

Souper Bowl of Caring

A simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat" inspired a youth-led movement to help hungry and hurting people around the world.

This prayer, delivered by Brad Smith, then a seminary intern serving at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC, gave birth to an idea. Why not use Super Bowl weekend, a time when people come together for football and fun, to also unify the nation for a higher good: collecting dollars and canned food for the needy?

That first year, twenty-two Columbia churches participated reporting their results so a total could be determined, and then sent all \$5,700 they had raised to area non-profits. That was 1990. Since then, ordinary young people have generated an extraordinary amount of more than \$100 million for soup kitchens, food banks and other charities in communities across the country. [taken from souperbowl.org]



Westminster youth have participated in Souper Bowl of Caring for six years. Last year, we raised \$1500, but we know Westminster can help us raise even more this year!

We invite you to join us on February 4 after the 11am worship service for a soup lunch in the Friendly Avenue Fellowship Hall. A \$5 offering per person is suggested. We will serve beef vegetable soup, bread and baked potatoes and enjoy a presentation, "The Spirit Moves in Asia," from missionary and pastor John McCall. All proceeds will go towards Out of the Garden, a local non-profit organization that provides bags of food each weekend to students and families in the Piedmont Triad.

Not able to stay for lunch? You can still help! Swing by the Fellowship Hall between worship services or just before the lunch and grab a 16oz to-go container of soup for \$5. Or, you can simply write a check earmarked "Souper Bowl!" and drop it in the offering plate. Every penny helps fight hunger right here in Greensboro.

FEBRUARY 2018

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The pastor's column

As we shared worship together on Sunday mornings in January, we focused on the theme of "leadership." In preparing to preach, I drew heavily from a book introduced to me by Ernie, **Lessons In Leadership** by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks. I highly recommended it to you. One of the lasting lessons I will take from this past month are these words found on the back jacket cover of the book:

Don't ever think that leaders are different from the rest of us. They aren't. . . . What distinguishes a leader from a non-leader is not the position or office or role but rather, a basic attitude to life. Others wait for something to happen; leaders help make something happen. While others curse the darkness, a leader lights a light.

Interestingly, during the past month we ordained and installed ten new ruling elders to help provide leadership as Session members for the next three years. We also celebrated and bade farewell to Mark Brainerd, a pastoral leader at Westminster for the past twelve years, as he prepared to transition to a new call and ministry in Dallas, Texas. And even now we are holding our Senior Pastor and Head of Staff, (should I say our "lead leader,") Ernie, in our prayers for his recuperation and healing from double knee replacement surgery.

But, there is more! Last Sunday, **Time and Talent** forms were made available in each of the worship services. Don't worry, if you weren't present, the forms are available in the church office and on the church website! The significance of this form is that it is an invitation to you to offer your leadership. In that regard, I want to share with you an instruction that I offered on Sunday. Before you complete the form, prayerfully consider these two sentences that introduce the form:

Our church depends on the multitude of gifts of the congregation in order to witness to the love and call of Jesus Christ. We invite you to identify ministries that might match your skills and talents so that we can connect you with the living, breathing ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Whether you are continuing your leadership at Westminster, renewing your leadership, or stepping up to new leadership, thank you for being a leader who "lights a light."

Grace and peace,

Butch

Welcome New Members!



BRIAN VASSER

3407 Cotswold Terrace
Greensboro, NC 27455
Joined: December 31



BEN AND JULIE HERRICK

Maddie, Luke & Chase
5507 Blue Heron Drive
Greensboro, NC 27455
Joined: December 17

Life's Passages

Births

Eleanor Margaret Earp,
granddaughter of Steve & Julie Earp
and Donna Earp Spencer

Ansel & Walt Miller,
twin grandsons of David & Gloria Hatfield

Jack Langston Seifried,
grandson of Joe Jenkins

Deaths

Mildred Payne Reynolds on December 31
Mildred McMillan Ransom on January 20

Marriages

Altina Layman & Nial Crawford
on January 21



Claire Utley, Director of Communications, will be taking several pictures of the life of our congregation during the month of February in an effort to update our website and publicity materials. If you do not want your photo used publicly, please email her at claire.utley@westpreschurch.org.



Ash Wednesday

PANCAKE SUPPER AND CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE

FEBRUARY 14, 2018

5:30pm pancake supper* (and mardi gras celebration)

6:30pm contemplative ash wednesday service

*Kids and youth eat free. \$5 suggested offering per adult.



westminster presbyterian

Young Families ministry

Adult Dinner and Fellowship

What: An opportunity for families with at least one child third grade or younger to enjoy a meal and fellowship.

When: Saturday, February 3 • 6pm—8pm

Where: 121 Kemp Road East, Greensboro, NC 27410

Hosted by: Bev and Mark Hill & Mary Jean and Howell Nelson

Childcare: Available with RSVP at Westminster Friendly Avenue Campus beginning at 5:45pm.

To RSVP, please email Bev Hill at bevandmarkhill@gmail.com by Friday, February 2.

February Calendar and Announcements

Dinner for Pathways Family Shelter - 2018 openings

Westminster provides dinner for the families at Pathways Center, a GUM temporary family shelter, the third Thursday of each month. **We have several 2018 openings including February 15 and March 15.** If you are interested in this opportunity, please sign up via the link on the Westminster website or [write Pathways on your Worship Response Card](#) and you will be contacted.

This is a great service activity for Westminster families, small groups, Bible studies, confirmation groups, church school classes, or a group of friends. For more information contact Dottie Henderson at 336-765-4733 or Ann Comfort ann.comfort@westpreschurch.org.

Volunteers Needed for Weaver House Breakfast

Westminster serves breakfast at the Greensboro Urban Ministry Weaver House Shelter the first Sunday of each month. If this is a ministry you have been curious about and/or you would like to get involved, we can definitely plug you in. Children elementary school age and older are welcome with a parent or responsible adult. No sign up is necessary. Our next breakfast is **Sunday, February 4** at 6:45am. Please enter the GUM property by way of their loading dock entrance at 1002 South Eugene Street. Park just south of the loading dock and enter the building just north of the loading dock by way of the first covered walkway door. Please contact Ann Comfort ann.comfort@westpreschurch.org if you have further questions.

JOY (Just Older Youth)

All seniors 60+ are welcome to join us at noon on **Tuesday, February 27** for our monthly JOY luncheon and program. This month, CEO of the Greensboro Children's Museum, Marian D. King, will join us to share the mission, history and what's new at this unique hands-on, educational museum. We ask that you call the office at 336-299-3785 to make a reservation by noon on Monday if you are not currently on the reservation call list but would like to attend.

Circle Meetings

Tuesday Evening Circle will meet **February 13** at 7pm in Room 100 at the Friendly Avenue Campus.

Wednesday Morning Circle will meet on **February 14** at 10am in the Fellowship Hall at the Friendly Avenue Campus.

Men's Getaway Weekend

Sign-ups are underway for the Men's Weekend **April 20-22** at Mt. Mitchell Golf Club in Burnsville, NC. Tucked in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains, Mt. Mitchell Golf Club boasts one of the top ten public golf courses in North Carolina, trout fishing in the South Toe River, as well as beautiful hiking trails. Golfers will play 18 holes Saturday and Sunday. All abilities are welcome! Enjoy two nights lodging in condos and meals in a casual atmosphere with wonderful views of Mt. Mitchell. Brochures with details are now available at the Connecting Point at both campuses. A \$100 deposit is requested by **February 19** to reserve your spot. Questions? Contact Suzanne Andia at suzanne.andia@westpreschurch.org.

Westminster Travel Program

Join us **March 12-15** as we travel to Lexington, Kentucky to see The Ark Encounter, the Thoroughbred Horse Trail Tour, the oldest bourbon distillery in Kentucky, "Woodford Reserve," and a live taping of the Woodsongs Old Time Radio Hour. A \$100 deposit is requested per person to reserve your spot. Deadline to register is **February 1**. Contact Suzanne Andia at suzanne.andia@westpreschurch.org for more information.

Men's Softball Sign-ups

Sign-ups are underway for the Westminster Men's Softball Team. Men ages 16 and older are eligible to play. The season runs from mid-March through June. Contact Phil Sinopoli at Sinopolip@aol.com.

Camps for Children

Mark your calendar for these Westminster Camps for children.

- Montreat Passport Camp: July 2-5 for current 3rd to 5th graders
- Outdoor Challenge (ODC): July 6-13 for current 4th-5th graders
- Registration will open January 31, 2018 for these camps. They will fill. \$100 holds your child's spot to either camp.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will begin **Sunday, July 22**, and will be in the evening. We are making this four nights of intergenerational evenings. If you are curious or would like to help, please contact Lynn Turnage at church or Adrienne Gramberg.



While Ernie Recovers...Sanctuary Preaching Schedule

February 4

9:30am and 11am in the Sanctuary: John McCall John served as the senior pastor at Westminster from 2009—2011 at which time he returned to a position in Taiwan as a Mission co-worker with Presbyterian Church (USA). He mentors pastors and seminary students through small groups while preaching and teaching in churches throughout the country.

9:30am at Lake Brandt & 11am in the Chapel: Rev. Butch Sherrill

February 11

9:30am and 11am in the Sanctuary: Katie Todd Reverend Katie Barrett Todd is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and Union Theological Seminary at Charlotte. She has served as a campus minister at both Murray State in Kentucky and Nebraska Wesleyan, in addition to stated supply at a number of congregations in the Lincoln, Nebraska area. Katie is a very well regarded writer and speaker, and is a dynamite mom to Luke and Lilly above all else. She and her husband Mason (also a pastor) have been in Greensboro since August, when the Presbyterian Campus Ministry at UNC-G was fortunate enough to welcome her on board as its new Campus Minister.

9:30am at Lake Brandt & 11am in the Chapel: Rev. Butch Sherrill

February 18

9:30am and 11am in the Sanctuary: Charlie Zimmerman Charlie Zimmerman was head pastor at First Lutheran Church in Greensboro. He and his wife, Kay have worshiped at Westminster since his retirement in 2013. Charlie remains active in the community serving on the board of Greensboro Urban Ministry, Family Life Council, and the Twin Lakes Retirement Community board.

9:30am at Lake Brandt & 11am in the Chapel: Lynn Turnage, Director of Adult, Children, and Family Ministries As many of you know, Lynn has an undergraduate degree from UNC-Chapel Hill in Recreation Administration, an M.A. in Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education, and her Doctorate of Educational Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary in children, families, and worship. Many of you may not know that Lynn is currently a candidate for ordination and under the care of our session and Salem presbytery. We are thrilled to welcome her to the pulpit as part of her requirements for candidacy.

February 25 - Confirmation Sunday

Sam Perkins In support and celebration of our Confirmands, we will join together at the Friendly Avenue Campus for worship at 9:30am and 11am. (There will not be a service at Lake Brandt.)

Thank you!

Thank you, Westminster, for helping construct a Building on Faith Habitat home for Shishay Weldesamial and Mebrehit Gebrekidan and their three children. Westminster and other participating faith communities celebrated with the family at their home dedication on Saturday, January 13.



From Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday we observe the season of Lent—a time of self-examination, reflection and preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Each Monday during Lent (**February 19 – March 26**) you are invited to share in the fellowship of a contemplative gathering as we seek the light of God’s word for us through Scripture reading, reflection and prayer in the Chapel from 12:00—12:30pm. Plan to bring a bag lunch and continue the fellowship as we share a meal together in room 200. Beverages will be provided. Contact Butch Sherrill (butch.sherrill@westpreschurch.org) for more information.

Mindful Living: Spiritual practices for journeying with God

April 20-22, 2018
St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, Stoneville, NC

As events in the world pull us in many directions, it often feels difficult to be in touch with our deep yearnings, our desire to remain connected to God and others. The intent of this retreat is to help us awaken our innermost self so that we might engage more fully in healing our world.

Sponsored by Westminster Presbyterian Church’s Contemplative Ministry, participants will be invited to explore practices that enable deep listening, acting in the world, developing mindful relationships, engaging with the natural world, grounding oneself in the ordinary, and finding your path to the spiritual heart.

Through these practices—extended periods of silence and reflection, small group listening circles, trail and labyrinth walks, music and worship—we will seek together to deepen our spiritual journey with God.

For more information, or to indicate interest in the retreat, contact Jane Sharp at janegsharp@gmail.com, Butch Sherrill at butch.sherrill@westpreschurch.org. Registration begins **February 19.**

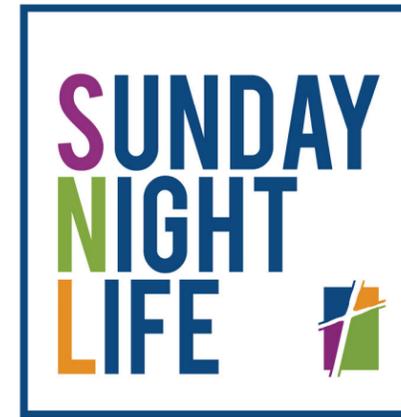
Recruiting for Community Housing Solutions Home Repair Project

On **Saturday, March 24** Westminster volunteers will build a ramp or provide home repairs for a low-income Guilford County homeowner through Community Housing Solutions. We are recruiting a team of 10-15 people ages 14 and up. The workday is from 8am—3:30pm. No experience is necessary, but is welcomed. To sign up or for more information, please contact Bert Andia at theandias@triad.rr.com or 336-286-0919. You may also contact Ann Comfort in the church office.



Community Housing Solutions (CHS) provides home repairs to qualifying families who are owner-occupants of Guilford County homes and are below specific income levels. CHS focuses on repair issues which make a home warmer, dryer, and safer, and has served over 650 homes since inception.

To learn more about Community Housing Solutions, visit their website at www.chshousing.org.



FEBRUARY

Classes, unless otherwise noted, begin at 5pm followed by a home-cooked meal. We feel there is no better way to connect than sharing a meal, and we encourage you to join us no matter what time your class ends. Children and youth eat free of charge. A \$5 love offering is suggested for adults.

Reservations can be made online at westpreschurch.org/SNL or by filling out a Worship Response Card on Sunday mornings. Please RSVP by the Thursday before each meal. *Professional childcare will be provided for all events for babies—four years.*

ADULTS

The Imagination and Christian Witness of C.S. Lewis

Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Don W. King, professor at Montreat College and renowned scholar on C.S. Lewis
February 11, 18, 24

On February 11, Dr. King will give us an overview of Lewis' life, focusing on his conversation and resulting Christian witness. Then, February 18, the class will focus on Lewis' writings, particularly "Mere Christianity." Finally, on February 25, we will explore the writer's imagination and the resulting *Chronicals of Narnia* series.

Put a Little Love in Your life

Facilitated by: Lucy Wellmaker
February 11, 18, 24

Join professional Life Coach Lucy Wellmaker, for this interactive session and discover ways to enhance your relationships. Together, we can make world a better place by remembering to "love one another." (John 13:34)

Express Yourself More

Facilitated by: Kate Hudson
February 11, 18, 24

Winter is a good time to express yourself in different and creative ways. Join Kate Hudson for hands-on crafts for everyone, beginners included! Cost is \$5 per class.

Dads & Sons

Facilitated by: Neil Shoffner & Neal Dorman
February 11, 18, 24

Together, Dads and sons will explore Bible stories of boys who grew to be men that God used to share the faith.

WYFi (Westminster Youth Fellowship incorporated)

WYFi is a place where youth can ask questions, make friends, walk together, and experience the presence of the Spirit. Oh, and we play some great games, too. New youth are always welcome.

Middle School **High School**
5pm—7pm **6:30pm—8:30pm**

K-5THGRADERS

Holy Moly
Facilitated by: Leslie Hennigan
Ongoing

Kindergarteners through fifth graders will enjoy animated videos, creative activities, and age-appropriate Bible explorations.