



THE WESTMINSTER LOG

WESTMINSTER'S NEXT 150 YEARS: "WHERE WE ARE... AND WHERE WE ARE GOING"

It is a bit silly to tackle a "state of the church" letter in such a tiny column. Yet, as we approach the middle of the summer, a time of rest and recreation for so many in our community, we are reminded that our re-creation serves to enliven us and prepare us for next steps in our journey of faith.

First of all...wow! What a year it has already been! Just in the last six months, we have moved our worship on Sunday mornings from our sanctuary, into the fellowship hall, and then back into the sanctuary. We can look back on many significant changes throughout our Westminster church home, and are eagerly anticipating being able to celebrate this new era on September 10th, as we host "Homecoming and Dedication" worship and fellowship events. Our worship this year has been filled with music from groups of all ages, and we are moving into a new way of framing our worship for the years to come, as we begin a chronological journey through the Scriptures this Fall.

Still to come this summer is our Vacation Bible School program, which is always a highlight of our year. Seeing young people filled with the joy of the Lord, and having an opportunity to have a positive impact on their lives is an amazing thing, every time. If you'd like to be a part, there is still time, and you can contact Nikelle, or see inside for more information. We will also hold a Confirmation program for high schoolers, so if you're interested and you haven't yet been in touch - give us a call!

There is much to be excited about. I am so grateful for the many dear hearts who give of their time and their blessings for the work of ministry and Westminster. I know that you are, too. What a blessing it is to find a place of welcome and strength, hope and joy, worship and service, challenge and comfort. I know that there are so many people who do not even know such a place can exist! I pray that I might live in a way that reflects the love of Christ to them, and that I might find ways to share the joy I have found with those who are seeking.

We have so much to do – and are doing so much – yet, I am happy to know that in all our "doing," we never lose sight of the reason for all that we do – loving God and loving one another. As of last month, I have been your pastor for 3000 days. These have been wonderful, exciting, challenging, and fulfilling days for me and my family, and we pray that God will continue to bless this congregation and the ministry we share - the ministry of the gospel - as we are re-created more and more into the image of the Lord we serve...



In Christ's Name,
Pastor Matt



JULY 2017 ISSUE 108

WWW.WPCBC.ORG

The Westminster Log is published monthly by Westminster Presbyterian Church, 103 East Midland Street, Bay City, Michigan, 48706. Articles must be submitted by the fifteenth day of each month before publication unless otherwise noted. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content and space. The Westminster Log is formatted to be printed in color.

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Office Hours:
Monday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Closed for lunch noon - 1 p.m.)

Watch our sermons
on our website!



- Pastor Rev. Matthew Schramm (ext. 204)
- Parish Associate Rev. Linda Williams (ext. 203)
- Church Secretary Judy Harrelson (ext. 201)
- Treasurer Heather Heidman (ext. 206)
- Christian Education Nikelle Johnson (ext. 208)
- Custodian Harold Miller (ext. 205)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<i>July</i>		
2 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	3	4 Office Closed
9 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	10 1:00 p.m. Sage Library Activity	11 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 10:00 a.m. Literacy Council 1:00 p.m. Lions Sight & Hearing 3:00 p.m. Literacy Council 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
16 9:00 a.m. Breakfast & Bible 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	17	18 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 10:00 a.m. Literacy Council 3:00 p.m. Literacy Council 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
23/30 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time 12:00 p.m. Rummage Sale drop off (July 30)	24/31 Rummage Sale drop off on July 31	25 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 10:00 a.m. Literacy Council 1:00 p.m. Aging & Spirituality 3:00 p.m. Literacy Council 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 2px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; background-color: #003366; color: white;"> <p><i>Happy Birthday to...</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: left;"> <p>Joyce Grigg Sharon Hignite Gerald Pavlawk Neil Everson</p> </div> <div style="text-align: left;"> <p>Margaret Hanson Elizabeth Talbot Judy Wycoff</p> </div> </div> </div>			1
5	6 8:30 a.m. TOPS 10:00 a.m. Literacy Council 3:00 p.m. Literacy Council 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	7	8
12 5:45 p.m. Bay City Fireworks	13 8:30 a.m. TOPS 10:00 a.m. Literacy Council 3:00 p.m. Literacy Council 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	14	15
19 12:00 p.m. Community Lunch & Service	20 8:30 a.m. TOPS 10:00 a.m. Literacy Council 3:00 p.m. Literacy Council 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	21	22
26	27 8:30 a.m. TOPS 10:00 a.m. Literacy Council 3:00 p.m. Literacy Council 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	28	29

*Birthdays listed are for our 75+ Members

Communion Servers

July

JeAnne Hebner
Sharon Hignite
Walt Whitney

August

Diego Calvo
Leonor Robinson
Neil Harrelson



Music at Westminster

CHANCEL CHOIR

Sunday, July 16
Sunday, August 20

There will be no Wednesday practice the Sunday before. Choir will rehearse the Sunday of at 9:30 a.m.



JUNIOR BELLS

Sunday, July 30

Meet Mrs. Hanson in the bell room at 9:15 a.m.

ADULT BELLS

Sunday, August 13

Meet in the bell room at 9:00 a.m.

The DeWitt family would like to thank everyone who prayed for our mother, Joanna DeWitt. Your cards and expressions of sympathy were appreciated.



Barb (DeWitt) & Tom Tolles
Bonnie & Dick Blauwkamp
Candie (DeWitt) & Bill Lazarock

TREASURER'S REPORT

Building Improvement Fund

April Balance: \$7,480.96
May Income: \$294.00
May Expense: \$750.00
May Balance: \$7,024.96

Operating Fund

May Income: \$22,210.25
May Expense: \$24,334.22

Major Repairs Fund

\$2,662.00

Donate online at www.wpcbc.org



The Presbyterian Women of Westminster Rummage and Bake Sale will take place on Tuesday, August 1 for members and Wednesday, August 2 for the public.

You may drop off items for sale beginning after church Sunday, July 30 through Monday, July 31.

Volunteers will be needed to help set up and be present during the sale. Look for sign-up sheets in the Dewitt and Wenona Street lobbies in the upcoming weeks.

All proceeds support the Presbyterian Women's Association

August 1
Open to Members
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

August 2
Open to Public
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

You are invited to the

Homecoming & Dedication of

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

following the worship service



Join us for fellowship, food, and fun as we celebrate the culmination of our recently completed 150-year anniversary and our ambitious and faithful step in preparing for our next 150 years by making our church more hospitable, safe, dry, and appealing.



A Heritage of Faith, Hope, and Love
For today and for our NEXT 150 years

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY TRAINING

Child Protection Policy Training will be held Sunday, August 6 at 11:45 a.m. and Sunday, August 20 after the VBS meeting. Any volunteers who work with children must complete this training and have updated paperwork on file. If you have not had the training within the past three years, please attend. Please see Nikelle Johnson if you have any questions, or if those dates/times do no work. Thank you!



AGING & SPIRITUALITY SUMMER MOVIE SERIES

It has been said that "life is a journey, not a destination." This summer we will have the opportunity to explore "life as spiritual journey" through a summer film series.

Join us!
July 25 and August 29
1:00 – 3:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
With popcorn and soda



Feel free to bring lawn chairs!



Breakfast & Bible Study

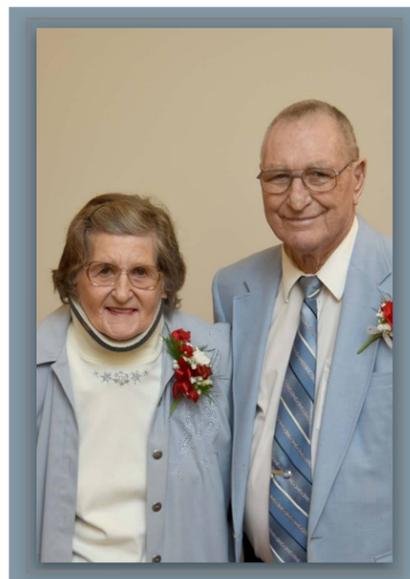
It's been said that there is nothing exotic or elite about spiritual formation; it is simply about becoming more Christ-like. But as we all know, there is nothing simple about that. **On two Sundays this summer — July 16 & August 13 — at 9:00 am**, we will explore "becoming more Christ-like" through transformative Bible study, feeding our soul & body. Jesus frequently used parables or brief stories to teach and challenge

people's perceptions about life and God. In these two sessions we will explore a few of Jesus' parables over breakfast and through thought provoking readings and discussion. Come join us.

See Pastor Linda to register.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!
SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2017



SHIRLEY AND GEORGE ESTABROOK

George and Shirley lived and raised their family in Bay City until 1988 when George retired from General Motors and after Shirley had taught ceramics for many years. They decided to spend their summers in Au Gres, Michigan and their winters in Arizona. George and Shirley returned to Bay City in 2016.



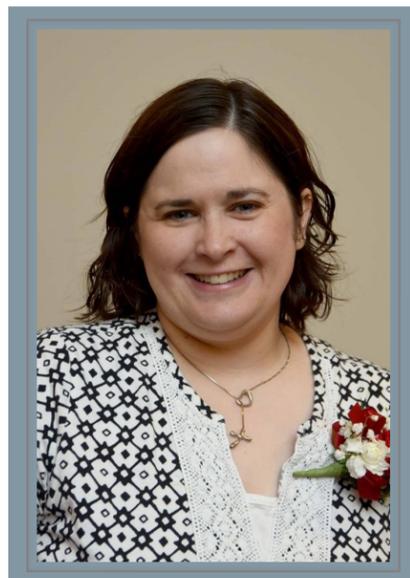
CAROLE MILSTER

Carole has three grown children and is a teacher at Bangor Lincoln. She enjoys traveling, reading, hiking, and following MSU sports.



COLLEEN MILSTER

Colleen, daughter of Carole and Rich Milster, grew up in Bay City. She attended Michigan State University and moved back to Bay City in 2016. She enjoys travel, music, and the outdoors.



NIKELLE JOHNSON

Nichelle is Westminster's Christian Education Director and she is currently busy preparing for August's Vacation Bible School!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

Are you handy with tools? Do you like to paint or work in the garden? Here is an opportunity to see Westminster at work! The Rescue Mission of Saginaw needs to renovate rooms that have not been improved for decades, and our Mission Partnerships Committee believes that Westminster has the talent to help. We are planning two Saturdays in September — **the 16th and the 23rd** — to participate in renovations and other identified projects at the Mission. All skill levels can be put to good use.



Here is a sample of the work to be done for resident room renovation:

- Dismantle, move, clean, and polish furniture
- Prepare and paint walls
- Rip out carpet, scrape up glue
- Reassemble furniture and move back into rooms

Additional Chores:

- Deep clean living room area
- Prepare and paint men's dining room
- Gardening – pulling weeds, pruning, laying mulch
- Replace ceiling tile and paint first floor hallway
- Drywall work
- Window cleaning
- Car detailing for Mission vehicles

Mark your calendars:
Saturday, September 16 & Saturday, September 23

You may also participate by providing refreshments, lunch, or by being a "gofer."

Hundreds of people each year turn to the Rescue Mission for emergency shelter, life skills training, employment readiness, and guidance for Christian living. Mission success stories are many and are only possible through the generosity of donors. Westminster Presbyterian Church and many individuals and families in our congregation have supported the work of the Mission for years, and now we have a chance to provide some hands-on support as well. Please sign up, put in a few hours of labor, share some Christian fellowship, and experience the joy of a job well done for a Mission worth supporting.

Sign-up sheets are available in the church office.

A division of Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan, the City Rescue Mission is a nonprofit, faith-based, state-of-the-art emergency shelter providing assistance to men, women, and children in Saginaw County and beyond. The City Rescue Mission was established in 1905, and is located at 1021 Burt Street, Saginaw, MI 48607.





GREAT LAKE LOONS

Fellowship Night

Thursday, July 27
7:05 p.m.

Enjoy hot dogs, Better Made chips, ice cream sandwiches, and 16 oz. Pepsi products all available for \$1 at the Great Lakes Grill locations.

Westminster has a limited number of tickets in section 107 (behind home plate). To reserve your seat, please pay the church office before July 6. Tickets are \$9.50 each.

NEWS FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON



Today [June 21] we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Ordination of our beloved Rev. Dr. George Baird. We are very grateful for all that George has done as a Pastor (Midland-Chapel Lane Presbyterian Church), Parish Associate (Westminster Presbyterian Church - Bay City), Presbytery Stated Clerk (Presbytery of Lake Huron), Synod Stated Clerk (Synod of the Covenant - Presbyterian Church USA.), current member of the Presbytery's Board of Trustees and so much more!



*Lunch with
Cathy Chang*

JUNE 8, 2017



Rev. Cathy Chang, the Regional Facilitator for Addressing Migration and Human Trafficking in Southeast Asia was at Westminster to discuss her work in the Philippines.

Rev. Chang has been following closely the case of Jennifer Dalquez. Jennifer, a Filipino woman faced with few employment options in her native country, took a job in the United Arab Emirates as a house cleaner. Her employer attempted to rape her, and while struggling to protect herself, she fatally wounded him. She has been awaiting an appeal hearing from the death penalty since early 2015. On June 19, Jennifer was finally acquitted. According to the Save Jennifer Dalquez' Life Facebook page: "Update for Jennifer Dalquez case verdict today...Breaking news! Jennifer Dalquez is acquitted of murder case without blood money but Jennifer needs to serve 5 Years in prison which means Jennifer still needs to serve another 2.5 Years because she has served 2.5 Years already in jail. This is a Victory but we will still campaign to set Jennifer without another jail term!"



Spark Imagination at VBS this summer!

Monday, August 21 - Friday, August 25
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Online registration is now open!
www.wpcbc.org

Any questions, please call 686-1360

**At Maker Fun Factory VBS, kids will learn
they're created by God and built for a purpose!**

Registration Deadline: August 6
After August 6: \$10 fee per child
Day-of Registration: \$15 per child

*These fees help cover expedited
shipping costs for VBS supplies.*

REGISTER NOW!
www.wpcbc.org



A Heavenly Makeover at Westminster Presbyterian Church



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SERENUS JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION

Serenus Johnson Construction replaced dated curtains and installed oak and fabric mesh enclosure screens to flank both sides of the organ's pipes that had been removed for protection during renovation.

By **Mary Kremposky McArdle**
Associate Editor

Light filtering through stained glass adds a soft glow to the sanctuary of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Bay City. Serenus Johnson Construction renovated the building's sanctuary and support spaces, infusing the outdated interior with new finishes that add to the beauty of this stained-glass sanctuary, as well as its narthex and fellowship hall. As general contractor, Serenus Johnson teamed with Tagget Designs PLLC, Saginaw, to raise the level of finishes and to boost the energy-efficiency of a church that has been gracing 103 E. Midland Street with its presence since 1882.

A portion of the original 1882 building remains, but the 22,000-square-foot interior renovation of the 30,000-square-foot building focuses on a series of additions constructed since the 1950s, including a 1958 fellowship hall addition, a 1965 classroom addition on the second floor, and the modern sanctuary itself constructed in 1969.

The project was bid in September 2016 and work began in October 2016. Serenus Johnson launched and completed a total roof replacement during construction.

One of the strongest interior alterations was the construction of custom oak and fabric mesh enclosure screens for the pipe organ. Flanking both sides of the organ's rows of gleaming pipes, the decorative screens conceal the baffles and unsightly equipment partly responsible for filling Sunday morning on Midland Street with heavenly music.

Air moves through the baffles, and in concert with the pipes, helps to produce the actual sound. The mesh had to be porous enough to prevent blocking the music. "We erected scaffold, installed steel and wood framing, next the fabric, and then the oak trim," said Serenus Johnson Project Manager and Estimator Dan Seguin. "The fabric is basically a light brown mesh that allows the sound to blow through the screen, all without having to see the actual baffles." Rod Morley served as project foreman.

The oak trim adds its own visual harmony to the sanctuary, the oak being stained to match existing finishes. Altogether, the decorative screens are a far cry from the previous material treatment, namely a pair of dated curtains.

Serenus Johnson also removed the pipes and stored them off site during renovation to prevent any damage and to protect the pipes from dust. "The organ and the pipes are very susceptible to dust, so we just removed them," said Seguin. "The organ company then re-installed the pipes in the necessary sequence."

Musical Chairs

Serenus Johnson split the renovation into two phases, first completing the office and fellowship hall renovation in order to temporarily move worship services into the hall. Serenus Johnson even moved all of the pews for the church's 300 active members and participants into fellowship hall after Phase I renovation reached completion. Post Phase II, the construction team moved the pews back into the sanctuary.

For Phase I, "We completely gutted the interior of the offices and fellowship hall," said Seguin. "We removed the existing interior finishes, including the ceiling and flooring. We installed new carpeting, replacing the dated 1970s carpeting and some vinyl tile."

Serenus Johnson replaced the existing hard spline drywall ceiling with a decorative suspended acoustical ceiling. "The tile is very attractive," said Seguin. "It has four quadrants in it with three different steps." Phase I also included ADA bathroom modifications and newly painted office areas.

In Phase II, Serenus Johnson renovated a first-floor classroom, the sanctuary and the narthex or gathering space. Serenus Johnson not only constructed decorative screens in the sanctuary, but also painted the ceiling, installed new carpeting and re-upholstered the pews, removing the dated mustard yellow vinyl-like material and

replacing it with cloth.

The narthex interior has been almost completely re-envisioned. "We demolished the narthex interior and added new walls to create the new kitchenette, storage area and family bathroom," said Seguin. "The narthex also has an operable folding partition to close off for weddings and other events. We also installed new carpeting and repaired the stained hard plaster ceilings."



The sanctuary's soft stained-glass glow will soon cast its light on new carpeting, re-upholstered pews and a fresh coat of paint.

As part of Phase II, additional offices and the classrooms were painted and new flooring was installed. "There is also going to be a feature art wall running all the way down the corridor that connects the offices and the worship area," added Seguin.

Both phases have newly renovated lobbies, including new porcelain tile floors and ADA-compliant automatic doors. Both phases also called for installation of all new LED lighting and HVAC temperature controls to ease energy costs for the church. "The electrical main distribution panel replacement required

coordination of a complete electric building shut-down for two days during construction," said Seguin.

Despite the challenges, the end result is a beautifully updated and energy-efficient interior, giving Westminster Presbyterian Church the ability to better serve not only the congregation, but also the church's sponsored programs, including a food pantry, vacation bible school and the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission.