

# Celebration of Worship

The Tenth Day of December, Two Thousand Twenty-Three. Eleven o'clock.  
\* Please stand unless standing is uncomfortable for you.

Welcome..... Rev. Jonathan Rockness  
Pastor

The Second Advent Candle *Peace*

\* Songs of Praise  
O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 1,4)..... Hymn 175 / Screen  
O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1, 4) ..... Hymn 196 / Screen

\* Invocation..... Kyle Cook-McCrary  
Youth Minister

Welcome and Community Matters ..... Tim Havens  
Elder

Children's Sermon

➤ *Children return to their families.*

Time of Prayer

Offertory  
Be Still My Soul – In You I Rest..... Loucinda Copley

\* Doxology .....Hymn 668 / Screen  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

➤ *Children ages 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade may leave for Children's Church held in Room 204. Snacks will be served.*

The Preaching of God's Word ..... Rev. Jonathan Rockness  
Pastor

Series: Exodus: The Great Rescue  
Scripture: Exodus 11-12  
Sermon: Rescue's Peace

\* Song of Response  
We Fall Down..... Screen  
King of Kings..... Screen

\* Benediction

- If you need to pray with someone following our services because of a need you have or because the Lord has been at work in your heart during our worship service, Elders are available in the front of the Sanctuary after morning services. Also, feel free to call the church office (304-325-9121) during the week and ask to speak with a member of our ministry staff.
  - Parents are encouraged to use our nursery during the worship service located in Rooms 201/203 in the Children's Wing.
- All music licensed through Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI #266496).

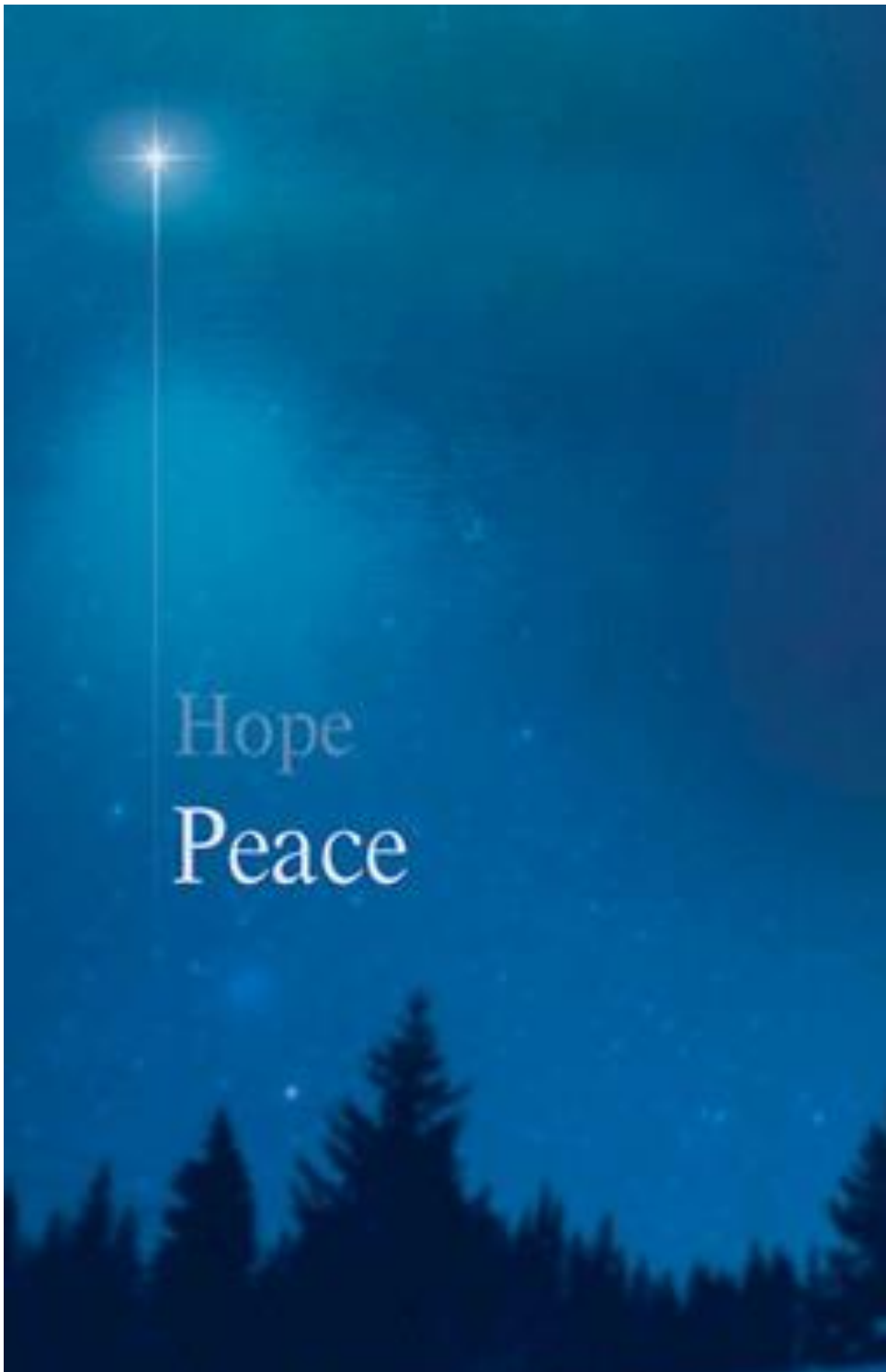
<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>DIACONATE</u>
Doug Bourne	Tom Carter _____ (304) 320-7620
Chris Copley	Joe Davidson _____ (276) 358-0298
Tim Havens	Rod Gillespie _____ (304) 952-4851
Chip Hurley	Dave Hammond _____ (304) 952-6249
Bob Mahood	Hoss Kitts _____ (276) 245-5793
Darrin Martin	Dave Mahood _____ (540) 239-1210
Larry Mutter	Joel Smith _____ (276) 415-0209
Dave Thomas	Ty Tyson _____ (276) 385-0490
Paul Wilkinson	Eric Wohlford _____ (304) 320-1392

## ELDERS ON CALL DECEMBER

Chris Copley \_\_\_\_ (304) 952-7696  
Chip Hurley \_\_\_\_ (304) 325-9121  
Paul Wilkinson\_\_ (304) 320-0664



Return Service Requested

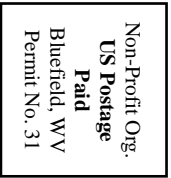


## Westminster Church

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



2005 Washington Street, P.O. Box 1258  
Bluefield, West Virginia 24701  
(304) 325-9121 or (304) 325-9122  
[www.wpcbluefield.com](http://www.wpcbluefield.com)



Westminster Family News...

Congratulations

Audra Rockness  
All Coalfield  
Conference Soccer



POINSETTIAS  
Order forms are on the  
Welcome Center or you can  
contact the church office.



Thank you so much for your generosity at the bake sale! We are touched and amazed by your support. Love, Westminster High School Youth



Union Mission Toy Drive

Thursday will be the last day to bring a new, unwrapped toy to help brighten a child's Christmas.

Candlelight Service Sunday December 17

4:30 p.m. Pre-Service Music Sanctuary  
5:00 p.m. Candlelight Service Sanctuary  
After Service Reception Fellowship Hall

Childcare will be available in the nursery.

Prayer Needs

Molly Beavers  
Michelle Carter  
Belva Higgins  
Jane Huffman  
Roger Phipps  
Rockness family  
Judy Spivey  
Sonya (World Outreach)

Please contact the church with any prayer concerns at 304-325-9121, the website or secretary@wpcbluefield.com.

Also Remembering:  
Charlie, Pat & Chuck Hoge  
Nancy Looney  
George and Rita McCulloch  
Nancy McJunkin & her father Don Anderson  
Mary Raub  
Eleanor "Buzzy" Rupp  
Betty Scott  
Charley Troup  
Judy (Graham) Webb

Wish them a Happy Birthday

Please let us know if your birthday is not listed

Dora Aylor 12/9 Jane Pfau 12/9  
Michelle Carter 12/9 Burma McChesney 12/9

Welcome Guest

We're delighted you are worshipping with us today. The entire Westminster family is eager to greet you, answer any questions you may have, and minister to you in any way. After the service, please visit the Welcome Center to learn more about Westminster.

BE SURE TO JOIN US IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL EVERY SUNDAY MORNING FOR FROZEN COKE AND COFFEE AT 10:30 A.M.

TODAY, DECEMBER 10  
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group Youth Shelter

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11  
10:15 a.m. Prayer Fellowship Room 218

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12  
6:00 p.m. Taste and See Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13  
4:45 p.m. Before Dinner Small Group Library  
5:45 p.m. WOW Dinner Fellowship Hall  
6:10 p.m. Heart Shapers Upstairs  
6:30 p.m. Adult Small Groups Various Locations  
6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group Youth Shelter

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17  
4:30 p.m. Pre-Service Music Sanctuary  
5:00 p.m. Candlelight Service Sanctuary  
After Service Reception Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group Youth Shelter

LOOKING AHEAD:  
MONDAY & TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 & 26 Christmas ~ Church Closed  
MONDAY, JANUARY 1 New Years Day ~ Church Closed

Contributions for 2023 need to be in the church office or postmarked by December 31.

OFFICE HOURS  
Wednesday Dec 27  
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Thursday Dec 28  
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Office is closed on Fridays.

Bluefield Youth Theatre presents  
Irving Berlin's White Christmas

Thu-Sat Dec 14-16 7:30 pm  
Sun Dec 17 3:00 pm

ADVANCE TICKETS: \$10 Adults, \$5 Seniors/Students  
TICKETS AT THE DOOR: \$15 Adults, \$10 Seniors/Students

https://our.show/whitexmas

MENU 12/13

(KINDLY RSVP SO KAKI WILL KNOW HOW MUCH FOOD TO PREPARE)

Beef and Black Bean Enchiladas  
Rice  
Salad  
Banana Pudding



\$7 Per Person



or



\$20 Per Family

Opportunities for Ministry and Growth

Sunday School Classes for Adults 9:45 a.m.

- Adult classes meet in Patterson Chapel and the Ensemble Room
- Men's Class studies books in the Bible – Room 218

Sunday School Classes for Middle & High School Ages 9:45 a.m.

- Youth meet in the Shelter across the street. A light breakfast is served.

Sunday School Classes for Children 5th Grade & Under 9:45 a.m.

- All children's classes are located in the children's wing on the third floor.

Wednesday Evening Small Groups 6:30 p.m.

- Meet in the Library (4:45 pm) Fellowship Hall, Chapel or Ensemble Room.
- Middle School Youth meets in shelter across the street.

Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m.

- High School Youth meets in shelter across the street.

Update from World Outreach: Christian Persecution Throughout the World

Even though our news media focuses primarily on Israel and Ukraine, our field workers tell us of attacks on Christians in countries around the world. Here are some examples:

"In a place in W. Africa among a people long known for their tenacious commitment to Islam and resistance to the claims of Christ.... One of the brothers He has used as His witness has...become known and a serious backlash is building. And since hearing this it is now known.... That...three pastors have been arrested and the authorities are searching for more."

In Poland: "...Executive Committee filed a lawsuit for the liquidation of the (New Life Church) ... (for) a violation of the law "On Freedom of Religion and Religious Organizations." This false accusation and form of persecution resulted in the disbanding of the church by the government. Pastor VH was arrested. The church building (seated 800) was bulldozed to the ground."

In a Middle Eastern country: "the government has become fearful of how many people are turning to Christ... Sadly, the authorities raided these group gatherings, shut down the app they had made for collaboration and teaching, and arrested the leaders.... Including Sister R, (who is) awaiting trial for her "crimes" of leading house churches and sharing Jesus with many others."

In South Asia "...there was an unprecedented attack on Christians.... A mob of several thousand people attacked, looted, desecrated, burned, and destroyed 29 churches and 86 homes of Christians." (See photos)



These are but four of the horrific stories of people who only want to serve Christ and tell their friends and neighbors about him. Thousands face arrest and death for their beliefs, but continue to live for Him. Please pray for all of them in their walk with the LORD.

Children's Church

Dora Aylor  
Linda Lynch

Nursery

Vickie Honaker  
Noah Ellison

