

THE ABBEY NEWS



OCTOBER 2022

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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FROM THE PASTOR

In the life of the church, this month, October is typically “stewardship” month. In years past we have spent time each week talking about why it is important to give to the life and ministry of the church, we’ve had a Stewardship Spaghetti supper, and we’ve had letters asking you to pledge your time, talents, and yes, money, to the church. It’s an important season, and one that we as a Session didn’t want to gloss over. But it might look a bit different this year, as it has for the past two years.

This year, we want to lift up and highlight for you where your gifts actually go. A good portion does stay in house to make sure that we keep the lights on, have money for repairs, and can pay the pastor. Those things are important if we want to continue to worship in our beautiful 140 year-old sanctuary and hold meetings in Gossett. But this year, we want to highlight our missional focus. We are currently in the midst of a sermon series on “What Disciples Do.” One of the things disciples are called to do is care for those in need. To love one another. To serve others. To be the church beyond the church.

So, we will hear from representatives from our three primary ministries: Dot’s Kitchen, Oconee United Ministries, and Westminster Hope ComeUnity. In doing so, we hope that you learn that your gifts reach across our county, and really, out into the world. What you give to the life and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian matters. Whether it’s your time helping organize and spruce up Gossett or the sanctuary building, your prayers for our current and future ministry opportunities, or your talents in worship and beyond, every single way you give matters.

Jesus has a lot to say about how we use our gifts. He tells us that unless we are willing to give up everything to follow him, we are not really following him. He tells us not to store up our treasures, because our resources are needed in the here and now. He advises against burying our heads (and talents) in the sand and instead looking at how we might make our gifts grow.

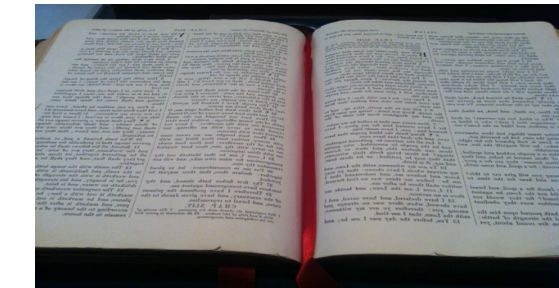
At the end of the month, we will have a special time in worship for prayer. You’ll be encouraged to pray for the ministries we support, and maybe even for the ministries yet to be! You’ll be asked to faithfully consider how you might support all of our ministries, here in our community and beyond. But most importantly, you’ll be asked to do what Disciples do. Pray, then go and do as God is calling you to do.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Audrey



We are so blessed to have a loving and caring church family here at WPC! If you would like to be a part of this family, we would LOVE to have you! You are only a visitor once at WPC! There are so many offerings of service through our church. There is one for YOU!

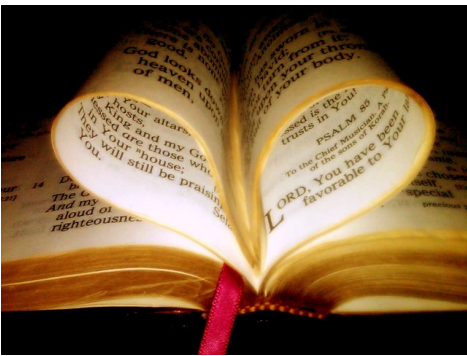


We will
Celebrate Holy
Communion
October 2nd and
30th during
Morning
Worship.

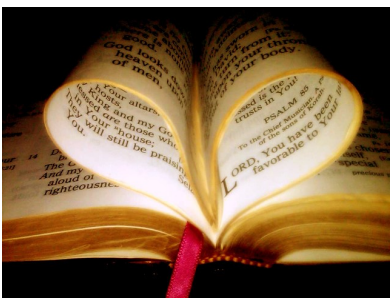


OCTOBER SERMONS

- 10/2: Disciples Take Faith Seriously
Luke 14:25-33
- 10/9: Rev. Terri Price Preaching
- 10/16: Rev. Burns Stanfield Preaching
- 10/23: Disciples Practice Generosity
1 Timothy 6:6-9
- 10/30: Guest Preacher (All Saint’s Day)



*“O magnify the Lord with me,
And let us exalt His name together.” Psalm 34:3*



TREASURER'S REPORT

August receipts: \$ 12,794.47
expenses 9,748.61
+ 3,045.86

YTD receipts \$ 106,003.43
expenses 93,656.60
+ 12,346.83



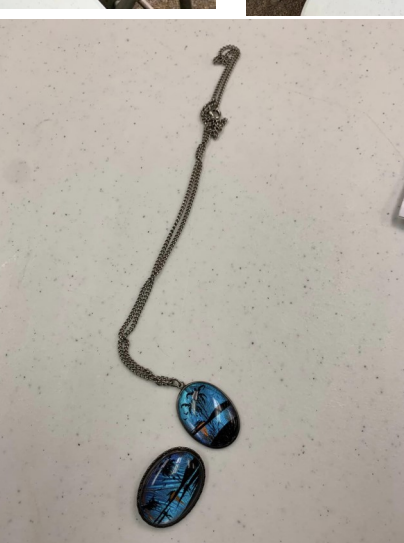
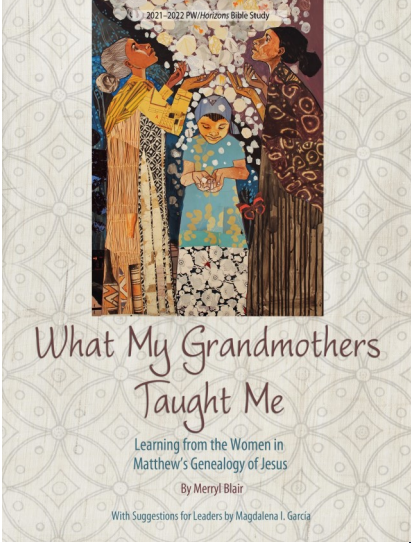
Thank you for all you do for OUM, Dot's Kitchen, Fostering Faithfully and all the many special offerings throughout the year. We are so blessed!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Due to Covid rearing it's ugly head again, we had to postpone our monthly meeting. We met on September 26th in person and also offered a Zoom option. Many thanks to all the ladies who were able to come out and fellowship and study God's Word. And yes, that is Shepherd and Nancy herding chickens!

Our next meeting will be **October 3rd at 4:30 pm** in Gossett Hall. We will be studying Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 in our new study book, What My Grandmothers Taught Me. Bring a goodie to share if you would like! Hope to see you there!





The Apple Festival was WONDERFUL!!!



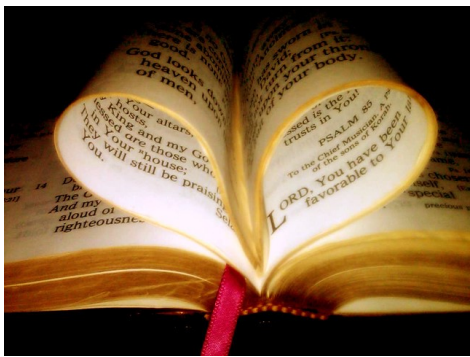
Thank you, Thank you to everyone who made this a very successful Apple Festival for our Church!

The reason we had such a great result was due to the fact that we had over 30 people who were involved in some way to make the day successful! There were many “behind-the-scenes” activities/tasks taking place that few were aware of! Thank you so much Debbie Therriault for taking on the leadership position this year! Paula trained you well! Thank you Shepherd for picking up the apples and to all the ladies who prepared the apple filling for the pies! To all the rollers, crimpers, stuffers, bakers, sprinklers and butterers that were required to make 500+ pies, we say Thank You!! To Pat and Joey for hauling pies from Dot’s keeping the booth stocked—Thank you!! To our booth workers—Thank you!! To the baggers and cleaner-uppers! To Sam and Edna putting all the labels on the bags—Thank You!!



****We raised a total of \$1161.00
To be donated to Dot’s Kitchen!!****



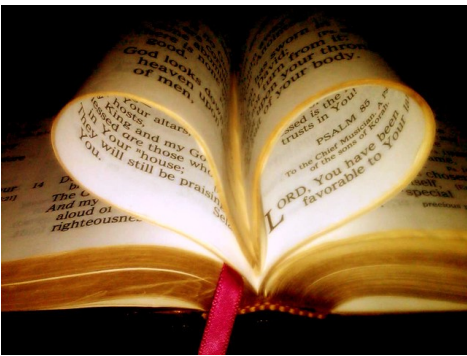


More from The Apple Festival

Congratulations Anna Marie Moore
Miss SC Apple Festival

Congratulations to our very own Anna Marie Moore in being crowned Miss South Carolina Apple Festival Queen! We are so very proud of you!





Dates to Remember!

- 10/3 Presbyterian Women 4:30
- 10/5 Dot’s Kitchen
- 10/11 Dot’s Kitchen
- 10/26 Session Reports Due
- 11/2 Dot’s Kitchen
- 11/6 Session
- 11/7 Presbyterian Women 4:30
- 11/8 Dot’s Kitchen



Happy Birthday for the month of October

- 6 Nancy Johnston
- 13 Pat Roeder
- 16 Julie Box
- 17 Lou Haynes
- 20 Wendy Linhart
- 22 Kim Burden, Les McCoy
- 29 Sandra Powell, Sandra Moore
- 31 Diana Malcolm, Mac Stancil



****Early birthdays in November are: 18th Michael Meades**



Kathy Darnell, Robbie McClure (Marie Dunnam’s brother) Elizabeth Christensen (Kathy Skillen’s niece), Arthur Skillen (Kathy Skillen’s brother), Joanne Mason, Bob Hartness (Rev. Audrey’s dad), Clifton Mabry, Kathy Skillen, Sam and Edna Dillard, Paula Meades and Shari Waldo’s friend, Al and Annie Belauskus, Stuart Reid (Martha Reid’s son), and George Harland (Nita McMillan’s friend)

Please continue to pray for Peace in our world and protection for all that are oppressed and in harms way.
Pray for our police, firemen and first responders, doctors and nurses as they put themselves in harms way to help us.

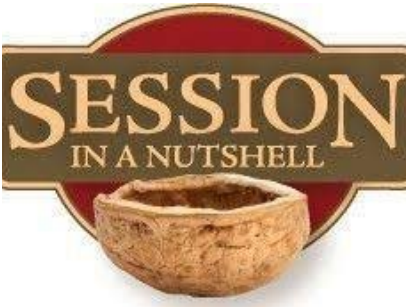


Town Prayer Meeting
Join us for prayer every Tuesday morning at 9 am at the gazebo in downtown Westminster. There will be a guest minister each week. This was started by one person who felt the need for prayer in our town. It has grown and continues to be a light in our community!



REHEARSALS BEGIN FOR CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Finally!!!! Back to normal for our choir! We will begin rehearsals after morning worship. We will be preparing “Let Us Adore Him”. This one involves the congregation in many parts and one that we have done in the past. It should be easy to work up. Please mark your calendars for December 11th for the cantata date. Thank you all for sharing your talent with our congregation!



Session met Sunday, September 11th, for our regular stated meeting. We determined that Stewardship month would look a little different this year, which you can read about in Rev. Audrey’s letter on page one.

We planned to move forward with our New Member Social on September 25th, and will welcome John Davis, and Steve and Miriam Wray into membership on October 16th in worship!

One special highlight to look forward to at the beginning of next year is a community-wide workshop on preparing for transitional stages in life as we age. We will have informed presenters on the spiritual components of aging well, what we need to know when some one else needs to take over our finances and make decisions for us, as well as hear about planning for end of life, and yes, even our deaths and services. This is a much needed conversation in our community, and we look forward to learning more about it! If you feel called to help participate in the planning of this event, please reach out to John Johnston, our Elder for Pastoral Care.



October Flowers

- 10/9: Marie Dunnam
- 10/16: Rev. Audrey
- 10/23: Trish McCoy
- 10/30: Wendy Linhart