

November 13, 2020

The Boulder Knoll Scroll

A publication of Westminster Presbyterian Church

THE HOLIDAYS—2020

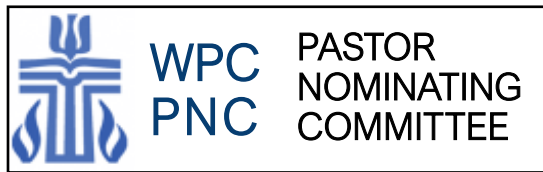
Celebrating Thanksgiving, Advent & Christmas during COVID

"How are we supposed to celebrate the holidays this year with COVID spreading in our community?"

This question is on everyone's mind right now. It's true - the holidays will look different this year. Be assured, Westminster's Staff, Session and committees are busy planning worship services and holiday activities that are safe, enriching, and sure to spread holiday joy.

In this issue of the BKS we've included a guide to ***The Holidays at Westminster—2020.***

Look for updates from every department, a schedule of holiday events, and - hopefully - inspiration to help you create a beautiful, worshipful holiday season for yourself and your families. Shalom.



The Pastor Nominating Committee - Exciting Update!

"After many months of hard work, the PNC now has a short list of final candidates. We have authorized the Presbytery to do background checks on these finalists.

While the Presbytery carries out their task, the PNC is continuing to hold Zoom discussions with the final candidates. We thank you all for your diligent prayers, and ask that you continue to remember us in your prayers as we enter this phase of our search for a new pastor."

- Your PNC Committee

3rd Quarter Financial Report

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH III QUARTER 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

This year is 75% completed and the financial position of our Church remains strong. Your pledges and identifiable unpledged offerings are the two largest parts of our income and together they represent 74.33% of their total budget for this period. The current situation has resulted in a decline of anticipated income, particularly in the payments we receive from the preschool. Our total income is 72% of budget which compares well to the 75% completion of the year.

The total expenses are 68% of budget which is below our total income, so there is a positive cash variance which is expected to continue to year end. Many of the expense categories are below budget due to the modification of activity, including utilities. The virtual Sunday activity has resulted in unanticipated internet and equipment expenses and also some personnel expenses to support this activity.

The financial position of the church is strong. The total cash position includes a Paycheck Protection Loan of 10% of our budget. The Church has abided by the conditions set by the U.S. Government and the loan is in the process of being forgiven.

The Budget and Finance Committee has always been thoughtful and frugal with the assets of our Church beginning with plans developed by Walt Friday and Bob Ohmart as Chairs of the committee many years ago. The reward is our financial stability. Special recognition should go to our Financial Secretary Dianna Calvert who has assumed the responsibilities of the Counters and Collectors and to Office Manager Jean Severson who has kept the cash flowing smoothly.

This report simply lets the congregation know things are well under control. For the more financially curious, copies of the financial statements and budget are available from the Church office.

Gary Slangan
Elder and Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee

NOVEMBER 29TH - 5TH SUNDAY

Supporting ARCHES Project



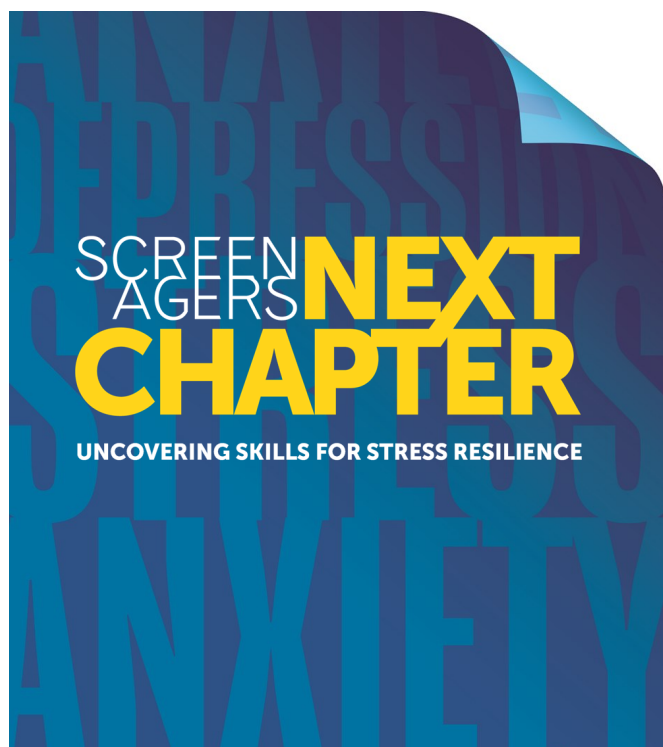
The Mission, Peace, and Eco-Justice Committee's 5th Sunday Donation drive is coming up on **November 29th**. We are sponsoring the non-profit, The **ARCHES Project**, a multi-faceted program for housing instability and homelessness. Donations will specifically go to the Salem Warming Center, an innovative program that offers a safe and warm place to sleep.

Collection boxes will be available in the church narthex, beginning Thursday, November 19. Folks can bring items to the church during office hours. However, during Thanksgiving Weekend, hours will be limited the week of November 23. On Sunday, November 29, donations can be dropped off between 9:00am-11:30am. Additionally, anyone who has donations that they would like picked up, we would be happy to do so! Donations will be distributed to Salem Warming Center on Monday, November 30.

Please contact Katie Nelson (503- 581-5261) or LeAnn Goodenberger (503-362-9481) for more information or for donation pick up. **Donations needed include: warm clothing—hats, scarves, gloves, and especially socks; hand warmers; new and gently used blankets and sleeping bags.**

An Event for Youth, Parents and Our Community

High stress, anxiety and depression are experienced by millions of young people. We follow physician and filmmaker, Delaney Ruston, as she discovers solutions for improved adolescent well-being in the digital age.



View Film 11/5-22—any time

Go To:

screenagersmovie.com

**Live Q&A—1:15 at 6 PM
(Online Only)**

**RSVP required—see website
for more information
salemwestpres.org**

2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

OCTOBER 18—NOVEMBER 15



The 2021 Stewardship Campaign will conclude on Sunday. If you have not received your 2021 Stewardship packet in the mail, please contact Jean in the office (503) 364-3327 or email: jean@saalemwestpres.org. She will make sure a package is immediately sent to you. Thank you for your prayers and contributions.

A NOTE FROM STEWARDSHIP:

Your stewardship committee has been asked about the different way the Westminster general fund campaign was conducted this year. It was pretty clear we needed to conduct it via US Postal Service mail rather than in person.

The question was regarding the lack of a privacy envelope in the mailing last week for your pledge card. The reason for that omission is because the routing of the pledge cards was a bit different this year. In prior years the pledge cards, safely in their privacy envelopes, would go to the stewardship committee. Each privacy envelope had the name of the family or pledging unit on the outside. That way the stewardship committee could see WHO had returned a pledge card but NOT how much, if anything, was pledged. This was helpful in an analysis of the pledging congregation.

This year, though, the pledge cards are going directly to the financial secretary who, of course, always sees who pledged and how much. The financial secretary will report to stewardship which pledging families or units returned a card (but not the amount) and which did not.

We hope this explains the elimination of the need and expense of including a privacy envelope.

Kind Regards,

Bill Nelson, Westminster Stewardship chair, 2021 General Fund Pledge Campaign

MEET WESTMINSTER'S NEWEST MEMBERS

WELCOME, MAGGIE SATHER

"My father was a Navy Chaplain and after having been born in Northeastern Pennsylvania, I called many places home. My life as a military BRAT (although Mother always said the correct term for Navy is "Navy Junior") was a fabulous childhood. My brother and sister and I enjoyed moving and getting to know the world.

Oregon is where I chose to attend college and stayed because I love it; it felt like home the minute I arrived in March 1968. Mike and I have four children, two girls and two boys. We've been a sort of mini-Brady Bunch for the last 30 years.

Being retired suits us so well. We have traveled a bit to Europe and Scandinavia and the South Pacific. Since retirement I've become an artist, working in paper, fabric and clay, in addition to singing every chance I get.

Living each day in gratitude because God has been so very good to us seems the best thing to do, even in these strange times."

- Blessings and virtual hugs, Maggie



NEW MEMBERS, CONT.

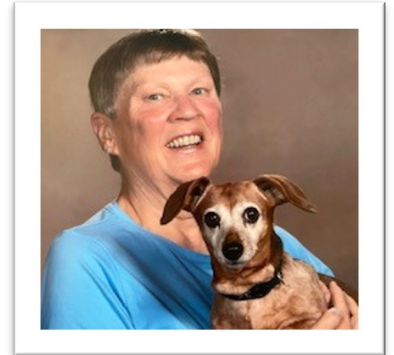
WELCOME, JAN CARLSON (AND DAISY)

"I have been a Presbyterian all of my life and lived in Oregon all but 9 of those years. I graduated from Medford Senior High in 1969, received a BS degree from Oregon State University in Religious Studies and then took Post Bacc courses in Math, Science, Music, Economics, Computer Science, etc. over the years.

I have a Master of Divinity degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary (I was under the care of this church and was ordained as a Teaching Elder here in 1980) and worked in churches for about 10 years after seminary, including 3 years on active duty and 7 years in the reserves as an Air Force Chaplain.

In 1992 I became the primary care giver for my mother after my father died, living in Salemtowne in West Salem and working as support staff at Oregon State University and Western Oregon University. I retired from the WOU Foundation in 2017 where I worked as the Gift Processor.

I love retirement and live with my miniature dachshund Daisy in Salemtowne. I enjoy walking and hiking, reading, music, eating out with friends, and socializing over a cup of coffee or a glass of white wine. I will enjoy being involved in Westminster as much as possible, but at this point that only includes attending worship online and I have helped with a blood drive. I am an ordained Teaching Elder, Deacon and Ruling Elder."



WELCOME, JIM ADAMS & SHIRLEY LANE



Jim and Shirley have been active Presbyterians for many years. Shirley was born in Virginia into a military family and ended up in Salem in 1975, after following what she describes as a "circuitous route." She raised two children and graduated from Western Oregon University. Shirley retired in 2016 after a fulfilling career in real estate appraising.

Jim is a true Salem native, born and raised here in a military family. His professional career featured 15 years as General Manager of Harvey Fox Anderson Sporting Goods, and a 25 year partnership in Morry's Ltd. Men's Clothing in Salem. He retired in 2005. Jim is a previous Elder at Westminster Presbyterian Church and enjoys many hobbies including petanque, water volleyball and reading.

Jim and Shirley married in 2000, and their blended family includes Shirley's 2 children (Matt and Alexa), Jim's two children (Stuart and Molly) and five grandchildren, including two sets of twins!

WHO IS WESTMINSTER? WHAT IS WESTMINSTER? TIME FOR FAMILY PROMISE/IHN



Early November brought Westminster's IHN hosting week again, in an abbreviated way. No churches are hosting in person, but are providing dinners and also grocery money for breakfasts and lunches. Preparations were made to do our part during the week. Then, a few days before our hosting date, we received word that the number of families had doubled! Back to the drawing board. In a short time, arrangements had to be made to feed twice as many people at each meal, and to provide for more grocery money as well.

The wonderful Westminster volunteers did not blink an eye. All cooks affirmed that they would just double their meals and very quickly donors appeared to cover the grocery needs! Volunteers even donated art supplies to help kids (and even adults) stay entertained while they are in temporary settings.

This is a difficult time, in many ways. Pandemic times are stressful. The economy has been in trouble, so many of our families are experiencing unemployment or underemployment, which has led to problems affording rent. Many victims of wildfires have lost their homes and cannot find places to rent even if they can afford it. There are many stories of desperation, and Family Promise/IHN is one of the entities reaching out to help.

We all know that education is a challenge for kids and families right now, for some more than others. Family Promise/IHN has received a significant contribution from Westminster, which will be used to purchase computers and support for virtual learning for children who are trying to keep up with school at a very unstable time.

We send thanks to all of those who created and delivered delicious dinners and to those who donated for all of the other needs! Please keep all of the families in your prayers.

WHO IS WESTMINSTER? A group of very caring and generous people who reach out to take care of their neighbors.
WHAT IS WESTMINSTER? A place where people come together in compassion to serve others as Jesus has called us to do.



NEW GRANDSON FOR MARK AND BAMBI

At 7:10PM on November 8th, Mark and Bambi Anderson officially became grandparents, with the birth of their grandson Leonard Anderson Garaventa. Leonard bounced into the world weighing 6lbs. 14 oz, and measuring-in at 20" long. Mom and baby are doing well, and Mark and Bambi are thrilled with this happy addition to their family.

Dear Westminster Family,

Mark and I want to thank all of you that helped us celebrate our 50th Anniversary with your flood of cards and best wishes. We felt all of your love even though we couldn't be together. Each of you hold a special place in our lives and hearts.

Gratefully,

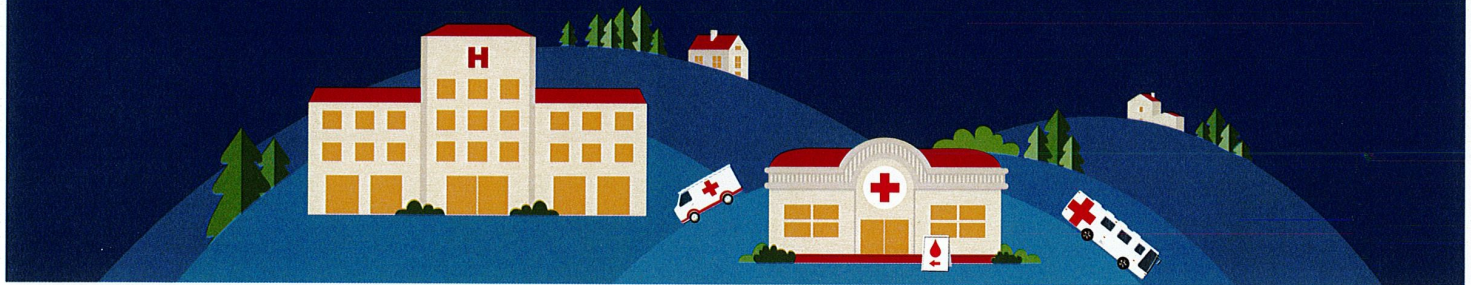
Carolyn and Mark Lawrence

*Thank
you*



BE THE LIFELINE PATIENTS NEED.

Give blood.



Blood Drive
Westminster
Presbyterian Church

Boulder Hall
3737 Liberty Rd. S., Salem

Monday, December 21, 2020
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, contact
Sharon White (503-930-2561, sharon.white@yahoo.com)
or Matthew Hale (503-559-3577), or visit
RedCrossBlood.org using sponsor code: westminsterpres



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®



**Come to give Dec. 18-Jan. 4 for a long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt,
while supplies last!**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

Give Something that Means Something® | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

WELCOME TO THE HOLIDAYS

Even though 2020 will look different this year, Westminster is committed to celebrating Advent and Christmas with as much joy and love as possible! On the next several pages you'll find greetings and announcements from staff and committees, with details on the holidays. It's time to start celebrating!

Here is a thumbnail of dates and activities. More information is in the following pages.

RIGHT NOW	Sign up for a time to pick up your Advent Craft Kit
RIGHT NOW	Youth - start planning music and art projects for Christmas Pageant
RIGHT NOW	Get your Caring Tree tags from Susan Tanabe, and shop for gifts for OSH patients
November 15	Screenagers Q&A for youth, families and the community
November 22	Pick up Advent Craft Kits (by appointment) from 3pm—6pm
November 29	5th Sunday, with donations going to Arches
December 4	Deadline to bring in your Caring Tree give
December 13	Youth Christmas Party
December 14	Youth Music Artwork due for Christmas Pageant
December 16	Outside Christmas Caroling Service
December 20	Westminster Christmas album, <i>Rose of Bethlehem</i> , "drops" on YouTube
December 24	Christmas Eve



THE CARING TREE IS BACK!

No tradition signifies the holiday season quite like the annual Caring Tree. Since 1986, the Caring Tree project has provided holiday gifts to thousands of Oregon State Hospital patients. Relying solely on contributions and volunteers, the goal of the project is to ensure that no patient is left empty handed during the holidays.

Mission Peace Eco-Justice Committee joyfully announces a wonderful, contact-free way to brighten this Holy Advent Season for Oregon State Hospital patients: The OSH 2020 Caring Tree.

As in previous years, OSH will provide us with gifts tags for each patient. Each tag will list useful items the patient has requested. This year, Susan Tanabe is the person to contact if you'd like to get a tag and make a gift. Susan can be reached at: malarkeyt5@comcast.net or 503.580.3447. A tag will be emailed (or mailed) to you.

After shopping (online or safely masked and distanced), place the unwrapped gift(s) into **one plastic bag or unwrapped box**. Print out and attach the tag. Then, you have two options:

1. Bring the bag/box to Westminster during office hours by noon Saturday, December 4th (Office hours: M-Thurs 8am—11:30am & 1pm-4pm. Friday: 8am-1pm)
2. Contact OSH Volunteer Services (503.945.2892) and arrange to deliver the bag/box directly.

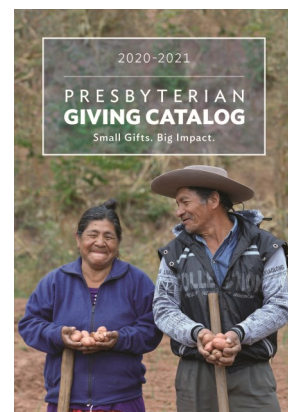
GIFT A COW FOR CHRISTMAS!

Your gift of a cow (or a pig, or a chicken or maybe a sewing machine...) can provide someone a means to earn a living, feed their family or stay healthy.

Presbyterian Mission has made it easy to impact the lives of those in need. The purchase and distribution of animals, the building of wells to provide life-giving clean water to entire communities and ministries to youth and young adults are among the many ways your gift will fill a need.

Consider shopping from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog at: presbyteriangifts.org or 800-872-3283.

Several copies of the 2020-2021 Giving Catalog are available in the office.



Advent Devotional and Christmas Books

Watch for details on accessing a digital version of a daily Advent devotional, *Those Who Dream*, for individual or family use. It will contain art, reflections, and prompts for a season of dreaming. If you're looking for a resource for an Advent study for group or personal use, check out the adult ed book cart in Russell Hall or contact krisha@salemwestpres.org.

Youth and Family Events

Two beloved Westminster traditions are being reimagined this year—Advent Craft and Christmas Pageant. We hope that the familiar traditions will give our kids a sense of security during these insecure times, all while pointing to the hope, peace, joy, and love of the true Christmas story. And since of course everything is being done in a new way, we look forward to making it as fun and fresh as possible!

ADVENT CRAFT WREATHS

Advent Craft Kit Pick Up is Sunday afternoon, November 22, from 3-5 pm. You must sign up for a timeslot by Friday, November 20, here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4aa8ab2ca7fbc61-advent>. Included in the kit are materials and instructions for a family Advent wreath, a few extra items, and the makings for one gingerbread house for each kid/youth! Take your kit home, put on music, make hot chocolate, and craft away. Don't forget to post pictures on our West Pres Kids Facebook page: (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/401202773236862>) or Shareboard (<https://padlet.com/krishahorn/9op0wdazmhd4vx4l>).



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The world premiere of Westminster's (prerecorded) Christmas Pageant is set for Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm as part of the Family Christmas Eve Service. For kids and youth who would like to be involved, we will be recording with individual families throughout the first part of December (through Zoom or if needed in a socially-distanced way at the church). Please think about what role(s) you would like to play in the traditional Nativity story and email krisha@salemwestpres.org with your first and second choices.

Both speaking and non-speaking parts are available. We also need youth musicians and visual artists of all levels. If you submit Nativity-themed artwork by December 14, it can be included in our film! Any kid connected to Westminster is welcome to participate, so if you have grandkids who might normally attend on Christmas Eve and who might enjoy playing a part, please extend the invitation!

CHRISTMAS YOUTH GROUP

The **Annual Youth Christmas Party** will be **December 13th at 6 PM** in the Sanctuary. We'll have a white elephant exchange. Bring a funny item from around the house or the store all wrapped up ready to exchange. Don't spend more than \$10. Wear an ugly Christmas sweater or something festive if you have one. **Obviously, Vik will have funny presents for all of you as well, as is tradition.**

The **Annual Youth Christmas Jeopardy** game will take place the first week of youth group in December on ZOOM.

Services and Music



Happy Holidays from the Music Ministry! Music during the Advent and Christmas season is always a highlight due to its warmth and beauty! During a normal season, the musicians would be preparing to present their annual Choir Cantata, unfortunately COVID-19 has made that difficult. This year, all three music ensembles (Worship Team, Handbell Choir, and Chancel Choir) will be contributing musical selections for Westminster's first Christmas album, titled "Rose of Bethlehem." This collection of songs will be available on YouTube and the Church website on Sunday, December 20. Those unable to access YouTube can contact Jeffrey Larkin (music@salemwestpres.org) for a physical copy.

Lastly, we look forward to this year's Christmas Eve services featuring our Westminster music ensembles and a string quartet throughout! Although Christmas will feel different this year, it doesn't mean music won't be bountiful!

Blessings to you all and Sing On!
The Music Staff

CAROLING SERVICE—EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!

Come to a joyful parking lot **Caroling Service** on **December 16th at 6 PM**. Lorne will lead us in prayer, and the music staff will take us on a Christmas caroling journey. Bring your family, a cup of hot cocoa and your festive facemasks, and join us in singing all our favorite carols!



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

We hope you will join us (virtually) as we celebrate the Birth of Christ! Similar to previous years, three separate services will be offered to accommodate your schedule....or, join them all! Prior to each service will be an abundance of music to help prepare us for Worship! The Christmas Eve schedule is as follows:

4:30PM - Tune in for our stream of Christmas music, which will lead into....

5PM - Family Christmas Eve Service

Join us in our service designed for families with younger children! Together, we will experience the Birth of Christ through stories, readings, music from our youth....and glow glowsticks. This service will also include the showing of the Westminster's Christmas Pageant.

6:00PM - Tune in for our stream of Christmas music, which will lead into....

7PM - Contemporary Christmas Eve Service

Join us in our Contemporary service as we experience the Birth of Christ through readings, stories, and music featuring musical leadership from our Westminster Worship Team!

8:00PM - Tune in for our stream of Christmas music, which will lead into....

9PM - Traditional Christmas Eve Service

Join us in our Traditional service as we experience the Birth of Christ through readings, stories, and music featuring musical leadership from our Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir!

WEST PRES YOUTH WINTER EVENT CALENDAR

west pres youth **WINTER!**

November

12, 19 Zoom Mid High 6 PM

15, 22 Zoom High School 6 PM

December

3: Zoom Mid High 6 PM CHRISTMAS

JEOPARDY

6th: Zoom High School 6 PM CHRISTMAS

JEOPARDY

13: YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

White Elephant Gift

Exchange in Sanctuary 6-7 PM

Masks Required!

16th: Christmas Caroling Service In the
Parking Lot at 6 PM.

No Youth Group until the New Year
Christmas Eve Services will stream
December 24th on YouTube.

It is our hope to return to in-person youth group in the new year, but we will be considering local health metrics and ability to distance.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

<u>Sunday, November 15</u> 9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Online Only 9:45 AM Sunday School—Online 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship—Online Only 6:00 PM High School Youth Zoom	<u>Sunday, November 22</u> 9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Online Only 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship—Online Only 3:00 PM Advent Craft Drive-Up Distribution 6:00 PM High School Youth Zoom
<u>Monday, November 16</u>	<u>Monday, November 23</u> 10:00 AM Building & Grounds—Christmas Decorating
<u>Tuesday, November 17</u> 10:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study 4:15 PM Staff Meeting—Zoom 5:00 PM Bell Rehearsal	<u>Tuesday, November 24</u> 10:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study 1:30 PM Charity Circle 5:00 PM Bell Rehearsal
<u>Wednesday, November 18</u> 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study— Eastminster 2:00 PM Handbell Class - Boulder Hall 7:00 PM Session— Zoom 7:30 PM NA—Fellowship Hall	<u>Wednesday, November 25</u> 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study— Eastminster 2:00 PM Handbell Class - Boulder Hall 4:00 PM Staff Meeting—Zoom 7:00 PM Deacons 7:30 PM NA—Fellowship Hall
<u>Thursday, November 19</u> 9:30 AM Tea with Jesus—Eastminster 5:30 PM Mission Peace Eco/Justice 6:00 PM Mid High Youth Zoom 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<u>Thursday, November 26</u> THANKSGIVING DAY— OFFICE CLOSED 
<u>Friday, November 20</u> 9:00 AM Children's Ministry	<u>Friday, November 27</u> THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED
<u>Saturday, November 21</u>	<u>Saturday, November 28</u>
	<u>Sunday, November 29</u> 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School—Online 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship 6:00 PM High School Youth Zoom 

Prayer Requests

OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO:

- Prayers for Sally Jacklin and her family at the passing of her son-in-law, Joe Huntington. Joe was on our prayer list for many months as he battled brain cancer. Joe passed away on Tuesday, November 10th, and leaves behind his wife Kelly, and their three children, Hannah, Haley & Zach.
- Prayers for Sandy Chlanda, whose health has taken a turn for the worse. Sandy is in hospice at her home, and receives the loving support of her family.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER:

Tim Holsten, Bill Hruska, Duff Kannier, Mark Lawrence, Mather's great-grandson, James Pratt and his parents, Linda & Dick Stephens, Cynthia Curran

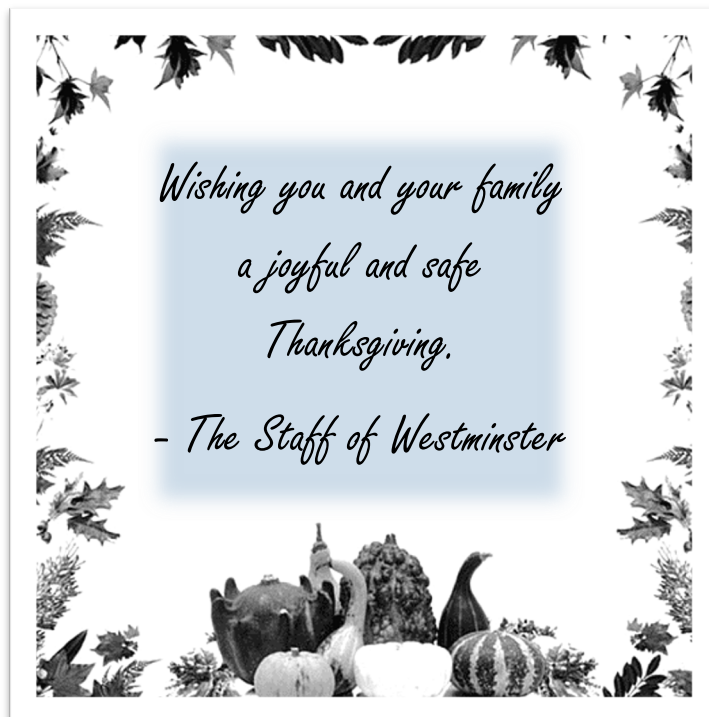
- ♦ Daphine Russell (age 7), grandniece of Cindi & Bruce Chinnock, is slowly improving
- ♦ Sheila Powell and her husband Tom, as Tom continues to undergo treatment for cancer.

PLEASE SEND PRAY REQUEST UPDATES TO JEAN SEVERSON (jean@salemwestpres.org). We strive to keep the listing as current as possible, and rely on your ongoing assistance to do so. Thank you.

The Worship Committee extends our thanks to those persons who donated funds to purchase artificial poinsettias for the Advent season.

We were able to make the purchase through your generous donation.

They will be in place for the first Sunday of Advent - 29 Nov. Thank you.



Contact Us

CHURCH STAFF/EMAILS

Church Office email:

Interim/Transitional Pastor: Rev. Lorne Bostwick

Office Manager: Jean Severson

Music Director: Dr. Jeffrey Larkin

Dir. of Praise Team: Ariana Recher

Dir. of Adult & Family Ministries: Krisha Horn

Education Admin. Asst.: Katy Tillotson

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Web Site:

www.salemwestpres.org

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Salem.Westminster.Presbyterian/>

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday:

8:30am—4:00pm (at the moment)

Friday:

8:30am—1:00pm

Until such time as it's safe to bring our BKS production team back together, our newsletter will be online only.

Articles may be submitted directly to the church office or by email to:

jean@salemwestpres.org

