



Why Church?

**“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’
teaching and the fellowship,
to the breaking of bread
and the prayers.”
(Acts 2:42)**

This month we’ll be asking some questions about what makes church unique as an institution, why we do certain things, and how we can understand on a more theological level why it matters that we choose to seek Christ in community.

For the first Sunday, World Communion Sunday, we thought about what it means to be a connectional church, united through Christ with people all over the world. On October 11th, we’ll be joined by Rev. Anna Taylor-McCants, the lead pastor and executive director of Fed Up Ministries. Anna will share more about the work Fed Up does in Southeast Michigan, and we’ll reflect together on why it matters to be a church who serves our neighbors. On October 18th, we’ll celebrate why worship matters, and we’ll be joined by some of our neighbors from Calvary Presbyterian Church for that service. Finally, on October 25th, we’ll reflect why learning matters in the church. My hope is that each week will give us a chance to think a little more intentionally about some familiar rhythms in our church life—things we sometimes do so habitually that it can be easy to forget why they matter.

Alongside this, during October we’ll conduct a series of listening circles, helping to clarify and articulate who we are as a church, what our hopes for the future are, and what steps we’d like to take to get there. If you missed the listening circles on October 4th, there are two more opportunities, on October 12th and 13th. If none of those dates work for you, send me an

email; we are coordinating one more session that we will schedule at a time that works best for those who need it.

Our listening circle process comes alongside the news I shared at our annual meeting: that I will be departing as your pastor in summer 2027. That transition is still a long way away, but we are beginning the work necessary to make this shift as easy as possible, to prepare for the next pastor, and name our hopes for the near and long-range future of the church. For now, not much will change at WPC, but we will be able to start working to make this transition smooth. If this is new information for you, and you’d like to read the longer message I shared, or would like to talk about what is to come, please reach out, I would be happy to chat anytime.

What is always abundantly clear to me is that God is at work among us, in our worship and our prayers, in the neighbors we serve, and in the people of this congregation. You are a remarkable church, and it is a gift to be your pastor. That is part of why these questions matter to me this October: they help us name what we have been given and what we are called to keep doing together. I look forward to asking them with you.

Peace,
Rev. Hannah Lundberg

Engaging Our Neighbors



Rocking and Rolling

At our recent Gemini concert, about 100 people of all generations were rocking and rolling, literally. The hillside of Westminster was filled with people singing, dancing, clapping, and several children rolling down the hill, as Gemini sang familiar folk songs and some of their original tunes.

The community was generous with their smiles, gratitude, and donations for Food Gatherers as we enjoyed a beautiful fall afternoon together.



Habitat for Humanity: Rock the Block

Join Habitat for Humanity for a service day in the Sugarbrook neighborhood of Ypsi. Friday, October 23, 8am-1pm.

This large-scale exterior project day seeks to bring together a team of 100+ volunteers to serve a whole block of homes! Typical tasks include cleaning gutters, installing gutter guards, replacing downspout extensions, painting, trimming hedges & trees, planting flowers, spreading dirt & mulch, weeding & yard clean up, and other minor exterior improvements on neighborhood homes and community spaces.

Visit our website to sign up by Friday, 10/16. Contact Ron Fairchild for more information.



Football Parking

Our next Westminster tailgate and football parking day is 10/17 for the Penn State game! Kickoff is at 3:30. We'll start parking cars by 7am, but feel free to stop by any time before

kickoff. Bring a comfortable chair for outdoor seating and a dish to pass (if you are able). All are welcome!



Service of Remembrance

Sunday, November 15, at 5pm. This service will be a peaceful and meditative time to remember those we loved and still love. Those from the wider

community and those from all faith traditions are welcome. You are invited to bring a small framed photo of your loved one and light a candle in their memory.

Our Life Together



Chili and Cookies Cook-Off

Join us for an all-church cook-off! Friday, October 23, at 6pm.

Bring your favorite chili or cookies. We'll set out the dishes with a description or recipe, but the chefs will remain anonymous! Diners can vote for a favorite chili and favorite cookie of the night. Open to all ages and experience! Signup sheets are on the bulletin board.

Planning for our Future: The Westminster Endowment

Did you know that Westminster has an endowment? In case you missed the Endowment Report in the 2026 Annual Report, check it out!

By contributing to the endowment, you are helping Westminster not only with funding for current unfunded special needs but also are helping Westminster plan for the future. Contributions are never used, but only a fraction of the growth of the fund.

You can contribute to the endowment fund through

outright gifts, by including the Westminster Endowment Fund in your bequest, or for some, using a portion of your RMD to make a non-taxable qualified charitable gift. It is also a great way to give a gift in honor or memory of a special person. If you are interested in supporting the endowment fund you can give online; contact David Gross, bookkeeper; or Carol Hufnagel, chair of the Finance and Stewardship Ministry Team. Gifts should be designated to the Westminster Presbyterian Church Permanent Endowment Fund.

Confirmation

A confirmation class for youth in 8th grade and above will begin on Sunday, October 18th. For the first session, we will share an overview of the year; students can take a week to decide if they would like to participate. We'll meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9:30am, with a field trip offsite about once a month. Confirmation is a chance to dive deeper in faith, ask big questions, and be affirmed that there is always room for curiosity, uncertainty, and wonder in a life of faith. Join us on the 18th to learn all about it, and let Pastor Hannah know if you have questions!



This Month's Preaching Schedule:

October 4: Rev. Hannah Lundberg
(World Communion)

October 11: Rev. Anna Taylor-McCants

October 18: Rev. Hannah Lundberg

October 25: Rev. Hannah Lundberg



November Worship Stories

Across the first three weeks of November, we will have a worship series focused on grief, remembrance, and the hope we find in God alongside the pain and loss of this world. In this time, we are looking for a few members of the congregation to share a story about someone who has died and who was significant in your life. You might share a memory, something they taught you, or simply what made them important to you. If you might be interested in writing or sharing a reflection aloud, reach out to Hannah (hannah@westpresa2.org) for more information.

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 fourth Sundays of each month at 9:30am. Contact Cathy Daniels (catld1121@gmail.com) for more info.

Monday Conversations are weekly at 2:30pm 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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