



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## **Service of Worship** **17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** **September 16, 2018** **9:00 a.m.**

PASTORAL STAFF:

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff  
Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor  
Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

MUSIC STAFF

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music  
Merideth Hite Estevez, Director of Faith Formation through Music  
and Arts, Teaching Artist in Residence  
Allison Martin, Assistant Director of Children's Music  
Soloist/Section Leaders: Hye Eun Choi, Sharon Babcock,  
Jason Berger, Brenton Mattox

YOUTH LEADERS

Merideth Hite Estevez  
Josh Cox, Chris Hickey, Emily Knepper, Molly McPheeters,  
Tommy Neilson

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Colleen Falasco

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY

Paul Crothamel

**Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome**, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.

## **This Morning at Westminster**

8:30 – 11:15 a.m. The Holy Toast Café, in Classroom 6, offers free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar per item.

### **Deacon Team of the Month**

Amy Bickhart, Nicole Fox, Louis Horton, Kris Marvel, Dan McAllister, Mary Lou McDowell, Josh Thomas

**8:00 – 8:50 a.m. Deacon Meeting** in Classroom 5

**8:45 - 11:15 a.m. Nursery Care**

**9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship**

Children are always welcome in worship. We also provide additional opportunities for children to grow in faith.

❖ **Godly Care** – Children ages 2 – 4 begin in worship with their families. Following the Time with Children, they walk with a teacher to the **Preschool Suite** where they are greeted by the morning coordinator and escorted into **Classroom C**. The preschool curriculum is Cokesbury’s Deep Blue and includes animated video family-themed Bible stories, active games, art, crafts, and music. Children discover how the stories can relate to our lives today.

❖ **Godly Play 1** – Children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Children, they walk with their teachers to the Ruth Christie Room. The children learn the language of God’s people through sacred space, stories, parables and liturgical actions. You may pick up your children in the **Preschool Suite Classroom C**.

❖ **Sing-to-Praise Choir Program** – Children in grades 3 through 6 go to the Youth Music Room. Parents, please escort your child for sign-in, just prior to the start of worship, and pick up your child immediately following worship. Children will only be released to a parent or an adult pre-approved by the parent.

**10:10 a.m.**

### **Education for All Ages**

➤ Sunday School for Preschoolers	Preschool Suite C
➤ Joyful Noise Choir Program for K – 2	Youth Music Room
➤ Godly Play 2 for Grades 3 – 5	Classroom 2
➤ Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 8	Classroom 4
➤ High School/Confirmation Class for Grades 9 - 12	Classroom 7
➤ Sunday Seminar: Sarah McBride	Community Hall

**11:15 a.m.**

**Living Mosaics worship in Rodney Chapel. Children are always welcome.**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Fellowship Time after Living Mosaics** Meeting Room

### **Later Today**

11:15 a.m.

Flying Solo Brunch at Catherine Rooney’s

1616 Delaware Avenue

5:00 p.m.

180° Dinner and Fellowship Kick Off

Classroom 6/Community Hall

6:00 p.m.

Clean But Not Straight – NA

Club Room

Westminster is certified as an “Earth Care Congregation” by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This honor means that we have exhibited exceptional leadership in protecting God’s creation and being good stewards of earth’s resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian congregations in this country have earned this honored distinction.



## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my husband, Art Connolly, Jr. from Joan Connolly.

Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event, while expressing praise and thanksgiving to God. Please contact Linda Watson during business hours at 302-571-6719 or [lwatson@ycst.com](mailto:lwatson@ycst.com) for available dates. The next available dates are September 30; October 21, 28; November 25; December 30.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** Margaret Hodges, Janet Rucker, Leucia Venable, Mary Young.
- ❖ **Those unable to attend worship on a regular basis** by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Betty Kelley with her daughter in Connecticut, Jim Coker and Laura Stevens at Cokesbury.
- ❖ **Westminster's Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by leaving a confidential message on 302-654-5848, ext. 335; or filling out a prayer request card (in the pew pocket) and placing it in the offering plate; or sending an email to [wpcprayerlist@gmail.com](mailto:wpcprayerlist@gmail.com).

**Afghanistan and Iraq often seems far away**, and we may neglect to realize that Americans, as well as Afghans, Iraqis and members of coalition forces continue to die. As Christians, we are called to pray for the spreading of peace and justice and an end to violence. If someone in your family is serving in the military, please let us know, so that we may include that person on our prayer list. Contact Cathy Lang: 302-654-5214 ext. 129, or [cathylang@wpc.org](mailto:cathylang@wpc.org).

**This week we pray for:**

- The families of those from the U.S. who have died recently:
  - Staff Sergeant Diobanjo Sanagustin, age 32, from National City, California.
  - Command Sergeant Timothy Bolyard, age 42, from Thornton, West Virginia.
- Those suffering from Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

## WORSHIP NOTES

**All children who leave the sanctuary** after Time with Our Children must have a completed yellow security label on their backs. If you do not find a security label in the pew pocket, you can obtain one in the Preschool Suite. This policy is for your child's protection. Children will only be released to a parent or an adult pre-approved by the parent. Thank you for your help.

**Worship Resources** – You can obtain large print hymnals and hearing devices from any usher. Worship bags for children ages 3-6 include a children's bulletin designed for them. Children's bulletins for ages 7-12 are also available from the ushers.

**Are you wearing a nametag?** Whether you are a long-time member or new to our church family, wearing a nametag provides others the opportunity to meet you, greet you by name, and for you to become more familiar with others at church. You will find nametags and markers in baskets at all major entrances.

**You can make a contribution** to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org) and click the "Donate Now" button or scan the QR code on your smart phone



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

TOWER CHIME

Sue Spilecki

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Living Christ, your earthly ministry was full of struggle, as well as joy; yet you were faithful in following God's will. Breathe your Spirit into our lives, that we may never fall back from the way of justice or the effort of loving. Grant that we may find true joy and peace as we accept the cost of faithful discipleship. Amen.*

Ruth C. Duck, *Bread for the Journey*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign and pass the friendship folder, located at the end of the pew, to the person next to you.*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Sonata on the 5<sup>th</sup> Tone

Ignatius de Echeverria

CALL TO WORSHIP

We follow Christ, who says, "Take up your cross."

**We follow Christ, who calls us to commit to his way.**

We follow Christ, who summons us to new life.

**Let us worship God with gladness.**

\*HYMN NO. 4

"Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

*GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, we confess that we stray from your path  
when we live only for ourselves,  
when we turn from our neighbors and refuse to share their burdens,  
and when we ignore the pain of the world  
by neglecting people who are poor or ill.  
Free us from our self-centered ways  
and inspire us to follow your way of compassion-fueled justice  
so that we may experience the abundant lives you want us to live. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM

"God Has Called Us"  
*Westminster Choir*

Robert Hobby

God has called us: and how can we but raise our voices, echoing God's praise?  
God has called us: and let us answer with our lives.  
God has changed us: and how can we but live as servants of the Spirit's gift?  
God has changed us: and let us worship with our lives.  
God has charged us: and how can we but ask for wisdom for the Christly task?  
God has charged us: and let us labor with our lives.

*Passages in **bold** print may be said by all. At the asterisk (\*), please stand as you are able.*

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

*Children age 2 through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade may leave for Sunday School in the Preschool Suite, or they may remain in worship.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 8:27-38

New Testament, page 38  
Lisa Stoddard, Lay Reader

SERMON

Greg Jones

\*HYMN NO. 718

“Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

*BOURBON*

OFFERING

*“You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”*  
~ John Bunyan

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated”  
(Text: Hymn #697)  
*Westminster Choir*  
*Merideth Hite Estevez, oboe*

Nicholas White

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD’S PRAYER (page 35 in our *Glory to God* hymnal, using “debts” and “debtors”)

\*HYMN NO. 741

“Guide My Feet”

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

GOING FORTH

*If you are visiting with us and wish to learn more about our church family, we invite you to meet today’s ambassador, Marlys Kerr, at the back of the center aisle following the service. She is happy to share information about our many programs for children, youth and adults.*

# THE FIGHT FOR TRANS EQUALITY: SARAH MCBRIDE SPEAKS IN OUR AREA

**TODAY**

**10:10 – 11:00 a.m.**

Westminster Presbyterian Church

[www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)

**Monday, September 17, 2018**

**6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

First Unitarian Church of Wilmington

*as part of Peace Week Delaware*

[www.firstuuwilm.org](http://www.firstuuwilm.org)



“My name is Sarah McBride and I am a proud transgender American,” said the first openly transgender woman to address a national political convention. McBride’s new book, *Tomorrow Will Be Different*, tells of growing up questioning her gender identity and coming out as trans during her senior year in college. As a political activist, McBride is largely credited with the passage of Delaware legislation banning discrimination on the basis of gender identity in employment, housing, insurance, and public accommodations. She currently serves as national press secretary of the Human Rights Campaign, where she continues to advocate for LGBTQ rights.

## IT'S TIME FOR A NEW PICTORIAL MEMBER DIRECTORY!

**Photography Sessions Have Started**

**Please Don't Delay – Schedule Your Appointment Now**

(Tuesdays to Saturdays Through October 6)



Our new pictorial directory of Westminster members will not be complete without you! For participating, you will receive a complimentary portrait and a complimentary directory with the opportunity to purchase additional portraits without any obligation. Photography sessions have begun in a studio on Westminster’s lower level (enter through the 1502 door with the blue awning). To schedule your portrait appointment, visit [www.Church-Directories.com](http://www.Church-Directories.com) (don't forget the dash in the web address!) and select Westminster Presbyterian Church. If you are unable to sign up online, please contact one of us listed below. Thank you for your participation. See you on picture day!

*Photographer's tip: The background color is gray.*

For questions, contact Barbara Jobe ([bjobe@comcast.net](mailto:bjobe@comcast.net), 302-478-0054), Nicole Hughes ([nhughes@wpc.org](mailto:nhughes@wpc.org), 302-654-5214 x130), or Sudie Niesen Thompson ([sniesenthompson@wpc.org](mailto:sniesenthompson@wpc.org), 302-654-5214 x103).

# *180° Youth Ministry Kick-Off for Grades 6 – 12*

**TODAY**

**5:00 p.m. in Community Hall**

**We'll have pizza, games, and lots of information!**

## *New to Westminster?*

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**Welcome! We are so glad you are here.**

Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Hymnals are located on a shelf under the pew in front of you, or at the ends of the pew. Please join us in singing!
- A red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew will be passed during the service. We hope you will sign it and let us know how we can welcome you with a follow-up contact.
- There will be an Ambassador at the back of the church at the end of worship, who would love to answer any questions you might have or give you more information about Westminster.
- For more information about our community of faith, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter from the home page of our website ([www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)) or contact the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at [sniesenthompson@wpc.org](mailto:sniesenthompson@wpc.org) or (302) 654-5214 ext. 103.



**Please join us for coffee or tea in Classroom 6 after the service.**

**Ask someone to show you the way!**

# THOUGHT PROVOKING AND CHALLENGING EVENTS



## **Why Should Peacemakers be Concerned about Palestine/Israel?**

Tuesday, September 18

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Rodney Chapel

This is a presentation/discussion, led by **Dr. Rob Abel** and **Ms. Mike Abel**, on how the 70-year occupation of Palestine not only tramples human rights but denies the essence of Judaism, and why we as Americans – Jews, Muslims, Christians – should be concerned. Dr. Rob Abel is a Jewish-American ophthalmologist who has worked in Israel and the Arab world. Mike Abel is a Palestinian-American who has traveled extensively to the Middle East, West Bank and Gaza on peace and medical missions.



## **Adult Ed: Dead Sea Scrolls with Dr. Alan Fox**

Thursday, September 20

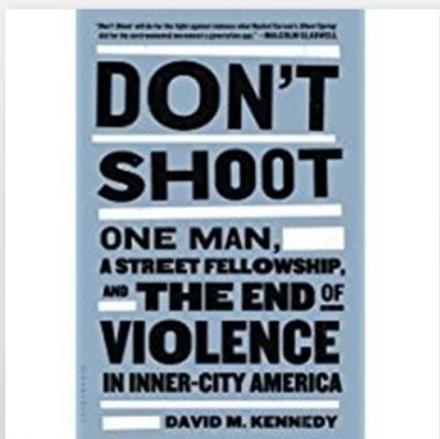
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in Rodney Chapel

Dead Sea Scrolls (also Qumran Caves Scrolls) are ancient Jewish religious, mostly Hebrew, manuscripts found in the Qumran Caves near the Dead Sea. The texts have great historical, religious, and linguistic significance because they include the second-oldest known surviving manuscripts of works later included in the Hebrew Bible canon, along with deuterocanonical and extra-biblical manuscripts which preserve evidence of the diversity of religious thought in late Second Temple Judaism. Presented by **Alan Fox, Ph.D.**, Professor of Asian and Comparative Philosophy and Religion at the University of Delaware.

## **Strategies for Reducing Violence: Community and Law Enforcement Engagement**

Saturday, September 29

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary



**David Kennedy**, author of *DON'T SHOOT: One Man, a Street Fellowship and the End of Violence in Inner-City America* and co-founder of the National Network for Safe Communities, will discuss proven strategic interventions to reduce violence and improve public safety, minimize arrest and incarceration, strengthen communities, and improve relationships between law enforcement and the communities it serves. **Wilmington Police Chief Robert Tracy** will also speak on emerging plans to implement elements of these strategies in Wilmington. *This is the second in a community-wide speaker series that began in September 2017 with Father Gregory Boyle of Homeboy Industries.*