



Westminster Presbyterian Church

On Course Newsletter

What Our Church Family Has to Be Thankful For

Community and Fellowship

One of the greatest blessings for our church family is the sense of community and fellowship we share. In a world that often feels disconnected, our congregation provides a network of support, friendship, and love. This environment allows us to grow spiritually and emotionally, knowing that we are not alone in our journey.

Strong Leadership

Our church is blessed with strong and visionary leadership. Our pastors, ministers, and church staff work tirelessly to guide us, teach us, and inspire us. Their dedication ensures that we have a supportive and nurturing environment to practice our faith and serve others.

A Place of Worship

Having a dedicated place of worship is something we often take for granted. Our church building is not just a structure but a sacred space where we gather to celebrate, reflect, and seek solace. We're thankful for the beauty and serenity it provides, as well as the resources that keep it maintained and welcoming.

Health and Safety

In these times, we are particularly thankful for the health and safety of our church family. We appreciate the measures taken to ensure that our gatherings are as safe as possible, allowing us to continue worshipping and supporting one another through challenging times.

Personal Blessings

Lastly, we are grateful for the personal blessings each member of our church family experiences. Whether it's health, career opportunities, family milestones, or personal achievements, we celebrate these joys together, knowing that they are gifts to be cherished.

In reflection, our church family has much to be thankful for. As we count our blessings, we are reminded of the strength, love, and hope that our community embodies.

Pastor's Message

Greetings in Christ!

Can you believe that it's November already?? It seems as if we just stepped into the "lazy, hazy days of summer," and now it's time to get serious about finishing up our yard clean-up jobs and getting the snow-fighting gear in position for the inevitable! Hard to believe, we know, but it's true; by the end of this month, we'll be in the Season of Advent!

Before we get too far into our discussion about November, we have to acknowledge what a great month October was! A fun and successful pasty-making event brought several Westminster folks together for chopping, rolling, filling, and baking nearly 600 tasty pasties. We were sold out by Friday of "pasty week," so we hope you got yours before they were all gone! Then on October 25th, we participated in a "Trunk or Treat" Halloween celebration up at Mike Lynch Ford; over 300 kids came to visit the various open "trunks" (OK, they were really open hatches, but whatever) in their Halloween finery. Our thanks to all who donated candy and who worked at our designated vehicle! It's great to be a part of community events!

November will be filled with special events, as well; daylight saving time comes to an end on November 2nd (remember to "fall back" on Saturday night!), there's an election on November 4th that will help determine the future budget for the Rogers City Area Schools, the annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on November 25th, this year at St. Ignatius Roman Catholic Church, followed by the Community Thanksgiving Feast (also at St. Ignatius) on Thanksgiving Day. November 23rd marks the end of the church year, with the observation of Christ the King Sunday, and then finally on November 30th, we step into the Holy Season of Advent, a time of preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. We haven't forgotten about the opening day of firearms deer season on the 15th!

We talk about this every year, but it's so very important; Advent is a big deal! We are blessed with four weeks to sharpen our focus on one of the defining events in Christianity, the birth of Jesus. As much fun as it can be to decorate our homes and our church building for the festivities of the season, as exciting as shopping for the perfect gift for a loved one can be, nothing should ever get in the way of getting our hearts and souls ready to welcome the Son of Man into our lives. Don't let your preparations for the season get in the way of the reason for the season.

We will be having an Advent Bible study, *Our Dear Christ Enters In*, starting on December 1st, to help with your spiritual readiness; all are welcome!

We still have some wearable items commemorating our 100th Anniversary available for purchase, as are copies of Mark Thompson's book.

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 November??

Let's take a look!

Worship- 11 a.m. on Sundays. **Communion**, the first Sunday of October.

Deacon's- Tuesday, November 4th at 5:30 p.m. in the library.

Choir Practice- Tuesday's at 11 a.m.

Worship & Music Committee- Tuesday, November 4th at 10 a.m. in the library.

Sessions- Tuesday, November 11th at 5:15 p.m. in the library.

Sunrise Side Drive Up Pantry- Saturday, November 15th from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. If you would like to volunteer, please call the church at 989-734-3929.

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

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

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.

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.

The Community Foundation of Northeast Michigan will be having the annual Giving Tuesday drive on December 2, 2025. There will be more information to follow on how to give to our beautiful church, via the website cfnem.org.

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th in observance of Thanksgiving.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner, Thursday, November 27th. There is a sign-up sheet for dinner and volunteers in the Narthex. You can also call the office to sign up at 989-734-3929.

Community Thanksgiving Service- Tuesday, November 25th at 7 p.m. at St. Ignatius Catholic Church.

[Presbytery Monthly Newsletter Link](#)



From the Desk of

TOBY THE CHURCH DOG
November 2025

Hello dear friends!

I have had a pretty busy month, which comes with some advice for you. If your people ever lead you to the door of your veterinary clinic, don't just blindly run in with your hopes high and your tail wagging. Stop, assess, and become aware of the situation; for it may not be what you think.

I love Dr. Chelsea and her entire staff at the Huron Veterinary Hospital, but I certainly didn't expect to be led in by my parents two and a half weeks ago, be put into a very deep sleep, and awaken with patches of my luxurious fur shaved, stitches down my backside, and a *Cone of Shame* on my head. I later learned that I had had a rather large tumor removed from my hind, right leg. Several days ago, I found out that it was a benign, fatty tumor. My parents sure did seem happy when that call came in; but personally, I object to anything on my muscular body being called "fatty"!

I must note here that I strenuously object of being forced to wear a cone around my head. It was embarrassing and degrading!!! First of all, I pride myself in my dexterity; but wearing that awful thing around my neck caused me to lose my normal sharp pivots and clear cornering; and instead, to run into walls, furniture, and people. Humiliating! On top of that, it was necessary to learn to center any object I might wish to eat, or toy I might want to grab, in the center of the cone's opening, completely eliminating my usual sneaky grabs and speedy maneuvers. But worst of all, were the looks of pity and disgust I received from other furry friends. Those quick glances said, "Thank goodness it's him and not me!" And then there was the name calling, like, "Oh look; it's Cone Boy!" Or, "Do you need a scoop of ice cream for that cone?" Yeah, funny...

Sure, I understand the thought process behind the dreaded cone; it was meant to discourage me from chewing on my stitches and incision as they became itchy as I began to heal. But even that is insulting! As if I am so foolish as to do something like that! More insults.

Yes, these last few weeks have been tough. But do you know how I decided to respond to the hardship? I loved. I gave tail wags and kisses and cuddles as if nothing was wrong. I decided that if God still loves me, even wearing a *Cone of Shame*, I should love others too; even if they may not have treated me as I thought I should be treated. I took the high road, cone and all!



Know that I love you too, my friends!

From your church dog,

TobY

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. *Psalm 34:18*

Those Serving

November 2nd

*Greeters: Sue & John Viegelahn
Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger
Liturgist: Mary Ann Heidemann
Coffee Hour:
Flowers: Marvelle McCutchen*

November 9th

*Greeters: Myriam Goodwin & Lois Allum
Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger
Liturgist: Don McLennan
Coffee Hour: Myriam & Lois
Flowers:*

November 16th

*Greeters:
Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger
Liturgist: Beth Getzinger
Coffee Hour:
Flowers:*

November 23rd

*Greeters:
Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger
Liturgist: Beach Hall
Coffee Hour:
Flowers: Beth Getzinger*

November 30th

*Greeters:
Liturgist: Cliff Fisher
Flowers:*

*Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger
Coffee Hour:*



November Birthdays

Andrew Hanson 11/05

Sara Carpenter 11/07

Cody Wirgau 11/16

Ann Clapp 11/20

Brian Peacock 11/23

Linda Knopf 11/27

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

Westminster prays for:

Taylor Hefe, for God's perfect care and healing.

Melissa, a friend of Judy Fisher's, who is awaiting the results of a bone biopsy.

Sadie Lucas, for healing following a medical event

Matthew, Gail Stoutenburg's nephew who suffered a heart attack this week.

Cliff Fisher, for healing following eye surgery.

Michael, nephew of Jeanette Long, for God's care and healing following abdominal surgery.

Skeeter Heath, a friend of Veronica Frost's, who was in a very serious car accident and will have a lengthy recuperation.

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

Jeanette Long, pray for God's perfect healing.

Geri Andrzejewski, for healing.

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.

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

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

Etta Meinecke, Ann Clapp's friend for healing.

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

Tammy Risner, a friend of Ann Clapp, who is having a very delicate surgery on her adrenal glands Monday.

Brian Brooks, for proper answers and treatment for concerns with his lungs.

We pray for those in the Military

We celebrate and thank God for:

Nicole Wilson, daughter of Molly and Emil Zielaskowski, who has received her last chemotherapy treatment and was declared cancer free!!!

Ann Clapp, for the joyful news that her osteoporosis is gone!

We pray for those mourning.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Website: rcwpc.org (989) 734-3929

email 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
Rev. Karen Zurakowski (cell: 734-250-0761)
Email: revkarenrc@yahoo.com

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

Treasurer	George Smart	email: smart6348@gmail.com
Secretary	Michelle Kamyszek	email rcwestminster@gmail.com
Music Leaders	Ann Clapp - Organist	email annb1946@gmail.com
	Myriam Goodwin – Choir Director	email dulaquais65@gmail.com
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	



Give Thanks.