

# 2024-2025 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

9:00 AM WORSHIP	10:30 AM WORSHIP	ROOM	DISMISSAL TIME
Nursery Care (6 mos-4yrs)	Nursery Care (6 mos-4yrs)	109 (Downstairs)	10 /11:30 am
WeeConnect (Pre-K-5 yrs)	---	Chapel (Upstairs)	10:10 am
KidsConnect - Gr. K-1	---	108 (Downstairs)	10:10 am
KidsConnect - Gr. 2-3	---	105 (Downstairs)	10:10 am
KidsConnect - Gr. 4-5	---	406 (Upstairs)	10:10 am
---	Young Children & Worship (All ages, Pre-K-Gr.5)	Chapel (Upstairs)	11:40 am

On the first Sunday of each month, the church celebrates the sacrament of Communion. Everyone, regardless of age, is invited to the table. Children will return to the sanctuary to celebrate the Lord's Supper and will remain through the end of worship. *Note: Nursery children, for logistical reasons, will remain in the Nursery. However, families are invited to get their children from the Nursery and bring them into the Sanctuary for Communion.*

## OUR VISION

### LOVING GOD, LOVING NEIGHBOR (MARK 12:30-31)

To instill a sense of wonder about God's stories... our stories.

To show them they are BELOVED children of God, and nothing can separate them from the Love of God in Christ Jesus.

To ensure our children are an integral part of the ministry and mission of this congregation because our children are not the future of the church... they are the NOW of the church.

### OUR CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES...

... are Christ-centered. The curriculum is Bible-based and relevant to children's lives.

...build relationships. We help children discover their relationship with God. We want every child to be known and loved, and to build lasting friendships.

...believe all God's children are graced by the Holy Spirit. Through worship, prayer, encouraging their natural sense of wonder, and intentional service, we foster children's spiritual growth.

...place a high priority on safety and security. We provide children with a safe, fun, and welcoming place to explore their personal relationships with God. All of our volunteers have background clearances and are PA safe child certified. We have safety policies and procedures in place to make their safety our #1 priority.

## CHILDREN'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH MINISTRY TEAM

Kathy Smedley  
Elder • Chair • 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Level Coordinator

Jane Wendel  
Elder, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Level Co-Coordinator

Suzanne Mecouch  
Elder, K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade Level Coordinator

Diane DeSieno-Lane  
Resting Elder, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Level Co-Coordinator

Katelyn Orkin  
Youth Team Member

Jonathan Bonds  
Representative to the Board of Trustees

## WESTMINSTER CHURCH STAFF

Jill Reichert  
Director of Children & Family Ministries  
jreichert@westminsterpc.org  
610-399-3377 ext. 106

Mary Maina  
Childcare Coordinator  
childcare@westminsterpc.org

Megan Potts  
Director of Westminster Preschool  
mpotts@westminsterpc.org  
610-399-3910

Kirsten Santos Rutschman  
Associate Director of Music Ministry  
krutschman@westminsterpc.org  
610-399-3377 ext. 140

## PARENTS CONNECT BY SERVING

The Children's Spiritual Growth Team would love to partner with you so you can share your gifts with children and families at Westminster. Our ability to offer all of these ministries, and to expand what we offer, depends upon individuals who care about children and wish to see them grow in their faith. If you're interested in sharing our vision and wish to serve Christ through serving our children and families, please contact Jill Reichert at jreichert@westminsterpc.org.

We welcome volunteers in all aspects of our ministries. Here are a few ways to serve:

- Children's Spiritual Growth Team
- Nursery Care Team
- Grade Level Coordinators
- Classroom Teaching/Assistant Teams
- Milestone Ministry Teams
- Camp SPARK Leadership Team
- Intergenerational Event Planning Team
- Seasonal Event Team



Westminster Presbyterian Church  
10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd. West Chester, PA 19382  
610.399.3377 | westminsterpc.org

# CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
2024-2025





# SAVE THE DATE

## KICK OFF SUNDAY SUN. SEPTEMBER 8

Join us as we kick off the new year with the fall children's ministry. Meet and greet your teachers before worship.

## 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY SUN. OCTOBER 27

3rd graders receive their Bibles during morning worship.

## CHRISTMAS EVE TUES. DECEMBER 24

*Christmas Eve Services:*  
10 am • 3 pm • 5 pm • 7 pm • 11 pm  
Celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with us. Children & Family service is 10 am.

## EPIPHANY SUNDAY SUN. JANUARY 5

"Wise Guys" visit children. What gifts did they bring Baby Jesus?

## ASH WEDNESDAY 5:30-8 PM WED. MARCH 5

Join us for a pancake dinner before the Ash Wednesday worship.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 PM THURS. APRIL 17

Gather with our community as we remember Jesus' last meal.

## EASTER SUNDAY SUN. APRIL 20

*Easter Services: 6 am • 8:15 am • 9:30 am • 11:00 am*

Join as we worship and celebrate our Risen Lord. Bring flowers and help decorate the Easter flower cross in the courtyard throughout the morning.

## PENTECOST & LAST SUNDAY CHILDREN MINISTRY PROGRAMS SUN. JUNE 8

Wear red, orange or yellow and join us to celebrate Pentecost and the last Sunday of WeeConnect, KidsConnect, and Young Children & Worship before the fall.

# NURSERY

## 8:45 AM-11:00 AM SUNDAYS

Care for children ages 6 months to 4 years is available at both Sunday morning services as well as some special services and events.

# KIDSCONNECT & WEECONNECT

## 9:00 AM SUNDAYS

Children will leave following the Thought for Children. After seeing & hearing their Bible story unfold through storytellers & drama, they will continue to wonder and unpack the stories in their grade level classes. K & Grade 1 will use Young Children & Worship while Grade 2-5 will use the Growing in Grace & Gratitude curriculum. See flip side for more information.

# YOUNG CHILDREN & WORSHIP

## 10:30 AM SUNDAYS

A time for children (pre-K - Gr. 5), this gathering uses the Young Children & Worship model of worship & wonder together. Children are dismissed from the Sanctuary following the Thought for Children.

# COMMUNION SUNDAYS

## FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Everyone, regardless of age, is invited to the table. Children will return to the sanctuary to celebrate the Lord's Supper and will remain through the end of worship.

# CAMP SPARK

## 8 AM - 12 PM (OPTIONAL 12- 4 PM) JUNE 24-28, 2025

Camp SPARK is our summer children's program. It shares the worship, ministry, and mission of Westminster. The morning activities focus on Worship Arts (e.g., creative reading, music, drumming, dance, art, prayer expressions, etc.) while the afternoon will focus on Westminster's ministry and mission (e.g. knitting/weaving, baking, lunch-making, wood working, pickleball, etc.) and recreation!

# VESPERS

A gathering for experiential, intergenerational worship that is kid- and family-friendly. Food is often part of the evening!

## PRAYER WALK 4-5:30 PM SUN. SEPTEMBER 15

Join us for a prayer walk at beautiful Stroud Preserve. This will be a fun time to reconnect and enjoy God's beautiful creation. Join the Frost family at their home following the walk for a pizza dinner.

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS 4-5:30 PM SUN. OCTOBER 20

A worship service to bless your family's animals. Bring your pet on a leash or in a carrier for a special blessing as we give thanks to our/their Creator for their love and companionship. If your pet has passed, you are welcome to bring a picture of them to remember and bless the time that you had with them.

## GRATITUDE 4-5:30 PM SUN. NOVEMBER 17

Details to follow.

## EPIPHANY 4-5 PM SUN. JANUARY 12

Details to follow.

## WINTER 4-5 PM SUN. FEBRUARY 23

Details to follow.

## LENT 4-5 PM SUN. MARCH 16

Details to follow.

## PALM SUNDAY 4-5 PM SUN. APRIL 13

Start of Holy Week on Sunday morning and then join us for an evening service of prayer and reflection followed by dinner.

## PICNIC 4-5 PM PM SUN. MAY 18

Details to follow.

# MILESTONE MINISTRIES

## BAPTISM CLASSES LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Parents will discover what baptism means and looks like in the Presbyterian church. Questions or for more info, CONTACT BARB DRAIN AT [BDRAIN@WESTMINSTERPC.ORG](mailto:BDRAIN@WESTMINSTERPC.ORG)

## COMMUNION WORKSHOP 9-11:30 AM SAT. MARCH 1

Learn about the Lord's Supper at Westminster. Children will take Communion with their new-found understanding from the workshop on Sunday, March 2.

## 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE BIBLE WORKSHOP 12:30 - 3 PM SAT. OCTOBER 12

This workshop is for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and parents to learn what the Bible is, how it came to be, how to read it, and how to use the special tools that are inside the Bibles they will receive. They will also choose a special verse to be inscribed on the inside cover of their Bible. 3<sup>rd</sup> graders receive Bibles at worship services on Sunday, October 27 followed by a Bible-Party celebration.

# FAMILY EVENTS

## FAMILY FALL FEST 5:30-7:30 PM FRI. NOVEMBER 1

Join us for an evening of fall activities, dinner, and a chili cook-off with family and friends.

## ADVENT NIGHT 5-7 PM SUN. DECEMBER 8

An intergenerational evening of worship, activities, and a meal as we await the coming of the Christ child.

# WESTMINSTER PRESCHOOL

## SEPTEMBER-MAY

Children in the church and the community are invited to enroll in part-time preschool classes here at Westminster. Pre-school classes are available for children 2-5 years old in the morning, with extended day options. CONTACT [PRESCHOOL@WESTMINSTERPC.ORG](mailto:PRESCHOOL@WESTMINSTERPC.ORG).

# MISSION & OUTREACH

## SOCK IT TO US MONTH OF OCTOBER

Help homeless and disadvantaged people in Chester County by bringing in new socks.

## RISE AGAINST HUNGER OCTOBER 12 & 13

Spend an hour packing meals for hungry families around the world.

## MLK DAY OF SERVICE 9-11 AM MON. JANUARY 20

Bring items to assemble lunches for The Vine Ministry on Martin Luther King Jr Day. You can also make lunches at home and drop them off.

## CREEK CLEAN UP 9-11:30AM SAT. TBA (APRIL)

Join in cleaning the area around our local creeks. Gloves, bags, and refreshments provided.

## DIAPER DRIVE MONTH OF MAY

1 in 3 US moms report suffering from diaper need. Donate diapers or wipes to honor a mom for Mother's Day.

## LIVING WATER 5K 9 AM - 12 PM SAT. MAY 17

Walk, run, or push a stroller with us to bring life-changing clean water and fullness of life with the help of Living Waters for the World. Afterwards, join us for food and fellowship.

## FILL A BACKPACK MONTH OF JUNE

Send a child back to school well prepared through Bridge Academy in Coatesville. Buy a backpack and fill it with school supplies or buy specific items to fill a backpack.

## GLEANING GARDEN MARCH - SEPTEMBER

Our garden provides fresh produce to the West Chester Food Cupboard and Broad Street Ministry. Questions or to volunteer, CONTACT PETE FLYNN AT [PETESPRODUCEFARM@MSN.COM](mailto:PETESPRODUCEFARM@MSN.COM).

## FOOD FOR OUR NEIGHBORS YEAR ROUND

Help our neighbors out by dropping off nonparishable food for the West Chester Food Cupboard in any of the marked bins in the church.

# CHOIR & MUSIC

## CHERUB CHOIR 4:15-5 PM WEDNESDAYS

*Worship Dates: TBA*

The Cherub Choir (NEW THIS YEAR!) is for beginner singers, Grades K-1. For more info or to sign up your child, CONTACT KIRSTEN SANTOS RUTSCHMAN AT [KRUTSCHMAN@WESTMINSTERPC.ORG](mailto:KRUTSCHMAN@WESTMINSTERPC.ORG).

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR 4:45 - 5:45 PM WEDNESDAYS

*Worship Dates: TBA*

The Children's Choir shares the fundamentals of music through games and musical activities with children in Grades 2-5. For more info or to sign up your child, CONTACT KIRSTEN SANTOS RUTSCHMAN AT [KRUTSCHMAN@WESTMINSTERPC.ORG](mailto:KRUTSCHMAN@WESTMINSTERPC.ORG).

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSIC PROGRAM WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Support our Children's music program by attending their Christmas music program.