

November Calendar of Events

1 - Tuesday	9:30 am - PW Coordinating Team
2 - Wednesday	5:15 pm - Children's choir 5:45 pm - Dinner - Cooking team has main dish 6:30 pm - Bible Study
3 - Thursday	12:00 pm - ShareCare Bank monthly potluck
6 - Sunday	**Daylight Savings Time** 11:00 am - Communion Sunday
7-11	Breadbasket Applications
8 - Tuesday	9:30 am - Presbyterian Women - Circle 1 7:00 pm - Presbyterian Women - Circle 2
9 - Wednesday	5:15 pm - Children's choir 5:45 pm - Potluck dinner 6:30 pm - Bible Study
12 - Saturday	8:00 am - Men of the Church breakfast 8:30 am - Church-wide workday 4:00 pm - USM Game Day parking - youth
13 - Sunday	12:15 pm - Diaconate Meeting 1:30 pm - Session Meeting
15 - Tuesday	9:30 am - Presbyterian Women Prayer Group
16 - Wednesday	5:15 pm - Children's choir 5:45 pm - Potluck dinner 6:30 pm - Bible Study
17 - Thursday	5:00 pm - ShareCare Bingo
19 - Saturday	11:00 am - Ultreya Potluck Lunch
20 - Sunday	12:00 pm - Thanksgiving Lunch 7:15 pm - Ecumenical Thanksgiving - St. Thomas Catholic Church
23 - Wednesday	No Wednesday Night Activities - Only Choir rehearsal at 6:30 pm
24 - 25	Church office closed
26 - Saturday	12:30 pm - USM Game Day parking - youth
27 - Sunday	11:00 am - First Advent Service 2:00 pm - Organ Recital - Randall Harris
30 - Wednesday	No Wednesday night activities

Westminster Presbyterian Church
115 N 25th Avenue
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

N O V E M B E R R 2 0 1 1



The Westminster Standard

Our Mission: TLC - Trust God, Love People, and Carry Christ into the World

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A Word From the Pastor

My job, as pastor, is to help people renounce sin and evil, turn to God, fall more deeply in love with Jesus, and live faithfully in this sometimes crazy and mixed up world. The church is simultaneously a refuge, a hospital, a school, a reunion, and a mission outpost. Making stronger disciples who make stronger disciples is what I'm trying to do. I have 3 suggestions that will help you fall more deeply in love with Jesus: 1) Stewardship, 2) Worship, and 3) Cursillo.

Jesus said where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. I can almost guarantee that if you doubled your pledge, you would be much more interested, invested, connected to what God is doing at Westminster. I'm not suggesting that you double your pledge. But give meaningfully. Don't give God the leftovers. Give first fruits and give sacrificially. When you practice stewardship from the heart, it will change your heart and grow your faith. I know this personally.

Worship shapes everything we do at Westminster. We have wonderful music and the Bible is central in our worship. God visits us every week and He is the audience we are trying to please and connect with. Show up regularly with an open heart and mind. Your faith will grow!

Finally, if you really want to revitalize a heart that has cooled off, attend a Cursillo Retreat. Last week 35 pilgrims and 43 staff spent a fabulous week-end at Camp Wesley Pines in Gallman for Mississippi Presbyterian Cursillo #8. Ten people from Westminster were involved, and we had pilgrims and staff from First Presbyterian in Hernando this time. Alison (Ramp) Beuhler says her church in Starkville will send 4 to MPC #9 next May. God may be calling you to this as well. God will bless and use our stewardship, our worship, and our personal piety to change us, our church, Hattiesburg, and the world. Thanks be to God!

Steve



Worship

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

This year the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church on 4th Street on **November 20th at 7:15 p.m.** If you would like to sing in the mass choir, let Connie know. The new pastor at University Baptist will be preaching. Please join us for this way of ushering in Thanksgiving. Any donations given will go to support the BreadBasket ministry.

Special Baptism

We will baptize Julia Frances Haydel **November 13th.** Mac Forsyth will assist as an elder. This is a joyous occasion for Jeff, Judy, Sam, Henry, and our Westminster family!

Organ Recital by Randall Harris

On Sunday, November 27, at 2:00 p.m., we will ring in the Advent Season with an organ recital by our own Randall Harris. Come enjoy the magnificent sounds of our pipe organ played by such a talented musician. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

The Advent Season

It's hard to believe that the Advent Season is right around the corner. Our first Sunday in Advent is **November 27th.** This is always a special time for our church. Our annual Advent Workshop will be Sunday, December 4th, where we will have the hanging of the greens and enjoy a time of fellowship as we prepare for Christmas. There will also be a caroling group going to the Historic Hattiesburg Neighborhood Association on December 10th for their annual Victorian Candlelit Christmas.

October average attendance: 128

Oct. 2 - 135 Oct. 9 - 121 Oct. 16 - 139 Oct. 23 - 112 Oct. 30 - 134

Belonging



Althea Jerome Receives Governor's Award

The Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts for 2012 were announced in October. The 2012 recipients for the state's highest arts honor are: pianist, singer, and composer Mose Allison of Tippecanoe for lifetime achievement, author Howard Bahr of Jackson, Excellence in Literature; world-class guitar and banjo player Carl Jackson of Gallatin, Tenn. (originally from Louisville), Excellence in Music; the legendary McCarty Pottery in Merigold, Excellence in Visual Art; the Jackson festival WellsFest, Arts in Community; Althea Jerome of Hattiesburg, Arts in Education.

Presbyterian Women Circles

The PW Prayer Group meets on **Tuesday, November 15, at 9:30 a.m.** at Westminster. All ladies are welcome to join in this time of fellowship with each other and prayer for the needs of our community.

ShareCare Bank

The monthly potluck will be held on **Thursday, November 3, at 12:00 p.m.** in the Westminster Fellowship Hall.

On **Thursday, November 17th,** ShareCare will be playing Bingo in the Westminster Fellowship Hall from **5:00-8:00 p.m.** All are welcome to "B1" of the Bingo players!

Church-Wide Work Day

We will have our annual church-wide work day on **Saturday, November 12th,** following the Men's Breakfast. All are welcome to join the breakfast at **8:30 a.m.** and then help with projects around the church. The work projects will last until 11:30 a.m.



Westminster Thanksgiving Lunch

The annual Thanksgiving meal will be served after church on **November 20th.** All you have to bring is yourself! Please plan on staying for this fellowship after the service.

USM Game Day Parking

The youth offer paid parking at Westminster for the Southern Miss home games. Parking is \$8, and the funds go towards youth activities. The two November home games are the **12th at 4:00 p.m. and the 26th at 12:30 p.m.**

Wednesday Night Activities

November 16th will be the last Wednesday night of the year with the regularly scheduled events. We will take a break from these activities for the Advent Season and pick them back up in January.

November Birthdays

1 Tom McKegney	17 Mary Cromartie	20 Floyd Cannedy
2 Sarah Nobles	17 Brent Gatch	20 Jeanne Herring
3 Lynn Davis	17 Mary Montague	20 Margaret Rose Shaw
4 Sandy Nicholas	18 Linda McLain	25 Brandon Pulliam
9 Carolyn Bedenbaugh	19 Kathryn Cummings	26 H. A. Moore
10 Michael Ginn	19 Chris Maul	

Growing Spiritually

Rotation Sunday School

Rotation Sunday School is an education model that teaches children Bible stories and concepts that are illustrated through art, drama, games, audio-visual, puppetry, computers, and cooking. The children rotate through different workshops each week. The current rotation is on Abraham and Isaac, and it will run through November 20th. The memory verse for this rotation is:

Chronicles 22:19 - *"Now set your mind and heart to seek the Lord your God."*

The next rotation will be Advent, and it will run through December 18th. If you would like to help with the next rotation, please sign up on the board in the Fellowship Hall or contact Tommy at 601-584-1014.



Ultreya Potluck Lunch

There will be a reunion for those who have been to Cursillo for any previous retreats on Saturday, November 19th at 11:00 a.m. Those who have never attended a Cursillo retreat are welcome to attend as well, to find out more about this great spiritual retreat opportunity.

Cursillo

What are you doing to manage your weight? What are you doing to manage your health? What are you doing to grow spiritually? Good question! God saves us, but we are responsible for growing in grace. Would you like to start a Bible study? Would you be willing to attend something once a month? How about a spiritual retreat? Barbara Stallcup, Karen Reidenbach, Bob Buckner, Dean Cromartie, Tommy Suttle, David Arnold recently spent the week-end on retreat in Gallman, MS. Please ask them how they enjoyed it and whether this might be something God is calling you to do.

Inviting

Inviting Others

Most people (88%) come to church because someone they know and like invites them. Hey, you can do that! Invite a friend and sit with them during the service, and go to lunch with them afterwards. You'd be amazed at how easy and helpful it is. God is pleased when his children get connected with Jesus' church.

Serving Christ In Mission

BreadBasket

Applications will be taken **November 7-11th**. If you would like to help with this program, please sign up in the narthex or call Kay or Logan in the office. New volunteers are always welcome. The time commitment is about an hour and a half, and step-by-step instructions are provided.

Christmas Gifts for Boswell

We want to help bring joy to our friends at Boswell Regional Center by collecting gifts for them this Christmas. We need your help in providing \$5-\$10 gifts for 124 men and 74 women. The center asks that the gifts not be liquids, food or candy, perfume or lotion, or computer games. Gifts can be wrapped in **gift bags**, labeled "male" or "female," and placed in the designated box in the narthex. The gifts will be distributed to residents on December 6th, so please have them turned in by **Sunday, December 4th**.

Salvation Army Angel Tree

Once again it is time to sign up for the Angel Tree in Turtle Creek Mall. The sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Please note the days and times as they have changed this year. This volunteer work is a tradition for Westminster and many people say they enjoy getting out to help the Salvation Army provide toys and clothes for the needy children and families in our area.



Annual Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Gift offering will be taken on **December 18th**. This offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition designed to assist retired church workers and spouses help with expenses, disasters and health-related problems they encounter. It also is earmarked to help Presbyterian Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges with scholarships for students and assist the schools with basic operating costs. In order to continue providing this kind of direct and much-needed assistance the Christmas Joy Offering depends on continued support from congregations such as ours. Please be in prayerful contemplation of what this offering can do to help those who have nurtured us through their work as pastors and also how we can help students realize their dreams.

Volunteers Needed to Help with Food Drive

Volunteers are needed to help sort the items from the Oak Grove Upper Elementary School food drive on **Tuesday, November 15 starting at 8:30 a.m. at Church of the Ascension**. The process takes about 2-3 hours, and it is fine if you can only work for a little while or if you need to come late. Coffee, juice and donuts are provided for the volunteers.



Administrative Leadership

Daylight Savings Time

Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 6th. We'll see you after your extra hour of sleep on that day!

Thanksgiving Week Schedule Changes

There will be no potluck dinner or Bible study on **Wednesday, November 23rd**. However, the choir will still be rehearsing that night. The office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 24-25, for the Thanksgiving Holidays.

Tithe and Offering Dedication

This year we will dedicate our tithes and offerings on **Nov. 13th**. Please bring your pledge card with you. During the service we will bring them forward and dedicate them. We are asking you to support the normal operating budget of the church (which we are holding flat this year) and to contribute towards our Long Range Goals as well. If and when we generate enough Long Range funds, we will tackle some ambitious projects like making our church handicapped accessible and expanding our facilities. Please pray about how you can contribute to the financial strength and mission of Westminster. If we all do our part, we will meet our goals and do what God wants us to do.



Notes to Westminster:

October 12

Dear Friends,

Your prayers, visits and phone calls have been a blessing and have helped so much. I miss seeing you all and look forward to being up and driving and walking very soon. I'm doing really good and having therapy at home. Go back to Dr. Wednesday. Many, many thanks for all you do.

Yours in Christ,
Janet Burke