

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Knowing Christ.....Making Christ Known

January 21, 2024
9:30 A.M. Traditional



GATHERING THOUGHT

"Off Stellwagen
off the Cape,
the humpbacks rise. Carrying their tonnage
of barnacles and joy
they leap through the water, they nuzzle back under it
like children
at play.

+

They sing, too.
And not for any reason
you can't imagine."

-from "Humpbacks," a poem by Mary Oliver

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 21, 2024

9:30 A.M.

PRELUDE

Cantate
Chancel Ringers

Brian Childers

WELCOME *(Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad in your pew)*

CHORAL INTROIT *I Will Fill This House with Glory* Eric Thimen

I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. (Haggai 2:7)

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 62

Leader: For God alone our souls wait in silence, for our hope is from God.

People: God is our rock and my salvation, our fortress; we shall not be shaken.

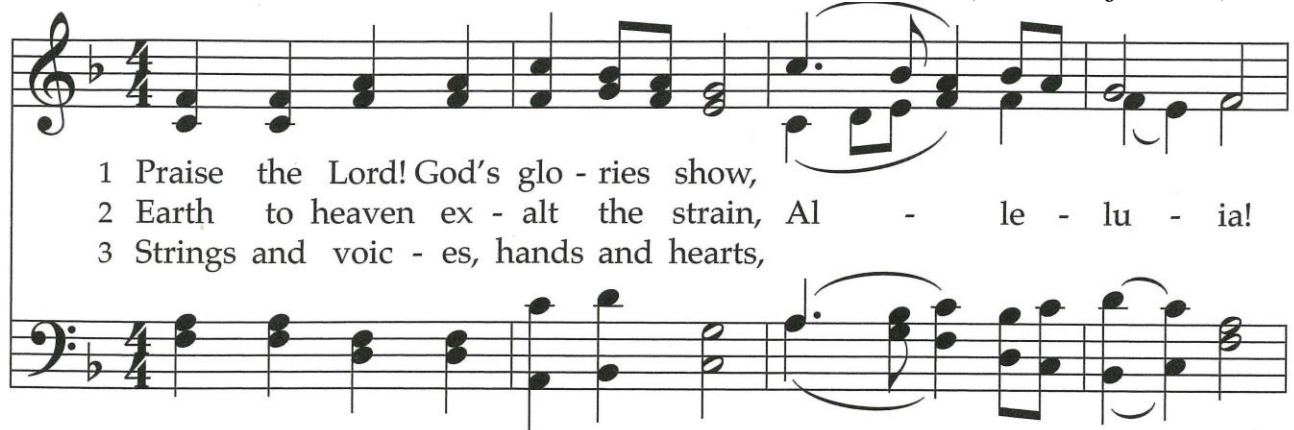
Leader: On God rests our deliverance and our honor.

People: Trust God at all times, O people; pour out your hearts, for God is a refuge for us.

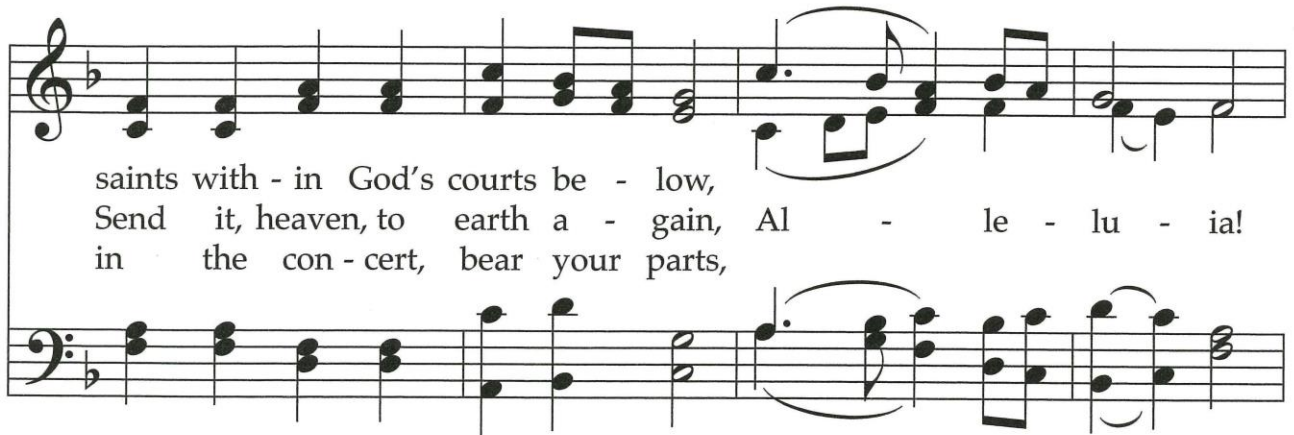
Leader: Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,

People: and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.

HYMN #33 *Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show (stand if able)*



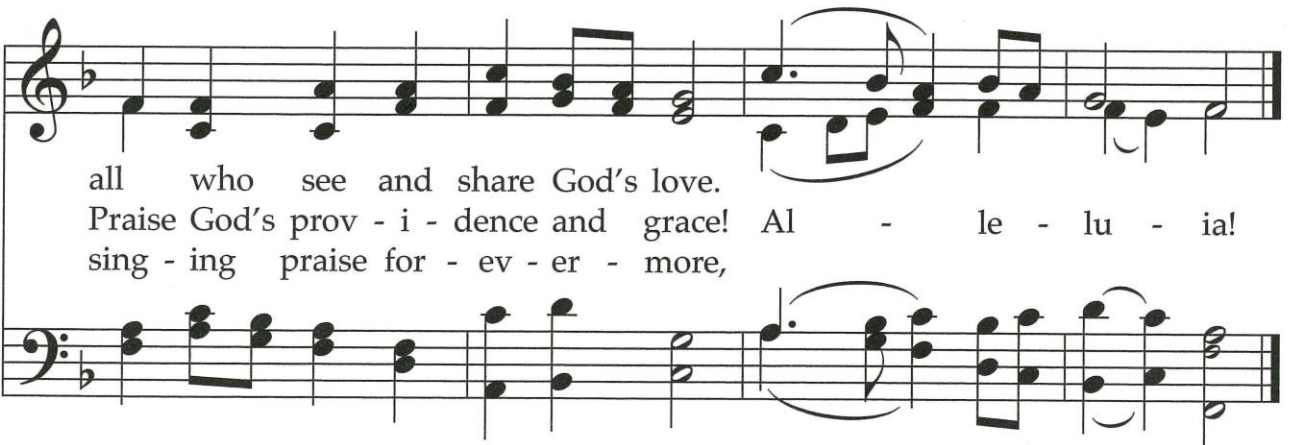
1 Praise the Lord! God's glo - ries show,
2 Earth to heaven ex - alt the strain, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Strings and voic - es, hands and hearts,



saints with - in God's courts be - low,
Send it, heaven, to earth a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia!
in the con - cert, bear your parts,



an - gels round the throne a - bove,
Age to age, God's mer - cies trace, Al - le - lu - ia!
All that breathes, your Lord a - dore,



all who see and share God's love.
Praise God's prov - i - dence and grace! Al - le - lu - ia!
sing - ing praise for - ev - er - more,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess that we have settled down in patterns that do not always glorify you. We become numb to new life and Christ's own call. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again, and show us your mercy...*(time for silent prayers of confession)*.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

RESPONSE #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*
(please stand if able)

APOSTLES' CREED *(please stand if able)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR CHILDREN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Question to Congregation: *Do we, the members of this congregation, in the name of the whole church of Christ, undertake with these parents the Christian nurture of this child so that in due time he may confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior? If so, signify by saying, “We do.”*

Response: We do.

Question to Children: (Read by Charlie Deese) *Children of Westminster, do we promise to share the Light of Jesus with Leo by being his friend and always showing him kindness and love? If so, say, “Yes, we do!”*

Response: Yes, we do!

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING – “*The Peace of Christ*”

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: Let us welcome these who have professed their faith.

People: Friends, as members of one holy, catholic and apostolic church, you do not come to us as strangers, but as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you to share with us in the worship and work of this people of God!

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

.....Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever, Amen.

OFFERTORY

Give Me Jesus
Mindy Bowman, flute

Howard Helvey

*I heard my mother say, give me Jesus,
You may have all this world, give me Jesus.*

*Dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus,
You may have all this world, give me Jesus.*

*Oh, when I come to die, give me Jesus,
You may have all this world, give me Jesus.*

DOXOLOGY #606 (please stand if able)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, change our hearts and our lives. Renew us by your good news. With the help of your Spirit, use the gifts we bring for your holy work of transformation, as we seek to go where Jesus leads us.

Amen. *(please be seated)*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1: 14-20 (Pew Bible pg. 812)

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

When It's Time

Leah Hrachovec

HYMN #724*O Jesus, I Have Promised (please stand if able)*

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;
2 O let me feel thee near me! The world is ev - er near:
3 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
4 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee

be thou for - ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
I see the sights that daz - zle; the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;
that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.
but, Je - sus, draw thou near - er and shield my soul from sin.
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE***Prelude and Fugue in F Major Vincent Lübeck*



Worship Times:
9:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.

WELCOME VISITORS! We are glad you are here today. To help us welcome you personally, please sign the *Friendship Pad* with your name, address, email and/or phone number.

If you are interested in knowing more about being a follower of Jesus, have any questions, or desire follow-up information, please speak to one of the pastors. Following worship, they can be found greeting at the doors of the sanctuary.

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR TODAY are: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and *Psalm 62:5-12*; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM is administered at the 9:30am traditional service to Leo Ray Cornacchione, son of Jesse and Maria Cornacchione; and at the 11:00am contemporary service to Jacob Odysseus Hewlett and Archer Benjamin Hewlett, twin sons of Mark and Leigh Hewlett; and to Wesson Laurence Luckner, son of Brandon and Christin Luckner.

NO JOURNEY CLASS THIS MORNING.

KIDSCONNECT MORNING SCHEDULE:

- 8:45am – **Childcare (6 months thru 4 years old)** available **until 12:15pm** in Room 109. If you plan to use the nursery for childcare and/or if you are willing to serve as a nursery volunteer, please contact Mary Maina at childcare@westminsterpc.org.
- 9:30am - **Children Pre-K through 5th grade** will start out in worship with their parents and after the Thought for Children will be dismissed to their classes. Dismissal time is 10:40am.
WeeConnect 3-4 year olds in the Chapel
KidsConnect K-1st grade in room in Room 102
 2nd-3rd grades in Room 105
 4th-5th grades in Room 406
- 11:00am – **Young Children & Worship** will start out in worship with their parents and after the Thought for Children will be dismissed to the Chapel.

USHERS: Jerry Shuts (lead usher), Charlotte Cain, Rich Cain, Ken Hutton, Chuck Lambing, Chip Steinmetz, Patti Welsh, Dave Welsh, Anne Zimmerman

WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY will be one combined service at 10:00am with congregational meeting to follow.

THE NEXT BAPTISM CLASS will be next Sunday at 9:30am in the Chapel. Please note time change due to worship time change.

* * * * *

Ministers of Jesus Christ	All the Members of the Congregation
Pastors	Leah Hrachovec, Jennifer Clark, Jon Frost, Ann Hatfield
Pastor Emeritus	Bob Young
Director of Music Ministries	Tim Evers
Associate Director of Music Ministries	Kirsten Santos Rutschman
Director of Youth and College Ministries	Chris Clark
Director of Children and Families Ministries	Jill Reichert

WORSHIP INFORMATION

WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sanctuary

9:30am – Traditional worship

11:00am – Contemporary worship with band

Wednesday Morning in the Chapel

9:10-9:30am – Prayer and Communion worship

PHONE MINISTRY - Calling in for Worship is offered for those who want to listen to the 9:30 am service by phone. Contact Nancy Christy at 610-696-3284 for dialing instructions.

A REMOTE TV MONITOR is in the Quiet Room (just outside the sanctuary in the west hallway) to view and hear worship in progress for those with restless children or who need to leave the sanctuary.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available for worship at the Information Center in the Narthex. Additionally, the sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop system that transmits to hearing aids and cochlear implants with telecoils. **PEW CUSHIONS** also available at the Information Center.

PRAY GROUNDS ARE LOCATED along the sides of our Sanctuary and are geared towards young children to engage in items from the cart during worship. This allows a space more suitable for them to be a part of the worship service.

LIVE STREAMING of our services is offered over the internet. A service bulletin for worship may be found through the link on our website or in the weekly update. We invite you to join us at westminsterpc.org when not able to attend worship.

TEXT GIVING is available. Text keyword “egivewpc” and then your donation amount to 73256 on your mobile device. Click the response link, make selections, hit continue, and add payment information. Contact Sandy Kurek at skurek@westminsterpc.org for more information.

TAIZÉ PRAYER and contemplative worship occurs various times throughout the program year. Visit our website or call 610-399-3377 for dates and times.

PRAYER MINISTRY members receive a weekly list of prayer requests via email and members include them in their conversations with God. To have a prayer request included in the Prayer Ministry or to become a member, contact Janet Gauger at gauger.janet@gmail.com or the church office.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION is celebrated the first Sunday of every month in all services. If you desire or know of someone desiring **HOME COMMUNION**, please contact Ann Hatfield, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care at 610-399-3377 ext. 114.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM is celebrated the **third Sunday of every month**. Our **BAPTISM CLASS** is offered the last Sunday of each month, except December, at 10:30 a.m. Contact the office to register for the baptism class.

NEWS AND EVENTS

January 21, 2024



**Knowing Christ,
Making Christ Known**

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd. West Chester, PA 19382
610-399-3377 www.westminsterpc.org

JANUARY 28, 2024
COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM
AND
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AT 11 AM
In Person in the Sanctuary or via Zoom

Join us for our annual meeting for the purpose of:

1. Voting on changes in the terms of call
for installed pastors
2. Hearing the 2024 budget overview, and
3. Receiving the 2023 Annual Report.

The annual report and other documents will be sent out
prior to the meeting.

Brunch refreshments will be provided for those who would like to remain after the
meeting.

*Childcare available during meeting
for children 4 years and under.*

STAR WORDS VESPERS AND POTLUCK DINNER
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 AT 5:00PM



Intergenerational worship and fellowship to start off the new year. Children, families, couples or singles of all ages are welcome! This vespers service we will focus on “Star Words.” What word will the Spirit share with you to focus on this year? Join us for worship in the Chapel at 5:00pm and find out! Then stay for a potluck dinner in Spellman afterwards. We will provide meat and veggie lasagna options but invite you to bring a side/salad or dessert dish to share with everyone.



HELP US CELEBRATE REV. JENNIE CLARK'S RETIREMENT

After 41 years of ordained ministry, including over 6 years at Westminster, Rev. Jennie Clark retires from her call as Associate Pastor for Spiritual Growth. Come hear Pastor Jennie preach her final sermon during both morning worship services on Sunday, February 4. We will recognize and celebrate Pastor Jennie on her final Sunday in worship on February 11, when there will be one service at 10 am with Director of Youth and College Ministries Chris Clark preaching. Following the service, we will gather in Spellman Hall for a church-wide reception.

If you would like to share thoughts and memories about Jennie's leadership, you're invited to drop off photos, cards or letters in baskets found in the Narthex during the first two Sundays in February.

WESTMINSTER OUTREACH

If you have a passion for Outreach and would like to explore joining Westminster's Outreach committee, please contact [Angela Emrich](mailto:ang.emrich@gmail.com) – ang.emrich@gmail.com or [Rob Necarsulmer](mailto:robneocar@gmail.com) - robneocar@gmail.com.

COLGATE® ORAL CARE FREE RECYCLING PROGRAM



Westminster has signed up with Terracycle to be a Public Drop off Point for Recycling ALL BRANDS of oral care products and packaging. This includes toothpaste tubes, caps and packaging, toothbrushes and packaging and dental floss containers. A Public collection bin can be found in the parking lot near the Gleaning Garden. A bin is also located in the Heckert Center for congregation drop-off. Questions? Contact [Angela Emrich at ang.emrich@gmail.com](mailto:ang.emrich@gmail.com).

PROJECT CURE

Have the dire headlines of conflicts around the world got you down? Wish there was some way you could help?

Project CURE's warehouse in Jennersville needs volunteers. Project CURE collects, sorts, repacks, and ships donated medical supplies to countries in need worldwide. Six containers have been sent from the warehouse to Ukraine, and more are going to Israel and Gaza. There are volunteer opportunities for everyone - no experience required. Training provided. Volunteers with any level of medical training are urgently needed to audit specialized supplies before packing. The warehouse is open 9-4 Mon-Thur and 9-12 on Fri. Come anytime your schedule permits. Great flexibility with no prior commitment. For more information visit the Project CURE website <https://projectcure.org/> or call Rachel Rider at 215-378-6460.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

JANUARY 24 FROM 9:30-11:30AM

A 12-week study beginning January 24 entitled *Hidden: Finding Delight in Your Life In Christ* by Allison Allen.

Study guide on Amazon <https://bit.ly/AMZbiblestudy>
or Church Source <https://bit.ly/CSbiblestudy>

Excerpt from the back of the book ...

"Discover the gift found in a life that doesn't seek to be seen. *'Your life is hidden with Christ in God'*" ~Colossians 3:3

In a world where excellence is equated to exposure, and legacy is equated to social media likes, what does it mean to embrace a hidden life?

In this study, we will learn from and relate our own stories to examples of multiple concealed characters in the Bible including the Sons of Korah, Cleopas, Huldah the prophetess, the Daughters of Shallum, Pilate's wife, and Gideon. In Scripture, Jesus presents us an astoundingly countercultural way of existing - one without the pressure to perform or make a platform. The life Jesus offers us is focused on him.

Questions? Contact Kathy Smedley at ksmed@aol.com or Ellen Musser greateast@comcast.net.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday Fellowship for January 23 is Dr. David Goodale. Dave will use two highly regarded references: the **Bible** & Near Death Experiences (**NDEs**) to answer 3 of the more difficult religious questions about **Our Invisible Spiritual Challenges** today:

- 1) What is our purpose here on earth... what should be our life's goal ?
- 2) Why do bad things happen to good people if there is a loving God ?
- 3) Don't all people end up going to heaven if GOD is all loving ?

We will meet **in Spellman Jr** at 9:30 AM for fellowship, coffee, tea and treats. Discussion to follow at 10:00-11:00AM. Contact Dave Goodale (dbgpharma@gmail.com) for ZOOM information.


Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group: Meets this Tuesday, January 23, at 6:00pm in Spellman Jr. or on Zoom. Contact Page Hinkle at pagehinkle@kw.com for more information.


Escape Hibernation! Eat Out with WPC'ers on Thursday, Jan. 25, 12 Noon at Timothy's in Parkway Center. Call Carol Olver at 610 883-6176 or Carol Edwards at 610 306-0674 for reservations and details.

Calvin University Presents "The January Series", 12:30-1:30 PM, January 15-February 2. Every January, Calvin University sponsors [The January Series](#), a daily, hour-long cultural enrichment series. Its goal is to cultivate deep thought and conversations about important issues of the day in order to inspire cultural renewal and make us better global citizens in God's world. Attend The January Series virtually. To register to live stream and/or learn more about this year's speakers, type the following in your browser - <https://bit.ly/JanSer24> -

2024 Safe Harbor Meals – Limited Spots Remain!

We're still looking to fill a handful of lunches and dinner spots to fulfil our meal commitment to Safe Harbor in 2024. Please help us reach our goal and consider volunteering your time and cooking talents!

Lunch Volunteers needed: to prepare 30 bagged lunches. Remaining dates  include: 7/6, 7/15, 8/3, 8/19, 10/5, 12/7. Volunteers must shop, assemble, and deliver the lunches. Volunteers can select 1 date or more!

Dinner Volunteers needed: to prepare and serve dinner for 25 residents of  Safe Harbor. Remaining dates include 6/2, 8/4 & 10/6. Volunteers must shop, assemble, deliver, and serve the dinners. Volunteers can select 1 month or more!

Additional information can be found in the Signup Genius using the QR codes. Please reach out to Christine Philbin (cphilbin31@gmail.com) with any questions!

Thrift Shop. WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS!! The thrift shop needs Valentine's Day and St. Patty's Day items of all types. We certainly **appreciate your support**, and our customers are **very much appreciative**. God Bless!!!

Help Support DAWN'S PLACE in January. January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month and Westminster's Anti-Human Trafficking Advocacy Working Group will be collecting household items for Dawn's Place. Dawn's Place supports women affected by commercial sexual exploitation and its abuse by providing services to women, raising awareness and generating prevention. Bring items to church during the month of January and place in the marked bins located near the entrances. Questions? Contact Diane DeSieno-Lane at dianedesieno@msn.com. Here is a list of items or types of items being collected:

Large trash bags – 30 gallons	Toilet paper
Dish washing detergent	Kleenex
Ziplock bags – 1 gallon	Paper towels
Disinfecting wipes	Napkins
Swiffer Wet Jet refill	Laundry detergent
Bathroom cleaner spray	Glass cleaner
Hand soap	Dryer sheets
Furniture polish	

FINANCIAL

December 2023

General Fund – Mission and Church Operations

Year To Date	Actual	Budget	% vs Budget Better/(Worse)
Pledge Giving	\$1,779,305	\$1,736,796	2.4%
Total Revenue	\$2,253,904	\$2,118,741	6.4%
Expense	\$2,253,200	\$2,302,435	2.1%

Thank you for your commitment to the mission and ministry of Westminster.

Message from Gerry McShane, Church Administrator- We ended the year with strong giving, 12% above last December, and enough to give us a small surplus for the year. Remember where we were at this time last year, projecting a budget that would force us to withdraw \$183k from our operating reserves. The results are impressive when one considers our pledge drives have declined every year since 2020. Historically, we have averaged a 3% allowance for uncollected pledges but in the past two years we are less than 1%. While our unfulfilled pledges were 5% of total pledged dollars this past year, we have donors who fulfill and then exceed their pledge, thus bringing the percentage of pledged dollars received this year to 99.6%. In fact, our average pledged dollar has increased 35% in the past two years. This is meaningful. In summary, while our individual pledgors are down, we have a significant number of dedicated and engaged members who are joyfully giving.

Controlling expenses was also a large contributing factor to this year's small surplus, as personnel costs were down 6% vs. plan. The strong December allowed us to contribute an additional \$25k to our Property Reserve fund, an important decision based on our heavy property investments from this past year led by the new chiller, and projected investments for '24, (i.e., Spellman roof, new doors, and windows for Sanctuary wing). We enter the 2024 calendar year with a new Associate Music Director and a 2nd FT custodian, the latter to handle the increase in church ministry engagement and outside group usage. Thank you to everyone who is contributing their time, their talent and ultimately their treasure!

Offering Figures for 1/14/24 (includes online giving)

General Fund-Sunday Svc/Mailed/Online	\$46,662.21
Directed Gifts	100.00
Per Capita	490.00
Joy Offering	570.00
Peace Offering	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$47,922.21

Attendance: 1/14/24

In Person	384
Phone	6
Live Stream	<u>518</u>
Total	908

Calendar for week of January 21, 2024

Sunday, January 21

- 8:30 A.M. Childcare (109)
- 9:30 A.M. Traditional Worship / WeeConnect 3-4 yrs
KidsConnect (K-5th grade)
- 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary), Young
Children & Worship (Chapel)
- 1:00 P.M. Stephen Ministry Training (405)
- 5:00 P.M. Vespers (Chapel and Spellman Hall)
- 5:00 P.M. Youth Choir (Music Room)
- 5:30 P.M. Youth Group (Cove)

Monday, January 22

- 9:00 A.M. Thrift Shop workday until 3PM
- 7:00 P.M. Preschool Board Mtg (Spellman Jr.)
- 7:00 P.M. Stephen Ministry via Zoom

Tuesday, January 23

- 9:30 A.M. Tuesday Morning Fellowship (Spellman Jr)
- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3 P.M.
- 6:00 P.M. Alzheimers/Dementia Support (Spellman Jr)
- 6:00 P.M. Officers Fellowship Dinner (Spellman)
- 7:00 P.M. Endowment Committee via Zoom

Wednesday, January 24

- 9:10 A.M. Prayer and Communion Service (Chapel)
- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3 P.M.
- 5:00 P.M. Children's Choir (Spellman Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 P.M. A Gathering of Men (Spellman Jr.)
- 7:00 P.M. Handbell Rehearsal (Spellman Hall)

Thursday, January 25

- Thrift Shop Closed
- 10:00 A.M. Tech Time with Lynn (Zoom)
- 7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
- 7:00 P.M. Celebrate Recovery (414)
- 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts (Spellman Hall)

Friday, January 26

- 10:00 P.M. Thrift Shop open until 3 P.M.

Saturday, January 27

- 9:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until noon.

Sunday, January 28

- 8:30 A.M. Childcare (109)
- 9:30 A.M. Baptism Class (Chapel)
- 10:00 A.M. One Combined Service/WeeConnect 3-4 yrs
KidsConnect (K-5th grade)
- 1:00 P.M. Stephen Ministry Training (405)
- 5:00 P.M. Youth Choir (Music Room)
- 5:30 P.M. Youth Group (Cove)

**For questions about any of our activities or events, please visit the
website at westminsterpc.org.
or call the church office.**

**FOOD FOR OUR NEIGHBORS
JANUARY – CHUNKY SOUP**