

*Welcome Home!*

WESTMINSTER

1420  
West Moss  
Ave

*to  
In-Person  
Services*





# **In-Person Services beginning 09/27/2020 at 10:00 AM**

*Westminster is open for worship! After much deliberation and extensive research on safety precautions during the Covid-19 pandemic, we reached the decision we can have worship with low risk of infection, if we are diligent in our protective measures. For you to make an informed decision about returning to church for worship, we have outlined all the procedures that are being followed and the measures you need to follow for your own wellbeing and the wellbeing of others. It is a lot of material to read, but we felt we needed to include as much as possible to answer as many of the questions that may arise. You will need to register online or by phone before noon on Friday before the Sunday worship service. We must know how many people are attending and what number of people, who live together, will be sitting together. This enables us to plan for optimal seating arrangements to maintain social distancing guidelines. You will be informed by e-mail if a worship service needs to be cancelled for any reason. We are dependent on having volunteer ushers to guide you and ensure your safety.*

*It has been 6 months since we have gathered in person for worship, and I am looking forward to seeing fellow worshippers again.*

*Hope to see you soon!  
Pastor Denise*



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

## Return to In-Person Worship Guidelines

### As of September 27, 2020

We offer this plan to the glory of God, with the desire for our congregation to return to in-person worship, and with a commitment to protect as much as possible the health and safety of the people who choose to return to the Westminster Presbyterian Church for in-person worship. Give grace to others, as we are all on different levels on how we feel about everything that is happening around us.

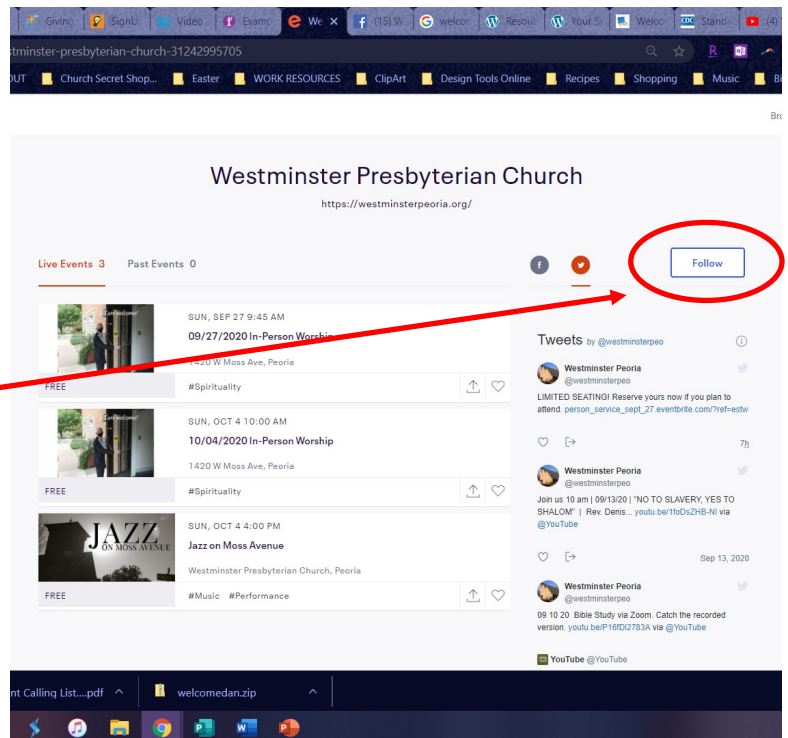
Please note that where possible we have linked to many of the website addresses to save you time from typing in the addresses or searching for the page. A copy of this letter, for you to reference as needed, will be posted to the Westminster website <https://westminsterpeoria.org> on the “Resource” page: <https://westminsterpeoria.org/resources/>

### For worship, you will be asked to:

\* Make a reservation for worship **by 12 noon on Friday** before that Sunday worship, by visiting [Event Brite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) Seating is limited to 36 people and making your reservation will help us in planning and preparation of the seating.

\*A reminder will be emailed each Monday along with the registration link, or you may call the church office at 309-673-8501 / option 5 / extension 3. Please leave a message including your name and how many seats you need to reserve. Remember that only family members can sit together, so if you are calling for someone else as well, make sure we know.

\* Click “Follow” on the [Westminster’s Event Brite](#) page. This will send you notifications every time we add an event for Gretchen Iben, Sunday Service and any other special event that would be advertised or seating reservations needed.



\*The two bathrooms on the ground floor will be available to the public. You might want to use your bathroom before leaving your home.

\* As you arrive, you will walk up to the church using the sidewalk on the church side and access the building through the Malvern Lane doors. There will be arrows and “Enter Here” directions on the sidewalk as you approach the church. There will also be an “Entrance” sign, like the one on the cover.

\* **Masks are required** for the entire time that you are in the church building, except for those with health concerns related to mask-wearing. We ask that you bring your mask with you; however if you forget, we do have you covered. Masks will be available at the registration table as well as gloves if you choose to wear. You will be asked to leave if you refuse to wear and to keep your mask on. This does include wearing it correctly, so please, wear the mask over both your mouth and yes, this does include your nose as well.

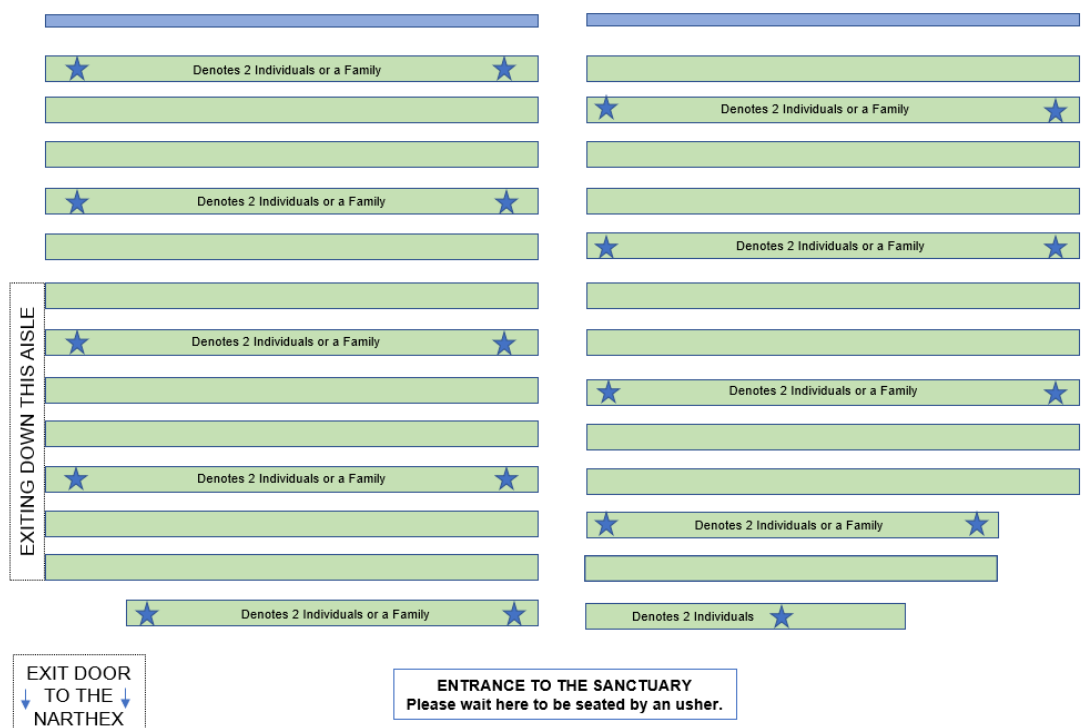
\* As you enter the foyer, we ask that you sanitize your hands. You will find a hand sanitizer on both the left and right wall.

\*You will then proceed into the Narthex to the “Registration Table”. Here, you will be greeted by an usher. You will be asked to help us with “Contact Tracing” by giving your name to our usher, so we can help track people in case of an infection, give us your phone number to best reach your at, and have your temperature taken, which is optional, but we would very much appreciate you doing this step. Then, there will be a list of symptoms at this station to read.

This list of “Symptoms Experiencing” is a list that all hospitals, most senior and assistant living facilities and other businesses are using are listed on the top of the next page.

We ask that if you are experiencing any of these, you do not join us for the safety of all.

### IN-PERSON SANCTUARY SEATING



Fever or Chills

Headache

Diarrhea

Congestion or runny nose New loss of taste or smell

Cough

Sore Throat

Nausea or vomiting

Fatigue

Shortness of breath

Muscle or body aches

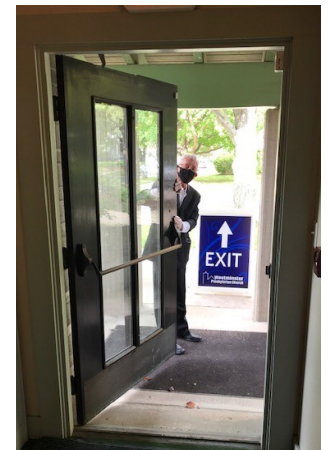
\*After you have signed in, you are now ready to be seated. Proceed to the Sanctuary doors and wait here for an usher to seat you. Please do not enter. Seating will be in the order of your arrival, filling the pews at the front working back.

\* Sit in the pews while observing the recommended 6 feet of social distancing. This may mean you don't always get to sit in your regular pew. You can view the seating diagram to see how we have arranged for seating for worship.



\*After the worship, wait for an usher to dismiss your row. Ushers will begin dismissing from the back of the sanctuary, closest to the "Exit Door" working to the front. Leave the sanctuary in an orderly manner that maintains appropriate social distancing.

\*Exiting the Sanctuary will be out the back, side door. You will continue through the Narthex, into the coat room, and exit out the door facing Moss Avenue. For those who parked in the Westminster parking lot, continue walking across Malvern Lane and down the sidewalk in front of the Parish House. There will be arrows and "Exit Here" directions on the sidewalk, as well as an "Exit" sign, like the one on the cover.



Please do not stop the flow of exiting to visit with one another inside the church. We understand that we are all excited to be together and want to visit. We have a "Fellowship" area reserved for you in front of the Parish House to spend some time together for those who want to do this, but please wait until you are out of the church to begin gathering.

### \* **The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist**

Communion will continue to be celebrated on the first Sunday of each month and on special holidays. An usher, wearing sanitary gloves, will hand you a prefilled (prepackaged) communion cup which contains both the juice and communion wafer in a single two-part container. You peel back one seal to remove the wafer and then a second seal for the juice. These prefilled communion cups are the most sanitary choice to use during Covid-19. There will be a garbage can in the Narthex as you leave where you may discard your empty cup and plastic seals, or leave them in the pews for ushers to collect following service.

## **What you can expect in worship:**

\* Printed worship bulletins and announcements will be available on the table at registration, but for those who can, please access it on your handheld device, iPad, or tablet as well. The bulletin will be posted on Westminster's "[Bulletin Page](#)". If you watch the recorded version, the worship bulletin will be on that page for that week.

A recycle can will be available on your way out for you to discard your bulletin and other paper.

\* Rather than passing offering plates, they will be located on your way in on the registration table and on a table on your way out. You may continue to [give online](#) at the Westminster donation portal, or by using your mobile phone, you may Text the word WPCPEORIA to 73256 to give. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply.

Read the [Privacy Policy](#)

Read the [Terms of Service](#)

\* Congregation will be able to sing hymns and responses when wearing appropriate face coverings. In light of singing's capacity to spread viruses, we ask that you sing no louder than your normal speaking voice rather than lustily, which without the virus we would like.

\* We are going to attempt live-stream worship for those who choose not to return to in-person worship yet. Please join us at Westminster's You Tube channel. The live-stream will be at 10 a.m.

\* We will also continue the recorded version that we have been doing until we have live-stream working well. The recorded versions of the service will be available to view by Tuesday noon following that Sunday's service. You may watch service from either the website page [Worship Archive](#) or on the [Westminster You Tube channel](#).

\*There will be a "Fellowship Area" in front of the Parish House. There will be a sign indicating the area where you can gather if you wish to visit and catch up with each other keeping the social distancing guidelines.

## **What you can expect from the church:**

\* Commonly handled items will not be used or will be kept to a very minimum.

\* Hymn sheets will continue to be printed in your worship bulletins.

\* All of the Bibles, songbooks, prayer cards, etc. have been collected and put away for the time being from the pews.

\* The parlor and kitchen will be closed, as well as the stairwell to the lower level. Only the choir and Tom will have access to the lower level.

\* You can be assured that before and after each service, concert, meeting, etc. the area is being cleaned with the appropriate cleaner for Covid-19.



We are **SO** happy to have our doors open again to resume worshipping our Lord together, in-person! We do hope you will be able to join us. We have put together these guidelines with prayer and with lots of thought of you. We want everyone to feel as comfortable and as safe as we can. We are sure we may have missed some things. So as the guidelines are revised, we will keep you informed with the new information in the announcements, eNews Flash and any new *Windows* that are done.

In the meantime, please feel free to email your questions, comments, or concerns to:

the church            [wpc@westminsterpeoria.org](mailto:wpc@westminsterpeoria.org)  
Pastor Denise        Cell: 717-329-7121  
                              Direct Office Line: 309-439-9737  
                              Email: [pastor@westminsterpeoria.org](mailto:pastor@westminsterpeoria.org)

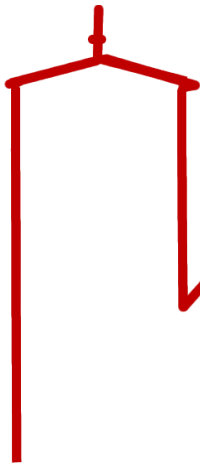
or reach out to any of the Elders  
Jim Burnham, Clerk of Session  
Peggy Bragg, Christian Education  
Brian Hakes, Treasurer - Finance  
Larry Hicks, Personnel  
John Jackson, Properties  
Suellen Kirkwood, Worship  
Janet Leonard, Missions & Outreach  
Kim Mitchell, Membership

**One last announcement.** We need ushers! If we do not have a minimum of at least two (2) ushers we won't be able to have in-person worship. So anyone who is signing up to come to church and would consider ushering, please contact Marilyn Luman (309-691-0607) or Mary Lee (309-620-7979) or by email ([wpc@westminsterpeoria.org](mailto:wpc@westminsterpeoria.org)).

**AND REMEMBER TO REGISTER!**

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

to be taken to **Event Brite** to reserve your seat now.



WESTMINSTER  
Presbyterian Church  
1420 W. Moss Ave.  
Peoria, Illinois 61606

*Current Resident*

**OCTOBER 4 | 4 PM**



The Gretchen R. Iben Arts Series of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Moss Avenue in Peoria presents a concert of Jazz with the Westminster Jazz Ensemble, David Hoffman directing. The combo includes well known jazz musicians from Central Illinois including Derel Montieth, piano and Jason Brannon, percussion among others. Music to lift your spirits and send you home with a smile. Jazz standards as well as some of David Hoffman's original compositions are featured. Reservations can be made at [Event Brite](#). Sponsored by Westminster Church of Peoria, [www.westminsterpeoria.org](http://www.westminsterpeoria.org). All social in-person guidelines will be observed.