



# The Westminster Standard

NEWSLETTER OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HATTIESBURG



## *A Word From the Director of Discipleship*

### **A Word From the Director of Discipleship . . .**

**Bread Breakers** is a unique opportunity offered by the Belonging Committee designed for you to get to know the members of your church around a dinner table. Sign ups have come to an end, and now the Belonging Committee will gather the information provided. Groups will be put together randomly, and once formed, the groups will go out to eat together once a month. It is a fun and exciting way to have fellowship and strengthen relationships. Plus, the food is usually pretty good, too! If you signed up for Bread Breakers, stay tuned! We will be contacting you soon with your groups.



The **New Beginnings** group had a great time during their December meeting packing 100 boxes for the Bread Basket Christmas Ministry. New Beginnings will meet this month at noon, Monday, January 22. NOTE: this is one week later than our normal meeting time! Librarians from USM will be our program, and we are meeting a week later to accommodate our speakers and the holiday on the 15th. As always, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall at noon. Make plans to join us!

### **2018 Westminster Presbyterian Re-boots**

As we enter into the new year, our regularly scheduled programs will begin to fire back up again.

- ***Children and Youth Programs will resume the evening of Sunday, January 14.***
- ***Regular Wednesday night dinners and programming will resume Wednesday, January 10.***
- ***Brown Bag Bible Study will resume Tuesday, January 9, at noon.***

Blessings,

*Tommy*

*Happy  
New Year!*



Hello, 2018! What an exciting year we have ahead of us. As we welcome our new pastor and his family, the choir looks forward to sharing more great service music with our appreciative and supportive congregation. Everyone seemed to enjoy the special music we presented on December 10. Thank you for all the positive feedback on the carol arrangements by our own Howard Keever.

You will be pleased to know that our music for Lent will again be arranged by Howard. He has the remarkable talent, and the skill, to write beautiful, meaningful choral pieces which are also accessible to the whole congregation and can be appreciated by everyone. Consider joining us in the choir loft on Sunday mornings and at our rehearsals on Wednesday nights this spring as we prepare anthems. Any choir member can tell you how much fun we have (really!), and they can attest to the fact that all you need is a song in your heart and a love of music. We'll provide all the support you need. We want to welcome some new faces to our group.

Blessings as we begin a promising new year together!



## Presbyterian Women of Westminster

What a wonder it was to see the six or so inches of snow that fell in our area in early December. The bright, clean appearance of the snow-covered ground created a very different view of our world. This remarkably deep snowfall also created an unusual quiet on our neighborhood streets, giving us an opportunity to reflect on the majesty of creation as we experienced a different view of the world than we typically see. Moments like this are a reminder that God, the Creator, is indeed in charge of the universe. That is good to know as our church family begins a new year with a new pastor.

To welcome our new pastor, Presbyterian Women will host a reception after the worship service on January 14, so that members of the congregation can meet Reverend Crotnell and his family. Please

plan to stay a few minutes after the service and enjoy some refreshments.

Beginning a new year is always a good time to make adjustments in our daily lives. Why not make a resolution to become more active in Presbyterian Women? There are lots of ways to participate: attending a circle meeting, making a dish for the casserole ministry, donating clothing or purses (see Ann Johnson or Sarah Brannon), donating funds for PW projects, visiting members in assisted living residences, attending a prayer ministry meeting, and much more. PW is committed to serving our church family, and we hope all Westminster's women will find a way to participate.

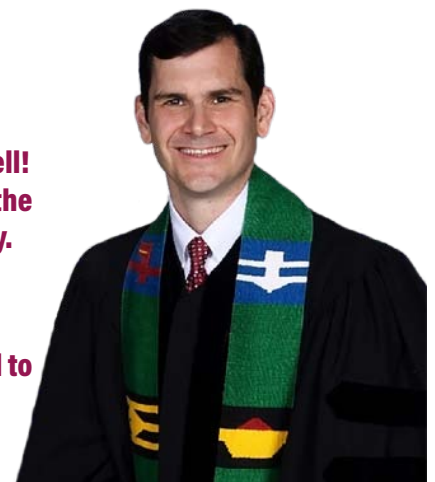
*Happy New Year!*

### January 7

**At 10:30 a.m., we welcome our new pastor to the pulpit, Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotnell!  
At 5:30 p.m., the Session, Diaconate, Trustees, and Westminster Staff are called to the home of Raoul and Althea Jerome for welcoming reception for the Crotnell family.**

### January 14

**At 11:30 a.m. following worship, the Presbyterian Women invite all to Montague Hall to welcome Dr. Crotnell and his family. Refreshments will be served.**



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

<b>2</b> Geraldine Jones	<b>7</b> Mae Westbrook	<b>15</b> Lavon Smith	<b>30</b> Margaret Pearson
<b>2</b> Margaret Lochhead	<b>9</b> Ann Aldridge	<b>19</b> John W. S. West	<b>31</b> Chloe Cain
<b>2</b> Sam Ruff	<b>10</b> Brenda Owens	<b>24</b> Dean Cromartie	<b>31</b> Gene Owens
<b>4</b> Anthony Cafalone	<b>13</b> Mary Hannah Ruff	<b>25</b> Nancy Johnson	<b>31</b> Connie Raggio
<b>4</b> Howard Keever	<b>14</b> Gary West	<b>30</b> Campbell Brooks	<b>31</b> Hayes Trexler
<b>5</b> Michael Brooks	<b>15</b> Andrew Gaudet	<b>30</b> Betty Garraway	

## DECEMBER ATTENDANCE

DECEMBER 3	119	
DECEMBER 10	106	
DECEMBER 17	120	
DECEMBER 24	122	MORNING
DECEMBER 24	156	EVENING
DECEMBER 31	94	



# JANUARY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>	2 9:30 AM PW Coordinating Team	3	4 6:30 AM Men of the Church Weekly Breakfast, Shoney's	5	6
7 COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:30 AM Inviting 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Property 11:30 AM Belonging	8	9 9:30 AM Circle 1 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bible Study 7:00 PM Circle 2	10 4:30 PM Admin Meeting 5:30 PM Family Night Supper 7:00 PM Choir	11 6:30 AM Men of the Church Weekly Breakfast, Shoney's	12  <b>PW WINTER RETREAT</b>	13
14 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM DIACONATE 12:30 PM SESSION	15	16 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bible Study	17 5:30 PM Family Night Supper 7:00 PM Choir	18 6:30 AM Men of the Church Weekly Breakfast, Shoney's	19	20
21 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	22 12:00 PM New Beginnings	23 11:00 AM PW Prayer Ministry 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bible Study	24 5:30 PM Family Night Supper 7:00 PM Choir	25 6:30 AM Men of the Church Weekly Breakfast, Shoney's  <b>NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE</b>	26	27
28 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	29	30 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bible Study	31 5:30 PM Family Night Supper 7:00 PM Choir			

**REMINDER: Newsletter submission are due no later than the 25th of each month. Submissions received on the 26th or later will not be seen until the next month, e.g. a submission received on January 26 will not be seen until the March newsletter.**

**Is there something you'd like to submit or see in the newsletter? Your comments, suggestions, and submissions are welcomed! Please contact Wes Brooks at [wes@wpchattiesburg.com](mailto:wes@wpchattiesburg.com).**