

The Well

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dear saints,

I cannot believe that we have now been in ministry ten years together! God has woven us together in a tightknit family that can create space for parental leave, survive COVID-19 separation, and give rest in sabbatical. Yet the weave is open enough to have welcomed over 100 new members, started and nurtured Connect groups, tried new things in worship, renewed our partnership with Swift Elementary, and became a NEW DAY site - just to name a few things.

Because we are woven together, we have wept with with another at funerals and rejoiced together at baby showers. Because we are woven together, we have supported each other through surgeries, knee replacements, job losses, and divorces; we have celebrated birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, confirmations, and retirements.

Where will you find your place in the tapestry of faith? Where will your discipleship lead you in 2025? Will God rekindle in you a love for a long-time ministry, or lead you to a new thing? In one of our Advent worship services, six-year-old Ollie said to me, "I don't have noisy offering today, but I will do this quilt coloring for you!" At the end of worship, he handed me three different quilt squares he had colored for our WPC Advent Quilt! It's that boldness, that certainty of calling that leads us to use our time, talents, and treasures to further God's kingdom.

God has woven us in God's image, woven us with the capabilities of grace and generosity. Make plans to join us to **"Taco 'Bout Stewardship" on January 19** as we enjoy breakfast tacos and pick up our stewardship packets. Then, **bring your pledge cards to be woven together in worship starting on January 26.**

Together, we will show the world that we are a place Where People Care - where we care about each other, about our community, and about the world, all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Kate

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WPC

1330 S Fielder Road
Arlington, TX 76013

817-460-3841

www.wpcarlington.org
wpc_arl@sbcglobal.net

January 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Epiphany			1  New Year's Day Church Office Closed 7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal 	2	3	4
5 Epiphany Fill the Grocery Basket! 9:45 a.m. - Sunday school for all ages 11:00 a.m. - Worship - Communion	6	7	8 1:00 p.m. Ladies' Lunch Out @ The Porch 3:00 p.m. Bookworms/Zoom  7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal 	9	10	11 8:00 a.m. Mobile Food Pantry @ St. Andrew's UMC
12 Baptism of the Lord 9:45 a.m. - Sunday school for all ages 11:00 a.m. - Worship 12:15 p.m. - Mission Cmte. Mtg/library	13  9:00 a.m. Quilters/FH	14	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 1:00 p.m. Cong. Care Mtg/BH 7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal 	16	17  7:00 p.m. Beer Tasters/FH	18
19 9:45 a.m. - Sunday school for all ages 11:00 a.m. - Worship - Ordain & Install Elders 12:15 p.m.-Breakfast Tacos & Stewardship Packets 12:30 p.m. - Worship Cmte Mtg/FH 12:15 p.m.-Breakfast Tacos & Stewardship	20 	21 9:30 a.m. Women's Circle Breakfast/BH 10:15 a.m. Women's Circle/library	22  7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal	23	24	25
26 9:45 a.m. - Sunday school 11:00 a.m. - Worship - Stewardship Commitment Sunday 12:15 p.m. - Session/FH	27	28	29 10:30 a.m. Staff Mtg/BH 7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal 	30	31	

WORSHIP

Join us for Worship!

Sunday, January 5 @ 11:00 AM - Epiphany - Communion - Celebration of Pastor Kate's 10th Anniversary

Scriptures: Isaiah 43:1-3a, 18-19, 25

Sermon: Pastor Kate - The Eras Tour

Sunday, January 12 @ 11:00 AM - Baptism of the Lord

Scriptures: Psalm 29; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sermon: Woven Together in Water



Sunday, January 19 @ 11:00 AM - Second Sunday after Epiphany - Stewardship Sunday - Ordination & Installation of Elders

Scriptures: Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Sermon: Woven Together as the Body

Sunday, January 26 @ 11:00 AM - Third Sunday after Epiphany - Stewardship Commitment Sunday

Scriptures: Ecclesiastes 4:7-12; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Sermon: Woven Together by the Spirit



Choir Rehearsal

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM



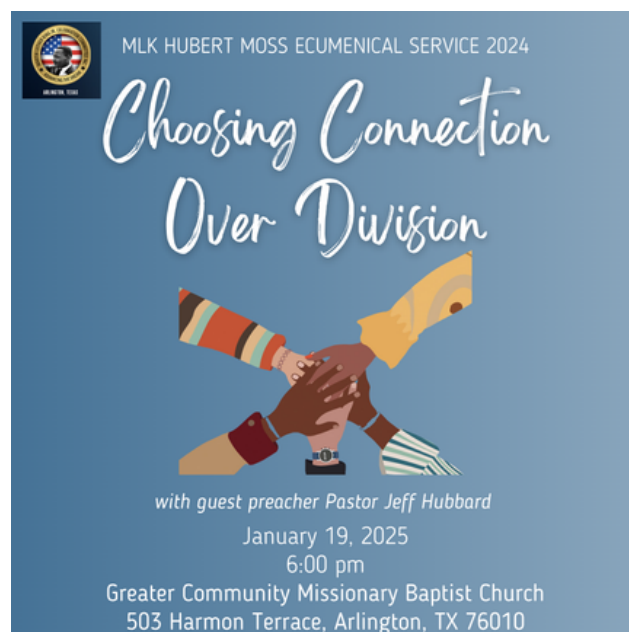
We would love to have you join us.

Please talk to our Minister of Music Jackie Ancelet if you have questions.



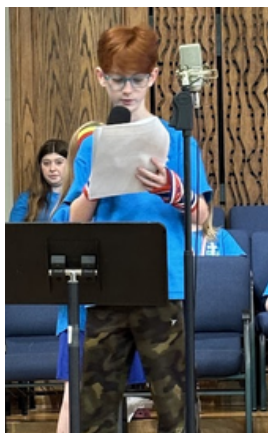
2025 Worship Flower Donations

The 2025 Flower Chart is up outside of Debra's office! The donation price is \$30. All Sundays are available for flower donations except Easter. After you have signed on your chosen date, please take a donation envelope. There are 2 dates on the envelope: one for the date of your payment for the flowers, and one for the Sunday you want your flowers in the sanctuary. Payment must be received in the office 2 weeks prior to your donation date. PLEASE SIGN UP FOR ONLY 1 SUNDAY UNTIL JANUARY 7 to give everyone a chance to choose a date. After January 7, you can sign up for more than one Sunday. The arrangements are yours to take after the service. If you are not going to be in worship on your donation date, please let Susan Johnson or the office know.



WORSHIP

Children's Sunday & Bert's Baptism



WORSHIP

December Worship



Welcome our new members Lucy Ebini and Raymond Marshall!



WPC friend flutist Olivia O'Brien shared her gifts.



Thank you to our Sunday School classes for lighting the Advent candles each week.



Election of Class of 2026 Elders: Jennifer Del Angel, Rob Henderson, Barbara Kennedy, Erin O'Connor, April Poitras, and Teresa Sullivan



Our Mighty Quilters and their 78 quilts!

LEARN

January Sunday School



K-Sixth Grade

Jan. 5-26 TBD



Youth (7th-12th Grade)

Faith Questions is a youth curriculum that explores questions asked by real youth about important faith topics. We will explore Faith Questions around relationships, politics, forgiveness, salvation, justice, faith and science, temptation and compassion. Each unit offers connections to media resources and great activities that are fun and enriching.

Jan. 5 - Salvation: In Christ Jesus! Now What Do We Do?

Jan. 12 - Justice: Who Exactly Are My Neighbors and Why Do I Have to Help Them?

Jan. 19 - Justice: Why Do I Have to Help People Who Aren't Willing to Work to Help Themselves?

Jan. 26 - Justice: Does God Really Expect us to Stand Up for Things When Doing So Could Put Us In Danger?



Adult One - Wired Word

Have you ever wondered how to process the news? Or what Jesus might say about current events? Join Keith Richardson and other leaders as we relate current events to Scripture to create thought-provoking, stimulating discussions every week. Contact Pastor Kate if you'd like to receive each week's lesson by email.



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.

Jan. 5 - End of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* by Mark Haddon

Jan. 12 - *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry ch. 1-4

Jan. 19 - *Jayber Crow* ch. 5-8

Jan. 26 - *Jayber Crow* ch. 9-12

LEARN

New Bible Study

Are you interested in getting to know the Bible better? Are you interested in growing your faith with your brothers and sister in Christ as you discover the Bible? There will be a new Sunday school class at WPC starting Sunday, January 5th. Stephanie West will be leading this Sunday school class. As a class, the members will choose the study. It might be a study of a book of the Bible, a biblical concept like knowing God's will, and more. Please feel free to contact Stephanie West if you have any questions. See you on the 5th!



Women's Circle

meets Tuesday, January 21
@ at 9:30 AM (light breakfast)
@ 10:15 AM (study)



Join us as we continue our study, "Let Justice Roll Down" by Reverend Dr. Patricia K. Tull. We will begin with a light breakfast hosted by Janis Nelson.

Lesson Five: Air Quality

Scriptures: Genesis 1:26, 30, 2:7, 6:17, 7:15, 22; Psalm 32:2, 104:29; Job 7:11; Isaiah 42:5; Ezekiel 11:5, 37:5, 8, 10

Main Idea: The wind itself often signals a holy moment, and is related to both our breath and God's, both our spirit and God's.



WPC Teacher Spotlight

Kaylee Capobianco, Arya Sanani, & Audrey Jordan

Kaylee, Arya, and Audrey serve as the staff for our WPC Littles (0-4 years old). They teach the kids through play and care. Come join them for lots of fun on Sunday mornings - you might find them in the classroom or on the playground!



GIVE



WPC Annual Toy Drive

THANK YOU so much to everyone who supported our annual Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services Toy Drive! Santa Rollin delivered carloads of presents, as well as over \$870 in gift cards/monetary donations!



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 January, we are collecting personal care items (wipes, feminine hygiene products, Kleenex) for our partners at When We Love (www.whenwelove.com) 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.



Fill the Grocery Basket!

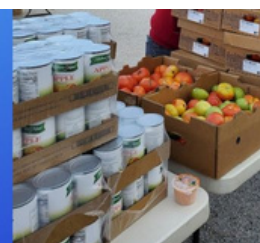
Sunday, January 5

Thank you for your generous outpouring of food in December! 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.



Mobile Food Pantry

Jan. 11 @ 8:00 am
St. Andrew's UMC



All hands needed to help pack boxes of food and put in the trunks of hungry people in Arlington!



Quilters

**meet Monday, January 13
at 9:00 AM in Fellowship Hall**

NOTE WE ARE NOW MEETING ON SECOND MONDAYS

Come cut, tie, pin, and more to help our Quilters make a new batch of quilts for the Salvation Army Family Life Center in 2025.



GIVE



Merry Christmas!

On behalf of Salvation Army Family Life Center, I am writing to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued generosity and unwavering support of our family shelter through your annual donation of quilts.

Your thoughtful contribution provides not only warmth but also a sense of comfort and care to the families we serve, many of whom are navigating incredibly challenging circumstances. These quilts are more than just physical items; they represent compassion, hope, and the kindness of a community that truly cares.

We would like to extend a special thanks to the senior elders who have devoted their time, talent, and resources to this meaningful cause. Their dedication over the years has made a significant impact, and we deeply appreciate their commitment to creating something so personal and valuable for those in need.

Your partnership is an essential part of our mission, and it reminds us of the strength and generosity within our community. Thank you for helping us make a difference in the lives of vulnerable families.

We look forward to continuing this cherished partnership and working together to bring comfort and hope to those we serve.

Warm regards,
Princess Vonleh-Duo
Program Manager
Texas Division
Arlington TX Corps



GIVE

Financial Report - as of November 30, 2024

As we celebrate the coming of the Christ child, let us stop to appreciate what we have been able to accomplish this year because of your belief in and support of the many ministries of Westminster. We are entering the last month of the year in an excellent financial position and have accomplished much, but there is more that could be done.

If we gave you a list of WPC missions and you were asked to prioritize them, I'm sure every list would be different. For example, on December 8, we had the blessing of the quilts. If you were a member of the dedicated quilters, I'd bet that would be number 1 on your list. If you among those who pack or deliver NEW DAY supplies to our schools, that would be high on your list. If you worked with the youth or taught Sunday School, that would be high on your list.

Right now, the Session is putting together the 2025 Proposed Budget which will be presented to you after the first of the year. You will be asked to fill out a pledge card indicating your level of financial support for the coming year. From that, the Session will finalize a 2025 budget to work within.

Did you know that approximately 25% of our giving units (donors like you and me) do not turn in a pledge card? They will give faithfully during the year, but are uncomfortable committing because they are not sure what the coming year has in store for them personally. I have been on the Finance Committee for about 35 years and treasurer for about 20 years and we have never compared individual pledges to donations.

To estimate those missing pledges, we build in a "faith factor" to allow us to finalize the budget. And that helps drive what ministries we prioritize during the year. We ask that you begin thinking about what you can do, whether through physical labor on work days, or prayer, or financially to support the ministries of WPC in 2025.

David Rawhouser
Church Treasurer

Here's a preview of the pledge card that you'll find in your stewardship packet on January 19!

Name: _____

2025 WPC Pledge

- ☐ I pledge to support Westminster with my prayers.
- ☐ I pledge my time and talents to Westminster's ministries.
- ☐ I make a financial pledge of \$_____ for the year.
- ☐ I have remembered Westminster in my will.



CONNECT



Bookworms

meet Wednesday, January 8 @ 3:00 PM on [Zoom](#) ***NOTE DATE & TIME CHANGE***

Join us as we discuss *Killers of a Certain Age* by Deanna Raybourn.

Do you like to read? Do you like to discuss books? Then we have a place for you! We would love to have more members either for every meeting or to "come and go" as the books appeal.



Ladies' Lunch Out

meets Wed., Jan. 8 @ 1:00 PM
at The Porch (2504 Little Rd)

We enjoyed lunch with 15 of our friends last month at Jr's Grill. All WPC ladies are invited to join us! Let Ruth Juhler know if you plan to attend or just come.



Beer Tasters

meet Friday, January 17 @ 7:00 PM
in Fellowship Hall

Come celebrate the new year with an array of beers. 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!



Dear WPC,

Thank you so much for welcoming The River School with open arms, as our autistic students made so much progress in a safe and supportive environment. Our time at WPC will be coming to a close at the end of December. Please offer prayers of thanksgiving for Ms. Helena and the huge difference she has made in the lives of these students, as well for the students and their families as they enter the next chapter.

Grace and peace,
River School



CONNECT

All-Church Christmas Banquet & Party

Thanks to Sterling Events for our delicious lunch, and to Congregational Care for making and serving drinks! Good job to everyone who named that Christmas tune!



1. down where He lay: _____
2. silent stars go by: _____
3. in Heavenly peace: _____
4. ride and sing: _____

CONNECT



WPC Littles
(0-5 yrs)



WPC Kids
(K-6th grade)



WPC Youth
(7th-12th grade)

Thanks for an AWESOME Children's Sunday and Christmas Pageant!!
Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Watch your emails and text messages for 2025 events and activities!



CONNECT

Annual Staff Reviews



Do you have some constructive feedback to provide WPC staff from 2024? Did someone go above and beyond what you thought possible? Was there something that would be helpful for us to know that didn't go ideally that we can improve going forward? We'd like your feedback in helping the Personnel committee as they draft the annual performance reviews for Debra Nelson (Administrative Asst.), Brooklyn Richardson (Director of Children & Youth Ministry) and Kate McGee (WPC pastor). You can find blank pages to fill in posted on the tall board by the church office and an envelope to submit your feedback (it will not be shared directly with staff.) The elder to Personnel and Personnel committee will review and incorporate your feedback into their overall assessment. If you'd rather just email a brief input, feel free to forward your answers to Jennifer del Angel, Elder to Personnel and Nominating. These are the simple questions we ask you to consider and provide as specific information as possible to:

- What did this staff person do really well this year?
- What is something that did not go ideally this year?
- How can Session, their supervisor, the church, etc. support this staff person going into 2025?

Your feedback and responses are super helpful in letting the staff know how they're doing.

Thank you!



Celebrating 10 Years of Service and Spiritual Leadership A Special Milestone for Pastor Kate

We are delighted to celebrate a remarkable milestone in the life of our church. Pastor Kate is marking 10 years of faithful service and spiritual leadership here at WPC. Over the past decade, Pastor Kate has been a guiding light, a source of inspiration, and a shepherd to our congregation, helping us grow in faith, community, and love.

Since joining us in 2015, Pastor Kate has touched countless lives through creative teaching, compassionate care, and unwavering dedication to the ministry. From leading worship services to offering counsel in times of need, Pastor Kate has exemplified the love and grace of Christ in all aspects of church life. Pastor Kate's leadership has fostered a deeper sense of fellowship and spiritual growth within our congregation, and we are truly blessed by her presence.



Celebration Dates to Remember

10 Years ago on this day...

9/22: Session Approval

10/6: Congregation Approved Her Call

12/30: First Day in Office

1/5: First Sermon

2/8: Presbytery Installation



Stay tuned for a Save-the-Date announcement! Join us in February 2025 as we celebrate an unforgettable evening of fun, laughter, and joy commemorating Pastor Kate's 10 years of dedicated service!

CONNECT

October/November Session Highlights

1. The Session approved the membership of Lucy Ebini and Raymond Marshall, along with the affiliate membership of John Watson.
2. The Session received with joy the Nominating Committee report of the slate of Elders for the Class of 2026: Jennifer Del Angel, Barbara Kennedy, Erin O'Connor, April Poitras, and Teresa Sullivan. They are invited to the December Session meeting.
3. 2025 budget requests are due to the Treasurer by December 1.



Congratulations to REV. Adrian Rodriguez! Adrian served as our pastoral care intern earlier this year. Pastor Kate and Carol Raburn had the privilege of serving on his Ordination Commission for Grace Presbytery. Adrian and his family will be moving to Virginia in January as he has accepted a call to serve Vienna Presbyterian Church as their Associate Pastor for Outreach. Please keep Adrian, Alecia, Aileigh, and Addie in your prayers during this time of transition!

THANK
you

Thank you WPC family! My daughter, Susan, and I want to express our appreciation for all the thoughts and prayers for her, as she fought two infections and consequent surgeries. Thank God that she's recovering nicely. God Bless you all...Ruth Juhler



The More You Know

Did you know...our own James Harris is hard at work on another church project? He is building a special banner storage in the Narthex so that we can better access our worship paraments. Thanks, James, for sharing your time and talents so freely!



WHAT'S UP AT WPC

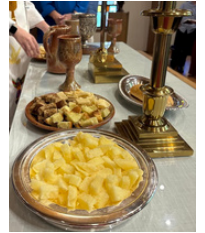


Serving the Lord in January

Liturgist
Les Brooks

January 5 Communion Servers

Gary Anderson, Linda Bridges, Jim Johnson, Mario Koym-Garza,
Earlene Pike, and April Poitras



Media Center

- 1/5- Harry Staley, Carol Raburn, Niña Henderson, & Steve West
- 1/12 - James Harris, Caitlin Cooke, & Chris Hatcher
- 1/19 - Steve West, Daniel Garcia, Niña Henderson, & John Garcia
- 1/26 - Jill Wesstrom, Caitlin Cooke, Carol Raburn, Steve West, & Keith Richardson



Greeters

- 1/5 - Matt & Erin Baltensperger
- 1/12 - Les Brooks & Michael Carr
- 1/19 - Charles & Linda Bridges
- 1/26 - Andrea Canterbury



Flowers

- 1/5 - Available
- 1/12 - Available
- 1/19 - Reverend Miranda Trussell, in honor of Gracie's 5th birthday
- 1/26 - Available

WHAT'S UP AT WPC



Sympathy Prayers: Stephen Wesstrom and family on the death of his cousin Jeremy Herring; Family and friends of Marjory McCowen on her death

Members/friends in need of prayer: Les Brooks; Penelope Nelson; Elizabeth & Winston Barney; Jakie Spinks; Ed & Linda Frazee; Chad Bridges; Layne & Anne Cooke; Kathy Anderson; Shirley Lewis; Janet Kovatch's friend Melva; Doris Holland's daughter Cathy Holland; Sara Molina's mother-in-law Carmen Molina; Susan Johnson's nephew Scott Cohenour; Matt Baltensperger's uncle John; Michael Carr's brother Chris; Charles & Linda Bridges' daughter Tara Lewis; Erin Baltensperger's friends the Vanacek family; Stephanie West's friend David; Sandra James' friends Jeremy Hamon & Eileen Kloos; Maggie Del Angel's brother Bernie; Erin O'Connor's uncle Michael O'Connor; David Ferrell's sister Sally Peveto; Linda Wilson's friend Donna Austin; Harry Staley's sister Kate Marymont; Catherine Fritz's friends Jason Johnson & mom Pam; Charles Bridges' sister-in-law Linda Bridges; Jim & Susan Johnson's neighbors Val & Alla Karpinska and their family



Celebrating January Birthdays

2 - Chad Bridges
 3 - Dane Argentini
 4 - Yleen George
 6 - Beck Harrison
 7 - Harry Staley, Brooklyn Richardson
 9 - Atticus Darden, Stephanie West
 13 - Sloane Ferrell
 20 - Gracie Antonelli

21 - Koen McGee
 22 - Catherine Fritz
 26 - Jill Rawhouser
 27 - Austin RoQue
 28 - Justin Chapa
 29 - Jim Johnson
 31 - Jean King



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: January 15, 2025
Turn in all articles & photos to the church office.
wpc_arl@sbcglobal.net 817-460-3841

Westminster Presbyterian Church
1330 South Fielder Road
Arlington, Texas 76013
www.wpcarlington.org