

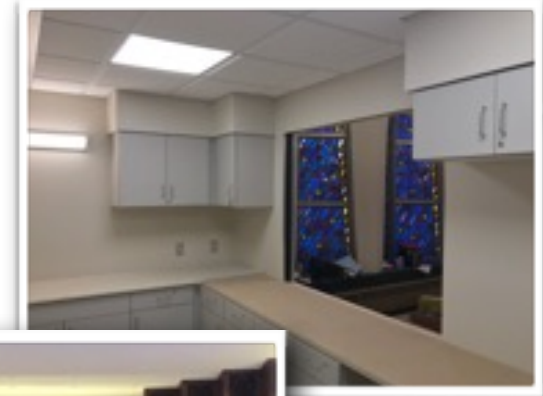
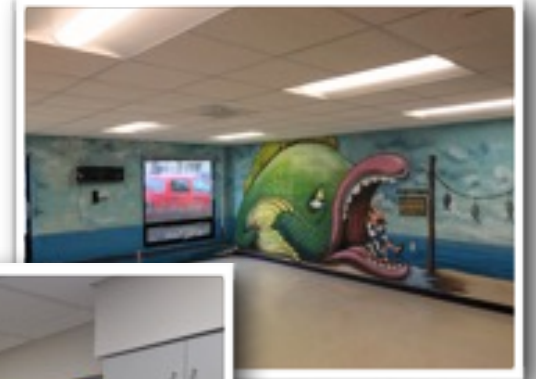


# THE WESTMINSTER LOG



It is with JOY that we can say this Easter Sunday will be like no other in the history of our congregation! We will be joining together in worship in the newly renovated Sanctuary, surrounded by the fruits of many months of labor and many years of planning and stewardship. What a blessing it will be to celebrate the new life that comes to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ at the very time we witness new life and rebirth in our own church home!

While we do anticipate having access to our church home at that time, our work is not quite done. There is much to be coordinated for moving into classrooms and offices, updating and replacing furniture and fixtures, and the like. It reminds me of moving into a house. It is a thrill to see that moving truck pull away and



know that a home is yours... but just one glance at the pile of boxes will remind you in an instant of all that lies ahead.

So, with that in mind, there are a few announcements to share about what's coming up at Westminster:

- Our Annual Easter Breakfast will not be held this year. We look forward to resuming that tradition next year.
- Vacation Bible School, due to our building situation, and due to the late

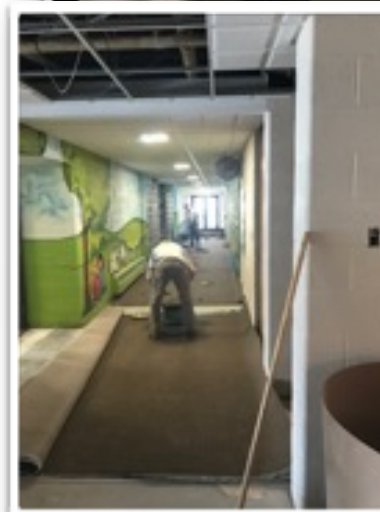
end of school this year, will NOT be held in June, but in August. We are waiting for the schools to determine start dates in 2017 before we firm up the schedule for the BEST week of summer! Stay tuned!

- The PW Rummage Sale, normally held in May, will be held later this summer, and

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- May 28, on our Volunteer Appreciation Sunday and the last week of Sunday School, we will celebrate together with a "family party" and picnic in our new home!
- September 10, as we begin our next program year, we will host a "Homecoming" celebration, a housewarming party, when renovations and "getting settled" are complete and we're ready to show and share God's blessings with the larger community.

This Easter, and always, it is such a JOY to share in ministry at Westminster! - Pastor Matt



From top to bottom: Sunday School classrooms with new, bright lighting and tile; updated Chapel kitchenette for fellowship and receptions; Organ enclosures to replace curtain fire hazard; Accessible restroom in the chapel area, Carpet going down in the halls!

APRIL 2017 ISSUE 105

WWW.WPCBC.ORG

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Watch our sermons  
on our website!



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Monday thru Friday  
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Heather Heidman (ext. 206)  
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Nikelle Johnson (ext. 208)  
Custodian  
Harold Miller (ext. 205)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	<div>APRIL</div>	
<b>2</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	<b>3</b> 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 2:45 p.m. My Tempo Music 7:00 p.m. Deacons	<b>4</b> 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 6:00 p.m. Personnel 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
<b>9</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	<b>10</b> 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 2:45 p.m. My Tempo Music 6:00 p.m. Finance 6:30 p.m. Small Group 7:00 p.m. Family & Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Stewardship	<b>11</b> 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 1:00 p.m. Lions Sight & Hearing 6:00 p.m. Spiritual Growth 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
<b>16</b> <b>Easter Worship Services</b> <b>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>18</b> 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 10:00 a.m. Hearts and Hands 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
<b>23/30</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	<b>24</b> 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 2:45 p.m. My Tempo Music 6:30 p.m. Small Group	<b>25</b> 9:30 a.m. My Tempo Music 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 12:00 a.m. Aging & Spirituality 1:00 p.m. Log Crew 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>Happy Birthday to...</div> <div>Joyce Whitney Marilyn Lapham Marilyn Bechtel Claire Jacobson Daniel Gould Walter Whitney Paul Dannesberger</div>			<b>1</b>
<b>5</b> 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays @ Westminster 6:00 p.m. Property 6:30 p.m. Lenten Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>6</b> 8:30 a.m. TOPS 5:30 p.m. PW Board 7:00 p.m. Mission Part.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>12</b> 5:45 p.m. Bay City Fireworks 6:00 p.m. Wednesday @ Westminster 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 8:00 p.m. Worship Com.	<b>13</b> 8:30 a.m. TOPS <b>Maundy Thursday Worship Service</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>14</b> Good Friday <b>Ecumenical Community Service at Grace Methodist - West Campus</b> <b>12:30 p.m.</b> <b>Westminster - 7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>19</b> 6:00 p.m. Wednesday @ Westminster 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>20</b> 8:30 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Esther Circle 1:00 p.m. Lydia Circle 7:00 p.m. Deborah Circle	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>26</b> 6:00 p.m. Wednesday @ Westminster 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>27</b> 8:30 a.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Hannah Cir.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>





## Communion Servers

### April

Russ Marvin  
Melissa Woodward  
Jack Gustafson  
Janet Beattie  
Bill Auger  
Tiffany Frontjes  
Brian Graves  
Kaye Walker  
Patti Wesenick  
Lisa Beson

### May

John Hegenauer  
Joyce Hegenauer  
Pam Monville  
Nancy Swantek  
Jan Witucki  
Chris Thurman  
Jeff Rogers  
Candy Green  
Bill Shelt  
Lee Pratt



Prayers of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Richard Case. Richard passed away on Tuesday, February 28, 2017. A funeral service was held at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Saturday, March 4, 2017 with Rev. Matthew Schramm officiating.

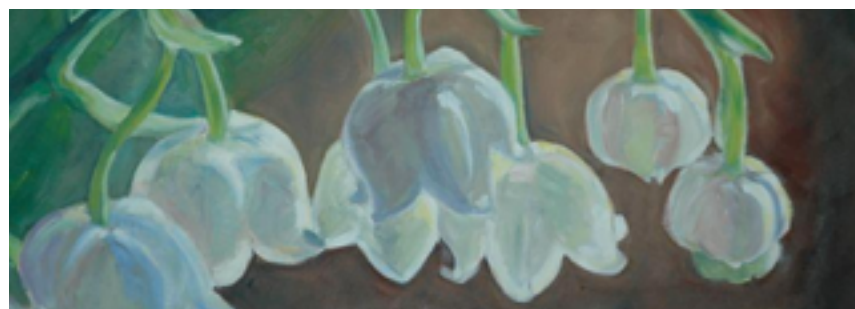


Prayers of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Margaret Belknap. Margaret passed away on Tuesday, March 14, 2017. A memorial service will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in late April.



Thank you for all the cards and condolences for Janet Dannesberger. Your support is greatly appreciated.

*The Dannesberger Family*



## Easter Schedule

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Currently studying  
"Give Up Something Bad for Lent"  
Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

### DEVOTIONAL STUDY

Currently studying  
"A Way Other than our Own"  
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.  
Last class is April 5

### MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 13

7:00 p.m.

### GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 14

Ecumenical Service at Grace Methodist 12:30  
Westminster 7:00 p.m.

### EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.



## Music at Westminster

The following ensembles will present  
music during worship in April:

### APRIL 2

Junior Choir

### APRIL 9 - PALM SUNDAY

Little Ringers, Chimers,  
and Chancel Choir

### APRIL 16 - EASTER SUNDAY

Junior Bells, Chancel Choir  
(both services)

### APRIL 23

Chancel Choir



## Exciting New Adult Bible Study!

### **The Purpose Driven Live** **What on Earth Am I Here For? — Expanded Edition**

by, Rick Warren

**With Janet Beattie**  
**Sundays April 23 – May 28**  
**9:15 a.m.**

Join Janet Beattie on a 40-day spiritual journey. This class aims to help participants discover the answer to one of life's most important questions: What on earth am I here for?

*"Knowing God's purpose for creating you will reduce your stress, focus your energy, simplify your decisions, give meaning to your life, and, most importantly, prepare you for eternity. The Purpose Driven Life is a blueprint for Christian living in the 21st century — a lifestyle based on God's eternal purposes, not cultural values."*

This book is divided into forty chapters, with readers urged to read one chapter a day in order to digest and reflect upon its content. Each chapter concludes with a point to ponder, a verse to remember, and questions to consider. Expect some lively discussions during this individual and shared journey of faith.



Rick Warren is an American evangelical Christian, founder and pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California. He is the author of several books including *The Purpose Driven Church*, *God's Answers to Life's Difficult Questions*, and *God's Power to Change your Life*.



## *Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday*

March 12, 2017








### Being a Deacon

The Ministry of Compassion and Service

*The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest reputation, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgement should be chosen for this ministry. (Book of Order G-2.02)*

### Being an Elder

The Ministry of Discernment and Governance

*As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament church provided persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God's Spirit and governance of God's people. Accordingly, congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with teaching elders, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships. When elected by the congregation, they shall serve faithfully as members of the session. When elected as commissioners to higher councils, ruling elders participate and vote with the same authority as teaching elders, and they are eligible for any office. (Book of Order G-2.03)*



### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Building Improvement Fund

January Balance:  
\$32,951.45  
February Income:  
\$-25,601\*  
February Expense:  
\$798.00  
February Balance:  
\$6,551.65

#### Operating Fund

February Income:  
\$27,894.99  
February Expense:  
\$33,623.67

Donate online at  
[www.wpcbc.org](http://www.wpcbc.org)

#### Major Repairs Fund

\$553.00

**\*February's Building Improvement Fund included \$599.00 in income and a \$26,200 transfer to the Capital Campaign Fund for total income of \$-25,601.**





### What is ordination?

The act by which the church sets apart leaders to serve in particular offices. The word ordination is derived from order. In ordination the church orders itself for ministry.

### For what offices is ordination required?

Minister of the Word and Sacrament, elder, deacon.

### Who does the ordaining?

The presbytery ordains ministers. The church session ordains deacons and elders.

### How does the process of ordination work?

Those called to an ordained office in the church are subjected to a four-stage process of admission to that office. Presbyterian ordination rites have always included each aspect of this fourfold process:

- Articulation of a clear inner sense that God is calling the person to an office of ministry requiring ordination.
- Testing of that inner call by the church itself. In practice, this has included an examination not only of the person's knowledge and gifts, but also of his or her way of life.
- Election to office by a particular community of God's people, ordinarily a congregation.
- Admission to the office (ordination) in the context of public worship, through prayer, with the laying on of hands.

### What kind of leadership does the church need?

The two key words here are gifts and service.

"Leaders in the church are identified and called to office in terms of their gifts. It is expected that these gifts, coming from God, are to be exercised in the particular tasks and office. It is also to be expected that the gifts of the leader will be cultivated and developed in obedience to the guidance of the Spirit and in the service of the church. Leaders are also called on to empower and enhance the exercise and development of the gifts of all of the members of the community." — A Proposal for Considering the Theology and Practice of Ordination in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), commended for churchwide study by the 1992 General Assembly.

"The purpose and pattern of leadership in the church in all its forms of ministry shall be understood not in terms of power but of service, after the manner of the servant ministry of Jesus Christ." — Book of Order, G-14.0103

taken from: <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/what-we-believe/ordination/>

### OFFICER INSTALLATION AND ORDINATION

Sunday, March 19, 2017 &  
Sunday, April 23, 2017

#### ELDER

#### ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

Karen Brown-Fackler

#### INSTALLATION

Lee Pratt  
Jason Sivy  
Randy Thibo

#### DEACON

#### ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

Jill Jean  
Susan Portwood  
Susan Wilson

#### INSTALLATION

Sandy Thibo



4 ANNUAL

*Sweet Beginnings*

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017

BEACON OF HOPE PREGNANCY CARE CENTER  
2360 MIDLAND ROAD, BAY CITY

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 P.M.  
PROGRAM BEGINS AT 7:00 P.M.



Featuring desserts from various  
local businesses, along with  
hot and cold hors d'oeuvres

### BAY CHORALE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

"50 Golden Years"

Sunday  
April 30, 2017

4:00 p.m.

Tickets \$8 in  
advance,  
\$10 at the door

Grace United  
Methodist Church,  
2 Mile near Kiesel



### *Wings of Prayer*

Article by Patti Wesenick

A little more than 50 years ago a past member on the Board of Deacons began a prayer chain, which is called "Wings of Prayer." The prayer chain remains very active today. Over the past five years that I have served as the Deacon Representative for the Wings of Prayer, we have had prayers requested for nearly 1,000 individuals — both within our church family and individuals outside our church family.

To briefly explain the process: A call, email, text message, or message by word of mouth is received with the person's first name and what the prayer is for (example: health and healing; comfort and peace; decision-making; guidance, and so on). Once the request is taken, the prayer chain is initiated. A telephone call, text message, or email is sent to roughly 20 individuals who are on the prayer chain.

If you are interested in placing someone on the Wings of Prayer,  
or if you are interested in joining the Prayer chain,  
please contact Patti Wesenick (989) 737-6844.



"Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."  
1 Thessalonians 5: 17-18 KJV





## Grinding Progress

A letter from Michael Ludwig serving in Niger  
March 2017

I knew it was a good sign when I saw the open door of an old building at the edge of the Bible school fence. I was visiting the school with a group of mission partners from the U.S., and they asked what was happening in the building. We heard that the building formerly housed a machine for grinding grains into flour for daily staple meals, but it hadn't been working for a number of years and I had never even heard about it before. Just a few weeks ago the Bible school collected a little money to replace a few parts on the grinder, got it back in working order, and re-instituted the system for students to pay a small fee (the same we pay in our neighborhood) to grind their grains. Now the women don't have to spend hours pounding it into flour, and people from the few "homesteads" surrounding this rural Bible school can also come to receive the benefit. It was a great chance to see something new in this Bible school of our partner church (the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Niger—EERN) that we might not have had without the special attention of a group visiting.

As I have taught at two of the EERN's Bible schools for the past three years, I have heard people talk about their needs, and I have seen a lot about how they operate. But on this visit with partners I was struck by the optimistic outlook there is now. The last six months has been a gradual period of change, especially at Dogon Gao, the closer school, which I've been able to observe longer. A new director has come in who is more active and has gotten the students and instructors to take more pride in keeping up the grounds of the Bible school. They've made a new entrance path to the school lined with red-and-white cement markers, put new paint on things, gotten the pump for their well working again, and cleaned up the area around the well where they did small-scale irrigation for gardens. This contrasts with what the first two years of my visits there were like with a director who didn't even want to live on campus—complaints about many things and very few plans for how to change anything. It makes the future for this school look pretty bright now. I think it will also help that the national church has some plans for how to use the fields a little better to generate more income for the school. But now that they're doing a lot of the little things to help their school, it's a place where it's much more interesting to work on projects for long-term development. I think this change shows the Bible schools are starting to get a bigger vision of what they can do and we're starting to see some fruit from the national leadership's efforts to cultivate new ways of doing things.



The Ludwig children doing their daily calendar exercise.

The reality of the situation is that the list of needs for both of the two Bible schools in our area is still long. They need to find ways to reverse the trend of getting less and less yield from the big agricultural fields around the schools. They want to introduce irrigation and more efficient management of fields. They would like



A student at Dogon Gao Bible School shows his new garden plot near a reservoir for small scale irrigation.

to start a program for teaching a trade skill, like carpentry or welding or tailoring, which pastors and evangelists could use to support themselves in communities where the church is still very small or nonexistent. Many of the students' dorm rooms are falling in, making it hard to live or attract new students. One dorm block gets flooded to knee height during the rainy season because of new drainage for the main road 100 yards away. Most of the students don't have a church large enough to help them with school fees. Every term they buy a few small paperback books for their courses, but they don't have any kind of library of resource books to further their knowledge or studies in any subject. Even though those are a lot of challenges ahead, I get excited to see the little changes being worked on that make it more likely that these big ideas are attainable.

We are humbled to be a part of these expanding little changes at the Bible school at Aguié as well. I heard that they used to just rely on a missionary who lived there who ended up buying all the food for the students, paying many of the school fees, and directing any improvements to the facilities. After that missionary left, there were a few years of decline and treading water, but now there seems to be new energy to improve things and more students are enrolling again. I'm encouraged that one part of this is how we've started teaching the concepts of community development through Community Health Evangelism (CHE) at the school. As we've done this the instructors and students have pointed out more and more things that they already started doing for themselves or soon hope to do. Just one example is their efforts to increase health by making and using their own soap from the ash of leftover millet stalks. We hope CHE will continue to be a catalyst for helping the students and staff of the Bible schools grab hold of the vision for a future that includes how much they can do with the resources God has already given them.

The steady "grinding" progress and the fruit that we're beginning to see is a real encouragement to our whole family. We also praise God that everyone, including our adopted son, has settled well into family routines of school, church, and work responsibilities in our current cold season. We continue to ask for your prayers for the vibrant leadership of the EERN, for our discernment as we pursue another adoption, and also for discernment about the continuation of this work as we come up to the end of our first term of service later this year. We are so thankful for your interest in and support of what God is doing in Niger and encourage you to send us a message to let us know how you are doing. May God also give you the blessings of encouragement that add more life-giving "grist" to the mills in your life.

*Michael and Rachel Ludwig*



The director of the Dogon Gao Bible School showing us the newly fixed grinder.



The director of the Aguié Bible School and a student cook a mixture of oil and ash to make soap.



Women at the Bible school gather to talk and share the work of pounding the staple grains by hand.