

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 (office hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 9:30-11:00 am) (cell phone 330-606-4551)	jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com
Valerie Thorson, Interim Music Dir./Organist (weekly office days: Tuesday—Thursday)	wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com
Sheila Svoboda, Dir. of Children & Family Ministry (weekly office days: Tuesday and Thursday)	wpcchildren1250@gmail.com
Mallory Gray, Youth Coordinator (weekly workdays: Tuesday and Thursday)	wpcyouth1250@gmail.com
Claudine Schooley, WPC Church Office (weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)	wpcoffice1250@gmail.com
Debby Evrard, Staff Accountant (weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)	wpcfinance1250@gmail.com
Dave Bodnar, Daytime Custodian (weekly workdays: Sunday—Thursday)	wpcbuilding@gmail.com
Zack Troyer, Director of Adult & Youth Bells, and Children's Choir (cell phone 330-285-0213)	wpcchildrenschoir1250@gmail.com
Traci Range, Director of Childcare (cell phone 330-459-1177)	wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com



Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

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First Sunday of Christmas December 29, 2019 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
Sit toward the front, where it's easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. 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."

COME

Voluntary Carol Rhapsody Richard Purvis
Larry Jones, Guest organist

*Call to Worship Kara Hauerwas

In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.

We gather, alive to the Word of God.

You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant, ready to listen and respond with heart, soul, strength, and mind.

We listen, alive to the Word of God.

You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom, sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet, but always dwelling among us.

We watch and wait for the Word of God.

*Hymn 22 Angels, from the Realms of Glory REGENT SQUARE

ENCOUNTER

Prayer of Confession

God of wonder, you surround us with signs of your glory and surprise us with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you place before us. Forgive our dullness and make us alert to the ways you make yourself known, that we might be witnesses to your good news and proclaim your extravagant love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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 29, 2019—January 5, 2020*

Sunday, 12/29

10:00 am Child Care Center Opens
10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (WHH)

Monday, 12/30 No Activities Planned

Tuesday, 12/31 Church Office Closed

Wednesday, 1/1 Happy New Year—Church Office Closed

Thursday, 1/2

11:00 am WPC Staff Meeting (Church Office)
6:30 pm League of Women Voters Meeting (Room 106)

Friday, 1/3 No Activities Planned

Saturday, 1/4

8:00 am Food for Life (Kitchen)

Sunday, 1/5

9:00 am Child Care Center Opens
9:30 am Education for All
10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (WHH)
3:00 pm Ice Skating & Children Museum (Off Site/Lock 3)

CHILDREN ICE SKATING Please join us **January 5, 2020** at 3:00 p.m. at Lock 3 for a Family Ice Skating outing. \$2.00 if you have your own skates and \$4.00 if you need to rent them. Refreshments are provided. Please sign up at the Connection Point in WHH.

BEFRIENDERS BAKE SALE is **Sunday, January 19, 2020**. The Deacons are hosting a sale of cookies, cakes and other baked goods. The purpose is to raise money to provide flowers to every person living at Ohio Living-Rockynol on Valentine's day.

TO THE CONGREGATION The Personnel Committee would like to provide Pastor Jon with some constructive feedback on an annual basis in the form of an evaluation. No one is perfect, and Jon is no exception. Please send John N. Childs any feedback on any issues you are aware of. You can write him an email at jnchilds@bmdllc.com or give him a call at 330-253-1946. The Personnel Committee would like to let him know both where he is excelling and where he can improve. Anything you write and send by **January 10, 2020**, will be kept confidential within the personnel committee. Thank you all.

SCRIPT DEADLINE *The deadline for information to be included in the February/March Script is Monday, January 13, 2020.*

OUR GUEST ORGANIST’S BIO

Larry Jones studied organ with Richard Shirey from high school through college, and then privately after he graduated from (then) Akron University with a degree in Music Education. He also studied Service playing for organists with the late Dr. Farley Hutchins. Larry has served several churches as either organist and/or director for fifty-four years, including Fairlawn West UCC during the 70’s, and Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, where he retired in 2018 after thirty-eight years there.

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 and Call for the Offering

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 The Carol of the Birds Eric Thiman
Joel Rhoads, soloist

When Christ was born on Christmas day The robin and wrens sang a roundelay; Mary rejoiced in Bethlehem then, And joyful the music that God did send; The robin, the rook, the thrush and the wren, The birds made music in Bethlehem then, Gloria, Gloria Deo.

The angels say (The robin and wren sang a roundelay); “Peace on earth, to all good will,” Their song thro’ the night is sounding still; The robin, the rook, the thrush and the wren, The birds made music in Bethlehem then, Gloria, Gloria Deo.

The wise men came from far away, (The robin and wren sang a roundelay); Gifts they brought to their newborn Lord, While morning stars their Creator adored. The robin, the rook, the thrush and the wren, The birds made music in Bethlehem then, Gloria, Gloria Deo.

Christians rejoice, for well ye may, And robin and wren sing a roundelay; Christ was born to save our kind, In Him our peace and joy we find. The robin, the rook, the thrush and the wren, The birds made music in Bethlehem then, Gloria, Gloria Deo.

*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

After the Time with Young Disciples, 3 through 6 year-olds are invited to the Nursery for age-appropriate activities. Grades K-8 will stay in worship with their family.

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

The First Lesson Colossians 3:12-17 Pew Bible, New Testament Pg. 201

*Hymn 44 O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

The Second Lesson Luke 2:41-52 Pew Bible, New Testament Pg. 59
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon Subversive Faith The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith

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. Jesus Christ rules over all. To follow the Lord is to serve him wherever we are, without fitting in, light in the darkness.

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 We Wish You a Merry Christmas Arr. Dan Miller



Welcome to our worship this morning!
Join us after worship today in Wright-Herberich Hall for coffee and fellowship.

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

USHERS are Bob Leonard (Head Usher), Raphael Peoples, Earl Pierson, Don Rearick, and Phil Fry.

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

COME - ENCOUNTER - GROW - SERVE

YEAR-END GIFTS The church offices will be closed on December 31. We will need all contributions by **Monday, December 30, 2019.**

NO CHOIR REHEARSAL on **January 5, 2020.**