



Welcome, Church! Thanks so much for tuning into our Westminster Church worship online service. We may not be in the building where we typically worship, but we know as Christians that the Church is not the building, but the people. We are so glad that you've chosen to join us today to do what we are called to do every day as Christians, which is to worship the Lord. We invite you to just praise Him as you would if we were together in person, to sing and to praise however you choose. It's so hard to think about the future in times like these, when everything feels so uncertain. Scripture tells us, in Jeremiah 29:11, "I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you, and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Friends, the Lord gives us hope. That is one of our core virtues as Christians: hope. The Lord gives us hope, that no matter what comes our way, He has a plan for us. He has a plan for us, for us to prosper. That is such a special gift! Isn't it awesome to know that we don't have to worry about the future? Because He's already got it taken care of! What matters is that we are here today, to worship Him, and to thank Him for the plans He has for us, even though we might not know what they are yet. Church, let's join together and worship Him.

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10 AM
"NO TO SLAVERY, YES TO SHALOM"
 by Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

Later this week, beginning at sundown on Friday, begins one of the most important holidays for the Jewish people, Rosh Hashanah, which is like our first Sunday of Advent, but with a much bigger splash. The following week is another major observance of the faith, Yom Kippur. Yom Kippur is like our season of Lent all rolled into one 24-hour period of confession and repentance. So, it is fitting that our lectionary offers us the reading of the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt. This Exodus story is the Jewish Resurrection story, with many parallels to our story of Christ's resurrection. It is central to their faith and their identity as a faith community, as Christ's crucifixion and Resurrection is to ours.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers this morning, seen behind Pastor Denise, are given to the glory of God by Dan Callahan and Kent Nyblin in loving memory of Bettye Thompson and her generous spirit.

STAYING CONNECTED!

The pandemic threat has gone on a lot longer than anticipated. We are concerned that some members of our church family may be feeling disconnected, especially those that live alone or do not have WiFi. If you feel that you would be able to help the deacons in contacting the same few people each week or two (using your discretion as to the frequency needed) please let Mary Lee know at wpc@westminsterpeoria.org.

SEPTEMBER WINDOW NEWSLETTER

The September newsletter is available to read. Visit the website (westminsterpeoria.org) and catch up. <https://westminsterpeoria.org/newsletters/>

READ THE WORD

Daily Scripture Readings
[click here](#)

THINK ABOUT THE FAITH

This Sunday's bulletin to print and follow along with the service. [click here](#)

Read a sermon from the past Sundays. [click here](#)

Watch this coming Sunday's or a past worship service online. [click here](#)

CHURCH NEWS

Read the latest newsletter. [click here](#)

Read Sunday's announcements. [click here](#)

WPC/COVID-19 Updates. Read all of them that have been emailed. [click here](#)

WPC eNews Flashes. Read all the eNews that have been emailed. [click here](#)

A LITTLE FUN

A page of puzzles. [click here](#)

**PER CAPITA**

Unlike our pledge commitment to Westminster, support to the PC (USA) general office is funded through our annual per-capita assessment. This is an annual fee of \$34.22 per member. Which as most of us know, not only supports the general office but also the local presbytery and regional synod.

Each member contribution to the annual per capita assessment means Westminster avoids using monies designated for its mission and ministry to support the PC(USA). You can do this by mailing your per capita contribution to the church. You may mail it to WPC Per Capita, 1420 W. Moss Avenue, Peoria Illinois 61606. You may also make your payment by going to westminsterpeoria.org/support/, the Westminster website online portal, or click [HERE](#) to be taken to the form directly to pay. You may also Text "**WPCPEORIA perCapita\$34.22**" to **73256** to give using your mobile device. 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.

**GREAT RIVERS PRESBYTERY IN THE NEWS: ILLINOIS STATE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR COVID-19**

On Wednesday, September 9, First Presbyterian Church of Springfield hosted a special memorial service by the state's leadership to honor the 8,400 plus who died from the COVID-19 pandemic in Illinois. First Springfield, under Rev. Susan Phillips' leadership, is one of many churches in our presbytery that is continuing to suspend regular in-person worship gatherings for the health of the community. Find link to the worship service by clicking [HERE](#).

The governor has declared that we have moved into Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (read more by clicking [HERE](#).) See the home page of the [presbytery webpage](#) for links to previously shared statements and resources on Covid-19. It continues to be the recommendation of the presbytery that you be safe and wise as you fulfill your mission during this pandemic. Please note that all presbytery committees and assemblies will be virtual for the rest of 2020. For the most up-to-date resources on worship during this pandemic, please see <https://www.pcusa.org/covid19/>. If you or your congregation are experiencing any hardship as we endure this pandemic, please let us know how we might be able to help.

BIBLE STUDY

Join us as we dive deeper into the meaning of the Word. Scriptures for this Thursday, via Zoom, September 17 at 1 p.m.

[First Reading Exodus 16:2-15](#)

[Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45](#)

[Second Reading Philippians 1:21-30](#)

[Gospel Matthew 20:1-16](#)



JOIN the Zoom Bible Study - [Click Here](#)

Meeting ID: 986 7320 3228 **Passcode:** BIBLESTUDY

Dial by your location [+1 312 626 6799](#) US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 986 7320 3228 Passcode: 3057301683

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/aeitc06bek>

Please note... *if you ever can not find the information on a Zoom Meeting, Fellowship, Bible Study, etc. just visit the church website (westminsterpeoria.org) calendar. All of the information to be able to access any Zoom is kept here.*

OCTOBER WINDOW

This Friday, September 18, is the deadline for turning in all information, articles, celebrations, etc. for the October newsletter. Besides our elders and ministry leaders turning in news, it is also open to all members who would like to share news about their families, baby announcements, thank yous, weddings, poems, etc. It would be nice to do a section of interesting websites. Is there a website that you have been visiting a lot during this time? Email a paragraph of what it is or what it has to offer, along with the website address. I'm sure we are all looking for some interesting and fun places to visit. Please send your information electronically to westminsterpeoria.org. If there is not enough submissions to put together a four page newsletter, the information will be placed in our weekly announcements and eNews Flashes.

OLLI NEWS

September brings new OLLI **ONLINE VIRTUAL** Classes and Study Groups. Continue to read your weekly announcements for updates on these classes.

You **do not** have to be a member of OLLI to participate in the virtual learning classes. Their membership fee is only if you wish to participate in an in-person class. The class registration fee, if there is one, is due whether you are a member or a non-member.

Classes that will be offered during OLLI Wednesdays in September 9, 16, and 23, our eight new classes are the following:

continued next page...

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you would like to reserve a Sunday to give Sanctuary flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, please notify Mary Lee of the Sunday you would like to donate. She will make sure the date is available and reserve the date for you. Thank you for your interest. You can reach Mary Lee at (wpc@westminsterpeoria.org).

DO YOU NEED A FACE MASK?

If you need a mask contact Bonnie Jackson. She has been busy sewing and has available masks. Cell 309-696-1955 Email: bon1jon2@yahoo.com

MEMBER NEWS

Send us photos to share with the congregation. We'd love to see you or perhaps you have some exciting news you'd like share? Let us know and we will include it in the next bulletin.

[ONLINE GIVING](#)

[E-NEWS](#)

[PRAYER REQUEST](#)

9:00 a.m. - The Fantastic Creativity of Edgar Allan Poe with Mike Rucker

OR

9:00 a.m. - Personal Finance: What Don't Your Grandchildren Know? with Ann Schutt and Chris Robinson

11:00 a.m. - Legalized Cannabis: What We Have Learned with Nicole Meyer, Dr. Ray Bertino, Patrick Urich, and Sheriff Brian Asbell

OR

11:00 a.m. - Improve Health and Slow Aging Naturally with Bill Kalman

1:00 p.m. - The 2020 Election with Brad McMillan

OR
1:00 p.m. - National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research Topics with Neil Price, Ph.D., Todd Naumann, Ph.D., Fred Eller, Ph.D. and Nancy Nichols, Ph.D.

3:00 p.m. - Flying Colors and Pollinator Gardens with Patricia Melaik

OR

3:00 p.m. - Economics in Light of a Pandemic with Fran McKay

FREE ZOOM CLASSES

Thursday, September 17 at 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 24 at 1:00 p.m.

To register now, visit [OLLI Online](#).

For any questions, please contact staff at olli@bradley.edu, or leave a voicemail at 677-3900.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We invite you to join the Westminster family for fellowship, following the online Sunday worship, via Zoom.

Sunday Fellowship, 11 a.m.

Meeting ID No. 970 970 631

Password: FELLOWSHIP

Don't have internet? If you do not have access to online internet you may call 1-312-626-6799 to join in a fellowship. The operator will prompt you through each step. You will need to know the Meeting ID Number and the Password so have it handy before you call.

ONLINE GIVING

In the midst of unusual times, Christ still calls us to give as we have received. Please consider continuing to give your pledges and offerings. Gifts may be received by any of the following. We are grateful for your continued support of the mission and ministry Westminster Presbyterian Church!

WAYS you can make a donation:

- **Website online portal**, just select the fund to which you would like to contribute in the drop down list on the right.

- **Mail** to WPC, 1420 W. Moss Avenue, Peoria, Illinois 61606

- Text **WestminsterPresb** \$50 (any amount) to 73256 to give to General Funds using your text messaging. Standard text message rates do apply.

You can pay towards your 2020 Pledge, make a general offering, or give to a specific mission. You choose. If you have questions, please email **Denise Wirth**

OFFICE STAFF

As we continue to monitor public health concerns, most of our church staff will work remotely. Health officials are advising everyone to limit physical contact, so for the safety of our staff and members, we have asked staff members Mary Lee and Denise to work from home until further notice. Steve is still working his normal hours (8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mon. Wed., Thur., & Fri.)

Through the wonder of modern technology, all staff will have access to their work computers from home, and can be reached by email. They will also be able to check and respond to any voicemail messages that are left on their office phones. During this time, Steve is keeping the church campus deep cleaned and disinfected, so we will be ready to go once we are able to occupy the building again.

PRAYING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other as indeed you are doing." -1 Thess. 5:11. The prayers of God's people are powerful and effective. *"We do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in our prayers..."* - Eph. 1:16

Do you need prayer? Know of someone who does? You can fill out an online prayer card [HERE](#). Prayer needs will be listed for four weeks unless you ask for continual prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

† For our homebound - Elizabeth Alt, Juliet Babbitt, Hettie Beers, Marilyn Heubach, Marilyn Walker, Rosemary McCurdy, Tippy Short, and Jean Osterman.

† For the Westminster family members, elders, deacons, staff, and Pastor Denise.

† For all of the first responders

† For the following churches on our rotating prayer list: ([Click here](#) for the 2020 Church List.)

This week keep in prayer **First Presbyterian Church, Rushville, IL and Center Presbyterian Church, Center, IL.**

HOSPITAL

No one as of Friday morning, September 11.



WESTMARK FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The WestMark Food Pantry is open each week, on Monday, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Requested items by the food pantry is: **Peanut Butter and Grape Jelly, Macaroni and Cheese, any child friendly foods.** These items can be dropped off any day of the week.

Please contact Steve (309-224-6237) to arrange a time to drop off. Place your food donation in the trunk or on the backseat of the passenger side, pull up to the Parish House and Steve will come out and get.

If you have a way to bring to the food pantry on Monday mornings, they would love some fresh produce. This can only be received on Monday mornings from 8:45 to 9:30 a.m. to make sure it can be given out that morning and not go bad.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

VISIT <http://westminsterpeoria.org/serve/food-pantry/> for more information or contact Elizabeth Richmond.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- 4 **Bill Olson**
eeolson713@gmail.com
- 10 **Kim Hicks**
lhicks@netplatform.com
- 16 **Michael Kupper**
- 19 **Cindy Baker**
- 19 **Wanda Grimes**
jfgrimes@bigfoot.com
- 21 **Luanne Shay**
- 23 **Bill Rafferty**
pnr1942@yahoo.com
- 30 **Deann Baker**
- 30 **Dan Callahan**
callahan53@aol.com

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

- 24 **Jean & James Ashton**
jbashton@sbcglobal.net
- 25 **JoAnne & Monte Gibson**
m.j.gibson1132@sbcglobal.net

Give them a shout out. Click on their email address and send a birthday or anniversary wish. If you want to mail them a card and need an address, contact the church office.

Did we miss your birthday or your anniversary? Please let the office know (wpc@westminsterpeoria.org) so we can update Realm. Thank you.



Grace and Peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ!



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHILDREN AT RISK - YOUTH - YOUNG



On September 6, Peace and Global Witness season began. 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.

Peace and Global Witness offerings will be taken through October 4, which is also known as World Communion Sunday. You will find a special offering envelope in this newsletter. Please pray about what kind of offering you should make and mail it to *Westminster Church, Peace & Global Witness, 1420 W. Moss Avenue, Peoria, Illinois 61606*. Please make your checks payable to **WPC or Westminster Presbyterian Church** and write **Peace Offering** on the memo line of your check. You may also visit the “Online Donation Portal” on the website westminsterpeoria.org/support/ and choose “Peace Offering” as your fund on the drop-down box.

YES! I want to help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone. 25% of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking in our own city of Peoria. Enclosed you will find my donation in the amount of \$ _____

Clip and mail this form along with your contribution to: Westminster Church
Peace & Global Witness
1420 W. Moss Avenue
Peoria, Illinois 61606

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to:
WPC or Westminster Church

Write on memo line:
Peace Offering

Thank you for your participation in the Peace and Global Witness Offering.