

WPC Worship Service In-Person

& on YouTube **LIVESTREAM** every week at 10:30 a.m.

Follow us on Social Media: **Facebook** at Westminster Presbyterian Church, **Twitter** @WPCAkron and **Instagram**.

WPC Staff

The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas, Pastor jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com
(weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday)
(cell phone 330-606-4551)

Bob Carlyon, Interim Music Director/Organist wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com
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Claudine Schooley, WPC Church Office wpcoffice1250@gmail.com
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Margo Works, Interim Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
(weekly office days: Monday—Thursday) wpcchildren1250@gmail.com

Finance Office wpctreasurer1250@gmail.com
(weekly office day: Monday from 9:00 a.m. to noon)

Dave Bodnar, Daytime Custodian wpcbuilding@gmail.com
(weekly workdays: Sunday—Thursday)

Traci Range, Director of Childcare wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com
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The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday



Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

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The Script **August-September 2021**

Pastor's Corner

Westminster resumed in-person services on June 6, 2021. It was the first time that our congregation had gathered in the sanctuary since March of 2020. Despite worshiping behind masks and observing social distancing precautions, the atmosphere remained celebratory throughout. Folks arrived early and stayed late to catch up with old friends. And at a time when many of my ministerial colleagues have described attendance of less than 40 on Sunday mornings, I was pleasantly surprised to see over 100 of God's faithful in worship.

In the weeks that followed, our Session has eased masking requirements, which provided an even greater sense of normalcy. From a minister's perspective, it has been a great joy to interact with everyone face-to-face and to witness friendships rekindled. I am grateful for the improved sound quality in our sanctuary, made possible by our refurbished audio system, and I appreciate the time

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and effort that has been devoted to making the necessary tweaks to our new video system. As we strive for excellence in all that we do, I remain encouraged by the strong attendance both in-person and online.

You are aware that our Script newsletter highlights events occurring in the life of our church over a two-month period. Prior to the pandemic, publicizing our offerings 60 days out was relatively straightforward. Life now feels more month-to-month. As our Session makes decisions regarding our shared community, and as our leaders make preparations for Rally Day on September 12, I will be sure to inform you. Please continue to check your Sunday Update, weekly bulletin, and our church website for the most up-to-date information. And if you have a concern, a question, or a suggestion, feel free to get in touch. It's great to see you again!

Peace and best wishes,
Jon

Church Events

Akron Pride March and Festival

Please join us in representing Westminster Presbyterian Church at the 4th Annual Pride March and Festival on Saturday, August 28. The Pride March will be a .6 mile walk from Spaghetti Warehouse to Lock 3 that will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by a Festival from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Lock 3 in downtown Akron.

Please stop by the Connection Point to sign up to march with our congregation and/or to volunteer at our booth in Downtown
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From the Church Office

Clerk's Report/From Life To Life Eternal



Doug Grant entered eternal life on May 29; a committal service was held on June 8, 2021.



Barbara Prentice Davis entered eternal life on June 11; a service was held on June 19, 2021.

- Committal services were also performed by Rev Hauerwas on 6/26 for Lois Pierce, former member, and on 6/27 for Evelyn Spear Weiss, mother of Cindy Weiss.

October/November 2021 Script

October/November script will be online on September 30, 2021. Please have your articles and pictures ready to be sent to wpcoffice1250@gmail.com by noon on **Tuesday, September 14, 2021.**

From the Finance Office

Monthly Financial Report

June 2021	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$46,728.01	\$55,635.16	\$320,961.57	\$273,235.96
Total Expenses	\$44,518.39	\$50,156.26	\$233,064.25	\$290,287.16
Net	\$2,209.62	\$5,478.90	\$87,897.32	(\$17,051.20)

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending June 30, 2021.



- **Robert (Bob) Carlyon as Interim Director of Music and Organist**

Bob holds degrees from Kent State University in organ and music education (B.Mus.), and a M.Mus. in choral conducting. He has over 55 years' experience as an organist/choir director serving churches in Stow, Hartville, Cuyahoga Falls, Akron, and Fairlawn. After 35 years of teaching, he retired from Revere Local Schools in 2014, but has continued as musical director for the

Revere Players having helped produce 20+ plays and musicals. He previously sang with VOICI (voices of Canton) and is currently a member of Singer's Company, an Akron based chamber choir. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, biking, traveling, and feeding and watching birds in his back yard.

Staff Farewells



- **Debby Evrard**

Debby faithfully served in our finance office as the part-time staff accountant for several years before departing our staff team on July 7 to accept full-time employment. We have deeply appreciated her attention to detail, friendly demeanor, and good humor, and we wish her all the best in this next stage of her journey. Debby was presented with a prayer quilt as part of her farewell. We also

extend our gratitude to Shelley Koutnik, our church Treasurer, for volunteering to serve in the finance office on a temporary basis as we seek to fill the position.



- **Zack Troyer**

While pursuing his studies, Zack has served our congregation as a choral scholar providing section leadership in our choir, and as the Director of our Adult Handbell Choir, Director of our Youth Handbell Choir, and Director of our Children's Choir. Zack has served as a liturgist, taught our children during the Time with Young Disciples, and formed deep and lasting relationships with folks of every age while encouraging their journey with God.

We wish him all the best as he pursues his calling with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Zack was presented with a prayer quilt in worship as part of his farewell on July 25.

Akron and join your church friends and family in reminding our neighbors that God is love. We welcome your comradery, support, and involvement on Saturday, August 28.



Please contact March Leader-Coordinator **Holly Christensen** at hollychrist@gmail.com, **Ellen Daugherty** at edaugh1185@gmail.com, **Phil Fry** at fryphillip60@yahoo.com, **Kara Hauerwas** at khauerwas@gmail.com, and **Becky Pool**

at rebeccapool@aol.com with questions or offers to help.

Announcements

Adult Choir



COME, REJOICE, and **SING** with Westminster's Adult Choir starting on Rally Day, September 12th at 8:45 a.m. This fall we begin a new chapter of music making with Bob Carlyon, our interim Director of Music. We are always interested in having new faces and new singers to participate (*cont'd.*)

in our wonderful choir. There are no auditions, although reading music is helpful and High School students are welcomed. So, if you have hesitated to join us in the past, make the commitment and experience the joy of community and making music together.

“As long as we live, there is never enough singing.” - Martin Luther

To Prospective Members/New Member Class

In March of 2020, just as our congregation was preparing to welcome four new members into the life of our church, the pandemic sidelined our plans. In the months that followed, each of our prospective members indicated their preference to wait until in-person worship resumed before formally joining Westminster. Sadly, one of those individuals has now moved out of state. Such are the unpredictable rhythms of life.

Meanwhile, throughout the course of the pandemic, others have participated in our online or in-person services, and they have discerned a call to strengthen their connection with Westminster. We are grateful for our members who spread the good news about our congregation, and for those who are bold to engage with our fellowship when they feel more like guests than friends.

It is my hope to offer an in-person new member class in the coming weeks. In order to accomplish this goal, however, I need to hear from those of you who have an interest in pursuing membership in the context of our congregation. Let's align our schedules and grow in Christ together.

In hope,
Jon



but the office contacted Phil. He called me back, understood our dilemma, put in a call to Pastor Cliff Hayes, who checked the church calendar to make sure the date was open, and the rest is history.

We often say God works in mysterious ways. This is one of my personal examples of that exact phrase. We have now been members of Westminster for over 20 years and over those years, we've met and come to love the many people - members of this great congregation - that make our lives blessed and thankful. True, many have passed and gone to that better place and we miss them dearly. But we are thankful every day, of the joys that our friends of Westminster bring us.

I hope some of you will be compelled to go visit Phil. He would be delighted to visit with you. One recommendation I would make - I think it's better if you find another mutual friend, as I did with Mark, to keep the conversation flowing well.

Bill Melver

Staff Welcome



- **Margo Works as Interim Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry**

Margo began her career at the preschool level and then spent 30 years teaching grades K-5, mostly in Akron Public Schools. She joined Westminster and the Young Adult group in 1983. Throughout the years, Margo, her husband Alec, and their three children have found WPC to provide a wealth of opportunities to grow in faith, friendship, and rewarding service. She is pleased to help facilitate these same

opportunities for the families of Westminster.

Caring For Our Members

Mark Preebe and I visited Phil Keller on Wednesday, July the 7th. Mark and I had planned to visit him for several months, waiting to get the green light from Kris that he was well enough to accommodate visitors. When we got that green light, we were delighted.



We entered the dining room, where Phil was just finishing his breakfast - he recognized us and began waving his arms, a wonderful sign. He was in a wheelchair and the attendant wheeled him to his room, just across from the dining hall and we followed. He looked great; his skin color was radiant. Phil was eager to hear about the church and how it was going now that we're back to in-person worship services. He especially asked about the music - as you may know, he sang in our choir for many years - and we updated him on the departure of Valerie and the arrival of our new interim music director. We stayed for about 40 minutes, then took our leave.

Phil Keller is a very special member of our congregation to the Melver family - he was the very first member we met and developed a special bond. It was the year 2000 and our daughter, Alison, was scheduled to be married. Back then, we were living in Hudson and we attended the Congregational church, where the marriage ceremony was to take place. Alison was marrying Todd Breaux, born and raised in Akron. Soon we realized all guests from the Breaux side lived in Akron with very little familiarity of the Hudson neighborhood. And to make matters worse, the Congregational church was undergoing a major renovation project that presented challenges to even the local Hudsonites in finding parking access to the church.

A decision was made to move the wedding venue to Akron and Phil made that happen. Phil had been our Optometrist and we knew he worshipped at Westminster in Akron. It was a simple phone call to his office - he and Kris happened to be vacationing in Florida

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Liturgist scheduler needed

Westminster is in need of a weekly liturgist scheduler. Having faithfully served in this role for the past several years, Kyra Bosnik has now moved out-of-state. Liturgists can be scheduled from home through a series of quick emails to our list of willing volunteers. Please consider assisting our congregation by ensuring that lay leadership is well represented in worship. You may contact our pastor for more information.

Audio/Visual volunteer opportunity

Westminster is seeking volunteers to help run the new audio/visual system on Sunday mornings. The new system is and it requires two individuals, one for the video stream and another for sound. Both of these are vital to the operation of the worship service in providing a worship experience whether participating online or in-person. If you are a tech savvy individual or would like to try something new, serving as an audio/visual volunteer please contact Stacy Franzmann at sfranzma@kent.edu. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.



Outreach

The food collection program continues on the first Sunday of each month. Tweens are available to accept your donation. The food is then delivered to the Good Neighbors unit in Goodyear Heights. Anyone who wishes to donate food at a time other than the first Sunday may do so by placing it in the wooden box in the coatroom.

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Due to a lack of volunteers (especially cooks), Westminster's Session has voted to decrease the frequency of our **Third Sunday Dinner** offerings. Dinners were distributed in July and will next be available on November 21, 2021, with specific dates for quarterly meals in 2022 to be announced at a later date. As we seek to meet the needs of our less fortunate neighbors in greater Akron, we are grateful for your continued support of this ministry. Please sign up to assist on the church website.

The **Food for Life** program is continuing with approximately 200 ham and cheese sandwiches made twice a month for distribution to either Haven of Rest or St. Bernard's Church. They are most grateful for our contribution to their services to the needy.



Adult Education/Changes This Fall

Once fall arrives, our church is a busy place on Sunday mornings in the hour before our worship service. Ushers and flower arrangers are working to make the sanctuary ready. Children's teachers are preparing their classrooms and choir members are rehearsing their music. Many of these folks who can rarely attend our Sunday morning adult education opportunities have appreciated the Thursday evening Zoom Bible studies we offered online all last year and have indicated they would like to see this continue.

After much discussion, we have decided to offer adult education on Thursday evenings again via Zoom. Links will be emailed out the day before along with the topic for discussion. Anyone interested in adding their name to the email list can contact Rae Leonard at leonardrae4@gmail.com or 330-256-9316. The Zoom class will begin **Thursday, September 16.**

See the related article about plans for the class this fall on the next page.

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paintbrush can do. Many thanks to the faithful, dedicated gardeners who help to make this happen. New gardeners are always welcomed with open arms – no experience necessary.



Freezer

Approximately 15 years ago, Westminster purchased a large freezer which is presently located in the flower room. At the time of purchase, the freezer was used. Over the years, it has been serviced and repaired numerous times. Sadly, the time has now come to say farewell to it. While purchasing a replacement is a possibility at some future date, there are no immediate plans to replace this equipment. Per Session action, Third Sunday Dinners will now be held quarterly rather than monthly and, on account of the pandemic, we have not been hosting large fellowship gatherings for the last couple of years. Be assured that the Properties Committee will continue to monitor our needs in this area.

Steeple

Our Session has contracted with Frost Restoration to return our steeple to its original glory. Our intention was to begin this project in the summer of 2021. Unfortunately, material and labor shortages have persisted in many industries. These issues are now impacting our project, which will not be completed this year. During the fall and winter, the materials will be purchased and warehoused so that we will not run into this issue again. In the spring of 2022, scaffolding will be added to the exterior of our facility in preparation for the work to commence in May. We recognize that the steeple is in need of attention. Thankfully, this is an aesthetic issue more than one related to the functionality of our property. We are not presently aware of any leaks, and we do not anticipate any damage as a result of the wait. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Information to Know

WPC Men's Lunch

For many years the men of Westminster met once a month for lunch except for the summer months. This was interrupted last year by the virus. Now that conditions are back to normal we will resume meeting again. The Westminster men will meet for lunch at the Olive Garden in Montrose on the second **Monday, September 13, 2021.**

All men of Westminster are welcome to the lunch which will begin at 11:30 a.m. While our primary purpose is social, some of the discussions may be about activities of the Church. Pastor Jon joins us whenever his schedule permits. The Olive Garden provides a selection of food from the menu with excellent service. If you would enjoy good discussions, good food and good companionship, please join us. I will try to remind you of the meeting closer to the date. If I should fail to contact you, please contact me. When I give the Olive Garden an estimate of the group size, they reserve space for us. If you have any questions, please contact Art Schooley at 330-666-3816 or artsch@aol.com.

Celtic Garden



Hopefully everyone has had an opportunity to saunter through the Celtic garden to see the amazing things that God's
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Adult Education Starts September 16

Our Adult Education class via Zoom will resume on Thursday evenings starting September 16. This will take the place of our traditional Sunday morning time slot. A related Script article on the previous page explains the rationale for this change.



This fall we will be studying Paul's letter to the Galatians which contains some of the theology and doctrines crucial to the definition of the Christian faith. In this short letter Paul deals with questions such as these:

How are we made right with God?

In what is our faith grounded?

What should we do with God's law?

How does doing good works fit into the picture?

What are the pitfalls in trusting in good works alone?

Plan to join us on Thursdays from 7-8 pm as we learn how Paul answers these foundational questions about our faith. Contact Rae Leonard at leonardrae4@gmail.com or 330-256-9316 so she can add you to the email list to receive the Zoom meeting links.

Education News

Youth/Confirmation Sunday on August 8

This year, I met with five Westminster students for a total of 10 sessions to discuss faith in Christ and membership in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We were joined by five additional students from United Presbyterian Church in Cuyahoga Falls (at the time, United was searching for a new, installed pastor).

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Our students crafted individual statements of faith and then presented those statements to our Session during a special meeting called for this purpose.

During worship on August 8, we will be confirming our students and officially welcoming them into full membership in the life of the church. In addition to commending our students for their efforts, I would like to thank each of their mentors who are named below for offering their time and insight as we journey with Christ together.

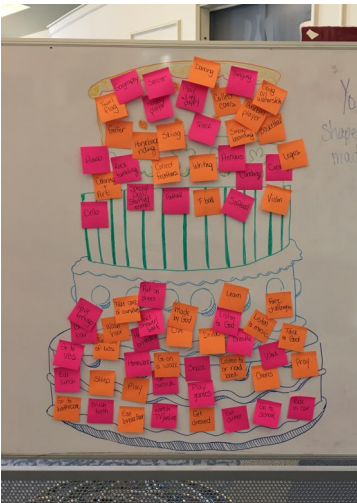
Confirmand [Pierce Ehrler](#) and Mentor Ed Labbe
Confirmand [Sam Grau](#) and Mentor Pat Santelli
Confirmand [Gabby Gray](#) and Mentor Lou Albertson
Confirmand [Holden Labbe](#) and Mentor Kevin Spring
Confirmand [Kinsie Willis](#) and Mentor Shelley Koutnik

In faith,
Jon

Children’s Ministries/VBS 2021 - July 12-15



VBS 2021
Compassion Camp was so much fun! Our participants left with hearts expanded and full of compassion for ourselves, each other, our community, our world and ready to get out there and spread God’s love!



This year, we had 16 participants, ages 4 through 5th grade and seven shepherds, our very own WPC helpers, ages 6th grade through 12th grade. Susan Shellito, this year's VBS Director, was joined in leadership by Jamie and Kinsie Willis, Val Stewart, Elizabeth Crabtree, Tracey Nguma, Brooke Jordan, Donna Gorring, Bobbie Weaver, Marian Wahl, Pat Schumacher, and Kacey Yates Gable. Thank you to all who participated!