

SEPTEMBER
2018

The Westminster
WINDOW

Issue 8
Volume 16

Sunday Service Time: 10 AM Worship 4 PM Jazz Vespers

Beginning September 16



Jazz Vespers
with **DAVID HOFFMAN**

SUNDAYS 4^{PM}

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**
WestminsterPeoria.org

**LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY
READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER**

9/2 - 15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9;
James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

9/9 - 16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Zephaniah 3:14-20; Psalm 46;
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 2:41-52

9/16 - 17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19;
James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

9/23 - 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54;
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

9/30 - 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124
James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50



Beginning September 16

THE BUCKET LIST

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

The fact that Presbyterianism began in Scotland has made this country a pilgrimage for Presbyterian clergy. I start this month with a visit to the place that has long been on my “bucket list.” Having recently reached the milestone age of 60, I decided it was time to take this trip, while my knees and hips are in good enough shape to tramp through the Highlands. Of course, I will be visiting St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh, which is where Presbyterianism began with the preaching of John Knox, the Scottish protégé of John Calvin. But, I am even more excited to go to the isolated island of Iona, which is heralded as the birthplace of Celtic Christianity in Scotland. St. Columba, a third-generation Christian of St. Patrick’s evangelical movement in Ireland, traveled in 563 CE, to convert the pagan Scots and Picts.

Gaelic warrior kings granted the Island of Iona to Columba to build his monastery. It was no great sacrifice, since agriculture was impossible there, and with little plant growth, few animals that were useful inhabited the bleak land. The monastery served the kings by educating their sons. Columba was also useful to the kings as an advisor and as a diplomat to the leaders of the neighboring Pictland and Ireland. After Columba’s death, Iona became a destination for Celtic Christians. Eventually, the Vikings invaded; then, later the Roman Catholic Church replaced Celtic Christianity. Celtic Christians had a

Continued on page 4 . . .



1420 W. Moss Avenue - Peoria, Illinois 61606

Phone 309-673-8501
Fax 309-673-6708
Website westminsterpeoria.org
Email wpc@westminsterpeoria.org
Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:30 to 2:30 PM

STAFF

Pastor **Rev. Denise Clark-Jones**
Phone 309-439-9737
Email pastor@westminsterpeoria.org
Hours Monday-Thursday 9 to 2 PM

Financial Secretary **Denise Wirth**
Phone 309-439-9740
Hours Tuesday-Thursday 9 to 2 PM
Email financesecy@westminsterpeoria.org

Buildings Mgr./Custodian **Steven Sager**
Phone 309-224-6237
Hours Mon., Wed.-Fri. 8 to 3 PM
Email buildings@westminsterpeoria.org

Office Assistant **Ashley Foster**
Phone 309-673-8501 Ext. 0
Email office@westminsterpeoria.org
Hours Tuesday-Friday 9:30 to 2:30 PM

Admin/Communications **Mary Lee Caudle**
Phone 309-673-8501 Ext. 2
Hours Monday-Friday 8:30 to 2:30 PM
Email admin@westminsterpeoria.org

Organist/Choirmaster **Thomas Clark-Jones**
Phone 309-673-8501 Ext. 6
Hours Monday-Friday 11 to 1 PM
Email music@westminsterpeoria.org

ON-SITE MISSIONS

WestMark Food Pantry **Elizabeth Richmond**
Phone 309-673-8501 Ext. 7
Hours Mondays 9 to 11 AM
Email wpc@westminsterpeoria.org

Westminster Infant Care Center
Director **Valerie Sager**
Phone 309-674-6701
Hours Monday-Friday 6:30 to 3 PM
in accordance with Peoria school calendar
Email WICC1973@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Editing/Proofing

Peggy Carter

Collating/Securing

Dick and Norma Helfrich, Pat Wagner,
Marian Borders, Alice Nash, and
Carol Borders.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Gary Leonard

As one of our efforts to improve office efficiencies, effective with this issue of the *Westminster WINDOW*, we have reduced the number of copies that we mail (via USPS) to individuals and organizations. **If you are an active member (or regular visitor) there should have been NO CHANGE to the way that you are receiving the newsletter unless you notified us of a new preference** (e.g., email, office pickup, etc.). Also, the newsletters are available to all on WPC's website (westminsterpeoria.org) under the "Resources" page. In fact a few members prefer to access the *WINDOW* in this way. If you have questions, concerns, or comments regarding this change, please contact the church office at 673-8501 or speak with any of the elders. ☸

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

The Circle of Friends will meet Tuesday, September 4, at 9 a.m. at the home of Mary Dill. Our theme will be Books, Books, and More Books. Please bring any books you'd like to share with others in the Circle, as well as books that you would like to donate for the WICC (Westminster Infant Care Center) Moss Avenue Day Sale. Please R.S.V.P.

Below is the 2018-2019 hostess schedule.

09/04/18 - Mary Dill	02/05/19 - Peggy Bragg
10/02/18 - Anna Bussian	03/05/19 - Peggy Carter
11/06/18 - Sally Fitch	04/02/19 - Alice Nash and Carol Borders
12/04/18 - Abbie Alexander	05/07/19 - Joyce Hakes
01/01/19 - No Meeting	06/04/19 - Bonnie Jackson



LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Join us on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons as Pastor Denise guides us through the scriptures for the following Sunday. (This usually follows the Lectionary readings in the Presbyterian Planning Calendar.) Scriptures for the following month are also listed on the front cover of *The Window*, and on the website WestminsterPeoria.org. This is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship while growing deeper in the Word. The study begins at 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Questions? Contact Marilyn Luman.

September studies are Thursday, September 13 and 27. ☸

MEN'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Come and join us for a good cup of joe and good conversation. We meet at Panera Bread, 2515 N. Westlake, on Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. Invite a friend. It is always a good time and there is always room for more. ☸

FINANCE MEETING

The Finance Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, September 19, at 12 p.m. in the Parlor. If you are unable to attend please let Gary Leonard know. ☸

MUSICAL MUSINGS

Tom Clark-Jones

As summer comes to its close and the new church program year sets in with a full set of activities, the music department is part of that endeavor. The standard things we do ... the Westminster Choir ... they begin rehearsals on September 6 – Thursday evening at 7:30 to 9:15. If you would like to sing, speak to Tom so some music can be assigned to you. Everyone welcome! ... the Hand Bell Choir will resume activities later in September, so look for notices in the Window or bulletin.

Over the summer we have sent out invitations to all our summer music campers to see if they would be interested in forming a children's choir that would sing here at WPC. So far, we've only heard from a few children, but often we get late comers to this kind of opportunity. If you know any children from grades 2 through 6 who would like to sing ... please invite them. If we collect enough interest, we will rehearse at 4:30 on Wednesday afternoons followed by a pizza supper at 6:30. Obviously, this is a long shot on reestablishing a children's program ... so pray for its success. It would be nice to have young voices around here throughout the year!

The Iben Series is well on its way to having a full program year. You should receive a brochure by early October. Our first event will be a return performance of the young KAIA String Quartet from Chicago on October 26. They were a sensation two years ago, so we hope you enjoy them again. Lots more interesting programs, too. We will keep in touch about this.

So as we begin our musical year ... our hope is that it will bring inspiration to your heart and a smile to your face. ☸

COMMUNITY NEWS

OPPORTUNITY TO MEET...

Bryce Wiebe, Director of Special Offerings, PC (USA). United Presbyterian Church (UPC), 2400 W. Northmoor Road, Peoria, is hosting a time to meet and study and dialogue with Bryce, as he leads a mission-related Bible study in the UPC fellowship hall on Sunday, September 23, at 1 p.m. Appetizers and desserts will be served in a casual, comfortable setting. UPC would appreciate an RSVP for their planning purposes. You may call them at 693-2002 or email upc@unitedpc.org

Bryce has a remarkable communication gift and a love of mission that you don't want to miss. ☸

IN THE NEWS...

Pastor Denise has been writing a commentary for the *Community Word*, a local newspaper, owned and operated by residents of the Peoria area, containing original articles by local writers.

"The Epidemic of Lies" will appear in the September edition and October title still to come, under the headline *Reflections from the Clergy* for the months of August, September and October. You can pick up copies of the *Community Word* in the Narthex if you are interested in reading the commentaries. ☸

(OLLI) FALL KICK-OFF LUNCHEON

Everyone is getting ready or has already gone back to school and this includes Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). They will have their kick-off luncheon on Wednesday, September 26, 2018, from 12 PM to 1:30 PM. It is free for anyone who has signed up to take Fall classes. If you aren't taking classes, the cost is \$25 for the stand-alone luncheon. They provide park-and-ride service from Shea Stadium and Westminster Presbyterian Church; shuttle service starts at 10:30 a.m., and the luncheon begins at noon. The keynote speaker will be John Morris, President and CEO of the Peoria Riverfront Museum. Advance registration is a must, as they expect to have around 300 in attendance. To do so, please call Bonnie at 677-3900.

OLLI classes are on Wednesdays in October. A typical day lasts from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with several breaks (and snacks) throughout the day.

Visit www.bradley.edu/olli to take a look at this year's line-up. They have over 40 topics to choose from. ☸

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concept of "a thin place," which is where one feels the presence of the divine on earth. Iona has been called "The thinnest place on earth." I am looking forward to being there.

The movie, "Braveheart," captured the imagination of the many Americans that claim Scottish Heritage. I am one of many American Presbyterians with Scottish ancestry. Two brothers from the Clark family left Scotland in the late 1700's, landed on Cape Fear on the border of North Carolina and South Carolina, and then traveled to the mountains of Western North Carolina to settle. William Wallace, the subject of the epic war saga, was a 13th-century Scottish revolutionary who led the Scots in the First War of Scottish Independence against King Edward I of England. There is surely myth surrounding the famous warrior, but there is also recorded history. He was, and remains, a much-admired son of Scotland. He was known for taking a stand for what he believed and his willingness to stand up for his beliefs, and even sacrifice his life for his country's independence. To paraphrase one of his famous quotes: 'Many people have died, but few have truly lived.'

Wallace's view of 'truly living' describes the same state of being as the bible - to live is to tap into the potential for the life of freedom and abundance for which God created us. The terms, *freedom, abundance, life and death* in the bible, do not pertain to the physical, but to the spiritual. Here are some widely recognized examples:

From the prophet Jeremiah: *"Thus says the LORD, "Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death. (Jer. 21:8)*

From Joshua, Moses' successor: *"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity; (Deut. 30:15)*

From the Apostle Paul: *"For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace" (Rom. 8:6)*

And these touching words of the father of the Prodigal Son, one of Jesus' most well-known and loved parables: *'But we had to celebrate and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and has begun to live, and was lost and has been found.'* (Luke 15:3)

In youth, we have a sense of immortality, of limitless time ahead of us. If we are not from desperately poor and oppressive circumstances, we believe there are limitless opportunities awaiting us. Then, responsibilities for family and worldly desires for wealth and power push many dreams aside to the "bucket list." This applies to the prac-

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BRADLEY RANKED AMONG NATION'S BEST UNIVERSITIES

Bradley University is once again listed among the nation's best institutions for undergraduate education by *The Princeton Review*. The "Best Colleges" book, *The Best 384 Colleges: 2019 Edition*, described Bradley's student body as one "composed of highly intellectual, diverse students who push each other to consider other viewpoints and considerations during classroom discussions. This academically-driven group is aware of the importance of a good education and takes full advantage of the opportunities offered."

Only 15% of America's 2,500 four-year colleges are profiled in the book. Selections are based on surveys of administrators at several hundred four-year colleges; opinions of the staff and the 24-member National College Counselor Advisory Board; and feedback received from students attending the colleges and universities. (information came from the [Bradley University website](#).)

Westminster Presbyterian Church congratulates Bradley University for this highly regarded ranking! ☸

FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

Help protect yourself from identity theft! Bring documents that contain your personally identifiable information - such as old bank statements, tax returns, bills, receipts, credit card applications and outdated medical records - to be safely shredded.

- Please remember to remove all paper clips, staples, and other bindings.
- Limit ten boxes per car.
- Residential shredding only
- Shredding accepted until shred trucks reach capacity.
- Recycling for computer disks, tapes or hard drives will also be available.

For more information call 309-681-1992

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
LANDMARK RECREATION CENTER
North Parking Lot
3225 Dries Lane - Peoria

[Click here](#) for more info

SEPTEMBER SERVANT SCHEDULE

	USHERS	GREETERS	SOUND	LITURGISTS	ACOLYTES	COFFEE HOUR
2 Sun AM	Gary Dutro John Jackson Bonnie Jackson Alice Nash	Dick Helfrich	Alan Kupper	Jim Burnham	Bonnie Jackson	N/A
9 Sun AM	Susan Leighty Alan Kupper Linda Kupper Suellen Kirkwood	Dick Helfrich	Steve Sager	Jeanie Olson	Suellen Kirkwood	Hosts Needed
16 Sun AM	Jan Leonard Gary Leonard Gary Dutro Laura Van Riper	Dick Helfrich	Steve Sager	Kim Mitchell	Susan Leighty	Hosts Needed
16 Sun Jazz	Conrad Stinnett Suellen Kirkwood	Suellen Kirkwood	Alan Willadsen	Pastor Denise	Suellen Kirkwood	N/A
23 Sun AM	Jeff Case Diane Case Dan Callahan Janet Kelley	Dick Helfrich	Steve Sager	Bonnie Jackson	Janet Kelley	N/A
23 Sun Jazz	Laura Van Riper Suellen Kirkwood	Suellen Kirkwood	Tom Clark-Jones	Pastor Denise	Suellen Kirkwood	N/A
30 Sun AM	Alice Nash Suellen Kirkwood Gary Dutro Dick Helfrich	Dick Helfrich	Don Bell	Dan Callahan	Suellen Kirkwood	Hosts Needed
30 Sun Jazz	Brooks McDaniel Linda McDaniel	Suellen Kirkwood	Tom Clark-Jones	Pastor Denise	Suellen Kirkwood	N/A

If you are unable to work on your scheduled date, please try to find your replacement or switch with someone, before contacting the Ministry Elder of the changes.

**Communing
TOGETHER**



Those Serving Communion

Bread:

Diane Case & Bonnie Jackson

Wine:

Rev. Chip Roland & Suellen Kirkwood

SEPTEMBER 2 Traveler: Jeff Case

Bucket List continued from page 4 . . .

tice of our faith as well. Christ introduced people to God's dream and proclaimed the kingdom of God the state of living God's dream in the present.

Christ taught that living the abundant life means living every day in peace and wholeness – the best definition of salvation I know. It is a life lived in the welcoming and forgiving embrace of the Father and his Prodigal Son. It is the life of the Samaritan that stops to tend to the wounds of the one lying by the side of the road and feeds him while he heals. It is great to have a "bucket list" of things that will feed and enliven us. I believe God wants us also to have a "to-do" list of things we can do to heal and feed others. ☸

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

After each Sunday 10 a.m. service, friends and members at the church meet in the Parlor to catch up with each other, and to enjoy some delicious coffee or tea and refreshments with friends.

If you would like to help, please sign up in the Narthex for a Sunday coffee hour service. We can always use the extra help, and absolutely no experience is required. If every family would take a Sunday, then nobody would have to serve twice.

If you have never hosted before or need instruction, just let Jill Bell know and she will help you through the process. Hosting coffee hour is a great way to give to the church without a large-time commitment.

Volunteers are needed for the following Sundays: September 9, 16, 30,
October 14, 21,
November 4, 11, 18, and
December 2, and 16. ☸

WESTMINSTER SESSION

Clerk of Session Brian Hakes
Class of 2018

Christian Education..... Bonnie Jackson
Class of 2019

Church Life Jill Bell
Class of 2018

Finance Gary Leonard
Class of 2019

Membership vacant

Missions/Outreach Jan Leonard
Class of 2019

Personnel..... Larry Hicks
Class of 2019

Properties Don Bell
Class of 2018

Worship Suellen Kirkwood
Class of 2020

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

DEACONS

Moderator Jeanie Olson
Class of 2019

Anna Bussian..... Class of 2020

Sue Burnham..... Class of 2020

Mary Dill Class of 2018

Kim Mitchell Class of 2019

Alice Nash Class of 2019

Edna Nugent Class of 2019

Phyllis Rafferty Class of 2020

Marge Willadsen..... Class of 2020



SESSION NOTES

Respectfully,
Brian Hakes, Clerk of Session



Session notes from the August 14 session meeting

- The church received a thank you from Nelvie Anderson's daughter for sending the Window to Nelvie.
- Pastor Clark-Jones wrote the clergy column for the August *Community Word* newspaper.
- Pastor Clark-Jones participated in two Theological Fit interviews for pastoral candidates.
- Pastor Clark-Jones will be gone from August 30 through September 10. She will be traveling to Scotland.
- In Rev. Clark-Jones absence Rev. Chip Roland will lead the September 2 worship service. The September 9 worship service will be a lay-led service.
- Westminster expects to receive \$6,756 from the estate of Marge Sutherland.
- The choir camp expenses were over budget by a nominal \$150.
- The food pantry served 1,487 people in July.
- No nominations for Vanderau funds have been received.
- The \$200 talent grant from the PGR was applied to the choir camp so the age range could be expanded to include older children, 8th graders.
- The Parish House Lift Project took 34 work days.
- Moved all church historical/archival information from Parish House to the 3rd floor church building conference room.
- Waste sewage pump controller repaired by Foster-Jacobs.
- Church bus auto body work completed by Truck Centers, Morton. Insurance paid the entire amount.
- Switched HVAC Service Providers from Ruyle to Alpha Energy Solutions. This switch saves the church \$6.35 per hour on service calls and is locked in for 2018/2019.
- Back up batteries installed by Kone in the church elevator. This was a State of Illinois inspection requirement.
- Broken faucet in the Food Pantry women's restroom was repaired by J. C. Dillon Plumbing.
- Ran 45 feet of cable (to improve WIFI service) from the Parish House basement, through the lift shaft, and into the Fellowship Hall.
- Church basement ceiling repaired by Dave Carlson after expansion joint water leak.
- Coordinated with American Pest Control, area Food Pantries, and IDPH in establishing a Pest Control treatment schedule and documentation for the WestMark Food Pantry as defined by the Illinois Department Public Health State Food In-

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spector.

- Three outdoor spigots were repaired by J. C. Dillon Plumbing.
- Discovered mold on sanctuary inside roof beams. Laboratory analysis of the mold reported that the sanctuary air quality was good and not impacted by the mold but the physical sample indicated allergenic mold present and would require remediation. The work was contracted to Service Master of Central Illinois for \$13,763.41. The project start date is scheduled for August 13 with completion anticipated by August 23, 2018. The Sunday, August 19, service will be in the Fellowship Hall.
- Copper gutter on the church portico main entrance was repaired by Cambridge.
- There were 11 individuals who attended the First Aid/AED/CPR training which cost \$450.
- Reducing the mailing list for the newsletter is being evaluated as well as alternatives to USPS mailings. 🌸

WHEN EMERGENCIES ARISE

Efforts continue to make Westminster a safe place to worship and to host community events. At last month's First Aid, CPR, and AED class, thirteen Westminster members and staff members received certification. They included Pastor Denise and church members: Suellen Kirkwood, Janet and Gary Leonard, Bonnie and John Jackson, Jerrie Ruck, Diane Case, Susan Leighty, church staff: Steven Sager, Mary Lee Caudle and WICC staff: Bob Townsend and Ralph Davis.

As another important safety measure, the church office now has emergency contact forms for members to fill out, giving the names and contact information of two relatives and/or friends, also information about pets within the home. Members can pick up a form in the Narthex or call the office to have one emailed. Also, the form will soon be available on our website (WestminsterPeoria.org). Be assured that the information on the form will be used only in the event of an emergency. Your cooperation will help to make Westminster a safer place. 🌸



WESTMARK FOOD PANTRY

Elizabeth Richmond

During the month of July we provided food to 1,487 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 I HELP?

Elizabeth Richmond

Come help unload deliveries; every first and third Tuesday, September 4 and 18, at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, September 13, at 1, and Thursday, September 27, at 11 a.m. We also can use some help filling in for our regular volunteers on Monday morning. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Richmond or the Church office.



On September 2, Peace and Global Witness season begins. This offering "encourages the church of our time to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God's mission with those around the corner and around the world." Your gift to Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. 25% of the Offering stays with Westminster. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Alan Willadsen and The Session will be taking care of the flock while Pastor Denise is away in Scotland. If there is an emergency you may call the office (673-8501) or call Alan (635-1675) or one of the Session Elders. (contact the office if you need a number)</p>			<p><i>A Season of Peace</i> begins September 2 through October 7</p>		<p>August 30</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>2 COMMUNION</p> <p>10a Worship Rev. Chip Roland</p>	<p>3  LABOR DAY</p> <p>CLOSED: Church Office, WICC and Westmark Food Pantry</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9a Circle of Friends 11:30a Food Pantry Delivery</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:30a Men's Coffee Fellowship NO Staff Meeting</p>	<p>6 </p> <p>1p Golf Exec. 9</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>Rev. Denise Clark-Jones in Scotland. Remember to keep her in our prayers.</p>						
<p>9</p> <p>10a Worship Lay-Led Service 11a Coffee Hour</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9a WestMark Food Pantry Open 1p Golf Exec. 9</p>	<p>11 </p> <p>4:30p WICC Board Meeting 6:30p Session Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30a Men's Coffee Fellowship 10a Staff Mtg</p>	<p>13</p> <p>1p Golf Exec. 9 1p Food Pantry Delivery 1:30p Lectionary Bible Study</p>	<p>RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS: TURN IN YOUR ARTICLES EARLY! REMINDER: DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IS TODAY! 9/14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>SCOTLAND</p>						
<p>16</p> <p>10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9a WestMark Food Pantry Open 1p Golf Exec. 9</p>	<p>18</p> <p>11:30a Food Pantry Delivery</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:30a Men's Coffee Fellowship 10a Staff Mtg 12p Finance Mtg</p>	<p>20</p> <p>11a Food Pantry Delivery 1p Golf Exec. 9</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>FREE COMMUNITY SHRED EVENT Shred Day 9 to 11:30 am Landmark North Parking Lot</p>
<p>23  COOK-OUT</p> <p>10a Worship No Coffee Hour 11a 4th Sunday Luncheon Cookout</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9a WestMark Food Pantry Open 1p Golf Exec. 9</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:30a Men's Coffee Fellowship 10a Staff Mtg 12p OLLI Fall Lunch</p>	<p>27</p> <p>11a Food Pantry Delivery 1:30p Lectionary Bible Study</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9a WestMark Food Pantry Open 1p Golf Exec. 9</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9a Circle of Friends 11:30a Food Pantry Delivery</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:30a Men's Coffee Fellowship 10a Staff Mtg</p>	<p><i>Save the Date</i> The Gretchen R. Iben Arts Series presents.... October 26, 2018 KAIA String Quartet from Chicago.</p>		

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

Jill Bell

Join us on **September 23** for the kick off for our **4th Sunday Luncheons** for the fall. We will be serving hot dogs and hamburgers. There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex so we know how many to plan for and what you plan on bringing to share. Please feel free to bring store-bought items or if you can't possibly bring something sign up anyway. We always have plenty. Pray for no rain!



WESTMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

1420 W. Moss Ave.
Peoria, Illinois 61606

Rev. Denise
Clark-Jones

JOIN US
SUNDAYS

10 AM
Traditional Worship

4 PM
Jazz Vespers

*Serving God with
Open Mind,
Hands, and Heart*

Please Deliver to our Friends at



*The church office,
WestMark Food
Pantry, and
Westminster Infant
Care Center (WICC)
will be closed on
Monday,
September 3, 2018,
in observance
of Labor Day.*

The Origins of Labor Day

The first observance of Labor Day is believed to have been a parade of 10,000 workers on Sept. 5, 1882, in New York City, organized by Peter J. McGuire, a Carpenters and Joiners Union secretary. By 1893, more than half the states were observing "Labor Day" on one day or another, and Congress passed a bill to establish a federal holiday in 1894. President Grover Cleveland signed the bill soon afterward, designating the first Monday in September as Labor Day.

Prayer

While a national holiday (and not a religious day), we can remember all those who labor and toil for the good of all our communities.

God, help us to build a new world in the midst of the old. A world where all workers are valued. A world where those who clean houses can buy houses to live in. A world where those who grow food can afford to eat their fill. We pray for the coming of a world where all workers everywhere share in the abundance that you have given us. We ask these things knowing that you give us the courage and strength to live out our faith in the workplace and in the marketplace, as well as in the sanctuary. Laboring God, as you labor with us, may we labor for you, ever committed to do your work in the world. - Amen.