

Westminster Presbyterian Church

I am not yet able to know myself, as the Delphic oracle instructs. . . . I want to know whether I am a monster more puffed-up than Typhon or a gentler, simpler creature who shares in a more humble, divine nature.

—Socrates, Plato's *Phaedrus*, 230A

Nearly all the wisdom we possess, that is to say, true and sound wisdom, consists of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves.

—John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

Give me yourself, O my God, give yourself to me. . . . This only do I know: that it is not good for me when you are not with me, when you are only outside me. I want you in my very self. All the plenty in the world which is not my God is utter want.

—A Prayer of St. Augustine

**December 17, 2017
Third Sunday in Advent**

Service for the Lord's Day

CARILLON PEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Noël Provençal sur le Noël

Robert Leech Bedell

("Now Is Born the Divine Infant")

Meditation on "Greensleeves"

Richard Purvis

(During the Call to Worship in Music you are requested to enter into a time of silence,
actively opening your spirit to God's presence in your midst.)

INTROIT - "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Michael Praetorius

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As those of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Mary Ellen Jarrett and Ruth Neely

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please greet your neighbor with a Christian welcome. For example, "Peace be with you" or
"The peace of Christ be with you." Respond with "And also with you.")

*HYMN 31 - "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Mendelssohn

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

Lord, have mercy on us.

We are not ready for your coming.

We live in sin, as though there were no justice;

In fear, as though there were no grace.

Forgive us, Lord.

Show us your mercy and steadfast love.

Lead us in your truth, and teach us your ways,

For you are the God of our salvation.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear this Good News:

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

All: Amen.

RESPONSE (All sing—seated) - "Alleluia"

Sally Ann Morris

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Peter Davies

ANTHEM - "As it Fell Upon a Night"

English carol, arr. Katherine Davis

As it fell upon a night in the winter weather,
Angels bright in starry height began to sing together.

Shepherds sleeping on the plain woke to see the glory,
All amazed they stood and gazed and heard the angels' story.

"Unto you a child is born in a manger lowly.
Humble he, yet born to be the King of Love most holy.

In a manger now he lies, ox and ass before him;
All the world at last shall come to worship and adore him."

Though it be winter night, Love is still appearing!
Through the sound of war and woe that song we still are hearing!

Happy angels from afar, cease your singing never!
"In excelsis gloria!" forever and forever.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Luke 2:8-15, 20

Pew Bible p. 58 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 38 - "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Carol

(At the beginning of the hymn, children in Pre-K - second grade may leave for Children and Worship and Come and See. They will be met in the Narthex, the main Sanctuary entrance, and escorted to Rooms 102 and 104.)

SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Richard L. Baker, Jr.

Hearing the Angels on High: Our Souls at Christmas—Shepherds, Why This Jubilee?

Text: "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host, praising God." —Luke 2:13a

***STATEMENT OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)
The Reverend Denise C. Weaver

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(During the Offertory, please fill out the Fellowship Pads and pass them up and down the pews in order that we may greet one another by name after worship.)

Offertory Anthem - "Love Came Down at Christmas"

John Rutter

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;
Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine;
Worship we our Jesus: But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine;
Love to God and all. Love for plea, and gift and sign.

- Christina Rossetti

***Doxology (Hymnal No. 592)**

Old Hundredth

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Response (All Sing) - "In the Lord I'll be Ever Thankful"**

Jacques Berthier

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn "In the Lord I'll be Ever Thankful". It consists of four staves of music in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the second line, with a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above it. The third staff contains the third line. The fourth staff contains the fourth line and ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the
 Lord I will re - joice! Look to God, do not be a -
 fraid. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is
 near: lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near.

SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(The pastoral prayer is divided into three sections: Thanksgiving, Intercession and Petition. When the minister says "Through Jesus Christ our Lord," the congregation is encouraged to respond with an audible "Amen.")

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN 23 - "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Gloria

(As a symbol of our call to "Take the light of Christ into the world," the Acolytes carry the flame out of the Sanctuary. At the beginning of the hymn, children attending CrossRoads: Education for the Journey and youth attending the Youth Class will be met in the Narthex.)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE (All sing) - refrain to "Angels We Have Heard on High"
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - Noel, Grand jeu et Duo

Louis Claude Daquin

(The Concluding Voluntary is the final Alleluia of our worship.
You are invited to remain in silence.)

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Head Usher: Tom Best
Church Office Receptionist: Pattie Edmonson
CPR/AED: Anne Proulx, Cindy Jennings

Head Greeter: Peggy Conner
Bus Driver: Becky Bower

Music Participants: Westminster Choir – Todd Bodey, Cantor – John Neely is Organist-Director.

Today's Music: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" (Hymn 31) owes much of its popularity to the tune by Mendelssohn, a tune which he took from his cantata for male voices and brass choir celebrating the invention of the printing press by Gutenberg. Mendelssohn wrote, "I am sure that piece will be liked very much by the singers and the hearers, but it will *never* do to sacred words." How wrong he was! The author of the words to "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (Hymn 38), Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), was deeply involved in the "social gospel." His hymn is the first to include social dimensions of what it means to work for "peace on earth good will to all." It is based on Luke 2:13-14. The French carol "Angels We Have Heard on High" (Hymn 23) is thought by some to have originated during the eighteenth century, but its earliest appearance is in 1855. As with all carols, the popular folk melody carries equal weight and importance with the words for the success of the work.

The response "Alleluia," © 1991 by Sally Ann Morris, all rights reserved, is reprinted by permission.

"In the Lord I'll be Ever Thankful," ©1986, 1991 by Ateliers et Presses de Taizé Community, France, published in North America by GIA Publications, Inc., all rights reserved, has been reprinted by permission.

In Montgomery County, 1 in 5 live in poverty

Support the Identification Ministry

A Special Offering - Today



Our neighbors need our help. As a downtown church, we are visited daily by people looking for emergency assistance. Some are fleeing abusive relationships; some have been released from prison with nothing but a mug shot to their name; others are hard-working parents and guardians living paycheck to paycheck and providing for their children.

The ID Ministry is the #1 source in the county of help for people needing state IDs and birth certificates and serves a crucial role in supporting the underserved. Every Wednesday morning, our volunteers help over 100 people who need assistance securing state identification cards and birth certificates — required items for obtaining access to food, housing, and other services in the community. This year, the ID Ministry has issued \$55,000 in checks, the highest demand since the program's inception, and the need keeps growing.

Helps us continue to show our neighbors the love of God, and transform their lives.

For more information about the ID Ministry, and the impact it has on our community, contact Jenne Gross (jenne@westminsterdayton.org or 937-223-7285).

Christmas Eve at Westminster Next Sunday, December 24

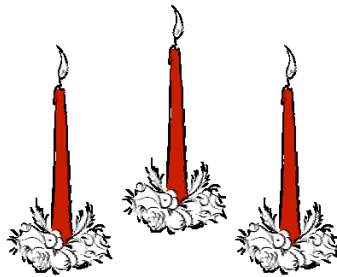
10:00 a.m. - Christmas in the Stable

This service is designed as a family service, but all are invited. Children are encouraged to come to the worship service dressed as their favorite character from the Christmas story. Baby dolls are welcome to come as baby Jesus, and stuffed lambs, cows, and other animals are encouraged to come to decorate the stable. Extra costumes will be available in the Narthex before the service. The nursery will be available for our tiniest members. Following worship, parents are welcome to photograph children at the manger, and everyone is invited to go to Fellowship Hall for a birthday party for Jesus.

10:00 p.m. - Christmas in the Cathedral

An extended Prelude begins at 9:20 p.m. Arrival at 9:00 p.m. is suggested. Please do not save seats. Please note that nursery care is *not* available. This service features a darkened Sanctuary, candlelight, the Westminster Choir, Carillon Bells, Te Deum Ringers, Betsy Hofeldt, violinist, and Mark Hofeldt, cellist. Plan to bring a friend to this beautiful Christmas Eve service.

Additional free parking will be available in the lot on the corner of Perry and Second Streets (former location of Family Court Building). The entrance to this lot is on Second Street.



Looking Ahead...

Children's Epiphany Party

Saturday, January 6, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Here is a chance for children and parents to enjoy an Epiphany party *after* the hubbub of December. Following the tradition of the Wisemen, whom scholars indicate actually found their way to the manger some time after Jesus' birth, we will celebrate their epiphany of seeing the Christ child and presentation of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. This relaxing evening begins with a child-friendly menu provided for all, followed by Epiphany crafts (including Shrinkydinks, aromatic sachets, and cookie house decorating) and storytelling by our teens. Families with children (infant - second grade) are encouraged to attend and bring friends with children.



Church Decorating

Thank you to the following donors for their monetary gifts, which were used to purchase decorations for the church and poinsettias for member shut-ins.

In Memory Of

Jeanette Crawford Adams
Susan Adams
Eva Mae Bailey and Winnie Wisser
Tim Barnett, Francis and Sug Barnett, Jim
and Vel Dodds
Eugene and Lois Betz
Richard Bodey
My parents, Richard and Rachel Bower
Beth Branstetter, William and Hattie Assink,
Inas and Earl Mace, Edna and Gene
Branstetter, and Alice and John Raterink
Jeff Butterworth
James Candor
Eleanor and Stanley Cavanaugh and Bud
Faulkner
Libby Clark
Elizabeth and John Coleman and family
Taylor Allen Davis
My father, Adriaan de Vries
J. E. and Marylee Dungan
Jim and Marylee Dungan
Bill Eaton and Phyllis Weibel

Given By

Carol M. Shaw
Joe, Audrey, and Olivia Mondock
The Kight Family

Judy and Vic Barnett
Catherine Betz
The Bodey Family
Becky Bower

The Assink Family
Dan and Kathy (Butterworth) Raisch
Ada Candor and Family

Carol Faulkner
Betty Sue Wydman
Connie Amos
Barbara D. Davis
Jennifer M. de Vries
Don and Marijane Recob
Marcia and Mike Dungan
Elizabeth and Eric Weibel

Dan W. Elliott, M.D.
Family
My Father, Mother, and Daughter
Bess Feather
Mary and Howard Feather
Martha Feather
Everett Frazza, Leon and Estelle Bewley
Dorance and Mildred Frease
Helen and Norman Frey, Walter and
Magdeline Nekrosius
Ken and Doris Garrison, Alice Sample
Thomas H. Gillaugh and Our Parents
Elizabeth Louise Gray
Helen and Ernest Hagberg and Harold and
Elsie Bayless
Fredrick L. Hess (my husband)
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kasch and Mr. and Mrs.
Walter Kern
Joseph and Margaret Kunka
Alice Lockrem
Loved Ones

Our Parents and Loved Ones
Doris Lutz
My wife, Joan W. McCoy
The Reverend Guy H. and William Davis
McIver
Joseph and Helen Mousaian and Gene and
Luanne Weaver
Albert and Estella Nelson and Robynn Fyke
Our parents, Leonard and Ruth O'Dell
My Parents and my Aunt Kaye
Our Parents

Betty Elliott, Lisa Elliott Shoup, and Family
The Edward and Carla Drye Family
Shelly Burden
Robin Feather
Robin Feather
Robin Feather
Norlan and Liz Bewley
Sara Frease

Drs. Diane Frey and Scott Nekrosius
Don and Jackie Nowak
Nancy D. Gillaugh
Virginia and Edman Gray

Charlene and George Bayless
Virginia Hess

Sonnie and Bill Kasch
Peggy Conner
Dick Lockrem
Fred Dudding and The Reverend Kay Davis-
Dudding
Paul and Susie Weaver
Sunshine Circle of WPW
James L. McCoy

Jeanne McIver

Paul and Susanne Weaver
Carol Porter
Arthur and Barbara Wilson
Susan Allen
Dennis and Ginny Barber

Our Parents
Our Parents
My Parents
Our Parents and Family Members
Our Parents
Our Parents
Elizabeth Anne Pawelchak
Our loving parents, Lois T. Peterson and
Robert S. Nelson
Norman Pfeifer
Scott Porter
Walter and Pat Porter
Joyce Raisch and our children, Juliet and
William Raisch
Charles and Mary Louise Recob
Margaret DeBusman Rininger
George Bernard Shaw
Gloria Sine, Beverly Bishop, Pegge Peteronjes
Jennifer Diane Snyder
Cameron Stover
J. Richard Swanson
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Whitman and Lee and
Dorothy Keller
Albert and Kathryn Wilson
The Reverend Dr. Douglas A. Wilson

In Honor Of

Our Children
My mother, Berendina de Vries
My family of friends - near and far
Family and Friends

Jan Culver and Gene Kurtz
Marj and Jon Hazelton
Barbara Heckart
Milt and Jean Plunkett
Dale and Martha Shields
Paul and Susie Weaver
Barbara Groff
West and Laura Peterson
The Pfeifer Family
Carol Porter
Carol Porter
Chad and Kristen Raisch
Don and Marijane Recob
Her daughter
Carol M. Shaw
George Sine and Peggy Sisson
Jerry and Cindy Snyder
Ann and Philip Stover
Joan Swanson
Tom Keller
Arthur and Barbara Wilson
George and Alice Lincoln Ward and Family

Given By

Dee and Bill Berry
Jennifer M. de Vries
Susan Allen
Ron and Gerry Hunt

Our Family
Laverne and Keith Nash
The Ministry of Jerry Taylor
The Westminster Staff
Westminster Friends

Dave and Judy LaRue
Marcia and Mike Dungan
Susan Sickler
Paul and Susanne Weaver
Marcia and Walt Wood

Celebrating

45 years of Marriage, December 23
Christmas with our children, grandchildren,
and family
The Christmas Season
Our daughters, Molly, Kelsey, and Emma
Our Family
I. D. Ministry
The Love of Family
New beginnings
The Life of Jack Whitmer
The generosity of the W.I.S.E. Ministry

Given By

Tom and Sue Perry

Bruce and Mary Fansler
Bob Kohl
Kim and Bruce Paras
John and Penny Haddick
Susan Allen
Frank and Linda Mione
Jennifer M. de Vries
Marilla Eschbach
Jenne Gross

Given By

Anonymous
Debra Mallonee



WELCOME VISITORS!

We are glad you are here. During the offertory, we hope you will take the opportunity to provide your name and contact information on the Fellowship Pad when it gets passed to you in the pew. After the service today, please stop by our "Welcome Center" just outside the Sanctuary's double doors. We have a small gift for you today to say, "Thanks for being here today" and for adding to our worshipping community.

PARISH NOTES

The white poinsettias under the painting are given in loving memory of Merritt and Dottie Culp by their family.

Don't miss the opportunity to have your **blood pressure checked** in the Chapel Reception Room immediately following worship.

Please join us following worship for **Coffee Hour**, downstairs in Fellowship Hall. You are invited to enjoy some light refreshments and fellowship. Donation containers for members are placed near the coffee.

Emergency Response Training—Today at 12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. A special training on the topic of active shooter response will be conducted by the Dayton Police. This is a repeat training that has been given to church staff and front-line church volunteers. Contact Craig Showalter (craig@westminsterdayton.org) with any questions.

Beautiful Note cards of the Te Deum window are for sale in Fellowship Hall today—\$10 for a packet of six, with two assortments from which to choose. All proceeds go to the Capital Campaign. This is a project of the Highlander Presby Group.

In Advent we listen to the words of the prophets and the angels that proclaim the Good News of the Messiah's birth. In the living of our lives, we need people to listen to us and help us through conversation realize where God is present, particularly in times of struggle. **Stephen Ministers** are trained listeners ready to offer a compassionate ear. If you could benefit from extra support this holiday season, please contact Sue Hamilton.

We wrap Christmas presents and gifts of food with beautiful paper or holiday-colored ribbons. It is a joy to share expressions of love. Sometimes what is most needed is to be wrapped in prayer. If you know of someone who would be comforted this Advent season

with the gift of a **prayer shawl**, please stop by the Library before worship on Sunday morning or immediately following the service, and a member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry Team can help you.

In the season of Advent we wait for the coming of Christ, the Prince of Peace. The **Earth Stewardship Ministry Team** invites all to discover the peacefulness of God in all of nature, to care for the elements of God's creation, and to let us be at peace with our loved ones, ourselves, and our God. Scripture verses inform and inspire us on our journey. Each week, Earth Stewardship will share a new verse and a new practice for achieving the peace of the season. Week 2—(Psalm 24: 1) "The earth is the Lord's and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein." Earth Stewardship message—give a gift to a Nature Conservancy, Audubon, etc., in the name of a friend.

Large print bulletins, hymnals, Bibles, and sermons are available in the Narthex, from an usher, or on the table by the elevator.

During the service, if you notice someone who appears to require **medical attention**, please *raise your hand or contact the head usher*. Response Team members will care for the person.

If someone asks you for money, we encourage you instead to give them one of Westminster's Emergency Assistance Cards, which are available in the Narthex or the Church Office.

Each week the churches of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley keep one particular congregation in their prayers. This week the churches are praying for **Bath Presbyterians Church, Dayton**.

Need to speak with a pastor after worship? Here is where you can find them: Richard – Narthex; Sue – Perry St. door; Nancy and Denise – Fellowship Hall.

ADULTS AND OLDER ADULTS

Between Jobs, a Westminster support group, assists people looking for work opportunities on their spiritual and vocational search. WPC volunteers also mentor some of these individuals. If you know of someone looking for work, please have them contact Vic Barnett (vic.barnett@daytonaero.com). We will try to support with companies, contacts, and information. If you own a business or are a key decision maker, Between Jobs can use your ideas, a little bit of your time, and your talent.

ADULT EDUCATION

The Following Class Continues Today with
**Betsy Hofeldt, Violinist,
and Mark Hofeldt, Cellist.
Both are Members of the
Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra.**

(Sanctuary)

Handel's "Messiah" through three lenses: Theologian, Musician, Conductor. Together the pen of the prophet, the bow of the string player, and the baton of the conductor produce the kaleidoscope of sound and meaning in Handel's *Messiah*. In this course each of these three unique perspectives will be given a separate class. How do bow strokes drive the movement in "For Unto Us a Son is Given?" What is the role of the continuo and bass line, especially in the recitatives? How do the musical constructive aspects support the theology and story being told? How does the Maestro put it all together from the podium?

DONATIONS

Boxes of 2018 offering envelopes are in Heritage Hall for those who regularly use them. If you want a box of 2018 offering envelopes and one is not set up for you, please let the Church Office know and one will be available for you to pick up next week.

Please be advised that per IRS regulations, **all gifts must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2017, to receive credit for 2017.**

Our iPad giving kiosks are located in the Narthex near the Sanctuary doors. They accept contributions for any program of the church. Donations may be made by Visa, Master Card, or Discover credit cards. Donations may even be made anonymously.

Use your smart phone to scan the QR code on the back cover of the bulletin to visit our website and donate now electronically.

INFANTS AND CHILDREN

Infants and Toddlers (Infant - 4 years old) are cared for from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 108. Parents of infants are provided a beeper by the nursery staff in case immediate communication is needed while they worship in the Sanctuary. During the worship hour, the older toddlers participate in a faith formation class, First Lessons in Faith, take part in an activity, and enjoy a snack.

We welcome young children to worship in our Sanctuary at Westminster today with cloth worship bags freshly stocked with new quiet, worship-related activities, including a Children's Bulletin and felt board designed specifically for today's service. Not all bags are the same! Next week, your child will likely find a different, new activity inside his or her bag. The bags can be found in a basket on a bench in the Narthex (main Sanctuary entrance) and upstairs in the balcony. All children are invited to use one throughout the worship time and then return the bag to its original location, taking the papers home with them.

Pre-K and Kindergarteners are invited to Children and Worship, a unique and interactive introduction to the stories and practices of our faith. As the second hymn begins, these children will be met in the Narthex (main Sanctuary entrance) and escorted to Room 102. Children and Worship concludes at 11:30 a.m. From there, children will be escorted to Genesis Singers (Pre-K) in Room 104 and Cherub Choir (K) in the Theater. Children not attending choir need to be met by their parents in Room 102 at 11:30 a.m.

Children in **grades 1 and 2** are invited to attend **Come and See/Godly Play**, a unique and interactive worship experience for younger elementary children. As the second hymn begins, these children will be met in the Narthex (main Sanctuary entrance) and escorted to Room 104. From there, they will be led by their shepherds to their CrossRoads workshops at 10:55 a.m.

CrossRoads: Education for the Journey features varied and engaging activities for children in **first through sixth grade**. As the final hymn begins, children are invited to meet their age-group shepherds in the Narthex (main Sanctuary entrance) and be escorted to the Theater for GPS Sunday. Choir children will be escorted directly to their rehearsals. Other children may be picked up from the Theater at 11:30 a.m.

MISSION

Registration is open for the **Service and Learning Mission Trip**, March 12-17. Brochures are available in the literature racks and on the church website. Please speak to Nancy Hodgkins or Sue Hamilton for more information. **Deadline for registration is December 31.**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the WISE Ministry's **Gifts from the Heart**. This year 140 children from DECA Middle and Eastmont Elementary were adopted thanks to your wonderful generosity. This year all of the

gifts were brought to the church on Sunday! Thanks for making this year's GTHF the BEST EVER!

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is currently responding to areas in the United States and worldwide that have been affected by disasters. You may make a donation to support the relief effort by using the PDA envelope in the pew rack or by giving online. Please make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church, and write PDA in the memo line.

MUSIC

Choirs for children and youth today. New members are welcome!

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Genesis Singers (4 and 5 year olds, Pre-K) - Room 104
Holly Martin, Director

Cherub Choir (grades K-2), Theater
Rachael Boezi, Director

Calvin Choir (grades 3-6), Room 100 (Choir Room)
John Neely, Director

Carillon Bells (grades 7-8), Room 301
Brent Manley, Director

Te Deum Ringers (grades 9-12), Room 300
Jerry Taylor, Director

The **Knox Choir (grades 7-12)** will resume a regular schedule of rehearsal on Sunday, January 14.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Youth Class (grades 7-12) meets on Sunday mornings from 10:55 to 11:30 in Room 301. Youth interested in participating should meet in Room 301 at the beginning of the final hymn. This interactive, relational, Bible study class is coordinated by Gene Saunders and led by members of the Senior High group.

Junior High and Senior High Youth Fellowships will resume on January 14.

Looking for a way to catch up with your Westminster friends this Christmas? There will be a Christmas Open House for **Westminster Post-Highs and Young Adults** tonight, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the home of Holly and Scott Fischer (220 E. Dixon Ave., Oakwood 45419). Please contact the Fischers or speak to Nancy Hodgkins for more information.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Members are known to be in the hospital as of Thursday, December 14: Kettering Hospital—Leona Dunwoodie; Miami Valley Hospital—Ron Bitzer. Recently hospitalized and released: Mike Grimes, Sue Perry, Kara Hicks.

Add your prayer to our Prayer Wall, located in the Sanctuary near the Chancel on the east wall. You will find blank prayer papers and pencils in the four mini-desks built into the wall. Write your prayer on the paper, roll up the paper, and insert it between the bricks of the wall. These prayers are completely private, between you and God. After the first Sunday of each month, the wall will be cleared and all prayer papers will be respectfully burned. Prayer Wall postcards are now available to send to someone for whom you prayed. They are located in the Prayer Wall mini-desks and the Narthex.

I will call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me: give ear to my voice when I call to you. Let my prayer be counted as incense before you. Psalm 141:1-2a.

A SPECIAL NOTE TO OUR VISITORS THIS MORNING

Thank you for your presence here in worship today. Every Sunday God blesses us with the gift of new visitors. Some of you have come across town or across the country and found your way here today. This may be your first time ever, or first time in a long while to be in a church on a Sunday morning. Or you may be a member of another congregation. Whatever tradition you may have come from, we are delighted to have you here today and invite you to experience our worship, Coffee Hour, Sunday classes, or whatever captures your imagination and need. To learn more about us, visit our website, www.westminsterdayton.org, "Like Us" on Facebook, take a brochure from the pew rack, or contact the Church Office.

We have good news for you: Westminster is a safe place to ask questions and to live the questions of life that have no easy or pat answers. We believe that Jesus welcomes all people, just as they are, and so do we. We understand the life of faith to be a journey better walked together than alone. Westminster is an exciting congregation where you can grow in faith and discover meaningful opportunities to be a part of a community *where loving God and neighbor is transforming lives*. That's our purpose. And that takes all of us.

God's grace and peace to you this day,
Westminster Pastoral Staff and Congregation

MINISTERS

All members of the Church

Richard L. Baker, Jr.....Pastor/Head of Staff
John W. Neely Assoc. Pastor for Music
Nancy S. Hodgkins.....Assoc. Pastor for Youth & Mission
Susan G. Hamilton Pastoral Affiliate for Congregational Care
Denise C. WeaverInterim Assoc. Pastor for Spiritual Growth
Jerry TaylorMusic Associate
Jenne GrossMission Associate

Craig Showalter Business Administrator
Amanda Newhart.....Executive Assistant to Dr. Baker
Kate Stephenson Administrative Assistant
Miranda Watt Administrative Assistant
Brittany Campbell Administrative Assistant
Wayne King Maintenance Supervisor
Marvin FlemingSexton

*Westminster Presbyterian Church:
Where Loving God and Neighbor Is Transforming Lives*

Event Schedule

Visit our website at www.westminsterdayton.org for possible calendar changes.

Sunday, December 17

8:30	Nursery (birth - age 4)	108
9:00	Confirmation Class (grades 9-12)	WP
	Westminster Choir and Te Deum Ringers Rehearsal	Sanctuary
9:30	Blood Pressure Check	CRR
10:00	Worship	Sanctuary
10:20	First Lessons in Faith for Toddlers (ages 3-4)	106
	Children and Worship (Pre-K—K)	102
	Come and See (grades 1 and 2)	104
10:55	CrossRoads: Education for the Journey	
	GPS Sunday (grades 1-6)	Theater
	Youth Class (grades 7-12)	301
11:00	Blood Pressure Check	CRR
	Coffee Hour	FH
	Westminster Note Card Sales	FH
11:20	Adult Education	Sanctuary
11:30	Genesis Singers Rehearsal (ages 4-5, Pre-K)	104
	Cherub Choir (grades K-2)	Theater
	Calvin Choir (grades 3-6)	100
	Carillon Bells (grades 7-8)	301
	Te Deum Ringers (grades 9-12)	Sanctuary
12:30	Active Shooter Response Training	FH
6:30	Dayton Philharmonic <i>Messiah</i> Performance	Sanctuary

Monday, December 18

No Scheduled Events

Tuesday, December 19

12:00	Staff Meeting	WP
4:30	Miami Valley Pipe Band Lessons	211
5:00	Miami Valley Pipe Band	FH
6:00	Personnel Committee	CRR
6:30	Tuesday Book Club #1	Bride's Room

Wednesday, December 20

10:00	ID Ministry	Chapel/CRR
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Thursday, December 21

10:00	Coffee, Caring, and Crafts Circle	WP
1:00	W.I.N.G.S. Bible Study	YWCA
6:30	DGMC Committee Meeting	206
7:30	Westminster Choir Rehearsal	100

Friday, December 22

No Scheduled Events

Saturday, December 23

No Scheduled Events

Sunday, December 24

8:30	Nursery (birth - age 4)	108
10:00	Worship—Christmas in the Stable	Sanctuary
10:20	First Lessons in Faith for Toddlers (ages 3-4)	106
11:00	Coffee Hour/Birthday Party for Jesus	FH
8:20	Carillon Bells (grades 7-8)	Sanctuary
	Te Deum Ringers (grades 9-12)	300
9:20	Prelude	Sanctuary
10:00	Worship—Christmas in the Cathedral	Sanctuary

CRR—Chapel Reception Room
FH—Fellowship Hall
HH—Heritage Hall
WP—West Parlor



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