

# Westminster Times



Greenwood, South Carolina

Volume 2, Number 5

## *The Songs in Our Hearts*

Dear Westminster@Home,

No doubt you have heard the news that one of the riskiest behaviors for the spread of the Corona virus in churches is to sing. Our hearts are broken. Our singing gives words and melody to the joy we share, the good news we want to tell, the promises and stories we cling to. It unites us with precious memories, the generations who first taught us to sing the songs they had held dear, and the congregation that surrounds us.



Sacred songs seal the words and the truth of scripture in our hearts and melodies touch places within us that no words can reach. We are in a strange land, saying along with the deported Israelites, "How can we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" Psalm 137:4

And yet, we have seen people find unique ways to share music when we have not been able to gather together. Choir members are finding a place in a Zoom square, singing beautiful melodies. Individuals are overlaying their own voice singing all the parts. Early on, Italians were leaning out of their windows to sing together. As we begin to gather again, I know we will find safe and creative ways to keep the music alive.

*"...be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ."  
Ephesians 5:18b-20*

As you will read later in the newsletter, when we gather for "in person" worship, we will encourage you to "read and pray the words of the hymns with a song in your heart, but not on your lips." Our volunteer vocalists will sing for us, allowing us to listen and let the words and the melodies speak to our hearts.

Across the summer, we will hold a place in worship for the "Songs of Our Hearts," hymns you have shared as special favorites. We will learn the stories of the hymns and their writers. We will listen to them sung and played in worship. We will sing them to ourselves in our cars, and our showers, and as we go about the tasks of the day. For, as it is said in the title of one favorite song, "how can we keep from singing?"

May our hearts sing this summer, even if our lips cannot, as we hold onto the eternal song of God's steadfast love.

Your Pastor and Friend,  
*Caroline*

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## Westminster Happenings

<b>Wednesday June 3</b>	<b>Quest: Youth Fellowship for All God's Children</b> 7:00 P.M. via Zoom Last meeting before summer break. Don't miss it!
<b>Sunday June 7</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday/Confirmation: Standing on the Promises</b> ✦ Psalm 8:1-9 and Matthew 28:16-20 <i>In-person worship available by reservation, with masks &amp; distancing</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. via WPC live streaming on our website. Welcome our young confirmands as official members of our family! <b>Stated Session Meeting</b> 4:00 P.M. in the sanctuary ( <i>with masks &amp; distancing</i> ) Review in-person worship and update safety protocols as needed
<b>Sunday June 14</b>	<b>Championship Wrestling</b> ✦ Genesis 32:24-30 and Mark 1:29-35 <i>In-person worship available by reservation, with masks &amp; distancing</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. via WPC live streaming on our website. Hear God's word preached by friend and pastor Larry Duncan.
<b>Sunday June 21</b>	<b>Near to the Heart of God</b> ✦ Genesis 21:8-21 and Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 <i>In-person worship available by reservation, with masks &amp; distancing</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. via WPC live streaming on our website. <b>Called Session Meeting</b> 4:00 P.M. in the sanctuary ( <i>with masks &amp; distancing</i> ) Review in-person worship and update safety protocols as needed.
<b>Sunday June 28</b>	<b>When the Roll is Called Up Yonder</b> ✦ Romans 6:12-23 and Matthew 10:40-42 <i>In-person worship available by reservation, with masks &amp; distancing</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. via WPC live streaming on our website.

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*Excerpted from coronavirus.gov CDC website:*

### What to Do If You Think You May Have COVID-19

**Stay home.** Most people with COVID-19 have mild illness and can recover at home without medical care. Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. **Do not visit public areas.**

**Take care of yourself.** Get rest and stay hydrated. Take over-the-counter medicines, such as acetaminophen, to help you feel better.

**Stay in touch with your doctor.** Call before you get medical care. Be sure to get care if you have trouble breathing, or have any other emergency warning signs, or if you think it is an emergency.

## Trinity: Unfathomable Mystery

*From pcusa.org*

On Trinity Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, we proclaim the mystery of our faith in the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One-in-Three and Three-in-One.



Unlike other festivals in the church's liturgical calendar, Trinity Sunday centers on a *doctrine* of the church, rather than an *event*. It celebrates the unfathomable mystery of God's being as Holy Trinity. It is a day of adoration and praise of the one, eternal, incomprehensible God.

Trinity Sunday, in a sense, synthesizes all we have celebrated over the past months which have centered on God's mighty acts: Christmas-Epiphany celebrating God's taking flesh and dwelling among us in Jesus Christ; Easter celebrating Christ's death and resurrection for us; Pentecost celebrating God the Holy Spirit becoming our Sanctifier, Guide, and Teacher. It is, therefore, a fitting transition to that part of the year when Sunday by Sunday the work of God among us is unfolded in a more general way.

The triune God is the basis of all we are and do as Christians. In the name of this triune God we are baptized. As the baptized ones we bear the name of the triune God in our being. We are of the family of the triune God. We affirm this parentage when, in reciting the creeds, we say what we believe. Our discipleship is rooted in the mighty acts of this triune God who is active in redeeming the world. The triune God is the basis of all our prayers — we pray *to* God the Father, *through* Jesus Christ, *by* the Holy Spirit. The Trinity holds central place in our faith.

In celebrating Trinity Sunday, remember that *every* Sunday is special. Every Sunday is a day of the Holy Trinity.

## Church Family Celebrations

Best wishes and sincere prayers for these members and friends with June birthdays:

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> – Ody Scholar
- ❖ 4<sup>th</sup> – Fred Taber
- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> – Cindy Key
- ❖ 28<sup>th</sup> – Marvin Cartee



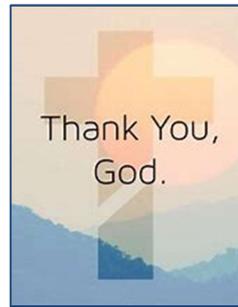
Congratulations are also in order for these amazing couples celebrating their wedding anniversary:

- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> – Tommy & Rene Wilson
- ❖ 19<sup>th</sup> – David & Sandra Chaney Grier
- ❖ 20<sup>th</sup> – Rick & Flora Hobson
- ❖ 23<sup>rd</sup> – John & Margaret Funke

*If you haven't already done so, please send your family's special dates to the church office (wpcgwd1@gmail.com) or call 864.229.3595.*

## His Tithes and Our Offerings

Giving of your time, talent, and treasure shows God your gratitude for His many gifts to you. If you are worshipping via Westminster@Home, you can share your pledges and contributions by mail:



Westminster Presbyterian  
2330 Cokesbury Road  
Greenwood, SC 29649

For those attending in-person worship, you can make your gifts by placing them in an offering basket that is available at the back of the sanctuary.

Our usual tradition of "passing the plate" has the potential to spread viruses and germs. For everyone's protection, this small change in our practices is another big way of sharing God's love by putting other's needs before our own comfort and convenience.

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## Where Shall I Worship? Pray for Wisdom and Discernment!

After much prayer, discussion, and discernment, your Session has determined that Westminster needs to open its doors—*very* carefully—to in-person worship. Now *you* need to prayerfully consider where you will choose to be on Sunday mornings. Your health and safety are paramount. Worship at home, worship in the sanctuary, worship in the beauty of nature. **It doesn't matter *where* you worship. It matters only that you worship.**

Isaiah 30:21

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

*"Gracious God, You are the past, present, and future. You have already seen the outcome of all of the decisions that I can make. Lord, I ask that You help me make the best one right now. With praise and gratitude, I thank You for listening and for sending your wisdom. Amen."*

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## Poetry by Nadia Bolz-Weber: Sunday Prayers, May 17, 2020

*Thanks to Emily Kienker for sharing this.*

I do not know when we can gather together again in worship, Lord.

So for now, I just ask that:

When I sing along in my kitchen to each song on Stevie Wonder's *Songs in the Key of Life* album that it be counted as *praise*.

And that when I read the news and my heart tightens in my chest, may it be counted as a *Kyrie*.

And that when my eye brighten in a smile behind my mask as I thank the cashier, may it be counted as *passing the peace*.

And that when I water my plants and wash my dishes and take a shower, may it be counted as remembering my *baptism*.

And that when the tears come and my shoulders shake and my breathing falters, may it be counted as prayer.

And that when I stumble upon a Tabitha Brown video and hear her grace and love of you, may it be counted as hearing a *homily*.

And that as I sit at that table in my apartment, and eat one more homemade meal, slowly, joyfully, with nothing else demanding my time or attention, may it be counted as *communion*.

*Amen!*



*Nadia Bolz-Weber is an author, Lutheran minister, and public theologian. She is also a three-time New York Times bestselling author.*

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## Recommendations for Worshiping Safely In Person: FAQs

Westminster's Pastor and Session have struggled mightily with the question of whether and when to return to in-person worship in our beloved church building. They are confident that God is leading us to answer "yes" and "soon" to those challenges. And that He is also guiding us to proceed with caution and to take appropriate measures to protect the health and safety of His people.

Your Session has studied and is adhering to recommendations from PC(USA), Trinity Presbytery, the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, the Center for Disease Control, the U.S. Government's coronavirus.gov website, and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. The protocols and processes you are asked to follow are grounded in the best guidance available at this time.



The answers to these Frequently Asked Questions should help you decide if in-person worship is the right choice for you at this time, and also to know what to expect if you do choose to attend on Sunday morning. If you have additional questions, don't hesitate to contact the church office: wpcgwd1@gmail.com or 864.229.3595.

### **Q1: When will the sanctuary be open for Sunday morning worship?**

**A1:** On June 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30, *only the front breezeway door* will be open for congregation members to enter the narthex and from there, the sanctuary. All other entrances to the church will remain locked, to ensure that everyone stays in the areas that have been disinfected and prepared for shared worship. The worship service begins at 10:00 A.M. as usual.

### **Q2: Will we have Sunday Study?**

**A2:** To minimize risk from close contact, and to limit the areas that have to be disinfected, the Nurture & Christian Education Committee has determined that in-person Sunday Study is not feasible at this time. And because worship leaders and some congregation members will be busy at the sanctuary just prior to the 10:00 worship, no online Sunday Study is planned, at least through the summer.

### **Q3: Can we still worship online once in-person worship resumes?**

**A3:** Absolutely! In fact, if you have any symptoms of illness, fall into a COVID-19 high-risk category, or have *any concerns at all* about being in a public group, please stay home, knowing that we love you and fully respect your decision!



Beginning June 7<sup>th</sup>, worship services will be live-streamed at 10:00 A.M. on Sundays via the Westminster website (wpcgnwd.org). You will experience the service in real time, just like the folks who are physically present. Those broadcasts will also be saved for future viewing. So as we like to say, you can worship with Westminster wherever you are, whenever you can!

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**Q4: If I choose to worship in person, will anything be different?**

**A4:** Some things *will* be different, as described later, but ***the most important things remain the same***: God will be there, He will be praised and glorified, and you can share the experience with others in your Westminster family, both in person as well as virtually!

While your Pastor and Session want in-person worship to feel familiar and comfortable for you, the hazards of spreading the COVID-19 virus across our population require that we do some things differently.

To give you context for these possibly odd-seeming requirements, our list of changes below includes the rationale for what you are being asked to do. If you'd like more information about state and federal guidelines, please visit the Resources page on the Westminster website for materials to download and links to other useful information sources.

Why?!?!

**Here's what will be different as you arrive, and why:**

- You need to make **reservations** a day or two before the service. Once you are seated, you should be *at least* six feet away from other families—in every direction. So even in our spacious sanctuary, we'll have many fewer seats available. We'll send you details on the reservation process as soon as possible.
- Plan to bring your own **Bible**. To avoid giving the virus more places to lurk, all Bibles, hymnals, pencils, welcome pads, name tags, and papers will be removed from the pews prior to the service.
- Make sure you are wearing a **mask** before you get out of your car, and expect to keep it on as long as you are in the building. Wearing a mask is an outward and visible sign of your Christian concern for others. Your mask primarily protects the people you encounter from receiving any virus that you might be carrying. Because many infected people do not experience symptoms, but can still spread the virus, we have to take reasonable precautions *just in case*.
- When you arrive, expect to be greeted by **ushers**. Their primary job is to maintain a healthy worship environment. Expect the ushers to manage the distance between family groups as you enter and exit, minimize any visiting in the narthex (sorry, *no* coffee and refreshments!), and help you find your reserved seat. You'll find your bulletin already placed there, so you can avoid touching stacks of paper that others might have touched.
- Some personal **hygiene** items, such as masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes, will be available on the round table in the narthex.
- Nursery care cannot be offered; however, **families with small children** can use special seating areas with rocking chair and activity table at the back of the sanctuary.



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## Here's what will be different during the worship service, and *why*:

- Instead of passing the collection plate, drop your **offering** into the basket provided at the back of the sanctuary as you come in. Passing plates can also pass viruses.
- The congregation will be able to listen to hymns sung by our volunteer vocalists; however, you will **not** be invited to **sing**. The most deadly transmission of COVID-19 virus comes from viruses riding water droplets that are expelled from the mouth during speaking, sneezing, coughing, yelling, and especially singing. And the potential for infection goes up the longer you are near those water droplets. For that reason, you are urged to read and pray the words of the hymns with a song in your heart, but not on your lips.
- During the passing of the **peace**, you are encouraged to wave, flash a 60's-style peace sign, use sign language...anything but touch each other. The same rule applies as you enter and exit the church building, and also in the parking lot. Maintain a minimum of six feet between family groups at all times.
- **Restrooms** will be available; however, only one person or family should go in at a time. Disinfectant wipes will be provided, so you can wipe clean any surface you've touched. Use that wipe to open the door, so you don't have to touch the handle. And toss the wipe into the waste basket provided.
- After the benediction and charge at the conclusion of the service, the ushers will escort out each group, **row by row**. You may *exit* by the front and courtyard doors, to reduce crowding in the narthex and breezeway.
- Once you are in the parking lot, you are encouraged to visit with each other...as long as you **remain at least six feet apart**.



### Q5: What special precautions are being taken to keep the building disinfected?

A5: Ody Sholar is in charge of cleaning and disinfecting our facility. Over and above his usual high standards, the sanctuary will be fogged with a disinfecting solution at least once a week. The virus typically does not persist on hard surfaces for more than a few days. By limiting access to the church during the week, the sanctuary should be as safe as possible each Sunday morning.

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## Speaking of Masks...

As we approach our first post-lockdown in-person worship, you are urged to join with Beth Hammond and others in creating hand-sewn masks. Beth has volunteered to show interested parties the tricks of the trade, and also suggests a video tutorial: <https://YouTube.be/4FB--BOyTiU>. You'll also find a downloadable pattern there.



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## Concerning the Wearing of Masks

From: Rev. Greg Brown  
Holy Comforter Episcopal Church  
Charlotte, NC

*I wrote this last week to entice my congregation to wear masks. It got some traction, so I share it here as well. Cheers!*

I've titled it: **1 Covidians 12:1-11**

Now concerning the wearing of masks, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that in the time before Covid, we were enticed and led astray thinking that we were not responsible for one another's health. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the spirit of love ever says "masks be cursed!"; and no one can say "masks are a really good idea for everybody!" except through a spirit of love.

Now there are varieties of masks, but the same spirit of wearing them; and there are varieties of mask wearers, but the same virus; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same precautions that must be shown to everyone.

To each is given a manifestation of a mask for the common good. To one a mask is given through our mask makers, and to another one purchased online, or in a store according to the same spirit of protection. Some fashion one after watching a video on YouTube, to another... they already had some. The knowledge of needing to wear one according to the same spirit, to another faith that the same spirit will improve health and save lives.

Another receives the gifts of healing by this generous spirit, to another this seems no less than the working of a miracle, another prophecies that we'll get through all of this sooner by observing these loving precautions, to another the discernment of figuring out how all can get one, to another the knowledge that a mask hides all kinds of mouths and tongues, to another the understanding that those mouths and tongues are still there, behind those masks.

All these are activated by one and the same spirit, and we hope to allot to each one individually just as they choose.

In other words, *wear a mask!*

Because loving our neighbor as ourselves is the crux of it. When we wear a mask, we are saying that we love and care for ourselves, and that we love and care for our neighbors. If our neighbor is sick (and perhaps doesn't even know it yet), our masks help protect us. If we are sick (and perhaps don't even know it yet) our masks help protect our neighbor—it is a *tangible and visible manifestation and practice of our love.*



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## Westminster Spotlight: Theresa Jacobs

One delightful way to while away a pleasant afternoon is to chat with Theresa Jacobs while sipping coffee (or maybe wine) at the table in her sunny and welcoming kitchen. As a charter member of Westminster and a retired mathematics teacher, she has many lively exploits to recount. And she has an unquenchable interest in hearing *your* story, whoever you are. Theresa listens intently and excitedly because she truly cares about hearing what others have to say and share.



Since today's health concerns thwart cozy kitchen chats, the next best thing is to enjoy Theresa's answers to our traditional member Spotlight questions. You can explore more about the excellent adventures of Theresa and Bill by reading her biography on page 13.

**1. What gives you joy?** Friends and family, and the ties that bind us.

**2. What drives you crazy?** I really admire and appreciate folks who are dependable. It drives me a little crazy when someone commits to do something and then doesn't follow through.

**3. What's your favorite piece of music?** I like classical piano music. I took piano for nine years and learned to appreciate the music of the masters. Bach is one of my favorite composers. [Daughter] Laura took lessons for 13 years; several favorites I remember her playing are Haydn sonatas and concertos, particularly when [her teacher] Dr. Bolen accompanied her on a second piano. Recently, I've really enjoyed the postludes and preludes that Benjamin [Watkins] played.

At the other extreme, I like classic country—songs by Hank Williams ("I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" and "Jambalaya." I know all the words; ask Caroline.) and Patsy Cline ("Crazy").

Then there's Gospel with close harmony, like "Down by the River to Pray" and "I'll Fly Away."

A few of my favorite "Presbyterian" hymns are "How Firm a Foundation," "God of Grace and God of Glory," and "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee." And I sang multiple verses of "Amazing Grace" while rocking my grandbabies to sleep. Poor Babies!

I remember fondly my Aunt Jeannine playing the piano and singing "Gesù Bambino" every Christmas Eve.

And, I can't leave out the music from "Les Misérables" and "Man of La Mancha," among many musicals that I love.

I was one of the crazy teenagers who adored Elvis and the Beatles and their music. I was on the cusp of the Allman Brothers and went to two of their concerts, one with my son Will (who was 21 at the time), so I know "Whipping Post" very well.

In my later years, I've gravitated toward Bluegrass and the music of Alison Krauss and Rhonda Vincent—and almost anything played on the harmonica!

Did I mention that I *love* music?!?

*Continued on page 10*

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## Greenwood Place May Update

*Submitted by Fred Murphy, Executive Director*



When will we be able to open Greenwood Place to our Members? That is the question that I hear every day from those Members, as they are eager to come back to the Clubhouse. It would be great to just set a date and tell everyone that this is when we will be open, but it is not that simple. We are putting a plan together, following guidelines established by the CDC and State of South Carolina, that take into consideration interpersonal actions such as social distancing and use of face masks. The plans also cover cleaning requirements and meal preparations. In addition to these on-site preparations, we are looking at how to respond to the potential of a Member or staff contracting the Covid-19 virus and how the Clubhouse should react. Once these plans are in place, they will be presented to the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church for their review and approval. Only after this approval is given will the Clubhouse be open.

As noted last month, Greenwood Place is still looking to obtain a reliable source for its ongoing needs for cleaning supplies, masks and gloves. We have talked with some suppliers and believe that we will be able to work with them to meet these needs. Greenwood Place has also applied to some individual organizations on a local and national basis to assist us in obtaining these items. This supply chain will be needed to be in place prior to our reopening.

On a brighter note, Greenwood Place continues its outreach to Members through its weekly telephone calls and cards. We have heard from the Members that they look forward to these conversations. Our Members are also encouraged to call each other.

As an update, Greenwood Place has been able to secure digital thermometers that will enable us to monitor our Members temperatures as they come to the Clubhouse.

Please keep our Members and Staff in your thoughts and prayers that we stay safe, and that we will soon be able to come back together to experience the benefits and fellowship that the Clubhouse can offer.

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## Westminster Spotlight: Theresa Jacobs, *continued*

**4. What's your favorite thing to do in your spare time?** Play bridge, cook, and garden

**5. What's your favorite meal?** Generally seafood, particularly fresh flounder that Bill catches at Pawley's Island, but I will rarely pass up a good meat and three—or four—or five, particularly in the summer when local fresh veggies are available: corn, tomatoes, okra, etc.

**6. How long have you been a member of WPC?** From the beginning of time. Bill and I and our children Laura Susan and Will are charter members. Will, at 18 months (now 41), was the youngest charter member. Laura (44) refers to herself as a "Child of the Church."

**7. What makes WPC special to you?** The connectivity (See #1) that we share both inside the walls of the church building and outside in our homes and community. We comfort and support; rejoice and celebrate. We're *family*. Blest Be the Ties that Bind.

## CDC Advice for Coping with COVID-19 Related Stress

Excerpted from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>



**Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations.** How you respond to the outbreak can depend on your background, the things that make you different from other people, and the community you live in. People who may respond more strongly to the stress of a crisis include:

- Older people and people with chronic diseases who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Children and teens.
- People who are helping with the response to COVID-19, like doctors, other health care providers, and first responders.
- People who have mental health conditions including problems with substance use.

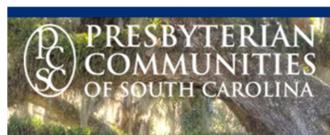
Taking care of yourself, your friends, and your family can help you cope with stress. Helping others cope with their stress can also make your community stronger. Ways to cope with stress:

- **Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories**, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.
- **Take care of your body:**
  - Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate.
  - Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals.
  - Exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep.
  - Avoid alcohol and drugs.
- **Make time to unwind.** Try to do some other activities you enjoy.
- **Connect with others.** Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.

**If you or someone you know needs help dealing with stress**, the Greenwood Mental Health Clinic offers assistance over the phone to persons in crisis situations. Call (864) 223-8331 at any hour. Emergency calls after hours are transferred to on-call professional staff.

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## Thank you for your Faithfulness and Generosity!



Once again, you have stepped up to the challenge of supporting those beyond our sanctuary walls who need support and financial assistance! Our special Mother's Day offering resulted in \$720 going to Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina to help those who have "outlived their money" remain secure in their PCSC home.

Westminster can also rejoice in knowing that our One Great Hour of Sharing offering in 2019 was \$491, and in 2020, that was increased to \$840. To God be the glory!

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## Let Us Pray...



### **For Those in Our Church**

*We lift our prayers for those dealing with health issues or bereavement, including especially:*

- Kathy Felder
- Lynn Bornemann
- Mary Corley
- Larry Dozier
- Joyce and Spears Alexander on the death of their family member, Lynn Evens
- Kathleen Watkins and her family on the death of her mother, Irene White

***“Look to the Lord and His strength; seek his face always.”***

***1 Chronicles 16:11***

*We celebrate with joy our new members—Dashe Case, Jacob Dennis, and Nevaeh Sholar—who were received into membership on May 17<sup>th</sup>, pending Dashe and Neveah's baptism. Pray for them to enjoy a lifetime of Christian fellowship and spiritual growth.*

*We rejoice in the graduation of Logan Bruce from Ninety Six High School, and in the baptism of John Royal Sholar.*

*We pray for the many ministries of our church, and those who receive benefit from their faithful work and constant prayers.*

*We pray for those who are caring for friends and family. And for those who are caring for strangers in their role as first responder, healthcare professional, or indispensable staff for hospitals, grocery stores, and other essential businesses and services.*



### **For Those in Our Hearts**

*We pray for these members of our wider community:*

- Charles Alexander
- Sissy Brockenbrough
- Tom & Lucia Bryson
- Ashlyn Buchanan
- Ronnie Case
- Clara Costello
- Scott Crandall
- Debbie Dill
- Kiersty Duncan
- Charlotte Gero
- Betty Gossam
- Dee Greene
- Lois & Bob Grice
- Jimmy Hughes
- Norma Hoviss
- Di Litwer
- Ashley Mahon
- Bill & Suzy Mitchell
- Margaret Rada
- Terrance Reece
- Howard Thomas
- Jack Waldrup
- Ed Watkins
- Frank & Karen Whitt
- Jeff Williams
- Sarah Willis



### **For the World**

*We pray for all our neighbors everywhere who we are called to love as we love ourselves:*

- For all those everywhere affected by the COVID-19 pandemic
- For those living with mental illness
- For those world leaders charged with making life-or-death decisions for their people
- For the Gartrell family, our mission partners in Brazil

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## Westminster Spotlight: Theresa Jacobs Biography

My claim to fame is that I was born and reared in Buffalo . . . *South Carolina*, a small textile town in Union County. It was in that intimate setting that I learned to appreciate the concept of friends and neighbors being extended family.

I don't have any siblings, but I'm not an "only child." I was the oldest of five first cousins who lived in the same community and where we enjoyed daily contact. All, except me, still live in the area. My husband, Bill, and I enjoy going to the farm where I grew up, and often visit with family while we're there.

I grew up in the Buffalo Baptist Church; the only other option was the Buffalo Methodist Church.

After graduating from Union High School, I was off to Winthrop College, then an all-female school, where I became a "Fairest Flower of the Southland." My college roommate was from Clinton, and introduced me to Bill. I graduated early from Winthrop with a degree in mathematics, went to Clemson as a Teaching Assistant, and began a Master's program in Math Education—and made sure Bill kept his nose to the grindstone while he finished his degree in Chemical Engineering.



*Theresa (center) can usually be found surrounded by friends, laughing and sharing*



*Bill Jacobs, Westminster's clerk and resident harmonica player.*

Bill and I were married on August 16, 1970, in said Buffalo Baptist Church, with locals hanging over the balcony to check out the "out-of-town" boy. We will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer.

Over the years, I taught at various schools with diverse student populations, including the "hillers" and the "crickers" in Charleston, W. Va., and the GI's who were getting their GED at Ft. Rucker, Ala. I've had short stints at Greenwood High, Cambridge Academy, and Lander University. My most rewarding teaching experience was around my kitchen table tutoring several of our church children.

In 1981, Bill and I joined with others to charter Westminster. Our congregation initially met in the library at Cambridge Academy. Little did we know the adventures that lay ahead! (Do I have stories to tell?! Tune in when you have *several* hours to spare.)

Bill and I have two grown children: our daughter, Laura Jacobs Costello, a business consultant, lives in Chevy Chase, MD, with her husband Tony and their children Thomas, 9, and Clara, 6. Our son, William Plumer Jacobs V (and last), a structural engineer, lives with his wife Ashley and daughter Audrey, 8, in Roswell, GA.

## The COVID-19 Commandments

- Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God wherever you are.
- Thou shalt wear thy mask.
- Thou shalt keep thy distance from thy brothers and sisters.
- Thou shalt look, but not touch. Anybody. Anything.
- Thou shalt not loiter in the narthex or parking lot.
- Thou shalt not sing except in thine own shower.
- Thou shalt wash thy hands with all thy might.