

Westminster Weekly Window

July 21, 2024

Today's Message

"Compassion is a Verb"

Scripture Readings

Today: 2 Sam. 7:1-14a, Ps. 89:20-37; Jer. 23:1-6, Ps. 23; Eph. 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28, 2024: 2 Sam. 11:1-15, Ps. 14; 2 Kings 4:42-44, Ps. 145:10-18; Eph 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

Serving This Morning

Usher – Jacksons

Greeter – Dick Helfrich

Coffee Hour – Open

Serving Next Sunday - July 28

Usher – Alice Nash

Greeter – Dick Helfrich

Coffee Hour – Open

Happening This Week - July 21 - July 28, 2024

July 21 - Coffee Fellowship 10:00a; Sunday Worship 10:30a – When you hear the chime, quietly and with a worshipful attitude, make your way to your seat.

July 22 - WestMark Food Pantry, 9-11a

July 24 - Men's Coffee Group at Panera's at Westlake at 7:30a (**Wednesday of every week**)

July 25 - Foster Parent – Relative Caregiver Support, Fellowship Hall, from 6-8p

July 28 - Coffee Fellowship 10:00a; Sunday Worship 10:30a – When you hear the chime, quietly and with a worshipful attitude, make your way to your seat.

Looking Ahead

August 7 - AGO Summer Concert Series, Sanctuary, Wednesday, 7:30-9p

August 10 - American Wine Society, Fellowship Hall, 3-9p

August 12 - Greenway Monthly Meeting, Parlor, 7p

August 14 - AGO Summer Concert Series, Sanctuary, Wednesday, 7:30-9p

August 29 - Foster Parent – Relative Caregiver Support, Fellowship Hall, from 6-8p

July Birthdays

6	Jill Bell	21	Peggy Carter	27	Amy Streibich
14	Donald Shay	22	Alan Willadsen	30	Dorothy Crozier
15	Caden Richmond	23	Kim Fisher		
19	John Grimes	24	Jessica Rumpfelt		

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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DAILY RICHES: THE MOB OF MEN AS A ‘MOB OF KINGS’

(G. K. CHESTERTON, FREDERICK BUECHNER AND RICHARD ROHR)

“You shall love your crooked neighbour, with your crooked heart.”

W. H. Auden

Saint Francis “... honored all men; that is, he not only loved, but respected them all. What gave him extraordinary personal power was this: that from the Pope to the beggar, from the sultan of Syria in his pavilion to the ragged robbers crawling out of the wood, there was never a man who looked into those brown burning eyes without being certain Francis Bernardone was really interested in him, in his own inner individual life from cradle to grave; that he himself was being valued and taken seriously... He treated the whole mob of men as a mob of kings.” G. K. Chesterton

“If we are to love our neighbors,
before doing anything else
We must see our neighbors.
With our imagination as well as our eyes,
That is to say like artists,
We must see not just their faces
But the life behind and within their faces.
Here it is love that is the frame we see them in.”
Frederick Buechner

“The first gaze is seldom compassionate. It is too busy weighing and feeling itself: ‘How will this affect me?’ ... This leads us to an implosion, a self-preoccupation that cannot enter into communion with the other or the moment. In other words, we first feel our feelings before we can relate to the situation and emotion of the other. Only after God has taught us how to live ‘undefended’, can we immediately stand with and for the other, and in the present moment. It takes a lot of practice.” [Richard Rohr](#)

*“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd [a mob of men],
He had compassion on them,
Because they were like sheep without a shepherd.”
Mark 6:34*

Moving From the Head to the Heart

- Does the fact of your “own crooked heart” inform your loving?
- Who is “the other” for you? Neighbor, spouse, family member, stranger, competitor, anyone who is not you?
- Are you aware of the problem of “feeling your feelings” before you relate to the situation of the Other?
- How can you *practice* a “first gaze” where “love is the frame” in which you see anyone who is the Other?

Abba, help me learn a compassionate first gaze so that I honor, love, and respect others. Disarm me, undefend me, unpreoccupy me with myself.

“I practice daily what I believe; everything else is religious talk.”