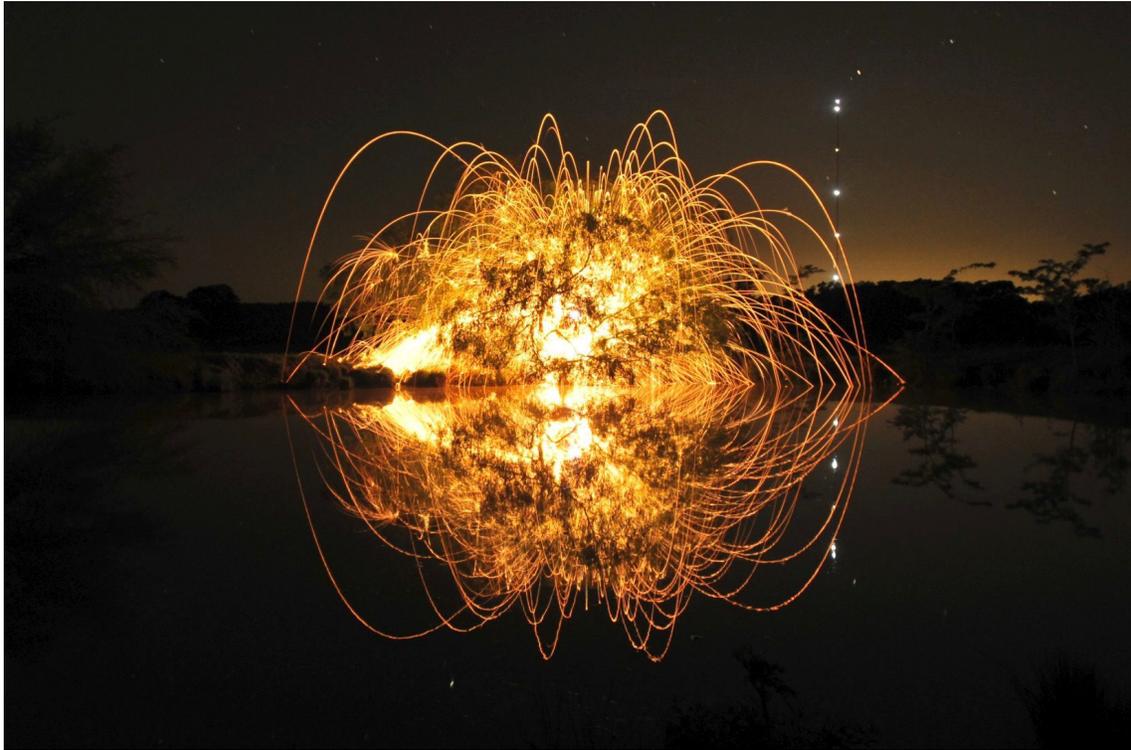




# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Attribution: Burning Bush, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

*Who Am I that I Should Go?*

THE THIRTEENTH  
SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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AUGUST 30, 2020

## MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

### Who Am I that I Should Go?

#### GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

##### In Preparation for Worship

*"For the Christian tradition, the heart's true home is a life rooted in the love of God. Like Lao-tzu and Dorothy both, Christian wisdom about stability points us toward the true peace that is possible when our spirits are stilled and our feet are planted in a place we know to be holy ground."*

—Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove

Opening Voluntary (A musical prayer offered on behalf of the people of God.)

"Allemande"

Ph. E. Bach (son of J. S. Bach)

Helen Hofmeister, Harpsichord

Welcome and Sharing the Life of Westminster

Susan Jennings and Rev. Jeremy Bork

##### ++Call to Worship

One: Come and worship, for God stands before us!

**All: The place where we stand is holy ground—**

One: Not the place we wish to be, but the place where we stand right now.

**All: This is indeed holy ground!**

One: The God of our mothers and fathers calls us each by name  
and sees our every need.

**All: Sing praise to the One who frees us for abundant life!**

##### ++Opening Hymn 49

"The God of Abraham Praise"

Leoni

**The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above,  
the Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love!  
The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed,  
we bow before your holy name, forever blest.**

**Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will.  
In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still.  
Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand,  
deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.**

**Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blest,  
a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest.  
There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,  
and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.**

**You have eternal life implanted in the soul;  
your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.  
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name:  
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!**

##### Prayer of Confession

*(Trusting that God is love, we express our lament, our brokenness, and our failings to God.)*

**Lord of mercy, we say we trust you; yet when you set your way before us, we tremble.**

**We are afraid to bear the weight of your call: to excel in love, rejoice in hope, and overcome evil with good. How can we ever be good enough? We don't deserve your faith in us. Even still, you call us. Forgive our fear and skepticism. Help us to remember that you lead us every step of the way, and our strength comes from you. Compassionate God, we pray to you in hope...**

*Silent Confession*

++Stand as you are able

## The Assurance of God's Grace

### ++Response Hymn 63

"The Lord Is God"

Azmon

**The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.**

### ++Passing the Peace of Christ

*(A sign of forgiveness and reconciliation.)*

One: Jesus embodied God's message of peace on earth, blessing all creation.

**All: To live in such a way takes practice.**

One: So we practice now.

May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### Ministry of Music

"Menuet"

J. S. Bach

Helen Hofmeister, Harpsichord

## THE WORD

### Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Lynette Sparks

*(We pray that the words of Scripture may be encountered as God's Word.)*

### Scripture

Exodus 3:1-15

Old Testament

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*Who Am I that I Should Go?*

Rev. Lynette Sparks

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

### 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

### Offering Our Lives

#### Offertory

"Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten"

J. S. Bach

*(If thou but trust in God to guide thee)*

Helen Hofmeister, Organ

**++Doxology** (means “words of glory” —they are a traditional expression of praise to God.)  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below;**  
**Praise God above, ye heavenly host;**  
**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

## GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

### ++Prayer of Dedication

**Holy God, your presence shines all around. As we bring you these offerings of our gifts and of our lives, light our way with holy splendor, and set us on fire with love for the world, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### ++Closing Hymn 81

#### “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

*Austrian Hymn*

**Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.  
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.  
On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation’s walls surrounded, thou may’st smile at all thy foes.**

**Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.**

**See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river ever flows, their thirst to assuage?  
Grace, so like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.**

### ++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

“Toccata on ‘On Jordan’s Banks’”  
Helen Hofmeister, Organ

*arr. Marilyn Biery*

Music Note: The Opening Voluntary, Ministry of Music, and Offertory today all are pieces in the Klavierbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach (1725) or Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach. After Bach’s first wife died, he married Anna Magdalena. Bach prepared a collection of keyboard pieces for Anna and dedicated the collection to her. The pieces are originally written for harpsichord.

### **DEVOTION FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 30**

“You have made us for Yourself, O God.  
And our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Thee.” — St. Augustine

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher ..... Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff  
Liturgists ..... Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care and Membership  
..... Rev. Jeremy Bork, Minister for Youth and Their Families

Minister of Music ..... Helen Hofmeister

Worship Musicians ..... Kathy VanderVelde, Soprano, Bruce Klein-Wassink, Baritone,

Technology Team ..... Rachel Kamstra, Stella Sheckler  
Peter Larson, and Dan Cisler

### **AHEAD IN WORSHIP**

*Livestreaming from the Westminster Sanctuary*

#### **September 6 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Rev. Laurie Hartzell, preaching

***Song for Road: Joy***

Scripture: Psalm 126; Nehemiah 8:10

Music: Linda Nelson, Violin

Lambert Zuidervaart, Bass

#### **September 13 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

***Service of Installation for***

***Rev. Lynette Sparks***

Rev. Melissa DeRosia, Guest Preacher

Scripture: Exodus 14:19-31

Music: Hannah DeBoer, Soprano

We're glad you worshiped with us today! If you'd like to know about the life and ministry of Westminster, visit our website at [westminstergr.org](http://westminstergr.org), or contact Susan Jennings at [susanj@wpcgr.org](mailto:susanj@wpcgr.org).

**Join us for a Zoom After Worship Coffee Time, hosted by Susan Jennings.**

Time: August 30, 2020 11:00 AM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88349221594?pwd=RTNJZUZwekVoZW1LLosrRlE2RDdZOT09#success>

Meeting ID: 883 4922 1594

Passcode: 467759

The call-in number is (1) 929-205-6099. If people dial that on their phone as if they're calling someone, it will bring them into our Zoom meeting.

## **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION!** If you are interested in becoming a member at Westminster or would like to know more about our church, join us for New Member Orientation on **Thursday, September 10 and 24 at 7:00-8:30 p.m. via Zoom**. We will spend some time getting to know one another and learning about the various ministries at Westminster. New members will meet with session via Zoom on **Sunday, September 27** prior to the 10:00 a.m. worship service. If you'd like to attend please contact Susan Jennings at [susanj@wpcgr.org](mailto:susanj@wpcgr.org).

**ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS:** Even before the COVID-19 pandemic struck, Kathy Cisler had been working on expanding ways for people to make donations digitally. We recognize that many are facing new and unforeseen financial implications in the wake of this pandemic and this message is not meant to put any pressure on people. However, we are also aware that many are able to continue, or increase, their offerings to help us pay our bills, our staff, and continue our ministry that brings justice, peace, and hope into a world God loves. Please [click here](#) for a document that provides information on new ways you can give digitally to the church. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kathy through her phone number at the church, (616) 717-5533.



**Using Engage Giving by Scanning the QR Code:** Scan the code using a QR code reader app or the camera on your phone or mobile device. It will take you to the Engage Giving log-in window where you can follow the directions above for giving using the website.

**YOUTH GROUP UPDATE:** Calling all 6th through 12th graders! WPC Youth Ministries officially resume in just a few short weeks, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome you back! Mark your calendars for **Celebration Sunday on September 13** and a **Day Retreat at Camp Henry on September 19**, and keep an eye on your mailbox this week for details to follow. Be sure to [subscribe to our weekly emails](#) for important updates, and do not hesitate to reach out to Jeremy at [jeremyb@wpcgr.org](mailto:jeremyb@wpcgr.org) for any questions. We will surely find our way through this wilderness together.

**FOR THE PANTRY: LET'S PRODUCE PRODUCE!** Our pantry clients love fresh produce. Let's challenge ourselves for **September 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30** to donate fresh produce as a product of the week. Fruits and veggies can be dropped off on those Wednesdays between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. We will then distribute the produce on Thursdays when we are open. This is perfect for the pantry since we will not have to store the produce with a risk of spoilage, and we will be providing healthy, desirable food for our neighbors. It's harvest time! Thank you, Angie Kelley, Pantry Director.

**ZOOM COMMUNION:** On **Wednesday, September 2** we are offering a live Zoom communion service at 7:00 p.m. The one who says "I am the bread of life..." invites us to gather around his table. We gather in community among signs of promise and hope where strength and grace abound. [Click here](#) to sign up to participate. Please have bread and juice or wine ready and a candle if you have one. Sign ups will be open until Monday, August 31, at 12:00 p.m. You will receive an email with your Zoom link and instructions on Wednesday morning. All are welcome!

**T-SHIRT BAGS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY:** Save your old t-shirts to make Food Pantry bags – The Children and Families Committee is still planning an All-Church Event where we get together and have a bag-making party. Keep saving t-shirts (preferably medium to extra large adult sizes), and be on the look-out for information about how we plan to make this happen! Questions? Ask Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

**ALL CHURCH SUMMER EVENT:** Start building your bank in order to build our FOOD PANTRY bank with Fitness and Fun activities! The Children and Families Ministries Committee invites everyone to start either collecting money or pledging money for our BUILD THE BANK CAMPAIGN. At the end of the bulletin, you can find the instructional poster to help you get started today! If you have questions or would like to pledge to one of our children who is participating, contact Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

**WCDC UPDATE:** We are wrapping up summer programming. We've enjoyed popsicles on the porch, we made s'mores, and sensory painted with pudding. Our last picnic was Wednesday. Many of your kindergarteners are heading off to school next week. We wish them well.



**CHILDREN AGES 1-99** will enjoy engaging with our children's summer worship program! You can find it by going to our Westminster [YouTube channel](#) each week. We are enjoying illustrated books read by our WPC teachers and their families, books that help us think and talk about how we should treat God's creation, each other, and people who have lives that are unfamiliar to us; and what we can do to share God's love and beauty with others. Also, if you'd like to be on the list for children's special activities, songs, and lessons in addition to the YouTube channel, let Nancy Greidanus know at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SUMMER BOOK FOR THIS WEEK, AUGUST 30th is** – Elizabeth Topliffe reads *The Someone New* by Jill Twiss - A fresh and timely story about how it feels when someone new comes knocking at your door. Jitterbug the chipmunk likes it when things stay the same. So, when one day Pudding the snail comes into her woods, Jitterbug worries that everything will be different. What if Pudding spoils everything? What if there's no more room for Jitterbug? With the help of her friends, Jitterbug welcomes the newcomer and learns that kindness is stronger than fear. **Main Focus:** Kindness is stronger than fear. "Perfect love drives out fear." I John 4:18 **Activity:** Introduce yourself to someone you don't know, or make a picture, card or craft for someone you don't know very well.

### **GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FROM CAMP HENRY FOR THE FALL:**

**Camp Henry Family Camp | Sept. 4-6, 2020 | All Ages**

\$99 (4 & under free)

Summer Camp for the whole Family! You'll find the ultimate all-inclusive family vacation for all ages at Camp Henry this fall! Bring the entire family for this awesome weekend on the Shores of Old Lake Kimball!

**Mom and Me Weekend | Sept. 25-27, 2020**

All Ages | \$99 (4 & under free)

Moms, Aunts, and Grandmas! Come join us for a meaningful weekend at camp and great activities for you and your kids. Enjoy the outdoors while creating lifelong memories! Both sons and daughters are welcome.

**Fall Festival | October 17-18, 2020**

Ages 8-17 | \$125

Fall is the most beautiful time of the year at Camp Henry! Come kick off the fall season at Camp Henry with a weekend full of fun and festivities! There'll be classic camp activities along with pumpkin carving, wagon rides, and other fall favorites.

**Dad and Me Weekend | Nov 6-8, 2020 | All Ages**

\$99 (4 & under free)

Dads, Uncles, and Grandpas! Get ready for a weekend packed full of activities at camp and quality time with the kids. You can look forward to some serious outdoor fun! Both sons and daughters are welcome.

**For more information and to register** for any or all of these great opportunities go to the Camp Henry website ([camphenry.org](http://camphenry.org)) and click on events. Or call camp at 616-459-2267.

Also, Summer Camp 2021 registrations are already open. Go to the Camp Henry website to register for Summer Camp 2021 at [info@CAMPHENRY.ORG](mailto:info@CAMPHENRY.ORG) or call for more information.

**FROM THE FOOD PANTRY: A COUPLE COVID REQUESTS...** MASKS! The pantry is open on each Thursday and practices COVID masking and social distancing. There is a problem with this that you might not realize. Where do our clients get their masks? Unfortunately, many wear masks that are paper, of questionable quality, and too-often over-used. Please consider donating cloth masks to the pantry. Our clients really appreciate washable masks, and we are having a hard time keeping up. This will greatly enhance our ability to continue to serve safely. RECEIPTS: the pantry is still participating in the *SpartanNash Direct Your Dollars* program. Please remember to mail in your D & W and Family Fare receipts to the pantry. The entire receipt. For each \$150,000 in receipts the pantry receives \$ 1,000! This is a great revenue source for us. Keep praying for this ministry – It is vital to our purpose to help those in need.

# **BUILD THE BANK CAMPAIGN**

*Fitness and Fun = \$\$ for our Food Pantry*

## **MAKE YOUR OWN BANK**

Decorate or use a food box, jar, or any container to use as your bank. We hope to have a collection parade later.

**GET PLEDGES -** Tell grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, neighbors, and friends about our church Food Pantry. Maybe you have visited the Food Pantry and can describe it or tell them how the pantry helps people. Ask them to pledge a specified amount of money for you to fulfill an activity or contribute for each minute or hour that you participate in activities.

**DECIDE ON FUN ACTIVITIES -** Possible ideas: Walking, biking, rollerblading, scootering, yoga, hopscotch, jump rope, swimming, running or any sport or game that involves lots of movement or even mowing the lawn.

**Do something you love and remember to have FUN!**

**Checks can be made payable to Westminster Food Pantry**



Please take photos and post on the WPC Parents Facebook page AND send photos and notes to Nancy so they can be shared with our church family.



**ANOTHER FUN ACTIVITY to Grow your Bank:** Fill in the contribution blanks before you start counting! Items that many people don't have, that we often take for granted.

<u>Contribution Per Item</u>	<u>Number of Items counted</u>		<u>Total Collected</u>
_____	_____	For every beverage in your fridge	_____
_____	_____	For every piece of fresh fruit in the house	_____
_____	_____	For every fresh vegetable	_____
_____	_____	For every frozen food item in freezer	_____
_____	_____	For every canned food	_____
_____	_____	For every boxed food	_____
_____	_____	For every snack food	_____
_____	_____	Each time you eat take-out food	_____
_____	_____	Each time you use the dishwasher in a month	_____
_____	_____	For every mug or drinking glass you own	_____
_____	_____		_____
_____	_____		_____
_____	_____		_____

# Calendar of Events

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— WESTMINSTER'S BUILDING IS STILL CLOSED —  
ALL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE VIRTUALLY  
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOOD PANTRY

## SUN. AUG 30

10:00 am ..... Worship Online  
11:00 am ..... Zoom Coffee Hour

## Mon. Aug. 31

7:00 pm ..... Zoom Session Meeting

## TUES. SEPT 1

5:00 pm ..... Communications Committee

## WED. SEPT 2

11:45 am ..... WDCD Board Meeting  
7:00 pm ..... Zoom Communion

## SUN. SEPT 6

10:00 am ..... Worship Online  
11:00 am ..... Zoom Coffee Hour

## TUES. SEPT 8

4:30 pm ..... Way Forward Group

## THURS. SEPT 10

5:00 pm ..... Memorial Trust Committee  
7:00 pm ..... New Member Orientation

## SUN. SEPT 13

10:00 am ..... Worship Online  
11:00 am ..... Zoom Coffee Hour

**ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES:** As we seek to be active in response to the racism and struggles that continue to grip our nation and community, we must not underestimate the power of educating ourselves. We must learn to face the ways racism has been bred into us as white people and how we benefit from racist systems. This is necessary if we are going to be part of real, systemic change. Educating ourselves, facing our white privilege, and praying for healing are, in fact, meaningful actions as we learn to be allies in this anti-racism work. People from our Social Justice and Mission Partnerships committees have been gathering resources. An abbreviated list of those resources [is attached here](#). It is also important that we work in partnership in our community. We have many community partners and will continue in those relationships. If you would like more resources, please reach out to [laurieh@wpcgr.org](mailto:laurieh@wpcgr.org) or to someone from our Social Justice or Mission Partnerships committees.