

## August/September 2019 Script

Aug./Sep. script will be distributed on Sunday, July 28, 2019.  
Please have your articles and pictures about activities sent to  
wpcoffice1250@gmail.com by noon on Tuesday, July 16, 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* June-July 2019

## Pastor's Corner

### Visioning

Westminster's Session continues to hold regular visioning meetings. During our last planning gathering on May 11, our Session discussed the size and operating mode of our congregation. We named our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. We reviewed Westminster's existing vision and mission statements and considered comparable phrases from other Presbyterian congregations. Over the last year, we have considered many ideas and initiatives, and at our next meeting, we intend to prioritize some of our goals and aspirations.

If you have ideas to share, you are always welcome to contact me or any of our Session representatives.

They are:

- ♦ James C. Gray (2019, first term, year 3) Membership (Moderator)
- ♦ Alec Works (2019, first term, year 3) Clerk of Session, Finance
- ♦ Ed Labbe (2019, first term, year 3) Discipleship (Moderator), Nominating

### Monthly Financial Report

April 2019	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$44,836.35	\$54,336.25	\$224,384.69	**\$221,930.66
Total Expenses	\$60,383.24	\$56,103.82	\$191,560.61	\$213,449.01
Net	(\$15,546.89)	(\$1,767.57)	\$32,824.08	\$8,481.65

\*\*Budgeted total revenues include anticipated withdrawals from Rowley investments necessary to balance the budget totaling \$40,954 for the year.

#### Contributions:

Pledged contributions are up due to prepayments in the first 4 months of the year. Loose offering is below budget \$700. General Endowments for operating are \$1,860 in excess of the amount budgeted. Interest and Dividends are \$2,700 above budget. Overall Income in excess of budget is \$2,454 at April 30, 2019.

#### Expenses:

Overall expenses are below budget by \$21,888 at April 30, 2019.  
Purchase rewards from Sam's Club covered the cost of memberships fees. Heating & AC repair and building maintenance are over budget due to boiler pipe repairs, a new heater for the WYDACA area and other unexpected repairs. Personnel costs are below budget by \$15,000. Evaluations and wage increases that will occur during the year will reduce this amount.

At April 30, 2019, revenues exceeded expenses by \$32,824. Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending April 30, 2019.

#### Foster the Future

The members of Westminster Presbyterian Church and the greater community appreciate and sincerely thank you for years of faithful giving that has sustained our important ministries. Another way you can preserve the Church is through a charitable bequest. When planning your estate, 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 for remembering Westminster Presbyterian Church with your future gifts.

- ♦ Marcia Holcomb (2019, first term, year 1) Finance (Assistant Treasurer)
- ♦ Todd Willis (2020, second term, year 5) Finance (Moderator)
- ♦ Michael Dunbar (2020, second term, year 3) Membership
- ♦ Shelley Koutnik (2020, first term, year 2) Finance (Treasurer), Personnel
- ♦ Brad Hall (2020, first term, year 2) Properties
- ♦ Nancy Keogh (2021, second term, year 4) Worship (Co-Moderator), Personnel
- ♦ Phil Fry (2021, first term, year 1) Nominating (Moderator), Properties
- ♦ Becky Pool (2021, first term, year 1) Outreach (Moderator)
- ♦ Don Rearick (2021, first term, year 1) Safety, Security, Medical Task Force (Moderator)
- ♦ Greg Works, Assistant Clerk of Session

Peace,  
Jon



### *Pastoral Time Away*

Pastor Hauerwas will be on vacation June 2–June 9, and on study leave July 7–July 19. On June 2, the Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby will be preaching at both our 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. Then, on June 9, for Pentecost, the Reverend Cathy Ulrich, Eastminster's General Presbytery/Stated Clerk will be preaching and administering Communion at both our 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. Please wear red that day!

There will be no noon Bible study on June 6, and July 4, 11, or 18.

Westminster Presbyterian Members' Death

- ♦ James Barnett died on April 4, 2019.
- ♦ Iris Kuehls died on April 15, 2019. Reception at the church on Saturday, June 22.



- ♦ Claude Wilton, husband of Anna Marie Wilton, died on April 18, 2019.



- ♦ Chris Taylor died on May 13, in Columbus. Funeral service was on Monday, May 20.

Worship Attendance Statistics

Year	2018	2019
March	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
week 1	149	140
week 2	136	152
week 3	139	140
week 4	208 (Palm Sunday) 44 (Maundy Thursday) 12 (Good Friday)	106
week 5		123
April	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
week 1	21 (8:00) (Easter) 289 (10:30)	132
week 2	153	187 (Palm Sunday) 52 (Maundy Thursday) 23 (Good Friday)
week 3	151	43 (8:00) (Easter) 286 (10:30)
week 4	167	112
week 5	163	

Annual Ice Cream Social

**Sunday, August 18** we will have an Ice Cream Social at 5:00 p.m. on the Johnstone Patio with Sam Sapp and Sarah Matheny and Songs & Tails from the Woods. This program is a unique experience for old and young alike. It includes original music sung by singer/songwriter Sam Sapp and interactive learning by freelance naturalist Sarah Metheny. Join us for the fun!

Clean Up Day Success!

Great job—Well done! Properties Committee wishes to give many thanks to all of you that came on Saturday, April 13 to help move and get rid of a lot of stuff. They were mostly old items, well past their use at WPC, but able to bring back memories of an earlier time. Some were big and heavy, needing to be disassembled; some were fragile, needing careful handling. We counted over twenty people, including staff and friends, willing to give of their time and energy to get most of it accomplished in about three hours. Others helped in the days before or after the event. We have a few items still available. Interested? Contact us.

June 30 Memorial Garden Open House

Over the past two years several Script articles about Westminster's Memorial Garden have addressed the history, procedure to purchase an agreement, a follow-up to the June 2017 open house and several testimonies by WPC members. In that time, three more members have been interred in the Garden, brochures have been placed in the literature racks and more agreements have been purchased.

The Memorial Garden committee is planning another open house on June 30 after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Information about the



Garden will be available. You can also tour the Garden, speak with a funeral home representative and enjoy refreshments. Jim and Barb Shriner have offered their thoughts about why they have chosen the Memorial Garden. "We have been active members of Westminster for over 40 years. Our children both grew up in the church and were married here. Our extended family is familiar with the church and feel comfortable here. It just made sense to choose the church as our final resting place."

Although a decision like this might not be an easy one for everyone, the process is quite simple. An interment agreement can be purchased at any time. The cost is \$1,000. The agreement allows that cremated remains, ashes, will be placed in the Garden during a brief service of commemoration. A plaque with the member's name, date of birth and date of death will be placed on a wall in the Garden. With the exception of the \$200 cost of the plaque, the amount of the agreement is tax deductible. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact any of the Memorial Garden committee members; Shelley Koutnik, Earl Pierson, Marcia Holcomb, Phil Fry, Kara Hauerwas or Jim or Barb Shriner.

### **Database of Members' Talents**

A vibrant church endeavors to connect congregational gifts and skills with the projects and initiatives that could benefit from those abilities. To this end, we are seeking a volunteer in the life of the church who could manage a database of members' talents. If you might be willing to serve in this way, please contact our church office.

### **Calling all Bookworms**

The book group can always use new members - come join us for fellowship and lively discussion of topics that may or may not relate directly to our eclectic selection of books. Having read the book is optional. We meet year-round in the Anderson Library on 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. For the summer our selections are:

## *Information to Know*

### **New Member's Class**

Are you interested in deepening your connection with Westminster? A new member's class has been requested. If you would also like to take part in it, please contact our pastor at [jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com](mailto:jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com).

### **Celtic Garden News**



This year the weather cooperated for the annual Celtic Garden Plant Sale on May 11. On Friday night the tent was erected on the Johnstone patio, the tables were set up, and all the plants were transported from the garden to the patio and arranged. The tent is a FEMA tent that was brought here from New Orleans after Katrina, and has served us well. Business was brisk on Saturday during the Kiwanis pancake breakfast, and also

on Sunday after the service. The sale netted \$1,130.65! The money will be used wisely, as maintaining our beautiful Celtic garden comes at a price. It will go toward buying annuals and perennials, fertilizer, mulch, a portion of the water bill, maintenance of the sprinkler system and the fountain, and other expenses.



Thanks to all who helped to make the sale a success! Upcoming garden workdays will be June 1, 15, 29, July 13, and 27. All are welcome - no experience necessary.

past four centuries. The restoration process for this organ will prove to be a combination of mechanical and restorative expertise. For the organ's newest additions of pipes, the way forward is more simple. 10 or 15 year old pipes can be easily replaced. However, for pipes that are older and more delicate, great care will be needed to ensure that these pipes will last for several more centuries to come. Westminster Presbyterian Church is similarly doing some major refurbishment work on our magnificent Schantz organ. Built in 1998, our current Schantz organ replaced a Möller organ built in 1950. The Schantz Organ has 4,094 pipes, 71 ranks, 85 independent stops and 4 divisions. By way of comparison, the Notre Dame Organ has 7,800 pipes, 113 ranks, and 8 divisions. Much like Notre Dame, our organ retains some excellent pipework from the previous instrument, dating back some 70 years.

In January 2018, Westminster hired an outside consultant to diagnose mechanical issues related to the organ's 20 year old age. This report confirmed that our instrument is still in great shape, but needs a few alterations and technological upgrades to make it viable instrument for the new generation of organists. After consultation with many organ builders, the church has awarded the Schantz company a contract to update the organ's control system and to deal with concerns regarding the "speech of pipes." The speech of pipes is regulated through a process known as "voicing." This process is most crucial to an organ's success. While an instrument can be installed successfully, it is the continuous alteration to the pipe's speech that make an instrument "great." To this effect, the church has also hired the renowned organ consultant Patrick Fischer to assist with diagnosing the long term needs of our organ's speech and artistic clarity. While Schantz will fix any mechanical issues, Mr. Fischer will spend time prioritizing which stops of the organ need the most attention as we look forward to it's new future.

We will look forward to hearing the fruits of our organ refurbishment project on Sunday, September 8. An organ concert will kick off the 5@5 season, as well as show off the organ's new capabilities under the masterful fingers and feet of Colin McKnight, a New York based organist who is considered one of the preeminent rising stars in the organ world. Our organ is certainly not like Notre Dame's, but it exemplifies the unmistakable quality of American organ building as it has developed since 1950.

Alcee Chriss III—Director of Music

- ♦ 6/10/19 Spark of Life Jodi Picoult led by Ginny Melver
- ♦ 7/8/2019 Inheritance Dani Shapiro led by Nancy Keogh
- ♦ 8/12/19 Becoming Michelle Obama led by Kristy Yates

 *Serve*

### **Third Sunday Dinner**

The Third Sunday Family Dinner needs help for the remainder of the year. This is a dinner that is open to the greater Akron Community. Please consider helping by either assisting in the cooking, serving, cleaning up or providing a dessert. You can sign up for any date and job through the link found at [westminsterakron.org](http://westminsterakron.org), under the Deacons/Volunteers tab, or by contacting Bridget or Rob Gilbert.

### **Youth Service to the Congregation**

The youth would like to offer their service to you, the congregation. Old and young alike, are there things at your home that you have let go because you are unable to attend to them? Or maybe they are just last on your list? These would be things like changing light bulbs in fixtures that require a ladder or are outside? Changing the batteries in your smoke detectors? Light yard work that has piled up? Light cleaning in areas of your home you no longer use daily? Well, we are here to help! On Saturday, August 3 we will have time slots available for you to sign up for us to come and provide assistance in these areas. If you have any questions please contact Mallory at [wpcyouth1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcyouth1250@gmail.com).

 *Education News*

### **Youth Summer Service Projects**

- ♦ Tuesday, June 25: Akron Zoo, 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- ♦ Monday-Thursday July 8-11: WPC Vacation Bible School, 8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- ♦ Saturday, July 27: Akron/Canton Food Bank, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Saturday, August 3: Service to the congregation
- ♦ Thursday, August 15: Ohio Living-Rockynol, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.



## Children's Ministries



### Vacation Bible School 2019

VBS will be July 8-11 from 9:15 a.m. to noon, Monday-Thursday. We will look at The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss, themes of forgiveness, fear, empathy, environmental stewardship, selfishness, and ego.

On Thursday evening we will have a 6:00 p.m. potluck dinner and share our learning and activities with our families and friends. The week is based on relationships between each other and God, our environment and community. Children 4 years old through 5th grade are invited to participate and students 6th-12th grade are needed to help with the younger children.

We are looking for magazines with lots of faces to make some emotion collages for VBS. Faces that are sad, happy, frustrated, curious, surprised, etc. If you have old magazines please bring them to church and leave on the table at Connection Point or give to Sheila. Thank You!

### Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone - LIVE on June 30



Join us for an evening of music and magic as the acclaimed Cleveland Orchestra performs a live version of composer John Williams's notable score during a (giant!) screening of the first Harry Potter film. Buy a ticket, bring a picnic and we will meet others from WPC on the lawn. We will sign up in WHH so we can organize where to meet. Save the Date!

## Music Ministry

### A Reflection on Pipe Organs: Notre Dame Cathedral and Westminster Presbyterian Church



*Notre Dame Cathedral's organ after the 2019 fire.*

In the wake of the tragic fire that consumed Notre Dame Cathedral on April 15, music historians and music lovers alike were eager to know the extent of the damage on the Cathedral's legendary pipe organ. Dr. Olivier Latry, the primary organist of the Cathedral (and my first collegiate organ professor) reported that the organ had survived the fire, but would still need to be removed and restored to address the inevitable damage related to smoke and dust exposure.

While one might assume that this organ's value hinges on its size, this would be incorrect. To recreate an exact replica of Notre Dame's organ (with brand new materials) would cost roughly 4.5 million dollars. For many churches, this is the standard cost of a large pipe organ. Contrastingly, the aspects of the Notre Dame organ that make it so priceless are the hoards of pipes that date back to the 17th and 18th centuries. I jokingly refer to this instrument as "Frankenstein," since it contains so many disparate pipes from different centuries and organ building aesthetics. Since 1730, the organ has been refurbished every 25-50 years, by builders who represent different aesthetics and musical priorities. Serious work on the organ occurred in 1733, 1783, 1812, 1838, 1868, 1894, 1904, 1942, 1963, 1966, 1975, 1992, and 2014.

Every time the organ undergoes a refurbishment, the newest organ builder retains the best of the remaining pipe work, and throws out what they deem to be unsuccessful. Thus, the organ at Notre Dame represents a composite of the best of organ building as it has manifested in France in the