

**FEBRUARY
2017**

The Westminster
WINDOW

**Issue 2
Volume 15**

Sunday Service Times: 10 AM Worship and 4 PM Jazz Vespers



**FEBRUARY
LECTIONARY READINGS**

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)
Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18
Psalm 119:33-40
1 Corinthians 3:10-11 & 16-23
Matthew 5:38-48

Transfiguration of the Lord

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9



WICC Gang, hard at play.

WICC BOOK CLUB

Elizabeth Richmond, Missions Committee Member



WICC children sitting in their new Book Boxes.

This year we are hoping to help instill the love of books and reading in our little ones at Westminster Infant Care Center. We had some money left from Christmas so we thought it would be fun to start off the new year with a focus on reading. The children in WICC each got their own Book Box. The staff of WICC took plain plastic storage boxes and created personalized Book Boxes for each child. We purchased new board books for the children and the staff are reading the new books to the children. The little ones then practice putting their books away in their Book Box.

In February, when the children have demonstrated they understand the concept of putting their books away in their Book Boxes, the boxes will go home with their first set of books.

Continued on page 4 . . .

WINDOW DEADLINE:

Do you have information that you would like to submit in the next newsletter? Email to: wpc@westminsterpeoria.org

Deadline for March WINDOW will be Thursday, February 16, 2017.

The **Window** Newsletter is a monthly publication of



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 Phone309-673-8501 Ext. 6
 Hours Monday-Friday 11 to 1 PM
 Email music@westminsterpeoria.org

ON-SITE MISSIONS

WestMark Food Pantry **Elizabeth Richmond**
 Phone309-673-8501 Ext. 7
 Hours Weekly Monday 9 to 11 AM
 Email wpc@westminsterpeoria.org

Westminster Infant Care Center
 Director **Valerie Sager**
 Phone309-674-6701
 Hours Monday-Friday 6:30 to 3 PM
in accordance with Peoria school calendar
 Email WICC1973@gmail.org

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Editing/Proofing

Peggy Carter

Collating/Securing

Dick and Norma Helfrich, Pat Wagner,
 Monte and JoAnn Gibson, Alice Nash,
 Marilyn Luman, Adele Fleming and
 Peggy Carter.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

February 7 - 9:00 a.m.

Westminster Presbyterian's Circle of Friends meets nine times a year on the first Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. We meet in homes, at the church, and occasionally in public places. As we join in this time of fellowship, we bring things to the group that challenge our thinking and are of a spiritual nature. Our hostess for February is Dorothy Crozier. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. on February 7. Contact Dorothy for meeting details and location.

BI-MONTHLY BIBLE CLASS

February 14 & 28 - 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Luman

In the past, we have ended up cancelling our January meetings due to bad weather, so this year we are not scheduling any meetings in January. We are starting out the year with a **NEW LOCATION & TIME**.

Mark your calendar for our next meeting on Tuesday, February 14, at 10:00 a.m. in the church parlor. Bring a sack lunch if you want to stay after our class for a "fellowship lunch." Marge will lead our discussion on Lesson 6 "A Hope to Live By" (Isaiah 11-12).

We will continue meeting the second and fourth Tuesday, and on February 28, we will study Lesson 7 "Our Spoiled World" (Isaiah 24). Please join us!

WESTMARK FOOD PANTRY

Elizabeth Richmond

During the month of December, the WestMark Food Pantry provided food to **1202** individuals. The total number of individuals served for 2016 was 19,444. The partnership we have with St. Mark's Church creates an amazing opportunity to help those who might otherwise be hungry. This makes for lots of work for our volunteers but it is great to help hungry, grateful folks.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Elizabeth Richmond

Come help unload deliveries: every first and third Tuesday, February 7 and February 21, at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, February 16, at 1:00 p.m., and on the fourth Thursday delivery, February 23, at 11:00 a.m.

We also can use some help filling in for our regular volunteers on Monday morning. Questions? Call Elizabeth Richmond or the church office, 309-673-8501.

SUPER SIZE THANK YOU

Elizabeth Richmond

A huge THANK YOU to United Presbyterian Church for their recent super sized donation to the WestMark Food Pantry. Also a thank you to Pat, Wayne and Fred for going to United to pick up all of non-perishable foods. The WestMark Food Pantry is a great example of how when we all work together something much greater can come of our efforts.



PLANNING HAS BEGUN!

Chris Day, WICC President

Wishing everyone a productive new year! We, the WICC Board, have started planning for our largest fund raiser, the Moss Avenue Day Sale. The sale will take place on Saturday, June 10, 2017, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. So please, "SAVE THE DATE." Our co-chairs are Val Sager and I, Chris Day. We look forward to collecting your items. We have planned three Saturday drop off dates.

They are: Saturdays, March 25, April 29, and May 20, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

You may also drop off your items during the week,

Thursdays, beginning on March 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

If you need to drop off on a different day during the week, please contact Pat Flynn, 309-253-7030, to make those arrangements.

Again, we will be happy to assist anyone who needs items picked up. Feel free to let us know by calling 309-673-8501 and we will make arrangements.

We have had to make a few changes in items we accept. Any "vintage" or "antique" items are a perfect fit with the sale's theme and greatly appreciated. We will continue with holiday, household, jewelry, toys, books, and miscellaneous. We will not be accepting electronics, VHS tapes, clothes, or bed linens. All proceeds from the sale go to WICC for operational expenses. We appreciate your understanding, and look forward to another great sale with your help!

In addition, we want to let you know that a major improvement project we will be working on in 2017 is the WICC playground. We hope to add some equipment for the "kids" to play on and benches for the adults. We are still in the planning stages and will keep you informed. If you have any suggestions, please contact any Board member or Val Sager. Our program continues to strive for the best care we can give. Thank you for your prayers and support.

MANY MANY THANKS!

Helen Healy extends her heartfelt thanks for the cards and visits from Westminster. "They keep me going," she says. Helen has been making a slow recovery from the flu and welcomes your prayers.

Florence Welsch also expresses her gratitude for cards and visits at her new residence, Evergreen Assisted Living in Chillicothe. She misses attending church.

HUNGRY BULLETIN

Ashley Foster

The Community Food Pantry in Tampa, FL does much more than provide food to the hungry. Their mission is to "end the physical and emotional hunger of families in a dignified manner." In addition to giving out food to those in need, they also offer free health screenings, education on nutrition, and assistance to veterans.

This food pantry was started in 2008. Some of the members of Village Presbyterian Church in Tampa began stocking a closet with canned and boxed food items for those who asked for help with groceries. The number of people in need started to increase, and in 2009, the members converted half of the church office building into the Community Food Pantry. It has become more and more successful over the last seven years. In 2012, they started a program called "Youth Take Over the Pantry." This is a summer program in which high school students volunteered at the pantry doing cleaning and handing out food. The food pantry also started a successful holiday program in 2013 called "Everything But the Turkey." In 2015, the pantry began participating in "Give Day Tampa Bay," "Giving Tuesday," and "Kindness Day." Participation in these events helped raise money and bring in food donations.

The Community Food Pantry helped feed 20,000 people in 2016, 8% of which are seniors and 38% of which are children. On February 3, the pantry is participating in what is known as "Shred Day." Those who donate canned goods that day will get their "sensitive documents shredded for free." What a great idea with tax season coming up!

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

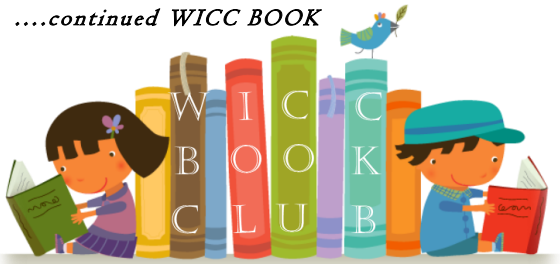
The new church directory is available in the Narthex. If you are a regular attendee and unable to get to the church to get your copy, you may contact the church office to have one mailed out to you. wpc@westminsterpeoria.org

MBRA CANDIDATES FORUM

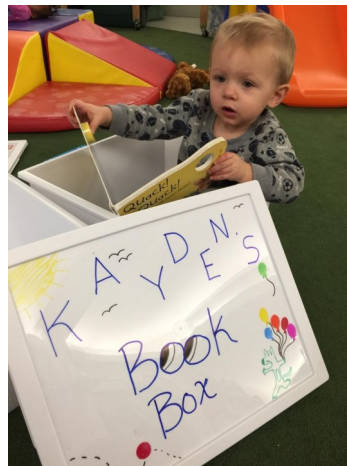
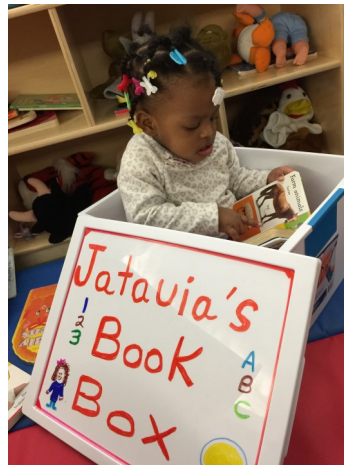
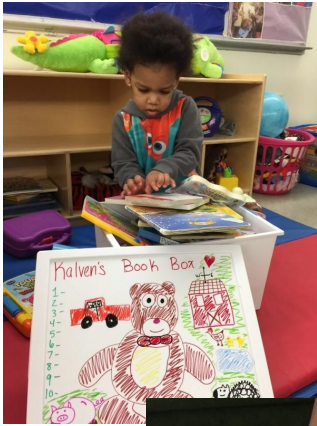
Brian Buralli, MBRA Member

Moss Bradley Residential Association will host a Candidates Forum on Wednesday, March 1, 2017, beginning at 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall in the William O'Neill Parish House. A question and answer session of candidates for Mayor, At Large City Council and Peoria Township Supervisor.

....continued WICC BOOK



We hope to keep adding to these Book Boxes with a contribution from you all. The WICC staff will also be working with the Moms in our program, encouraging them to understand the importance of reading to your child. If you would like to help support this new project, please send a check to Westminster Presbyterian Church with "WICC Book Club" written in the memo section of your check. Another fun idea is if you have an upcoming birthday, you could ask your friends to give you board books instead of gifts for you to donate to this project. If you have any questions, or need book ideas, please contact Elizabeth Richmond or WICC Director Valerie Sager.



WICC BOOK CLUB DONATION



Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to:
Westminster Presb. Church

Write on memo line:
WICC BOOK CLUB

Clip and mail this form to:
Westminster Presb. Church
1420 W. Moss Avenue
Peoria, Illinois 61606

☐ **YES. I want to give to reading!**

Enclosed you will find my donation in the amount of \$ _____

FROM THE PASTOR

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

THE CALL TO FAITHFULNESS

When we lived in Knoxville, Tennessee, Tom and I would often go with the kids after church to Calhoun's, a restaurant on the Tennessee riverfront. It was a family-friendly restaurant that boasted the best ribs in the state. As was our custom, Tom and I would critique the sermon over lunch. His observation would be that the senior pastor would once again have preached a sermon whose response hymn could be "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." The faithfulness of God was the pastor's favorite topic, and for good reason. An accomplished horseman, he had had an accident on a horse where he fell and hit his head causing his brain to swell. He nearly lost his life in this incident, which happened about 18 months before Tom and I arrived in Knoxville. After months in the hospital, the pastor recovered, thanks to the faithfulness of God to see him through. He never forgot.

While it might not be a good idea to preach on God's faithfulness every week, it certainly does not hurt to reflect upon it now and again. In response to God's faithfulness we are called to respond with our own faithfulness. I note some true faithfulness here at Westminster this year. In practical terms, I see the faithfulness of our congregation in giving generously to the church – our giving from members is up this year. Well done. We are still dipping deeply into our endowment fund, which is a concern, but if this congregation remains faithful to its mission, I believe we can survive and thrive where we have been planted.

The newly elected and ordained officers have been faithful to God's call to serve, and we have a superb group. I am excited to work with our newly ordained officers as well as those returning and once again offering their service expressing their love of Christ and his church. Each of our officers works hard and has a given task to perform as well as attending meetings of their respective boards.

We have tried to be faithful in worship – offering our best to God each week. The choir and bells have graced our services faithfully, bringing inspiration and joy each week. Those who serve on Sundays come faithfully to do the tasks that make for a seamless service – from preparing communion to being ushers, to greeting folks as they enter church, to working the sound board – we have faithful saints.

In providing a second worship service each week in the Jazz Vespers, we have sought to be faithful in bringing our best before God. The service is more simple and geared toward visitors, but the quality of what we do remains faithful to our Book of Order and the tradition of worship done 'decently and in order,' even if it does swing! David Hoffman has been a faithful leader in the music of this service, bringing us world-class jazz each week and even writing new music for each service. This has been a joy!

As your pastor, I work toward being faithful in my responsibilities to lead worship, preach and administer the sacraments, as well as being the head of staff, chief visitor and so many other tasks I pick up along the way.

My mentor, the late Rev. Dr. Richard Adams reminded me, and his congregation, regularly, "We are not called to be successful, we are called to be faithful. If we are faithful – God will do the rest." I believe this to be true with all my heart and soul. As we faithfully answer God's call on our lives – God will be there to do God's part.

Blessings! Pastor Denise

DO YOU HAVE EXTRAS?

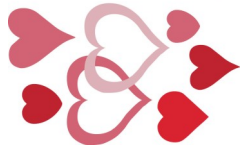
If you receive more calendars than you know what to do with, then we have your solution. Our food pantry participants request calendars since many do not receive any and need one for the new year. Please bring your extra calendars to the church and place them in the green tubs in the Narthex. We can put them to good use.



COMMUNION SERVICES

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, February 5, 10 AM

.....
Transfiguration of the Lord
Sunday, February 26, 10 AM



January 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

March 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 COMMUNION 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 4pm Jazz Vespers	6 9-11am WestMark Food Pantry Open	7 9:00am Circle of Friends 11:30am Food Delivery	8 7:30am Men's Coffee Hr. 10am Staff Meeting	9 1:00pm Food Delivery 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Choir	10 1:00pm Food Delivery 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Choir	11
12 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 4pm Jazz Vespers	13 9-11am WestMark Food Pantry Open	14 VALENTINE'S DAY 10am BiMonthly Bible S. 4:30pm WICC Board Mtg 6:30pm Session Mtg	15 7:30am Men's Coffee Hr. 10am Staff Meeting 12pm Finance Meeting	16 WINDOW DEADLINE 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Choir	17	18
19 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 4pm Jazz Vespers	20 PRESIDENTS' DAY 9-11am WestMark Food Pantry Open	21 11:30am Food Delivery	22 7:30am Men's Coffee Hr. 10am Staff Meeting	23 11am Food Delivery 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Choir	24	25
26 TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD COMMUNION 10am Worship 11am 4th Sunday Lunch 4pm Jazz Vespers	27 9-11am WestMark Food Pantry Open	28 Committee on Missions Meeting. Pastor will be out of the office today. 10am BiMonthly Bible S.	MARCH 1 7:30am Men's Coffee Hr. 10am Staff Meeting	MARCH 2 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Choir	MARCH 3	MARCH 4



SESSION NOTES

From the January 10 Session Meeting

Brian Hakes, Clerk of Session



- ◇ Received a thank you letter from the Center for the Prevention of Abuse for mission gift of \$900.
- ◇ Brian Hakes was elected for a one-year term as Clerk of Session.
- ◇ Dick Helfrich and Brian Hakes were elected for a one-year term as treasurers.
- ◇ Gary Leonard, Dick Helfrich and Brian Hakes were authorized to sign checks for the next year.
- ◇ The session voted to remove Gary Paneta and Charles Byrkit from the Rolls.
- ◇ The food pantry served 1,202 people in December, a total of 19,444 people in 2016.
- ◇ Caterpillar provided boxes of food to the WestMark Food Pantry on December 22.
- ◇ WestMark Food Pantry received a large food donation from United Presbyterian Church.
- ◇ \$250 from the Vanderau Fund was a mission gift to the Heart of Illinois Special Recreation.
- ◇ Cases of surplus raisins from the food pantry were donated to Roosevelt School.
- ◇ As per the city zoning laws, the Parish House is zoned as R1. A special use permit may be required should the building be used for other purposes.
- ◇ Ruyle installed a new wiring harness on the humidifier in the sanctuary and changed the setting to be turned on when the humidity level hits 30%.
- ◇ S. F. Pauli Builders submitted a bid of \$23,525 to construct a bathroom in the storage room off the Fellowship Hall of the main floor of the William O'Neill Parish House.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Anna Bussian
- 3 Jordan Case
- 6 Julie Hill
- 10 Carol Borders
- 11 Sally Fitch
- 12 Conrad Stinnett
- 16 Kim Mitchell
- 17 Alex Cullen
- 18 Dick Helfrich
- 19 Emma Cullen
- 25 Bettye Thompson
- 28 Diane Case
- 29 David Byrkit

ANNIVERSARIES

- 16 Rev. Denise & Tom Clark-Jones

WESTMINSTER SESSION

Clerk of Session	Brian Hakes Class of 2018
Christian Education	Bonnie Jackson Class of 2019
Church Life	Dorothy Crozier Class of 2019
Finance	Gary Leonard Class of 2019
Membership	Carol Carlson Class of 2017
Missions/Outreach	Jan Leonard Class of 2019
Personnel	Oliver Woodman Class of 2019
Properties	Don Bell Class of 2018
Worship	Suellen Kirkwood Class of 2017

**SESSION MEETS ON THE
SECOND TUESDAY, MONTHLY,
6:30 PM, IN THE PARLOR!**

Love is Patient



Love is Kind

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JOIN US SUNDAYS

10 AM Traditional Worship
4 PM Jazz Vespers Service
With David Hoffman
and Friends



*Our mission is to Serve God and
Others with Open Mind, Open
Hands and Open Heart.*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please Deliver to our Friends at



INTRODUCING DOROTHY CROZIER

Ashley Foster

Dorothy Crozier is Westminster's newest member. She was born in Lexington, Kentucky, and she moved around a lot while growing up. Her father, Charles Allen, was a pastor. She has three brothers - Jack and Bill Allen, who are also members of Westminster, and Bob Allen, all of whom live here in Peoria. Dorothy has a Bachelor's degree from California State University at San Bernadino in both French and Intercultural Communications. She lived in California for forty-years teaching high school French and English. She has two sons. One lives in California and the other lives in Virginia. She has many hobbies. She likes gardening, cooking, and sewing. She also enjoys painting, refinishing furniture, and flower design. Dorothy

was recently ordained as the new elder of Church Life here at Westminster. She has done a fantastic job so far, including overseeing the luncheon for the Islamic workshop last fall, as well as the Annual Congregational Luncheon for the Annual Meeting in January. She has lived in Peoria since last July. Her main reason for joining Westminster was to be a part of her father's fellowship. Westminster is pleased to have Dorothy as a member of our congregation.