

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL HOMELESS AWARENESS MONTH.

Many Presbyterian congregations run homelessness ministries or provide volunteers and funding for nearby shelters. Spurred by the biblical call to house the homeless and the church's strong social witness policy on the issue, PC(USA) has worked to address homelessness through support for shelters, transitional housing, social service programs and the provision of/advocacy around affordable housing.

The Presbyterian Network to End Homelessness is a national organization of Presbyterians focusing on how they can alleviate homelessness. The PC(USA) joins with people and groups across the United States in recognizing Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week and designates Sunday, November 17, 2019, as Hunger and Homelessness Sunday. During this season of gratitude, we will raise up the crisis of homelessness during worship Sunday. We can build awareness.



On Saturday evening, November 16, there will be a special Coffee and Conversation at The Connecting Grounds on Commercial Street. There will be displays of stories and artwork from our unhoused friends and neighbors honestly sharing their struggle every day to survive on the streets of Springfield. In addition, they will be a panel of people sharing their stories of being impacted by homelessness. This event will also feature the performance debut for the Springfield Street Choir! (Hopefully we will host them to sing for us at Westminster soon.) Everyone is welcome to attend. If you are able, please bring non-

perishable food items as well as warm socks, gloves, and hats to help our neighbors prepare to face cold temperatures without shelter.

Pastor Micki is taking the youth group to this event! Please drop-off Youth (grades 6-12) at Westminster at 5:45 p.m. and bring money for pizza. Pick-up at Westminster at 8:15 p.m.

Let us pray that the Christ who once was homeless will motivate us to action in ways that share God's love and belonging with those in need in our community.





So many wonderful things are happening at Westminster that we needed an additional Chimes this month. We celebrate the success of our annual Stewardship season, *Giving in Gratitude*, and give thanks for Steve Palmer, Carol Ann Schneider, and DeDe Vest for their leadership, and for all of you who said, "Yes!" to the work of Westminster in 2020. Take time to read all of our offerings of thanksgiving on our new Gratitude Wall in the narthex; your words are inspiring!

What is the difference between gratitude and thanksgiving?

Gratitude is a feeling and thanksgiving is an action. If someone does something for me, I feel grateful. My offering of thanks to that person is an action. One can feel gratitude without thanksgiving. One cannot feel thankful without feeling grateful. Thanksgiving is gratitude in action.

The person who lives the grateful life is mindful of his or her blessings. The person who is thankful honors the giver of those blessings. For instance, I'm grateful that I woke up feeling relatively healthy this morning. But what if I take my healthy day and squander it by eating or drinking too much? What if I drive carelessly, treat others badly and do not reach out to anyone in need today? I may have gratitude for health, but where is my thankfulness? I have taken a healthy day and made it into a self-serving day. Thanksgiving is gratitude in action.

How do we feel about God's gifts to us? Do we express our gratitude with action or do we keep our gratitude to ourselves? If the two greatest commandments are to love God and love our neighbor, then a grateful heart becomes a thankful heart by becoming a giving heart in service to others.

The Psalms remind us, *Let us give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; magnify God with Thanksgiving*. This is a call to action. To *magnify* the name of the Lord means honoring God in each person and in all creation. Each person includes homeless persons. Each person means those who are different from us. Each person means the family member we dread seeing over the holidays. We honor God not with praise or words, but with action.

If you gather with family or friends for Thanksgiving, be gentle with yourself and others. Be the peacemaker not the provoker. Model genuine appreciation. If you're lucky enough to celebrate Thanksgiving in a warm place with people who care about you and enjoy more food than you can possibly eat—this means you're one of the fortunate ones—be grateful. Thanksgiving can be a wonderful holiday, without the stress of presents at Christmas. It's really a beautiful opportunity to unlock the secret at the heart of all great spiritual traditions—to give thanks; to live with gratitude. What could be simpler? What could be more profound or life-changing?

I have been reading Annie Dillard again, *"I think the dying pray at the last not 'please,' but 'thank you,' as a guest thanks the host at the door"*. Yes! May God inspire our thanksgiving to offer acts of service to others. Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Micki



Sandy Price

WELCOMING NEW MEMBER—SANDY PRICE

Sandy Price became a member of Westminster on November 10, 2019, by transfer of membership. She was baptized at the United Baptist/Christian Church in Duluth, MN, in 1955. She says she “always felt God’s guiding hand, even in a dysfunctional family. Does anyone escape dysfunction?” Her whole family committed their lives to Christ.

Sandy, a Spanish/English teacher, has an MA in English and almost a masters degree in Religious Studies from MSU. She was born in Kansas City, MO, but lived in Los Angeles, CA, when she and her sister were babies. She lived in Duluth, MN, from ages seven to 20 and then moved to Missouri to be near her father, grandparents, and sisters. Sandy married her soul-mate Ralph Henry Price in Highlandville, MO, in 1961. Ralph preceded her in death in 2010. Sandy and Ralph were members of the Pastor Micki’s former church, in Billings, for many years; Sandy sang in the choir there and has is already loving being part of Westminster’s choir.

Sandy’s is the mother of Chris, Lisa and Lori (twins), and Greg; the grandmother of ten, and the great-grandmother of eight. All of her children graduated college. One of the greatest sorrows of Sandy’s life was burying her beloved daughter Lisa, who died from cancer on July 4, 2005.

When joining last week, Sandy said her faith had been through “a dry spell” following the deaths of her daughter and husband, but she is grateful for the welcome and spiritual nourishment she is now the recipient of that at Westminster and she looks forward to making her home here.

Sandy loves classical, jazz, and Negro Spirituals. Her favorite places to visit are Costa Rica and Mexico. She enjoys people of all kinds—so she naturally loves relationships. She loves to learn about the Bible.

Sandy, welcome to the Westminster family . . . we are glad that you are here!

Annual Hanging of the Greens

Please join us for the **Hanging of the Greens** event on **Sunday, November 24, 2019** right after church!!!

Yes, this year we are going to begin the fun job of decorating the church for the season right after our church service. We will also enjoy Homemade Tomato soup, the Pioneer Woman’s cheese bread—and of course drinks and dessert!

All of our boxes of decorations will be put out in the main hall with a sketch of how we will use the decorations for each area so it won’t be hard to finish any task of decorating. There will also be committee members standing by to help and answer any questions you might have.

Hanging of the Greens is a real special time in the life of Westminster and we hope you will be part of the fun! The church will be ready for the season as we begin with our **“Bringing in the Greens” service on December 1, 2019**. Don’t miss it!

Angie Courtney & Judy Wyrick,
Fall Chairmen



It’s that wonderful time of the year—it’s the Encounter Group and the Women of Westminster Coordinating Team’s Annual Christmas Party!

When, Monday, December 16, 2019
6:00 p.m. in the gym.

Our evening meal will be catered by Sugar and Spice, Marcia Russell. Our menu will include her House Pasta (pasta, roasted chicken, bacon, spinach, artichokes, and tomatoes), her signature salad and her homemade rolls!!!
The desserts will be provided by the W.O.W. Coordinating Team.

Special invites to—Pastor Micki, Session members, Elizabeth Circle, Mary Howell, Linda Crowder and all women of Westminster. This is our gift to each of you so please let us know if you can come by Friday, December 13th, Call the office at 866-2711 and let Mary know if you are coming and also let her know if you need a ride or child care.

We will be receiving donations that evening for sleeping bags to distribute to those in need. Please consider a \$20 donation. If checks are written please make them to Women of Westminster.

Hope to see you there!



POP-UP WITH MITTENS

Once again we have the opportunity to have a mitten tree for the kids at Delaware. Even though they are not next door, they are still “our school”, and supporting them is important.

In conjunction with the mitten tree, W.O.W. will also have a “pop-up” tree. We are asking for food items with pop-top lids that don’t require a can opener. The tree will have wish list cards to help you make your choice, so get your mittens, Vienna Sausages, Pringles, and SpaghettiOs ready!

- Dee Kent, Mission & Evangelism



Charles & Joanna Coonrod

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CHARLES L. COONROD
(11/21/29—7/28/14)**

Charles was born 90 years ago — the time of the stock market crash that brought on the Great Depression. He was a proud Marine, husband, dad, grampa, and fisherman. Five years after his passing he is greatly missed and memories cherished by Joanna, Tim, Dave and his family, Elisa & Alexis and all who knew him. *A plant in memory of Charles was provided by Joanna Coonrod & family on Sunday, November 17th.*

**MORE THAN FIFTY-TWO OPPORTUNITIES
TO SERVE WESTMINSTER IN 2020**

Have you ever considered the “people power” necessary for our Sunday worship services? The “people power,” that is, in addition to the minister, the organist, the choir, and the choir director? Each year’s fifty-two worship services require the support of four greeters (who also take up the collection), one liturgist, one acolyte, and one sound technician. Monthly communion services require either four or six elders, depending on the format (seated; coming forward). This means that for the year 2020 there are 412 volunteer slots that must be filled. While it is sometimes possible for a person to fill more than one slot on a particular Sunday, the number of volunteers needed annually is far larger than most people realize.

You can help. Please volunteer. Volunteer to be a greeter or a sound tech (training will be available). If you know any of our youth who might be interested in being an acolyte, please give me a name. If you are an elder, please consider volunteering to serve communion. Service in all of these positions rotates, so it will never be necessary for you to give a large block of your time. Even if you can help only one Sunday in 2020, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Please respond to our Time and Talent survey. In addition to this, a sign-up sheet will soon be placed in the narthex, or you may contact me by e-mail to number5study@live.com or by phone at (417) 414-9522. - Bill Piston, Worship Ministry

Meet Rev. Michelle Scott–Huffman!

Rev. Michelle Scott-Huffman will be serving as pulpit supply on Sunday, November 24.




Rev. Michelle is the Campus Minister of Ekklesia Progressive Campus Ministry at Missouri State University. She was ordained in 2011 by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) after receiving a Master of Divinity degree from Eden Theological Seminary. She is currently in the project phase of her Doctor of Ministry degree at Phillips Theological Seminary in the Church and Society: Collaborating for Change track. Michelle's doctoral project "Campus Ministry as Catalyst for Innovation and Collaboration" keeps her in regular conversation with many local churches and organizations that partner with the campus ministry. One of Michelle's greatest passions is collaborative ministry and practicing a "theology of surprise," allowing space for God's spirit to move while different groups work together.

Thank you to Rev. Michelle Scott-Huffman!

BUSY BAGS IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE?

Longtime members of Westminster know about a basket of denim bags in the front of the sanctuary. These are given to young people, first grade and older, as they leave Sharing Time - those few minutes when a message related to the scripture for the day is presented by the pastor or a designated member. The bags contain markers/ crayons, paper, puzzles, play-dough, wikki-sticks, etc. that keep eyes and hands busy while ears are free to listen and bodies become anxious to move. After a few weeks the bags need to be “restocked” and such a time is now.—ALL FRESH SUPPLIES ARE IN THE “BUSY BAGS”! —Janet Trotter

Bible  Study		READINGS FOR DECEMBER 2019		
<u>DECEMBER 2</u> Isa. 11:1-10 <i>Ps. 72:1-7, 18-19</i> Rom. 15:4-13 Matt. 3:1-12	<u>DECEMBER 9</u> Isa. 35:1-10 <i>Ps. 146:5-10 or</i> <i>Luke 1:46b-55</i> James 5:7-10 Matt. 11:2-11	<u>DECEMBER 16</u> Isa. 7:10-16 <i>Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19</i> Rom. 1:1-7 Matt. 1:18-25	<u>DECEMBER 23</u> Isa. 63:7-9 <i>Ps. 148</i> Heb. 2:10-18 Matt. 2:13-23	<u>DECEMBER 30</u> Jer. 31:7-14 <i>Ps. 147:12-20</i> Eph. 1:3-14 John 1:(1-9) 10-18

MISSION CORNER



As I sit writing I'm watching the wind driven snow and I'm so thankful to be inside and warm. That being said—I know friends who are not inside and warm. Perhaps they have found shelter in a tent or perhaps they are huddled in a doorway hoping to get a place at the cold weather shelter. I can't think of a better way to use the sweaters and jackets you have donated than to give them to people for another layer to add against the elements of the coming months.

Even though we have a few more days to bring things in, I want to say a huge thank you to all the sweater angels. May your days be warm and blessed.

Dee Kent, Mission & Evangelism



United Ministries
IN HIGHER EDUCATION

October 18, 2019

**The Students, Staff, and Board of Directors
Of United Ministries in Higher Education
Cordially Invite You To
The 2019 Annual Ministry Celebration Dinner**

Please join us as we celebrate 58 years of
progressive campus ministry at Missouri State
University and honor this year's Carter Award
recipient, Mr. Ron Tappan.



November 16, 6:30 PM

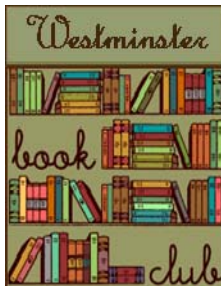
@ Brentwood Christian Church
1900 East Barataria Street, Springfield, Missouri

Please RSVP by November 8th

Phone 417-865-8711 or email Lisa: UMHE@MissouriState.edu

"Greeting the University community with the grace of the Christian Gospel."

There is no charge for the dinner. However, gifts to our campus ministry, the UMHE Endowment Fund, or the Howard Canner Peer Ministry Scholarship Fund will be gratefully accepted. UMHE is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.



The Westminster Book Club will meet on **Thursday, December 5, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Choir Room. You don't actually have to finish the book to participate. Sometimes life happens. This is a great opportunity for fellowship with your fellow Westminster readers.

"Thirteen Moons"
by Charles Frazier



*All Women are welcome to join the Elizabeth Circle on **Tuesday, December 10, at 1:30 p.m.** for our regular meeting. We will read and*

*discuss **Lesson 4** of Horizons Bible Study 'Love Carved in Stone, A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments'. Please bring snacks to share. Please contact Martha Anderson for additional information.*



Mondays at 10:30 a.m.



Knitters, Crocheters, Needleworkers, Quilters, & Wannabes, please join us on Mondays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for fellowship and handwork.

Help is available whatever your level of expertise. For more information see Mary Phillips or Beverly Martin.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, AT 6:30 P.M.

Leader: DeDe Vest Hostess: Marga Pogue
2019-2020 PW/Horizons Bible Study
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS' Lesson: 4



Well of Life Food Pantry (Center City Christian Outreach) is one of Westminster's missions to feed the hungry. Monetary donations are always welcome and need the notation "Well of Life" OR you may pick up some extra items while you're shopping and place them in the box in the narthex. Cereal (both cold and hot) is especially needed right now, because it can be eaten any meal of the day. Another very important need is money for **Milk**. Well of Life pays \$150 per week to Hiland Dairy and it is delivered. If someone would like to sponsor a week of milk (or more), please make out your check to Westminster with **Milk Program** in the memo line. We give extra milk and protein to families with children. **Well of Life is again needing egg cartons.** Volunteers are almost always needed for Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays. Also, any extra produce you may have from your garden would be appreciated, just drop it by 418 S Kimbrough from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays.

LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS

Sympathy:

Family & friends of Wilda Cogdill in the death of her sister Joyce Coday

Special Needs:

Blake Mitchell (cousin of Susie McCrimmons), missing in Cozumel, Mexico, since March 13

Health Concerns:

Faith Ann (5-year old great granddaughter of Steve & Patsy Palmer), recovering from surgery

Mike Kohr, friend of Trotters and Pogues, Chronic Guillain-Barre Syndrome

Pam Burrier, sacrum & hip pain

Silas Peters (great-grandson of Sue & Clyde Stant), serious heart condition and continues to improve

Helen & James (friends of Meredith Taylor), daughter with special needs and James has leukemia

Kathryn Hill, lung cancer

Carol Taylor, lung cancer

David English (friend of Cara Eichenberger), stage 4 cancer, terminal, continues to receive different chemo treatments and regimes

Ron Swain (Carol Taylor's brother), bladder cancer

Homebound Members:

Jo Heath, Joanne Greene

Please call the Church Office at (417) 866-2711 with your prayer concerns.

Are you homebound?

Would you like to have Communion?

If so, please let the Church Office know a few days before Communion dates. Pastor Pulleyking and an Elder will be happy to arrange a time to bring Communion to you.



Thomas Merton

Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by hearsay but by experience. And that is what makes all the difference.

Ronald Rolheiser

Sanctity has to do with gratitude. To be a saint is to be fueled by gratitude, nothing more and nothing less.

N.T. Wright

A sense of astonished gratitude is very near the heart of authentic Christian experience.

Richard Rohr

Prayer is sitting in the silence until it silences us, choosing gratitude until we are grateful, and praising God until we ourselves are an act of praise.

G.K. Chesterton

Gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder.

Henri Nouwen

Gratitude goes beyond the "mine" and "thine" and claims the truth that all of life is a pure gift. In the past I always thought of gratitude as a spontaneous response to the awareness of gifts received, but now I realize that gratitude can also be lived as a discipline. The discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich!



COMMITTEE MEETINGS & CHURCH ACTIVITIES**Sunday, December 1—1st Sunday of Advent**

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

- Blood Pressure Checks in the Library

Youth Group Christmas Party 4:30 –6:00 p.m.

A.A. 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 2

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

Knitters & Crocheters 11:30 a.m.

Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 3

Delaware Neighborhood Assn Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 4

Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 5

Woodcarvers/Whittlers 6:00 p.m.

Westminster Book Club

Sunday, December 8 —2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30

Youth Group 11:30 a.m. –1:30 p.m.

A.A. 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 9

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

Knitters & Crocheters 11:30 a.m.

Delaware Elementary Christmas Program 6:00 p.m.

Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 10

Elizabeth Circle 1:30 p.m.

Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 11

Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 12

Woodcarvers/Whittlers 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 14

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Sunday, December 15—3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.—Cantata

A.A. 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 16

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

Knitters & Crocheters 11:30 a.m.

Session 6:00 p.m.

Encounter Group & W.O.W. Christmas Party 6:30 p.m.

Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17

Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18

Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 19

Woodcarvers/Whittlers 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 22—4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

-Children's Christmas Service

A.A. 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 23

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

Knitters & Crocheters 11:30 a.m.

Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.

*Continued >***WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

If you are unable to fulfill your responsibility please find a substitute and notify the Church Office. Thank you.

Liturgist

December

Bill Piston

January

TBA

Sharing Time

December 1

Pastor Micki

December 8

Judy Wyrick

December 15

Janet Trotter

December 22

Meredith Taylor

December 29

TBA

Offering Helpers

December 1

Dexter McCrimmons

December 8

Aiden Waters

December 15

Cooper McCrimmons

December 22

Spencer Fannin

December 29

Nicole McCrimmons

Acolytes

December 1

Jordan Bayless

December 8

Zoe Riekhof

December 15

Torsten Taylor

December 22

Garrison Taylor

December 29

Tessa Eichenberger

Hospitality/Greeting Team

December 1

Virgie Little, Janie Galbraith,
Bill & Nancy Piston

December 8

Dee Kent, Charles Wills,
Bill Piston

December 15

Dick Pogue, Meredith Taylor,
Mary Lowrance, Nancy Piston

December 22

Steve Wilson, Tom Wyrick,
Steve & Patsy Palmer

December 29

Pat Duncan, Tom Wyrick,
Dee Kent, Dick Pogue**Sound Techs**

December 1

Derek Lowrance

December 8

Courtney Martin

December 15

Bill Piston

December 22

Steve Wilson

December 29

Brandon Carroll & Brooke

CONTINUED: COMMITTEE MEETINGS & CHURCH ACTIVITIES**Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve****Church Office Closed****Wednesday, December 25—Christmas Day****Church Office Closed****Thursday, December 26**

Woodcarvers/Whittlers 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 29

NO Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m. in the gym & breakfast served

-Children's Christmas Service

A.A. 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 30

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

Knitters & Crocheters 11:30 a.m.

Encounter Group 6:30 p.m.

Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 31—Christmas Eve**Church Office Closed**

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1551 E PORTLAND
SPRINGFIELD MO 65804
11/15/2019

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Church Office will be
CLOSED
Thursday, November 28th,
& Friday, November 29th,
in celebration of
Thanksgiving!
See you Monday, December 2nd.

Westminster Learning Tree


- Fully State Licensed
- Preschool & AfterCare
- Ages 6 weeks to Pre-Kindergarten
- Balanced Daily Schedule
- Rich in Literature & Readiness Skills
- Warm & Cheerful Environment
- Mature Shaded Playground

westminsterlearningtree@gmail.com
1551 E. Portland Spfld. MO 65804 417-866-2712



Prayer Requests

If you have a special prayer request for the Prayer Chain, contact the Church Office (866-2711).



Reminder — Best Choice labels go to benefit the Regional Girls Shelter. Box tops for Education and Campbell Soup labels benefit our neighbor, Delaware Elementary School. Please place your labels in the box on the table in the office hallway.


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — 9:15 A.M.
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE — 10:30 A.M.

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 A.M. — 2:30 P.M.
MONDAY — FRIDAY



Pastor Micki

WPC: (417) 866-2711 1551 E. Portland Street
Cell: (417) 425-9474 Springfield, MO 65804-1209
MPulleyking@MissouriState.edu www.westminsterspmo.com



NEXT CHIMES DEADLine
***Monday, December 2nd!**

CHIMES articles may be emailed to the Church at westminster2@sbcglobal.net, placed on the Administrative Assistant's desk, or mailed to the Church Office.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Mission Statement

(Adopted 01/17/2011)

*Worshipping God, Welcoming All
A Family of Faith, Centered on Christ.*

See the latest news and pictures of recent events on our new website: www.westminsterspmo.com!