December 2019/January 2020 Script

Dec./Jan. script will be distributed on Sunday, November 24, 2019. Please have your articles and pictures about activities sent to wpcoffice1250@gmail.com by noon on Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

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



The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas, Pastor jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com (office hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 9:30-11:00 am)

(cell phone 330-606-4551)

Valerie Thorson, Interim Music Dir./Organist wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com

(weekly office days: Tuesday—Thursday)

Sheila Svoboda, Dir. of Children & Family Ministry wpcchildren1250@gmail.com

(weekly office days: Tuesday and Thursday)

Mallory Gray, Youth Coordinator wpcyouth1250@gmail.com

(weekly workdays: Tuesday and Thursday)

Claudine Schooley, WPC Church Office wpcoffice1250@gmail.com

(weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)

Debby Evrard, Staff Accountant wpcfinance1250@gmail.com

(weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

Dave Bodnar, Daytime Custodian wpcbuilding@gmail.com

(weekly workdays: Sunday—Thursday)

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)



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



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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The Script October-November 2019

Pastor's Corner

GOD IS GREAT

This year, we kick off our stewardship campaign on October 13. That day, we invite you to join us for donuts, fruits, and coffee in WHH following worship at 11:30 a.m. In addition to enjoying a light reception together, we will hear a presentation from Ralph Davis, moderator of our stewardship campaign. October 13 will also mark the first of three sermons from our pastor focusing on the theme of "God Is Great!" Whether you have been pledging your time, talent, and financial resources to Westminster for many years or are considering doing so now for the first time, we are grateful for the ways in which your discipleship is made known in our shared community of faith. God is great, so please be as generous as you are able in supporting our invaluable ministries that inspire, challenge, and transform the lives of young and old, rich and poor, friend and stranger.

PULPIT EXCHANGE

In consultation with the Worship Committee and Session, our pastor has been in conversation with *(cont'd.)*

The Reverend Debra Bennett, the priest at Church of Our Savior Episcopal in Akron regarding a pulpit exchange in November. While Reverend Bennett has agreed to a pulpit exchange in November, she is currently on sabbatical and cannot confirm the exact date. We are making tentative plans for November 17. More details will be available soon.

WHAT ARE WE THANKFUL FOR?

On November 24, and in place of the sermon, three church members will be offering their reflections regarding what they are thankful for. We hope that you will join us as we begin this season of gratitude in preparation of the arrival of Advent.

Peace, Jon





Sunday, September 29, 2019 is a busy day at WPC. We are welcoming the Reverend Lydia Neshangwe from Zimbabwe as our guest speaker, at 2:00 p.m. A short reception, served by the Deacons, will follow.

At 4:00 p.m. please join us for a Vespers Worship Service featuring Theron Brown and Friends: Christopher Coles, Jordan McBride, Zaire Darden, and Tommy Lehman.





Monthly Financial Report

August 2019	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$22,819.53	\$36,198.74	\$385,785.95	*\$400,704.81
Total Expenses	\$44,068.87	\$47,821.56	\$361,352.12	\$412,960.04
Net	(\$21,249.34)	(\$11,622.82)	\$24,433.83	(\$12,255.23)

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

Pledged contributions are \$2,600 in excess of budget. Overall contributions are \$5,700 above budget. General Endowments for operating are \$3,657 in excess of the amount budgeted thanks to a one-time distribution of prior year earnings distributed in January. Interest and Dividends are \$7,460 above budget. Ohio Living has vacated the premises: \$5,950 in anticipated revenues will not be received in 2019.

Discipleship is under budget \$3,285; \$1,361 due to postponement of Student Mission Trip. Office and Admin under budget \$4,200 primarily from savings in copier contract and supplies and computer equipment and support. Outreach is under budget by \$4,400. Utilities are currently under budget by \$6,300; LED lights have replaced many fluorescent bulbs. Properties Maintenance is over budget by \$7000 due to boiler pipe repairs and new heater for WYDACA area, overdue tree trimming, and numerous repairs that were deferred in prior years. Personnel costs are below budget by \$26,000. Savings are evident in reduced overtime paid for custodial services and reduction in use of additional maintenance staff.

At August 31, 2019, revenues exceeded expenses by \$24,433.83. Rowley Funds have not been expended on operations in 2019.

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending August 31, 2019.

Worship Attendance Statistics

Year	2018	2019
July	8:30 & 10:30 a.m.	8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
week 1	28 (8:30) 82 (10:30)	Not Recorded (8:30) 66 (10:30)
week 2	29 (8:30) 92 (10:30)	73 for both services
week 3	26 (8:30) 79 (10:30)	72 for both services
week 4	43 (8:30) 84 (10:30)	26 (8:30) 86 (10:30)
week 5	24 (8:30) 64 (10:30)	
August	8:30 & 10:30 a.m.	8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
week 1	33 (8:30) 87 (10:30)	127 (10:30) only one service
week 2	28 (8:30) 90 (10:30)	30 (8:30) 83 (10:30)
week 3	51 (8:30) 76 (10:30)	26 (8:30) 96 (10:30)
week 4	25 (8:30) 103 (10:30)	23 (8:30) 91 (10:30)

Giving Statements

Third quarter Giving Statements will be emailed in mid-October. Please email Debby at wpcfinance1250@gmail.com or call her at 330-836-2226 if you would like to receive a paper copy.

Giving Envelopes

Giving Envelopes for 2020 will be ordered soon. If you no longer wish to receive them or you would like to start getting them delivered to your address please email or call Debby using the above contact information to let her know **by October 1**st, **2019**.

5 at 5 Concert Series - Season Twenty Two: **2019-2020**

The next 2 concerts will be:

- October 13, 2019
 Dr. Dave Thomas
 Jazz Quintet
- November 17, 2019
 Les Délices: Intoxicating
 Medieval Music

Op

is one of Cleveland's foremost music educators and jazz musicians. A native of Youngstown, Ohio, Dr. Thomas has performed alongside artists including James Cleveland, Dizzie Gillespie, Albert Ayler, Jean Carre, David Ruffin, and Grover Washington. His musical involvement also includes musical theater as a writer, performer, and musical director in performances throughout USA and Canada. https://www.csuohio.edu/class/black-studies/dave-thomas

Medieval Music

Les Délices explores long-forgotten music. The New York Times described

Dr. Dave Thomas

their concerts as "journeys of discovery." This ensemble is inspired by heady perfumes and strong elixirs for their new program of strange and wonderful Medieval music, *Intoxicating*. Singers Elena Mullins and Jason McStoots perform songs by 14th-Century masters Machaut, Solage, Caserta, and others, accompanied by an ensemble of harps, lute, recorder and medieval fiddle.

Teen suicide program

On November 3, 2019

Weathervane Playhouse presents "Losing Elise" written and directed by Hassan Rogers. This piece tells the fictional story of a young girl named Elise struggling through different stages of her life which leads her to contemplate suicide. Unfortunately, Elise's story is not unique. This piece depicts that



struggles of many youth in our society and tells a familiar story that is often times heard too late. Through this presentation we use theater to start up an important conversation about youth and how we as parents, leaders, and community members can help them through these struggles, acknowledge the signs, and give support.

We will gather for a luncheon in Wright-Herberich Hall right after worship and before the presentation. Please sign up at the Connection Point if you are able to bring in a crock pot/instant pot of soup or chili to share. Thanks so much!





Chancel flowers

Anybody interested in donating the chancel flowers in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, should put his/her name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Wright-Herberich Hall and call Barbara Blackfan at 330-576-6135.

Flu Shot Clinic

On October 6 the Flu Shot Clinic will be in the Library, following the worship service. A Pharmacist from Walgreens will be here to give shots and fill out paperwork. There is no charge. All are welcome.





Earth Care Tips

It is human nature to fall into the trap of "out of sight, out of mind." Sadly, our landfills produce both carbon dioxide and methane with methane being 84 times more potent in contributing to global warming as it spreads

through our air and soil.

BUT, just think, because we used reusable plates and utensils at our Rally Day picnic, we kept over 100 plates/utensils out of the landfill!

Music Director/Organist Search Committee

Your Music Director/Organist Search Committee is at work and making progress. We have been pleased to welcome Valerie Thorson as our interim Director of Music and all her gifts and talents that she brings to Westminster.

Our search for a new Director of Music has begun and applications for the position have started to come in. We are currently reviewing the applications as they arrive giving each careful consideration. We appreciate your support in this endeavor.

Westminster Presbyterian New Members

We welcomed 4 new members on August 11, 2019:



Karen Elgin



Elgin Todd & Sara Newman with Adeline



Brian Rodabaugh

Westminster Presbyterian Death

• Reverend Moss Rutan died on July 19, 2019.

Celtic Garden News

Where has the summer gone? It seems as though it's Memorial Day, and in the blink of an eye it's Labor Day! The beautiful flowers in the Celtic garden are beginning to wind down, and soon the garden will be put to bed for the season.

A heartfelt salute to all those faithful volunteers who planted, weeded, staked, deadheaded, and watered throughout the season and in all kinds of weather. God can supply the raw materials, but we mortals are needed to nurture them.





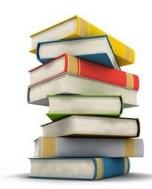


PW Gathering

SAVE THE DATE: **Saturday**, **November 2** at noon in Wright-Herberich Hall.

Enjoy lunch and become spiritually recharged as we discuss ways to approach our lives with gratitude.

WPC Book Group



As always, all are welcome to join WPC's book group for fellowship and discussion of an eclectic range of books. Meetings are held on 2nd Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Anderson Library.

Please note that the December meeting will likely be off-site and more casual, with the location TBA.

2019 10/14/19	The Bookseller	Mark Pryor	Harriet Cutler
11/11/19	Where the Crawdads Sing	Delia Owens	Ginny Melver
12/09/19	Harry Finds A Good Murder	WPC's very own Neal Enrick!	
2020 1/13/20	The Other Einstein	Marie Benedict	Suzanne Grafinger



Third Sunday Dinners

We are grateful to Rob and Bridget Gilbert for their leadership in coordinating volunteers for the Third Sunday Dinners. They have really excelled in this role and are a great compliment to our outstanding roster of cooks, servers, and cleaners. In August, Westminster's Third Sunday Dinner and Ice Cream Social was featured in the local paper as one of the top things to do in Akron that day. We welcomed an overflow crowd to Wright-Herberich Hall.

Dinners are typically held on the third Sunday of each month, with a couple of exceptions, noted below:

- September 15, 2019
- October 20, 2019
- November 24, 2019 *revised date; this will be a Thanksgiving dinner
- December 15, 2019
- January 19, 2020
- February 16, 2020
- March 22, 2020 *revised date
- April 19, 2020
- May 17, 2020

Dinners are served at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome! Please join us, and bring a friend or a neighbor!

We would love to get a couple more people trained up as Kitchen Managers and on rotation to share the workload.

We are in need of additional volunteer support. Our generous congregation makes this effort possible and ensures the continued success of this outreach. If you might be interested in learning more, regardless of how often you might be able to volunteer, please contact Rob and Bridget Gilbert at bgilbert1011@gmail.com

The message may begin with a simple "Hi," but doesn't include a recipients' name. There also may be spelling errors, including the pastor's name.

The imposter asks you to buy a popular gift card — frequently, iTunes, Google Play, or Amazon — and then asks for the gift card number and PIN on the back of the card. Those numbers let the scammer immediately get the money you loaded onto the card. And once that's done, the scammer and your money are gone, usually without a trace.

If you or someone you know paid a scammer with a gift card, report it as soon as possible. Call the card company and tell them the gift card was used in a scam. Here is contact information for some of the gift card companies that scammers use most often. Then, tell the FTC about it at ftc.gov/complaint. Your reports may help law enforcement agencies launch investigations that could stop imposters and other fraudsters in their tracks.

World Communion Sunday

This year we celebrate World Communion Sunday on **October 6**.

Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday is **November 3**. That day, we will be remembering those members of our congregation who have died in the past year, recalling the lives of many who have shaped our current path, and honoring the saints of old.

Church Security

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

Previously Narthex doors have been unlocked at 9:30 a.m. This practice has been changed to 10:00 a.m. to coincide with the availability of ushers. Outside access to the Christian Education wing is now restricted beginning at 10:45 a.m. All doors will accommodate exit.

AFTER HOURS:

Many committee meetings take place outside of normal office or worship hours. Doors used to access the facilities should remain locked and monitored. To accommodate late arrivals, group members should exchange cell numbers, enabling late arrivals to request admission from other group members in attendance.

Email Scam

An article by *Colleen Tressler* Consumer Education Specialist, FTC.

Worshipers targeted by gift card scam

We're seeing a new spin on gift card scams. This time, scammers are pretending to be a pastor, rabbi, priest, imam, or bishop. They're asking worshipers for gift card contributions for a worthy cause. Appeals are often made by email, but we've heard people are also getting texts and phone calls, too. The bogus emails often include the name of the local pastor and a legitimate looking email address. But a closer look should raise some red flags.

For example, the email address isn't the one normally used by the church, and the service provider is different, too. (cont'd.)





Adult Education/Bible Study

It has been my honor to share teaching responsibilities with Rae Leonard of our

congregation. She is thoughtful, organized, and wise. Recalling the success of the video series on Islam, as well as the difficulties that some experienced in hearing the presentations in Wright-Herberich Hall, we are opting to host our next video series in Room 106, instead. For the month of November, we will be exploring Buddhism, featuring Professor Malcolm David Eckel of Boston University. We hope that you can join us **each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.** For more information, please contact Pastor Jon.

WPC Men's Club

The WPC Men's Lunch Group meets on the second Monday of each month at the Olive Garden in Montrose. The meeting time of 11:30 a.m. was selected for easy parking. We order from the menu and enjoy great food with excellent service. We hope that you will be able to attend both the October 14 and November 11 meetings. For more information please call Art Schooley at 330-666-3816.

Youth Ministry 2019-2020 Calendar

- Youth Hike Evening at Nature Realm FA Sieberling at 5:30 p.m.—Sunday, October 13, 2019
- Advent Family Night—December 1, 2019
- Youth Tubing/Sledding + Super Bowl Sub Sale February 1, 2020
- Youth Service Project and Lock-in—April 3-4, 2020
- End of Year Youth Outing (TBA)—June 8, 2020

Children's Ministries

REVERSE HALLOWEEN

How do we learn the joy that comes from giving? We give! **On Saturday, October 26** from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. the children of Westminster will share their love, candy and joy with the residents of Ohio Living-Rockynol Assisted Living.

We will meet at church all dressed in Halloween costumes, prepare our gifts and then head over to be with the residents of Ohio Living. All are invited to join us!

PAGEANT REHEARSHAL

Sunday December 1, 2019 will be the Pageant Rehearsal at 4:15 p.m., followed by a Potluck at 5:00 p.m. and a Movie at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome!



Information to Know

History Project



The Membership Committee is currently compiling some of Westminster's historical documents. Do you have annual reports from the years: 1997, 1998, 2002, or 2010? Please contact our pastor.



Acme Cash Back

The program has begun again. Save your receipts dated August 8 to December 28, 2019. At the bottom of your receipt, it will have an

amount that is labeled Cash Back. The church receives a percentage of that amount in cash. Receipts may be turned in to a box in Wright-Herberich Hall.