday Toy Room Program on that day. Through this program, family caregivers such as foster parents, grandparents and other relatives, are able to select gifts for children in their care. They are requesting toys for children of all ages. Infants & toddlers: baby dolls and accessories (all ethnicities) building blocks, infant care items, cloth or board books, riding toys, push toys and Musical toys. School Age: dolls, Wonder Woman toys, Justice League toys, Activity books, learning toys, puzzles, craft kits and action figures. Tweens and Teens: Gift cards to teen favored stores, department stores and fast food restaurants, stocking stuffers, wallets, nail polish, playing cards, earbuds, flash drives and portable chargers for phones. This is a wonderful way for our children to help other children!

Sunday, January 6th is the day for our Annual Ice Skating Event for families from 3-5 pm. Skating is \$4 (includes rental) or only \$2 with your own skates. (Must sign waiver).

There's a lot to do! See [Lock3live.com](http://Lock3live.com) for more details. We will provide snacks and fellowship. Join us!!

