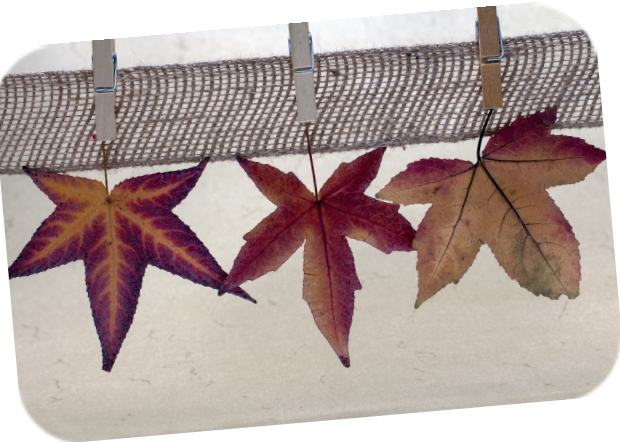


Westminster Presbyterian Church
103 E. Midland Street
Bay City, MI 48706

Address Service Requested



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bay City, MI
Permit No. 278

THE WESTMINSTER LOG



On page 1 of the Log you will find a “Blessings Form”. We ask that you fill it out and return it to the church by October 20. We want to share these blessings with the congregation and continue to do so throughout the coming years. Soon we will have Blessings Forms available throughout the church and will have places to collect them. We welcome all blessings, no matter how small you may think they are. We want Blessings Forms from all ages.

To get things started, I will share my blessings here: I am blessed to be in a church family that is always willing to take a leap of faith. Westminster is blessed to have staff and volunteers willing to go beyond “the job description” when God calls. The blessing I give is saying “yes” as much as possible and saying “no” only when I really must. Westminster blesses the young and the old, the lonely, the hungry and the sad. Westminster blesses those who need a place to gather, those who want to praise God through music, and those who need guidance on their faith journey.

Over the next weeks you will receive information about a special event we are planning in appreciation of all the Westminster family and the things they do. You will also learn how and when to make your commitment to be a part of Westminster’s work to pass on the Gift of God.

Blessings, a Gift of God!
Karen Schoeppach, Stewardship Chair

“Count your blessings!” “God bless you!” “Bless you!” I have heard these phrases and said them myself many times over the years. Do you think about what the word “blessings” means? I looked in the dictionary I have next to my computer and the definition I love is: Gift of God!

Westminster Presbyterian Church and our Westminster family have certainly been blessed and, more importantly, we have been able to bless others. Because of the support of our membership through our annual financial commitment and willingness to support our capital campaign, two major mission trips (to Alaska and to Appalachia) and many other mission projects within our church, community, nation and the world, we have been able to be God’s hands and spread blessings.

Renovations and upgrades in our building have made it possible to save money by being more efficient and allowed us to serve our members and the community by providing a safe and welcoming place for worship, meetings, classes and community events.

It is time to consider your financial commitment for 2020. In doing so, I ask that you think of the ways you and Westminster have been blessed and are able to bless. How will you use the Gift of God you have received and extend that gift to your fellow members and beyond our walls?

“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

2 Corinthians 9:8, NIV

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-26, NIV

OCTOBER 2019 ISSUE 132 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.

Watch our sermons on our website!



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

E-mail: office@wpcbc.org
Phone: 989-686-1360

- Rev. Dr. Ewen Holmes (ext. 204)
Transitional Pastor
- Rev. Linda Williams (ext. 203)
Parish Associate
- Judy Harrelson (ext. 201)
Church Secretary
- Heather Heidtman (ext. 206)
Treasurer
- Nikelle Johnson (ext. 208)
Christian Education
- Harold Miller (ext. 205)
Custodian

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<div>October</div>		1 Rummage Sale Set-Up 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 6:00 p.m. Personnel 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
6 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time in the Hall 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 11:45 a.m. Family & Fellowship	7 7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting	8 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 1:00 p.m. Lions Sight & Hearing 6:30 p.m. Spiritual Growth 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
13 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time in the Hall 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. 50-Year Member Luncheon	14 11:00 a.m. Small Group 6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting 7:00 p.m. Stewardship	15 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
20 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time in the Hall 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time	21	22 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 12:00 p.m. Spirituality & Aging 1:00 p.m. Log Crew 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
27 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time in the Hall 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time	28 11:00 a.m. Small Group	29 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays @ Westminster 6:00 p.m. Property 6:00 p.m. Rummage Sale - Open to Members 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Mission Part. 8:00 p.m. Worship Comm.	3 8:30 a.m. TOPS 9:00 a.m. Rummage Sale - Open to Public 3:00 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith 6:30 p.m. PW Board Meeting	4 9:00 a.m. Rummage Sale - Open to Public 9:30 a.m. My Tempo	5
9 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays @ Westminster 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	10 8:30 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Esther Circle 3:00 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	11 9:30 a.m. My Tempo	12
16 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays @ Westminster 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	17 8:30 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Lydia Circle 3:00 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	18 9:30 a.m. My Tempo	19
23 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays @ Westminster 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	24 8:30 a.m. TOPS 3:00 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	25 9:30 a.m. My Tempo 6:00 p.m. Family Movie Night	26 10:00 a.m. Clerk of Session Review of Minutes
30 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays @ Westminster 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	31 8:30 a.m. TOPS 3:00 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	<div>Happy Birthday to...</div> <div>Leota Clark, Carol Lange, Conrad Drescher, Beverly Pacynski, Fran Ferdinand, James Rowley, Cheryl Harpst, Marlene Mehlhose</div>	

*Birthdays listed are for our 75+ Members

Fall Communion Servers



October

Nancy Swantek
Lisa Beson
Heather Heidtman
Jan Witucki
Betty Lunger
Tom Majchrzak
Dawn Reszke
Nancy Harrelson
Lois MacPhail
Bonnie Marsh

November

Bill Shelt
Pam Monville
Candy Green
Pam Binder
John Hegenauer
Joyce Hegenauer
Chris Thurman
Marilyn Bechtel
Ann West
Judy Randall

December

Len Petroff
Sheryl Petroff
Tom Tolles
Barb Tolles
Melissa Woodward
Karen Brown-Fackler
Kaye Walker
Jack Gustafson
Tiffany Frontjes
Brian Graves

Treasurer's Report

Building Improvement Fund

July Balance:
\$18,038.58
August Income:
\$604.00
August Expense:
\$0.00
August Balance:
\$18,642.58

Operating Fund

August Income:
\$23,399.91
August Expense:
\$32,418.62

Major Repairs Fund

\$28,149.20

Capital Campaign Fund

August Income:
\$1,675.90
August Expense (Interest Expense):
\$1,770.19
Loan Balance at end of July
\$540,045.83

Donate online at
www.wpcbc.org



Condolences

Prayers of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Ruth Hankinson. Ruth passed away on Friday, August 30, 2019. A funeral service was held at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 with Rev. Linda Williams officiating.



Dear Westminster,

Just a note to thank you for all your cooperation and generosity in allowing us to use your building as a tutoring site.

The good news is that all the students being tutored in your building this summer showed marked improvement. Of the eleven children being tutored in your building, the average rise in reading level was .5. That is equivalent to half of a school year. We feel this was partially due to the availability of the conference room and how well it worked for the tutor and the students.

Please accept our thanks, and thanks from the parents for your help with this important summer program.

Sincerely,
Kathy Rayner
Executive Director
Literacy Council of Bay County



BLESSINGS FORM

Name: _____

I have been blessed by _____

I have blessed _____

Westminster has been blessed by _____

Westminster has blessed _____



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

The Presbyterian Women Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m.

RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

Remember to set aside items for the upcoming Rummage & Bake Sale taking place on Wednesday, October 2 for members and October 3 & 4 for the public.

Drop off items for sale beginning after church Sunday, September 29 and no later than Tuesday, October 1.

For the Bake Sale, please bring in brownies, cookies, cakes, and breads to sell on October 2.

Proceeds support the Presbyterian Women of Westminster.

October 2
Open to Members
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

October 3
Open to Public
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

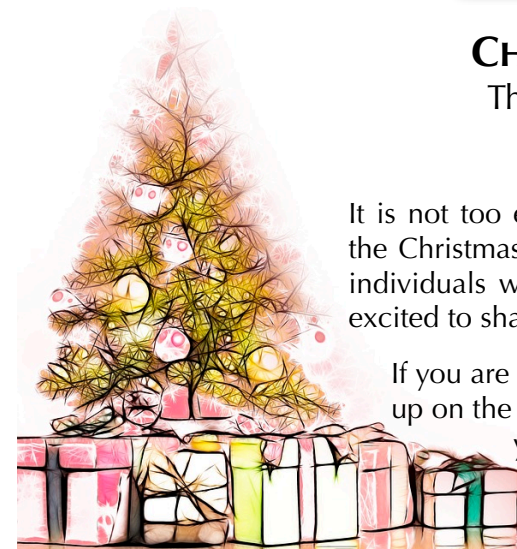
October 4
Open to Public
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Thursday, December 5
7:00 p.m.

It is not too early to think about participating in the Christmas concert! We know there are many individuals who have special talents they are so excited to share with us.

If you are interested in participating, please sign up on the pad on the wall by the choir room. If you have questions, please contact Wendy Tally at 989-284-8161 or wendywtally@msn.com.



Hearts & Hands Knitting

Meets Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Session room. All knitters and crocheters welcome!





**WORLD COMMUNION
SUNDAY
FOOD DRIVE
OCTOBER 6, 2019**

In conjunction with World Communion Sunday, October 6, 2019, the Crisis Committee is sponsoring a food drive to benefit the food pantry here at Westminster Presbyterian Church. We are hoping to load up a wagon full of food to be presented at the worship service on October 6. We plan to have the children help bring the food up to the front of the sanctuary, so that they can get an appreciation of how much good the food pantry does in our community. Following is a list of food items that the food pantry tries to keep on hand.

canned vegetables	boxed mac & cheese
canned fruit	peanut butter
pasta/spaghetti	jello & puddings
pasta sauce	bagged mashed pot.
canned pasta	hamburger helper
canned baked beans	tuna helper
"chunky style" soups	cereal
rice	bagged pasta salad
tuna	personal products

We are not asking anybody to bring in everything on the list, but these are some suggestions that might give you some idea of how you can participate in the food drive.

The crisis committee is very grateful for the ongoing help that you, the congregation, provide for the food pantry. We are able to help a lot of folks in the community that might otherwise have a struggle to put food on their tables at certain times. You can also participate by donating money, which the food pantry uses to augment our supplies when we run out of something. You can just make a notation on your check that the money is for the food pantry. We can also use gift cards from places like Kroger, Meijer, and Walmart that can be used to purchase food items. Again, thank you in advance for your help in making this food drive a success.

DONATE TO A FAMILY IN NEED



The Crisis Committee will be sponsoring Thanksgiving baskets for those in need within our community.

We intend to fill 100 baskets again this year. To do that, we need your help. We will sell our "turkeys" before and after church at both entrances on **November 3 and November 10**. The turkeys are \$10.00 each.

We are also looking for donations of food for the baskets. We usually include canned green beans, corn, two cans of fruit (your choice), stuffing mix, jello, pudding, macaroni & cheese, cranberry sauce, a cake mix, frosting, and peanut butter. When you bring in the food, you may leave it at the church office during regular business hours, or on Sundays, take it directly to the food pantry.

We thank you in advance for your generous support of this project.

Please donate all items by Friday, November 15.

WINGS OF PRAYER

Westminster is fortunate to have a number of individuals who participate in a prayer chain. The purpose of Wings of Prayer is to support — through prayer — any person facing challenges such as health issues, family issues, job loss, etc.

To place an individual on the prayer chain, contact Karen Mitchell at 989-513-0843.

**On Sunday, October 13, 2019 we will
celebrate our 50-year members!**

Thank you to the following parishioners on their continued witness to the glory of God.

All are welcome to a luncheon hosted by the Deacons following the worship service.

*Fifty-Year
Members*

1945
Marilyn Lewis

1946
Russel Marvin

1948
Marian Larive

1952
Elizabeth Dore

1953
Betty Lunger
Patricia Quantz

1954
Alma Watton

1955
Ross Brown
JoAnne Deuscher
Neil Everson
Margaret Hanson
Robert Hanson
Mary Lou Higgins
Bonnie Scheddel

1957
Claire Jacobson
Hazel Kish
Howard Schmidt

1958
Peggy Hawkins
Janice VanNostrand

1959
JeAnne Hebner
Richard Hebner
Joyce Hegenauer

1960
Doris Bibbee
Charlotte Blumenstein
Edith Elliot
Joyce Grigg
Roy Grigg

1961
Dianne Grabke
Thomas Kayner
Philip Reagh
Robert VanNostrand

1962
Carol Castrodale
Donna Horn

1963
Ronald Deuscher
Thomas Lange
Colleen Schmidt
Sharon Hignite
Joy Thompson

1964
John Hegenauer
Carol Lange
Karen Schoeppach

1965
Marie Capp
Elaine Edwards
Marilyn Kayner
Judy Randall

1966
Gloria Bublitz
Paul Dannesberger
Robert Merritt
Mary Kay Prudden

1967
Dianne Young
John Young

1968
Jean Hill
Arlene Oettmeier
Arthur Oettmeier
Penny Reagh

This year's 50-year member:

1969
Greg Kish

continued from page 3

arrangements, or answer the phone. Pitch in to clean up the kitchen. Sometimes your help is most valuable later. A lawyer might help answer questions about the estate. A handy person might button up the house as winter approaches.

Assist with meals. Provide hands-on assistance with cooking, and volunteer to help with shopping. For many bereaved persons, particularly widows and widowers, it can be a big adjustment to get

accustomed to planning meals, shopping for groceries, and cooking for just one person.

Listen well instead of advising. A sympathetic ear is a wonderful thing. A friend who listens even when the same story is told with little variation is even better. Often, people work through grief and trauma by telling their story over and over. Unless you are asked for your advice, don't be quick to offer it. Frequently, those who are grieving really wish others would just listen. It's your understanding — not your

advice — that is most sorely needed.

Avoid judgements. Your friend's life and emotional landscape have changed enormously, possibly forever. You may wish he or she would move on, but you can't speed the process or even ensure that it happens. Let your friend heal at the pace that feels right and in his or her own manner. "You should cry" or "It's time to move on" aren't really helpful directions.

Provided by Harvard Medical School HEALTHbeat

Enjoy this poem submitted by Anne Remington... *"The Guest House"* by 13th century Persian poet Rumi is frequently recited in mindfulness circles. This poem *"invites us to accept every experience mindfully with trust and gratitude, with spiritual and intellectual curiosity, and a measure of detachment. Specifically, Rumi encourages us to come face to face with our most difficult, intense emotions and honor them as a purposeful part of our human condition and trust that they have arrived to guide and teach us."*



"The Guest House" by Rumi

*This being human is a guest house.
Every morning a new arrival,
A joy, a depression, a meanness,
Some momentary awareness comes
as an unexpected visitor.
Welcome and entertain them all!
Even if they are a crowd of sorrows
Who violently sweep your house
Empty of its furniture.
Still, treat each guest honorably.*

*He may be clearing you out for some new delight.
The dark thoughts, the shame, the malice,
Meet them at the door laughing and invite them in.
Be grateful for whoever comes, because each has been sent
As a guide from beyond.*

Each month the Spiritual Growth Committee will share in the Log a few thoughts on the journey of grief we all experience. We hope these brief thoughts will be of help and support to all.

Ways to Support Someone Who is Grieving

It can be hard to know how to console a friend or relative who is grieving. If it seems that nothing you can do or say helps, don't give up. You can't take the pain away, but your presence is more important than it seems. Accept that you can't fix the situation or make your friend or relative feel better. Instead, just be present and offer hope and a positive outlook toward the future. Recognize that grief is a gradual process.

Even small gestures — sending a card or flowers, delivering a meal, helping out with laundry or shopping, or making a regular date to listen and offer support — can be a huge source of comfort to a person who is grieving. One woman, a dog lover who had recently lost her husband, recalled her joy when a close friend went to the pound and brought her a basket of puppies that needed to be fostered for a few weeks.

It's important to be flexible and open to a person's way of grieving. For example, if a bereaved friend or family member is coming to your house for the holidays, ask if you can do anything to help mark the loss during this occasion. Be



willing to leave plans loose. Build in a loophole when you extend the invitation: "We would love to have you join us. You needn't decide until the last minute, if you want some time to think about it." Gently press a person to accept your invitation, but take "no" for an answer without ire. Call the next day to check in.

It is sometimes difficult to know what to say to a bereaved person. If you find yourself tongue-tied or uncertain of what to do in the face of someone's loss, here are some ideas to help you:

Name Names. Don't be afraid to mention the deceased. It won't make your friend any sadder, although it may prompt tears. It's terrible to feel that someone you love must forever be expunged from memory and conversation. Saying how much you'll miss the person is much better than the perfunctory, "I'm sorry for your loss."

Don't ask, "How are you?" The answer is obvious — "not good" — and because it's the same greeting you would offer anyone, it doesn't acknowledge that your friend has suffered a devastating

loss. Instead try, "How are you feeling today?"

Offer Hope. People who have gone through grieving often remember that it is the person who offered reassuring hope, the certainty that things will get better, who helped them make the gradual passage from pain to a renewed sense of life. Be careful, though, about being too glib, as doing so may make the bereaved person feel even more isolated. Rather, say something like: "You will grieve for as long as you need to, but you are a strong person, and will find your way through this." This remark both acknowledges that there is no quick and easy solution and also affirms your confidence that things will improve.

Reach Out. Call to express your sympathy. Try to steer clear of such phrases as "It's God's will" or "It's for the best" unless the bereaved person says this first. Your friend or relative may need you even more after the first few weeks and months, when other people may stop calling. Check in every now and then just to say hello (you may find it helpful to put reminders on your calendar). Most bereaved people find it difficult to reach out and need others to take the initiative.

Help Out. Don't just ask if you can "do anything." That transfers the burden to the bereaved, and he or she may be reluctant to make a request. Instead, be specific when offering help. Bring dinner over, pass on information about funeral

continued on page 6



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019
6:00 – 8:00 P.M.**

Popcorn & Drinks Provided



THE LION KING (2019)

"Simba idolizes his father, King Mufasa, and takes to heart his own royal destiny on the plains of Africa. But not everyone in the kingdom celebrates the new cub's arrival. Scar, Mufasa's brother -- and former heir to the throne -- has plans of his own. The battle for Pride Rock is soon ravaged with betrayal, tragedy and drama, ultimately resulting in Simba's exile. Now, with help from a curious pair of newfound friends, Simba must figure out how to grow up and take back what is rightfully his."



Thank you Lilly Graves for painting the windows in the Wenona Street entrance. The fall scene is beautiful!



Thank you to our youth volunteers: Sabine Sivy, Nick Quade, Megan Reszke, and Mallory Harrelson for serving ice cream during the Ice Cream Social on Sunday, September 8.



**NOVEMBER 8-10, 2019
COST FOR WPC YOUTH: \$100
REGISTER BY OCTOBER 1**

The Fall Pre-Teen Retreat at SpringHill in Evart, Michigan takes 4th – 6th grade students out of their everyday routines, giving them freedom to experience God in profound ways through fun activities, inspiring speakers, and awesome bands.

Secure your child's spot today! **The cost for WPC youth is \$100.** See Nikelle with any questions and to register.

WELCOME MIJUNG TREPANIER!



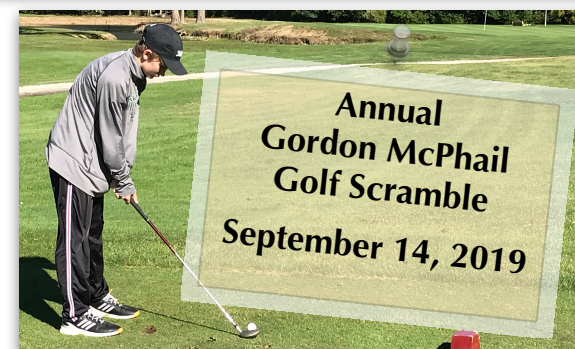
Mijung joins us as one of our Sunday organists. She will alternate Sundays with Wendy Tally. Below is Mijung's bio (taken from her website mijungtrepanier.com):

Mijung C. Trepanier is an independent performer, teacher, and lecturer. She has been elected one of the artists in the Michigan Council Performance Touring Program in 2012-2021. She has performed solo recitals at the Grove Music Festival, The Global Children Foundation in Steinway Hall, and the opening night at the Michigan Music Teacher Annual Convention, Vespers Music Series and Concert series at St. Claire.

She has appeared as a soloist with orchestras in Korea and the United States. Her performance with the Saginaw/Bay Orchestra under the baton of late Maestro Patrick Flynn March 2008 received great reviews. She is also a collaborative artist who has given many performances at various settings in Bolivia, Puerto Rico, Korea, and Michigan.

As an active educator, she has served not only as an adjudicator in the Midwest but has also given public lectures to music teachers and their local communities. She has taught at Southern Utah University, Alma College, and currently, at Saginaw Valley State University.

Mijung received her D.M.A. at Michigan State University in 2003 under Ms. Yong Hi Moon and Dai Uk Lee. While attending MUS, she performed as a soloist with the MSU Symphony Orchestra.



Join us for Adult Faith Formation and Spiritual Growth Opportunities at Westminster this Fall:

"Discernment" study meets Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the Conference Room. Come join our thoughtful and lively discussions as we explore practices of listening for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and as we seek to feel and understand God's amazing love and grace for us as individuals, for the church, and for the world.

"New Voices" – a writing and reflection group will begin meeting on Sunday, October 6 following morning worship. In this session, we will explore through writing, our feelings and responses to pictures, photos, and stories as a means of more fully understanding ourselves, our experiences, and others. One need not be a poet to participate; all that is needed is an open mind, open heart, and a good writing pen (either a favorite one or one we provide)!

"Spirituality of Aging" – this year we will gather over a bag lunch and conversation about Dr. Jane Marie Thibault's book, *A Deepening Love Affair: The Gift of God in Later Life*. Hopefully, the title alone piques your interest! We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at noon.

Love Carved in Stone is this year's Presbyterian Women's Bible Study focus. We will study the Ten Words (don't hear the word "commandment") as a love letter from God to the community then and now. See Pam Binder for more details about the various times these several groups meet.

Small Group meets on the second and fourth Monday mornings at 11:00. This year "The Upper Room Devotional" is being used as our discussion guide.