

## upcoming events

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### *Sunday School Training*

**Today, 11:30 am, Room 201c**

Our Sunday School ministry thrives because of our wonderful volunteer teachers. We need more teachers to support our program. This training will give you all the tips for working with our WPC kids.

### *Bible Study – Gospel of Matthew*

**Today, 11:30 am, Library**

Join Rob and Bethany for an in-depth look at the Gospel of Matthew.

### *Summer Book Discussion*

**Tuesday, August 26, 7:00 pm**

We are reading Monica Guzman's book, *I Never Thought of it That Way* via Zoom. On the 26<sup>th</sup>, we will discuss Part 5 and the Epilogue.

### *New Study – Animate: Faith*

**Wed, Aug. 27-Sept. 3, 9:30 am, Room 201a/b**

We will engage central topics of Christianity - such as God, Jesus, the Bible - alongside prominent thought leaders including Brian McLaren and Lillian Daniel.

### *Sacred Sound Session*

**Saturday, September 6, 11:00am, Findlay Hall**

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to join WPC member Karen (KK) Holly for a gentle grounding designed to bring peace and balance. Suggested donation of \$20-\$25 per session.

### *Annual In-Gathering Brunch*

**Sunday, September 7, 11:00 am, Findlay Hall**

Our Congregational Life Committee invites you to this tasty meal as we celebrate the beginning of autumn together. Main dishes are provided; you are invited to bring a side to share. This is a wonderful Sunday to invite friends to introduce them to the vibrant Westminster community.

### *Ageless Café*

**Tuesday, September 9, 11:30 am, Findlay Hall**

After a summer break, the Ageless Café is back! All are invited for lunch and conversation. Bring your own sandwich; salad, dessert, and beverages are provided.

### *Spiritual Life Retreat*

**Saturday, September 13, 9:30 am**

We welcome the Rev. Kay Collette for a morning retreat focusing on love and fear. How might God's love in our lives help us to overcome our fear? The retreat will last for 3 hours, followed by an optional lunch. RSVP to Judy Friede - friedegg9@comcast.net.

### *Spiritual Book Group – Fall Book Discussion*

**Monday, Sept. 15, 7:00 pm, Library or Zoom**

We will read *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time: The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith* by Marcus Borg. We will meet 9/15, 10/27, and 11/17. For questions, please contact Coral Kisseberth at coralkisseb@yahoo.com or Steffen Bartschat at sbartschat@comcast.net.



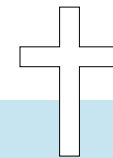
*August 24, 2025*

*10:00 am Worship*

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"Religion is the natural and sworn foe of all narrowmindedness, and of all onesidedness."

*~ Frederick Schleiermacher*



*Contact Us*

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# order of worship

<b>Prelude</b>	Aria	Paul Manz
<b>Welcome and Sharing of Peace</b>		Robert McClellan
<b>Introit</b>	We Walk God's Way	arr. John Bell
<b>Opening Blessing</b>		Mary Beth Culler
* <b>Opening Hymn</b>	In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness	No.850
<b>Community Prayer</b>		Bethany Nelson
You have called us into freedom, God. You have asked that we step out in faith beyond the narrow places and you promise to go with us. Forgive us for sometimes choosing to be stuck in our ways, especially when those ways aren't good for us. Help us continually grow our ability to be loving. Give us the awareness and courage to challenge anyone or anything that tries to make us act small and spiteful. Make us good friends to one another. Amen		
<b>Silent Prayers and Assurance</b>		
<b>Joys and Concerns and The Lord's Prayer</b>	(page 35 in the hymnal)	Robert McClellan
<b>Anthem</b>	Freedom	Jesus Culture
<b>Time of Discovery</b>		Bethany Nelson
Go now in peace; go now in peace.		
May the love of God surround you		
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.		
<b>First Scripture Reading</b>	Romans 8:14-17, pg.919	Mary Beth Culler
<b>Second Scripture Reading</b>	Exodus 13:17-22, pg.53	Robert McClellan
<b>Sermon</b>	Not Meant for Narrow Places - On the Road Series	Robert McClellan
<b>Silent Reflection</b>		
<b>Offertory</b>	Holy Spirit	Bryan and Katie Torwalt
* <b>Doxology</b>		No.609
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!		
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.		
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!		
<b>Prayer of Dedication</b>		Mary Beth Culler
<b>Life of the Beloved Community</b>		Robert McClellan
* <b>Closing Hymn</b>	O God, Who Gives us Life	No.53
* <b>Benediction</b>		Robert McClellan
<b>Postlude</b>	God, the Father, Be Our Stay	Paul Manz

\*Often, worshippers stand

## Worship Note

Referenced in Today's sermon:  
Friederich Schleiermacher, *On Religion: Speeches to Its Cultured Despisers*.

Patty met Paul Manz in the early 90s, when he was the presenter at an Organ Festival at Ist Presbyterian San Anselmo. For a week, he told stories of St. Olaf's, interspersed with jokes about Sven and Ollie. Much of his music is based on hymns from the Lutheran tradition.

## Welcome to Westminster!

Westminster is a vibrant faith community. We strive to grow spiritually, to nurture friendships, and to better the world. Our congregation is grounded in Christianity and we value our interfaith relationships. We affirm the importance of diversity and welcome all gender identities, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, classes, and backgrounds. We treasure our beliefs and are open-minded. We are traditional and evolving. We are reverent and joyful. God calls us to serve those in need, to understand and address the causes of suffering, and to work collaboratively with others to build a more just and compassionate world.

## Ministry Staff

The Rev. Dr. Robert McClellan, Pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Bethany Nelson, Associate Pastor  
Jeff Shankle, Director of Youth Ministry  
RuthE. Wells, Music Director  
Patty Sempell, Worship Accompanist  
The Rev. Brook Scott, Parish Associate  
The Rev. Dr. Barbara Rowe, Associate Pastor Emeritus  
Claude Hemphill, Barbara Kessell, Justin Nowlen, Guest Musicians