

**NOVEMBER  
2019**

# *The Westminster* **WINDOW**

**Issue 11  
Volume 17**

Sunday Worship 10 AM & Second Sunday Jazz Vespers 4 PM

## LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

### **NOVEMBER 3**

#### **All Saints' Remembrance Day**

##### **First Reading**

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

**Psalm** 119:137-144

##### **Second Reading**

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

**Gospel** Luke 19:1-10

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **22nd Sunday after Pentecost**

##### **First Reading**

Haggai 1:15b-2:9

**Psalm** 145:1-5, 17-21

**Psalm** 98:1-9

##### **Second Reading**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

**Gospel** Luke 20:27-38

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **23rd Sunday after Pentecost**

##### **First Reading**

Isaiah 65:17-25

Isaiah 12

##### **Second Reading**

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

**Gospel** Luke 21:5-19

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **Christ the King**

##### **First Reading**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

**Gospel** Luke 1:68-79

##### **Second Reading**

Colossians 1:11-20

**Gospel** Luke 23:33-43

# LUMIERE



## **SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 3 - 6:00 PM**

Lumière, a new 16-voice chamber choir that debuted last spring, will offer a concert, here at Westminster Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, November 3, 2019, at 6 p.m.

The choir is comprised of trained Central Illinois singers and is directed by Dr. John Jost, who retired from Bradley University as Director of Choral Activities in 2018.

The November 3 concert, "Of Hope and Resolution," will feature music of Monteverdi, Mozart, Copland, Barber, Halsey Stevens, Williametta Spencer, Juris Karlsons, and Carlos Guastavino.

Admission to the concert is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets will also be available at the door. For more information or to reserve tickets call 691-8768. 🦋





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Office Hours ..... Monday - Friday 8:30 to 2:30 PM

### STAFF

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### ON-SITE MISSIONS

**WestMark Food Pantry** ..... **Elizabeth Richmond**  
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Email ..... [wpc@westminsterpeoria.org](mailto: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](mailto:WICC1973@gmail.com)

### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

**Editing/Proofing**  
Peggy Carter

**Collating/Securing**  
Dick Helfrich, Pat Wagner, Marian Borders,  
Alice Nash, Gary Leonard and Carol Borders.

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

**Tuesday | November 5 | 9:30 AM**

*Sally Fitch*

The Circle of Friends will meet Tuesday, November 5, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Sally Fitch (Buehler Home, 3415 N. Sheridan Road, Peoria, 61604) Please R.S.V.P.

**Remember! The time for November has changed to 9:30 a.m.**

Below is the 2019-2020 Hostess Schedule.

10/01/19 — Joyce Hakes	<b><u>03/03/20 - Host Needed</u></b>
11/05/19 - Sally Fitch	04/07/20 - Alice Nash and
12/03/19 - Le Peeps, Breakfast	Carol Borders
01/07/20 - No Meeting	05/05/20 - Peggy Bragg
02/04/20 - Bonnie Jackson	06/02/19 - Jean Schlesinger ☞

## LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

**Thursday | November 14 | 1:30 PM**

*Marilyn Luman*

You are welcome to join us in the church parlor starting at 1:30 p.m. We usually meet on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons. The verses are printed in *The Window* every month, and Rev. Denise helps us understand them before they are read in church on Sunday.

In November, we will meet on the 14 only. The fourth Thursday (Nov. 28) is Thanksgiving and we will not meet.

If you have any questions or wish to be on a reminder list, call Marilyn Luman. We need YOU! ☞

## PAUL, FIRST CHRISTIAN AUTHOR BIBLE STUDY

**Sunday | November 17 | 11:15 AM**

*Peggy Bragg*

We have been enjoying this wonderful Bible Study on "Paul, Our Earliest Christian Author."

Please join us for the last fall class on November 17 in the Chapel following the Sunday morning worship. If you were unable to attend the other two classes, don't worry. The classes are related but separate.

Again a light lunch will be served, so please sign up in the Narthex if you will be attending. For questions, see Peggy Bragg or contact the church office at 673-8501. Hope to see you there! ☞



## ALL SAINTS' SERVICE - NOVEMBER 3, 10 AM *Presbyterian Mission*

In early Christian tradition, saints' days began as a way to mark the anniversary of a martyr's death — his or her "birthday" as a saint. By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs (particularly due to the persecution of Diocletian) that it was hard to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, known and unknown.

All Saints' Day has a rather different focus in the Reformed tradition. While we may give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past, the emphasis is on the ongoing sanctification of the *whole* people of God. Rather than putting saints on pedestals as holy people set apart in glory, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is an appropriate time to give thanks to members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

All Saints' Day has been celebrated on November 1 since the year 835. Previously it had been connected with the Easter season as a feast of all martyrs. ✂

### The Faithful of Every Generation

An excerpt from the [\*Companion to the Book of Common Worship\*](#) (Geneva Press, 2003, 150-151)

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the "glorious company of apostles ... the noble fellowship of prophets ... the white-robed army of martyrs" (Te Deum). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God's justice and peace in every nation.

To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Hebrews 12:1-2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God's end in time. In this context, it is appropriate for a congregation on All Saints' Day to commemorate the lives of those who died during the previous year. ✂

**Join us Sunday, November 3, at the 10 a.m. service, where we will remember those who have gone on to the Church Triumphant.**



Stephen Mitchell

Born  
1/6/1957

Died  
11/4/2018



Adele Fleming

Born  
6/21/1925

Died  
12/7/2018



Betty Thompson

Born  
2/25/1931

Died  
2/9/2019



Florence Welsch

Born  
10/13/1932

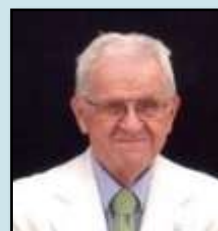
Died  
5/9/2019



Gary Vannaken

Born  
10/18/1945

Died  
7/1/2019



Frank Strelbich

Born  
9/18/1925

Died  
9/9/2019



Horst Prohaska

Born  
7/14/1933

Died  
10/2/2019



## AUTUMN CLEAN-UP DAY

**Wednesday | October 30 | 9 AM**

**Raindate | Wednesday | November 6 | 9 AM**

*Janet Kelley*

The Properties Committee scheduled the fall clean-up day on October 30; however, if it by chance rained that day, the fall clean-up has been scheduled for November 6. Please watch for a notification or a Realm News Flash to be sent out. Helping hands are always appreciated no matter the amount of time that you can fit into your schedule! Please bring your rakes, blowers, gloves, trimmers, etc. Refreshments and beverages will be provided. Hope to see you there! Questions? Call Janet Kelley or Dan Callahan. ☞

## REALM CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Sunday | November 10 | 11:15 AM**

*Bonnie Jackson*

Don't know how to use **Realm**, our new online church directory? NO PROBLEM! Bonnie Jackson will hold a training session on Sunday, November 10 in the parlor at 11:15 a.m. Bring your smart phone, laptop, or pad! Bonnie will show you how it works. It's easy when you know how! Be sure to sign up in the Narthex, since part of it involves being "invited" to join. The church office needs to know who wants to be invited. For questions, contact Bonnie Jackson at 309-696-1955 or [bon1jon2@yahoo.com](mailto:bon1jon2@yahoo.com). ☞

## MEN'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

**Wednesdays | Weekly | 7:30 AM**

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. ☞

## MAKE IT - TAKE IT

**Sunday | November 24 | 11:15 AM**

*Marilyn Luman*

COME ONE... COME ALL.... to our (WICC) Westminster Infant Care Center fundraiser in the Parlor immediately following the Sunday

church service. We welcome all hand-made items... cookies, baked goods, craft items, etc. Drop your donated items off in the Parlor prior to church and then SHOP after church to purchase items for the holidays. This is YOUR CHANCE to donate something you have made and help our mission of caring for high school mothers and their babies. We NEED YOU to make this a success. If you have any questions, call Marilyn. ☞

## ATTENTION - SNOWBIRDS

Do we know how to reach you? Please make sure you alert the church office to the date when you change addresses. Please write down the moving to address for the winter and approximately when you think you'll be returning. Thanks ☞

## 3RD QUARTER

### GIVING STATEMENTS

*Gary Leonard, Finance Chair*

Giving Statements were distributed in October for members or regular visitors who have either given to the church during the first nine months of 2019 and/or made a pledge commitment to WPC for 2019. If you did not receive your statement and would like to receive one, please contact our Financial Secretary, Denise Wirth, at (309) 439-7940 or email her at: [financesecy@westminsterpeoria.org](mailto:financesecy@westminsterpeoria.org). Also contact Denise if you have any questions about your statement.

Financial support of Westminster is one way that we express our faith. Your contributions are used to support the church's ministry, missions, properties, and operations. This month you will have the opportunity to complete your pledge commitment for 2020. I encourage everyone to support the church by giving cheerfully, of their time, talent, and financial gifts. **Sunday, November 17 has been designated "Stewardship Sunday". Our plan is that those in attendance on that day will be invited to come forward during the morning worship to offer their pledge cards for a prayer of dedication by Pastor Denise.** ☞

## **WICC PARENT SHOWCASE**

*Valerie Sager, WICC Director*

This month, the parent and child WICC would like to introduce to you is Skyla Washington and her daughter Ka'myla. I asked Skyla to write in her own words what she would like to share about herself. Rather than edit it, I decided it was best shared in its entirety so as not to change it in any way.

"Hi, my name is Skyla Washington. I have one half - sister and one half -brother on my mom's side, but I am the only child my Dad has had. I have a one-year old daughter, Ka'myla, and she is truly my best friend. Literally, when you have a baby you tend to lose a lot of friends but God gave me a lifetime best friend. I am in school and when I graduate High School I want to go to law school and become a lawyer. It's hard, but I am going to finish school with a child. I know I can do it because I got to make sure she has a life that I didn't have. Some days I want to give up, but I look at my daughter and she just makes me want to do good in life. I show her that it's hard, but it can be done as long as you put your mind to it. I am so grateful to have Westminster Infant Care because without them there would be no way I would always attend school and be on time every day. I'm glad to even have Pat, he picks us up every morning safely and gets us home safely. I am so thankful to know my child is in a safe and loving place. Thank you all so much!



WICC is blessed to have Skyla and Ka'myla and are happy to help Skyla on her educational journey. We wish her the best and pray for her continued success. ✨

## **IT WAS 1974**

*Jeanie Olson, WICC Treasurer*

Westminster Infant Care Center opened its doors 45 years ago this year. For the past 45 years WICC

has sought to provide a practical way for teenage parents to complete their education and thereby ensure a better future for themselves and their families. The ultimate goal of the Westminster Infant Care Center is to provide the necessary support of the teen parents and their children by offering a caring, nurturing, learning environment for the children while the mothers finish their education....thus assuring a brighter future for the parent and the child alike.

Additionally, transportation for the parent and their child to and from the Center is vital for the success of the teen parent. Every school day morning the parents and children are picked up by our shuttle bus and taken to the Center where everyone is given healthy breakfast snacks and juice. The parents ride the school bus to school, or the shuttle bus delivers them to school if needed. After school, the school bus delivers the parents back to the Center. Then the parents and their children are safely returned home by our shuttle bus. Parents are free to pursue their diploma while their child is lovingly cared for by licensed and caring staff.

Education is the major key to a successful life that is more likely to be free from the effects of social injustice. Educated parents are able to provide stable and enriched environments for their children, helping them to become the next generation of achievers who break out of the poverty cycle.

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**Second Sunday Monthly at 4 PM.**

# Jazz Vespers

**Join David Hoffman & Friends / November 10, 2019**

## WESTMINSTER SESSION

Clerk of Session .....	Jim Burnham Class of 2021
Christian Education .....	Peggy Bragg Class of 2021
Church Life .....	Vacant
Finance .....	Gary Leonard Class of 2019
Membership .....	Bonnie Jackson Class of 2019
Missions/Outreach .....	Jan Leonard Class of 2019
Personnel .....	Larry Hicks Class of 2019
Properties .....	John Jackson Class of 2021
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
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
Laura Van Riper .....	Class of 2021

*1974 continued from page 5*

Care has always been taken to select the best staff and to meet all licensing requirements for the childcare center. Our current Director, Valerie Sager has been the director for 20 years. Her assistant, Nisa Roberts, has been with her for 11 years! Not only is the staff at WICC carefully chosen, but its Board of Directors as well. It is composed of educators, childcare specialists, church members and other professionals from different parts of the community concerned with social welfare and education. The Board stands strongly behind its mission and is deeply concerned about the futures of those who become involved in the WICC program.

This year is Westminster Infant Care Center's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Simple math will make it clear how many lives have been changed by this **one of a kind** program. Because it provides an answer for teen parents and sees to it that they can escape the poverty cycle by completing their education, the beneficial effects trickle down to the next generation and beyond. We may never know just how much this mission has helped our young parents and their children; however, we do know that stable households produce future stable households...and hope begets hope...lives and communities are made better.

Thank you to everyone who has served on the WICC Board of Directors, or who has been involved in any way as a past part of this vital mission of our church. Those of you who have supported us financially, prayerfully, or with your time, talents and fundraising efforts over the years, we thank as well. Westminster Infant Care Center, for nearly half a century with the support of this church, has been "a beacon on the West Bluff."

*WICC is a 501(c)(3) organization apart from the church. All gifts to WICC are tax deductible and much appreciated and much needed.* ✂

## HOW YOU CAN HELP WICC

*Valerie Sager, WICC Director*

I often get asked the question, "How can I help Westminster Infant Care Center?"

This year WICC celebrates 45 years of providing quality childcare services to teen parents in our community. As we enter the holiday season, our hearts often turn to helping others. Please consider helping WICC. Here are some tangible ways you can help:

- Share with young mothers the importance of completing their high school education and that there is help available to them and their child.

*continued on page 7 . . .*



How You Can Help continued from page 6 . . .

- Volunteer in finding and writing grants, being a volunteer in the classroom, suggesting fund-raising opportunities, and serving on the WICC

Board of Director's.

- Donate items such as gently used children's clothing and toys, size 5 toddler diapers and wipes, laundry detergent and dryer sheets, wash cloths, and baby bibs
- Financially contribute towards the extra expenses of our program, especially transportation, which is a vital service for this mission. Consider making a one-time gift of \$45 in honor of our 45<sup>th</sup> year or perhaps a monthly recurring donation.

Remember WICC in your prayers. Pray for the staff, parents, children and our Board of Directors.

Mark 12:28-31 *One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, the first is, "Hear O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one: you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "you shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."* ☞



## **SPOTLIGHT ON MISSIONS** **PEORIA FRIENDSHIP HOUSE**



*Janet Leonard*

Since 1951, Peoria Friendship House of Christian Service (PFH) has made a powerful difference in the Near North side and the East Bluff neighborhoods of Peoria, and beyond. PFH was founded as a response to the great need for assistance to individuals and families living in deep poverty. Located on Peoria's near north side, their Advocacy, Coaching, Education and Support approach provides wrap-around services supported by short and long-term coaching for both the Latino and English speaking communities. They provide valuable services, such as food, clothing, youth education, adult education, employment preparation, and finance and employment coaching, while encouraging lasting change for those they serve. PFH is dedicated to providing hope and guidance that offers a "hand-up" rather than handouts.

One of the valuable programs PFH offers is La Familia (Latino Outreach). For over 25 years they have established a great relationship with our Spanish speaking brothers and sisters. Translation services, immigration services are offered, and together they help strengthen our community as a whole. As Westminster's pastor continues to re-

*continued on page 10 . . .*



### **FOOD PANTRY**

*Elizabeth Richmond*

During the month of September, we provided food to 1,626 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,  
November 5 and 19, at  
11:20 a.m.,

Thursday, November  
14, at 1 p.m.,

fourth Wednesday,  
November 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.



# **'TIS THE SEASON TO GIVE THANKS**

*Rev. Denise Clark-Jones*



In every culture I know of, there is a celebration of the harvest. Though we no longer live in an agrarian society, the rhythm of the earth's creative cycle seems to be hardwired within us. Madison Avenue gives us little time for rest and reflection. In our consumer-driven society, we are rushed from Halloween to Christmas by the mighty marketeers that dominate what we see on store shelves and in the ever more intrusive world of media advertising on the internet. Our formal celebration of Thanksgiving is not a religious holiday, but gratitude is an essential component of our faith that we should be experiencing every day.

Thanksgiving is a time of the year when we can put ourselves into a freeze-frame of sorts, so that we might open our eyes to the many blessings in our lives that we are enjoying now. We spend a lot of time in the past or in the future – dwelling on loss or fantasizing about the future. This keeps us in our heads more than in the world and what is available to us now. Living in the present is expressed by this Zen Buddhist saying: "Wherever I go, there I am." Isn't that the way Jesus traveled with his disciples?

Jesus was super-observant – he noticed the people that most did not. He saw need others ignored. Whatever the circumstances, he gave thanks to God and lived in the precious moments of his earthly existence. He knew who he was and his purpose in life and lived authentically every day.

In a few weeks from now, you may be sitting around a table with family or friends and asked to name things for which you are thankful. How can you possibly have genuine, heartfelt answers, if you have not been paying attention as the blessings have been coming to you? Not seeing, or denying, our own good fortune separates us from others. When we do not see the good things we enjoy, we also fail to see the lack of good things in others' lives.

So, speaking paradoxically, gratitude is both see-

ing and not seeing. Genuine gratitude transcends all boundaries we place to defend ourselves from the world beyond ourselves. True gratitude is blind to societal borderlines and differences that would deny our connectedness with each other and creation.

On October 6, Westminster celebrated its first Blessing of the Animals service. In this service people were invited to affirm their gratitude for God's creatures that bless their personal lives and to recognize the sanctity of all living creatures.



On November 3, we will celebrate All Saints' Sunday when we will celebrate the blessings of those believers that have come before us and shone the light of Christ on our own faith journeys. On November 24, we will celebrate Christ the King Sunday when we will give thanks for Christ's leading us to God's eternal kingdom "on earth as it is in heaven." November is also the time of Westminster's Stewardship campaign. In this season of thanksgiving, let us reflect on the blessing of the church in our lives and the church's mission to be a blessing to the lives of those in our community and the world that are most in need of our sharing our blessings with them.

Christ walks with us each day in our journey to the kingdom of God. Live in the present as Christ's eyes and ears and hands. Give thanks to God with your lives.

May God's grace fill you with gratitude! ✞



## CREATURES GREAT & SMALL

Steven Sager

From the above title, one might think this is an article about James Alfred (Alf) Wight OBE, FRCVS, pen name James Herriot and his much beloved books and British TV series of a country Vet in the Yorkshire Dales. Or the venerable Anglican Hymn



"All Things Bright and Beautiful" written by Cecil Frances Alexander in 1848 and inspired by Psalm 104 may



come to mind. One would be partly right on both counts as this is an article on God's creation and man's best friend... the dog!

The Westminster grounds have long been a place where the Moss – Bradley neighborhood have walked their dogs and enjoyed the beauty of our campus. I've even heard commented that our campus has a park-like quality to it.

At a Staff Meeting Pastor Denise was sharing the schedule of the upcoming Pet Blessing. This prompted discussion on how to make the campus more pet friendly while gently reminding our neighbors to be responsible pet owners. A Pet Station equipped with waste baggies and receptacle was determined to be just the thing we needed.

I purchased the Pet Station, and Caden Richmond and I commenced to dig out a small corner of the campus, installed landscape fabric, laid mulch, recycled limestone pavers for the border and installed the Pet Station.

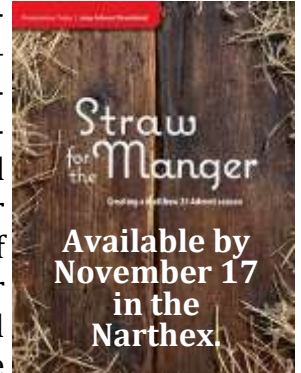


It is our hope that our neighbors will continue to walk their dogs on our campus, use the Pet Station, and enjoy Westminster's pet-friendly urban oasis in the heart of Peoria. 🐾

## ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

During this holy season of Advent, we are invited to follow Jesus' command epitomized by Matthew 25:31–46 to love one another and care for "the least of these."

This year's devotional is very special. The Rev. Sherry Blackman, a Presbyterian pastor, chaplain and award-winning writer and poet, challenges us to fill our days of Advent with simple, practical and loving deeds that help our neighbors — calling each act of kindness a piece of "straw" for the manger to make a soft bed for the Christ child when he arrives on Christmas. It is our hope that you invite family, church friends and those in your community to join you in adding straw this Advent season, so that together you prepare for Christ's birth. An added bonus to this year's devotional is the space provided each Sunday of Advent to jot down your reflections and prayers.



Perfect for yourself or to do as a group, each day provides a Scripture excerpt, meditation and prayer to deepen the Advent experience. 🐾

## EMPTY BOTTLES NEEDED

Bonnie Jackson

Midwest Food Bank just received a huge donation of 6000 gallons of laundry detergent that came in bulk drums. They are asking for donations of empty laundry detergent containers so they can fill them and provide for needy clients. There will be a bin in the Narthex for you to place your empty containers. Questions? Contact Bonnie Jackson. 696-1955 🐾





*Mission Spotlight continued from page 7...*

mind members about help needed in relation to immigration issues and concerns, it is wonderful to know that there are organizations like Peoria Friendship House helping in so many ways. Westminster supports Friendship House with mission dollars. For more information, please go to [friendship.house](http://friendship.house). ☘

## **AUTUMN TAIJI**

*Donna Sturm*

Taiji autumn session has resumed at Westminster Fellowship Hall again on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. Classes on Monday are best for those with experience and Wednesdays best serve the beginner.



As we enter the season of autumn, we enter the season of Metal in the Five Element form of Taiji. It is a time of reflection, a time of introspection, of refinement. We decide what we should keep and what we should let go of in life.

The element of Metal draws us inward toward our center. The organs associated with this time of year are the lungs and small intestine. The example we see around us is that of a tree which lets go of its leaves that have made its food and draws that energy in to be stored in its roots for future use.

The Five Element Taiji system was created by Master Chungliang Al Huiang. He created his system by combining Yang Style Taiji, Bagua and Qigong. His system is based on the 5 elements of Fire, Water, Wood, Earth and Metal. The system has additional forms called Circles. Each Circle represents one of the elements. The fluidity of Yang Style Taiji, the moving meditative stepping of Bagua and the mindful visualizations and breathing of Qigong come together to create a beautiful and powerful meditative dance of nature.

The Five Element form and the Circles are short forms, easily learned and contain the wisdom of



## **SESSION NOTES**

**Jim Burnham,  
Clerk of Session**



The Session took three official actions at its October meeting.

First, a donation of \$2000 from discretionary mission funds was made to Friendship House in support of their efforts to aid immigrants that have arrived in Peoria.

Second, a donation of \$2000 was made from the same fund to Roosevelt School for the purpose of providing students with healthy snacks such as fresh fruit.

Third, the membership committee will schedule a REALM training session for anyone who would like to delve into the details on how to use this new system for communication with the church. The time and place of this meeting will be announced later. ☘

nature. When practiced according to the "Principals of Taiji" they take you to an endless journey of discovery and amazement on the path to health and relaxation.

Come join as we unlock these treasures and practice these elegant movements. You will be guided by your teachers, Donna and Terrisa, to assure learning with directions to guarantee a pleasant meditative experience. See you in class! ☘

## **THANK YOU!**

*Anna Bussian*

To my wonderful church family. Thank you. Thank you. Your many words of comfort, hugs, help, donations and cards are supporting me during this sad time. I never knew how well you thought of Horst. Yes, he was quiet, a good listener and very special. He was loved by many and will be missed. Anna ☘

## BIRTHDAYS

- 8 Arthur Schlesinger
- 11 Tippy Short
- 14 Kairi Grant
- 16 Rachel Seelye
- 18 Laura Van Riper
- 27 Rosemary McCurdy
- 27 Betty Oaks
- 28 Tim Cullen
- 30 Gregory Neubert

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 11 Linda & Brooks McDaniel
- 15 Stacey & James Neubert
- 20 Luanne & Donald Shay
- 24 Joyce & Brian Hakes

## GRETCHEN R. IBEN ARTS SERIES IN NOVEMBER

*Thomas Clark-Jones*

### LUMIÈRE

November starts an active season for the Iben Arts Series at Westminster. On November 3, at six in the evening, Lumière, the Chamber Choir, directed by Dr. John Jost, presents its second concert. If it is anything like their premier concert last spring ... this is going to be a superb event.

The concert's theme is "of hope and resolution," and will present music from the Renaissance, music of Claudio Monteverdi, to the Classic sounds of

Mozart and on into the twentieth and twenty-first centuries with Aaron Copland, Samuel Barber, Halsey Stevens, Willametta Spencer, Juris Karlsons and Carlos Gustavino. This wide-ranging program will display the depth and technical beauty of this first-level choral group here in Central Illinois.

Lumière was founded by Dr. John Jost, recently retired Director of Choral Activities at Bradley University for the past thirty plus years. Dr. Jost holds three degrees from Stanford University in California and has been an active conductor and music educator throughout his career. The singers are former students of Dr. Jost who caught the inspiration of choral music under his leadership. They set the bar of excellence very high ... and seem to easily exceed it.

The concert costs \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets are available by calling the Lumière offices at (309) 691-8768 or at the door the evening of the performance. Lumière is an independent choral organization making its rehearsal and performing home right here at Westminster. Come for a true evening of inspiration.

### THE SOUNDS OF EARLY MUSIC

On Friday evening, November 8, at seven-thirty o'clock, the musical feast of November continues with a newly formed trio featuring the sounds of harpsichord, flute and violin. Carol Wessler, who has often played 'cello for events at Westminster, takes to the keyboard and her

harpsichord, whose delightful sound is perfect in Westminster's beautiful acoustic environment. Along with Carol are flautist Kyle Dzapov and violinist Kelsey Klopfenstein. All three are active concert musicians in Central Illinois and in one way or another related to Bradley University's Music School. They are first class musicians and will present a delightful program of music to soothe the soul. Admission is free and all are cordially invited to join the festivities.

## A JAZZ CHRISTMAS



### AND A REMINDER

December is full of music of the season. Be sure to set aside Sunday afternoon, December 8, for our annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols featuring the Westminster Choir and Bells. And again, December 15 for our fourth annual "A Jazz Christmas" with David Hoffman and the Westminster Jazz Ensemble. Both at 4 p.m. 🎷





## **REALM - THE NEW DIRECTORY**

**Sunday | November 10 | 11:15 PM**

*Mary Lee*

As a church, we use Realm to manage the “information of the church,” which includes giving, attendance, personal information, communication and history. The cloud-based nature of Realm allows us to now give the individual congregation members the opportunity to access, edit and interact with the information. As we get more familiar with Realm as a church and individually, we will continue to increase the ways we use it to better connect with each other.

**What is Realm?** *Realm is a real ministry tool.*

Realm is an online ministry tool designed for real time connection. It helps our church connect with you and you connect with us. If you consider yourself part of this church family, you’ll love it. Realm allows you to manage your personal information and who is allowed to see it, control your giving, and keep in touch with the groups that matter to you.

**Why use Realm?** *Realm strengthens church connections.*

Being the church doesn’t just happen at the church. Realm helps us serve you better and leads this church well between Sundays. Everyone can be connected from anywhere at any time, right from our mobile devices. It engages everyone in the life of our church by supporting the healthy relationships essential to our church’s mission. We’ll stay organized, and you’ll stay informed about all of the opportunities for fellowship. When we share life together, we will grow together.

**What about my privacy?** *Realm is safe, private, and secure.*

Your privacy is one of our greatest concerns. Realm is only made up of the people in your church, it’s not like a social network that’s open to everyone. Realm keeps your data safe and

gives you control over what information you share and who can see it.

**What about giving?** *Realm gives you control over your giving.*

Giving should be easy, and Realm places giving right in the palm of your hands. You may set up recurring gifts, view your giving history, and make changes at any time. Realm automatically records all electronic gifts and adds them to your giving record making it easy for you to give, and easy for our bookkeeper to track.

**How do I start?** *Follow a few simple steps.*

### ***Step 1. Register Online***

1. If you have an email address and the church has the correct email address an invitation has been sent to your email. Find and open it. Follow the instructions in the email.
2. When prompted to, add your email address as the username and create a password.

Note: Use the email address at which you receive information from the church.

### ***Step 2. Download the App***

1. With your Smart Phone, go to Google Play and download the “Realm Connect” app. or if you have an iPhone, go to the iTunes app store.
2. Open the app on your phone.
3. Type in the same email address as the username and password you used to log into Realm on your computer.

Congratulations, you should be in! You can now update your personal information, communicate with your groups & teams, look up members, manage giving, follow church announcements & more.

### ***Still have questions?***

**Sign up for the Realm Connect Training Session on Sunday, November 10, in the Parlor following the morning service.**

**Be sure to sign up in the Narthex.** ☞



## AUTUMN IS HERE AND SO IS THE TIME WE FALL BACK NOVEMBER 3, 2019

Mary Lee

Set your clocks back one hour and enjoy some extra sleep or use that time to do your semi-annual chores. It's easy to forget regular home maintenance checks. But make them a part of your time-changing routine, and you can help protect your family and house from a host of preventable problems. Here are a few tips of things to check around your home while you're switching your clocks and smoke alarm batteries.

### A SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

- ☐ Replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Then test each detector according to the maker's instructions.
- ☐ Replace batteries in your flashlights. The last thing you want if the power goes out is a dead flashlight. Also, do this for any weather alert radios you may have.
- ☐ Flip the mattresses in the Fall and Spin/Flip the mattresses in the Spring.
- ☐ Give light fixtures some attention. Remove light globes and clean them to remove dust and bugs. Also consider replacing incandescent bulbs with more energy-efficient compact fluorescent lights (CFLs).
- ☐ Close off unused rooms. It could help save money on heating costs during winter and air conditioning costs in the summer. Energy.gov suggests keeping the rooms at least 55 degrees F, though, to prevent any pipes from freezing.
- ☐ Check your meds. Get rid of expired medicines — but before you throw them in the trash, [research safe, responsible disposal methods](#) for each medication. Restock basic over-the-counter items like cough syrups, decongestants, antihistamines, and fever and pain reducers.
- ☐ Whip appliances into shape. Get the best performance from your kitchen appliances by cleaning them according to the manufacturer's directions. Spot problems by using inexpensive oven and fridge/freezer thermometers to check temps.
- ☐ Check your pantry for any expired foods.
- ☐ Clean out your dryer duct for any lint that has accumulated.
- ☐ Change the baking soda in the refrigerator and freezer.
- ☐ Change your water filters.

- ☐ Check your furnace filter. Energy.gov states that a clogged air filter can restrict airflow and increase energy consumption between 5 and 15 percent. Depending on the type of filter your furnace uses, clean or replace it now — and at least one to three months thereafter.
- ☐ Reprogram your thermostat. Be sure to change it from summer to winter settings before you turn the heat on, and vice versa.

### And, since it is Fall, add these to your chores list:

- ☐ Remove debris from gutters and downspouts.
- ☐ Have your chimney inspected and cleaned.
- ☐ Check for cracks in doors and windows. Use caulk or insulation stripping to seal any gaps you find.
- ☐ Drain your garden hoses and store them away.
- ☐ Check the expiration date on your fire extinguishers. If it's past its time, research the proper way to dispose of it and pick a new one up pronto.
- ☐ If you have a programmable home security system (say, the motion detectors are only on while you're at work) make sure you not only update the time, but check your programs to make sure they're still applicable as we head towards warmer weather.
- ☐ Lastly, double-check your door locks. The winter weather may have taken a toll on them, causing the locking mechanisms to jam up, handles to become loose, or keys to corrode or rust. While you're outside, check your exterior lights and replace any bulbs that are dimming or have burned out.

Follow this list and you'll not only make sure your home and family are safe and sound, but you'll be just a few steps closer to being prepared for that long-awaited spring and summer weather. And, don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night. 🦋

## MAKE IT - TAKE IT



**Sunday, November 24**  
**Following the Morning Worship**

MICAH 6:8

ACT  
justly

LOVE  
kindness

WALK  
humbly  
WITH YOUR  
GOD

## **STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 17**

*Gary Leonard*

Recently, church members were provided a pledge card to be used for indicating their 2020 financial commitments to Westminster. Again this year, we encourage you to prayerfully consider a pledge to the church for next year.

At the morning worship on November 17, we plan to invite those in our community of faith to bring their pledge commitments forward for a prayer of dedication. If you are not in attendance on November 17, you may place your pledge card into the offering plate on any Sunday or mail it to the church. If you have not received a pledge card, you may call the church office at (309) 673-8501 to request one. Pledge cards will also be placed in the narthex. Thank you for this important decision, both for you and Westminster.

Your commitment will greatly assist the session as we prepare a financial plan for 2020.

*(For 2019 we received pledges from 47 giving units, totaling \$186,537.)* ✂

### **Westminster Presbyterian Church Stewardship Sunday November 17**

*With a grateful heart for God's grace and as an expression of Christian stewardship, I/we make this commitment to the ministry, missions, and operations of Westminster Presbyterian Church.*

I/we pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week or  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month or  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year

☐ Check here if you do **NOT** want to receive envelopes.

I understand that I may adjust this pledge at any time due to changes in my circumstances by contacting the financial secretary.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**MICAH 6:8**

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ♦ 1420 W MOSS AVE ♦ PEORIA, IL 61606  
www.westminsterpeoria.org ♦ 309.673.8501 ♦ wpc@westminsterpeoria.org



We hope that you will present this card on **Stewardship Sunday, November 17**, or you may mail it to the church.



October 2019						
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		

# NOVEMBER

December 2019						
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				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>3 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS</p> <p><b>10a All Saints' Remembrance</b> Communion Service 6p Lumiere Concert</p> 	<p>4 9-11a WestMark Food Pantry Open 6:30p Taiji, Advanced</p>	<p>5 9:30a Circle of Friends 11:20a Food Delivery</p>	<p>6 7:00a - 11p Bradley OLLI Open House &amp; Registration for Winter classes. 9a - 12p RainDate - Fall Clean-Up Date <b>7:30a Men's Coffee Hr.</b> 10a Staff Meeting 6:30 p Taiji Class, Beginner</p>	<p>7 1p Food Delivery 1:30p Lectionary Bible Study</p> 	<p>1 ALL SAINTS' DAY</p>	
<p>10 10a Morning Service 11:15a Realm Training 4p Second Sunday Jazz Vespers</p> 	<p>11 9-11a WestMark Food Pantry Open 6:30p Taiji, Advanced</p>	<p>12 4:30p WICC Meeting 6:30p Session Meeting</p>	<p>13 <b>7:30a Men's Coffee Hr.</b> 10a Staff Meeting 6:30 p Taiji Class, Beginner</p>	<p>14 1p Food Delivery 1:30p Lectionary Bible Study</p>	<p>15 WINDOW DEADLINE</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 10a Morning Service 11:15 Bible Study (3 of 3) <i>Paul, Our Earliest Christian Author</i></p> 	<p>18 9-11a WestMark Food Pantry Open 6:30p Taiji, Advanced</p>	<p>19 11:20a Food Delivery</p>	<p>20 <b>7:30a Men's Coffee Hr.</b> 10a Staff Meeting 6:30 p Taiji Class, Beginner</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 10a Worship 11:15a Make It - Take It Bazaar</p>	<p>25 9-11a WestMark Food Pantry Open 6:30p Taiji, Advanced</p>	<p>26 Committee on Ministry Meeting. Pastor will be out of the office today.</p>	<p>27 <b>7:30a Men's Coffee Hr.</b> 10a Staff Meeting 11a Food Delivery 6:30 p Taiji Class, Beginner</p>	<p>28 THANKSGIVING</p> 	<p>29 Church Office will be closed today.</p>	<p>30</p>

WESTMINSTER  
Presbyterian Church

1420 W. Moss Ave.  
Peoria, Illinois 61606

Rev. Denise  
Clark-Jones

JOIN US SUNDAYS

10 AM  
Morning Worship

4 PM  
Second Sunday Jazz Vespers



*Happy Thanksgiving to:*

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a personal Thanksgiving message.

The church office will be closed on  
Thursday, November 28, and Friday, November 29,  
in observance of Thanksgiving. May you and your family be blessed.



*For each new morning with its light,  
For rest and shelter of the night,  
For health and food,  
for love and friends,  
For everything Thy goodness sends.  
For flowers that bloom about our feet;*

*for tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;  
For song of bird, and hum of bee;  
For all things fair we hear or see,  
Father in Heaven, we thank Thee!  
-Ralph Waldo Emerson*