

*The Journey Begins ...
Who do you say*

WESTMINSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

162/165 East Main Street • Westminster, MD 21157
www.wumcmd.org • 410-848-8325 • 410-876-2124

August 27, 2023, 10am Pentecost 13



Attendance — text “HERE” to 443-234-0806.
Visiting?—text “WELCOME” to 443-234-0806.

WELCOME

Pastor Dave Highfield

PRELUDE

“Rondo”

Purcell/Edwards

* CALL TO WORSHIP—written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, March 2023

L: Family of God, as we gather today, Jesus asks us, “Who do you say that I am?”

P: You are our Messiah, the Son of the living God!

L: Family of God, as we gather today, the Holy Spirit asks us, “Who do you say that I am?”

P: You are our Comforter, Advocate, and Sustainer!

L: Family of God, as we gather today, God the Father asks us, “Who do you say that I am?”

P: You are our Creator, Provider, and Healer!

L: Family of God, as we gather today, the Triune God asks us, “Who do you say that I am?”

P: You are Love that creates, saves, and enfolds us into the family of God! May we be instruments of Love in all that we are and all that we do. Amen.

* HYMN

“All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine”

UMH 166

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION—written by Thom Shuman

Unison Prayer of Confession

**We look for you in all the wrong places, God of the lost, and wonder why we cannot find you.
We wander the corridors of power, while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless.**

(Continued on page 2)

We sit at the head tables of the world, while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor. We applaud those who win the race, while you are cheering on those in last place. In forgiving us, God of new life, you would transform our cold hearts into those melted in service to others. In granting us mercy, you challenge us to think of all those we have ignored. In gifting us with grace, you enable us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks. [Silence is kept.]

Assurance of Pardon

* PASSING THE PEACE The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

KIDS' TIME

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Broken and Spilled Out"
Mitchell Camp, soloist

George/Gaither

PASTORAL PRAYER / COMMUNITY PRAYER / LORD'S PRAYER (UMH 895)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOD'S WORD IS READ

Matthew 16:13-20

REFLECTING UPON GOD'S WORD

Pastor Malcolm Stranathan

The Journey Begins: Who Do You Say I Am?

RESPONSE TO THE WORD—SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

UMH 33

Baptized, today—Carsyn June Groft
daughter of W. Ryan and Lauren, sister of Madison

Baptized, today—Michael Rothbard
Welcome, New Members: Connie Foote, Don and Martha Weser
Michael and Rachel Rothbard, and children Emily and Jacob

OFFERTORY

"Blessed Assurance"

arr. Callahan

*Doxology

"Give Thanks"

FWS 2036

*Offertory Prayer

Loving and generous God: As we offer our gifts this day, we confess that when confronted with Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" our answer is ambivalent, at best. Even when we get the words right, we know our lives give a different answer. We turn away from the suffering and oppression of your children. We accumulate wealth and prestige and ignore the poor and powerless. You give and hold nothing back, and we give from our excess and resent being asked to do more. Help us to respond with the answer that comes from the center of our being and that is demonstrated in our living. In Christ, we pray. Amen

*Text your offering 844-307-2876; Give online at www.wumcmd.org; or Mail to:
Westminster UMC, P.O. Box 2316, Westminster, MD 21158-2316. Thank you.*

* HYMN

"Forward Through the Ages"

UMH 555

* SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE (please be seated)

"Ricercare on "St. Anne""

arr. Young

NEW STAFF MEMBER

SPRC is excited to welcome to the church staff: Dave Hughson, Facilities Manager. Dave brings a breadth of experience to this role, and we feel fortunate to have him as a staff member. Dave begins his role, today, and reports directly to Dan Dell, Trustees Chairperson, and Pastor Malcolm. When you see Dave, be sure to offer a warm welcome and congratulations.

MUSIC NEWS

Chancel Choir, for volunteer musicians from grade 9 through adult, resumes rehearsals on Wednesday, August 30, at 7:30pm. Put your music talents to good use; come be part of something beautiful with the choir at WUMC!

Questions? Email Kyler - k.brengle@wumcmd.org

Children of Hope Handbell Choir will begin practice Sunday, Sept 17, 11:45-12:30, in the Handbell Room. Contact Linda Wood - llwood@gmail.com

Alive! and Ringing Youth Handbells start date TBD. Questions to Peggy.

WESTMINSTER YOUTH PROJECT (WYP) REGISTER, NOW! Open House in the WUMC Youth House, Sept. 5-7, 5-7pm.

Come and see how WYP provides support and open doors for struggling youth. Do you know of any youth who are struggling and could use some extra support? We encourage you to invite them and their families to this Open House. Food will be provided, so please register at:

www.westminsteryouthproject.org.

OFFICE HOURS—by appointment, only Currently, office hours are by appointment, only, and Sherri will be working a remote/campus hybrid schedule. Thank you for understanding.

INTERESTED IN JOINING WUMC?

Please contact Larry Bohn, 410-549-6827.

SAVE THE DATES—

SEPT 10, FALL WORSHIP BEGINS—

8:15am CHAPEL SERVICE—new format, new time, in the newly renovated Duvall Chapel
9am EDUCATION HOUR—all ages
more info next week and in your Sept Herald
10:30am WORSHIP—onsite and online

SEPT 10, 11:30am CHURCH PICNIC—kick-off the new Sunday School year and join us in City Park, bring a chair, bring a covered dish; chicken, drinks, paper goods provided

SEPT 10,17, POPCORN SALE—Popcorn season is upon us. Support our Cub Scout Pack 631 narthex popcorn sale, before/after service

SEPT 15, LADIES LUNCH—11:30am, meet at Island Green, rte 140 & Pleasant Valley Road.

DEC 8-9, A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM—travel back in time with local shopkeepers sharing the Christmas story in a Bethlehem marketplace; meet Mary and Joseph to learn about the miracle of Jesus' birth. Volunteers/donations, welcome. Learn more at: <https://shorturl.at/IEY03>.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Linda Wood, Chairperson education@wumcmd.org

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

resumes Sept 10, Sundays, 9am

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

resume Sept 10, Sundays, 9am

A BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS

Benefits "A Night in Bethlehem" event.

COLLECTION BOX IN NARTHEX THRU DEC 4

Donation lists are available in the narthex.

SERVICE NOTES INFORMATION BOX

Music: Peggy Brengle, CAGO-Organist

ASL Interpreter: Bill Pond

Slides: David Hughson, Kyler Brengle

AV Tech: Mark Gieselman

Leading Worship: Rev. Dr. Malcolm Stranathan

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. David Highfield

All music used in today's service is podcast/streamed with permission from either ONE LICENSE #731177-A or CCLI Licenses #627547 & #20216174. Contact Kyler Brengle, Director of Music Ministries, for additional details, if needed.

Our Mission: "Changing lives through Jesus Christ to make a difference."

BULLETIN PRAYER LIST (see REQUESTING PRAYER, below)

Our Church Family

Lisa Bowman

Sue Harbold

Ron Morningstar *Long-term:*

June Hicks Ellis Lawson

Tricia Rossig Chris Clise

Eileen Burgher Grace Justice

Wayne Olson John Carbaugh

Dan & Carol LaFon Christy Swartzbaugh

Our Family and Friends (requests in the past two months)

Sherri Haines (church administrative assistant)

Lesli Sauble (friend of Ann Hull)

Peter Thomas (son of Sue Thomas)

Som Kramer, Bill & family (friends of Lynne Rittenberg)

Our Global Ministries Missionary & World Vision Child

Nan McCurdy, Miguel Mairena (Puebla Mexico) - GBGM
Onney Khosa (Zimbabwe) - World Vision/WUMC UMYF

Those in Military Service

Jonyae Curry, Army
(Director of Youth Ministry at Westminster UMC)

Alex Gray, Air Force, Ft. Gordon, GA
(son-in-law of Steve & Darlene Sadowski)

Jason Marusiak, Army, 82nd Airborne Div., Fort Riley, KS
(son-in-law of The Flinns)

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Eileen Burgher has
a new address. Drop a
note to say "hello!"

Mrs. Eileen Burgher
Lighthouse Senior Living
3100 North Ridge Rd, Rm103
Ellicott City MD 21043

REQUESTING PRAYER

Submit your prayer request via online, email, or phone:

- Online, www.wumcmd.org/prayer-requests.html
- Email Pastor Malcolm, m.stranathan@wumcmd.org
- Email Rev. Ken, revken@starpower.net
- Call the church office, 410-848-8325.

REACH

OUR MISSION: To reach out to those within our congregation who are reaching out to us in need of help.

Are you a church member in need of:

- Funeral Lite Fare
- Meals following recovery or mourning
- Transport to local medical appointments

Please contact REACH, directly, for help:

REACH—SEPTEMBER

Carole Roberts

(410) 790-7104

MONTHLY 90's BIRTHDAYS

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We celebrate our WUMC
nonagenarians!

Aug 2 Ms. Peggy Morningstar
67 Ralph Street
Westminster MD 21157

Aug 10 Mr. Tillison "Bud" Sherbert
715 Sullivan Road
Westminster MD 21157

Aug 11 Mr. Charles Wheatley
707 Wheatley Drive
Westminster MD 21157

If we missed you, reach out to Sherri,
s.haines@wumcmd.org.

TEXTING OPTIONS IN WORSHIP

OFFERING

Text amount
to 844-307-2876



Mail to POB 2316, Westminster 21158

Online offering—please scan QR code

ATTENDANCE

Text "HERE" to 443-234-0806