



Get Out of Here!

No, really—*get out of here!* Summer is the time to hit the road, leave home, go on an adventure, see the world as you have never seen it before. The children have been released from school. It's time to head to the pool and the lake or just the back yard. It's time to get out of church and *be* the church.

Summer pace is slower, even at church (after VBC and a wedding). This gives us time to breathe, to receive, and to take note of the many graces God is pouring out on us. Hear this scandalous thing...this gives us time to visit another church and see a view beyond Westminster's pews.

Head out to WOW, try out Dinner Church, go visit our local Presbyterian siblings at Ware Shoals or New Faith, attend church while you're out of town. Who knows, you may come back with an idea for us, or you may come back grateful for the home you left, or you may come back having made a broader connection. Bring us back an order of worship or a story. Send us a postcard. Post a picture.

'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.'

Genesis 12:1-3



Look for opportunities to get out *with* the church. We may be popping out to go on an adventure or lend a hand with a service project. A slower summer pace may give rise to spontaneous adventures!

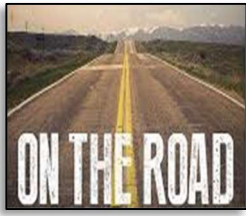
Don't worry, we will be here at Westminster, ready to welcome you whenever you're in town, continuing Sunday morning study and worship, Monday night BEMA, Wednesday night Books & Brown Bags. At Sunday morning worship, we're going to be following some biblical adventurers. From Abram's call to leave his home, to the Israelites trek through the wilderness, to Jesus sending the disciples out two by two, we will see that God is often calling us out of our comfort zones, promising to go with us, blessing us and making us a blessing.

So...get out of here! Go gather the manna God has spread on the ground before you, drink water from a rock, and leave grace, and love, and peace behind you in every step you take.

May the Lord bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

Your pastor, friend, and fellow adventurer,

 *Caroline*



Summer Sermon Series: On the Road in June

I'm not sure which came first, God on the move...or God's *people* on the move, but I do think that much of our scripture happens on the way from here to there. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote, "it's not the destination, it's the journey."

Some of the most beautiful Psalms were written by God's people on their way to the temple to celebrate the great festivals of their faith. God called Abraham to leave home and go on an adventure with God. Joseph experienced ups and downs on his road and learned that God was with him all along, working out God's plan. The Israelites learned to trust God's provision throughout 40 years on the road from Egypt to the Promise Land—talk about a long road trip! Are we there yet, Moses?!

Jesus was on the road when he met the Samaritan woman, and Zaccheaus. And Jesus sent his followers out on the road to spread the gospel. All along the way, God's people were strengthened by God's promise, first given to Joshua, "be strong and courageous, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

This summer, we will embark on our own road trips. Let us take the lessons of these biblical road trips with us, and may we always remember that God is with us wherever we go!

June 7: Leaving Home

Communion/Food Bank Collection

- † Psalm 121
- † Genesis 12:1-9
- † Matthew 9:9

June 14: Welcomed Guests

- † Hebrews 13:1-6
- † Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

June 21: Refuge and Blessing

- † Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
- † Genesis 21:8-21

June 28: A Hard and Holy Hike

Guest Preacher

- † Genesis 22:1-14

Three Amazing Ways to Worship with Westminster in June

Every Sunday at 10:00 A.M.

Worship with Westminster at our Cokesbury Campus or via our YouTube channel.



Every Sunday at 10:00 A.M.

Worship on the Water at Fellowship Camp and Conference Center followed by community lunch hosted by Camp Fellowship.

Third Sundays this Summer at 5:00 P.M.

Come to Dinner Church in the Fellowship Hall for a worship experience that blends hands-on mission work, creative expression, fellowship, food, and a meaningful message for a life filled with love, laughter, and light.

WOW: Spirit Moving on the Waters at Camp Fellowship

Submitted by Beth Hammond

Worship on the Water is a summer worship experience for the Lake Greenwood community. The Sunday morning services begin at 10:00 A.M. at the Camp Fellowship pavilion and are held every week from Memorial weekend until Labor Day. You can come by boat or by car. Come as you are! The series enjoyed a successful kick off on May 24 with our Westminster annual church picnic (*photos on page 18*). The remaining summer schedule includes:

- † May 31: Rev. Cristy McMillian
- † June 7: Dr. Myron Wilkins
- † June 14: Dr. Cliff Cain
- † June 21: Rev. Doug Kauffman
- † June 28: Rev. Jim Caprell
- † July 5: Rev. Darrell Fetzer
- † July 12: Elise Collins
- † July 19: Rev. Brian Purcell
- † July 26: Dr. Buz Wilcoxon
- † August 2: Dr. Bob Todd
- † August 9: Rev. Pressley Cox and youth from the Foothills Presbytery
- † August 16: Rev. Andy Chambers and Clinton First Presbyterian Church
- † August 23: Erin Farry
- † August 30: Main Street Methodist Church, Greenwood
- † September 6: Rev. Phillip Dennis and Ware Shoals Presbyterian



Children's Sunday School & VBC: On the Road with God

Submitted by Kathy Gillespie

During May, the class continued studying stories that Jesus told, including parables from Mark and Luke. They read the actual scripture from the Bible, as well as illustrated versions from the book, *Favorite Parables from the Bible: Stories Jesus Told*.



On May 31, the kick-off for Vacation Bible Camp happened during Sunday School! The VBC theme is "On the Road Again: Our Great Adventure with God." The first story comes from the Old Testament, and tells about the adventures of Joseph, son of Jacob (*not Jesus' dad!*).

The adventures continue Monday through Wednesday evenings from 5:30 P.M.–8:00 P.M. We'll gather for time filled with faith and fun! Each night begins with a snack supper, followed by stories, songs, and mission activities. Next, we'll head off for arts and crafts and games as we travel alongside Zacchaeus, the Good Samaritan, Philip and the Ethiopian, and the Apostle Paul—each with their own adventures on the road. We plan to wrap up the week with family fun at the Purcell family pool on Thursday evening! Please keep our participants and volunteers in your prayers!

Throughout June, the children's morning Sunday School class will learn about special days in the church calendar, such as Ascension Day, Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday. They will review the parts of worship and start learning the Books of the Bible.

Westminster Happenings

Note: No Prayer Time in the Upper Zoom today

**Monday
June 1**

Vacation Bible Camp: On the Road

Travel to the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 P.M.
Continue down the road with Jesus and Zachaeus.

BEMA Bible Discussion Group

Come to the Choir Room at 6:00 P.M.

**Tuesday
June 2**

Vacation Bible Camp: On the Road

Travel to the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 P.M.
Be careful on the road where the Good Samaritan is walking.

**Wednesday
June 3**

Vacation Bible Camp: On the Road

Travel to the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 P.M.
Be amazed with Paul on the road to Damascus.

Note: Books & Brown Bags Study Group will not meet

**Thursday
June 4**

Vacation Bible Camp: In the Pool!

Bring your swim togs to the Purcell's home at 5:30 P.M.
Enjoy God and celebrate your successful journey together on the road.

**Friday
June 5**

Danner/Meyer Wedding Rehearsal and Dinner

Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall reserved for the day

**Saturday
June 6**

Mindful Meditation

Meet in the Branches Classroom at 10:00 A.M.

Danner/Meyer Wedding and Reception

Pray for and celebrate with Oliver and Foster as they wed at 2:00 P.M.

**Sunday
June 7**

Sunday School

Adults: Gather at 9:00 A.M. in the Joe Gettys Classroom.
Children and Youth: Meet at 9:00 A.M. in lower-level education wing.

Leaving Home

Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming.
Listen, obey, and rejoice when God tells you where to go.

Westminster Happenings, *continued*

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| Sunday
June 7
<i>continued</i> | Music & Worship Ministry Team Meeting
Meet in the Choir Room at 11:15 A.M.
Tell us what you love about worship, and your ideas for improving it. |
| Monday
June 8 | Prayer Time in the Upper Zoom
Look for the Monday prayer list email and join via Zoom at noon.
BEMA Bible Discussion Group
Meet in the Joe Gettys Room at 6:00 P.M. |
| Tuesday
June 9 | Congregational Care & Fellowship Committee Meeting
Congregate at 7:00 P.M. in the Choir Room.
Come share your ideas for promoting positive relationships. |
| Wednesday
June 10 | Books & Brown Bags Study Group (<i>see page 7</i>)
Come to the Joe Gettys Room at 6:00 P.M.
Imagine going into the woods to explore <i>The Shack</i> , by William P. Young. |
| Saturday
June 13 | Mindful Meditation
Meet in the Branches Classroom at 10:00 A.M. |
| Sunday
June 14 | Sunday School
Adults: Gather at 9:00 A.M. in the Joe Gettys Classroom.
Children and Youth: Meet at 9:00 A.M. in lower-level education wing.
Welcomed Guests
Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming.
Don't laugh when God promises you something unexpected. |
| Monday
June 15 | Prayer Time in the Upper Zoom
Look for the Monday prayer list email and join via Zoom at noon.
BEMA Bible Discussion Group
Meet in the Joe Gettys Room at 6:00 P.M. |
| Tuesday
June 16 | Business Affairs Committee Meeting
Meet in the Parlor at 6:00 P.M.
Come see how church business works behind the scenes. |
| Wednesday
June 17 | Books & Brown Bags Study Group
Come to the Joe Gettys Room at 6:00 P.M.
Explore the extended metaphor of <i>The Shack</i> . |

Westminster Happenings, *continued*

Saturday
June 20 | **Mindful Meditation**
Meet in the Branches Classroom at 10:00 A.M.

Father's Day (*see page 8*)

Juneteenth Sunday (*see page 9*)

Sunday School

Adults: Gather at 9:00 A.M. in the Joe Gettys Classroom.

Children and Youth: Meet at 9:00 A.M. in lower-level education wing.

Sunday
June 21

Refuge and Blessing

Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming.

Trust and turn to the God who hears and sees you and all your needs.

Dinner Church: Live in the Light

Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 5:00 P.M. (*see page 11*).

Enjoy a different worship experience—and bring your neighbors!

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

| Isaiah 60:1-3

Monday
June 22 | **Prayer Time in the Upper Zoom**
Look for the Monday prayer list email and join via Zoom at noon.

PC(USA) General Assembly Convenes (*see page 10*)
Pray for those participating to be “a witness for truth and justice.”

BEMA Bible Discussion Group

Meet in the Joe Gettys Room at 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday
June 24 | **Books & Brown Bags Study Group**
Come to the Joe Gettys Room at 6:00 P.M.
Share your reactions to *The Shack*.

Thursday
June 25 | **PFLAG Meeting**
Connect in the Joe Gettys Room at 6:00 P.M.
Find support with fellow members of the LGBTQ+ community and allies.

Westminster Happenings, *continued*

Saturday | **Mindful Meditation**
June 27 | Meet in the Branches Classroom at 10:00 A.M.

Sunday | **Sunday School**
June 28 | Adults: Gather at 9:00 A.M. in the Joe Gettys Classroom.
Children and Youth: Meet at 9:00 A.M. in lower-level education wing.
A Hard and Holy Hike
Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming.
Walk in Abraham's shoes, never doubting that God provides.

Monday | **Note: No Prayer Time in the Upper Zoom today**
June 29 | **BEMA Bible Discussion Group**
Meet in the Joe Gettys Room at 6:00 P.M.

Adult Sunday Study: Walk-Ins Welcome!

Summer is a great time to sample the Adult Sunday Study group. Rather than delving into a deep series or lengthy book, each weekly lesson stands alone. No big reading assignments or preparations are required.



One curriculum source we are exploring is *The Wired Word* (<https://www.thewiredword.com/>). The Wired Word provides news-related topics with context, Biblical links, and thought-provoking questions to stimulate group discussion. Check it out, and let us know what you think. Or pass along your own ideas on materials and subjects of interest. Discussions are facilitated by a variety of volunteers, and the interactions are always lively. Warning: participants frequently experience laughter and learning!



Books & Brown Bags: On the Road to *The Shack*

Wednesdays 6:00 P.M.
Joe Gettys Classroom

Beginning Wednesday, June 10th, the intrepid Books & Brown Bags group will be on the road that leads to *The Shack*, by William P. Young. The novel was self-published in 2007, but became a *USA Today* bestseller, having sold 1 million copies by June 8, 2008. In 2017, it was adapted into a major motion picture.

The title of the book is a metaphor for "the house you build out of your own pain," as Young explained in an interview. He also told radio host talk show Drew Marshall that *The Shack* "is a metaphor for the places you get stuck, you get hurt, you get damaged ... where shame or hurt is centered."



While popular, the book is also controversial—its images of God and opinions on theology resonate with many readers and chafe many others. Come join the conversation!

Father's Day: June 21st

Excerpted from crosswalk.com

While not specifically a Christian holiday, Father's Day offers a beautiful day to celebrate the dads, husbands, grandfathers, and father figures in our lives. Father's Day can hold many emotions for both men and women—those who had a loving father that passed away, those who never knew their dad, those expectantly waiting to become a dad soon, and countless other situations surrounding the father-child relationship. Use this special day to draw us closer to God—the Father who remains faithful and full of unconditional love.

A Father's Day Prayer

Dear God,
We thank you for the gift of Dads in this life. We thank you that you are the greatest Dad ever, Abba Father, and we know that you cover us in your great love.

We pray for your blessing, favor, and strength over every Dad in this world, for those who are seeking to walk closely with you in a dark world, and for those who just need to be reminded that you are real.

We ask that you would keep their footsteps firm and guard their way. We ask that you would help them to always stand strong, to be men of faith, to say “no” to what is wrong and to say “yes” to what is right.

We ask that you would fill their hearts with love, compassion, joy, faithfulness, and cover their lives with great peace.

Lord, we pray that you would raise up mighty men, godly men, in this generation, those who would know and honor you with their entire lives. We pray that they would stand firm in the faith, walk wisely, and follow hard after you. May they grow in their love and passion for you, for their families, and in the calling to follow you above all else. In Jesus' Name,

Amen!



Return of “Ordinary Time”

Excerpted from pcusa.org

Ordinary Time comprises all the days not marked by a specific season. The name “Ordinary Time” does not mean *ordinary* as we use the word. It comes from the word *ordinal*, an adjective denoting a numerical position of an object. Originally, all the Sundays that weren't contained in the Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter seasons were indicated by ordinal numbers, hence the designation. Ordinary Time is basically “counted time.”

Yet there is something about the word “ordinary” that fits. Not in the sense of boring or dull, but as an “in-between” season, a time to breathe after the culmination of the celebratory days. Just as most of our days are lived between the big events, so the church year is filled with more ordinary days than holidays. The holy days are the mountaintops, whereas Ordinary Time is the slopes, valleys and flatlands. All are beautiful—and necessary.

Ordinary Time is a time for us to discover that in Christ, our lives are filled with grace, forgiveness and hope. We live as people of faith, “new creations in Christ,” not just on Christmas and Easter, but also during the times in between where, in fact, most of life takes place.



Green paraments are used for ordinary time

Juneteenth—Free at Last!

From pcusa.org

Juneteenth Day (June 19th of every year) marks Major General Gordon Granger's announcement of the abolition of slavery in Galveston, Texas on June 19th, 1865. His arrival came two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation, but was big news to those still enslaved in the state. However, freedom has never been a straightforward process. For many, proclamations and amendments were simply words.



It has taken many years of social and intellectual activism by major figures like Octavius V. Catto, James W.C. Pennington (both ordained Presbyterian ministers), W.E.B. Du Bois, and so many more to further the evolution of what it means to be free in the United States. Juneteenth is a way to celebrate, not just emancipation, but the many battles that have been won, while also reminding us that there are yet many to fight.

During its November 2020 meeting, the Presbyterian Foundation Board of Trustees voted to make Juneteenth an official holy day of remembrance. For those who wish to study Juneteenth further, you can find resources about Juneteenth from the Presbyterian Historical Society at pcusa.org.

What Does Our Faith Require?

“We will not passively accept unjust systems for the sake of a false peace; We will take on the hard work of dismantling, stone by stone, the systems of oppression that divide and subjugate our siblings. We will build, living stone by living stone, societies marked by justice and love. God calls us to reconciliation. Let us repair that which we’ve broken.”

(Adapted from *30 Days with the Confession of Belhar* devotion and prayer by Rev. Robina Marie Winbush, and from the 2016 General Assembly policy “Facing Racism.”)



June is Pride Month

From pcusa.org

How does our denomination publicly support LGBTQIA+ siblings? The following statement is the denomination’s theological position regarding the LGBTQIA+ community in a nutshell: “Standing in the conviction that all people are created in the image of God and that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is good news for all people, the 223rd General Assembly (2018) affirms its commitment to the full

welcome, acceptance, and inclusion of transgender people, people who identify as gender non-binary, and people of all gender identities within the full life of the church and the world. [...] The assembly affirms the church’s obligation to stand for the right of people of all gender identities to live free from discrimination, violence, and every form of injustice.” This denomination’s position is grounded on our Bible and Confessions. God is love. The law of God, the Word of God and the saving grace of God is love. “Justice is what love looks like in public.” God loves you. Where there is love, God is present.

What is the PC(USA) General Assembly?

From <https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/ga/>

The General Assembly [which meets every two years] has several specific responsibilities outlined in Chapter 3 of the Book of Order. The assembly seeks to protect our church from errors in faith and practice, is responsible for assuring that the expression of our theology remains true to the biblical standards in our historic confessions. The General Assembly presents a witness for truth and justice in our community and in the world community. It sets priorities for the church and establishes relationships with other churches or ecumenical bodies.



The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is an integral part of who we are as a people of faith. Since we believe in a God who is present in all parts of our life and who has created us in a beautifully diverse community, we believe that our church should be ordered in a way that discerns God's call for the church to serve in an equitable and expansive way.

227th General Assembly—2026

This General Assembly meeting runs from June 22 to July 2, 2026 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Check out the PC(USA) GA website to follow the action:

<https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/church-structure/general-assembly/general-assembly-gathering>

Links on this page will take you to detailed information about all the overtures being considered that might lead to changes in our Book of Order.

Please be in prayer for all those involved, asking that God will provide wisdom and discernment in all the work before them.

June Birthday Blessings!

Best wishes and sincere prayers for these members and friends with

birthdays in June:

- ❖ 1st – Tim Rogers
- ❖ 4th – Jane Hughes
- ❖ 5th – Luann Bell
- ❖ 9th – Foster Meyer
- ❖ 11th – Richard Wilson
- ❖ 17th – Aerabella McC Carson & Doug Kauffmann
- ❖ 21st – Brian Purcell
- ❖ 26th – Oliver Danner
- ❖ 28th – Marvin Cartee



And sincere **anniversary** wishes to:

- ❖ Flora & Rick Hobson
- ❖ John & Margaret Funke

PCSC Thanks you for your Faithful Generosity!

Once again, you have stepped up to the challenge of supporting those beyond our sanctuary walls who need financial assistance!

Our special Mother's Day offering resulted in \$1,035 going to Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina to help those who have "outlived their money" remain secure in their PCSC home. Thanks!



*"...give, and it will be given to you.
A good measure, pressed down, shaken
together, running over, will be put into your
lap, for the measure you give will be the
measure you get back."*

Luke 6:38

What's for Dinner? Church!

June 21, July 19, and August 16

5:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.

Fellowship Hall

Now that summer is here, Westminster is once again stepping out boldly in faith and offering for ourselves—and *especially* for our neighbors—a new and different opportunity for worship and service: Dinner Church.



Every third Sunday during the summer, evening worship at the Cokesbury Campus will take place at 5:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. The shape of that worship differs from our traditional service, but the purpose is still the same: to glorify God and to strengthen our relationship with God and each other. **Note:** Dinner Church is offered *in addition to* Sunday morning 10:00 A.M. services.

Each Dinner Church event incorporates three elements to help participants “Make a Meal—Make a Friend—Make a Difference”:

- **Warm Up.** In a “choose your own adventure” spirit, you have the option to make and package sandwiches for the Greenwood Soup Kitchen, to participate in artistic creation of some sort, or to network quietly and build connections.
- **Dinner & Discussion.** While you are munching the sandwich supper, you’ll have time for table discussion with fellow Dinner Church worshippers.
- **Worship.** Finish off the night with a time of interactive worship. This year, all of the three worship stories focus on light: June-Live in the Light, July-Follow the Light, and August-Be the light.

As a special treat, Westminster friends Will Thomas, Rodney Cleveland, and others are lending their massive musical talents to the proceedings. You are sure to enjoy old favorites and learn some new soon-to-be favorites.

Please support Dinner Church with your prayers, your participation, and especially with your personal outreach efforts. The most powerful invitation is one that comes from the heart, face-to-face, offered in love. Be bold! Be part of making a difference for Christ in our community!



In the Spotlight: Ginny Cartee

Today, the spotlight shines on Ginny Cartee—current Session member and matriarch of the Cartee clan. She generously shares both her artistic and organizational talents with her church family. At present, Ginny chairs the Nurture & Christian Education Ministry Team.



Ginny graciously offers her responses to our five traditional getting-to-know-you questions:

- 1. What gives you joy?** Being with my family (*see photos*) and using my skill set to connect with and help other people bring my life purpose, meaning, and joy.
- 2. What drives you crazy?** Having to follow a tight schedule. I prefer having a more relaxed schedule with flexibility built in, rather than having to adapt if plans don't work out.



Ginny leading the creative arts component of Dinner Church last year

3. What's your favorite piece of music? I enjoy several versions of The Gloria and Kyrie Eleison sung in Latin.

4. What's your favorite thing to do when you have spare time? Visual arts and choral music. I like to draw with pencils, chalk, black ink, and Prisma Color Pencils. I also enjoy singing in the Laurens County Chorale.

5. What's your favorite meal? I really like baked sweet potatoes. I also enjoy baked white potatoes on a potato bar.

Biography

I was born and raised in Oneida, New York. I came to South Carolina to attend Presbyterian College. During my time there, I participated in Volunteer Services working with children and senior citizens in Clinton and Laurens. I also served on the Women's Council and the Student Government.

After graduation, I taught math at Bell Street Middle School for 7 years. Then I changed to Laurens Middle School. In 1998, I left the regular

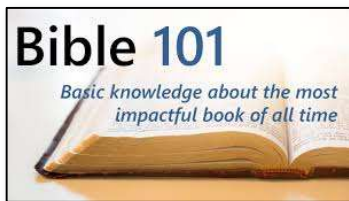


Carrie, Noah, Rollin, Troupe, and son Kevin

classroom to teach in alternative programs, work as the District School Health Coordinator and as the Arts Coordinator. At the present time, I write grants for Laurens District 55 and I volunteer with the Cancer Support Community facilitating groups in Laurens County.



Daughter Meg and her husband John



Coming in August—Bible 101

Submitted by Gloria Christie

Coming in August! The Nurture & Christian Education Ministry Team is sponsoring a four-part lecture series entitled *Bible 101*, and you're invited! This is not a Bible study, but rather an opportunity to learn *about* the Bible and get answers to your questions regarding authors, structure, order, translations, and much more. Whether you are a seasoned Bible reader or brand new to the Bible, there will be things to learn.

The series begins August 23rd. Sessions start at 4:00 P. M. General topics and instructors are:

- Aug 23rd: *Introduction to the Bible* - Brian Purcell, MPM
- Aug 30th: *Literary Genres and Devices* - Rev. Dr. Brad Christie
- Sept 13th: *Translations and the Canon* - Rev. Phillip Dennis
- Sept 20th: *What Presbyterians (USA) Believe and Tools for Study* - Rev. Caroline Dennis

These teachers value your input and want to hear from you. During the month of June, paper will be provided to write down your questions anonymously and place in a box in the Narthex. No question is a foolish question!

The other PC(USA) churches in our presbytery cluster are invited to this learning opportunity, so please spread the word and plan to bring a friend!



Display Your Tartan with Pride

Submitted by Gloria Christie

The 2026 Kirkin' O' the Tartans service will be held on Sunday, September 20th, and it is time to begin the preparations! (FYI, the Kirkin' tradition honors the Scots heritage shared by all Presbyterians, and involves bagpipes, pageantry, and flags featuring those colorful plaids used by Scottish clans to identity their kin.)

Those wishing to provide a tartan flag representing your family or to provide one for this year's Kirkin' service, you need to contact Gloria Christie no later than June 1 for instructions on ordering fabric. There will still be other supplies to purchase (for example, flagstuffs, stands, tassels) and volunteers needed, so we welcome your support.



To pledge your support for Kirkin' please fill out the **WPC Kirkin' Support Form** at bit.ly/WPC-kirkin or use the QR code at left.

For those who prefer paper, copies will be available in the Narthex. If you have questions, contact Gloria Christie: ggchristie716@gmail.com or 864-379-5034.





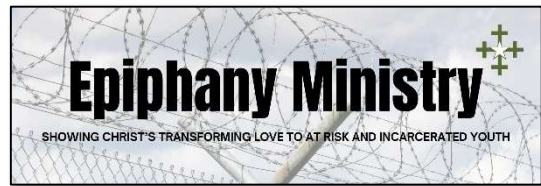
Share Your Mission Stories

Westminster works hard at fulfilling the call to be active in the world, “enjoying God, following Jesus, and growing disciples” through mission work. Our Mission & Outreach Ministry Team leads the charge on church-wide opportunities. And we are blessed with many individuals who have personal passion for a particular cause, investing their gifts in doing God’s good work in those areas. The item below, submitted by Mary Frances Thompson, is a good illustration of individual commitment. You are invited to send your mission stories to the newsletter editor, so that others can perhaps hear that same call and come along side you to do good in the world.

A Ministry That Is Helping to Address the Needs of SC Youth

Submitted by Mary Frances Thompson

Recently, much attention and discussion have focused on youth behavior, especially youth violence. These issues are complex and need involvement from all the community to help youth embrace socially acceptable, healthy, and constructive behaviors. I have learned that several members of Westminster have participated in the Walk to Emmaus or a similar three-day weekend. Epiphany Ministry, Inc. provides similar experiences for at-risk and incarcerated youth in South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia.



Epiphany has been active in SC since 1994. I have been involved in the ministry since 1996. Due to conditions at the Broad River Road Department of Juvenile Justice Complex, Epiphany has not held weekends “behind the fence” since Covid. Currently, Epiphany is working with Camp Aspen, which works with juveniles with mental health issues or addiction issues, and the Greenville Youth Detention Facility, which serves juveniles who are awaiting adjudication.

Various individuals, Christian organizations, and churches support Epiphany. The ministry always welcomes new volunteers, whether they work in small groups with the juveniles, provide music, prepare food, or serve in other areas behind the scenes. Any volunteer working with the juveniles in small groups must have completed their own three-day weekend. All volunteers are required to have a background check. All ages over 18 are welcomed, but young and median adults are especially desired.

Not everyone is able serve on an Epiphany team. There are other ways to support the ministry such as: decorating construction paper hearts to encircle the meeting room with prayers and words of inspiration and encouragement, donating \$5.00 to buy a Bible, tee-shirt, or meal for a juvenile, praying, especially during the 72 hours of the weekend, or writing a personal letter of encouragement to each juvenile participating in a given weekend.



A Camp Aspen Weekend was held May 28-31. A Greenville Weekend is planned for July 16-19. Another Camp Aspen Weekend is scheduled for October 8-11. Anyone who would like to support one of these weekends in any way, or who would like more information about Epiphany is asked to contact Mary Frances (mfthompson@embarqmail.com or 864-344-4334).

Stewardship Snapshot

Please note that because of newsletter publication vs. month-end close schedules, these reports are typically about six weeks behind.



April 2026

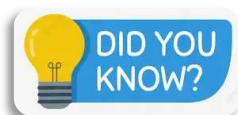
	April Actual	Monthly Budget	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget
Total Income	\$19,312	\$17,707	\$142,517	\$128,824
Total Expenses	\$23,427	\$24,283	\$85,517	\$98,234
Net Gain/Loss	\$4,115		\$58,999	

Unrestricted regular contributions were slightly below budget for the month. A net gain of \$4,115 was recorded for the month vs. a budgeted deficit of \$7,176. The reduced deficit was due principally to designated contributions. Overall, expenses were in line with budget.

Year to date, regular contributions are in line with the budget. Designated gifts far exceed the budget, due to memorials and other designated gifts (principally \$5,228 for kitchen renovations). While program area expenses are slightly below budget, prorated expenses for major capital expenditures are significantly below budget.

Please direct any questions about church financial matters to Treasurer David Hammond or to the Business Affairs Ministry Team.

WPC Provides Support for the LGBTQ+ Community



A series of tasty tidbits worth knowing about your church home

Westminster proudly opens our mission statement by asserting that we are “an inclusive community of faith.” So who is included? Everyone created in God’s image (Genesis 1:27a). And that would be absolutely every person. One of the ways we live into that part of our mission is to forge official relationships with groups and initiatives focused on supporting the LGBTQ+ community in Greenwood and elsewhere.

Westminster is pleased to provide meeting space for and have members who participate in PFLAG, the nation's largest organization dedicated to supporting, educating, and advocating for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them. You’ll note their fourth Thursday meeting time is included in the Westminster Happenings calendar.

We have also aligned ourselves with two denomination-specific initiatives. First, the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, which provides support through educational programs, resources for both congregations and individuals, advocating for church policy changes, and providing care and support to those who are facing exclusion and discrimination in church and religious spaces. Second, More Light Presbyterians, whose mission is to center and celebrate the lives, gifts, and leadership of LGBTQIA+ people in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and beyond.

What better way is there to truly be an inclusive community of faith and grow disciples than by celebrating the lives, gifts, and leadership of a marginalized community, many of whom are searching for healing and affirmation in a House of God? For more information, contact Caroline Dennis, Amanda Danner, Laine Horowitz, or Autumn Mossman.

Let Us Pray...



For Those in Our Church

We share one another's joys and concerns:

- David Alexander
- Mary Corley
- Nancy Dozier
- Kathy Felder
- Holly Hubbard
- Theresa Jacobs
- Deb Jones
- Kelli Lott & Gabby
- The Blanchett Family
- Luan Vinson
- Ed Watkins
- Kathleen Watkins
- Joan Wilkins
- Kathy West
- Gail & Glenn Yonce, & Georgiana
- The Dennis family
- Your Session

We pray daily for our prayer partners and their special concerns. We pray for our sister churches: New Faith, Ware Shoals, First Presbyterian, Abbeville Presbyterian, and others.

We pray for the ministries in our community, especially:

- Presbyterian Communities of SC
- Thornwell Home
- Presbyterian College
- NAMI
- Pathway House
- Food Bank & Soup Kitchen
- Meg's House
- Beyond Abuse
- GG United Ministries
- Healthy Learners
- Camp Fellowship
- Montreat Center
- Community Initiatives
- Toddler Learning Center
- Trinity Presbytery



For Those in Our Hearts

We pray for members of our wider community (and our connection to them):

- Elaine Alderman (*Kaitlin*)
- Rhea Bollinger (*Tracey*)
- The Boltons (*Mary Anne*)
- Jeff Brown (*Kuhls*)
- Judy Buck (*Lucia*)
- Iris Bullard (*Mary Anne*)
- Jack Cauley (*Mary Anne*)
- Frances Garren (*Wilsons*)
- Lib Grier (*many*)
- Family of Sam Griffin (*Nancy*)
- Tom & Laura Dozier, and Laura's father
- Randy Kuhl (*Kuhls*)
- Susy Mitchell (*many*)
- Rick McGee (*Kuhls*)
- Lillian Moneyhun
- Elle Willis (*Rogers*)
- Bill Stonesifer (*Tracey*)
- Nancy, Jean, & Barbara (*Purcells*)
- Jodi (*Lucia, Laine*)
- Morgan (*Laine, Doris*)
- Wendell (*McInneses*)



For the World

We pray for our neighbors everywhere who we are called to love:

- For justice and mercy to prevail throughout the world—*thy* will be done
- For an end to violence, especially politically motivated attacks of all types
- For the safety of Christians in Nigeria, Pakistan, China, and other oppressive areas
- For real peace in Ukraine and Russia, in Israel and Palestine, Iran, Syria, and Lebanon
- For all decisions of those in positions of power to be informed by your grace and mercy
- For those affected by natural disasters, including floods, fire, and weather dangers
- For all children, especially those who lack loving, stable homes
- For persons affected by domestic violence
- For all those oppressed by systemic poverty and structural racism

"...whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

Mark 11:24

And God Saw That It Was Good



Presbyterian Women celebrate with luncheon at Nancy Dozier's Home



Many thanks to everyone who made the Bobby Joe Valentine concert a success, including: Richard Whiting, Kaitlyn Simpson, Tim Mossman, Bill Kimler, Clint McInnes, Dashe Hoang, Rob Graves, Brennan Ferguson, and Caroline & Phillip Dennis

“The Exhibition of the Kingdom of God to the World” Art Exhibit



*Creating, arranging, and enjoying
Westminster artists' offerings*



Worshipping on the Water in 2026



Many thanks to David & Beth Hammond for serving again as organizers and hosts, to musicians David Bell, Clint McInnes, and Nancy Hart Wicker, to all who participated, and to the Holy Spirit moving over the waters of Lake Greenwood in celebration of Pentecost.



Worship on the Water

a 15-week summer worship series
along the shores of Lake Greenwood
Memorial Day through Labor Day
Sundays at 10:00AM



come by boat, come by car, come as you are!

Fellowship Camp and Conference Center
457 Camp Fellowship Road
Waterloo, SC 29384
864.998.3400
campfellowship.org

Westminster Presbyterian Church
2330 Cokesbury Road
Greenwood, SC 29649
864.229.3595
wpcgnwd.org