

## 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.

### 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

Traci Range, Director of Childcare                                      wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com  
(cell phone 330-459-1177)

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

come encounter grow serve

1250 W Exchange • Akron, Ohio • westminsterakron.com • 330-836-2226

## First Sunday of Advent December 2, 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.*



Westminster Presbyterian Church  
1250 West Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44313  
westminsterakron@gmail.com - 330-836-2226  
www.westminsterakron.com

## COME

Voluntary      Of the Father's Love Begotten      DIVINUM MYSTERIUM  
Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

\*Call to Worship      Jeremiah 33:14-16      Brad Hall

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

**Justice and righteousness will fill the land and all will live in peace and safety.**

People of God, let us worship together.

\*Hymn 9      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel      VENI EMMANUEL

Lighting of the Advent Candle      Isaiah 11:1-3  
Margie Brideweser and Anna Marie Wilton

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      Psalm 25:4-6

**Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. 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.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

## Calendar of Church Building Events For December 2—9, 2018

### Sunday, 12/2 First Sunday of Advent

8:45 am      Child Care Center opens  
9:00 am      Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
9:30 am      Education for all ages  
10:30 am      Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:30 am      Coffee, Birthday Cake, and fellowship (WHH)  
11:30 am      Giving tree up/Decoration (Sanctuary)  
11:30 am      Outreach Committee meeting (Pastor's Study)  
4:00 pm      Pageant Rehearsal - Advent Workshop - Potluck

### Monday, 12/3

No Activities Planned

### Tuesday, 12/4

No Activities Planned

### Wednesday, 12/5

4:00 pm      Bridges/Circles (WHH, Kitchen, Library)

### Thursday, 12/6

9:30 am      Staff Meeting (Library)  
12:00 pm      Bible Study (Room 106)  
4:15 pm      Adult Bell Choir (Sanctuary)  
6:30 pm      League of Women Voters Meeting (Room 106)

### Friday, 12/7

4:00 pm      Five at Five Concert Rehearsal

### Saturday, 12/8

8:00 am      Food for Life (Kitchen)  
9:00 am      Five at Five Concert Rehearsal  
12:00 pm      PW Christmas Event (WHH)

### Sunday, 12/9 Second Sunday of Advent

8:45 am      Child Care Center opens  
9:00 am      Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
9:30 am      Education for all ages  
10:30 am      Worship/Communion/Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)  
11:30 am      Coffee and fellowship (WHH)  
12:00 pm      Youth Christmas Party and Ice Skating  
4:30 pm      Childcare for Five at Five (Nursery)  
5:00 pm      Alcee Chriss III Five at Five Concert (Sanctuary) - Reception

# COME - ENCOUNTER - GROW - SERVE

THE DECEMBER BIRTHDAY CAKE is given today by Polly Fisher.

HANGING OF THE GREENS We are asking our members to stay briefly today after the worship service to help decorate the Church for Christmas. Decorations and instructions are in WHH.

PW CHRISTMAS GATHERING Presbyterian Women will meet in WHH, Saturday, **December 8** at 12:00 p.m. Gathering includes lunch (\$5), Holiday cheer, and entertainment by the ILP dancers. Donations are welcome for the Snow Angels who assist the homeless: warm socks, hats, scarves. If you need childcare, please text Margo at 330.396.0408 by December 1.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING There will be a congregational meeting following worship on **December 9** for the purpose of electing new officers to serve Westminster. Please plan to attend.

YOUTH MINISTRY On **December 9** 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.

FIVE AT FIVE CONCERT The next concert is Sunday, **December 9** at 5 p.m. and will feature the musical artistry of Alcee Chriss III, our new Music Director/Organist. Professional free childcare will be provided. A reception for Alcee Chriss III will follow the concert in WHH.

WPC MEN'S GROUP The Westminster Men will meet for lunch at the Olive Garden in Montrose, on Monday, **December 10**. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. All men of Westminster are welcome.

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.

\*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 Joseph Went A' Walking Ralph Lehman

\*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.**

Time with Young Disciples Food Collection

*Following the Time with Young Disciples, 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 Psalm 25:1-10

Pew Bible, Old Testament Pg. 502

\*Hymn 3 Comfort, Comfort You My People

PSALM 42

The Second Lesson Jeremiah 33:14-16

Pew Bible, Old Testament Pg. 738

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

Sermon Promises Fulfilled

The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

## SERVE

\*Affirmation of Faith

**Remembering the promise to reconcile the world, God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ - the eternal Word made flesh. He is the long-awaited Messiah, one with us and one with God, fully human and fully divine, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary. We long for that day when our bodies are raised, the Lord wipes away our tears, and we dwell forever in the presence of God. We will take our place in the new creation, where there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, and the Lord will be our light. Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

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 12 People, Look East

BESANCON

\*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary Scherzo in B flat

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

***Welcome to our worship this morning!***  
*Stay with us after worship today for coffee, birthday cake and fellowship 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 Gorring, Dan Gorring, Bill Bramley, and Joan Buehl.

TWEEN USHERS are assisting in worship today.

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

THE FLOWERS The flowers on the pedestal are given by Shirley Werner and family in loving memory of Robert J. "Bob" Werner on his birthday, December 2, 85 years ago.

THE WHITE ROSE IN THE CHANCEL is for Donald K. Stutler on the occasion of his death on November 18, 2018.

## 2019 Stewardship

As of November 25, 2018, 83 households pledged **\$255,394.**

If you have not made a commitment for 2019, 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.

**Thank you to all who stepped forward with a financial commitment for the coming year.**