

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

Sharing Our Gifts

“Responding to the Invitation”

October 11, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Westminster! We are glad you are here! Take some time to review the announcements to see “What’s Up At Westminster!” If you have any questions, our greeters and ushers are happy to help.

- **TOWN HALL MEETING:** Please plan to stay after the service today for our Fall Town Hall meeting.
- **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:** Please note the closest emergency exit to your seat. There are exits at all four corners of the sanctuary that will lead you safely out of the building.
- **YOUTH GROUP:** Youth (5th grade and older) are invited to join us tonight from 5 to 7 p.m. for dinner, Bible study and games!

For Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers:

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship! However, if you or your child need a little extra care, we offer several options for you:

NURSERY CARE is available for infants and toddlers during the worship service. Our nursery is equipped with a paging system. Quality childcare is provided by Elaine Edwards, who is certified in infant/child CPR.

WORSHIP BAGS are located by the back entrance to the sanctuary. These bags for children are filled with quiet activities to keep children engaged while seated in the pew with their families.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH (K-5th Grade) All elementary-aged students are welcome to join us for a time of Bible stories and fun activities just for them. Following the “Sharing God’s Peace” in today’s service, children are invited to meet their teachers at the back of the sanctuary where they will be led to their classroom. Teachers will bring children back to the sanctuary at the close of the service.

VISIT OUR PRAYGROUND located at the back of the sanctuary. This dedicated space contains activities for parents and children who need a little extra space to move but would still like to be a part of the worship service.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS TO WORSHIP GOD

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

†*Those who feel comfortable standing may do so.*

* *Denotes hymn number in pew hymnal. Some lyrics may be different than what is projected on the screens.*



PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WESTMINSTER AT WORK

CENTERING MOMENT

GATHERING PRAYER

†CALL TO WORSHIP

You have been called to the banquet.

This is the feast.

You have been summoned to the wedding.

This is the feast of life and light.

From the streets and the byways, God has invited us.

We have come to the banquet that has no end. Alleluia! Amen!

†HYMN

"Come, Ye Thankful People Come"

*No. 721

*Come, ye thankful people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.*

*All is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin.*

*God, our Maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.*

*Come to God's own temple, come;
raise the song of harvest home.*

*All the world is God's own field,
fruit in thankful praise to yield,
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.*

*For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take the harvest home;
from each field shall in that day
all offenses purge away;
give the angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in God's garner evermore.*

*Even so, Lord, quickly come
to thy final harvest home.
Gather thou thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there forever purified,
in thy presence to abide:
come, with all thine angels, come;
raise the glorious harvest home!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**You invite us to your feast, O God, and we do not come.
You beg us to give thanks for life, and we fail in our thanksgiving.
You have made for us a wonderful earth, and we neglect the gift.**

**Forgive us for what we have done and for abandoning the pathway
you desire for us. Be our guide and conscience.
Turn our feet and hands to your will,
that all we do might give glory to you ...**

— A time of Silent Confession —

KYRIE

*Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God of peace, who calls all creation to live in unity, hears your plea. In the spirit of feasting and thanksgiving, in the mercy of Almighty God, you are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

†RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

†SHARING GOD’S PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

At this time, children (5th grade and younger) are invited to a worship experience just for them. The leaders will meet them at the back of the church following the "Sharing of God's Peace" and will bring them back before the end of the service.

THE COMMUNITY LISTENS TO THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 25:1-9

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:1-14

SERMON

"Responding to the Invitation"
Rev. Jamie Milton

†HYMN

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

RESTORATION

*Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity, love, and power.*

Refrain:

*I will arise and go to Jesus;
he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.*

*Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome;
God's free bounty glorify,
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you nigh. (Refrain)*

*Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better,
you will never come at all. (Refrain)*

*Let not conscience make you linger,
nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth
is to feel your need of him. (Refrain)*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE CALL OF GOD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERING

CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

"Draw Me Close / I Need Thee Every Hour"
Words and Music by Kelly Carpenter;
Arranged by Mark Hayes

†DOXOLOGY

TUNE: OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Creator God, you are our provider.
We offer all that we have and all that we are to you,
because we belong to you.
Bless these gifts, and empower us, your church,
that through the work of your Spirit
we may be a refuge for the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the storm, and a shade from the heat.
Through Christ, our shield and our stronghold. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY GOES TO SERVE GOD

†HYMN

“Give Thanks, O Christian People”

ARGENTINA

*Give thanks, O Christian people,
for workers of our day
who heed the call to service
and make it their life's way
to go to feed the hungry,
to tend to those in need,
to work for equal justice,
till all God's folk are freed.*

*Give thanks, O Christian people,
for leaders of our years
who live to share with others
our joy when Christ appears,
to teach the ones who seek light,
to guide the faltering feet,
to lead the followers forward
our living Lord to meet.*

*Give thanks, O Christian people,
for all who love the Lord,
who live each day believing
in God's eternal Word:
to share Christ's love in living,
to witness with each deed,
to use the talents given
to plant the gospel seed.*

*Give thanks, O Christian people,
for life in fellowship
with all who trust our Savior
their serving to equip:
to ease another's burdens,
to cope in joy and stress,
to magnify God's message
and Christ's great love confess.*

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

As partners with God, go to serve God's world.
As friends of Christ, go to share Christ's love.

**We go with the blessing of God,
the strength of Jesus Christ,
and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.**

TOWN HALL



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Abingdon Worship Annual 2020. This week's liturgy by Mary J. Scifres.

Session

Rev. Jamie Milton, *Moderator of Session*
Rev. Linda Williams, *Parish Associate*
Chris Thurman, *Clerk of Session*

Class of 2027

Pam Johnson
Steve Kusterer
Bonnie Marsh
Jeff Rogers

Class of 2028

Karen Brown-Fackler
Diego Calvo
Jack Smylie
Ann West

Class of 2029

Diana Ball
Pat Duggan
Sherry Holley
Scott Stuifbergen

Deacons

Class of 2027

Marilyn Bechtel
Sally Calvo, *Co-Secretary*
Mary Rose Davis
Patti Wesenick, *Moderator of Deacons*

Class of 2028

Jerry Bruce, *Treasurer*
Don Clough
Sharon Costello
Irene Eskilson, *Vice-Moderator of Deacons*
Len Petroff

Class of 2029

Carol Campbell
Chris Elzinga
Darlene Kusterer
Lin Stuifbergen, *Co-Secretary*

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OCTOBER 11, 2026

The October Item of the Month is

chunky-style soup.

We cannot get this very popular item

from the Food Bank,

so please help us fill our shelves for

“soup weather.” All donations may be left on the cart outside the pantry door. Thank you!

Meijer Simply Give Program Continues through the Holiday Season!

Now through December 26, all Simply Give donations made at the Wilder Road store will be collected for our pantry. Simply Give donation cards are available at the church and in the checkout lines at the store. Just hand your Simply Give donation card to the cashier and tell them how much you want to give (in \$10 increments). They will scan your card and your donation will be added to your



grocery total. And mark your calendars for Saturday, December 12, when Meijer will double-match all donations!

At the end of the program, all donations will be totaled and given to our pantry in the form of gift cards that we can use to purchase food from them. Please share the news with all your family and friends! The gift cards we received from last year's campaign have been stocking our pantry for the last few months. Questions? Talk to Janet Smylie or email pantry@wbcpc.org.

September Statistics: We shattered records this month, serving 790 people from 279 families with 10,204 pounds of food over 9 days. Thanks for all the ways you help us feed our hungry neighbors, showing God's grace to the people in our community.

Youth Group News

• **YOUTH GROUP:** Our youth group is open to students in 5th through 12th grade. **We will meet tonight and October 25 from 5 to 7 p.m.** If you have any questions, contact Leah Sneller, Director of Youth Ministry at youthdirector@wbcbc.org or 989-686-1360, ext. 206.

• **YOUTH GROUP DINNERS:** Do you like to cook or bake meals? If yes, then we would love for you to sign up to help with Youth Dinners for Sunday night youth group meetings. If not, there is still a way you can help with dinner. We usually have dinner from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. You will get a count a couple of days in advance. Please scan the QR code or see Leah Sneller to sign up.



THIS WEEK

- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** We will be using *The Wired Word* bible study curriculum that connects current events and weekly news stories with Scripture. Our **Sunday morning class meets Sundays at 9 a.m.**, and our **Thursday evening online Zoom study meets online at 7 p.m.** Any questions, please see Rev. Linda or the church office.
- **FALL BOOK GROUP:** We will be reading and discussing Allen Levi's book, *Theo of Golden* on **Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the Lounge**. For more information, speak to Rev. Linda or call the church office. We will meet this week on **Tuesday, October 13**.
- **CHOIR REHEARSALS:** If you would like to add your voice, please contact Dawn Auger or Seth Cunningham. **Bell choir** rehearses Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. **Chancel Choir** rehearses Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. **Contemporary Choir** rehearses at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesdays. **Cantata rehearsals** have begun and continue this week at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesdays.
- **LYDIA CIRCLE:** Lydia Circle uses the Presbyterian Women Bible Study curriculum, *Horizons*. The group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. **Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15**. If you are interested in joining, please contact group leaders Elaine Edwards at 989-397-5642 or Barb Tolles at 989-963-9369.
- **DEBORAH CIRCLE:** We will be continuing our study of the television series "The Chosen" at **4 p.m. Thursday, October 15**, location TBD. If you are interested in joining Deborah Circle, please contact Karen Schoepach or call the church office.
- **TRIVIA NIGHT:** Come test your knowledge at our FREE Trivia Night! Ages 10 and older my compete. Snack and refreshments will be provided, join us for fun questions, friendly competition with a few prizes on the line!
 **Saturday, October 17 from 6 to 8 p.m.** in the Westminster Fellowship Hall. Bring your team of 6 or come on your own and make friends! **Please register in advance by calling Bonnie Marsh at 989-460-7108 or by scanning the QR code.**
- **GATHERING AND GAMES:** Join us next Sunday after worship for fun and fellowship!

MONTHLY

- **THE OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH** will gather at **1 p.m. Wednesday, October 21** at Krzysiak's House Restaurant, 1605 Michigan Ave. in Bay City. Please RSVP with Dave Crook by Monday, October 19 if you would like to join us.
- **LUNCH AND LEARN** is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 27**. Bring your own lunch and join us at noon in the Fellowship Hall as we enjoy our next guest speaker.
- **CARING CONNECTIONS:** Come join us on the first Thursday of every month. Our Caring Connections Group is open to the Bay City community, so if you have a friend or neighbor who is dealing with grief, they are welcome to join! **Our next meeting is planned for Thursday, November 5.**

ONGOING

- **WINGS OF PRAYER:** If you have someone you would like to add to our Wings of Prayer list, please contact Patti Wesenick at 989-737-6844.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **The ADVENT / EPIPHANY SEASONAL LAUNCH** is planned for **4 p.m. Sunday, October 18.**
- **HARVEST PARTY / CHILI COOK-OFF:** The annual Harvest Party and Chili Cook-off is planned for **Sunday, October 25** following worship. We'll have a selection of tasty chilis, grilled cheese sandwiches and delicious desserts! If you're interested in bringing chili for the contest or just making a pot to share, please sign up on the bulletin board located in the Wenona Street Lobby, with a member of the Fellowship Committee on Sundays October 11 and October 18 or by calling the church office. We are also looking for donations of individuals packaged desserts for a bake sale!
- **ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE:** **Sunday, November 1** during worship.
- **HANGING OF THE GREENS:** **Sunday, November 22**, help us decorate the church during and after worship.
- **PACK THANKSGIVING BASKETS:** **Sunday, November 22**, volunteers are needed to help pack Thanksgiving Baskets for our community members after worship. More details to follow.
- **ADVENT DINNER:** is being planned for **Sunday, November 29.**

Giving to Westminster

There are many ways to share your gifts with Westminster.

Cash and checks are welcome. Please use your offering envelopes or the envelopes found in pew backs and place your gift in the offering plate when it is passed.

Visit our website

www.wpcbc.org and click on

the "Give Now" button at the top

of the page. This will direct you to our Online Giving Portal or simply scan the QR Code. Contributions can also be sent through the mail to the attention of the Church Treasurer. We're grateful for your gifts, however you choose to give. THANK YOU!

GENERAL FUND	Oct 6, 2026	Year to Date
Pledges & Other Giving	5,630	367,093.22
One-time Gifts	0	0
Other Cash Received	0	4,633.18
Total Income	5,630	371,726.4
Expenses	10,144.16	337,505.22
Excess(Loss)	-4,514.16	34,221.18

Budgeted expense total for 2026 is \$467,000.



Food Pantry Financials
As of September 22, 2026

Beginning Balance	\$10,405.30
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SEPTEMBER DONATIONS

Contributions	\$2,338.00
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Presbyterian Women	\$700
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Online Giving	\$101
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Less Expense August	\$4,875.23
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	\$8,669.07
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Meijer Simply Give Gift Cards \$7,500

GRANTS:

Gluten Free	\$12,771.80
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Infrastructure	\$5,962.98
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MINISTERS

PASTOR

PARISH ASSOCIATE

LITURGIST

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

CHOIR DIRECTOR

ORGANIST

YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

SECRETARY

FACILITIES MANAGER

All the People

Rev. Jamie Milton

Rev. Linda Williams

Tom Tolles

Leah Sneller

Elaine Edwards

Dawn Auger

Seth Cunningham

Judy Harrelson

Lisa Carelli

Martha Tapley

Bill Petzold

Harold Miller

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OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

- **SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP GATHERINGS:** Join us for Fellowship Time! Before worship (9:30 to 10:15 a.m.), stop by the Fellowship Hall for coffee and a sweet treat. After the service, we continue in the chapel with cookies, coffee, and lemonade — a relaxed chance to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones. Sign up on the volunteer board near the Wenona Street entrance or contact Joyce Hegenauer. Everything you need will be ready in the kitchen.
- **MATTHEW 25 CAFÉ** at The Salvation Army (322 Adams Street) serves free meals six days a week to the Bay City community, feeding about 100 people daily. They need help with food prep and service. On the **second Tuesday of each month, 5–7 volunteers help cook and serve.** If you can spare two hours a month — either preparing food (9 to 11 a.m.) or serving and cleaning up (11 a.m. to 1 p.m.)—please sign up on the Wenona Lobby board or call the church office with your name, date, and time. **Westminster's next opportunity to serve is Tuesday, October 13.** If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Kusterer at 989-385-4062 or call the church office.
- **FOOD OF FAITH:** Westminster will have three opportunities to serve a hot meal to our community this fall! Our turns to volunteer are Thursdays — **October 22 and December 10.** The meal begins at 5 p.m. Thursday evenings at Messiah Lutheran Church, 501 S. Catherine St. in Bay City at the western end of Veterans Memorial Bridge. We will need **two volunteers to help prepare the meal** from 2 to 4 p.m. and **four volunteers to help serve** from 4 to 6 p.m. Those with questions may contact Pam Johnston at 989-392-1958.
- **WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY PANTRY:** There are a number of ways that you can support our weekly food pantry. Volunteers help assist our clients in choosing food items, work together to unload shipments of food and help to organize donations received from the congregation and community. If you would like to volunteer, contact volunteer coordinator Karen Brown-Fackler. You may also support the pantry's efforts with a monetary donation, either by writing "food pantry" in the memo area of your check made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church, or online through the donations page on the church website, wpcbc.org. Contact pantry chair Janet Smylie with questions.
- **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** will be collecting coats, hats, socks, gloves and other **warm clothing for guests that come to the food pantry.** You may leave any donated items on the cart outside the pantry door.
- **CARING MEAL PROGRAM RETURNS TO WESTMINSTER:** We're excited to share that a beloved ministry is returning to Westminster — the Caring Meal Program. Sponsored by the Board of Deacons, this ministry provides short-term meals to individuals and families experiencing a recent life event or temporary hardship. A pilot team of Meal Preparers is serving as we fine-tune the process. Once the pilot wraps up, we'll invite the congregation to join us in making this meaningful ministry flourish.

Notes

Notes