**Westminster Presbyterian Church Messenger**  
**March, 2018**

**With Christ as our Cornerstone we**  
**Believe, Become, Belong, Build**

John 20:11-14

"Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot."

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him."

Imagine the range of emotions that Mary must have felt when she arrived at the tomb after the death of Jesus. She goes to the tomb that day with the intention of grieving this deep loss of her friend, her teacher and her Savior and instead she encounters two angels. She must have wondered if she was dreaming, where has he gone? As we consider the Easter story as we live though this Lenten season, Holy Week and Easter morning you may have questions as well. What does my faith mean in my everyday life? How do I share my faith? What if my faith has become as small as a mustard seed? My prayer is that at Westminster you truly feel as if you can bring those questions and know this is an environment where your story matters and your questions count.

Please do all you can to attend all of the Holy Week services to journey on each step of this amazing week which has changed all of our lives forever.

As we prepare our hearts to celebrate Jesus victory over death, may we all exclaim, "Ah What Love." And also take time to see the progress of our new welcome center and the North stained glass windows should be installed in this month. Thank you for your continued gifts to the Seeking New Paths campaign.

We have so much to be grateful for as we turn the corner towards Spring and celebrate the New Life available for each of us!

*With Hope,*  
*Pastor Tricia*

**Sermon Series**

We continue to move forward with fresh and helpful insights into what matters to Jesus!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sermon Title</th>
<th>Scripture</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>&quot;New Heart, New Spirit: Bold Steps&quot;</td>
<td>John 18:12-27</td>
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<td>March 11</td>
<td>&quot;New Heart, New Spirit: Kingdom Talk&quot;</td>
<td>John 18:28-40</td>
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<td>March 18</td>
<td>&quot;New Heart, New Spirit: Pilate's Surrender&quot;</td>
<td>John 19:1-16a</td>
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March 25 Palm Sunday  "This is Our King"  John 12:12-27; 19:16b-22
March 30 Good Friday  "Service of Shadows and Stones"  John 19:31-42
April 1 Easter  "Oh What Love!"  John 20:1-20

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 25
9:00 am Traditional - Chancel Choir, LightShine, Messengers, Church Mice
11:15 am Contemporary - Worship Team, Messengers, Church Mice

Maundy Thursday, March 29
7:00 pm in the Shared Life Center with Communion

Good Friday, March 30
7:00 pm in the Sanctuary - Chancel Choir

Easter Sunday, April 1
6:30 am Sunrise Service on the back steps
9:00 am Traditional Worship - Chancel Choir and Brass
11:15 am Contemporary Worship - Worship Team

Music Ministry

Worship with us Sundays at:
9:00 am for Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary and 11:15 am for Contemporary Worship in the Shared Life Center.

Special Music for this month:

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
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<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<td>Back Steps</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>Shared Life Center</td>
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Musical Opportunities abounds at Westminster!

2018 Lenten Concert and Lunch Series
Join us Wednesdays at 12:10pm for our Lenten Concerts and Lunches! Each concert will begin with a scripture reading and prayer followed by 20 minutes of music. After the concert, all are welcome to
join us in the Social Hall for a soup luncheon at 12:30.

We continue this series with the following performers:
March 7: Patrick Marchant, Pianist
March 14: Megan Grey, Vocalist
March 21: Sue Feltman, Organist
March 28: Neal & Kristin Petersen, Vocalists

Calling All Singers for the Easter Choir!
Join the Chancel Choir as we prepare for Easter Sunday. Rehearsals for Easter Sunday will be held on Wednesdays March 7 and March 21 from 7:30-8:15 on March 28 we will rehearse from 7:30-9 pm. For more information or to join the choir, please contact Patrick Marchant at patrick@wpcw.org or 319.234.5501 ext. 110

Patrick Marchant

Easter Lilies
We will again have live Easter lilies in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. If you would like to purchase a lily in memory or honor of someone, we would greatly appreciate your participation. The lilies will only be used in the front of the sanctuary and/or the Shared Life Center and the flowers will have the stamens removed to avoid allergy issues.

After the first service is over, you are welcome to take your lily home and any remaining lilies will be placed in the shared life center for the second service. Lilies can also be picked up after the second service. Any not taken will be shared with those in need of encouragement. The cost of the lilies will be $12.00 each, and payment should be made when your order is placed.

Please place your order by March 26 and let the office know the following information:
1. Name of person or group to be remembered or honored
2. Whether you will take it with you after the service or if you want it delivered to a person in need of encouragement.

Formation

Wes Pres Youth
Our junior and senior highs continue to be pretty active and I’ve enjoyed seeing them in action both outside of the church as well as inside our church. God has blessed them with many talents and it is a joy to see them in action!!

Junior Highs
Susie Lund and I have been busy teaching our confirmands the Old Testament this year. As we approach the end of the school year we will be completing the O.T. and begin reviewing all that we've learned since September.

For our 8th graders who will be confirmed this year, we will be going over all that they have learned the past three years. I will also be putting together a packet that they can take home and study for their final test. I encourage the parents to take some time and go over the questions with their sons and daughters to help prepare them.

It is important that they make every effort to attend the next couple of months as we will be preparing and reviewing for our final exams!
Special dates for Confirmation:
April 6/7: Lock-in for 8th grade confirmands. Our 8th graders will take their final test, write their statement of faith and chose a Bible verse.
April 29: Confirmation Sunday. The 8th grade confirmands will be honored at a breakfast and they will share their statement of faith and read their Bible verse. They will meet with Session and then participate in the 9:00 service with a reception following and then be recognized at the 11:15 service.

Great Escape
Most of you know about our junior high summer camp called Great Escape! I believe it to be the best show on earth for our middle schoolers and has touched and changed many of our youth’s lives.

This year Great Escape will be: July 9-14

Each of our youth will need to turn in the release form and a copy of your insurance card. You should have received a letter last month with the form. If you need another copy or have any questions, please contact me.

Senior Highs

This senior high group has been busy with their athletic, state speech, plays and concerts, but they have been very dedicated to attending their Wed. night groups and Sunday school.

Puerto Rico Mission trip
This year's summer group will consist of 4 adults and 10 youth. Letters with release forms, costs etc. have been given out. If you did not receive one, please contact me.

Our group will be leaving on Sat. June 9th and returning Sunday, June 17th. You will be receiving a copy of our itinerary along with contact information for our trip in the near future.

MOA
On Saturday, Feb. 24th, we had a group travel by chartered bus to Minneapolis and the Mall of America. It was a great trip and I want to thank all the adults who made the trip and helped chaperone our youth. We all had a wonderful time as we supported our economy!

Peace,
Scott Cose

Wes Pres Kids
Join us Wednesday, March 7, for our COME TOGETHER event. We will be throwing a SPRING BREAK LUAU PARTY. Following worship in the Sanctuary at 6:00 pm, we will gather in the Shared Life Center for a Hawaiian-themed good time. There will be games, activities, and treats for the whole family to enjoy together. Feel free to wear your craziest Hawaiian shirt, grass skirt, and flip flops! Aloha! See you there!

NO Sunday School on March 11. We will be having one Unity Service at 10:00 am.
NO Discovery Night on March 14 due to Spring Break. Have a great week off from school!

Saturday, March 31, we will have our Easter Joy Celebration from 9:30-11:00 am in the Social Hall. Bring your Easter Basket and your whole family for breakfast, crafts, games, photos with the Easter Bunny, and an Easter Egg hunt. What a great way to celebrate the Easter weekend! Look for the sign-up sheet in the
Welcome Center.

Join us **April 18** at Discovery Night for **5th Grade Graduation** at 5:30 pm in the Social Hall. We will be honoring the children that are moving from Westminster's Children's Program into the Youth Program.

**April 25 is our Discovery Night End of the Year Party!**
The Grout Museum's Imag-Mobile will be presenting the interactive program *Grossology* to our children to celebrate the end of our programming year. The kids will have the opportunity to try out gross science experiments. They will learn how a substance can act like a liquid and a solid. This party is open to children who are 3 years old through 5th grade, who attend Discovery Night on Wednesdays. Beginning in April, look for the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center on Sundays, and in front of the Social Hall on Wednesdays.

Alisa Engelhardt

**The Journey**

We are offering a summer Journey experience, an in-depth study over 15 weeks. The Journey curriculum invites you to walk through the process that will deepen your faith and refresh your spiritual life. It explores the biggest questions of faith: Who is God? Who am I? What does God desire to do through me? Together we will discuss: "In the midst of all of life's activity, do you ever feel like you are just skimming the surface? Do you wonder if there is more to this life with Christ? Have you have been called to something greater?" Come join us for the Journey.

The class size is limited to 8 so save your spot by calling the church office. If you have questions concerning the class, please call either pastor or Troyce Vich at **319-240-8605**. This summer class will be offered on Wednesday evenings, 7-8:30 beginning May 2nd and ending August 15.

**Facilitator:** Troyce Vich  
**Location:** WPC - 3rd floor loft  
**Cost:** $150 which includes all workbooks and secondary books. Scholarships are available from our CE committee.  
**Informational meeting:** April 15 at 11:00 am

**The Journey**  
This adult discipleship class continues its in depth study and is full/closed.

**Adult Education Opportunities**

**The Bible Tells Me So**
In March we continue looking at an increasingly important question... How should we read the Bible? Violence, genocide, racism, women's rights, slavery, and human sexuality have lead more and more to find the Bible difficult to read, and sometimes worse, devoid of value. Quite frankly, to be a church in this day and age, this is a question we have got to talk about.

So, this Lent I invite you to join me in watching video interviews with Peter Enns on topics found in his book, *The Bible Tells Me So*, and engage in meaningful conversation about the difficulties of the scriptures we love. For more info here is a synopsis of the study....

What if the Bible is fine just the way it is? Not a well behaved Bible, where everything lines up and makes sense, but the messy, troubling, and weird Bible we actually have? What if the Bible doesn't need to be protected and defended, but understood-just as it is? What if the real problem isn't the Bible but the false expectations we sometimes bring to it? Perhaps, when we let the Bible be the Bible rather than what we expect it ought to be-or need it to be-we will find a deeper faith in the process.  
**When:** Continues thru March 25.  
**Location:** Chapel.  
**Facilitators:** Pastor Dan and Guests
Lent Small Groups - Continue meeting thru Lent

Final Words
In this study by Adam Hamilton, you will examine Christ's dying hours and final words from the cross as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross. This study comes with a leader guide and DVD with 7 teaching session. Sign up in the Welcome Center for the day that works best with your schedule or contact Pastor Dan at dan@wpcw.org.

Small Group Track 1
Formal Study with Up to 7 Sessions
With DVD, Leader Guide and Books

Father Forgive Them
Behold Your Son
My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?
Today You Will Be with Me in Paradise
I Thirst
Into Your Hands I Commit My Spirit
On the Road to Emmaus

Track 2
4 Informal Gatherings
With directions for...
Fellowship
Scripture Reading
Discussion Question
Praying for Each Other
& a Blessing

Weekday Adult Opportunities
Mondays
Bible Study for Women:
This Bible Study will resume on April 9. Rev. Cathy Young leads a weekly, in-depth Bible study for women from 9:00 to 10 am on Mondays in Room 216. All women of Westminster and the wider Cedar Valley are invited to attend the study. The group is studying the gospel of Luke. Women are asked to bring their favorite Bible. When: Monday's at 9:00 am. Where: Room 216. Facilitator: Rev. Cathy Young

Bible Study for Men: Join us on Monday's at 9:00 am in Room 216. Benefits galore are available: sharing insights, relishing in God's grace, watching fellow men grow in knowledge and also in spiritual strength. You are not required to bring any biblical knowledge with you other than an ability and desire to meet "brothers in Christ." Currently they are studying the Reformation. When: Monday's at 9:00 am. Where: Adult Library. Facilitator: Rev. Dan Voigt.

Sweet Hour of Prayer: Join with us to review prayer joys and concerns of our extended church family. All are welcome. When: Mondays at 1:30 pm. Where: Pastor Tricia's Office.

Wednesdays
Centering Prayer
Meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:30 am in the Chapel and Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm.

Church Bookies
Calling all women! You are invited to join us on the third Sunday of the month. Our next meeting is Sunday, March 18 at 6:00 pm.
A look ahead at books to read:
March: *Braving the Wilderness* by Brene Brown
April: *The Woman in Cabin 10* by Ruth Ware
May: *Wonder* by RJ Palecio

Contact Cindy Harmon with any questions at 268-0049 home or 239-9761 cell.

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**Resources**

**Finance**

Budget Summary for January 2018.

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<th>JANUARY 2018</th>
<th>JANUARY 2017</th>
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**AmazonSmile**

Have you heard of AmazonSmile?

*What is Amazon Smile* - it is a simple and automatic way for you to support Westminster Presbyterian every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase to Westminster Presbyterian.

*How do you shop at AmazonSmile?* To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping.

*Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?* Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

*Can you use your existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?* Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry
and other account settings are also the same.

**How do you select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?** On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

**How much of your purchase does Amazon donate?** The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes or service charges. From time to time, there may be offer specials, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services for additional donations.

**Can you receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from your purchases on AmazonSmile?** Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.

Please consider this easy way to help support Westminster Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions on this, please contact Becky at the church 234-5501 or email Becky@wpcw.org.

Thank you
Finance Committee

**Scrip Cards**

SCRIP is a program where the church purchases prepaid gift cards at a discount (ranging from 1.25-16%) and then sells them at face value. The discount goes into an account that can be used for a variety of uses based upon the church's needs.

Gift cards can be used to give as gifts, to make everyday purchases, or to help maintain your monthly budget. We offer quite a variety including gas, grocery, restaurants, movie theater, clothing, crafts, home improvement, sports, car repair, Visa & Discover and SO much more.

If you purchase one $25.00 gift card each month for a year, you could raise $20.00 for the church. For 300 members to make that commitment could mean $6,000.00 for 1 year. Think of the possibilities!

The SCRIP table will be open the first and third Sunday in the Welcome Center. SCRIP is also available in the office Monday-Friday. Click HERE for the current scrip list! Fill it out and bring it with you on Sunday mornings to have your order filled! Cards that we do not have available can be ordered for you.

Don't forget to share this opportunity with friends and family- the more the merrier!

If you have any questions or would like to special order cards, please reach out to Sarah Hellman at sari@cfu.net or contact the church office.

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**Mission**

**Free Community Breakfast-Sat. March 3 - 8:00 am**

How does a delicious homemade breakfast sound, along with a time of fellowship? You are invited to attend our monthly community breakfast, held on the first Saturday of the month. The men of Westminster cook up a delicious meal and there is a time of devotion and fellowship. We'd love for you to join us and bring a friend or two!

**Sunday Supper Update**

The ministry of Sunday Supper continues every Sunday evening at First Presbyterian Church in Waterloo! Have you attended yet? It is a great way to meet community friends and enjoy a great
meal together!

It starts at 5 pm in the lower level of First Pres which is located at 505 Franklin Street. If you would like to lend a hand some Sunday with the food prep, hospitality or clean up please see the schedule which is located in the Welcome Center. There are TWO different shifts to choose from:

* OPEN which is 3:30 pm to 5:40 pm and this includes food prep, serving line or greeting

* CLOSING which is 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm and could include serving, assisting with carrying trays and the inevitable joy of clean up!

Volunteers are always needed! Check out the sign up sheets in the Welcome Center! Please contact Mary Lisa Mueller 319-274-9650 with any questions.

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**Care**

**One Great Hour of Sharing**

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance and hope.

Received during the season of Lent, each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need. OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. OGHS currently supports programs in over 100 countries.

On Sunday, March 11, there will be information and an envelope in your bulletin for your gift to OGHS. This can be dropped in the collection plates on Sunday's thru Easter, April 1 or you can mail it or drop it off to the church office. We will also have extra envelopes in the office if needed. The children will be given Fish Banks if they would also like to contribute to this very worthy cause. Thank you for your support of OGHS.

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**Spring Prayer Vigil - Saturday, March 24**

On Saturday, March 24 the Deacons will host a spring prayer vigil. Between the hours of 6:00 am and 4:00 pm, choose a 30 minute time slot to come and pray in our Chapel or you may sign up to pray at home during a specific time. Sign up begins on Sunday, March 4 in the Welcome Center.

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**Deacon Medical Equipment Lending Program**

We have available the following items to be loaned on a short term basis to Westminster members:

Wheel Chair, Walker, Bed Rail, Shower Chair, Cane, Crutches and others.

Due to the generous donation from a Westminster Church family, we now have available an electric wheelchair if there is ever a need.

Contact the church office if you are in need or should you have any items that we can use, please let us know by calling 234-5501. Thank you!
Other Church News

Over 60 Fellowship - Thursday, March 8
Join us as we head to the Waterloo Center for the Arts to the free exhibit of Bobbie Molene-Kramer. She is an American artist, lecturer, teacher, and illustrator. Her work includes Japanese Shunga style paintings, gestural abstraction, animal symbolism, and realism. Bonnie was born in Ft. Madison, Iowa. From there we will have lunch at the Laughing Tree Cafe by the river. We must pre-order our lunch prior to the trip, so please RSVP with your lunch selection by Monday afternoon, March 5. You can find a copy of the menu in the church office, or go on line to view it. Copy and paste address below into your browser.  

Friendship Club
All are welcome! Meets Thursday, March 1 at 6:00 pm. Program: Protecting Yourself Against Fraud by Waterloo Police officer and Westminster member Stacy Hesse. Bring a dish to share.

Friendship Village Lunch & Communion
Our next gathering will be on Monday, March 26 at 11:30 am. This will take place at Village Place in the Tea Room. Please RSVP to the church by noon on Friday, March 23. All are invited to join in this fellowship!

Presbyterian Women
Executive Board: Will meet on Wednesday, March 7 at 10:00 am at the home of Betty Cline. #6301 at Friendship Village (3720 Village Place).

Circles:  Wednesday, March 21 at 10:00 am in the Children's Library
Lesson 9: Interpretations of Jesus

PIECEMAKERS meets each Thursday 9:00 - 12:00.
Our mission will continue to make quilts and children's clothing. We welcome new members. Drop by on any Thursday to get acquainted and see how your talent could help out.

Join Our Circle
Are you a new member, visitor or been associated with Westminster for many years and yet long for a one on one connection? Joining a Circle is a great way to get acquainted with Westminster Presbyterian Women.

The Circle meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month (September through May) at 10:00 am at the church.

Purpose: Spiritual growth through group.

Discussion using our study book "Who Is Jesus?".

Mission: To nurture our faith through study, justice, peace and giving.

Please contact Jean Butler at 296-1855 or just join us the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am in the Children’s Library.

We look forward to welcoming you. See you there.
The Piecemakers quilting group is seeking new members! This group meets Thursdays from 9:00 am to noon, on the 2nd floor of the church, across from room 216. No sewing or quilting experience is needed! If you are interested in joining us, we are happy to teach you some basic skills. We need people who are willing to sew a basic straight stitch in order to put the quilt blocks together, as well as those who would like to tie the layers of the quilt together with a needle and yarn. We support our local community by donating our finished quilts to the Red Cross, pregnancy centers, and foster care programs. If you want more information about joining this fun and rewarding ministry, please contact Alisa Engelhardt.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Just a reminder that there are prayer shawls available in the Welcome Center for you to take to someone you know who may be sick, have a new baby or just maybe needs a hug of love. These shawls were made by a very special group of women who then prayed over them. Please feel free to take one for yourself as well!

As a reminder, this group meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 9:30 am in the children's library! We would love for you to join us!

**Session Minutes**

Click [HERE](#) to view the minutes of the February 27 Session meeting.

**Our Condolences**

- John and Jean Butler and their family on the passing of their brother-in-law Donald Swann

**Westminster Church Calendar**

To view all the events happening at Westminster, please visit our website at [www.wpcw.org](http://www.wpcw.org). The church calendar can be found on our home page.