



May, 2024 Newsletter

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Dear Friends,

Thank you to each of you for filling out the HolyCow! survey back in January! I think surveys are sometimes confusing, leaving you wondering what they're trying to get at. As part of the purchase of this Christian consulting firm's guidance, the elders and the Revitalization Task Force met twice with Elizabeth Hamilton who lives on the west side and worked here for twenty years.

HolyCow!'s survey is like taking your church to a doctor, a travel agent and a tailor. A doctor helps us to see where we are healthy and the areas that need our attention. A travel agent invites us to choose to visit some new places to experience new insights and challenges. A tailor measures our dimensions to be sure our clothing fits.

Your participation was one of 28 surveys completed. You are one of the puzzle pieces that all fit together to give us a current snapshot of Westminster Presbyterian. Your answers give us a sense of where you think the church should head in the future and provides a description of the church as a unique body of people called by Jesus Christ.

The first informational meeting of the congregation will be held following a pot luck luncheon after worship on May 5th. Please plan to attend. Table discussions will help us listen to one another with our questions and ideas. We expect to finish about 1:00 or 1:15. Everyone will receive a complete copy of the survey that includes a comparison of Westminster's answers with other congregations.

My sermon for May 5th will be based on John 6:35. "Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'" We will join together at the Lord's table. We will sing "Here, I Am, Lord" as we each seek to find our place as part of our church's future mission and ministry for Jesus Christ.

May our prayer include words from Psalm 139. "Lord, you are the God of all truth. You know us through and through. You reveal to us what we do not yet know. You bring us out of darkness and into your wonderful light. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Blessings for the peace of Christ for our hearts and minds,

Jon Carlisle, your Gap Pastor

Clerk's Corner: April Session Meeting

Worship and Music

- Our Gap Pastor Jonathan Carlisle's schedule changed and he became available to us for the entire months of June and August. Session voted to extend his contract. He will be on vacation in July
- Chris Stein was thanked for providing music on April 7th so Olivia Mitchem could take a break.
- Plastic pouches will be added to the pews to contain welcoming packs for visitors and prayer request cards for the congregation.
- We will be using pre-cut communion bread starting in May as some folks find it difficult to break off a piece from a loaf.
- Session approved a motion to seek a high school volunteer to help run the technology for the church service. We are still looking for a volunteer from the congregation to help with technology.

Nominating Committee

Is seeking candidates for active roles in our church. If you think you might be interested, talk to Karen Flowers to see what is available. You never know what you might enjoy until you try it!

SDAs

The SDAs will be mowing our grass again this year. If you see them, please thank them!

Church Revitalization Task Force

A meeting after worship on Sunday, May 5 has been scheduled to inform everyone who worships at Westminster the results of the Holy Cow! Consulting survey we completed earlier this year and to gather your thoughts on the results and ideas for the future direction of the church in light of the survey. Please plan to attend. Your ideas and support are needed and greatly appreciated!

Property

New toilets have been installed in the men's restrooms and the kitchen faucet has been repaired.

Don and Linda Crumley donated a larger microwave oven to the church kitchen. Thank you!
New shed doors have been installed.

Markings for utility lines, etc. on the front church property ground are said to have been done for a federal pedestrian safety project that won't begin until 2026. Stay safe in the meantime.

Mission and Outreach

Our first of four nights this year to serve dinner to the needy is Saturday, May 11th at Hoge Memorial Church on West Broad from 4:30 - 6:30. Please sign up in the Narthex and plan to join us or bake a cake for dessert!

Galloway and WPC

Pastor Jon Carlisle, Jim Benney, Pam Johnston and Lynne Kelly went to Galloway PC to meet with Emily Corzine, Presbyter for Congregational Life and Transitions, and Galloway Pastor Thom Shuman and Elder Roger Walls. We hope to have some joint social and maybe mission activities before long.

Update from the Deacons

HAPPY EASTER SEASON!

Westminster's Easter Breakfast took place on March 31st. Twenty-four people enjoyed breakfast casseroles, fruit, baked goods and coffee. We welcomed back former members, new friends and our special guests Kathy and Chris Nice. The Deacons want to thank the Crumley's for providing the plates and napkins, the SCA's for setting up the tables and chairs, Karen for the festive decorations, the Sizemore's for the fruit and everyone who helped clean up.

We hope you enjoyed the Easter ecards. If you didn't receive one, please let Jim know so we can figure out what is going wrong. The ecards should show up in your inbox but may end up in your spam or trash. The email address is thedeaconsatwpc@gmail.com

Fellowship Time falls on Mother's Day, May 12th this month. It will be in the Upper Room from 10am to 10:25am. Our resident baker, Pam, will be providing delicious treats for the celebration.

Please join us on May 14th for our monthly luncheon at York Steak House at 11:30. Bring your friends. Reservations are not required.

The Deacons want to have Game Night in June or July. We haven't worked out the details, date or time but we want to know if there is interest in this event. It will be open to friends and family. Please let us know your thoughts.

Blessings,

Pam, Kevin and Jim

News from the Revitalization Task Force

Congregational Meeting and Potluck on May 5 after Church

The Revitalization Task Force and the Session have the results from the Holly Cow survey everyone filled out and we want to share them with you. Immediately after the service, everyone will convene in the Fellowship Hall for a light lunch and a discussion of the survey. The meal is set up as a potluck, but we always have enough to eat (think fishes and loaves) so do not feel you have to bring something. We all have those days where the spirit is willing, but the rest of the universe is not cooperating. The important thing is for everyone to be there to share their thoughts.

We hope to see you. If you have any questions in the meantime, please reach out to any of the folks listed below.

Blessings,

Bob, Chris, Lynne, Pam, Karen, Trent and Jim

2024 Flea Fantasia

Flea Fantasia is rapidly approaching. It is scheduled for May 17 through 19 and Westminster will be open from 9am to 3pm on Friday and 9am to 1pm on Saturday. If you would like to act as a host to the customers, just show up and spend as much time as fits into your schedule. We'll be accepting free will donations, so we don't have to have cashiers or make change. Some specialty items will be sold through social media and resale stores.

Please put your donations in Room 3 and clothes in Room 1. Feel free to leave the clothes you donate on hangers so they can be hung directly on the clothes racks. It will take time to get all the stuff displayed and we need your help. At your convenience, please stop over at the Church and grab a box to unload in the Fellowship Hall or a bag of clothes to hang up in the Clothes Room.

After an absence of several years, we are going to offer food again. A Food Truck will be on-site on Saturday and will be selling hot dogs, angel eggs (as opposed to deviled eggs), pickles, popcorn, candy bars, cookies, Swiss Miss, coffee and water. Italian ice in mango, pineapple and watermelon flavors is also on the menu. The truck is very colorful and should draw even more people to Flea Fantasia.

As part of our revitalization project to connect with the Community, Westminster is again sponsoring the Lincoln Village Sale. Jim and Joyce Sizemore obtained the Permit that will allow Westminster and everyone else in Lincoln Village to have sales without purchasing separate permits. We will be spreading the news on Nextdoor and Facebook Market Place.

We met our 2023 goal to pack up and remove most of the remaining items from the building right after the event. We were able to accomplish this by coordinating the VOA's pick-up of the items with the Lutheran Church across the street. If you can help pack up the remaining items, please be at the Church at 12:30pm on Saturday the 19th.

Please help in any way you can. We have a lot of fun and we are looking forward to spending time with our congregants and neighbors. It's also a great way to go down memory lane as you look at all of the things that come in for the sale. Remember everyone's trash is another person's treasure. We'll accept items through May 17 and please no TVs, computers or big furniture. Thank you.

~ Karen, Melinda, Trent and Jim

Additional Westminster information

Memorial Day services in Prairie Township will be open to the public, May 27. Two services will be held

- Galloway Cemetery- 9:30a.m. conducted by AMVETS Post # 1928
- Alson Cemetery - noon, conducted by Camp Chase Post # 98 of the American Legion.

Zoom assistance needed. If you can help aim the camera during the service, you qualify! Please see Chris Stein.

Correction in contact list: Julia Hamilton email is julia_hamilton@velocity.net

Worship Committee is having a Mother's Day Basket sale. The order form is with the bulletin. Orders are due May 1.

Galloway Presbyterian events

Wednesday, May 8th, 12:30 p.m. Ladies Luncheon at Bob Evans in Georgesville Square (no reservations needed, though if folks want to email me, I can alert our group to be on the lookout for them.

Tuesday, May 14th 5:30 p.m.: Our See Ya Tuesday dinner group will meet at Massey's Pizza 4015 Parkmead Drive, Grove city 43123 (we do make reservations for this, so folks can email me - by May 12th if possible)

Friday, May 31st 6:30 p.m. our first "Jazz on the Lawn" concert of the summer, with the Blue Jays Jazz & Funk Band led by Alex Totah, our musical director. This group has played many times for church services, concerts, and summer events. A food truck will be available. Folks are invited to bring lawn chairs, blankets, etc., for seating.

Community Resources

LifeCare Alliance – Senior services/resources

As many of you know, I work at LifeCare Alliance. We not only provide the well known “Meals On Wheels” but also other clinical services. We have some durable medical equipment and recently added occupational therapists who can assess your home and make recommendations in hopes to reduce falls. We all know everyone wants to remain in their homes and that is our goal, to keep seniors safe at home for as long as possible. Currently we have some limited funding for home owners to install hand rails and grab bars at no cost to you. We also have different incontinence supplies available for those on limited incomes. If you have any needs, please talk with Melinda, call 614-592-9357 or email tnmrowe@yahoo.com. All requests are confidential.

The Refuge

Some Statistics:

Statistics show that most panhandlers are not homeless, and most homeless do not panhandle. Research shows that about 6-8% of homeless actually panhandle.

Most panhandlers use the money they receive to contribute to their addictions such as alcohol and drugs.

Westminster has contacted an organization called “THE REFUGE”, a local faith based organization that helps people who are dealing with addictions get off the street and move them toward recovery. This is a new possible way for our church congregation to help those who approach you at the grocery stores, on street corners, or at highway exits who hold signs indicating they are homeless or give you a story that pulls at your heart strings to give them money to help them with their plight in life.

THE REFUGE provides a place for them to stay, a program that works on their addiction, and assists them after the program toward gaining employment.

There is a display in the Narthex with flyers that describe more about this program. The cards provide information about the program and how to get in contact with them.

Please take as many cards as you want, we can get more.

MAY24

FROM THE PATIO

There is nothing so rare as a day in June unless it is one in May—one of those perfect days, warm with a gentle breeze, the fragrance of flowering trees tickling your nose, and puffy clouds of all shapes slowly drifting overhead. Let your imagination lift you to a cloud which you can ride to an exotic wonder somewhere in the world. There is a book to help you navigate your journey, and it's a fun read even if you stay rooted to the ground.

ATLAS OBSCURA Second Edition By Joshua Foer, Dylan Thuras , Ella Morton
910.202 F654a2

This book is filled with weird and wonderful attractions---places you may know and lots that you probably never knew existed—and you may wonder why they do!! Visit an Everlasting Lightning Storm, a Boab Prison Tree, Fingal's Cave, Tree Goats of Moracco, a prehistoric mammoth made from tires, a hotel built of salt, and a stalacpipe organ in a cavern. And you are just beginning!! This is not a read-through (front to back) book as most are. Just open at random and see where you are going. There are easy to read maps and lots of pictures. It is a bit cumbersome to hold so laying flat on a table top works well. The book is available in Columbus Libraries and the First Edition can be reserved through Inter-Library Loan services. So, hop aboard a cloud and let it sail you to a place unknown.

Cloud Ships a Tyrolean Folk Song This was sung by Girl Scout campers many years ago. (It is ok to reproduce—I checked)

“Like snow white sailing boats on a blue sea, High in the heavens are clouds floating free. If I could fly to one, if I might ride on one, Sailing and sailing, what pleasure 'twould be.

I should look down from my ship in the sky, on cities, forests, and lakes passing by. I should sail far away, and at the close of day, Anchor my cloud to a mountain-top high. “

Carolyn Moore

May 2024

May 2024 (Eastern Time - New York)

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 9:15am - Adult Sunday 10:30am - Hybrid	29	30 1pm - Book Discussion	1 6pm - SCA Marche of 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	2	3	4 9am - SDA @ Sanctuary
5 Church Mfg - Lunch and The Lord's Supper 9:15am - Adult Sunday 10:30am - Hybrid	6	7 4:30pm - Deacon Meeting	8 4:30pm - Administrative 6pm - SCA Marche of 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	9 1/2 Fellowship Hall	10 1/2 Fellowship Hall	11 1/2 Fellowship Hall 9am - SDA @ Sanctuary 12pm - SDA Luncheon @ 5pm - HM3 Dinner at 5pm - Seventh Day
12 1/2 Fellowship Hall 9:15am - Adult Sunday 10am - Fellowship Time 10:30am - Hybrid	13 1/2 Fellowship Hall	14 1/2 Fellowship Hall 11:30am - Lunch Bunch	15 1/2 Fellowship Hall 6pm - SCA Marche of 6:30pm - Session 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	16 All Fellowship Hall	17 All Fellowship Hall	18 All Fellowship Hall 9am - SDA @ Sanctuary
19 9:15am - Adult Sunday 10:30am - Hybrid	20	21	22 6pm - SCA Marche of 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	23	24	25 9am - SDA @ Sanctuary 5pm - Seventh Day
26 9:15am - Adult Sunday 10:30am - Hybrid	27	28 1pm - Book Discussion	29 6pm - SCA Marche of 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	30	31	1 9am - SDA @ Sanctuary