

# THE ABBEY NEWS



MARCH 2024

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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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!



## FROM THE PASTOR

Friends,

Health experts now suggest that expressing or reflecting on gratitude has benefits to your overall mental, physical, and emotional health. This isn't news to me. But apparently, expressing gratitude helps you sleep better, shifts your energy to the positive aspects of your life, and can even keep your brain younger!

I am eternally grateful to this church. As we discussed in worship yesterday, you are an anomaly. At a time when you could have "settled" and taken the safer route of a part-time pastor, you chose differently. You chose to trust and truly believe in the words we sing, "Great is thy faithfulness, O God." So, from the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in our church, community, and world. Thank you for putting up with growing edges and sometimes clunky worship services. Thank you for being willing to try new things, and jump from the rocks and get your feet wet a little. Thank you for sharing your love for God and for our church with your friends! Thank you for shining God's light into the dark places.

But above all, thank you for being so loving, so supportive, and so pastoral to me during life's valleys. Each of your calls, texts, emails, hugs, and prayers have meant more to me than I can ever express. We have been through a lot of life together, and I couldn't imagine doing life anywhere else. May God continue to show us how to do life together, ministry together, and how to love others well.

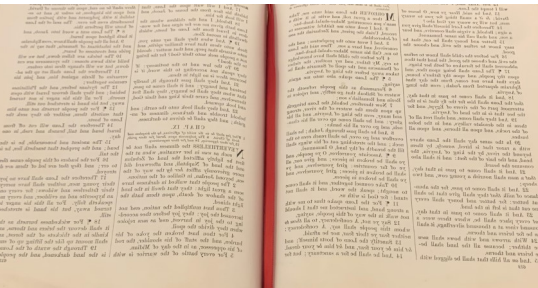
I love you all, and am so grateful for you.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Audrey

## MARCH SERMONS

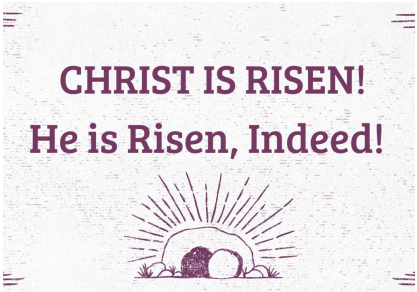
- 3: Rev. Terri Price preaching
- 10: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22, John 3:14-21: "The Truth of the Gospel"
- 17: Psalm 51:1-12: A Restless Heart
- 24: Palm Sunday: Cantata "The Easter Story" by Tom Fettke
- 28: Maundy Thursday: Seneca Pres 7 pm
- 29: Good Friday: Westminster Pres 7 pm
- 31: Easter



We will Celebrate Holy Communion on March 3rd during worship!

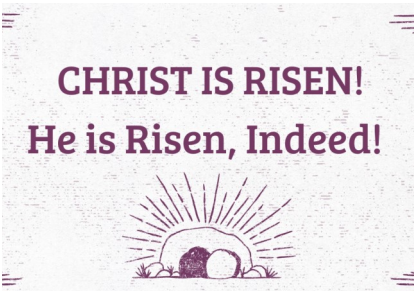






**Zephaniah 3:17: "The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty Savior, who will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in His love."**





TREASURER’S REPORT

January receipts: \$ 9725.86  
January expenses 23694.58  
- 13968.72

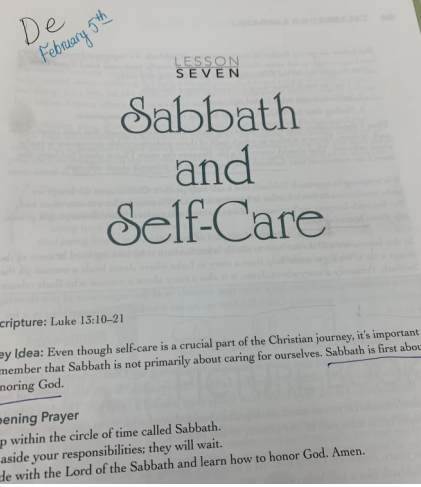
In January, we paid annual insurance premium of \$10,731.00, along with other annual or quarterly contributions that are budgeted. As is standard for the first quarter of the year, our giving is lower than these expenses. We greatly appreciate your gifts of time, talent and treasure to the life and ministry of WPC. If you sense God calling you to help bridge this financial gap, know that your gifts will help us continue to be the hands and feet of Christ on earth.



The Lenten season ushers in the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. You will be hearing more about this mission as well as other initiatives in which our wonderful church family can contribute! Thank you for your continued generosity and service!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women were blessed with another wonderful evening of Christian Sister fellowship! De French lead us in a wonderful study of Chapter 7 “Sabbath and Self-Care”. It was so special to recount some of our childhood memories of Sabbath mornings and how our parents planted that “mustard seed” within us! We were blessed with a presentation from Sleep in Heavenly Peace and how we can help them in this most worthy mission! We also packed our goodie bags for all the Westminster policemen and firemen. They loved them! Join us as we celebrate Christ’s Last Supper as Rev. Audrey leads us with scripture following the meal with Jesus’ closest friends. We will meet at 4:30 pm in Gosset Hall on March 4th.

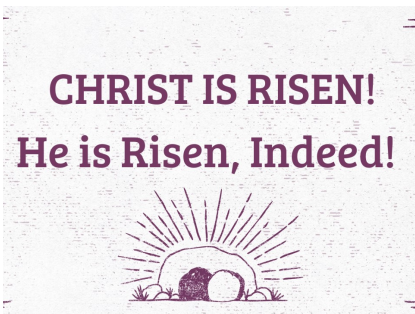


Here is a portion of scripture from our Chapter 7 Lesson:

Then Jesus asked, “What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to? It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches.”

Again he asked, “What shall I compare the kingdom of God to? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.” **Luke 13:18-21**





## A Little History of our Church



*Our Lent Wreath was featured in the PCUSA National publication Presbyterians Today.*

The Lenten Wreath was one of the many worship ideas born from talks on the preacher’s porch! We were discussing the possibility of having something “visual” for Lent as we do for the Advent season. The Lent wreath idea was born. Of course, we had to enlist the help of someone to actually build a Lent wreath. We really didn’t have an idea as to what it could or should look like, but thankfully, we have Robert McMillan! Robert used the best guide available and that was the Bible! Many features of the wreath are grounded in the Biblical account of the life and death of Jesus. Some are, the width of the base of the wreath that holds the candle is 33 inches which is the number of years our Savior lived on earth in human form. The base is also in the shape of the “Jesus Fish” oval. There are six candles for each week of Lent with the Christ candle in the center for Easter Sunday. The base of the wreath is an old post that is rough and hand hewn as the cross may have been where our Lord was crucified. The ivy (Mountain Laurel) branches that secure the base of the wreath are evergreen that symbolize that our Savior Lives! The crown of thorns came from bushes in the Holy Land. Thank you, Robert for your beautiful addition to enhance our worship services during Lent.

## Get Into God’s Word!



Join us for our Lenten Bible Soup and Study! We will continue meeting in Gossett Hall. The study should align with our daily scripture readings. We would love to have you!



Join Debbie Therriault and friends each Monday at 4:30 pm as we dive into some questions and reflections of our daily Bible in a Year readings! Locations will be posted each week.

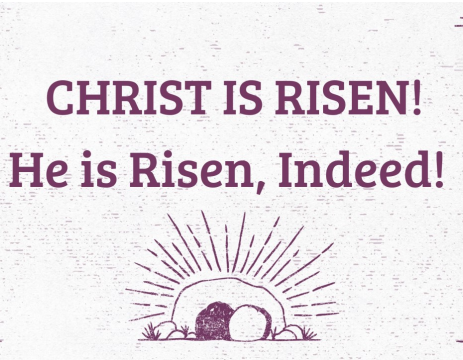


Rev. Audrey will be offering a **morning** (9:30 am) devotional once a week to introduce some of the topics she will cover in her sermons each week! This is a great time to get together and discuss topics on line and/or just hear a bit of encouragement to get you through the week!



Our next Men’s Bible study will be March 3rd. All men will meet at the church beginning at 10 am. We will continue our study of the Book of Romans. Don’t miss this awesome opportunity to share how God is working in your life, prayer requests and praise reports while diving into God’s Holy Word!





Dates to Remember!

- 3/4 PW Last Supper
- 3/9 Dot's Kitchen
- 3/12 Dot's Kitchen
- 3/20 WHC 7 PM
- 3/24 Palm Sunday Cantata
- 3/29 Good Friday
- 3/31 Easter Sunrise 7 am Easter Worship 11 am



Happy Birthday for the month of March

- 4 De French
- 11 Audrey Reese
- Sherry Moates
- 16 Paula Meades
- 18 Montez McCall
- 26 Ashley Towe
- 30 Ellen Stancil



**\*\*Early birthdays in April\*\***  
3 Bradley Moore 5 Arlene Touart

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



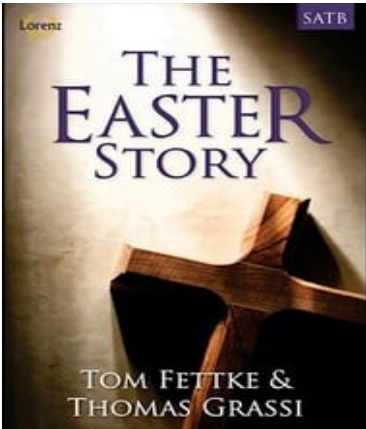
BIBLE IN A YEAR SCRIPTURES

- 1. Leviticus 26:1-27:34, Psalm 29:1-6, Proverbs 10:22-25, Mark 7:1-13
- 2. Numbers 1:1-2:34, Psalm 29:7-11, Proverbs 10:26-29, Mark 7:14-37
- 3. Numbers 3:1-4:49, Psalm 30:1-7, Proverbs 10:30-32, Mark 8:1-21
- 4. Numbers 5:1-6:27, Psalm 30:8-12, Proverbs 11:1-3, Mark 8:22-38
- 5. Numbers 7:1-8:26, Psalm 31:1-5, Proverbs 11:4-6, Mark 9:1-29
- 6. Numbers 9:1-10:36, Psalm 31:6-14, Proverbs 11:7-11, Mark 9:30-50
- 7. Numbers 11:1-12:16, Psalm 31:15-18, Proverbs 11:12-14, Mark 10:1-31
- 8. Numbers 13:1-14:45, Psalm 31:19-24, Proverbs 11:15, Mark 10:32-52
- 9. Numbers 15:1-16:50, Psalm 32:1-5, Proverbs 11:16-18, Mark 11:1-19
- 10. Numbers 17:1-18:32, Psalm 32:6-11, Proverbs 11:19-21, Mark 11:20-33
- 11. Numbers 19:1-20:29, Psalm 33:1-9, Proverbs 11:22-24, Mark 12:1-27
- 12. Numbers 21:1-22:41, Psalm 33:10-17, Proverbs 11:25-26, Mark 12:28-44
- 13. Numbers 23:1-24:25, Psalm 33:18-22, Proverbs 11:27, Mark 13:1-20
- 14. Numbers 25:1-26:65, Psalm 34:1-7, Proverbs 11:28, Mark 13:21-37
- 15. Numbers 27:1-28:31, Psalm 34:8-14, Proverbs 11:29, Mark 14:1-26
- 16. Numbers 29:1-30:16, Psalm 34:15-22, Proverbs 11:30-31, Mark 14:27-54
- 17. Numbers 31:1-32:42, Psalm 35:1-8, Proverbs 12:1, Mark 14:55-72
- 18. Numbers 33:1-34:29, Psalm 35:9-16, Proverbs 12:2, Mark 15:1-24
- 19. Numbers 35:1-36:13, Psalm 35:17-28, Proverbs 12:3, Mark 15:25-47
- 20. Deuteronomy 1:1-2:37, Psalm 36:1-6, Proverbs 12:4-6, Mark 16:1-20
- 21. Deuteronomy 3:1-4:49, Psalm 36:7-12, Proverbs 12:7, Luke 1:1-20
- 22. Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25, Psalm 37:1-4, Proverbs 12:8, Luke 1:21-38

- 23. Deuteronomy 7:1-8:20, Psalm 37:5-11, Proverbs 12:9-10, Luke 1:39-56
- 24. Deuteronomy 9:1-10:22, Psalm 37:12-17, Proverbs 12:11, Luke 1:57-80
- 25. Deuteronomy 11:1-12:32, Psalm 37:18-22, Proverbs 12:12-14, Luke 2:1-24
- 26. Deuteronomy 13:1-14:29, Psalm 37:23-29, Proverbs 12:15-16, Luke 2:25-52
- 27. Deuteronomy 15:1-16:22, Psalm 37:30-36, Proverbs 12:17-19, Luke 3:1-38
- 28. Deuteronomy 17:1-18:22, Psalm 37:37-40, Proverbs 12:20-22, Luke 4:1-30
- 29. Deuteronomy 19:1-20:20, Psalm 38:1-8, Proverbs 12:23-25, Luke 4:31-44
- 30. Deuteronomy 21:1-22:30, Psalm 38:9-22, Proverbs 12:26-28, Luke 5:1-16
- 31. Deuteronomy 23:1-24:22, Psalm 39:1-6, Proverbs 13:1-3, Luke 5:17-39

CHOIR NOTES

The Choir will continue rehearsing for our annual Lent/Easter cantata on Palm Sunday, March 24th We will be singing Tom Fettke’s beautiful composition “The Easter Story”.



**Clerk:** Brad Stancil

**Mission/Outreach:** Nita McMillan

**Christian Faith & Development:**  
Debbie Therriault

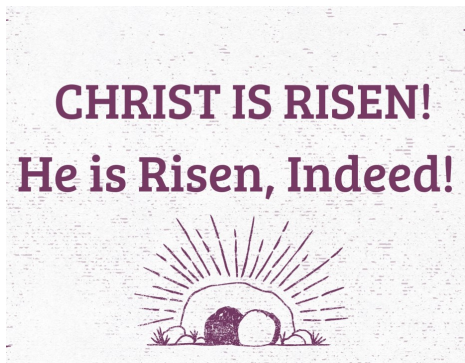
**Property:** John Merritt

**Stewardship/Finance:** Shepherd Chuites

**Congregational Care:** Joey Roeder

**Worship:** Steve Wray





WE LOVE OUR CHURCH FAMILY!



Every Sunday that God blesses us to worship together is truly a special and holy time! Let us all continue to pray for one another and enjoy this beautiful gift and blessing from God!

“I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the LORD!”

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

During the Lenten season, you will be hearing about a wonderful mission project right here in Westminster! The “Sleep In Heavenly Peace” is a national organization that ensures ALL children have a bed and will never sleep on the floor! Here in the 29693 zip code, many children were identified as having no bed to sleep in. Many were sleeping on the floor, on a couch or worse conditions. We will be offering you, our congregation, a way to help ensure these precious children will truly sleep in heavenly peace.



ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR VBS 2024!!



Debbie Therriault and Rev. Audrey have chosen a VBS curriculum called “Let’s Party” that looks like it will be both fun and educational for our children. **Let’s Start the Party!**

Jesus gives us the most amazing reason to party. That’s why we believe God’s love and the Gospel of Jesus is the best news ever. Celebrate the good news of Jesus!

Start the Party VBS theme teaches kids about:

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Friendship    | Luke 5:27-32    |
| Belonging     | Matthew 22:1-14 |
| Forgiveness   | Luke 15:11-32   |
| Abundant life | John 4:1-26     |
| Purpose       | Matthew 5:14-16 |

**SAVE THE DATE!! JUNE 2ND THROUGH JUNE 6TH**



PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!



*Town Prayer Meeting! Join us for prayer every Tuesday morning at 9 am at the gazebo in downtown Westminster. Rev. Audrey has served as a guest minister! Come join us!*

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, John Davis, 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)



*pray*



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

God is moving and guiding us through the long road of making Westminster Hope ComeUnity a reality! We have seen His hand at work with the completion of our aquiring 5012C status! Our team is hard at work planning, praying and anxiously waiting to truly be the Hands and Feet of Christ to the homeless in our community!

March Flowers

*There will be no flowers in the sanctuary during lent. We ask that you reflect on the crosses and remember our Savior’s sacrifice and love for YOU!*

