

Westminster Staff

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

August 17, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



Online Giving

Secure Online Giving is available through our website,

www.westminsterakron.org

Select "Give" and then click on

"Give Here" [from there follow the prompts]

Westminster Presbyterian Church

1250 West Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44313

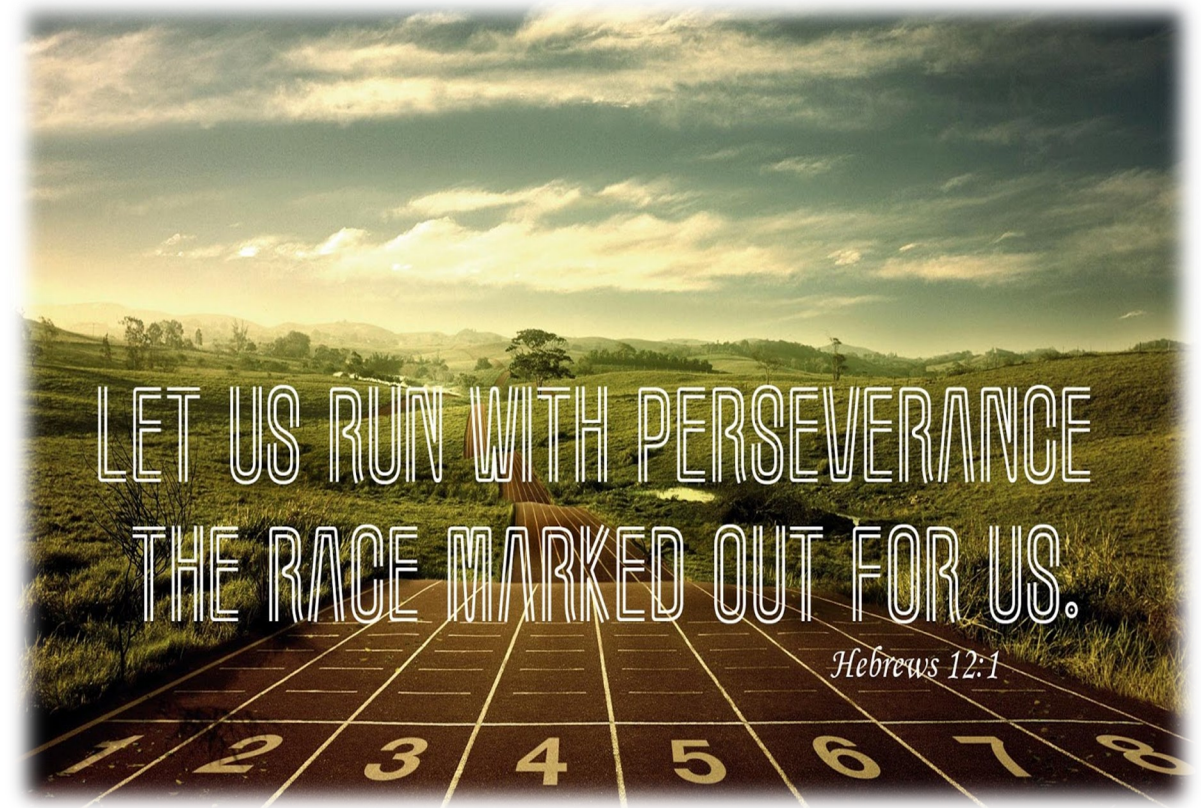
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www.westminsterakron.org



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.



Welcome to Westminster,

We are an open affirming congregation sharing God's love in West Akron.
No matter where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.

The flowers in the chancel are given in loving memory of Elaine Young by her husband, Jerry.

The 2025 Akron Pride Equity March is Saturday, August 23rd. Westminster will join the march at 9am in the Spaghetti Warehouse parking lot. Members are encouraged to sign up on the sheet in Wright Herberich Hall. If you have any questions, please reach out to Kacey Yates Gable kyates.gable@gmail.com or 330-328-9189.

For anyone participating in the PRIDE march on August 23rd, please pick up a t-shirt in Wright-Herberich Hall today, Sunday, August 17th.

Join us for a pizza and salad Rally Day lunch on Sunday, September 7. We will be celebrating the start of fall church programming, the return of the fabulous choir from their summer break, and our successful summer programs. If you are able, we invite you to bring your favorite pasta, veggie, or fruit salad to share.

Mark your calendars for Community Day at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Sunday, September 14, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service! This special event is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a church family for food, fellowship, and fun. After enjoying a shared meal, we'll turn our focus to music with engaging, lighthearted activities designed for all ages. Whether you've been part of the music program for years or are just curious about how music shapes worship at WPC, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Beginning Sunday, September 21 and continuing for five weeks through October 19, we will be offering a special hymn class series following the Sunday morning service. This series is an invitation to explore the rich and diverse world of congregational song—from ancient origins to modern-day expressions. Each session will focus on a unique theme, combining listening, discussion, and reflection to deepen our appreciation of the hymns we sing and the ways they shape our worship and faith. Light refreshments will be provided, and all are welcome to attend—whether you are a lifelong hymn lover or just curious to learn more.

Calendar of Church Building Events For August 17– August 24, 2025

Sunday, 8/17

10:15 am Childcare available/open
10:30 am Worship & YouTube Live-Stream
11:40 am Coffee Fellowship (WHH)
11:40 am Deacons meeting (room 106)

Tuesday, 8/19

5:30 pm ILP Studio

Thursday, 8/21

10:00 am Staff meeting (Pastor's Study)

Sunday, 8/24

10:15 am Childcare available/open
10:30 am Worship & YouTube Live-Stream
11:40 am Coffee Fellowship (WHH)

This Week's Music at WPC:

Scan or take a picture of the QR code with your smart phone and learn some musical history and context.



Come after worship and sit with a
cup of coffee and share your stories,
laughter and kindness.

*Affirmation of Faith

**God's plan for me is perfect, and I trust it completely.
I am guided, protected, and loved by a divine power.
Even when I cannot see it, God is working miracles for me.
My heart is safe in God's hands.
I surrender my worries and trust God's timing.
God's love for me is infinite and unconditional.
I walk by faith, not by fear.
Every step I take is blessed and guided by divine light.
I am never alone, God is always with me.**

Prayers of the People

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray for the life of the world,
saying, O Christ our Light,
hear our prayer
We pray silently...

And finally, together, as the people of God, we offer the prayer that Christ
taught us, saying in one voice:

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 361 | How Firm a Foundation | FOUNDATION |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------|

*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary *Allegro* Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
(Scott Nelson, guest organist)

*You are invited to remain seated quietly during the Postlude.
At its conclusion, we say “Amen” in lieu of clapping.*

Today's Worship team is The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby (preaching);
Stacy Franzmann (liturgist); Robert Carlyon (organist);
Bruce Klucharich (audio-visual); and Ushers

At the ringing of the carillon, please silence your 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 as you are able.*

Voluntary *The Greatest Of These Is Love* Roberta Bitgood (1908-2007)
Text from 1 Corinthians 13:13 (Ronnie Dailey, soloist; Bob Carlyon, organist)

*Call to Worship

Stacy Franzmann

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,
and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.
Mindful of the gifts we receive and confident of the sustenance
the Lord provides, let us worship God.

*Hymn 460

Holy God, We Praise Your Name
GROSSER GOT'T, WIR LOBEN DICH

Call to Confession

Trusting in God's hopes for us, let us come before God with contrite hearts, asking for reconciliation and seeking peace.

Prayer of Confession

God of hope, we confess
our disregard of your care...
our doubt of your providence...
our blindness to signs of your love.
We are afraid to risk our comforts to find new life;

(over)

**we separate ourselves from you and from others
and foster divisions between those you love.
Help us to amend our lives
and make us your faithful people
who bear the good fruit of your Word in the world.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

God hears our confession, rejoicing as we desire amendment of life.
God lifts us from our despondency to rejoice in the company of the saints.
God acknowledges the forces that separate us, and brings us to peace.
Rejoice in the knowledge of our reconciliation and a life lived in the
presence of God.

*Response 567

Glory 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 along. Thank you.

Offertory

I will sing new songs
(Ronnie Dailey, soloist; Bob Carlyon, piano)

Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904)

*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 host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination

God of Wisdom,
we eagerly seek your presence in our lives and in the world.
By your Spirit, speak your word to us, and give us your grace to
recognize the abundant signs of your care for us, so that we might
be freed to act in the world with courage and abandon. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Psalm 80:1-2, 14-19

(pew bibles pg. 540-541)

Hymn 426

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

CANONBURY

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

(pew bibles pg. 226)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“Enduring Faith”

The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby