



# *Westminster Presbyterian Church*

## *On Course Newsletter*

### September Blessings to All!

One of my favorite times of the year is fast approaching. Soon there will be beautifully colored leaves on the trees and crisp air with delicious apples and cider. It sure was a hot summer, dare I say too hot at times. Let's hope for a cool down soon.

This month, the Membership and Outreach Committee will be hosting a tramp roast, or hobo stew, as I like to call it, on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> after worship. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for what is needed. We encourage everyone to bring a friend and enjoy the flavors of the season with us. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect and enjoy some hearty, comforting food.

If you're interested in helping with the event, please call the office. We appreciate any assistance with setup, cooking, or cleanup.

### Gratitude and Harvest

Psalm 67:6\*\* – “The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, blesses us.”

September is often associated with harvest time, making it an ideal moment to express gratitude for the blessings and abundance we receive. September often brings communities together, whether through church gatherings or back-to-school events.



# *Pastors Message*

Greetings in Christ!

It is undeniable that September has arrived, and that later in the month (September 22<sup>nd</sup>, to be exact), the autumnal equinox will usher in a new season, promising cooler temperatures and the beginnings of fall colors. As we're writing this article at the very end of August, it's already very cool (our furnace started running this morning!), but hopefully we haven't reached the end of the shorts and t-shirts season! One of the great joys of living in Northern Michigan is the never-ending parade of seasons, each unique and each with its own particular delights (and sorrows, if we're to be honest).

The new meteorological season brings with it the return of a busier schedule around the church, with our much-loved choir returning to worship, regular meetings of various committees starting up, and advanced planning for the year-end holidays all adding to the calendar. We don't want to get too far ahead ourselves, but plans are developing for the Deacon's annual pasty sale, this year limited to one week instead of two; this very popular event is dependent on participation from the congregation, so please consider signing up (when the time comes) to lend a hand! Before pasties, we have our joint "Adopt-A-Highway" road cleanup with our brothers and sisters at the Grand Lake Community Chapel the last week in September, always a fun time of fellowship and helping keep our region litter free.

If you stop to think about it for a moment, September is an interesting month; still summer, but also fall. Still warm, but also with a bit of coolness around the edges. Still plenty of time for outdoors play, but with a suggestion to get ready for the inevitable days of hunkering down because the weather outside will one day be frightful. September is a "shoulder" month, a time of transition that offers us an opportunity to look back on the joys of one season, and to look forward to the joys of the next without having to strain our memories or tax our imaginations. September also reminds us that some things are absolute constants in life; sunrises and sunsets, blue skies and clouds, and the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. These things never change and never will; regardless of the season, we can count on the Triune God to be with us always. As this month evolves, please don't lose sight of that simple fact. The clothes we wear will change, the things we do outdoors will change, but the Holy Trinity will not; and for that we should be eternally grateful!

We still have some wearable items commemorating our 100th Anniversary available for purchase, as are copies of Mark Thompson's book. And we can take special orders for wearables in different sizes/colors than we have on hand.

We are continuing to post our written worship service via email, to live-stream our services on Facebook at Westminster Presbyterian Church of Rogers City, and to send out our Midweek Update. Please let us know if you aren't receiving these so that we can correct our distribution list. If you aren't able to be with us in the sanctuary, please consider joining us online!

May God bless you and keep you, and all whom you love, and all whom you are called to love, safe and well.

Rev. Karen, Toby, and Dr. Greg

# What's happening in September??

## Let's take a look!

**Worship-** 11 a.m. on Sundays. **Communion**, the **SECOND** Sunday of September.

**Deacon's-** Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the library.

**Choir Practice-** Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11 a.m.

**Worship & Music Committee-** Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10 a.m. in the library.

**Sessions-** Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. in the library.

**Sunrise Side Drive Up Pantry-** Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. If you would like to volunteer, please call the church at 989-734-3929.

**Pounds A Weigh Group –** (Formally Tops) Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.

**AA meetings-** Mondays and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

**Westminster Sings!!-** Tuesdays at 2 p.m. at The Brook.

***Carl D. Bradley, His Stone Church, and the Golden Days of Rogers City Books*** for sale for \$20.  
(Profits are being donated to the church.)

**Church wearables** are also available for sale.

**Seeking Liturgists**, greeters, and coffee hour hosts. Also looking for people to lead the children's moment. Sign-up sheets on the bulletin board. Training provided.

**The Membership and Outreach Committee** will be hosting a Harvest Tramp Roast, on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> after worship. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for what is needed

**The Deacons recently voted to do pasties one week** (3 days) rather than two weeks (6 days) this year. This is contingent on getting enough volunteers to help.

The tentative dates are October 20, 21 and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sign-up sheets will be out soon. Please plan ahead so that if you sign up you can be sure to be there. Thanks for your support.

**The Membership Committee** has sent out letters in order to accurately update our membership rolls. If you haven't returned yours, please do ASAP. If you have returned your letter, Thank You!!

*Presbytery Monthly Newsletter Link*



**From the Desk of  
TOBY THE CHURCH DOG  
September 2025**

Hello dear friends!

I hope your noses are wet and your tails are wagging! I'm a happy boy, but my life has ever been exciting!

Last week I took my sissy, Justice, to her new school in Louisville, Kentucky. That is a long drive! We started out at her house in Fairgrove where, from my perch on the console, I directed the packing of her belongings into my truck and her car. Golly, she has a lot of stuff! None of us thought it would all fit into the space we had, but with guidance from my keen mind, Daddy was able to fit everything in. I must tell you, I was a bit miffed that I was only given several work breaks for trips outdoors and for a cooling beverage during the entire packing process.

I must confess to being distressed during the move. First of all, my parents decided that it was time for me to have a new car seat. They apparently felt my old seat was not supportive enough for bumpy roads. Here's my problem-- while the new seat is comfortable, it is much smaller, making the jump from the front seat to my seat in the back a daunting leap. It wasn't until the third day of our trip that I felt confidence in my ability to get from point A to point B without damaging myself. This is a scary position for a pup to be in!

Secondly, do you know what my sis packed in her car for the move??? A cat! Yes, you heard me right; she has been cheating on me with another pet! I suspected something was going on; for when we'd cuddle together at home, I thought I was picking up on the scent of another. Well, it was true; she has a cat. The craziest thing happened as we moved Justice, though. I began to like the cat too. Go figure. I've decided that if I can have enough room in my heart to deeply love each member of my family, my sis can love both me AND the cat.

The toughest part of moving Justice was leaving her in a new place so far away from home. I'm pretty good at understanding people's emotions, so I knew she was very excited about her new adventure but also a bit uneasy about stepping into something so new. I could tell my parents were filled with contrary emotions too. Sissy is so smart and accomplished, so I know she will adapt well to her new environment but am I ever going to miss licking her face! I guess it's good she has a cat who will take care of her.

Doing something new just to do it is not always wise; but doing something new for wise reasons is most often the right choice to make. This is what I know; if I pray to God about my next move and get his guidance, more often than not I will be headed in the right direction. I may still feel uneasy about doing something that is unfamiliar; but I know my God will continually work his goodness in and through my situation when I invite him in. I have handed my sissy, my car seat, and even the cat, to him; so, I believe all will be well. And I've handed you, my dear friends, to him too.

With love from your church dog, **TobY**

**Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:18-19**

## *September Birthdays*

Lisa Kortman 9/02

Priscilla Jaeger 9/07

Julie Tsangaris 9/08

Keith Peacock 9/12

Edward Knaebe 9/18

Ryan Hincka 9/22

Joyce Parris 9/02

Robert Asam 9/08

Gail Stoutenburg 9/10

Bergen Steen 9/14

Mary Chojnacki 9/19

Lisa Gleason 9/24





## *Those Serving*

### *September 7<sup>th</sup>*

*Greeters:*

*Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger*

*Liturgist: Beth Getzinger*

*Coffee Hour:*

*Flowers:*

### *September 14<sup>th</sup>*

*Greeters:*

*Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger*

*Liturgist: Don McLennan*

*Coffee Hour:*

*Flowers:*

### *September 21<sup>st</sup>*

*Greeters:*

*Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger*

*Liturgist:*

*Coffee Hour:*

*Flowers:*

### *September 28<sup>th</sup>*

*Greeters:*

*Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger*

*Liturgist:*

*Coffee Hour:*

*Flowers:*



*Use this in your prayer time for our Westminster family and loved ones.*

*If you want the prayer changed, added or removed, please let the church office know at 989-734-3929 or email us at [rcwestminster@gmail.com](mailto:rcwestminster@gmail.com).*

## **Westminster prays for:**

**Mike, Karen Maher's son**, who has had extensive back surgery.

**Jeanette Long**, pray for God's perfect healing.

**Brian Brooks**, for continued healing following release from the hospital.

**Beth Getzinger**, for God's answers and complete healing.

**Geri Andrzejewski**, for healing.

**Gary Orr**, for healing following heart surgery.

**Barb Harris**, for continued healing during her rehab following a broken leg.

**Roger and Renee Faust (caregiver)**; it is difficult for him to be without Renee's care.

**Nicole Wilson, daughter of Molly and Emil Zielaskowski**, would like continued prayers as she undergoes maintenance chemotherapy.

**Maggie Hilla**, toddler great granddaughter of Dave Storms for continued strength, improved health and growth.

**Taylor, granddaughter of the Knaebe's**, for God's perfect healing.

**Joan Chappa**, Annette Maynard's sister, who has Parkinson's.

**Marion Lamb** for the healing of her broken wrist.

**Robert Engle**, family friend of Ann Clapp, is undergoing a challenging back surgery.

**Etta Meinecke**, Ann Clapp's friend and regular summer visitor to WPC for answers as to why she had a seizure and patience while she cannot drive for 3 months.

**Kyle Andrzejewski** (son of Shannon & the late Bernie Andrzejewski) for healing following major brain surgery.

**Maverick**, a little boy who needs healing from cancer.

**Those in the military.**

**Peace and healing** for all those who have lost loved ones.

## **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

125 W Ontario, Rogers City, Michigan

Website: [rcwpc.org](http://rcwpc.org) (989) 734-3929

email [rcwestminster@gmail.com](mailto:rcwestminster@gmail.com)

[Like us on Facebook; Westminster Presbyterian Church of Rogers City](#)

**Ministers:**                      **The Members of Westminster Presbyterian Church**

**Pastors:**                      Rev. Greg Zurakowski (cell: 734-502-5969)  
Email: [revgregrc@yahoo.com](mailto:revgregrc@yahoo.com)  
Rev. Karen Zurakowski (cell: 734-250-0761)  
Email: [revkarenrc@yahoo.com](mailto:revkarenrc@yahoo.com)

The Pastors' Office Hours are Monday-Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Treasurer	George Smart	email: <a href="mailto:smart6348@gmail.com">smart6348@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Michelle Kamyszek	email <a href="mailto:rcwestminster@gmail.com">rcwestminster@gmail.com</a>
Music Leaders	Ann Clapp - Organist	email <a href="mailto:annb1946@gmail.com">annb1946@gmail.com</a>
	Myriam Goodwin – Choir Director	email <a href="mailto:dulaquais65@gmail.com">dulaquais65@gmail.com</a>
Church Historian	Kay Morrill	
Pastor Emeritus	Reverend William C. Koch	Honorably Retired

## **ELDERS**

Judy Fisher	Clerk
Myriam Goodwin	Music & Worship
Don McLennan	Personnel & Nominating
	Christian Education
Mary Ann Heidemann	Building & Grounds
Molly Zielaskowski	Membership/Fellowship/Outreach
Beach Hall	Missions
Priscilla Jaeger	Stewardship/Finance

## **DEACONS**

Deacon Class of 2025	Deacon Class of 2026	Deacons Class of 2027
George Smart	Gail Stoutenburg	Shelby Carrier
Joan Smart	Lois Allum	Cliff Fisher
	Kerry Viegelahn	