

Westminster Presbyterian Church
June 6, 2021

Dear friends,

Please note the latest updates for our in-person worship services. This was decided by the Session in response both to Governor Carney's and the CDC's new guidelines for COVID-19.

1. Pre Registration will no longer be required for in-person worship services.
2. Sign-in when you arrive at church will be required for possible contact tracing.
3. Masks and social distancing (3-6 ft) will continue to be required.
4. Temperatures need no longer be taken when you arrive.
5. Singing will be led, through the end of June, by a soloist.
6. The congregation is encouraged to sing loudly in their hearts and very quietly with their lips (or hum).
7. Fellowship after service will happen outside, but, at this time, without refreshments.
8. A plate will not be passed for offering but baskets will be available for giving pledges/offerings on your way in or out.
9. Pew bibles and hymnals may now be used.

Session's reasoning for masks and social distancing for all is this.

The latest CDC guidance for masks and social distancing is for what INDIVIDUALS CAN do-- not what CONGREGATIONS (in which both vaccinated and unvaccinated people gather together) SHOULD do. As a Session we are committed BOTH to CDC guidance AND to the principle that we will not cause stigma about either illness or vaccination status. We encourage compassion for all who are sick and vaccination, at the soonest time possible, for all who are unvaccinated. Our congregation includes people who are unvaccinated, including children, older persons who have not yet been able to be vaccinated, and some who have refused vaccination.

Unvaccinated people of any age can get the virus and spread it to others who are unvaccinated. Visitors who join us for worship will also, likely, be of this same mixed status as our own congregation. Therefore, when we are among those who may be unvaccinated, we will be as the unvaccinated for the sake of the unvaccinated-- for their safety, and to avoid stigmatizing them. We are one body in Christ, no more protected than the least protected among us."

Christ love,
Pastor Shannon

Welcome

Christine Hansvick

Call to Worship

Christine Hansvick

One: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

**All: I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your
faithfulness;**

One: for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.

Opening Hymn

"God, You Spin the Whirling Planets" GTG #23

Greetings in Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

(Exchange waves and smiles with your brothers and sisters in Christ.)

Prayer for Illumination

Christine Hansvick

Almighty God, you are the source of all light. You divinely separated light from darkness so that we may have the beauty of the light of day. Dear Lord, **illuminate** this day and enlighten us as we seek to know you through your word. May we be led by your light so our hearts may be opened to your word.

First Testament Reading

1 Samuel 8:4-20

Christine Hansvick

Special Music

Mary Beth Adair

Gospel Reading

Mark 3:20-35

*The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God*

Sermon

“Why You Are So Special”

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Affirmation of Faith

THE APOSTLES 'CREED

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Offering

Christine Hansvick

Hebrews 13:16“ And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”

We who are so blessed will soon return to a world that sorely needs both our love and our action.
As you leave today, please remember the offering basket in the narthex.

Communion Hymn

“You Are My Strength, When I Am Weak” GTG # 519

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The table is open to all who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

The Invitation

The Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

GTG # 552

Communion Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

✠ **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution with the Fraction and the Cup

The Distribution

The Response

Hymn for Stepping Out

" We Are One In the Spirit." GTG # 300

Benediction

Postlude

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**Thank you to those involved in worship today: Ushers: Lois Gillespie, John Totoch,
Liturgist: Christine Hansvick. Musician: Brad Ucci
Soloist: Mary Beth Adair
Sunday School Volunteer: Liz Evans
Preacher: Reverend Barbara Macfie**

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NOTE: Pastor Shannon will be taking time off to get her family moved into their new home in Lewes. She will be out of the office and away from email/phone from May 24th-June 6th and will return on June 7th. Elder Dave Norton will lead worship on May 30th. Rev. Barbara Macfie will lead worship on June 6th.

Barbara Macfie will be on-call from May 24-June 6 for pastoral care and emergencies. She can be reached at: (302)945-9582 (home), (732)501-2097 (cell), and bmacfie@me.com.

Remember in Prayer

Pray for all those touched recently by violence and natural disasters, the healing of national hostility and mistrust, efforts to feed the poor and provide shelter for the homeless in our area, and the following people:

Sarah Altavater is requesting prayers for an easy transition back to work and that she will be financially stable.

Lois Baldwin - prayers as she recovers from surgery on her broken wrist.

Linda Book – for continued strength to fight the side effects of multiple myeloma cancer.

Rev. Kim Brinkmeyer –continued healing and recovery.

Chuck Burton – extended family of Lois Rayner, dealing with Cancer issues.

Pauline Cottingham – fell and injured her arm and is experiencing pain. Also, her general health is declining.

Peter Culin – for Sue Culin’s brother-in-law, as he continues with chemotherapy.

Ginny Hendricks- friend of Sarah Altvater- Ginny’s father passed away from Hernia repair operation. Prayers for Ginny and her family.

Susan Frost – Sally Waugaman’s daughter, has been placed in Hospice care. Please keep her and the family in your prayers

Joan Merlo - friend of Debbie Magliette, diagnosed with Breast Cancer and will

Be having surgery next week.

Lacey Meade – daughter of Betty Pratt, undergoing surgery June 2 as part of her cancer treatment. Please pray her surgery is successful and for a rapid healing process.

Mekenzie –the 21 year old grandniece of Don & Dee Austin, has a long recovery ahead to heal from broken leg and sprained ankle

Pat Mossel – Experienced a break in her scapula (shoulder blade) which was spontaneous and due to her brittle bones from osteoporosis. She is experiencing a great deal of pain, so please pray for healing.

Rev. Larry Neumark -friend of Karen & Glenn Dixon who has a recurrence of prostate cancer.

Betty Pratt - swelling in her legs greatly reduced as she undergoes massage therapy.

Janet Waugaman – Sally Waugaman’s daughter, continues to lose mobility due to Multiple System Atrophy.

Our church has a prayer chain of members who will pray for any person you ask. Contact Karen Dixon by phone at 302-858-8968 or email at k_dixon221@hotmail.com.

Stewardship Report
Back of the Bulletin
As of May 31, 2021

Thank you everyone!

As we approach the summer season and vacations, General Tithes and Offerings received through May continue the strong level of support that Westminster Church has been experiencing. Church members and friends are energized by returning to the sanctuary for worship. And the continuing strength of church support has enabled the church to proceed with the purchase of the new stove, as part of the planned church upgrades:

May			JANUARY - May		
<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>%</u>
\$12,323	\$11,753	+4	\$71,213	\$58,766	+21

During May, the church Session authorized continuing planning for the **William Gibson Society**, an affinity group that supports and recognizes those who have named Westminster Church in a planned gift or legacy. William Drysdale Gibson, DD, was the Scottish-born pastor who served Westminster from 1944 to 1964. His strong preaching and spiritual leadership have enriched generations of church members and friends. Likewise, by including Westminster Church as a beneficiary of your estate, your legacy will provide for the spiritual growth and support for future generations. You will be hearing more as we move forward.

Financial statements of the church are available to members and friends upon request.

If you have comments or questions, please feel free to contact the Finance and Stewardship Team.

John Brame Witmer
Finance and Stewardship Chair