

THE ABBEY NEWS



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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SEPTEMBER 2023

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FROM THE PASTOR

“Then Job answered the Lord: I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.” ~Job 42:1

If you’re reading through the Bible in a year with us (and I really hope you are), then we have read through the book of Job in the course of about a week and a half. Talk about speed reading!

The whole book was written to try to explain the problem of evil in the world. But, as we find out, there really is no explanation that we very fallible human beings can wrap our very human minds around. After God speaks from a whirlwind, Job understands exactly what it is he is meant to understand—that God is indeed in control, and nothing can thwart God’s purposes.

Another reason that scholars put this book in the “allegory” or “fairy-tale” genre, is the ending. The end of chapter 42 has God restoring all of Job’s possessions and family members, his health, his wealth, and then some. If we let it, the book could leave us thinking, “wouldn’t that be nice?” when it comes to our own problems and struggles. The fact of the matter is, things very seldom return to what they “used” to be after a loss. We may get a new job after unexpectedly losing one we love, but it may come with less money or less benefits. We may find love again after the end of a relationship, either by death or divorce, but it won’t be the same. We may even feel restored after a serious illness, but for some, there will never be a full return to health.

And yet, the words of Paul seem to speak to this— “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer” (Romans 12: 12). The material and physical things we have lost may never be found again, but we rejoice in the hope of our Lord Jesus Christ. We try our best to be patient through the suffering, and we use our spiritual stamina and endurance in prayer. Hope, patience, and prayer will help us navigate troubling waters, along with a faith community that we love like family.

September’s sermons return to Paul’s letter to the Romans, as well as to the Ephesians. These two letters specifically give amazing wisdom for living the Christian life. It is my hope that as we explore them together, you too may come to see that God’s purpose for our lives is always revealed, even if not necessarily what we might expect.

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 September 24th during worship!



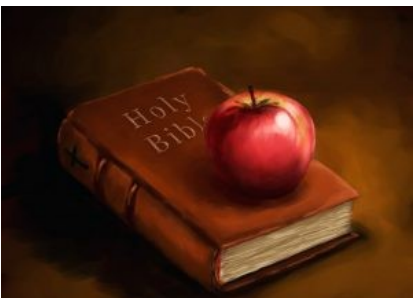
SEPTEMBER SERMONS

3: Romans 12:9-21
“You Only Live Once”

10: Mel Davis

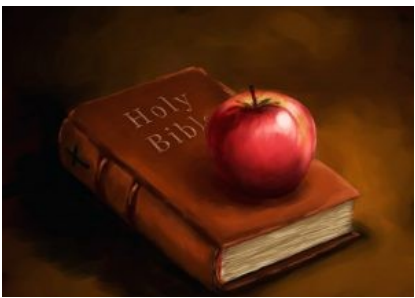
17: Romans 14:5-12
“Not Our Job”

24: Ephesians 1:15-23
“All in All”



Psalm 17:8: "Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings".

Proverbs 7:2: "Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye".



TREASURER’S REPORT

July receipts: \$ 10,832.10
expenses 12,676.33
- 1,844.23

YTD receipts: \$ 87,252.26
expenses 89,334.94
- 2,082.68

God Bless You all for your generous giving!

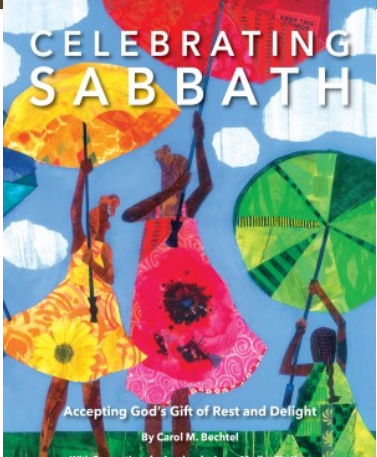


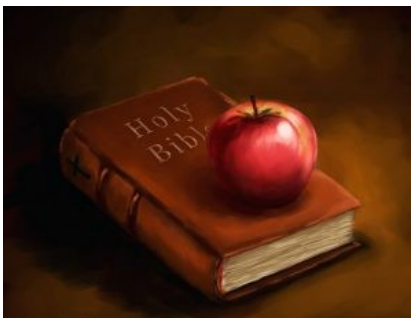
Thank you all for your generous giving!! We raised \$635 to help ensure the residents at Lakeview Assisted Living will get fresh fruit and vegetables with their meals! We also purchased an extra large crockpot for them. Your gifts have touched so many wonderfully deserving and precious elderly folks right here in our community! God Bless YOU!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Presbyterian Women will kicked off our new year! We organized our upcoming Bible lessons for the year and discussed how we can further God’s Kingdom here on earth! Plans were made for our upcoming Apple Festival and we are anxious to get started on another wonderful year! Our next meeting will be September 11th at 4:30 pm in Gossett Hall. Bring a goodie to share if you’d like or just bring yourself and enjoy a wonderful afternoon of great Christian sister fellowship! If you haven’t joined Circle, now’s the time!!





A Little History of our Church

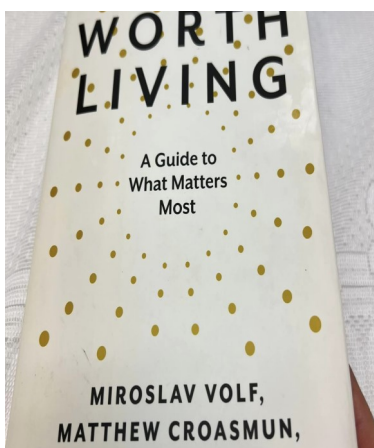


The beautiful cross that you see on the front wall of the sanctuary was given to the church by Col. Tom Ramsey. Col. Tom was a faithful member of the WPC congregation and served for many years in various duties. Col. Tom and Mrs. Helen Ramsey loved Westminster Presbyterian and they raised their eight children in the church,

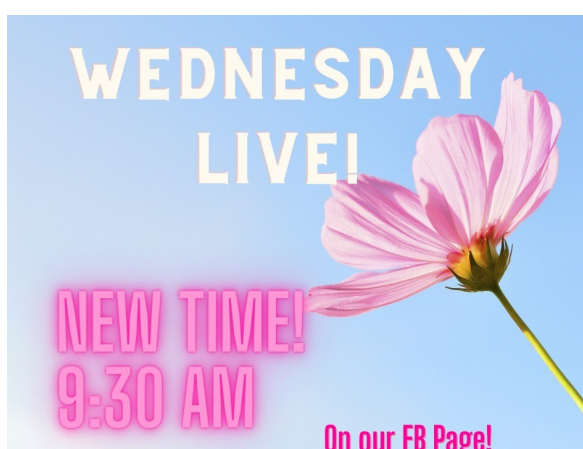
The Cross was milled from timbers off his property in Madison, SC. In 1959-1960, plans were underway to back up Lake Hartwell. Col. Tom saw many beautiful black walnut trees that were going to be destroyed. He made plans to have the trees milled. Some of the wood was used to fashion the beautiful cross that hangs in our sanctuary today. The cross was designed and made by Bobby Waters.

In speaking with his son Rex, Nita learned that there used to be a walnut slab on the pulpit. It was placed there when Rev. Burgess was the minister at the time. When Rev. Burgess was preaching, he would rest his elbows on the Bible and the spine of the Bible was beginning to break! Therefore, the slab was placed there for him to have a place to rest his elbows instead of on the Bible!

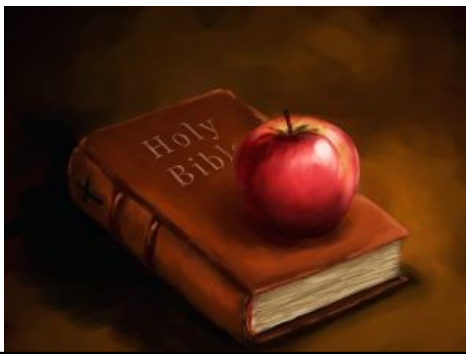
We hope you enjoy learning a little of the history of our church. Please let Nita know if you have stories you would like to share!



We had a great time diving into some deep conversations with our Life Worth Living book Club! We'll meet again on 9/27 at 5:30!



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!

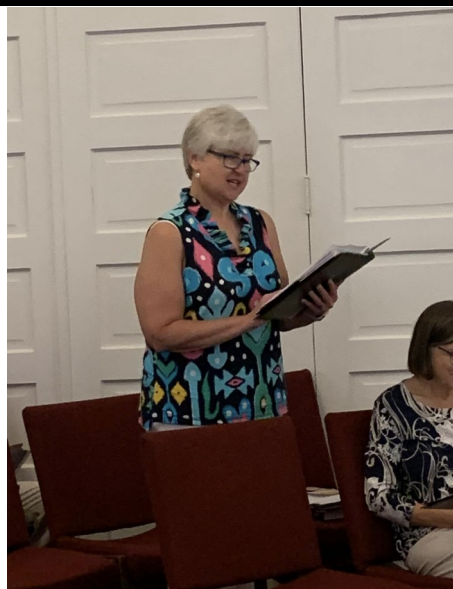


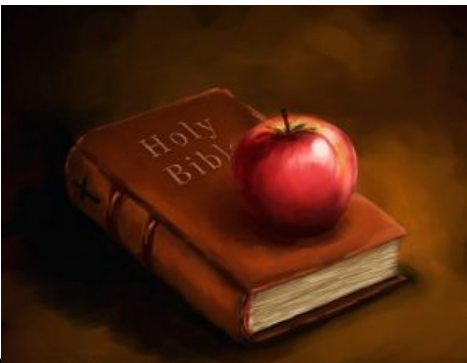
I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY SUNDAY WORSHIP

"I LOVE TO TELL
THE STORY"

SUNDAY
27 Westminster
AUGUST Presbyterian
Church

Join us for a
wonderful morning of
worship in song and
Holy communion!
I'll be in the
sanctuary or FB Live!





Dates to Remember!

- 9/3 Session
- 9/4 Labor Day (office closed)
- 9/6 Dot’s Kitchen
- 9/7 Apple Pie Making
- 9/8-9 SC Apple Festival
- 9/11 PW 4:30
- 9/12 Dot’s Kitchen
- 9/20 WHC Board Meeting 5:30
- 9/27 Life Worth Living 5:30
- 9/27 Session Reports Due
- 10/1 Men’s Sunday School
- 10/1 World Communion Sunday



Happy Birthday for the month of September

5 Ann Merritt
7 Kathy Skillen
13 James Lawson
18 Debbie Thrift
21 Pauline Roberts



**Early birthdays in October: 6 Nancy Johnston, 13 Pat Roeder

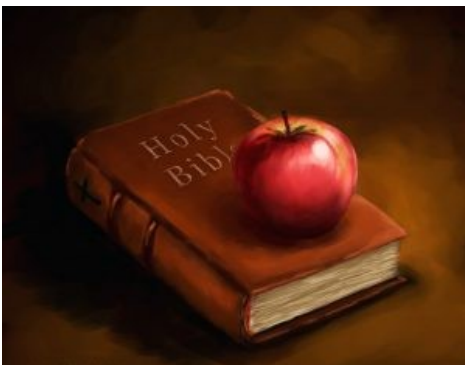
September Flowers



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	Job 40:1-42:17	2 Corinthians 5:11-21	Psalms 45:1-17	Proverbs 22:14
2	Ecclesiastes 1:1-3:22	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Psalms 46:1-11	Proverbs 22:15
3	Ecclesiastes 4:1-6:12	2 Corinthians 6:14-7:7	Psalms 47:1-9	Proverbs 22:16
4	Ecclesiastes 7:1-9:18	2 Corinthians 7:8-16	Psalms 48:1-14	Proverbs 22:17-19
5	Ecclesiastes 10:1-12:14	2 Corinthians 8:1-15	Psalms 49:1-20	Proverbs 22:20-21
6	Song of Solomon 1:1-4:16	2 Corinthians 8:16-24	Psalms 50:1-23	Proverbs 22:22-23
7	Song of Solomon 5:1-8:14	2 Corinthians 9:1-15	Psalms 51:1-19	Proverbs 22:24-25
8	Isaiah 1:1-2:22	2 Corinthians 10:1-18	Psalms 52:1-9	Proverbs 22:26-27
9	Isaiah 3:1-5:50	2 Corinthians 11:1-15	Psalms 53:1-6	Proverbs 22:28-29
10	Isaiah 6:1-7:25	2 Corinthians 11:16-33	Psalms 54:1-7	Proverbs 23:1-3
11	Isaiah 8:1-9:21	2 Corinthians 12:1-10	Psalms 55:1-23	Proverbs 23:4-5
12	Isaiah 10:1-11:16	2 Corinthians 12:11-21	Psalms 56:1-13	Proverbs 23:6-8
13	Isaiah 12:1-14:32	2 Corinthians 13:1-14	Psalms 57:1-11	Proverbs 23:9-11
14	Isaiah 15:1-18:7	Galatians 1:1-24	Psalms 58:1-11	Proverbs 23:12
15	Isaiah 19:1-21:17	Galatians 2:1-16	Psalms 59:1-17	Proverbs 23:13-14
16	Isaiah 22:1-24:23	Galatians 2:17-3:9	Psalms 60:1-12	Proverbs 23:15-16
17	Isaiah 25:1-28:13	Galatians 3:10-22	Psalms 61:1-8	Proverbs 23:17-18
18	Isaiah 28:14-30:11	Galatians 3:23-4:31	Psalms 62:1-12	Proverbs 23:19-21
19	Isaiah 30:12-33:12	Galatians 5:1-12	Psalms 63:1-11	Proverbs 23:22
20	Isaiah 33:13-36:22	Galatians 5:13-26	Psalms 64:1-10	Proverbs 23:23
21	Isaiah 37:1-38:22	Galatians 6:1-18	Psalms 65:1-13	Proverbs 23:24
22	Isaiah 39:1-41:16	Ephesians 1:1-23	Psalms 66:1-20	Proverbs 23:25-28
23	Isaiah 41:17-43:13	Ephesians 2:1-22	Psalms 67:1-7	Proverbs 23:29-35
24	Isaiah 43:14-45:10	Ephesians 3:1-21	Psalms 68:1-18	Proverbs 24:1-2
25	Isaiah 45:11-48:11	Ephesians 4:1-16	Psalms 68:19-35	Proverbs 24:3-4
26	Isaiah 48:12-50:11	Ephesians 4:17-32	Psalms 69:1-18	Proverbs 24:5-6
27	Isaiah 51:1-53:12	Ephesians 5:1-33	Psalms 69:19-36	Proverbs 24:7
28	Isaiah 54:1-57:13	Ephesians 6:1-24	Psalms 70:1-5	Proverbs 24:8
29	Isaiah 57:14-59:21	Philippians 1:1-26	Psalms 71:1-24	Proverbs 24:9-10
30	Isaiah 60:1-62:5	Philippians 1:27-2:18	Psalms 72:1-20	Proverbs 24:11-12



More scenes from August Worship!



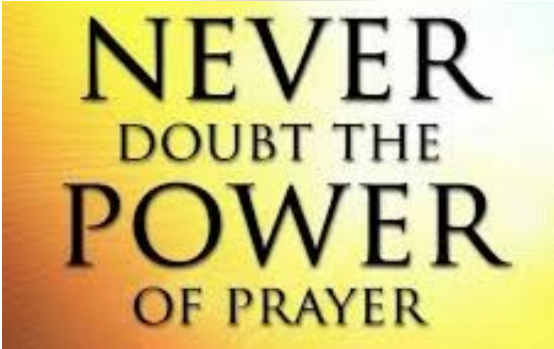
I love to tell the story; For those who know it best. Seem hungering and thirsting, To hear it like the rest.
 And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, 'Twill be the old, old story, That I have loved so long.
 I love to tell the story, 'Twill be my theme in glory, To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love..

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 and Debbie Thrift, Al Belauskus, Sue Costa, (Paula Meades and Shari Waldo’s friend), Arlene Touart (Sherry Moats’ aunt), Bently Carver (son of a friend of James Lawson) Cathy Mianardi (cousin of Debbie Therriault).



After a summer break, Session met in August to have some conversation and dreams around where we feel God leading this particular congregation. We look forward to continuing to be vessels for the Spirit to lead and guide as we discern where God might be calling us to serve.

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 will resume our afternoon choir rehearsals on September 17th in preparation of our Christmas cantata! We will meet in the sanctuary at 2:30. Please be listening to your CDs and have your books marked for sections you may feel need some extra work! Thank you all for your service to our church!



We continue to see God’s Hand moving in and through our WHC Mission. During the August, the WHC board met to discuss the next steps in our vision of hope for the homeless in our community! We will meet again on September 20th at 5:30 in Gossett Hall.

THANK YOU REV. DUBOSE



Thank you to Rev. John Debose for leading us in worship while Rev. Audrey was away. It was a pleasure to have you with us.

Thank you for your inspiring message of hope and Joy of the Risen Savior. We should celebrate Easter every Sunday!! We hope you come back and join us very soon!

