



October, 2024 Newsletter

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www.westminstercolumbus.org

Dear Friends,

How do you keep the Sabbath? My mother grew up Methodist. As a child my mother did not allow us to go to the movies or play cards on Sunday – until she did. Our customs and habits changed. I appreciate Eugene Peterson’s definition of Sabbath – “uncluttered time and space to distance ourselves from the frenzy of our own activities so we can see what God has been and is doing... removing the distractions of pride so we discern the presence of Christ.”

If we take a moment we can each see some of the more obvious things that clutter our time or add stress to our lives. The tough part comes in the choices we make – or don’t make – to do something about it.

When we looked out the clear church windows during the sermon on the 22nd, what did you see? Were their children playing or people walking their dogs, or no one? If you were looking around inside, you saw three visitors at worship. Did you introduce yourself? Did you see who was missing? When you call someone, I’ve found the best question to ask is “How are you doing?” If they want to bring up missing worship, let them. If they don’t, that’s not your worry. If you’re calling with genuine concern, simply ask “How are you doing?” We don’t need to blame or shame anyone, or even sound like we are.

Join us **October 6th for worship at Galloway Presbyterian Church at 10:45**, 6191 Hall Road, Galloway. World Communion Sunday. 7 minutes south of Westminster. Bring a dish to pass for the pot luck afterwards. Invite a friend or neighbor to join us.

Blessings and may the peace of the Lord be with you.

Pastor Jon Carlisle, Gap Pastor

October sermons

10/6 – World Communion – “**A Single Garment of Destiny**” “Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.” How are we called to be peacemakers in our homes and communities?

10/13 - “**I am old and wise as the night**” (Dedan Gills). An invitation to contemplation and prayer including the “Examen” an evening prayer with five parts. The Peace and Global Witness offering will be received. Our pledges for 2025 will be dedicated.

10/20 - **"They've Taken Away My Lord"** "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him" (John 20:13). "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God," (Romans 13:1). In America is Jesus the victim of identity theft by Christian nationalists?

10/27 - Reformation Sunday - **I Cor 3:23 "You Belong to Christ"** " (I Corinthians 3:23) Small is beautiful.

September Session Meeting

Session Actions

Worship & Music made a motion for Westminster to join Galloway Presbyterian Church for worship on World Communion Sunday, October 6, 2024. Session passed the motion. See you there!

Administrative Committee

Our income for the year continues to exceed our expenses and we are grateful for our good fortune.

2025 Budget - Property and Worship Committees have turned in their requests. Per capita has increased to \$44 per member. 2025 Pledge Cards will be included in this Newsletter and will also be available at the back of the Sanctuary on Sundays. Members are requested to return their pledge cards by October 13, 2024.

Website - Our website is on an old platform that could be shut down at any time. Our Treasurer's son has a company that designs websites. A motion was made and approved for Trent Rowe to meet with Mid Sole Marketing to discuss our options.

Mission and Outreach

Westminster provided the meal for the hungry at Hoge Memorial Church on September 14, 2024. We continue to have more people show up to be fed than last year. A big THANK YOU to all our volunteers!

The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected at Westminster on October 13, 2024.

Deacons' Report

The Deacons provided the meal following John Scior's memorial service and delivered balloons to Ginny Browne at her new residence. The Lunch Bunch lunch at Ding Ho's was not well-attended and the group voted to hold the October lunch at Olive Garden (5450 Renner Road), Trunk or Treat will be held in our parking lot on Friday, October 31 from 2:00 pm until about 3:00 pm or whenever the kids stop coming.

Property

- 1) Parking signs were placed in the back parking lot to reserve three places for church member parking since teachers using our lot left no parking back there for us.
- 2) The church roof has been repaired, including the reinstallation of the sheet metal that blew off the steeple.
- 3) The SDAs have stopped mowing the church grass, so Trent Rowe has been mowing it and plans to contract for this service next year.
- 4) Sidewalks have been edged.
- 5) Sun-blocking curtains have been hung at the south end entrance window to keep some of the sun from heating up the building.
- 6) Egress lighting and smoke detectors have been tested.
- 7) The narthex closet shelf was cleaned out.
- 8) The kitchen has been experiencing an uptick in ants. Sprays and human- and animal-safe solutions are being attempted.

Inspections - Stairlift inspection was completed successfully after we initially failed because we had not completed the safety inspection and had not paid for the state's inspection certificate: we are compliant now.

The boiler inspection was completed. We are grateful that Nancy Hopkins is assisting with the required inspections to alleviate some of the work of the Property Committee.

Youth and Community Garden Report

The Fall Afterschool Program has 20 students signed up and a few more on the waiting list. The plan is to have sessions on microgreens, how plants help purify ground water and building bee houses for individual bees. The sweet potatoes are nearly ready to harvest. Dennis Ingle, a teacher at Prairie Lincoln Elementary, will bring his sledge hammer to reinforce some of the existing beds with rods.

~ Lynne Kelly, Clerk of Session

Sunday School Plans

The adult Sunday School will not be meeting on Sundays. We will talk with the pastor at Galloway to see if it would be possible to have a mid-week day bible school class with some of their congregants. This would be lead by their pastor. More information to follow.

Trunk or Treat

Will be on October 31, from 2 pm until the kids leave. Please decorate your trunks and bring candy to pass out. You may also dress up if you want. The kids love it!

All Saints Sunday

This year on **All Saints Sunday, November 3rd**, we will be remembering the members who have died in the past year. Our Worship Committee will invite family members to light a candle in remembrance of a loved one. During the service, anyone else may come forward to light a candle. We will celebrate the lives of those who have now entered the Life Triumphant. This will be in place of the Blue Christmas service that has been held in the past.

Property

Let me tell you a Property story.....

"THE WINDOWS"

There once was a little church on the lane that had old windows in their sanctuary. These windows had stained glass window panels and were unique and cool to look at but they did not have the ultra-violet ray protection in them. The church Property members split up between three of them to get 3 estimates for new windows. The reason we needed to get new windows was that without it the ultra-violet rays from the sun were disintegrating the pew fabric causing them to tear. Each member met with each window company and we selected to go with the best style and price of windows. We hope the church will not have issues with the pews tearing in the future.

Once again, the little church on the lane was back in good repair. This is all to let the congregation know that the pledges and funds you provide the church is being put to good use and we are doing everything we can to be wise with your treasures, keep the church looking good, and in good repair.

Thanks,
Property Committee

Current assistance request

If you were not aware, our church has a "Free Little Library" by the road along Schoolhouse Lane. The purpose of these libraries are to offer a place for individuals to pick up free books and also put books in there for others to read. We are looking for someone to check on the library and restock or organize from time to time. We already have books to put in it. I have been amazed at the number of people who frequent our library. If you are able to help, let me know and I'll show you what is needed. ~ Melinda Rowe

Thank You

Thank you to Nancy Hopkins for stepping up to take on the church inspections. There is no significant physical labor to do many of the church needs so if you can unlock the church, drive to the church, and call companies to get work contracted and scheduled, as you would for your own home, you qualify as a Property member. However, you do not have to be on the committee to help. Be on the lookout for more requests for volunteer opportunities to take care of our church in upcoming newsletters.

Thank You
Property Committee

I would like to thank the congregation for your prayers, cards, love, and assistance during the memorial service for my brother John Scior. Losing him was such a shock, and your love and support means so much to my family and me. May God bless you all.

~ Melinda Rowe and the Scior/Rowe/Nibert families.

New You Tube Channel

If you haven't heard, Westminster now has a YouTube channel. With this change, we can view our sermons at a later date if you missed the service. In order to control live attendance, we had to make the viewing private, meaning only those who received an email with the link can watch the service. Also, the chat function has been open up so you can type in your name or prayer requests during the service. (Note, you must be logged onto YouTube to chat). This will be the only way we know you are watching live. If you would like to see it at a later date, go to the Westminster website at www.westminstercolumbus.org and look under the "services" tab. There you will see a link to the service.

FALL COAT DRIVE

With the heat we have been having, it's hard to think about the need for coats to keep students warm. But we know the cold is coming and so Capital City Helping Hands is again collecting coats for students. Last year, over 1,400 students benefited from the Coat Drive.

CCHH needs new and gently used coats of all sizes. There are a lot of small elementary students, many large high school students and a range of students in between.

Please bring your coat donations in during October and we will hang them in the Sanctuary choir area. Monetary donations are also appreciated and will be used to

purchase coats. CCHH has super shoppers who watch Costco ads, visit Volunteers of America and scope out neighborhood garage sales.

Thank you for all of your donations in the past years. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Blessings,

Jim Benney

From the Nook

Our habitat has changed!! The reading chair, the window perch for Walter, the table loaded with books as well as space for a mug of cocoa or tea remain snuggled together in a new room with a new view. It is secluded in its own way, and offers a peaceful, comforting retreat for human and feline beings. There has not been time to do much page turning the past few weeks, but a stack of new literature is calling. Look for some holiday gift suggestions, as well as a title luring you, in the next newsletter. In the meantime, do you have a nook? It's a great place for those devotional moments, and times of prayer. Leave the phone in another area, absorb the quiet surroundings and converse with God.

~Carolyn Moore

2024 Fall Flea Fantasia Results

Westminster participated in the Fall Village Garage Sale for the first time, and it was a success. We are becoming known in the Village for providing the Garage Sale permit in Westminster's name for the entire Village. Thank you, Jim and Joyce Sizemore, for purchasing it for us.

While we didn't have as much stuff as Flea Fantasia in the Spring, we still had a wonderful selection of items for people to rummage through and we collected more than \$450. It is truly a miracle how much stuff is donated. We didn't have a schedule for people to be there on the days of the sale, but we always had enough people (and food for the volunteers) to make the sale a success.

We listened to our customers and brought back the Bake Sale. Thank you to everyone who baked the delicious treats.

Thank you to everyone who donated items, their time and all the other little things that make Flea Fantasia (and our Church) a success.

Blessings,

Karen, Melinda, Trent and Jim

FLOWER CHILD

As life begins upon the earth
a garden of flowers grows.
Each of us a tender bloom
be it a lily, a tulip, a rose.

Unique each one from stem to stem,
Changing as we grow...
trailing off this way and that
with purpose we've yet to know.

Some short, some tall, lovely all
from soil ancestors have known
Carrying on a legacy
Each bud surviving on its own.

But time is brief...our beauty fades.
Like tears our petals fall.
In the autumn of our lives
our fragrance we recall.

Lo, just in time the Gardener comes
Down our path He doth roam
to gather fallen blossoms here and
in His arms he takes us home.

New seeds He'll plant, each will replace
the ones whose time have gone.
For in the garden of our lives
His plan must carry on.

Weep not for those who leave us here
to struggle in this sod.
For they've been picked by His own hand,
Everlasting bouquets with God.

Linda Jordan Hymrod (Crumley)

Originally written for the late Edward Hymrod
Offered now in memory of John Scior

Galloway Presbyterian events

Tuesday, October 8th – *See Ya Tuesday Dinner Group* will gather 5:30 p.m. at Tres Portillos Mexican Restaurant, 964 Galloway Road, Galloway, Ohio 43119

Wednesday, October 9th – Ladies Luncheon at Bob Evans in Georgesville Square. 12:30 p.m.

Additional information

Gregory Mogren's new address: 701 N. Union Blvd, Apt 25, Englewood, Ohio 45315

Carolyn Moore's new address: 3717 Orders Rd, Apt 118, Grove City, OH 43123 (phone is same)

Pearl

At the start of winter I noticed a small hole under the steps of our home. I watched it, not thinking much about it until the snow fell. I wondered what was under there and if it went out and got food to eat.

Winter seems to make some people go into a depressed mood, or in my case, a worrying mood. I would worry whether I would be able to drive on the snow and ice. I would worry if our adult children would make it back and forth to work or whether we would all get the flu. When I got all that worrying done, I worried about the animals outside — would the birds and squirrels be warm and have enough food with all the snow and ice? Then it happened — I started to worry about the hole under my steps.

What could be inside it? Would the critter be OK with all the deep snow? I cut up some potatoes, turnips and carrots and went outside and pushed them in the hole. I felt as if I would be helping some old possum or rabbit. I forgot about it for a few days and then checked it one day when I got home from work. Whatever was in there had pushed the vegetables out of the hole and into the snow. I pushed them back in, then checked the next morning — they were pushed back out! I thought it might be a squirrel, so I put some corn in the hole. The next day the corn had been pushed out. I thought whatever was in there didn't want any food and didn't want to be bothered.

The holidays came and went, and I was busy with my children and grandkids, and before I knew it spring was here. My husband and I had been gone all day on a Saturday in April, and when we got home, there on our steps sat a severely starved five- or six-month old kitten. We walked up the sidewalk, and the kitten jumped down and went in the hole under the steps. I got down on my hands and knees, trying to see it. There was nothing but blackness under the steps. I asked my husband to get a flashlight, so I could look down the hole. When I looked

in with the flashlight, I saw two gold eyes looking back at me.

I was grief-stricken. Its mother must have left, leaving the kitten down there. She must have moved the litter and forgotten this one, and it was there most of the winter. The kitten was unable to go out because of the heavy snowfall and ice. The little thing had been starving. I cried as I went inside to search for food. All that I could find was a can of tuna and some milk. I hoped the kitten would come out and eat.

I called "kitty, kitty," and I heard a little meow and out came a black-faced calico cat. I thought it would be wild, but she must have thought "this could be my last chance to live." She smelled the food, and her tiny tongue touched the fish, but she wouldn't put any in her mouth.

I tried to get her to drink the milk, but she didn't seem to know how to eat or drink. I quickly took her paw and pushed it in the milk.

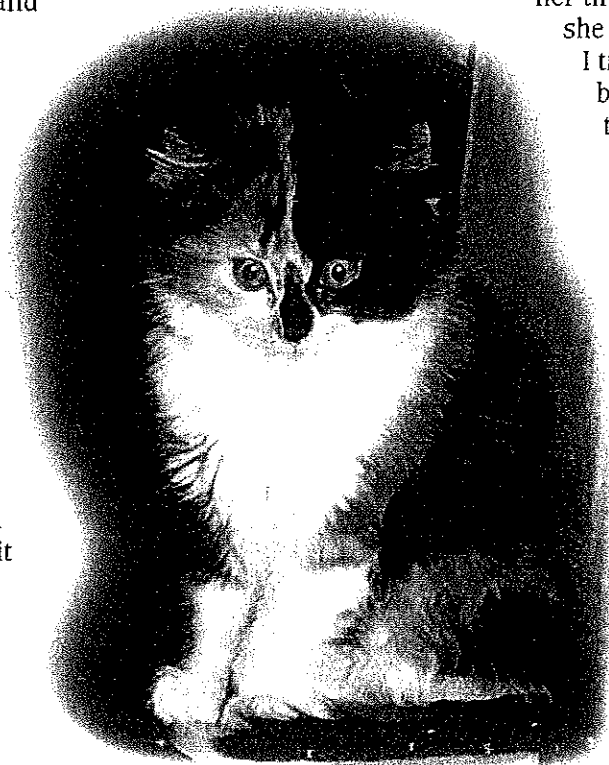
She jumped back and started licking the milk off her paw. I was relieved that she knew the taste of milk. This just added to my suspicion that she was left there while she was still nursing.

The kitten had enough of this strange experience and went back into the hole under the steps. I knew I had my work cut out for me teaching this kitten how to eat food. The next morning I went to the store and got some canned cat food. When I returned, she heard me and came out of the hole. Quickly, I opened the food and put some on my

finger tip and she licked it off. Every day I worked with her, and after about a week, she was eating and drinking a lot, three times a day. I also noticed when she started eating she also started purring as if to tell me "I love you."

My bond for this cat was so strong, and I wanted to name her something special. I remembered my oldest daughter had a rag doll she'd named Poor Pitiful Pearl. So I named my kitten Pearl. Pearl is healthy and happy and is an indoor-outdoor cat. She doesn't always know where she wants to sleep, but one thing is for sure — my little kitten is my rare black pearl. □

Diane Lynn Trout lives in Columbus.



October 2024

Oct 2024 (Eastern Time - New York)

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 10:30am - Hybrid	30	1 4:30pm - Deacon Meeting	2 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	3	4 9am - SDA - 9 to 1 @	5
6 10:30 Service at WORLD COMMUNION Westminster is CLOSED	7	8 4:30pm - Administrative 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	9 4:30pm - Administrative 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	10 9am - SDA - 9 to 1 @ 5pm - SDA @ Sanctuary	11	12
13 10am - Fellowship Time 10:30am - Hybrid Collecting Peace and Global Witness Offering	14 11:30am - Olive Garden Hilliard	15 Lunch bunch	16 6:30pm - Session 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	17 9am - SDA All Day-9 to 4	18	19
20 10:30am - Hybrid	21	22	23 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	24	25	26 9am - SDA - 9 to 1 @ 5pm - SDA @ Sanctuary
27 10:30am - Hybrid	28	29 1pm - Book Discussion	30 7pm - SDA-Sanctuary	31 2pm - Trunk OR Treat 2- Front Parking lot of Westminster	1	2 9am - SDA - 9 to 1 @

0:45
Service ← Potluck
will follow
Sunday
service
Galloway
Presbyterian