

**SEPTEMBER
2016**

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WINDOW

**Issue 9
Volume 14**

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

**4TH SUNDAY COOKOUT
SEPTEMBER 25**

Written by Jill Bell, Church Life

**WE'RE FIRING UP THE GRILL
AND WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US.**

Come one and all to our first 4th Sunday Luncheon of the new worship year! We will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, and beverages. This is going to be a potluck so make sure to sign up in the Narthex to let us know what dish you're preparing and how many are in your group. Those of you that are unable to bring something, don't worry about it. Just sign up for how many are in your group (and yes, please invite your friends!). There is always plenty of food. Let's hope it doesn't rain, but no problem. The guys have cooked in the rain before.

THEN following the cookout, we invite you all to stay for a Brainstorming Meeting, to discuss repairs and potential uses of the William R. O'Neill Parish House.

Questions? Contact Jill Bell.

P. S. Don't forget to dress casually!

**COFFEE HOUR
FALL SIGN UP**

Written by Jill Bell, Church Life

Sunday, September 11, 2016 we will start coffee hour again for the year. Hospitality is looking for volunteers to host a coffee hour at least once during the year. It isn't difficult to do. Show up 15 minutes before church to make the coffee and set out the sugar, creamer, and collection bowl. You will also have to provide a pastry, cookies, or snack, whatever you choose to bring to share. That is arranged on the table with napkins and plates and forks if needed.

Coffee hour lasts about an "hour" and then cleanup begins. Don't worry, I will help out with any questions you may have and there are directions on the wall on how to make the coffee.



Please join us for fellowship on Sunday mornings after church. You don't know what you are missing! Thanks and see you there!

A promotional banner for "Jazz Vespers" at Westminster Presbyterian Church. On the left is a photograph of an older man with a long white beard and glasses, wearing a yellow shirt and suspenders, playing a trumpet. The background is a solid blue. Overlaid on the right is a large, stylized graphic with the text "Jazz Vespers" in a large, dark, cursive font. Below it, in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, is "with DAVID HOFFMAN". At the bottom right, a dark blue banner contains the text "SUNDAYS 4PM" in white, bold, sans-serif font. At the very bottom, a white line-art icon of a church steeple is followed by the text "Westminster Presbyterian Church" in a white, sans-serif font.

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Email..... wpc@westminsterpeoria.org

Westminster Infant Care Center
Director..... Valerie Sager
Phone309-674-6701
Hours Monday-Friday 6:30 to 3 PM
accordance with Peoria school calendar

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Monte and JoAnn Gibson, Alice Nash,
Marilyn Luman, Adele Fleming and
Peggy Carter.

The next deadline for submission of articles to the
October Window is Friday, September 16.

If there is a need to submit an article later than
this date, please contact the church office at 309-
673-8501 as soon as possible. Thank You.

BI-MONTHLY BIBLE CLASS

Wednesday - September 14, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday - September 28, 6:30 p.m.

Written by Marilyn Luman

Our new Bible study of Isaiah is beginning.

September 14 (Wednesday) at 6:30 p.m., at Janet Kelley's home
with Lesson 1 "No More Rotten Religion!".

September 28 (Wednesday) at 6:30 p.m., at Pat Wagner's home
for Lesson 2 "Longing and Living for That Day."

The *Getting the Most Out of Isaiah* Study Books are available in the
church office for \$7.00. When picking up your book, make sure
you add your name on the envelope when inserting your money
or use the envelopes in the Narthex.

We welcome anyone to join us as we meet monthly on the 2nd
and 4th Wednesday evenings. If you need directions or have
questions, please call the hostesses or Pat or Marilyn.

MAKE IT - TAKE IT FUNDRAISER FOR WESTMINSTER INFANT CARE CENTER

Sunday - November 20, 2016 - 11 a.m.

Written by Marilyn Luman

This is your opportunity to show your skill and use your time to
"create" something to sell to help the Westminster Infant Care
Center. Members are asked to make items and/or to buy items to
assist our mission of caring for babies of high school mothers while
they complete their education.

The sale is immediately following our church service and is often
sold out in an hour.

Hand-made items, baked items, etc., are brought to the Fellow-
ship Hall, prior to our 10 a.m. service, priced and ready to pur-
chase at 11 a.m.

We need YOUR HELP to make this a success, so mark the date,
Sunday, November 20, 2016, 11 a.m., on your calendar.

If you have any questions, call Marilyn

WRAPPED IN GOD'S LOVE (WIGL) - Comfort Covers

Written by Marilyn Lumen

We are always needing hand-made items (knitted, crocheted, quilted) to give to our members who are needing comfort and to reassure them that "we care." Lap robes, prayer shawls, and baptismal blankets are made and donated to the church office so they are ready for our Deacons to give when needed. Our supply is getting smaller but our need is still there. Call Marilyn if you have any questions.



HELP SUPPORT YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE BY EATING PANCAKES

Written by Elizabeth Richmond, Missions/Outreach Elder

Youth Speak Out is a program that helps high school age students and young adults speak about their experiences in foster care. Youth present panel-style discussions to foster parents, caseworkers, and others by sharing their thoughts about their experiences in foster care in hopes of improving the system. These young adults improve their communication skills and develop their ability to self-advocate. Youth who participate receive a \$25.00 gift card. This program is funded solely through donations. So, come support these courageous youths by purchasing tickets to eat pancakes at **Applebee's Restaurant in East Peoria on Sept 24 from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

Don't like pancakes? You can purchase tickets and donate them to children and youth who live in a residential or group home. Rarely do these young people get to go to a "real" restaurant. Last time, the youth commented on getting to eat off real china plates. The youth also thought it was great that many of the volunteer wait staff were the program directors from their foster care agencies.

Tickets are just \$5.00 and can be purchased from Elizabeth Richmond. If you want to donate your tickets to foster kids, just send a check to church made out to Family Core and write "Pancakes" on the memo line. Questions? Call Elizabeth



WESTMARK FOOD PANTRY UPDATES

Written by Elizabeth Richmond, Missions/Outreach Elder

During the month of **July**, we provided food to **1,506** individuals. The partnership we have with St. Mark's Church creates an amazing opportunity to help those that 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?

Come help unload and put away deliveries: every first and third Tuesday,

September 6 and 20 at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 15, at 1:00 p.m. and on the fourth Thursday, September 22, at 10 a.m.

We also can use some help filling in for our regular volunteers on Monday morning.

Questions??? Call Elizabeth Richmond.

HUNGRY BULLETIN

Written by Ashley Foster

The food pantry at First Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn Heights, New York, has been helping people in need for the past fourteen years. It is open every Thursday morning, and it is visited by people of all ages. Most of the people who come to the food pantry have jobs but are living on limited incomes, so they really rely on this "important source of support." Seven years ago, the number of people visiting the food pantry went up by 58 percent. This number continued to rise, and in 2012, there were up to an average of 120 people who visited the pantry every week. As a result, the food pantry developed what they call the "Client Choice Model." This allows clients to choose items that best suit their individual needs. FPC spread the word about the food pantry throughout the community, and they ended up forming partnerships with more than ten schools and various organizations in the Brooklyn Heights area. Some of the schools that they partnered with give their students credits for volunteering at the food pantry. This is a great way for young people to get involved by helping people in need.

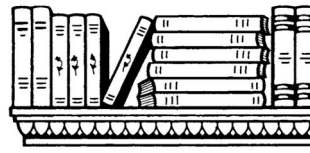


SESSION NOTES FROM THE August 9th Session Meeting

Written by Brian Hakes, Clerk of Session

- Received a thank-you note from St. Mark's for the use of Fellowship Hall for the Santo Nino de Cebu event, which is celebrated by Filipino Catholics.
- Rev. Clark-Jones will have a table at the Bradley University student orientation for Church Night.
- A meeting with Central States Media is scheduled on August 26 to review the Google monthly statistical report regarding activity on our website.
- The choir camp total expense was \$1,300 more than receipts but the deficit was below budget.
- The Westminster Development Fund, WICC and the WestMark Food Pantry can expect to receive funds from the estate of Bill and Marian Hardin.
- The food pantry served 1,506 people in the month of July.
- On September 24 there will be a pancake breakfast at Applebee's benefiting the "Youth Speak Out" program."
- A representative of River City Construction did a walk-through of the William R. O'Neill Parish House. The purpose was to assess what work may need to be done to bring the building to code should the parish house be used for a day care. A preliminary task list is completed and sub-contractors will provide bids.
- The choir robes are at the cleaners so there will be a new freshness complementing the music during the traditional service.

Respectfully, Brian Hakes - Clerk of Session



BOOK REVIEW

*Written by
Suellen Kirkwood, Worship Elder*

In my former capacity as church librarian, I often reviewed in THE WINDOW the newer acquisitions of our LaRowe Library. Since then, I have continued to read in the religion genre for my own personal satisfaction and knowledge, and have recently finished a book by David Limbaugh - THE EMMAUS CODE: FINDING JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT – that I wish to share with others.

I picked up this volume because it promised to promote understanding of the Old Testament – a part of the Bible that seemed overwhelming to me with its complex codes, laws and lineages of endless “begots.” Limbaugh, author of the 2015 New York Times bestseller JESUS ON TRIAL, presents his material in a highly readable and accessible style. After neatly outlining the 39 books of the Old Testament in order as seventeen historical, five poetical wisdom and seventeen prophetic, he then relates them to the 27 New Testament books, the first five of which are historical, the next 21 doctrinal, and the last (Revelation) prophetic.

Going through each chapter one by one, he demonstrates how they herald the coming of Christ and explains why the Old Testament is an indispensable guide to understanding the New Testament events as presented in the Gospels and beyond.

The appendix of the book offers a helpful chart that lists each Biblical prophecy, its Old Testament reference and its New Testament fulfillment. I'm glad to recommend this book to those who, like me, were intimidated by the plethora of material to be found in the Old Testament.

I now feel more “organized” in regard to my knowledge of this material and can appreciate the help I found there in promoting my own spiritual growth.

THE EMMAUS CODE: FINDING JESUS
IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

by David Limbaugh



WICC IS OFF TO A GREAT START

Written by Chris Day, WICC President



Ten children are enrolled and ready to receive our excellent care. We appreciate all the experience and training our returning staff provides: Director – Val Sager, Assts.- Marjory Horsley and Nisa Roberts, Bus drivers- Elaine King and Ralph Davis and Nurse-Jan Nau.

None of this could happen without the great support that WICC receives including:

- Moss Avenue Sale - Through your donations of items and time, we cleared \$4,577.85 this year to support our program. A big THANKS to all our volunteers and especially Jill Bell for chairing the event. Her dedication of time and talent will be greatly missed as she retires from the Board.
- Individual financial gifts.
- Mission works of Westminster, Northminster and United Presbyterian Churches.
- The State of Illinois for providing timely childcare reimbursement at the normal rate.

I look forward to sharing news from WICC with you this school year.



HELPING HANDS NEEDED For The Fall Grounds Clean-up Day At Westminster Presbyterian Church

Written by Janet Kelley

On Saturday, November 5, at 9:00 a.m. the Properties Committee is hosting a fall grounds clean-up day.

If it rains, Saturday, November 12, will serve as the alternate date starting at 9:00 a.m. Fall clean-up day provides great exercise and fun fellowship, so come join us and bring your gloves, rakes, shovels, clippers, weeding tools, etc.

Snacks and beverages will be provided. Hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please call Janet Kelley

CHOIR ACTIVITIES BEGIN on September 1

Submitted by Thomas Clark-Jones

The Westminster Choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday evening, September 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room on the lower level of the church.

We're looking forward to another wonderful season of music making. Our services are graced most Sunday mornings from September through May with the fine choral music this group sings for us. New members are always welcomed. If you would like to join the gang, sign up in the Narthex or speak to Tom Clark-Jones, so he can set aside some music for you.

As in the past, a group of Choral Scholars will join the choir to enhance our efforts and together make a glorious sound in the gracious acoustic setting of Westminster Church.



Our first singing date will be September 11 at the ten o'clock service when, in addition to our usual musical offering, we will sing the 'Lux Aeterna' from the Rutter 'Requiem' in memory of those lost in the September 11, 2001 tragedy in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

This historic event, which has changed all our lives, lives in our memories and we remember those who were lost and those who gave their lives trying to save as many as possible.

GRETCHEN R. IBEN ARTS SERIES OPENS Friday, October 14, 7:30 p.m.

Written by Thomas Clark-Jones

Sixteen pieces of wire, some wrapped with catgut ... four beautiful wooden boxes to hold them ... and four talented, young players ... and what do you have??? A String Quartet! In this case the KAIA String Quartet ... a group of young artists based in Chicago, participating in its vast musical scene in many different ways, and coming together to concertize as a string quartet that has seen much of the world already! This makes for a stunning ensemble. Victoria Moreira and Naomi Culp play violin, Sixto France Chorda plays viola and Hope Shepherd is the

Continued on page 6

'cellist. Together they play a repertoire that spans music from Mozart to Piazzolla and much between!

The evening will be graced by this fine quartet, playing a varied program from Beethoven to Piazzolla. The graceful and dramatic music of Beethoven soars in a space like the Westminster sanctuary. We already have had a goodly amount of non-traditional music in our worship, so now we stretch it to the concert series with some wonderful Tangos from the pen of Astor Piazzolla, the famous Argentinian composer whose classical approach to this native music of South America has brought him acclaim, and audiences great pleasure.

We hope you will set the evening aside to join us. Bring some friends with you. Westminster will be alive with sounds of great music all through the 2016-2017 season. It is a wonderful opportunity to introduce friends and family to Westminster's wonderful program, and perhaps ask them to come back to church services. There will be an offering received to help support the series. No donation is required. We hope to see you on October 14.



JAZZ VESPERS RETURNS to the Westminster worship schedule.

Submitted by Thomas Clark-Jones

With the coming of the fall season, we look forward to the return of the weekly Jazz Vesper service at Westminster. Although it was fun to have a Jazz service on the patio during July and August, we look toward the weekly

schedule and the comfort of the Sanctuary for the new season.



As with last season, we will meet at four in the afternoon each Sunday. The service is Vespers ... the ancient worship hour of the late afternoon where prayers were said and scripture contemplated in the beauty of a glorious worship space. So we continue this wonderful tradition dating from the middle ages, only updated with some wonderful jazz. Hymns, original compositions and jazz standards all come into play as part of our worship together. David Hoffman and his outstanding quartet 'raise the roof' in praise and thanksgiving.

The format remains basically the same as last season with a forty-minute window for the service. We will sing hymns and spiritual songs ... read from the Word ... hear a short homily and hear a lot of wonderful music! This season we will be following a narrative lectionary which highlights all the great stories of the Bible. We will build our worship around those stories and their impact on our lives today.

The Jazz service was well received last season. The support of the congregation was tremendous, and we trust we can count on you again to be there to worship and welcome our guests from the community. It cannot be stressed enough that if we wish to truly attract new worshippers to this service, we have to be there worshipping already! We did a great job last season. Please make your commitment to be there as often as possible this year.



It has been remarkable to watch this service evolve into an integral part of our worship life at Westminster. Sunday afternoons seem a bit empty without this upbeat ending of the day. So be with us as we begin for the fall season on Sunday, September 11, at four. And continue to pray that God will bless this endeavor, and our church.

ANOTHER NEW YEAR

Submitted by Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

I can't remember a time when I was not in school or had children in school. Before I started school, one or both of my parents were in school, so I have always thought of the new year beginning with the school year. Jesus would have also started his new year in the fall. Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year, is calculated on the lunar calendar and falls somewhere between late August and early October each year. This was the time of the harvest when most of the food for the year was harvested. It was a busy, but also joyful time when the harvest was abundant enough to last the whole year. Starting with the blowing of the shofar, the new year was heralded with lots of "joyful noise."



Here at Westminster, the joyful sounds of the new year emanate from the sudden rise in pedestrian traffic in the neighborhood. We see Bradley students crossing University Avenue and student athletes running down University and our own West Moss Avenue. The church building rings with the sounds of babies and toddlers in

the Westminster Infant Care Center (WICC) – our day-care for teenage mothers finishing their high school education. The Food Pantry is a little bit less crowded on Monday morning with children going back to school and receiving free and reduced priced lunches there. The choirs return for the 10 a.m. service and the Jazz Vespers 4 p.m. service resumes. The church programs that took off for the summer – like the BiMonthly Bible Study and the Circle of Friends – start up again.

How are you a part of this new year? In what church activities might you become active participants? The Session is busy discerning ways to use the Parish House. Would you volunteer to be on a task force to explore various options? The Jazz Vespers service has seen more visitors to Westminster than in any of the recent years past. Will you commit to being here, as often as you possibly can, to greet our visitors, make them feel welcome, and encourage them to come again? Are you willing to invite anyone and everyone you think might be open to trying this service? Are you willing to urge them “Come and see!” It takes a congregation to build a larger one. Have you thought of some ways Westminster might increase its efforts to serve the congregation and the surrounding community? Please share them!

Christianity is not a spectator sport. The author of Hebrews exhorts us to “run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

Jesus took the first leg of the race. He passed the baton to us and is waiting for us at the finish line. Now we carry on the ministry that Jesus gave us because, as Theresa of Avila wrote:

“Christ has no body on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ looks out to the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless others now.”

See you in church! Pastor Denise

P.S. Enclosed with this edition of the Window you'll find a couple of post cards which can be cut in half. I encourage each of you to hand them out to at least two people - your grocer, pharmacist, or hair stylist. Even your doctor or the cashier at the gas station are good prospects. If you need more, there is a healthy pile of them in the Narthex. We would like to see them gone in a couple of weeks. So please, mail or hand out as many as possible. It would be great if each of us invited two people to service on September 11 as we get the new program year going.

MBRA - MOSS BRADLEY RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL AWARDS

Posted in MBRA September Newsletter 2016

At the Annual Membership Meeting and Potluck Dinner held in May, MBRA members recognized individuals who have made or are making a difference in our neighborhood through their time commitment or improvement of their property. The MRA Beautification Award was established to recognize homeowners that have made exterior improvements or have maintained their property in a manner that has enhanced the appearance of the property and of the surrounding neighborhood. The Awards Committee was pleased to announce the 2015 recipients of the MBRA Beautification Award were Andrew and Mary Muir. **Congratulations!**



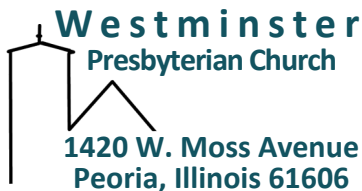
PEORIA SYMPHONY 119th SEASON

Submitted by Peoria Symphony

Welcome to the 119th season of the Peoria Symphony Orchestra – the fourteenth oldest symphony orchestra in the United States. We are proud of our musical heritage and the diverse mix of music we have been providing to symphony lovers in Peoria and all throughout central Illinois.

The PSO's season opener brings together the legendary three-time Grammy Award winning pianist Ramsey Lewis, the Ramsey Lewis Jazz Quartet, and the PSO for an evening of jazz, featuring his Concerto for Jazz Trio and Orchestra. Chicagoan Lewis has released over 80 recordings and is the artistic director of Jazz at Ravinia Festival. With a Midas touch in reaching a wide audience and a career spanning decades, he continues to inspire millions with his music.





309.673.8501 Office
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*Our mission is to Serve God
and Others with Open Mind,
Open Hands and Open Heart.*



JOIN US SUNDAYS

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

WESTMINSTER SESSION

Clerk of Session Brian Hakes
Class of 2018
Church Education..... Carole Willadsen
Class of 2016
Church Life Jill Bell
Class of 2016
Finance..... Jeanie Olson
Class of 2016
Membership Carol Carlson
Class of 2017
Missions/Outreach Elizabeth Richmond
Class of 2016
Personnel..... Mary Dill
Class of 2016
Properties Don Bell
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RAMSEY LEWIS QUARTET AND THE PSO

George Stelluto, conductor
Ramsey Lewis, piano

Ramsey Lewis and the Ramsey Lewis Quartet,
perform an evening of jazz with the PSO.

TICKETS START AT \$41 \$21 FOR STUDENTS
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WE'RE BACK!

