



Westminster Presbyterian Church
On Course Newsletter



Pastors Message

Greetings in Christ!

It's already August?? What happened to July? It seems as if we just settled into summer, and the airwaves and our mailboxes are already filled with back-to-school advertisements and end-of-season sales on summer clothing! It certainly didn't help that thick smoke from the devastating Canadian wildfires limited outdoor time for much of July, and that it's been a relatively cool summer (so far), but it sure feels as if time is flying by at an incredible pace!

July was another fairly quiet month at Westminster, with no church festivals or special events taking place, other than the specialness of our weekly worship services. You may have noticed that our parking lot is in the process of being repaired and seal coated, thanks to the efforts of our Building & Grounds Committee led by Elder Mary Ann Heidemann, and mandatory upgrades to our elevator were made. Dr. Greg had what can best be described as an "interesting" experience as a Commissioner to the 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA), and planning is underway for our annual Strawberry Shortcake Social during the Nautical Festival. Speaking of which, as we all know, many hands make the work light, and there is plenty of work to be done to have a successful sale event; there are sign-up sheets in the narthex if you're willing to help out. We encourage you to check your calendars and add your name to the list of volunteers! The Rogers City Nautical Festival has been pushed back one week this year, but it will still open with the Sailor's Memorial at which your pastors will be offering the opening invocation and closing benediction. Our summer worship services will continue to be enriched by the musical gifts of various members and friends of our church family; our thanks go out to Myriam Goodwin for arranging special music for the summer months!

The Westminster family holds our beloved sexton Annette Chappa (Chops) in prayer for her sister's entry into the Church Triumphant; we pray that the hope and the promise of the Resurrection of our Lord brings comfort and strength in these challenging days.

We don't often think of August as a transition month, but consider that by the end of the month, many college students will be back on their campuses, some younger students will be back in school, and some seasonal entertainment venues will begin the process of shutting down until next year. It will still officially be summer (until September 22nd), with lots of great weather left to enjoy, yet many of us will be planning for the cooler seasons to come. In our planning, let us not forget to live in the moments that we have been given; let us not be so focused on what is to be that we don't embrace what is now. Joy-filled gatherings with family and friends, quiet walks along a beach, being inspired by a sunrise or a sunset, waking up to a mug of hot coffee in a campground, and countless other life-enriching events are ours to claim in this month of August. These things are offered to us as gifts by our loving God, to make our lives full and balanced. We encourage you to accept them with delight and gratitude. -- Continued

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



Westminster's Annual Strawberry Shortcake Social

Saturday, August 15 and Sunday, August 16th on
the church lawn from 11:30 to 2:30



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Sign-up sheet on table in the Narthex.

What's Happening in August

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

Joint Deacons and Session meeting- Tuesday, August 4th, 5:30 pm at Bariliks.

Sunrise Side Drive Up Pantry- Saturday, August 15th from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

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

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

Sunrise Side Pantry is in need of clean plastic grocery bags and egg cartons, the one dozen size please. Drop off at church.

Flood and storm aid -- The Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church is offering to the Westminster Church family an opportunity for a \$100 grant or an up to a \$1,000 loan, to be repaid within two years with no interest. Please see Michelle in the office for an application.

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Those Serving

August 2nd

Liturgist: Beth Getzinger
Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger
Greeters:
Coffee Hour:
Flowers: Suzie Mertz

August 9th

Liturgist: Don McLennan
Preservice Music: Beth Getzinger
Greeters:
Coffee Hour: Nancy Gross
Flowers:

August 16th

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

August 23rd

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

August 30th

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

BY TOBY THE CHURCH DOG

August 2026

Hello dear friends!

I've been giving a good deal of thought to the way I present myself, and I wonder if my thoughts and feelings match the perception I create. For instance; I love you all, but does that emotion come across to my friends when we meet? I get so excited when you are around; my wagging begins with my tail and then vibrates right up my spine until my whole being is swinging back and forth. Often my happiness bursts forth, then, with barking I cannot contain, and I find my front legs floating in the air in a spontaneous greeting. Excitement at the presence of a loved one becomes an out-of-body experience for me.

My mom says that I bark just to hear myself bark; which is partly true, I guess, because I am often taken by surprise when hearing the velvety tones of my voice and wish to hear them again. And again. But I think I need to give some thought to how my voice is heard by the humans in my life. I'm beginning to understand that to some people my bark may not sound joyful at all, but instead, threatening. How hurtful that must be; and how damaging to the trusting relationships I hope to build!

I understand that we all communicate with our voices, facial expressions, and body language, but my form of communication might be confusing to you because it is a bit different than yours. First of all, my luxurious fur conceals many of my facial expressions. My ears do give clues to my emotions, though. When they are forward or lifted, I am either listening carefully, or curious and interested in you. If you find my ears flattened back, I'm probably fearful or anxious; wise folks give me a little space at these times to acclimate to the situation. When my tail is lifted straight up into the air I am either excited or alert. When it wags side-to-side, I'm comfortable and happy to see you; but when that tail starts spinning in a circle I am over-the-moon about being in your presence. If you ever witness me tucking my tail, know that we are in a circumstance where we all should proceed with caution. Likewise, if you see me avoiding eye contact with someone, I am either anxious or showing submission to them. You can generally assume that I'm calm when my eyes are relaxed, and fearfully alert when my eyes are wide. And my voice changes with my emotions too. I growl for several reasons: to warn or protect, or sometimes when in rough and tumble play. When my bark is sharp and short I am excited, but when I modulate the pitch I am trying to signal information to my humans. I do not howl, because that is undignified; but those who do generally wish to share their loneliness or distress.

I guess I can see why you might find it challenging to understand what I am trying to say to you. The last thing any of us wish to do is leave someone we care about feeling unloved or dismissed. Won't you join me in working toward a communication style that is welcoming and inviting.

With love from your Church Dog, **TobY**

"Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." Matthew 10:40

August Birthdays

Pat Erfurdt 8/03

Maggie Morley 8/03

Greg Zurakowski 8/05

Dusty Knaebe 8/06

Joan Smart 8/09

JaneAnn Geyer 8/19

Thomas Erfurdt 8/25

ICE CREAM



Word Search



R	X	S	O	O	U	L	M	B	V	U	P	I	Q	N	I	T	G
V	B	I	C	M	C	U	P	I	T	Z	F	U	D	G	E	O	E
S	T	A	B	O	W	K	Z	L	L	I	S	E	C	O	T	P	L
E	P	P	N	F	O	Y	S	Y	H	K	J	G	O	J	H	P	A
H	F	R	A	A	R	P	B	P	N	T	S	B	N	M	S	I	T
W	U	P	I	F	N	S	P	Z	L	K	J	H	E	M	O	N	O
A	P	N	L	N	L	A	U	H	J	I	B	L	A	N	R	G	N
F	Z	C	G	P	K	O	E	N	G	Q	T	H	Z	K	B	S	H
F	N	R	B	L	U	L	A	M	D	I	G	T	D	H	E	F	X
L	L	X	L	B	M	Q	E	T	J	A	Q	G	Z	G	T	B	G
E	V	D	K	Q	X	O	C	S	R	C	E	U	K	J	C	B	I
N	Q	T	T	O	N	E	U	P	J	U	S	W	I	R	L	S	R

Find the following words in the puzzle.
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘.

SPRINKLES
MILKSHAKE
TOPPINGS
SUNDAE
WAFFLE
BANANA

GELATO
SORBET
SCOOP
SPLIT
FUDGE
FLOAT



SWIRL
CONE
CUP

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[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-Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Treasurer	Beach Hall	email: bbh827@charter.net
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

Priscilla Jaeger	Clerk of Session
Beach Hall	Treasurer
	Music & Worship
Don McLennan	Personnel
	Christian Education
Mary Ann Heidemann	Building & Grounds/Nominations
	Membership/Fellowship/Outreach
Beach Hall	Missions/ Stewardship/Finance

DEACONS

Deacon Class of 2026	Deacon Class of 2027	Deacons Class of 2028
Gail Stoutenburg	Shelby Carrier	Maggie Morley
Lois Allum		Gene LaPointe



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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