

Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

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

The Script May 2022



Dear Members and Friends of Westminster,

We have started to refer to church life in these terms: before the pandemic and after the pandemic. As we emerge from the lockdowns and isolating, but necessary, behaviors in order to stay healthy, churches struggle to chart their way forward. For many churches, survival is paramount. For others, thriving is the challenge. These attitudes are NOT determined by denominational labels, socio-economic status, location or longevity. The determining factors are a willingness to recognize change when it is needed, and a boldness in adapting to change.

There are many signs to illustrate a church's attitude (facial expressions during worship, the spiritual health of the minister, a few domineering voices, passive committees, etc.), but I will point to this one: too few people participating. I want Westminster to grow in member participation in church life, which requires no increase in the budget (although it may result in an increase in giving!), no shifts in church structure (unless a new ministry develops!), no change in the church schedule (unless a new "thing" is added).

(To be cont'd...)

All that it requires is your individual decision. The challenge before each member of Westminster is the challenge to be more faithful to Jesus and His call to follow. There is nothing new in this; it is the call of Jesus to everyone in every generation and it remains the single most powerful force for a church to thrive. Is Sunday morning worship enough, or should you stay for coffee fellowship too? How frequently do you enter the building for work, service, worship, prayer, and can you increase this? You trust the church to make good use of your gifts and tithes - can you show more trust by increasing your giving even a little?

I am confident that the Holy Spirit is present in you and will gently nudge and guide you to deepen your discipleship with Christ. What more can any minister ask than a congregation of individuals growing into God's changing future?

Yours in Him, Pastor David

Information to Know

Jazz Vespers

Westminster is pleased to invite you to our Jazz Vespers Service on Sunday, May 15, at 4:00 p.m. featuring the Theron Brown Trio and guests.

Theron's music is inspired by "a glimpse of

gospel, jazz and soul from the great legends." Come and participate in this uplifting service in collaboration with The Reverend David Aber.



Music Notes

Sunday, May 22, 2022, join us for a Service of Special Music by Westminster Choir and Friends and guest instrumentalists.

Explore WPC Scavenger Hunt

On May 1 there will be lunch after worship with a presentation from Pastor David about the interim process. Come and enjoy the fellowship and a scavenger hunt for all ages.

Children's Ministries

Easter Egg Hunt Fun After six tweens carefully hid nearly 80 eggs, ten children delighted in finding them!

Tween Event

Sunday, May 15 at 11:30 a.m., after lunch in the Tween room 12:00-2:30 p.m., enjoy Urban Air Trampoline and Adventure Park. Bring your friends!

Youth Service Event

At New Covenant Community Church, Mike Grau, Sam Grau and Margo helped clear leaves from their community garden, working alongside a couple of members from NCCC, who were quite appreciative!





Vacation Bible School

Save the date: July 11-14, 9:15 a.m.—12:00 p.m. The theme will be "To Mars and Beyond: The Wonders of God's Universe."

Online registration is now opened.





Celtic Garden

By this time, most of us have had enough of winter and yearn for the balmy breezes of spring. It won't be long until it is warm enough to start planting our gardens, and the Celtic gardeners are looking forward to once again being able to help create a beautiful oasis at the corner of West Exchange and Mull. Many people in the neighborhood have commented on how much they enjoy spending quiet, contemplative time in the garden, so it is a really great outreach.

Anyone who would like to join our fun group and would enjoy helping with this project is most welcome – no experience necessary! We will be planting the garden on May 14th, 21st, and 28th. If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Marge Rearick at marger2732@gmail.com









Men's Luncheon

After a break of several months due to a resurgence of COVID, we will be restarting our monthly luncheon in May. I would like to thank Art Schooley for his dedicated service over many years coordinating the Men's Luncheon. Art is stepping down and I, Bob Leonard, am taking over the coordination. We will continue to meet the second Monday of every month. Our next meeting will be Monday, May 9th, at 11:30 a.m., at Olive Garden in Fairlawn. Olive Garden provides a selection of food from the menu with excellent service.

I will send out an email and call those without emails the week before and ask that you reply as to whether you can attend. All men of Westminster are welcome. If you have not attended before and would like to attend or have questions please contact me by email at leonardbob29@gmail.com or by phone at 330-848-1170.



Stained Glass Chancel Window

The circular window, by its very shape, denotes the eternity of

God and the Christian faith. Symbols of the four Gospel writers are cut into the cross arms. The circle, representing eternity, contains the crown of thorns. Into the upright are worked the symbols of the Holy Spirit (the dove), Communion (the cup and wafer), the church (the ship), and the Alpha and Omega (Christ as the beginning and end of life).



(To be cont'd...)

(cont'd.) The quatrefoil included in the window design harmonizes with the insignia of the cross. It represents the outline of four interlocking circles symbolizing the fellowship of believers with the three Persons of the Godhead – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – made possible by the redemption work of Christ who is the central figure of the window. Jesus is shown in an attitude of invitation illustrating the words of Matthew's gospel "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

On each side of Christ are two angels, each holding a symbol of one of the sacraments. On the right, the angel holds a shell symbolizing baptism. On the left, the angel holds a chalice signifying Holy Communion.

The figure of Christ is robed in brilliant red with a touch of purple, symbolizing his sacrificial death and His Kingship. Red is the symbol of divine love, the measure of which the Apostle John defined in the familiar verse, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16). The rich blues that form the background of the window speak to us of the heavenly origin of Christ.



Farewell to Staff Members



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

"The Personnel Committee approved hiring me for this interim position for the period of July 19, 2021 through May 31, 2022. Although I am grateful for the several months I have had to serve the church, I am ready to step down to focus on upcoming major

family events and volunteer work."



Bob Carlyon—Interim Director of Music and Organist

"May 22nd will be my last Sunday as Interim Organist-Director. My short time here has been extremely rewarding: working with a dedicated choir and our wonderful choral scholars, playing the wonderful Schantz pipe organ, restarting the Jazz

Vespers services and preparing three special music services. My hope and prayer will be for a continued vital music ministry under your new director."

Members Update

Bruce Kahrs
Bain
died 3/15/22



Suzanne Foltz Paskert died 3/23/22



Church Attendance

Month of	YouTube	In-Person	Total Average
March 2022	Views		Attendance
Average for 3/6 to 3/27	75	75.75	150.75

June Script

The monthly Script will be online on May 29, 2022. Please have your articles and pictures submitted to wpcoffice1250@gmail.com by **Tuesday**, **May 10**, **2022**. Note that the Script is not inserted in the bulletin but is available on the table and online.

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.



The Reverend David Aber, Interim Pastor wpcpastordavidaber@gmail.com
Bob Carlyon, Interim Music Director/Organist wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com
Claudine Schooley, Church Office Administrator wpcoffice1250@gmail.com
Margo Works, wpcchildren1250@gmail.com
Interim Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
Dave Bodnar, Daytime Custodian wpcbuilding@gmail.com
Traci Range, Director of Childcare wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com

Valerie Stewart, Children's Choir Director wpo Laurel Labbe, Youth Music Director Kristy Yates, Volunteer Handbell Choir Director Bruce Klucharich, Audio-Visual Technician

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Our daytime custodian, Dave Bodnar broke his foot. Thank you Pat Schumacher for providing house keeping service in his absence.

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

