

THE ABBEY NEWS



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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INSIDE THIS

From the Pastor Sermons	1
Christmas in July Happenings	2
Financial Report	3
Mission Projects	3
Presbyterian Women/Apple Festival Prep!	3
Church Offerings/A Little WPC History	4
In Our Prayers	8
Happy Birthdays!	6
Dates to Remember	6
Bible in a Year Daily Scriptures	6



FROM THE PASTOR

"I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—" Romans 9:1

Have you ever heard someone say something, and you know without a doubt in your mind it's true? Have you ever even said something that, while you might not know exactly where it came from, it is indeed true? In today's society, a common response when we hear something profoundly true is to say, "true statement."

In our daily readings, we have moved from the book of Acts to the book of Romans. Romans is a letter penned by Paul, probably while he was off somewhere else, to the Christians in Rome. It would have actually been written and sent prior to Paul's arrival under house arrest, which is where the book of Acts leaves us. The first few books are Paul's version of the Gospel in a nutshell—easy to comprehend doctrine. It's basically a "why we believe what we believe." In later chapters, Paul encourages the Roman Christians to hold fast to what they know to be true, which is basically everything he has just written.

Chapter 9 begins by reiterating this. "I am speaking the truth in Christ" is Christianese for "True statement." What I love about this little verse is that it comes right after a big true statement that Paul has just written: Nothing in all of earth, not life, nor death, nor anything in between can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Friends, that is the truest statement of all!

Isaiah 55 is another one of those great true statements: "Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!" The overarching themes of both of these passages of Scripture is so simple, but so profound: God will take care of you. Whatever you are going through, whatever life throws at you, trust in the knowledge that the One who knitted you together in your mother's womb, who knew the number of hairs on your head before you were even born, will indeed continue to take care of you.

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 on August 27th during worship!



AUGUST SERMONS

6: True Statement, Isaiah 55:1-5 and Romans 9:1-5

13: Rev. John Debose preaching

20: Such a Time as This, Esther 4:1-17

27: I Love to Tell the Story!



Isaiah 9:6 KJV
“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”





Some History of Our Church



Many thanks to Clifton Mabry for sharing a special bulletin from Sunday, April 1, 1973 of a Special Communion Service. In this bulletin, we find a wonderful, historic account of past and present communion sets that we use each month for Holy Communion. Here is an excerpt from the bulletin:

“In the early years of Westminster Presbyterian Church, the communion set consisted of a wine cruet, two chalices and two bread plates. The cruet and chalices were found in the home of Marshall S. Stribling by Mr. and Mrs. David Stribling. Mr. Marshall S. Stribling was clerk of session during the period that the early set was used.

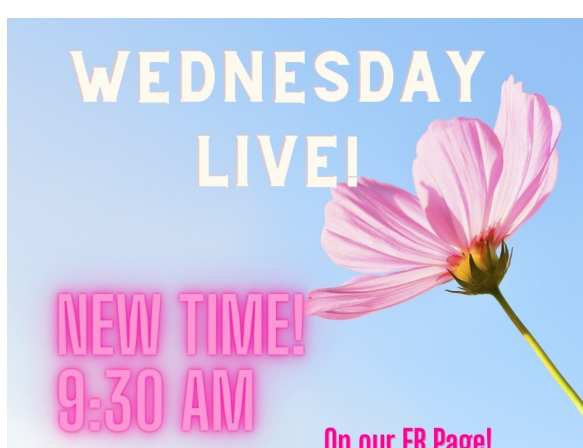
The Westminster Presbyterian Church was organized July 15, 1882 by 22 members from Richland, Retreat and Hopewell, Ga. Churches. The church building was built and occupied in 1884 with Rev, Hugh Strong as the first minister. The church was dedicated in May 1886 with Rev, R.M. Kirkpatrick as minister. In 1886, five of the church women organized a church society with dues of 10 cents a month. The communion set was purchased probably in 1886 and was used until the present set was acquired.

The present communion set was purchased in 1908 by “The Miriams”, a girls society in the church. “The Miriams” were organized on October 18, 1908 and chose as a project the purchase of an individual communion set and communion table. It is believed that Rev. J.J. Harrell was the minister at the time the set was presented to the church.

The early communion set is quadruple plate made by Pairpoint Manufacturing Company at New Bedford, Mass. The chalices carry the number 1615 and the cruet is numbered 3023. The original bread plates are still in use as part of our present communion set.

It should be remembered that wine was made by members of the early congregation to be used for communion. Older members of our church believe wine was no longer used when the individual communion set was aquired.”

Our church is rich in beautiful history and should be preserved for our future generations! If you have a story about the early days of Westminster Presbyterian Church, please share them for future publications of our newsletter!



Rev. Audrey will be offering a **morning** (9:30 am) devotional once a week to introduce some of the topics she will cover in her sermons each week! This is a great time to get together and discuss topics on line and/or just hear a bit of encouragement to get you through the week!



CHRISTMAS IN JULY!





Dates to Remember!

- 8/2 Dot’s Kitchen
- 8/8 Dot’s Kitchen
- 8/7 PW Meeting
- 8/6 Session Meeting



WHC Meeting

Happy Birthday for the month of August

- 6 Debbie Therriault
- 16 Martha Brancazio, Robert French
- 24 Steve Wray



****Early birthdays in September: 5 Ann Merritt 7 Kathy Skillen****

August Flowers



- 6- 20-
- 13- 27-

Contact Shepherd Chuites if you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary

BIBLE IN A YEAR SCRIPTURES

Date`	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalms	Proverbs
1	2 Chronicles 30:1-31:21	Romans 15:1-22	25:1-15	20:13-15
2	2 Chronicles 32:1-33:13	Romans 15:23-16:7 2	5:16-22	20:16-18
3	2 Chronicles 33:14-34:33	Romans 16:8-27	26:1-12	20:19
4	2 Chronicles 35:1-36:23	1 Corinthians 1:1-17	27:1-6	20:20-21
5	Ezra1:-2:70	1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5	27:7-14	20:22-23
6	Ezra 3:1-4:24	1 Corinthians 2:6-3:4	28:1-9	20:24-25
7	Ezra 5:1-6:22	1 Corinthians 3:5-23	29:1-11	20:26-27
8	Ezra 7:1-8:20	1 Corinthians 4:1-21	30:1-12	20:28-30
9	Ezra 8:21-9:15	1 Corinthians 5:1-13	31:1-8	21:1-2
10	Ezra 10:1-44	1 Corinthians 6:1-20	31:9-18	21:03
11	Nehemiah 1:1-3:14	1 Corinthians 7:1-24	31:9-24	21:04
12	Nehemiah 3:15-5:13	1 Corinthians 7:25-40	32:1-11	21:5-7
13	Nehemiah 5:14-7:60	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	33:1-11	21:8-10
14	Nehemiah 7:61-9:21	1 Corinthians 9:1-18	33:12-22	21:11-12
15	Nehemiah 9:22-10:39	1 Corinthians 9:19-10:13	34:1-10	21:13
16	Nehemiah 11:1-12:26	1 Corinthians 10:14-11:2	34:11-22	21:14-16
17	Nehemiah 12:27-13:31	1 Corinthians 11:3-16	35:1-16	21:17-18
18	Esther 1:1-3:15	1 Corinthians 11:17-34	35:17-28	21:19-20
19	Esther 4:1-7:10	1 Corinthians 12:1-26	36:1-12	21:21-22
20	Esther 8:1-10:3	1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13	37:1-11	21:23-24
21	Job 1:1-3:26	1 Corinthians 14:1-17	37:12-29	21:25-26
22	Job 4:1-7:21	1 Corinthians 14:18-40	37:30-40	21:27
23	Job 8:1-11:20	1 Corinthians 15:1-28	38:1-22	21:28-29
24	Job 12:1-15:35	1 Corinthians 15:29-58	39:1-13	21:30-31
25	Job 16:1-19:29	1 Corinthians 16:1-24	40:1-10	22:01
26	Job 20:1-22:30	2 Corinthians 1:1-11	40:11-17	22:2-4
27	Job 23:1-27:23	2 Corinthians 1:12-2:11	41:1-13	22:5-6
28	Job 28:1-30:31	2 Corinthians 2:12-17	42:1-11	22:07
29	Job 31:1-33:33	2 Corinthians 3:1-18	43:1-5	22:8-9
30	Job 34:1-36:33	2 Corinthians 4:1-12	44:1-8	22:10-12
31	Job 37:1-39:30	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:10	44:9-26	22:13



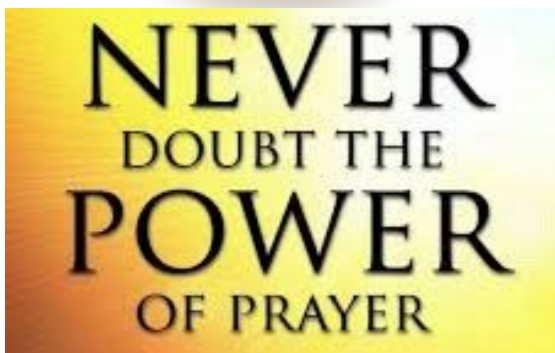
We love our church family!

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!



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!

Robbie McClure (Marie Dunnam's brother) Elizabeth Christensen (Kathy Skillen's niece), Arthur Skillen (Kathy Skillen's brother) Bob Hartness (Rev. Audrey's dad), Clifton Mabry, Sam and Edna Dillard, Kathy Skillen, Joel Thrift, Al Belauskus, Sue Costa, (Paula Meades and Shari Waldo's friend), Arlene Touart (Sherry Moats' aunt), Erin Wood (Wendy Linhart's daughter, who has been deployed to serve our country) Ed Black (cousin of De French), and Bently Carver (son of a friend of James Lawson) Cathy Mianardi (cousin of Debbie Therriault), The Andrew Farmer Family (friend of Jim McMillan), George Harland (friend of Nita McMillan)



Session will meet on August 6, 2023 in Gossett Hall at 12:30. This will be our first meeting back from the summer, and we have a lot to discuss and dream about! We have a couple of building use requests, will have a presentation from a guest, and will do some planning for the upcoming events. Elders are reminded to submit reports by Wednesday, August 2nd to Rev. Audrey. Lunch will be provided.

Debbie Therriault has placed the names of all church members in the narthex at church. Please take a name, or a few names, and pray earnestly for them! You don't have to bring them back, Debbie will refill the bowl as needed. Also, there is a container for you to leave your spoken or unspoken prayer request.



We continue to see God's Hand moving in and through our WHC Mission. During the month of July, the WHC board met to discuss the next steps in our vision of hope for the homeless in our community!



THANK YOU REV. DAVIS



Thank you to Rev. Mel Davis for leading us in worship while Rev. Audrey was away. It was a pleasure to have you and your wife with us! It was so neat to learn that Rev. Davis was one of the people who made the mosaic of the church emblem that hangs on our walls here at WPC and one was made for Richland Presbyterian and it still hangs there today! We hope you come back and join us very soon!

