

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship The Gift of Public Witness

February 8, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

†Those who feel comfortable standing may do so.



DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord! Happy are those who delight in the Lord!

We come to this place, where generations before us have gathered.

Here we remember the light of God that shines in our lives.

Here we allow God's light to shine through us.

Let us worship our radiant God.

Praise the Lord! Happy are we who delight in the Lord!

†HYMN

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

*No. 501

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty.
Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.*

*Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.*

*When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, forgive us when we ignore you
or your lessons for our lives.
Forgive us for allowing oppression and discord to flourish.
Forgive us for not feeding those who are hungry.
Forgive us for not providing shelter
to those who have no place to lay down at night.
Forgive us for not repairing the broken places in our
community.
O Lord, forgive us and then help us
do your work of bringing about justice and healing.
Shine your light through us,
so that all may come to know your abundant love.**

— Continue in Silent Confession —

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

*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 communion.*

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:13-20

SERMON

"The Gift of Public Witness"

Rev. Jamie Milton

†HYMN

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

*No. 574

*I’m gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I’m gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I’m gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I’m gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I’m gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I’m gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I’m gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I’m gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, creator of heaven and earth, who wills justice and peace for all people.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who announced good news to the poor, blessed the meek, and called us to love our enemies and seek righteousness.

He confronted the powers of sin and injustice, and was crucified under the authority of this world; yet God raised him from the dead, vindicating his way of self-giving love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who gives us courage to confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death, and who sends the church into the world to live as salt and light.

We believe the church is called to hear and obey God's Word alone, to stand with those who suffer, to resist evil, and to witness to God's reconciling love even when that witness is costly.

We trust in God's coming kingdom, where righteousness and peace will prevail, and we commit ourselves, by God's grace, to follow Christ, to seek justice, and to walk humbly with our God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

DISCIPLES RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERING

WPC CHANCEL CHOIR

"(Jesus Is) The Light of the World"

Words by Nancy Price and Don Besig; Music by Don Besig

~ Please record your presence on the "Friendship Pad"

†DOXOLOGY

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

Faithful God, all that we have comes from you.
Receive these gifts, offered in gratitude and trust,
that your light may shine in places of need and injustice.
Guide our discernment in the days ahead,
and use what is given—now and in the future—
so that we may be faithful witnesses
to your reconciling love in the world.
We pray in the name of Jesus, Light of the World. Amen.

DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

†HYMN

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

*No. 348

*Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.*

*Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.*

*O, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

*Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

†BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM



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HANDBELL DIRECTOR

YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR

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Rev. Linda Williams

Bonnie Marsh

Leah Sneller

Elaine Edwards

Dawn Auger

Seth Cunningham

Judy Harrelson

Seth Cunningham

Martha Tapley

Bill Petzold

Pat Foster

Harold Miller

CCLI License #2328090

ONE License #A-741016

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2026

- The **FLOWERS for today's service** are provided by Karen Schoeppach in appreciation for her Westminster family.
- **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 infant/CPR trained.
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** We provide two opportunities for folks to participate – **Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.** in the Lounge or **Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. by Zoom.** Our Bible study will be following closely with our Lenten theme, "Tell me something good." This Lent, may we listen again for the good news. May it ground us. And may it inspire us to act in a world hungry to hear, see, and experience what is truly good.

- **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.
- **PER CAPITA for 2026 is \$35.00.** Per capita connects Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations and mid councils with the work of the wider church. Per capita is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of moving the church forward in the 21st century. The work of the PC(USA), and in particular the work of the General Assembly, is only possible because members of the church have said they are "all in" and committed to connection through per capita support. It is about joining together as a community and being one body, the body that is Christ's church in the world.

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	Month to Date thru February 2,	
	2026	Year to Date
Pledges & Other Giving	\$ 10,290	\$ 37,459
One-time Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
Other Cash Received	\$ -	\$ 55
Total Income	\$ 10,290	\$ 37,514
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 28,945
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ 10,290	\$ 8,569

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2026

- Join us, **Sunday, February 15th** as we celebrate **STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**. During worship, we'll receive our 2026 Pledge cards and rededicate ourselves to the ministry God has called us to as a congregation. Following worship, we are hosting a **Celebration luncheon**. Please plan to attend and celebrate all that we are able to do together through your continued generosity to God's ministry here at Westminster!

- **LYDIA CIRCLE** will meet **Thursday, February 19 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Session room. We are using the Horizons Bible Study, "Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ." If you would like to join, contact Barb Tolles at 989-963-9369 or email her at apple2school@yahoo.com.

- **DEBORAH CIRCLE** will meet **at 4 p.m. Thursday, February 26 at the home of Sally Calvo**. If anyone wants to join, please call Karen Schoepach at 989-684-1322 or email her at kaysue@chartermi.net.

- **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. You can choose



to provide dinner by providing pizza, chicken tenders, Mac & Cheese or something along those lines. We usually have dinner from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. You will get a count a couple of days in advance. Please scan the QR code, visit <https://tinyurl.com/bd7hv7u8> or see Leah Sneller to sign up.

- **FACEBOOK:** Stay up to date with all the latest events and watch live streams of worship services each Sunday on our Facebook page: facebook.com/wpcbc

- **WINTER BOOK GROUP:** Our Book Group will continue discussing *The Measure of a Man* by Sidney Poitier, **every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.** in the lounge. Come join us! For questions, please call the church office or Rev. Linda.

Westminster **COMMUNITY PANTRY**

The February "Item of the Month" is chunky-style soup. This is a favorite of our guests, especially during the cold winter months. Donations may be left on the cart outside the pantry door. Thank you for your support!

Thinking about spring? Planning your garden? Consider planting a little extra to donate to the pantry! Fresh produce is a wonderful addition to our summer pantry options. All donations are appreciated.

UPDATE: The updated total that our pantry will be receiving is \$15,030 in Meijer gift cards from the recent Simply Give campaign. This is such a wonderful gift from Meijer and our community! We are very thankful!

— Janet Smylie and Janet Beattie

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2026

• **FOOD OF FAITH:** A new sign up sheet has been posted on the volunteer board outside the sanctuary. Volunteers are being sought to help with the Thursday evening Food of Faith meal at **Messiah Lutheran Church, 501 S. Catherine St.** at the west end of Vets Bridge. Westminster is scheduled to help this **Thursday, February 12**. Two volunteers are needed for the prep shift from 2 to 4 p.m., and four volunteers are needed to help serve from 4 to 6 p.m. If you would like to help, please contact Pam Johnston at 989-392-1958. Looking ahead, other 2026 dates that Westminster will assist with Food of Faith include March 12, June 11 and August 6.

• **ASH WEDNESDAY:** We begin our observance of Lent on **Wednesday, February 18**. A **communion service is planned for 7 p.m.**, and that day will also be the first opportunity to take part in Wondering Wednesdays. Throughout the Wednesdays of Lent (February 18-April 1) the sanctuary will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for an intentional time for prayer and reflection. We'll have some quiet music playing and some images for reflection on the screens.

• **LUNCH AND LAUGH:** For our February Lunch and Laugh gathering, we are planning another Bundle Up and Bunco, although hopefully the weather will be warmer and less bundling will be required! We will meet in the Fellowship Hall for lunch at noon on **Tuesday, February 24** for lunch with games to follow. Bring a sack lunch and join us for fun and fellowship! Any questions? Call the church office or contact Rev. Linda.

• **BED BUILD:** Save the date!

Westminster's 3rd annual sponsored bed build with Sleep in Heavenly Peace is scheduled for Saturday April 18. Details to follow. If you have any questions contact Len Petroff.

• **RUMMAGE SALE:** Westminster's Presbyterian Women committee is planning a Spring Rummage Sale for Wednesday, April 15 through Friday, April 17. What better way to part with some of the items you discover during your spring cleaning? We will begin collecting rummage sale items and setting up on Sunday, April 12. More details will follow as the date approaches.

• **OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH:** Our February Out-to-Lunch Bunch destination is **Gulino's Pizza**, 1406 N. Henry St.

• We will be gathering at 1 p.m. **Wednesday, February 18**. Please RSVP with Dave Crook by Monday, February 16 by calling 847-624-5798 or emailing crookds@earthlink.net.

• **CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATES:** Heading to a warmer climate this winter? Have you moved recently? Do you have a new email address? Please call the church office to let us know of these changes so your statement and other church correspondence reaches you.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

103 E. Midland Street, Bay City, MI

48706; phone: 989-686-1360

email: office@wpcbc.org

website: wpcbc.org

The office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday through Thursday. Closed

noon to 1 p.m. for lunch each day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2026

SAGINAW SPIRIT FAITH NIGHT: A group outing is being planned to attend the Saginaw Spirit's annual Faith Night on **Sunday, February 22**. The Spirit take on the Guelph Storm beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$14. Please let Leah Sneller know if you would like to attend by next Sunday, February 15.

You may send your ticket money to Financial Administrator Pat Foster. Contact Leah or the church office with any questions.

Lenten Activities:

Wondering Wednesdays: Throughout the Wednesdays of Lent (February 18-April 1) the sanctuary will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for an intentional time for prayer and reflection. We'll have some quiet music playing and some images for reflection on the screens.

Mid-Lenten Potluck and Interactive Prayer Service:

Wednesday, March 11, 6:00 p.m.

Palm/Passion Sunday: March 29

Maundy Thursday: April 2, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday: April 3, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday: A Service of Waiting, Wonder, and Resurrection Hope (April 4, 4:00pm)

Easter Sunday: Services at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.;
Breakfast served at 9:15 a.m.