

Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

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

The Script February—March 2022



Even as your Session and church staff have been working to keep things moving as smoothly as possible, we have some exciting news. At a special Session meeting on January 16, Session decided to call The Reverend David Aber as our interim pastor. More details will be provided soon. His start date will be Tuesday, February 1st, 2022.

Your continued involvement in the life of the church is very important. We need each other's support. Something to remember about having a church web page and YouTube: it is very easy for a prospective pastor or new member to see what we are doing, as well as our attendance. Continue to make guests feel welcome! And a special thank you to all who are stepping in to help!

Alec Works Clerk of Session

Letter From Pastor Tom Ulrich

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace to the people, to make music in the heart.

- Howard Thurman

The Children's Christmas pageant that our congregation enjoyed at Westminster Presbyterian Church several weeks ago certainly provided an incredibly delightful moment for our church family. At one point near the conclusion of the performance, I noticed that one of the performers (playing the part of an angel) was rearranging the halo that was sliding from her head.

Now while it was an endearing scene, I was taken with the thought that her experience represents the Christian life after Christmas. During the holiday season, most of us are filled with feelings of peace on earth and good will to all people. We often participate in the "angelic" work of sharing with our less fortunate friends in the community, considering how we can promote God's work among our fellow human beings, and reflecting in our homes, in our offices, and in our lives the light and life that the birth of the Christ Child brings.

But once Christmas has passed, our halos sometimes begin to slide off our heads, and some of the feathers of goodness and generosity fall from our metaphorical angelic wings. Yet we trust that even after we pack them in the attic with the other decorations they will be ready to be used again next year in order to inspire us with the spirit of the season.

However, God's gift of the Child in the manger is not meant to be embraced only in December when our hearts and halos (cont'd.) are in the right place or when our wings and our witness lift us to new levels of goodness and grace. On the contrary, God's gift of Jesus Christ initiates the beginning of our work. Having been blessed by the One in the manger, we now depart as transformed people who live in the reality of our Lord. We re-adjust our halos after the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child, so that we may continue to reflect God's love in our daily lives by committing ourselves to the true spirit of Christmas throughout the entire year ...

by sharing our resources with the people who truly need our gifts ...

by living faithfully in ways that will bring peace on earth ... by expressing our love in more direct ways than gifts ... and by examining our activities in the light of our deepest values.

Living this way throughout the year immerses us in the beauty and holiness that God revealed at Christmas, and it gives us something true, meaningful, and life-giving to which we can commit our lives. And if these things are happening among us, then truly the Christ Child has been born in our hearts.

Blessings, Tom





Pictures from the Children's Christmas Pageant - December 12, 2021.



Outreach Committee

This committee is now meeting in person after church on the second Sunday of the month. Joining this committee is an opportunity for you to give back and share of your abundance of that which we have received. The goal is to offer support to individuals and groups in the community as opposed to supporting persons within the Westminster family.

Contact Ellen Daugherty at 330-666-5645 if you would like to join or if you have any questions.

Do You Know?

Updated information about the two missionaries that Westminster helps sponsor is posted on the bulletin board as you go in and out of WHH.

There is a plan for why the hangings in the sanctuary change colors from time to time. A calendar on the bulletin board describes the various color changes for the Dossal Curtain and the Antependia.

Gently used clothes can be placed in the big wooden box in the coat room and will be then taken to Haven of Rest or Good Neighbors.

Haven of Rest

Haven of Rest has requested a need for towels, washcloths as well as pajamas in any adult size or for either sex. Donations can be placed in the big wooden box in the coat room.

Giving Tree

Thanks and appreciation to those who donated scarves, hats and gloves for use by those who are serviced at ACCESS, a shelter for women and children in need. This year 136 items were collected.

Sharing/Library

Many book lovers have been cleaning house during this time, and have books we want to share. The Anderson Library is due for a refresh as we spend more time in the building, but currently we are unable to accept book donations to the library. In the meantime, we can share our books in addition to puzzles using the box at the back driveway entrance, along the lines of the "free little libraries" we see in various places around town. If anyone is interested in helping with this project, and larger reevaluation of how the library can serve our congregation, please contact Cathy Melver at chwdoc@gmail.com



First Sunday Food Collection

First Sunday Food Collection program continues on the First Sunday of each month. For safety reasons, the children are not yet able to collect the food during the service. However there are tables in the narthex and WHH for collection. Food is then delivered to Goodyear Heights Good Neighbors or to Christ Woodland Methodist church on a rotating month basis. Your generosity in supporting this program is greatly appreciated. All non perishable foods are needed but especially self contained food that can be heated in a microwave such as Hormel complete dinners, tuna or chicken in a pouch and pudding and gelatin that does not need to be refrigerated. (cont'd.)

Items can be placed in the big wooden box in the coat room at any time. Monetary donations are welcome with the checks made out to Westminster Presbyterian Church and Good Neighbors marked on the memo line. Thank you again for your generosity.

Seasonal Community Dinner

Seasonal Community Dinner is the current name for what was once titled "Third Sunday Dinner". At present the Outreach committee and persons involved with the program are "rightsizing" the project. The pandemic necessitated moving this program to a drive through option. The committee is working on what the program will look like in the future. Please consider offering your time and talent to this program so that we can serve a need for this in the community not only of food but of an opportunity to provide an element of socialization and love in the lives of people, especially at this time of social isolation due to COVID-19. More information will be sent out once we have cemented the direction of this outreach for the future. Please watch the bulletin or Sunday update for further details. Seriously offer of yourself as a volunteer. You can contact Rob Gilbert at 330-310-0564 or Ellen Daugherty at 330-666-5645.



Book Group Calling all bookworms!

As always, all are welcome to join the book group for fellowship and eclectic conversation guided (sometimes loosely) by a range of books. In our 20th year we are reworking our format, going to quarterly meetings. Meetings will continue to be 2nd Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Venues to be determined based on weather - we hope to be able to meet outside.

- April 11: The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi
- July 11: The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah



Adult Education News

During Advent and Christmas, we heard many passages read from the prophet Isaiah during worship services, and we will hear many more as we approach Lent and Easter. Isaiah is a very important book for both the Old and the New Testaments, and his visions have been an inspiration for many



authors, artists, composers and hymn writers. Our new Zoom Bible study series will look at some of the most important passages found in Isaiah 1-39. How do Isaiah's visions speak God's message to us today?

Plan to join us on Thursdays from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Just contact Rae Leonard at leonardrae4@gmail.com or call 330-256-9316 for a Zoom link.

Youth Calendar

Monthly event on the third Saturdays of the month:

- February 12: Babysitting in the Nursery for WPC families
- March 19: Pizza and games in Youth Room
- **April 10:** A youth-planned Earth Day event for WHH: display and talk about sustainable products that provide alternatives to plastic

Youth Service Event

Caden Labbe, Sam Grau, Holden Labbe, and Kinsie Willis all turned out to help make the Christmas Basket program a success!





Youth Activity/Cost Policy

Discipleship recommended the policy below to Session for approval. The policy was approved on November 23, 2021, as written:

- For youth activities, WPC will cover 50% of admission fees for active youth members of the church, with the families covering the other 50% of admission and 100% of food.
- Guests of WPC youth will be responsible for their expenses.
- Adult chaperones will have 100% of admission expenses covered (but if they bring a family member other than a WPC youth, they will be expected to cover the total of those fees).
- In cases where tickets are cancelled past the deadline (or if a youth is a no-show), the family will be responsible for the full cost of admission.

Children's Ministries

Thanks to our Sunday School kids for brightening the common areas of Rockynol with their colorful and creative paper flowers! A great way to help cure the winter blahs!





Tweens	MONTHLY EVENT ON 2 ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH			
February 6	First Sunday Food Collection assistance			
February 13	Pizza lunch followed by games in the Youth Room			
March 6	First Sunday Food Collection assistance			
March 13	Lunch at WPC followed by traveling to Christ Woodland Methodist church to help organize their food pantry			
April 3	First Sunday Food Collection assistance			
Easter, April 17	Hide eggs for annual egg hunt			

From the Church Office

Attention all Zoom Users

Westminster purchases two Zoom accounts annually for use by the committees, ministry groups, Bible studies and other small church groups. Each account has its own username and password. Only one meeting at a time is permitted on each account. Each recurring committee or small group meeting is assigned a Zoom account for a specific day of the week or month and the time. Please confirm the account you are assigned with the Office Administrator before scheduling any meetings after February 1. Claudine will make sure that your meeting is on the church calendar. If you change the day or time of your recurring meeting, please check with Claudine to be sure that a Zoom account is available for your alternate day. All individually scheduled meetings must be confirmed with the office and assigned a Zoom account before scheduling.

If you open a Zoom account to schedule a meeting and see that another meeting is scheduled at the time that you want, please consult the office and do not schedule your meeting. Recurring meetings will be given first priority. If you log into a Zoom account and find another meeting is in process, do not proceed. Consult the church calendar. Again, recurring meetings are given priority. If you are not a recurring meeting, you may need to contact your group members and reschedule. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in scheduling and moderating your Zoom meetings.

Members Update

David Gough Gehring, Jr. died November 19, 2021.



Barbara Ann Gates Gehring died January 8, 2022.



died January 12, 2022, at the age of 101. Eleanor was the last surviving charter member of Westminster Presbyterian Church.



April/May Script

The Script will be online on March 27, 2022. Please have your articles and pictures submitted to wpcoffice1250@gmail.com by **Tuesday, March 15, 2022.**

From the Finance Office

Monthly Financial Report

December 2021	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$55,273.53	\$101,346.74	\$556,949.48	\$575,896.00
Total Expenses	\$40,643.65	\$54,530.76	\$481,052.48	\$575,896.00
Net	\$14,629.88	\$46,815.98	\$75,897.00	\$0.00

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending December 31, 2021.

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.



Bob Carlyon, Interim Music Director/Organist (weekly office days: Tuesday—Thursday)

wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com

Claudine Schooley, WPC Church Office

wpcoffice1250@gmail.com

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

Margo Works, Interim Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

(weekly office days: Tuesday—Thursday)

WPC Finance Office

Dave Bodnar, Daytime Custodian

(weekly workdays: Sunday—Thursday)

Traci Range, Director of Childcare

Valerie Stewart, Children's Choir Director

wpcchildren1250@gmail.com wpcfinance1250@gmail.com

wpcbuilding@gmail.com

wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com wpcchildrenschoir1250@gmail.com

The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

