



Westminster Window

Knowing Christ Building Believers Serving All

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TAKE NOTE!

- Pastor Bonnie will be on vacation August 12-25
- The next Pancakes with the Pastor will be on August 7 from 10 a.m.-noon.
- Pastor Lynn Neal will be preaching on August 13
- Katie Schmierbach -Blank will be preaching on August 20

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Laura Schulte, Editor

August 2023

Age Is Just a Number to God

"Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord... Zechariah asked the angel, 'How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.' The angel said to him, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news.'" (from Luke 1)

God had something new and even unbelievable for Zechariah and his wife to do. They were going to bring life into what looked old and grey and all used up. Age and present condition is no barrier to God. New life and good news would come through them and for all of God's people. May this be so for us too! Keep yourself young at heart and your faith open and growing. God always has something for you to do.

Peace, Pastor Bonnie

(The following is reprinted from the PC(USA) Older Adult Ministries webpage)

The lengthening of the average human lifespan is one of the remarkable achievements of the 20th century. In 1900, life expectancy was only 47, but over those 100 years, it rose to 75 for men and 78 for women. The percentage of older persons in our global society is growing and expected to nearly double between 1990 and 2030.

This trend is no less apparent here in the United States and is especially noticeable within our own congregations of the Presbyterian Church (USA), where the average age of worshipers is 58 — and rising. For every worshiper under the age of 25, there are more than six worshipers over the age of 65, which account for 35% of all Presbyterians.

Our churches, which have traditionally focused on our youth members, must now answer this question: "How can we adjust our focus to better meet the needs of and utilize the skills and wisdom of our older persons?"

An 80-year-old parishioner said, "I am what I am, but how much more I would like to be! I want to remain sensitive, to do the things I can to lighten the load of others, and be a role model for healthy aging." As stated in one of the Psalms, "...In old age, they still produce fruit. They are always green and full of sap, proving that the Lord is upright."

Shout to the Lord!

This month we are sending a “shout out” to all who assisted with the Pancakes with the Pastor activities. The youth so enjoyed the activities whether it was the bounce house or all of the water games. The last Pancakes with the Pastor is August 7 at 10 a.m. Helpers are needed for the carnival themed activities. Don't miss out on this opportunity to have a joy-filled time with our youngest disciples. Let the Church Office or CE know if you would like to volunteer or to register a student for that day.

“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men,”
Ephesians 6: 7

All Faith Formation Classes will resume at 9:15 on Rally Day, August 27. Details to follow.

On Rally Day, be sure to bring you backpack to Worship for the Blessing of the Backpacks.

As a spiritual practice for the year, each month you will find in your newsletter daily readings. You are also encouraged to write a prayer or reflection.



Treasurer's Report



For the Month Ending June 30, 2023

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>Total General Fund Receipts</u>	\$99,698.89	\$101,493.50
<u>Total Expenses</u>	\$107,742.87	\$106,925.00
<u>Net Income/(Loss)</u>	(\$8,043.98)	(\$5,431.50)

Acolyte Schedule

Reminder: the last Early Church (9:30-10:15) is on August 20, and 10:30 worship time resumes on August 27.

August 6—The Spirk Family

Sept. 3—The Spirk Family

August 13—Logan & Madison Sternberg

Sept. 10—Logan & Madison Sternberg

August 20—Lydia Sullivan & Alana Ethington

Sept. 17—Lydia Sullivan & Alana Ethington

August 27 (Rally Day—Service starts at 10:30 a.m.

Sept. 24—Mollie & Tommy Soderlund

—Thomas & Annabelle Foster

August Anniversaries

August 6—Jim & Stacey Morgan
August 7—Jeanne & Merle Schmierbach
August 19—Bud & Kaye Joiner
August 22—Julian & Cody Mahan
August 24—Laura & Larry Schulte,
Bonnie & Thaddeus Wilkins
August 25—Bob & Martha Misselhorn

August Birthdays

August 1—Kay Hapke, Kaye Joiner
August 2—Konnie Pirtle
August 3—Emma Adams, Justin Kiefer
August 4—Logan Sternberg
August 5—Vivian Ivancic
August 6—Wes Sroka
August 8—Faith Sroka, Luke Sroka,
David Sternberg, Ryan Peck
August 9—Martha Barber
August 12—Mary Sternberg

August 13—Gavin Peck
August 15—John Feld
August 18—Sydney Rheinecker
August 19—Jaimie Smith
August 21—Robin McMurtry
August 22—Charlie Lehman, Amber Rucks
August 24—Susan Gasser
August 28—Wayne Laramore
August 29—Mary Niemeyer
August 31—Tricia Funston



Parent and Family Corner

Jesus invites us to practice faith on a daily basis and follow Him. Below is an excerpt from "The Daily Dad" by Ryan Holiday.

A Little Fellow Follows You

In 1939, nine years before John Wooden would be hired to coach the UCLA men's basketball team, a friend sent him a picture with a poem on it to celebrate the birth of Wooden's first child. The picture is a man on a beach whose son is running behind him, playing in his footsteps in the sand. Wooden hung the picture in his home so he might see it every day. The poem, which he memorized and liked to give as a gift, went as follows:

A careful man I want to be—a little fellow follows me.
I do not dare to go astray, for fear he'll go the self-same way.
I cannot once escape his eyes. Whatever he sees me do he tries.
Like me he says he's going to be—that little chap who follows me...

You don't have to memorize these words as Wooden did, but you better internalize their message. Your children follow behind you. They see everything you do. If you go astray, so too will they.

"Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me." John 12: 26

If you are struggling to do this and are searching for help, here are some suggestions for your family. Please feel free to use any suggestions and adapt them freely to your situation and setting. This month's suggestions are: Continue reviewing the books of the New Testament through Philipians, Pray the Lord's Prayer each day and with the congregation during Worship, Pray at mealtime and each night at bedtime, Check out books from the church library to read to your children.

God bless you as you lead your children towards a better relationship with God.



To the Boomers Sunday School class:
Thank you for your memorial gift. We plan on donating to the Food Pantry, because Marcia enjoyed working there. Marleen & Michelle

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and kindness during this difficult time. And thank you for the beautiful flowers. Marleen & Michelle

SING TO THE LORD!

Our Church Choir needs new voices, and we hope you will prayerfully consider joining us! Our first practice will be on August 9 at 6:30 p.m. "Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!" Psalm 95:1

Dedicated Deacons

This summer the food pantry has had a significant increase in patrons. With the cost of items increasing, the Food Pantry can always use donations of any of the following items or a monetary donation. These donations are greatly appreciated and may be dropped off during office hours.

Canned fruits and vegetables
Non-sugary cereals
Hamburger Helper
Noodles
1 lb. packages of spaghetti
Macaroni and Cheese
Oats
Baking mix (like Bisquick)
Dish detergent
Personal care items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.)

August Daily Readings

God speaks to us through His Word, so take some time each day to write down the following scripture. If you have time, you might want to also write a prayer that the scripture leads you to pray, or your reflections as you read.

Come back next month for a fresh scripture writing challenge!

Day 1 — 1 Peter 2:24

Day 2 — Luke 18:42-43

Day 3 — Genesis 4:7

Day 4 — Romans 5:8

Day 5 — Ephesians 1:7

Day 6 — Mark 11:25

Day 7 — Psalm 103:12

Day 8 — Romans 10:9-10

Day 9 — Proverbs 19:11

Day 10 — Lamentations 3:31-32

Day 11 — Psalm 119:28

Day 12 — Habakkuk 3:17-18

Day 13 — Isaiah 33:2

Day 14 — Thessalonians 2:16-17

Day 15 — Psalm 147:3

Day 16 — James 1:2-4

Day 17 — 1 Corinthians 13:12

Day 18 — James 1:27

Day 19 — Romans 1:17

Day 20 — Revelation 3:21

Day 21 — John 8:12

Day 22 — James 2:17

Day 23 — 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Day 24 — 1 Chronicles 16:10

Day 25 — Isaiah 6:3

Day 26 — Habakkuk 3:3-4

Day 27 — Zechariah 2:11

Day 28 — Revelation 1:7

Day 29 — Psalm 19:1

Day 30 — Job 38:4-7

Day 31 — Genesis 12:2-3

Out and About at Westminster



Our July Pancakes with the Pastor was a hit with the kids who joined us! Everyone had a great time playing water games and learning more about God's word. Thank you to all of our great volunteers, who helped to make this such a great day!

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>2</i> <i>6 pm Benevolence</i>	<i>3</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i> <i>6 pm Deacons</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> <i>10-noon</i> <i>Pancakes w/</i> <i>Pastor</i> <i>1-3 Quilting</i>	<i>8</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>9</i> <i>6:30 Choir</i> <i>7 pm Trustees</i>	<i>10</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> <i>Lynn Neal</i> <i>guest preacher</i>	<i>14</i> <i>9 am Prayer</i> <i>Circle</i> <i>1-3 Quilting</i>	<i>15</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>16</i> <i>6:30 Choir</i>	<i>17</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>
<i>20</i> <i>Katie Schmier-</i> <i>bach-Blank</i> <i>guest preacher</i>	<i>21</i> <i>9 am Prayer</i> <i>Circle</i> <i>1-3 Quilting</i>	<i>22</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>23</i> <i>6:30 Choir</i>	<i>24</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> Back to 10:30 worship <i>Rally Day &</i> <i>Blessing of the</i> <i>Backpacks</i>	<i>28</i> <i>9 am Prayer</i> <i>Circle</i> <i>1-3 Quilting</i>	<i>29</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<i>30</i> <i>6:30 Choir</i>	<i>31</i> 10-12 <i>Food Pantry</i>		