



# Westminster Window

Knowing Christ Building Believers Serving All

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July 2023

## TAKE NOTE!

- Pastor Bonnie will be on vacation July 4-8
- The next Pancakes with the Pastor will be on July 10 from 10 a.m.-noon.
- Pastor Bonnie will be on Study Leave July 17-23
- We will have a Contemporary Worship Service on July 30.

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## Compassion, Peace & Justice – a PC(USA) denominational focus

*“Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.”—Isaiah 58:12*

There are many agencies and ministries supported at the national level of our denomination (headquartered in Louisville, KY). CPJ is one arm of the Presbyterian Mission Agency of our denomination – PC(USA).

The Compassion, Peace & Justice (CPJ) engages with Presbyterians and partners across the U.S.A. and internationally to:

- End poverty and hunger
- Restore communities impacted by disaster
- Promote peace and transform cultures of violence
- Promote solidarity with people
- Promote solidarity with Creation

Embracing the invitation to be a “Matthew 25” church, their ministry area works to eradicate poverty, end systemic racism and bring tangible resources to impacted communities. They ask, “When did we see you, Lord?” as they accompany the imprisoned, oppressed and vulnerable, and seek to honor and protect all Creation.

Responding to the actions of our General Assembly, they support congregational and mid council vitality, equipping the church as it acts compassionately and prophetically in challenging times. They do this through accompaniment, advocacy, grant-making and community-centered development that is guided by global humanitarian standards.

Collaboration with mid-council networks, congregations and other ecumenical and interfaith partners is crucial to their work. Compassion, Peace & Justice is made up of 8 ministries:

- Office of Public Witness (OPW)
- Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People (SDOP)
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)
- Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)
- Presbyterian Mental Health Ministry
- Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations (PMUN)
- Presbyterian Peacemaking Program
- Racial, Gender & Intercultural Justice Ministries

CPJ work is supported by the Pillars of the Church program and the Special Offerings of One Great Hour of Sharing, Peace and Global Witness, and the Pentecost Offering.

You can find more information about all of these ministries and initiatives at the denomination's website: [pcusa.org](http://pcusa.org).

# Shout to the Lord!

This month we are sending a “shout out” to VBS teachers and volunteers. These individuals gave of their time and talent to assist with “Stellar VBS.” From decorating to lesson preparation and guiding students, these individuals provided a fun-filled experience for the children of the community. Offerings and items collected were donated to the Sparta Fire Department. Thank you to our Westminster church family for their prayers and support during this week.

“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. Watch for more details.

We hope your kids (ages 4 through grade 6) can join us this summer for Pancakes with the Pastor. We will be serving the kids pancakes and give them an opportunity to grow their faith and build relationship through fellowship. The June happening went very well with 19 children attending. Bounce House and activities were a hit! The next event, Water Play, is Monday, July 10 from 10:00-Noon. Please RSVP by calling the office at 618-443-2025. Come join the fun!! Volunteers are needed—contact the office or Pastor Bonnie.

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 May 31, 2023

|                                    | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <u>Total General Fund Receipts</u> | \$83,138.75   | \$84,577.92   |
| <u>Total Expenses</u>              | \$88,417.07   | \$89,104.17   |
| <u>Net Income/(Loss)</u>           | (\$5,278.32)  | (\$4,526.25)  |

## Acolyte Schedule

July 2—Tommy & Mollie Soderlund

August 6—The Spirk Family

July 9—The Spirk Family

August 13—Logan & Madison Sternberg

July 16—Logan & Madison Sternberg

August 20—Lydia Sullivan & Alana Ethington

July 23—Lydia Sullivan & Alana Ethington

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

July 30—Tommy & Mollie Soderlund

Thomas & Annabelle Foster

## July Anniversaries

July 5—Matt & Erin Foster, Shawn & Erin Jones  
July 7—Eric & Brandy Steely  
July 13—Andy & Megan Dahlem  
July 14—Dan & Lynn Peck  
July 16—Gary & Debi Klausing  
July 25—Greg & Jane Russell

## July Birthdays

July 2—Don Rheinecker  
July 6—Kayla Hille  
July 7—Nina Hille  
July 8—Christy Howell  
July 9—Glenn Short, Maddux Steely  
July 12—Parker Klausing  
July 13—Courtney Rucks  
July 15—Carla Long  
July 16—Alene Holloway



July 18—Gloria Schobert, Chase Bernardoni  
July 19—Dave Heuman  
July 21—Shawn Jones  
July 24—Jane Russell  
July 26—Anne Bourner  
July 27—Stanley Baird, Annabelle Foster,  
Lori Feld, Knox Waldron  
July 28—Drew Byington

## Parent and Family Corner

Jesus invites us to practice faith on a daily basis. 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 Philippians, 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.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please prayerfully consider helping run the PowerPoint and sound system during worship on Sundays. We no longer have a dedicated helper (be sure to thank Don for his years of dedicated service!), and we cannot continue doing it without some new help. Let Laura or Pastor Bonnie know if you are willing to help!

### WESTMINSTER QUILTERS

Calling all quilters or those who would like to learn. Feel free to join us any Monday from 1-3 p.m. in the quilting room to work on a baby quilt. Many hands make light work! Experienced quilters bring supplies! All others bring a willingness to learn! Questions? Contact Anne Bourner.

### WALKING AT WESTMINSTER

Don't forget that the Fellowship Hall is open to the public for walking between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and noon, as long as there are no other activities scheduled. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity now that the hot weather has arrived!



Dear Westminster Family—We thank you all for your continued prayers and concern for Bob and Alene as they have been hospitalized recently and now recovering at home! The beautiful flowers sent to celebrate our 69th anniversary are so appreciated. Pastor Bonnie and Thad have been faithful visiting us and offering prayers, meaning so much to us and our family. God bless you all for the kindness!  
Sincerely, Alene and Bob Holloway

## Dedicated Deacons

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.)

## *July 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 — Isaiah 61:1

Day 2 — Psalm 119:45

Day 3 — Ephesians 3:12

Day 4 — 2 Corinthians 3:17

Day 5 — Galatians 5:13

Day 6 — Romans 12:9

Day 7 — Acts 18:9-10

Day 8 — Isaiah 6:8

Day 9 — Acts 4:19-20

Day 10 — Amos 5:24

Day 11 — Hebrews 12:2

Day 12 — Mark 12:30

Day 13 — Matthew 7:13-14

Day 14 — Deuteronomy 30:19

Day 15 — James 1:12

Day 16 — John 8:34

Day 17 — 2 Peter 3:7

Day 18 — 3 John 1:11

Day 19 — Psalm 1:6

Day 20 — Philippians 4:6-7

Day 21 — Hebrews 13:5-6

Day 22 — Psalm 27:1

Day 23 — Daniel 6:26-27

Day 24 — Isaiah 25:7-8

Day 25 — Romans 8:38-39

Day 26 — Revelation 5:12

Day 27 — Psalm 30:2

Day 28 — Jeremiah 17:14

Day 29 — James 5:14

Day 30 — Isaiah 53:4-5

Day 31 — Matthew 9:22

# Out and About at Westminster



← Our first Pancakes with the Pastor on June 5 was a big success! Nineteen kids joined us for fellowship and faith growing!

Stellar VBS at FUMC was a blast! Our kids enjoyed making new friends and learning more about God's word!



Thank you to everyone who helped make our Worship in the Park on June 25 so amazing! The weather cooperated and gave us a beautiful morning with a nice breeze to help cool us down, and the meal afterwards was delicious! And Pastor Bonnie's message was perfect for the occasion! A special "Thank you!" to Bruce, Randy and Clyde for getting there early to secure our spot!

# July 2023

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue  | Wed                                 | Thu  | Fri   | Sat  |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>2</b> <i>Summer<br/>Worship<br/>Hours begin<br/>9:30 a.m.</i> | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry</i>  | <b>5</b><br><i>6 pm Benevolence</i> | <b>6</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry</i>  | <b>7</b>                                      | <b>1/8</b>   |
| <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b> <small>9 am</small><br><i>Prayer Circle<br/>10-noon<br/>Pancakes w/<br/>Pastor<br/>1-3 Quilting</i> | <b>11</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry<br/>6:30 Session</i>  | <b>12</b><br><i>7:00 Trustees</i>   | <b>13</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry</i> | <b>14</b>                                     | <b>15</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry</i> |
| <b>16</b>  | <b>17</b><br><i>9 am Prayer<br/>Circle</i>  | <b>18</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry<br/>SCH &amp; RCFB<br/>using Fellow-<br/>ship Hall 4-9<br/>p.m.</i> | <b>19</b>                           | <b>20</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry</i> | <b>21</b>                                     | <b>22</b>  |
| <b>23</b><br><i>Konnie Pirtle<br/>guest preacher</i>             | <b>24</b><br><i>9 am Prayer<br/>Circle</i>  | <b>25</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry</i>   | <b>26</b>                           | <b>27</b> <small>10-12</small><br><i>Food Pantry</i> | <b>28</b><br><i>2 pm RCCC<br/>B'Day Party</i> | <b>29</b>  |
| <b>30</b><br><i>Contemporary<br/>Worship Service</i>             | <b>31</b><br><i>9 am Prayer<br/>Circle</i>  |  |                                     |  |   |  |