



Paying Attention to Goodness

**“Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
God’s steadfast love endures forever.”
(Psalm 107:1)**

During the month of May, the Westminster Youth joined youth from First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor for a series learning about bullet journaling, exploring how this creative practice can help us clarify our goals and listen for God’s call in our lives. (If you’re curious to learn more, talk with one of our youth!)

In our final session, we focused on making lists (of even the most mundane things) to help organize our thoughts and feelings. I found myself writing down all the small times I could think of when I felt a sense of gratitude recently, intentionally avoiding the big things, and focusing on little moments I might otherwise forget. My list keeps growing: a song that reminded me to text a friend, the soft texture of a nice cloud at sunset, the way my cat curled up next to me and forced me to keep still, the warmth of overhearing two strangers interact in a sweet way at the park.

It was the same week we read the story of Joshua stacking stones at Gilgal, a physical act of remembering God’s faithfulness. I began to see each bullet point of gratitude as a small stone of remembrance. There is so much more goodness around us than we often realize.

In her book *Grateful*, Diana Butler Bass writes this: “To choose gratitude is not an act of dogged determination. To choose gratitude is to hear an inner urging toward thanks, to be aware of the grace in life, and to respond. For whatever reason, we turn and reply to an invitation for a deeper, better life.” I’m feeling particularly encouraged by that idea of gratitude as an easy everyday choice, a way of being in tune with God even if the little things we notice are not all that

dramatic. Fall might seem like the gratitude season, but I feel it bubble up most easily around now, as summer emerges and long days stretch ahead, full of possibility. Throughout the month of June, I invite you to consider how you might choose gratitude, and pay attention to those small but persistent places where God is reminding you of goodness and grace.

This month we will have plenty to be grateful for, with the choir leading us in “The Jukebox Gospel” Motown Parables of Jesus during worship on June 14th, a celebration of Baptism on June 21, and lots of opportunities for fellowship and connection along the way. This month we also switch to our earlier summer worship time, worshipping at 10am from June 21-September 6th. Depending how you feel about mornings, you can choose to be grateful for the first half or second half of the month! We hope this switch will allow for more summer adventures that can help cultivate gratitude for us all!

Peace,
Rev. Hannah Lundberg



Engaging Our Neighbors

Continuing to Support our Refugee Neighbors



Once again this year, Westminster will support refugee families in our community through a summer-holiday donation drive running from Memorial Day through the 4th of July.

Our donation drive will be conducted in partnership with Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County (JFS), which identifies the household items most needed by local refugee families and distributes donated items to those families. JFS is the only resettlement agency in Washtenaw County and assists refugees and immigrants through its RISE program (Resettlement, Integration, Support and Empowerment).

Resettlement of refugee families was limited last year, but thus far this year approximately 35 families have arrived and are being resettled in our community

through the work of JFS. Many of these families have arrived from South Africa and are seeking safety, stability, and new opportunities for themselves and their children as they begin rebuilding their lives in the United States.

The support of local partners, such as Westminster, is critical in helping JFS provide warm and welcoming homes for newly arriving refugee families.

Monetary gifts may be made on the Westminster website, or checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church may be given to Dave Gross, Financial Secretary. Gift card donations should also be delivered directly to Dave Gross.

A list of needed donations may be found on our website.

Donation bins are located in the hallway leading to Fellowship Hall and in the Narthex.

Let us work together to support our refugee neighbors!



Playground Expansion!

Session has approved the construction of a new play-structure for the smallest members of our community! Our existing play-structure is rated for 5-12 year-olds, but this new structure will be rated for 2-5 year-olds. This will provide a place for the children of UDT to play during their day, and will be an excellent resource for our young congregants and neighbors. UDT is partnering with us on coordination and fence-relocation efforts.

Funding for this project will come from our endowment funds, but members are also invited to donate directly toward this effort! A giving option is available at westpresa2.org/online-giving.

The new structure will be located on the lawn to the north of the current structure, and construction is expected to begin in mid-late July.

Our Life Together

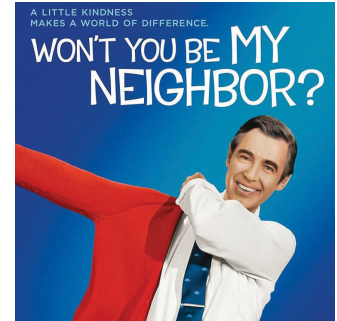


“The Jukebox Gospel” Motown Parables of Jesus

Get ready to clap, sway, and experience Scripture like never before! The Westminster Choir will lead worship on Sunday June 14, in a service where Jesus’ timeless parables come alive with the heartbeat of classic Motown. Whether you’re 8 or 88, this high-energy, family-friendly revue will remind you that God’s love is still searching, still running, and still calling us home. Bring a friend and come ready to sing along—because the Kingdom is on the move!

Movie Night: “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?”

Join us on Friday, June 19th at 7pm in the Sanctuary for a screening of “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” This documentary chronicles the life, influence, and philosophy of Fred Rogers, the host and creator of *Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood*. Stick around for a discussion following the film. Popcorn and lemonade provided!



CPR Training

Westminster will be hosting a CPR training class with Amy Ticknor on Sunday, July 19, immediately following the 10am worship service. The class is expected to run until 1:30 or 2:00pm (attendees may bring a sack lunch or snack).

Cost is \$10 per person, and the enrollment form is open from now until June 28. This is a hybrid training, with a portion to be completed online before the in-person training day.

Class is limited to a maximum of 12 people, so visit our website to reserve your spot!



Game Night!

Come for First-Friday Game Night on June 5, 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite game or maybe try a new one. You’re also welcome to just come and hang out. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend and introduce them to the great people of Westminster!



This Month’s Preaching Schedule:

June 7: Rev. Hannah Lundberg (Communion)

June 14: “The Jukebox Gospel”

June 21: Rev. Hannah Lundberg *Worship at 10am*

June 28: Rev. Hannah Lundberg



Thank you everyone who came out to hear Writers Co last month!

Learn and Grow Together

Reading Through the Bible Group meets Sundays at 9:30am in Room 34 and via Zoom. Contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more information.

Sunday Morning Adult Ed meets in the fellowship hall at 9:30am.

Children and Youth Faith Formation meets on the second and third Sundays of each month at 9:30am. Contact Cathy Daniels (catld1121@gmail.com) for more info.

Monday Conversations are weekly at 1pm online: an opportunity to discuss Sunday's sermon in a small group. The Zoom invitation is in the Friday *Good Things* and Sunday podcast emails.

Mary Martha Group meets the first and third Mondays at 7pm via Zoom. Contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net) for more information.

Matthew 25 Study Group meets at 7pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. For meeting information, please contact Elizabeth Tidd (lizabeth0405@yahoo.com) or Carol Hufnagel (carol.hufnagel@tetrattech.com).

Thursday Book Club meets weekly at 1pm at Westminster and over Zoom. Contact Linda Harnisch for more information (rlharnisch@gmail.com).

We thank you for continuing to fulfill your pledges and financial commitments (online or by mailing checks) in support of the mission and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church.



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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