

MAY
2025

the Link

Stewardship: Our Stories

For most of the month of May, we will be engaged in our annual stewardship season, a time when we reflect together on what it means to belong to Westminster and how each of us contributes to the life and future of this church. Our theme this year is *Our Stories*, and throughout the month, we'll be hearing reflections from members of the congregation alongside stories from the book of Exodus. Ancient or new, these are stories of calling, courage, trust, and transformation, the ways God has walked with us in seasons of change, hope, and growth.

Each of us has a story to tell. Whether it's a story of quiet faith or bold action, a story of comfort found in community or a time when you stepped out in service to someone else, your story matters. Together, these stories form the living witness of our church, a reminder that we are not just individuals following Christ, but a community, walking together and learning from one another as we go.

Stewardship is about more than just preparing next year's budget. It's about recognizing and celebrating who we are as a people shaped by generosity, compassion, and commitment. It's a time to reflect on how we use our time, our gifts, and our resources, not only to sustain the ministries we value, but to express our hope for what God might do through us next.

Throughout the month, we invite you to consider how your own story is part of what God is unfolding at Westminster. We also invite you to pray about your financial pledge for the year ahead. Every gift, in every form, helps us continue the work of worship, justice, care, and community-building in Christ's name.

We'll dedicate our pledges in worship on Sunday May 18th, but you are welcome to submit your pledge any time before then online, by returning the commitment form you will receive in the mail, or by emailing Dave Gross at financialsecretary@westpresa2.org.

Through this season, may you be reminded that your presence matters, your story matters, and that God's faithfulness continues to carry us forward, together.

Peace,
Rev. Hannah Lundberg
Stated Supply Pastor



Engaging Our Neighbors

Joyful Pursuits

Our annual Children's Easter Party began with chases— for bubbles blowing in the wind and for an escaped duck flying and waddling on its own adventure.

Over 40 children under 12, and approximately 100 people total, enjoyed petting small farm animals, participating in various crafts, story time, and ringing the rainbow bells before pursuing hundreds of treat-filled Easter eggs hidden in the sanctuary. Our visitors left with bags of goodies in their hands, bunny ears on their heads, smiles on their faces, and expressions of gratitude for a delightful morning.



Habitat House of Faith

Westminster has a few more Habitat work days for this season.

Friday, May 9 (all spots filled!), **Friday, May 23** (new date added), and **Friday, August 8**. No experience necessary, and all tools will be provided! Visit our website for more information and to sign up, or contact Ron Fairchild with questions (ron@thefairchilds.net).

Community Interviews

In November, we shared the Holy Vision 2024 report, a snapshot of where we are as a congregation and some clear, hopeful directions for moving forward. Since then, Session has been steadily working to turn those ideas into action. We've been asking: How can we strengthen our culture of hospitality? How might we become more intentionally invitational? What does it look like to build deeper, mutual relationships with our neighbors?

One way we're moving forward is through community interviews. Members of our Strategic Planning and Facilitation team are reaching out to schools, nonprofits, retirement communities, and other local organizations. The goal is twofold: to listen to and learn about the needs and resources already present in Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County, and to share with others the good things happening at Westminster.

These conversations will help shape how we connect more meaningfully with our community and discern where our energy and resources can make the greatest impact. If you have questions or would like to be part of this listening work, please contact Pastor Hannah.

Our Life Together



Organ Recital Series

On Sunday, May 4th at 2pm, Shawn McDonald will be joined by soprano, Kira Slovacek for a recital of organ solos and vocal selections by American, French, and Czech composers featuring Bach, Mascagni, Franck, Dvorak, and Pamela Decker. This event is free, and all are invited to enjoy what is sure to be a wonderful afternoon of music!

The grand finale of this series will be on Sunday, June 8th at 4pm and feature a fabulous choral concert that combines voices in large and small groups with our glorious new organ. A reception will follow. We will be reaching out to all current and former Westminster Choir members to participate in this event. If you are interested in joining us, contact Shawn McDonald at smtenor@yahoo.com for music and the rehearsal schedule.

Music by Club Cole

Come by Westminster at 7pm on Saturday, May 17 for the Spring Swing Sing Thing by Club Cole! Shawn and Carla will be playing a set of classic swing music—great for singing and dancing along to! Signup sheets are on the bulletin board. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share, invite some friends, and lighten your spirits with an evening of music.



CLUB COLE



Game Night!

Our next game night will be on Friday, 5/2, 7pm in the fellowship hall. Bring a friend and join the fun!



This Month's Preaching Schedule: _____

May 4: Rev. Hannah Lundberg (Communion)

May 11: Rev. Hannah Lundberg

May 18: Rev. Hannah Lundberg (Dedication Sunday)

May 25: Sean Eaton

Photos from Holy Week at Westminster _____



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