



The Westminster Breeze

May 2024



A Word from Nancy

“Whatever you do for any of my people, you do for me.”

Matthew 25:40

Have you seen this on the back of the new Westminster T-shirts? In 2016, the denomination, PC(USA) committed to being a Matthew 25 Church. This meant being a church living in the ways called for by Matthew 25, most especially by the last part of that chapter (verses 31–46).

This article is just a brief explanation of what it means to be a Matthew 25 Church. The information is primarily being taken from the PC(USA) website. I invite you to visit that website and learn a great deal more about this initiative. Just Google PCUSA Matthew 25. You’ll find loads of articles, explanations, and videos!

Donna Frischknecht Jackson, in an article in *Presbyterians Today*, wrote, “A wondrous change is taking place — a movement of the Spirit. Presbyterian congregations are reprioritizing the work of the Church, taking it from an institution of survival to a way of getting actively engaged in the community and making the world a better place.”

We here at Westminster are among those PC(USA) congregations that are trying to get to the root causes

that create an unjust world. As the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, president and executive director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency says, we see that “the love of God has skin on it.” Moffett, a pastor herself, knows all too well that Presbyterians can make some of the best mission statements. The challenge, though, is to live them out.”

The information on the website goes on to explain that Matthew 25 is not an initiative or program to spur numerical growth. It is simply an invitation to churches, big and small, to bring focus to and frame the work they’re called to do. And, in the process, Matthew 25 invites Presbyterians of various theological and political views to stand on common ground together, strengthening the denomination to become “a more relevant presence in the world,” Moffett says.

Matthew 25 has at its heart three main goals: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

Congregational vitality is a lot more than filling the pews on Sunday mornings, the scope of the programs offered, or the size of the financial gifts. Congregational vitality is evident in a worshipping community when its structural systems, finances, and discipleship

practices are in line with the mission of Jesus. I see places at Westminster where we are attempting to aid our community: Bus Fare, Backpack Buddies, our work at the Community Kitchen, our work at Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries, feeding the neighborhood children on Wednesday nights where we are trying to introduce them to the love of Jesus (without hammering it into them), and the nights we housed homeless people during the harshest of the winter nights. I applaud these efforts. Not only do they speak to congregational vitality, they also serve to aid our awareness of racism and poverty that exists in our own backdoor. But these missions require resources. And that’s where we, as a congregation, come in.

But, here is where I am guilty. I have not yet attended a Bus Fare lunch. I have not brought food for the community food bank, nor have I helped pack or deliver backpack buddies. I bet I am not the only one. This is where we can all do better. If you have not signed up to help with Bus Fare, then do so. If you have not brought food for the pantry, do so. If you have not helped out at the Community Kitchen, sign up and do so. If you have not packed supplies for Backpack Buddies, see Sarah Whitley. You can do it!! And so can I!!

Then dream. Dream of how we can be a further presence in the lives of those who need us. What can we do for people and by so doing, do for Jesus?

A Service of Wholeness and Healing
Please join us for a brief service of wholeness and healing that will be led by Rev. Camille Josey and a currently serving elder. The congregation and the community are invited. Join us on Thursday, May 2nd from 12:15PM to 12:45PM in the Parlor.

Session Family Prayer List
During the month of May the Elders will be praying for the following individuals and their families: Jeff & Erin Glover, Leslie & Kaye Gordon, Rick & Sandra Gosnold, Kevin Handle, Marge Hauser, John & Marilyn Hendrickson, Dave & Susan Henley, Joe & Martha Holder, and Verna Holmes.

Budget and Stewardship Committee Update for March		
March 2024		
	Actual	Budget
Income	33,644	33,653
Expense	36,196	38,174
Year-to-date		
	Actual	Budget
Income	83,952	88,947
Expense	98,352	102,134

THE LUNCH BUNCH
The Lunch Bunch will meet at **McAlister’s Deli** located at 1429 Turner McCall Blvd on Monday, May 20th at 11:30AM. We had 20 folks join us in April and we would love for you to join us, too! All are welcome to come and we encourage you to bring a friend!

On A Mission

'SHIPS

Many of our Mission activities depend on partnerships.

The Community Pantry relies on food supplies we receive through partnership with [Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries](#) and residents of The Spires.

[Bus Fare](#) is a collaboration with [Rome-Floyd County Community Kitchen](#), [William Davies Shelter](#), and [Fork, Spoon, and Plate](#).

We will be working with [YMCA of Rome & Floyd County](#) and [RCS School Nutrition](#) for our Summer activity and lunch program for neighborhood children.

Bus Fare and our Summer program meet needs of some of our less-privileged neighbors. For many of us, this is our comfort zone - to do something **for** others. *Partnerships allow us to do more than we might otherwise be able to do on our own.*

Perhaps more important than serving others through these programs, we have the opportunity to step beyond our comfort zones and grow relationships **with our neighbors**. *Only when we are in authentic relationships with our less-privileged neighbors can we begin to learn about the systems and structures that keep them less-privileged. Understanding the obstacles our neighbors face is critical to our ability to answer our Matthew 25 call to eradicate systemic poverty.*

Scrip Cards

The next scrip order will be taken on Sunday, May 5th. Please complete an order form located on the chest in the Narthex and attach a check made payable to *Westminster* and place it in the offering plate or Susan Henley's mailbox. The proceeds from these cards help to fund Mission projects.

Community Kitchen

Our Community Kitchen Workday will be on Wednesday, May 22nd. Three workers are needed for food preparation at 9AM and three workers are needed for serving at 10:30AM. Please sign up on the Mission Board in the Commons hallway for your slot to serve at the Community Kitchen.

A MONTHLY MISSION OPPORTUNITY!

A Westminster Team will gather at the **Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries** (90 E. Callahan St. in West Rome) on the last Tuesday of every month from 9:30AM until 12:30PM. No need to sign up! Just come with a smile on your face! You might be needed to help customers through the shop or pack Backpack Buddy bags, or retrieve buggies.... This month we meet on May 28th. Hope to see you there!

Food Pantry Items for May

- May 5 Soap
- May 12 Beanie Weenies
- May 19 Crackers
- May 26 Pop-tarts

Please place your items on the table marked Community Pantry in the Commons. Thank you!



Saturday Bus Fare

The Bus is rolling, 701 meals served and delivered in 14 weeks!



Thank you volunteers for making this a success. If you haven't been by, please sign up to give us a hand or just stop by for lunch and meet our guests between 12PM-1PM, every Saturday in the West Center.



It is easy to sign up to set, serve, cleanup, or help with showers by scanning this QR code or go to Westminster's website:

www.wpcrome.org

then go to "Programs" and then to "Bus Fare". If you don't want to do either of those, just show up and we will put you to work!

Our next big box of your donated stamps is almost ready to ship to Alliance Stamp Ministry in Fort Myers, Fl. If you have stamps at home, **now's the time to bring them to church** and put them in the mailbox end drawer so we can add them to this shipment! Thanks for your participation.

Summer Lunch Program

This summer we will be partnering with Rome City Schools and the YMCA to feed the bellies and souls of the children in our neighborhood. From June 4 – July 25 (excluding the week of July 4th) we will open the doors to the West Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30AM to 1:00PM. We will need several WPC volunteers to oversee crafts and serve food. Look for sign-up sheets soon or talk to a member of the Mission Team if you have questions.

Two Special Offerings Received in May

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

On Mother's Day, May 12th, a special offering will be collected to benefit the CARING HANDS FUND of Presbyterian Homes of Georgia (PHGA). This annual offering is the largest source of funds for charitable care for senior adults who have outlived their financial resources in PHGA's six communities in Austell, Athens, Decatur, Quitman, and Swainsboro.

PENTECOST OFFERING

This offering provides a tangible way to bring God's transforming love to children at risk, guide and nurture the faith of young people, and call forth a new generation of church leadership through the PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteer program. Forty percent of our offering receipts will be used by Westminster to help children at risk in our own community. So, please give generously on Sunday, **May 19th** and **be sure to wear RED as we celebrate Pentecost!**



Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (PWCT) will meet on Tuesday, May 7th, at 2PM in the Conference Room.

Circle News: The PW Circles will conclude our study of *Sacred Encounters* with Lesson Nine: *People Encounter Jesus Through the Work of the Disciples*. The Day Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 14th, at 2PM in the Conference Room. The Night Circle will meet on Thursday, May 9th, at 6:30PM in the Conference Room, with a Zoom option available. If you are not a regular attendee of the Night Circle but would like a Zoom invitation, please let Susan Henley know. All ladies are welcome to attend.


The PW Mission Project for May is the collection for our annual Birthday Offering. For over 100 years, PW has awarded grants that have funded more than 200 projects to provide medical care, education, shelter, food, and support for people in need. This year's recipients are Advocates for Community Choice dba Bethel Hills (addressing the needs of adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities) and Shawnee Presbyterian Church Cafe Gingko (providing free meals to food insecure neighbors).

We will celebrate this year's offering in the West Center with a salad luncheon after worship on Sunday, May 5th. All ladies of the church are invited. Please bring a salad to share and enjoy fellowship as we learn about the important work supported by our donations. Also, anyone in the

congregation wishing to donate may write a check to: "WPC Presbyterian Women" and note "Birthday Offering" in the memo.

Looking ahead, our Mission Project for June and July will be the collection of school supplies for those served by our Backpack Buddies program. Watch upcoming issues of *The Breeze* and posted notices at church for more details about specific needs.

Pints with the Pastor!
Going out with friends or even colleagues after a long day or just to catch up is the norm for many. But what about grabbing a pint with your pastor? A place where you might bring a friend who is "allergic" to Church? A place where any of the difficult questions about religion, about faith, about God can be asked? Or just a place where we can think about community, expansive community, as Jesus demonstrated it.
If this sounds like something you would like to do, join us on Wednesday, May 22nd at 6:30PM at River Remedy Brewing Co., located at 320 Glen Milner Blvd.


Congratulations to Will Errickson and Jane Aquino who were married on March 30, 2024!

Special Church Night Supper Event!

If you have been to Montreat or Presbyterian Women events, you may have already participated in or heard of rhythmic praise.

As an experiment in worship arts, we will welcome Charles Tighe to Westminster on Wednesday, May 8th, to lead us in drumming as percussion and praise! Drumming offers inter-generational and cross-cultural participation.

We have been loaned a number of instruments which will allow us to explore a new facet of making a joyful noise at this special Wednesday gathering. Join us for supper at 5:30PM in the West Center and stay for the drumming!

Children's Worship and Wonder Update
It's hard to believe that Children's Worship and Wonder has been a part of Westminster for 2 years now! Since its beginning at WPC, Jasmine Williams has been our storyteller. Her faithful and enthusiastic leadership was instrumental in the implementation of the program. We offer her thanks for a job well done as she completes her time in this role at Westminster!
In April, we transitioned to a storyteller rotation. We welcome and thank Teresa Edens, Ellen Jackson and Beth Williams for volunteering to continue this vital children's program by serving as storytellers.
Thank you to our weekly helpers, as well. If you are interested in helping, please see Beth Williams.

12 Hour National Day of Prayer
Please mark your calendars for **May 2nd from 8AM-8PM** for the 12 Hour National Day of Prayer.
We will be using a hybrid format where you may sign up for a prayer time in the Parlor or Sanctuary OR somewhere off campus, such as your home. The Parlor will be available from 8AM to 12PM and 1PM to 4:30PM. The Sanctuary will be available from 8AM to 4:30PM. From 5PM to 8PM we are asking that all prayer times be done off campus. A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex.

Wind and Fire and Doves, Oh My!!
Pentecost is May 19th! Be sure to watch for all of these symbols representing the Holy Spirit during our worship...
Wind: represents the noise the apostles heard as the Holy Spirit descended upon them
Fire: represented by the color red, appeared as flames that rested on the heads of the apostles as a symbol of the work of the Holy Spirit.
Doves: represent the gift of the Holy Spirit that descended "like a dove" on the day of Pentecost, also remind us of peace and represent new beginnings and hope.
So... wear red on Pentecost Sunday and be ready to celebrate the birth of the church when the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit!

**In Loving Memory
of
Ethel Williams
who died on
April 6, 2024**


Welcome New Members!

We are so excited to welcome **Kevin Handle** who joined WPC on April 21, 2024 by Reaffirmation of his faith. And **Verna Holmes** who joined WPC on April 21, 2024 by transfer of her church letter. **Welcome!**

PNC Update

Are you interested in seeing the job posting for our pastor position? If so, you can find a copy of it on the session bulletin board outside the staff offices. Look for the **WPC MDP**. (Westminster Presbyterian Church Ministry Discernment Profile)

The PNC continues to meet weekly to discern God's direction for WPC. We are making progress and learning much as we faithfully consider all qualified call seekers for our pastor position. We ask that you continue to keep us and the congregation in your prayers as we strive to be receptive to God's call.

★  *WCA and the Church office will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.* ★

Thank You

To My Westminster Family,
I want to express how grateful we are for each of you. Jane and I cannot thank you enough for your love and generosity at our wedding shower and at the wedding. This church family has always embraced me as family for as long as I can remember and I want to thank you for embracing Jane into that family with open arms. We are thrilled to start this next chapter of our lives together and it is wonderful to know we have so many people praying for and supporting us. Jane's mother and sister expressed how grateful they are to know that Jane has married a man who is so well loved by so many people. They were really blown away by your kindness! We ask for your continued prayers as we begin our marital journey, and we pray that God's blessings will shine upon all of you.

In God's Love,
Will & Jane Errickson

If you have any items to be included in the June edition of *The Breeze*, please email them to Susan Henley (shenleywpc@bellsouth.net) by noon on Monday, May 20th.



Rome Emperor's Baseball Game

All 40 tickets for the May 10th baseball game have been signed up for (reserved). Several people have added their names as "standby" in case any of the 40 reserved tickets become available. Any questions, contact Jennifer Jones.

Know before You Go:

- The stadium has a clear bag policy, excludes medical and diaper bags.
- Gates open at 6PM.
- The stadium is completely cashless.
- No outside food or beverages except one bottle of water per person.
- May 10th is Pink Out the Park AND Father Daughter Date Night
- Enter the stadium at the concierge lobby (not the ticket gates) which is to the right of the ticket windows. Take the elevator to the Suite floor (not the office floor). Then go left around the walkway to the Jumbo suite that is on the 3rd base side of the stadium.
- There will be Texas cake, peanuts, and popcorn in the suite but you are on your own for other expenses.

Birthdays in May

- 2 Will Errickson
- 5 Nora Glover
- 5 Quinn Eliza Barris
- 6 Helen Ann Merritt
- 12 Joe Tribble
- 18 Jeanne Schul
- 24 Joni Nelson
- 26 Jennifer Jones
- 27 Dave Henley
- 27 Trish Reed
- 28 Marissa Johnson
- 30 Bobbie Ivison
- 31 Kaye Gordon
- 31 Rosanne Sweitzer

Greeter

- May 5 Anne Miller
- May 12 Rosanne Sweitzer
- May 19 Stephen Williams
- May 26 Cathy Busby

Check-in Attendant

- May 5 Raymond Murray
- May 12 Gloria Eberhart
- May 19 Mike Elliott
- May 26 Elizabeth Busby

Liturgist

- May 5 Dan Sweitzer
- May 12 Pam Bibb
- May 19 Anita Errickson
- May 26 Stephen Williams

Scripture Reader

- May 5 Dan Sweitzer
- May 12 Frank Bibb
- May 19 Anita Errickson
- May 26 Rhonda Sizemore

Nursery

- May 5 Linda Sipp
- May 12 Kathy Smith
- May 19 Jennifer Jones
- May 26 Laurie Johnson

Children Worship & Wonder

- May 5 Sue Tarpley
- May 12 Pam Bibb
- May 19 Elizabeth Busby
- May 26 Cathy Busby

Elder on Call

- May 5 CJ Reed
- May 12 Sue Tarpley
- May 19 Beth Williams
- May 26 Paul Culotta

Flowers

- May 5
- May 12
- May 19
- May 26 Sam Jones



**LOCK-UP PERSON
FOR MAY
Dave Henley**



May 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 7AM Men's Breakfast-FH Noon AI-Anon-CR 2:30PM Staff Mtg-PS/Zoom 4PM PNC-CR 4:30PM Seated Yoga Class-WH 5:30PM FNS Catered Meal -WC <i>Breakfast</i> 6:15PM Handbells/Program 7PM Chancel Choir	2 8AM-8PM National Day of Prayer-Parlor/Sanctuary/Off campus 12:15PM Prayer Service of Wholeness & Healing-Parlor 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH 8PM AA-FH	3	4 Noon-Bus Fare Feeding Program-WC 2PM Celebration of Life Service for Ethel Williams-Sanctuary/WH
5 Communion Sunday Sunday School Classes 11AM Worship Service <i>Scrip Orders are due</i> 12:15PM PW Birthday Luncheon-WC 3PM-5PM Hispanic Church-WH	6 Nancy Bertrand gone through 17 th 7PM Mission Team-CR/Zoom	7 1PM Prayer Group-CR 2PM PWCT-CR 7PM Scouts-WC 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH	8 7AM Men's Breakfast-FH Noon AI-Anon-CR 2:30PM Staff Mtg-PS 4PM PNC-CR 4:30PM Seated Yoga Class-WH 5:30PM FNS Catered Meal-WC <i>Sandwich Bar</i> 6:15PM Drum Program 7:15PM Handbells/Chancel Choir	9 11AM Bible Study-CR/Zoom 4:30PM Stewardship Team-Zoom 6:30PM Night Circle-CR/Zoom 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH 8PM AA-FH	10 6PM Rome Emperor's Baseball Game Game begins at 7PM	11 Noon-Bus Fare Feeding Program-WC
12 Mother's Day Sunday School Classes 11AM Worship Service <i>Mother's Day Offering</i> 3PM-5PM Hispanic Church-WH	13 7PM Session Mtg-CR	14 1PM Prayer Group-CR 2PM Day Circle-CR 7PM Scouts-WC 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH	15 7AM Men's Breakfast-FH Noon AI-Anon-CR 2:30PM Staff Mtg-PS 4PM PNC-CR 4:30PM Seated Yoga Class-WH 5:30PM Last FNS Catered Meal until August-WC <i>Beef Lasagna</i> 6:15PM Handbells/Program 7PM Chancel Choir	16 2PM SL&C Team-CR/Zoom 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH 8PM AA-FH	17	18 Noon-Bus Fare Feeding Program-WC
19 Day of Pentecost Sunday School Classes 11AM Worship Service <i>Pentecost Offering</i> 3PM-5PM Hispanic Church-WH	20 11:30AM Lunch Bunch at McAlister's Deli Noon BREEZE DEADLINE 7PM Worship Team-CR	21 1PM Prayer Group-CR 7PM Scouts-WC 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH	22 7AM Men's Breakfast-FH 9AM-Noon Community Kit. Noon AI-Anon-CR 2:30PM Staff Mtg-PS 4PM PNC-CR 5:30PM Chancel Choir 6:30PM Pints with the Pastor-River Remedy Brewing Co.	23 11AM Bible Study-CR/Zoom 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH 8PM AA-FH	24	25 Noon-Bus Fare Feeding Program-WC 2PM Volunteer Training-CR
26 Sunday School Classes 11AM Worship Service 3PM-5PM Hispanic Church-WH	27 Memorial Day WCA and WPC Office will be closed	28 Susan Henley on vacation through May 31st 9:30AM-12:30PM NW GA Hunger Ministries 1PM Prayer Group-CR 7PM Scouts-WC 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH	29 7AM Men's Breakfast-FH Noon AI-Anon-CR 2:30PM Staff Mtg-PS 4PM PNC-CR 7PM Chancel Choir	30 7:30PM-9:30PM Hispanic Church-WH 8PM AA-FH	31	