

*The Journey Begins ...
Who Am I?*

WESTMINSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

September 3, 2023, 10:30am Pentecost 14



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

WELCOME

Conni Highfield

PRELUDE

“Prelude in F”

Powell

* CALL TO WORSHIP—written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, March 2023
L: Followers of Christ, God calls us just as we are to live as truth-tellers and gospel-bringers in the world.

P: God, we know you call us, and still, we ask, “Who am I that you would call me?”

L: Like Moses standing before the burning bush convinced of his unworthiness to lead your people out of bondage, we ask, **P: “Who am I that you would call me?”**

L: Like Peter who thought he got it right only to realize that who Jesus is doesn’t meet his expectations of who a Savior should be, we ask, **P: “Who am I that you would call me?”**

L: As we raise this question to God today, we open our hearts to receive God’s answer:

P: You are my beloved children. You are my disciples. You are my people called to share the love of God for the transformation of the world. Amen.

* HYMN

“Rise Up, O Men of God ”

UMH 576

* GATHERING PRAYER—Book of Common Prayer, 233

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

(Continued on page 2)

KIDS' TIME

Exodus 3:1-15

SPECIAL MUSIC

"You Raise Me Up with Be Still My Soul"
Sue Hughson, soloist

arr. Tom Fettke

GOD'S WORD IS READ

Matthew 16:21-28

REFLECTING UPON GOD'S WORD "The Journey Begins: Who Am I? " Pastor Malcolm Stranathan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD—SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION—written by Safiyah Fosua, The Africana Worship Book, Year A

L: Gracious God, though we live in a culture that is reluctant to admit guilt, assume responsibility, or ask for forgiveness, we are so bold as to pray the words of the psalmist who said:

P: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting (Psalms 139:23-24 NRSV). Search us, O God,

L: Reveal anything in our lives that stands between us and your love. **P: Search us, O God,**

L: Show us our sins so that we might confess them, **P: Search us, O God,**

L: Show us places where we have neglected Christian responsibility and then teach us how to live on this earth with each other. **P: Search us, O God,**

Show us the faces of those we have wronged so that we might seek their forgiveness. (Silence)

ALL: We have not been called to this hour of worship to wallow in sin and self-pity. God has promised to forgive our sins when we confess them and to cleanse us from all manner of unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Let us rise as children of God, forgiven from sin and empowered to lead holy lives. AMEN, thanks be to God!

* PASSING THE PEACE: The Peace of Christ be with you, **All: And also with you.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

more info on screen

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.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION *"Here is Bread, Here is Wine"*

FWS 2266

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

Rowland-Raybold

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.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of power and might: We, like Peter, struggle with the image of a savior sent to suffer and die. We may seem to be doing great in following Christ, but we too stumble at this point. Perhaps we stumble because we know that what follows is Christ's call to us to deny ourselves and pick up a cross of our own in order to follow. As we bring gifts for the work of building your kingdom, help us to learn to deny, carry, and follow. In Christ's holy name, we pray. Amen

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Westminster UMC, P.O. Box 2316, Westminster, MD 21158-2316. Thank you.

* HYMN

"Take Up Thy Cross"

UMH 415

* SENDING FORTH—written by Dr. Lisa Hancock

POSTLUDE (please be seated) *"Through Faith the Victory"*

Peterson

SURPRISE! We jumped into 10:30am Worship the week prior to Labor Day. If you arrived at 10am, we hope you enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship and had a chance to look at the altar.

Our altar is beautifully decorated by Kristy Vandervalk and Susan Thomas; many items are donated from the estate of long-time member Alan Stottlemeyer. Pulling from the theme of *The Journey Begins, Walking with Jesus*, our altar is full of trail blazing equipment. Notice how the cloth depicts the green of the forest, rocky ground, and desert. Please take some time before or after service to meditate upon the altar decorations and consider the items you need for your journey with Jesus.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY
WUMC offers members a 9-week class opportunity, beginning Mon, Sept 18, 7pm, via ZOOM. Registration is required. First 10 persons/couples to register—cost is \$75. Additional registrant—cost is \$80. Workbook and online access provided upon payment. Please contact Lorna Rice at councilsec@wumcmd.org or 443-506-1838 for more information or to register.

NEW STAFF MEMBER
SPRC is excited to welcome to the church staff: Dave Hughson, Facilities Manager. Dave reports directly to Dan Dell, Trustees Chairperson, and Pastor Malcolm, and brings a breadth of experience to this role. When you see Dave, be sure to offer a warm welcome and congrats.

WESTMINSTER YOUTH PROJECT (WYP)
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.

NEXT WEEK, FALL WORSHIP BEGINS—
8:15am CHAPEL SERVICE—new format, new time, in the newly renovated Duvall Chapel
9am EDUCATION HOUR—all ages
Nursery—3yrs and under
Primary—pre-K thru grade 4
Youth—grade 5 thru grade 10
Adult Sunday School—New Life in Christ led by Woodie Wood, Rev. Dr. David Highfield, Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling
Adult Discussion Class—Disciple Room led by Anne Dorwart. Studying the Gospel of Mark using resource by Amy Jill Levine.
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

SAVE THE DATES—

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>.

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 Praise Band @ Center & Main: Rich Umla, Worship Leader
Slides: Katherine Scherck, Kyler Brengle AV Tech: tbd

Leading Worship: Rev. Dr. Malcolm Stranathan Liturgist: Conni Highfield ASL Interpreter: Bill Pond

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

Jeff & Marjie Kimble

Lisa Bowman

Sue Harbold

Ron Morningstar *Long-term:*

June & Don 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)

Karen McCarthy (daughter of Ed & deceased Betty Davis)

Susan Hagarty (niece of Randy & Diane Groft)

Mack (grandson of Darlene & Charlie Parlaman)

Lorraine Hinton (Chris Brown's aunt)

Tommy Walker (grandson of Dianne & David Bearr)

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)

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, revkenh@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

published with permission through LINKS

We celebrate our WUMC nonagenarians!

Our records indicate no church members of 90+years in our database

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

INTERESTED IN JOINING WUMC?

Please contact Larry Bohn, 410-549-6827.

Larry is planning our next Getting Acquainted Class. (brief class, after church)

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