

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2155 University Ave, Dubuque, IA 52001 | (563) 583-1729 | <http://wpcdbq.org>

Inviting All. Exploring Faith. Experiencing God.

MORNING WORSHIP, 9:30AM

JANUARY 8, 2023

*In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,
magi from the east came to Jerusalem. Matthew 2:1 (NRSVUE)*



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER!

We're delighted to worship with you today and hope your experience of worship is meaningful and uplifting. Please note that assisted listening devices are available at the back of the sanctuary. Any of our greeters will be happy to offer you assistance.

Parents: We provide nursery care for children 5 years of age and under. All children are welcome to use any of the resources in our Pray Ground (located behind the pews).

Our worship service is always livestreamed and there are multiple cameras in the sanctuary. You may be on camera during your worship experience with Westminster.

** Everyone who is comfortably able to stand is welcome to do so during the portions of worship marked with an asterisk.*

PRELUDE

WPC Band

The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

TIME OF WELCOME

Leader: God be with you!

People: And also with you!

*GATHERING SONG GTG #749: *Come! Live in the Light!* (vs. 1)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come. The glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

People: The glory of God shines in the darkness.

Leader: Lift up your eyes and look around. Follow the star, wherever it leads!

People: Take the journey that leads to the child.

Leader: Let your hearts rejoice. Be overwhelmed with joy!

People: We worship the Christ child, the hope of the world.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN GTG #151: *We Three Kings*

*TIME OF CONFESSION

Invitation to Confession

Silent Prayer

Unison Prayer of Confession

Preoccupied with ourselves, we forget the needs of others; we participate in systems that oppress; we accept violence as a way of life; we fail to respond to the cry of others.

God of starlight, shine your love into the darkness of our lives. Nourished in the light of your love, may we grow into people who live in righteousness and who work for justice for all your children. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of Jesus Christ: God loves you, God forgives you. God gives you new life.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sung Response GTG #582: *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

ANTHEM: "I Come with Joy," "We Three Kings" arr. Jason Krug

Handbells

TIME WITH YOUNGER DISCIPLES: *A Story of A Piffany*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12 (NRSVUE)

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

*HYMN GTG #744: *Arise, Your Light Is Come*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *(Apostles Creed)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Offertory

*Sung Response GTG #749: *Come! Live in the Light!* (vs. 2)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*HYMN GTG #159: *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Leader: And all God's people said:

People: Alleluia! Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE GTG #749: *Come! Live in the Light!* (vs. 3)

POSTLUDE



WESTMINSTER CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM — Join us for **TODAY'S** Congregational Forum, where the church leadership will share information about what is happening at Westminster! The January Forum will be on the topic of Congregational Care, and we'll be discussing the ministries of the Deacons, the Care and Connections Team, as well as the Care Coordinator position. Come and learn more about how we care for one another — TODAY, in the sanctuary, immediately after worship.

JOIN US AFTER THE FORUM TO TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

We will start immediately after the forum. Please help if you can. Many hands make light work. A couple of strong men would be greatly appreciated! Thank you!

POINSETTIAS NEED TO GO: Please take any poinsettia up on the altar by the Christmas trees for yourself or if you visit some of our shut-ins or are going to see someone who is ill, please take a poinsettia along with you for them to enjoy. We want you or someone to enjoy them. They are going after today. (DO NOT TAKE THE 2 BY THE ALTAR TABLE).

THESE DAYS, Daily Devotions for Living by Faith – The *These Days* devotional magazine for the months of January, February & March are here. Pick up a copy in the Narthex.

YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION: Sunday School and Youth Group resume today.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES:

Book Study: *The Gifts of Imperfection* by Brene Brown

A book study led by Ann Lorenz on letting go of who we think we are supposed to be in order to become the authentic self that God created us to be. It will meet Thursdays at 6:30 in the Board Room from **January 12 through February 9**. Books available for purchase through River Lights Bookstore by mid-January or through Amazon.

Women's Bible Study: *Twelve Women of the Bible*, Bible Study Guide by Sherry Harney
This ongoing study of the sisters, mothers, grandmothers in the Bible, led by Shirley Meriwether and Bonnie Sue Lewis, will continue to meet every other Thursday from 11:00-12:30 in the Board Room **beginning January 12**. Books available for purchase through the church.

Re-Membering III: Loving the Self God Created You to Be

This is part 3 of a 4-part series of courses on Christian discipleship taught by Pastor MargaretAnne. The class will meet Sundays from 10:45-Noon in the Board Room from **January 22 through February 12**. No preparation necessary and all are welcome!

PLEASE START SAVING YOUR T/P TUBES AGAIN AS WE HAVE USE FOR THEM IN THE GARDEN.

WPC IS HOSTING 2 EVENTS IN JANUARY THAT WE NEED COOKIES OR BROWNIES FOR:

- January 19th for the Children of Abraham gathering
- January 24 for the DACU annual meal

So, we will need lots of cookies & brownies -- please let Rich Henderson know if you can do 2 dozen of what you enjoy baking. Thanks!

LOST AND FOUND: 2 jackets were left on Sun., Dec. 11th and a dark green "Old Forge Hardware" bag. Also, a fleece jacket and a pair of black gloves we have had for quite a while. The tub with the Lost & Found can be found by the office.

HELP GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT WESTMINSTER! - Now's your chance to share your love for Westminster by leaving a Google review that will show up to "church

shoppers" using that search engine. It's really simple (and quick) ... and it is one small thing you can do that is a BIG BENEFIT to Westminster! Use this link to go directly to WPC-Dubuque's review page: <https://bit.ly/3z5y6Kr>

JOIN WESTMINSTER'S BOOK GROUP in the church Narthex at 3:30 pm on Wed., Jan. 18th to discuss *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. *Alaska, 1974. Unpredictable. Unforgiving. Untamed. For a family in crisis, the ultimate test of survival.*

ALL YEAR LONG! Purchase **Fair Trade: Help people live better lives by purchasing from SERRV.** 20% of our sales will go to the Lantern Center. You must use our web address for us to receive the 20%! Go to Westminster's Website: serrv.org?a=WPC1



Help Support the Youth Program!

**Buy Scrip in the WPC office
Mon. – Thurs. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hospice of Dubuque to sponsor bereavement support group

Hospice of Dubuque will be sponsoring two six-week bereavement support groups. Sessions are open to anyone in the tri-state area who has experienced the loss of a loved one through death within the past twelve months. It is suggested that participants wait at least three months after a loss before attending.

The groups will meet on Tuesdays, beginning January 24 through February 28. One group will meet from 10 – Noon, the other will meet from 5:30 – 7:30pm. Meetings will be held at the Hospice of Dubuque office in the Theisen Education Center, 1670 JFK Road. The sessions are meant to be both educational and emotionally supportive. There is no requirement to have had a previous connection with Hospice of Dubuque. Group size is limited, therefore, pre-registration is required by January 17. Please contact the hospice office at (563) 582-1220 for a registration form.



*Westminster Presbyterian Church is a Certified Hunger
Action Congregation and
Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA).*



WESTMINSTER LIFE AND MINISTRY

Church Office Number: 563-583-1729 | For **Pastoral Care** emergencies: **563-279-4545**

Pastor: Rev. MargaretAnne Overstreet
 Director Christian Formation: Bonnie Sue Lewis
 Care Ministry Coordinator: Lisa MacNaughton
 Director of Music: Dr. Luke Tyler
 Adult Choir: Steve Peake
 Timbrel & Lyre Director: Dr. Luke Tyler
 Adult Handbells Director: DeLano Cain-Watson
 WPC Band: Sally Stulken
 Organist/Pianist: Dr. Luke Tyler

Church Administrator: Mary Kay Pancratz
 Financial Secretary: Becky Jenkins
 Custodian: Tim Till
 Digital Storytelling Director: Clare Kysely
 Worship Technology: Monson Nguyen
 Greeters: Dan & Marilyn Emmert
 Ushers: Julie Woodyard/Merrill Crawford
 Hospitality Set Up: Carolyn Dausener
 Clean Up: Lizz Tyler

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Prayers for Russ Hibben who has severe diverticulitis and will be needing further medical care in the future. His address is: 575 Kaufmann Ave. Dubuque 52001
- Prayers for Jon Davison who suffered a mini stroke and is recovering. His address is: 580 Fremont, Dubuque 52003
- Prayers for Craig Jones who is dealing with cardiovascular issues. His address is: 10830 Cascade Dr. Dubuque 52003
- Prayers for Nancy, Matt & Andy Wallace and families during this difficult time of grieving the death of their husband and father, Howard Wallace, on December 21st. A Celebration of Life is being planned for some time *this Spring* at the University of Dubuque. Details to be announced once confirmed. Nancy's address is 2375 Knob Hill Dr., Dubuque 52003.
- Prayers for Julie Woodyard who is dealing with some health issues.
- Prayers for Wally Brown who is at home now and for his ongoing health struggles.
- Prayers for Hanna Rose, daughter of Adam and Tarra Etheredge, undergoing treatment for brain health.
- Prayers for Nancy Wallace as she deals with her own health issues.
- Prayers for a friend of Shelley Malone's, Mark, who has Multiple Myeloma.
- Prayers for Mary Kay's friend, Mary Schroeder, who is having a stem cell transplant tomorrow and will be in insolation for 3 months.

If you would like to have your name on our Bulletin Prayer Request list or want to be added to the Prayer Chain for prayers, please advise the church office (583-1729).

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

JANUARY 8 – JANUARY 15

MARY KAY OUT OF OFFICE TO 10TH

BECKY'S NEW SCHEDULE: WORKS TUES., WED. & THURS.

Sunday, January 8

8:40 a.m. WPC Band Rehearsal, SA

9:00 a.m. Coffee & Donuts

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Congregational Forum

5:00 p.m. Joint Youth Group, WPC

Monday, January 9

9:00 a.m. PEO, J. Cheever, BR

4:30 p.m. Adult Handbells Rehrsl., SA

5:30 p.m. Mission Meeting, BR

6:00 p.m. Pack 20 Meeting, FH

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi, FH

1:00 p.m. Property Mtg., BR

4:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg., BR

7:00 p.m. Grief Support Grp, Library

Wednesday, January 11

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, LOFT

Thursday, January 12

11:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, BR

5:15 p.m. PIN, BR/Zoom

6:30 p.m. The Gifts Book Club, BR

Sunday, January 15

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

9:00 a.m. Coffee & Donuts

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School

10:45 A.M. Care Connect Team, BR

1:30 p.m. Worship at Bethany Home



GREEN TEAM TIP Go Green in 2023!

Among your New Year's resolutions please consider doing more to care for God's creation by going green this year. You can probably do much more than you think you can. There are many simple and easy things we all can do for our planet. Watch for our tips each week in the bulletin.



FROM YOUR WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION:

Planning ahead is part of effective stewardship. Plan your will now – and include a bequest to WPC.

Snowbirds...

Help us to save on postage!

Please notify the office when you leave for a period of time, so we can send important mail to your temporary address. Bulk mail does not forward. Thank you!