IIVE

The Well

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dear saints,

He is risen! He is risen indeed. We enter the Great 50 Days of Easter with a deep, abiding joy in our hearts, remembering that Christ is alive in our midst today. Over the next few weeks, we'll be celebrating the joyful surprise of Easter.

Our own Niña Henderson recently had a delightful surprise. While eating at Cracker Barrel with her daughter Halley and granddaughter Evie, she was waiting to pay her bill when she found out - surprise! someone else had already paid it. She was stunned. This had never happened to her before! It was a sweet joy to fill her week.

When has God surprised you - by bringing good news in the midst of hardship? Have there been times when you surprised yourself by having courage? Have you ever been part of a surprise party?! How many times have we thought it was an ending but God surprised us with a new beginning? The famed comedienne Gracie Allen wrote, "Never place a period where God has placed a comma." Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has put a comma -God has transformed dead ends into Easter surprises, overflowing with life and possibilities.

Come witness our Easter God at work this month as we worship, learn, give, and connect. Will you encounter a surprise at the PCHAS Luncheon on May 7? Find surprising connections in Bible study, Sunday School, or Beer Tasters. Come hear about the surprises Catherine encountered on her Living Waters for the World mission to Guatemala on May 18!

Let us be on the lookout for whatever Easter surprises God has in store for us this year. For He is risen! He is risen, indeed.

Grace and peace,

Kate

Pastor Kate



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The Well is published by Jodie Cox for Westminster Presbyterian Church.



WPC 1330 S Fielder Road Arlington, TX 76013 817-460-3841 www.wpcarlington.org office@wpcarlington.org

PAGE 2						MAY 2025
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ma 202				1	2	3 Election Day 9:30 am - 5pm NEW DAY @ Anything Goes 2:00 pm UTA Baseball game
4 Fill the Grocery Basket! 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship with Communion 12:15 pm Faith Formation Committee Staff Appreciation all week	5 RSVP due for Ladies' Lunch Out @ Taste Project	6 5:00-7:00 pm NEW DAY Volunteer Appreciation Ice Cream Social	7 11:30 pm PCHAS Luncheon @ Ridglea Country Club 1:00 pm Cong. Care in BH 2:00 pm Bookworms on Zoom 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10 8:00 am Mobile Food Pantry/St. Andrew's UMC
11 Mother's Day 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship NO Mission Committee	12 9:00 am Quilters/FH	13 9:00 am Staff Meeting/BH	14 1:00 pm Ladies' Lunch Out @ Taste Project 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 7:00 pm Beer Tasters/FH	17 2-5:00 pm Youth group/YR
18 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship - Youth Sunday 12:15 pm Living Waters for the World presentation & potluck	19 7:00 pm Progressive Women of Arlington/FH	20 9:30 am Women's Circle Study 11:00 am Women's Circle Potluck Lunch	21 1:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting/BH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23 AISD Last Day of School!	24 12-4:00 pm Ollie Hatcher Birthday- Outside Pavilion/Play ground
25 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12:15 pm Session Meeting/FH	26 Church Office Closed - Memorial Day	27	28 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	29	30	31 9 am-4 pm Presbytery in Weatherford 12-3:00 pm Youth group

WORSHIP

Join us for Worship!

Sunday, May 4 @ 11:00 AM - Third Sunday of Easter - Communion Scriptures: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23 Sermon: An Astonishing Imitation

Sunday, May 11 @ 11:00 AM - Fourth Sunday of Easter Scriptures: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148 Sermon: An Unexpected Change of Menu

Sunday, May 18 @ 11:00 AM - Fifth Sunday of Easter - Youth Sunday Scriptures: Luke 15:11-32 Sermon by Asher Baltensperger

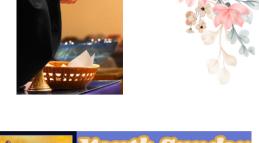
Sunday, May 25 @ 11:00 AM - Sixth Sunday of Easter Scripture: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67 Sermon: An Amazing Detour

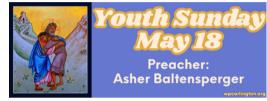
Worship Flower Donations

We still have open Sundays in our 2025 Flower Chart. Open dates: September

21, November 2, 9, 23, December 7, & 28. <u>The</u> <u>cost is \$30</u>, and the flowers are yours to take home after worship. If you are not going to be in worship on your donation date, please let Susan Johnson or the office know.









Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

Choir Rehearsal

We would love to have you join us. Please talk to our Minister of Music Jackie Ancelet if you have questions.





WORSHIP April Worship



























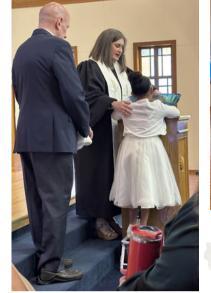
MAY | 2025

WORSHIP

Easter Sunday

























May Sunday School

K-Sixth Grade Teachers

May 4 - Sarah & Catie May 11 - Kristin & Linda May 18 - Kathy & looking for an approved volunteer to help! May 25 - Linda & Rae



Youth (7th-12th Grade)

Compassion from the Inside Out invites our students to dig deeper and explore compassionate interaction as they look at how Jesus modeled a life lived with compassion. They will share their own stories and grow closer as a prayer-filled, caring community as they learn about:

May 4 - Compassion from the Inside Out Lesson 1: Compassion Calling

May 11 - Compassion from the Inside Out Lesson 2: Pause for Pain

May 18 - Compassion from the Inside Out Lesson 3: Dare to Self - care

May 25 - Compassion from the Inside Out Lesson 4: Head, Heart, Hands, & Feet

may 25° compassion nom the inside out lesson 4. Head, Heart, Hands, & Feet

Adult One - Bible Study Stephanie West continues to lead a Bible study on "The Lord's Prayer."





Adult Two - Reading Disciples

This class reads and discusses various inspiring, insightful and challenging pieces of literature, which present moral questions and explore what it means to live a faithful life. May 4 - *The Chosen* Part two ch. 5-7 May 11 - *The Chosen* Part two ch. 8-12 May 18 - *The Chosen* Part three ch. 13-14

May 25 - *The Chosen* Part three ch. 15-end



Summer Sunday School: Around the World in 90 Days!

Starting June 1, we will "travel" to another culture each week to learn about what it means to be a Christian there. Right now, we are looking for "travel guides." If you are someone who has lived in another country, traveled extensively, or just know a lot, please lead one morning! You can bring food or special items to share with the group. Please reach out to the office or Erin O'Connor or Teresa Sullivan!

Women's Circle

meets Tuesday, May 20 study @ 9:30 AM Lunch @ 11:00 AM







What a powerful season of Crucial Conversations! Thank you especially to our Faith Formation elders Teresa & Erin, Rev. Miranda, Brooklyn, Jill W, and our awesome youth group for making everything go so smoothly. As a thank you to our speakers, Mission Committee voted to send the following organizations \$500 each from our permanent Mission Fund: Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty; Tarrant County Bail Fund; Human Rights Initiative of North Texas; Tarrant County MHMR Foundation; and the AISD Education Foundation.

Join us as we finish our study, "Let Justice Roll Down" by Reverend Dr. Patricia K. Tull. Rev. Kate McGee will lead the lesson. Then enjoy potluck style lunch following the lesson. Lesson Nine: Sustaining Creation's Health for All Scriptures: Genesis 1:29–30; Psalm 104; Isaiah 2:1– 5; Micah 4:1–4; Matthew 13:31–32 Main Idea: Scripture and modern science help us see nature's wisdom more clearly and lead us to seek just ways to care for the earth and one another.















Child Protection Training - June 1

If you have been working or plan to work with children and/or youth at WPC - this includes VBS, Sunday School, or nursery - please plan on joining a short Child Protection Training after the service on June 1. This is important to our community that all who will interact with children have completed this training. Please reach out to the WPC office or Brooklyn directly with any questions.







Mo-Ranch Women's Conference



June 6-8, 2025 **Crowded Table Hebrews 10:24**



Hop on the bus to the Mo-Ranch Women's Conference, June 6-8! For just \$50 roundtrip, ride in comfort (restroom, WiFi, stop for lunch) with women from Grace Presbytery and leave the driving to someone else. There will be a Friday morning departure from Preston Hollow Presbyterian, Dallas, with additional pick up at First Pres. Ft. Worth or possibly another location based on demand.

Sign up with Rebecca Gafford, rgafford@sbcglobal.net, by May 5 to reserve your seat. See more details and sign up for the Women's Conference at:

www.moranch.org/attend-a-conference/adultconferences/womens-conference/



2025 WOMEN'S CONFEREN



Crowded Table | Hebrews 10:24

Each year, women from across the region gather together for the Mo-Ranch Women's Conference. Take a break from the busyness of life to recharge physically, mentally and spintually. Conference activities include worship, keynote presentations, fellowship, recreation, free time and fantastic workshops.

- Expert-Led Workshops
- Engaging Keynotes
 Soul-Affirming Worship
- Rest and Relaxation

Keynote Speaker The Rev. Betsy Lyles Swetenburg

Betsy serves as the Serior Pastor o Northridge Presbyterian Church in Dalla Texas since July 2020. She graduated

from Davidson College with a degree in English and upon graduation received a Church in Vocation Fellowship for a year of explorational seminary studies. She enrolled at Columbia Seminary in Decotur, Georgia and ultimately graduated with an M.Div. She served as Calumbia's Director of Admissions and Financial Aid and then went on to serve as an Associate Pastor at Atlanta's Trinity Presbyterian Church

Betsy serves as chair of the board for the White Rock Center of Hope, an East Dallas non-profit that provides basic needs and financial empowerment. She serves on the board of the Mountain Retreat Association (Mantreat), a PC(USA) conference and retreat center. She also serves as an associate editor of the Journal for Preachers. Betsy is married to Owen and they have a son, Harris

https://freedomtable.org/



Following the Facts to Freedom for All

Food



Music

We are honored to announce that Dr. Opal Lee, affectionately known as the "Grandmother of Juneteenth," will be our special guest at Freedom Table 2025 on July 1! A lifelong advocate for freedom and justice, Dr. Lee's unwavering commitment led to the historic recognition of Juneteenth as a federal holiday. Her tireless work

reminds us that freedom is not just a moment in history, but an ongoing journey. We are privileged to have her join us as we reflect, learn, and reach toward a more just and equitable future.

Take advantage of our Early Bird "Table for Six" ticket price!



Table Talk



Reconfigure Our Social/Historical Memory



Our pillars are adapted from **Resurrection Hope** by Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas:



Commitment to Liberty and Justice For All





Freedom Table 2025

July 1, 2025 7:00p.m.

Broadway Baptist Church 303 W Broadway Ave Ft. Worth, TX 76104-1296

TICKETS

Our next newsletter:

"What's It All About Alfie?!"

(The logo)





"America will be great again when we accept that right is right and wrong is wrong...not based on party, personal interests, or profit, but on principle." Dr. Tajiri Brackens

GIVE





"Waves of Change" PCHAS Luncheon Wednesday, May 7, 12-1 p.m.

Ridglea Country Club

Each year, we gather together to share stories of how lives have changed in our community. Together, we are making waves of change that will provide large scale impacts for thousands of children, and even into the next generation. Please RSVP to Rollin Phipps if you would like to join our WPC table!

Shelter Sandwich Crew

Thank you to our March sandwich artists for putting together 100 lunches for Arlington Life Shelter clients!





Fill the Grocery Basket! May 4

Thank you for your generous outpouring of food in April! We continue to help Arlington Charities provide for those in need by collecting non-perishables & monetary donations on the first Sunday of each month. The grocery basket can be found in the pass through and is always available for donations.





GIVE

Mobile Food Pantry

May 10 @ 8:00 AM St. Andrew's UMC



Come be the hands and feet of Christ on Saturday, May 10 @ 8:00 AM at St. Andrew's UMC (2045 SE Green Oaks), by helping prepack bags, load vehicles, and more as we help feed those in need.



Welcome Home Donations

The Welcome Home Offering provides basic necessity items to those who are dealing with homelessness and transitioning to stable housing. **For the month of May, we are collecting trash bags** for our partners at When We Love (<u>www.whenwelove.com</u>).



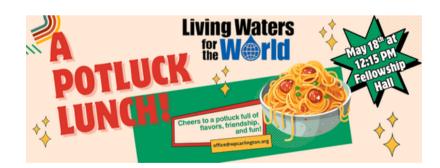
Bring them to worship with you any Sunday and place in the marked bin by the entry doors. This goes right here to our neighbors in Tarrant County! Questions? contact Barbara Kennedy.



Quilters

Monday, May 12 at 9:00 AM in Fellowship Hall Come cut, tie, pin, and more to help our Quilters make a new batch of quilts for the Salvation Army Family Life Center.





Living Waters for the World Potluck & Presentation May 18 @ 12:15 pm

Join us for lunch in Fellowship Hall after Youth Sunday to hear about Catherine Fritz' recent Living Waters trip to Guatemala, as well as updates on other systems and future possibilities. Bring a dish to share!

GIVE

Financial Report as of March 31, 2025

As we slip by the first quarter of 2025 and look into the future, it is with great gratitude to you that we report Westminster is in excellent financial position. Our 2025 pledging season resulted in the best ever results. As of the end of February, we had received 64 pledges totaling \$269,935. Over 75% of our 2024 "giving units" turned in a pledge to support the Session's proposed budget of \$289,660, leaving us with a "faith factor" of 7.3%. Based on history, anything under a 15% faith factor leaves me feeling good about the coming year.

In addition, we have received more pledges since the end of February and added several new members. Of course, your pledge is just your best estimate of what you will be able to give during the year. We understand that "life" happens and plans sometimes have to change. That happens to any family and can happen to our church family as well. Your support, whether financially or through prayer or using your God-given talents, allows us to look for new challenges.

So far this year, we have not only met the day-to-day financial obligations (think electric, gas, payroll, insurance, etc), but also we paid our final share of the church's three year pledge to the Camp Gilmont Capital Campaign. This three year commitment of \$15,000 to the camp many of us have spent time at during youth or adult outings, allows us to escape the hassle of city life and see God as He works his wonders through nature. I know many of you individually also made pledges to support the camp.

Closer to home, we have been able to support the Wesley Foundation at UTA as they begin some long-needed updates and repairs to their center, which nourishes believers at UTA. WPC has had a long relationship with them as we provide occasional meals as students worship together. And this is just a couple of the ways you help provide to our community. Thank your for your support in all that you do.

David Rawhouser, Church Treasurer



Soft Drink/Water Concession

As most of you know, there is soda and water for sale in the Fellowship Hall kitchen refrigerator.

This concession was originally started by the Youth Group for their benefit and I am pleased to say that the group has grown in size to where we are going to, once again, dedicate these funds to support them. Thank you for your past support and if you have any questions, please see Jill Wesstrom.





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GIVE



Gardening Helpers

A big shout out to wonderful gardening volunteers, Bonnie Garcia, Sue Crow and Rae Logan, for helping our spring flower beds thrive and grow (and keeping those weeds out!).

Please let Bonnie know if you are interested in joining their team!



Now Recruiting: Earth Care Team

The Women's Circle Bible Study has been working through a very interesting study workbook that has to do with justice issues in many different areas. One that was especially interesting to us was on Climate Change, and we learned that the national Presbyterian Church has a department that offers church congregations a way to express their unity with environmental and climate change challenges



and receive a special designation. The Earth Cares Congregation is a designation started by our national church to help congregations be aware of ways to care for our church property in a respectful way toward the planet, as well as educate our members and friends about environmental justice needs. Several of us from the Bible Study are forming a team to work on earning the points we need to receive this designation. It involves points in the areas of worship, facilities, education, and outreach. As a team, we wanted to reach out and see if there were any members or visitors that would be interested in joining our Earth Cares team! There is no age requirement, and we'd love to have some youth join our team (this also might qualify for some of the service hours needed in your school)!

We need to begin working toward earning 100 points to be certified as an Earth Cares congregation by the application deadline at the beginning of 2026. If you'd like more information or know you'd like to join the Earth Cares team, please contact Catherine Fritz. You can also reach out to other team members: Linda Reed, Rae Logan, Linda Bridges, and Susan Reinarz.





CONNECT

Bookworms

Wednesday, May 7 @ 2:00 PM on Zoom Britt-Marie Was Here by Fredrik Backman



In May we will be reading *Britt-Marie Was Here* by by Fredrik Backman. Britt-Marie is a socially awkward, fussy, busybody who can't stand mess. It's not her fault that her attempts to "help" people are frequently misinterpreted! When she leaves her cheating husband, she gets a job as a caretaker at a soon to be demolished recreation center and promptly gets involved with an interesting assortment of people. When asked to lead a children's soccer team, what could possibly go wrong? Our upcoming books are:

June—*The Woman They Could Not Silence* by Kate H. Moore July—*The Exiles* by Jane Harper August—*The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon September—*The Women* by Kristin Hannah

Ladies' Lunch Out

Wednesday, May 14 @ 1:00 PM

at Taste Project (200 N Cooper St, Arlington, 76011)

This month we will be trying a new and fun place at **Taste Project**. All WPC ladies are invited to join us! <u>Please RSVP</u> <u>to Church office by May 5.</u>



What is Taste Project?

Their mission is to feed, educate, and serve our community so they may "...taste and see the Lord is good." - Psalm 34:8. They believe everyone should have access to healthy nutritional food. Their vision is to see our community become the solution to the hunger challenges our community faces. Their first project, a non-profit restaurant, focuses on healthy, quality meals made from fresh ingredients. Their menu has no prices. This is a give and take concept. They ask guests to do one of the following: 1) pay what you can afford,

2) pay what you would typically pay, or

3) pay what you would typically pay, plus a little extra.



Beer Tasters Friday, May 16 @ 7:00 PM

in Fellowship Hall Spring into May with beer! All members and friends age 21+ are welcome to try six beers for only \$5. Questions? Contact Keith Richardson. P.S. Don't forget your prayer partner!



CONNECT

WPC Littles (0-5 yrs)





Youth Sunday May 18 Preacher:

Preacher: Asher Baltensperger



Youth Sunday is Back!

Please join us on May 18 as our youth lead us in worship. Youth, please be here by 9:30 am on Sunday, May 18!!



Youth Hangouts

required for Mission Trip participants

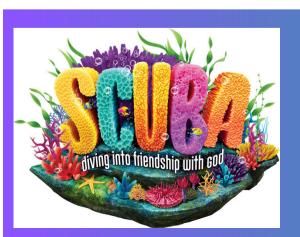
Sat, May 17: 2:00-5:00 pm Sat, May 31: 12:00-3:00 pm Sat, June 21: 1:00-4:00 pm Watch for more details in the GroupMe texts!

WPC Scholarships Recipients

The Faith Formation Committee is happy to share that **Lemuel A., Odessa B., and Adam P.** are all recipients of our WPC scholarships for 2025! Congratulations, and we are very proud of your hard work and dedication to your studies.







Vacation Bible School June 22-25 @ WPC 5:15-8:00 pm

Registration is now open to dive in with God at VBS SCUBA! Join us for Bible stories, delicious food, sports, crafts, and so much more! See Brooklyn to volunteer in lots of different ways! www.wpcarlington.org/vbs

CONNECT

MORE YOU KNOW

The More You Know

Did you know...Chris McMurrough is hard at work (with a little help from Kamden M.) installing brand-new security cameras? These especially help Jodie in the office see who is at the doors! Give him a 'thank you' high five!

March Session Highlights

- 1. The Session approved the 2 baptisms for Easter Sunday for Steve Holland and Evelyn Stepter.
- 2. The session approved the placements of a new sign on the door and the letter informing the congregation of the letter.
- 3. Scholarship decisions will be announced in May.
- 4. Crucial Conversations program was considered to be a great success.
- 5. The Session thanks James Harris for all his hard work building the new banner cabinet. It is lovely and very needed.



What's Next: Still discerning next steps!

Ben Holland, Arlington High School **What's Next:** Studying Electrical Engineering at UT-Dallas





Graduating from College

Daniel Nelson, University of Houston Graduating with a Bachelor of Science and a major in Health with a focus on Public Health and a minor in biology.What's Next: He will be continuing his studies to become a Certified Health Education Specialist and job hunting.

Riley Canterbury, Chapman University

Graduating Cum Laude and with Dance Honors earning a Bachelor of Arts in Dance Performance.

What's Next: She is moving back to Texas and pursuing audition opportunities with pro sports dance teams and networking in the dance industry here in DFW.

WHAT'S UP AT WPC

Serving the Lord in May



May 4 Communion Servers Youth will be serving communion

Liturgists

5/4 - Sloane Ferrell 5/11 - Ace Thompson 5/18 - Youth Group 5/25 - Ben Chapa



Media Team

5/4 - Jill Wesstrom, Steve West, Jodie Cox, Chris Simpson 5/11 - Steve West, Carol Raburn, Jodie Cox, Keith Richardson 5/18 - James Harris, Steve West, Jodie Cox, John Garcia 5/25 - Harry Staley, Caitlin Cooke, Jodie Cox, Chris Hatcher







Greeters

5/4 - Barbara Kennedy 5/11 - Steve Holland 5/18 - Rob Henderson

5/25 - Janet Kovatch



Flowers

5/4 - Niña Henderson in honor of Rob's birthday 5/11 - Bob & Linda Wilson

5/18 - Jimmy & Yleen George in thanks to all that support NEW DAY

5/25 - Andrew & Carrie Leverenz in honor of their

41st wedding anniversary





Want to be involved in Worship?

Are you interested in serving on the Worship Committee? Or leading worship as a liturgist, greeter, usher, or Media Team member? Reach out to our Worship Elder Yleen George, and she will get you connected!

WHAT'S UP AT WPC



Joys: Ace Thompson qualified for the National Honor Society at Lamar High School; Asher Baltensperger broke the school record for the 800m race and qualified for the New Balance Invitational! **Sympathies:** Family and loved ones of Teresa Sullivan's friend John Spear; family and friends of Jean King; David Rawhouser and his family on the death of his brother-in-law Darrell Elsea; Brooklyn's friend Kelly Noonan on the loss of her mother Lou Noonan; Erin O'Connor and her family on the death of her uncle Michael O'Connor

Members/friends in need of prayer: Jo Schauwecker; Pat Staley; Sandra James; Penelope Nelson; Elizabeth & Winston Barney; Jakie Spinks; Ed & Linda Frazee; Chad Bridges; Layne & Anne Cooke; Kathy Anderson; Verna Simpson; Jackie Ancelet's friends Emma Grace & Denver Dixon; Carrie Leverenz's relatives Tim Shively & Dale Shively; Debra Nelson's sister Misty Savoy & cousins Charlie Van Eman and Jack Duckworth; Pat Staley's nephew David Garrison; Sara Molina's mother-in-law Carmen Molina; Susan Johnson's nephew Scott Cohenour & her friend Carole Martin; Michael Carr's brother Chris; Erin Baltensperger's friends the Vanacek family; Stephanie West's friend David; Maggie Del Angel's brother Bernie; David Ferrell's sister Sally Peveto; Linda Wilson's friend Donna Austin; Harry Staley's sister Kate Marymont; Charles Bridges' sister-in-law Linda Bridges; Jim & Susan Johnson's neighbors Val & Alla Karpinska and their family; Earlene Pike's friend Eizabel; Cheryl Ribble's friend Jeff

Celebrating Birthdays in May

2- Rob Henderson, Julia Anderson
5 - Asher Baltensperger, Martina Kantunda, Daniel Nelson
7 - Mario Koym-Garza, James Harris
9 - Teri Wardrup
11 - Anne Cooke

19 - Chris Hatcher 21 - Jim Dugan, Daniel Harrison 27 - Karen Chisi, Jill Spencer 29 - Ollie Hatcher 30 - Linda Frazee 31 - Kamden McGee



Come join WPC, FPC, & PCHAS on Saturday May 3 @ 2PM for a fun-filled day at the ballpark we cheer on our very own UTA Mavericks! Grab your caps, bring your spirit, and help us support our team in style. Sign up outside the office!

Mission Statement

Rooted in God's love and grace, we worship, learn, give, and connect, refreshing people with Living Water. We reach out to share the Water with all who thirst.

Deadline for next issue: May 15, 2025 Turn in all articles & photos to the church office. office@wpcarlington.org 817-460-3841

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