

March 15, 2026



*Sower III* by Vincent van Gogh

**Worship With Us On Sunday!**

## 4th Sunday in Lent

### Scripture

Matthew 5:1-12

Luke 8:4-15

### Sermon

*Sowing Deep Roots*

The Rev. Julie Emery

### Bulletin

**10:00 a.m. Sunday Hybrid Worship Link**

Zoom Meeting ID: 822 3301 6989

Any questions, contact Becky Kimberly in the office  
at [office@westpresby.org](mailto:office@westpresby.org).



**In this e-newsletter, you'll find details about:**

#### Westminster News and Events

- *Imagine That! Worship and Workshop, March 22*
- *Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt: Ways You Can Help!*
- *Donate Flowers for Easter Sunday*
- *One Great Hour of Sharing Collection*
- *Lent at Westminster*
- *Our Front Porch, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.*
- *Stewardship Update*

## Important Events in Our Community

- *YMCA Camp WeHa at Westminster: Registration is Open*

## Prayers for Our Community and Our World

- *Grace & Space: Fellowship & Prayer, Mondays at 12:30p.m.*

## Westminster News and Events



ENGAGE & CREATE

CONVERSATION

**IMAGINE THAT!**

**WORSHIP AND WORKSHOP**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22**

HELP US IMAGINE ALL THE UNIQUE AND  
MEANINGFUL WAYS WE CAN USE  
WESTMINSTER'S BEAUTIFUL SPACES AS A  
SOURCE OF REVENUE AND MISSION.

ACTIVITIES

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

ALL AGES

We are excited for you to join us on March 22 from 10:30-12:30 (after a shortened worship) for a morning of dreaming and visioning for our future! Westminster leaders have been working hard on considering ways to better utilize our building and grounds for God's glory and ministry in this place. We have been talking with possible long-term partners and have begun a conversation with a real estate

development consultant, Liz Torres of Housing Smarts, and an architect, Kathy Dorgan. Now we want to hear from YOU!!

Join us on March 22 as we imagine together how we can let God's light truly shine in this place! Explore the building and grounds! (Have you actually seen it all?) See what ideas have already been shared and share your own creative thoughts.

*Can't be there on March 22? Please reach out to the office and let us know! We may try to have a second, smaller gathering.*

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**DONATE CANDY and SMALL PLASTIC EGGS! We need LOTS of individually wrapped candies as. Please bring to church by Sunday, March 29th.**

Provide finger food snacks (cookies, muffins, donuts, etc.)  
Drop off at the church on Friday, 4/3 or bring to the hunt on Saturday, 4/4

Help stuff 2000 eggs. Meet after worship (11:00ish) on Sunday, March 29th

Help at the egg hunt! We need friendly faces and greeters as well as people to help with crafts.  
Saturday, April 4th 10:00 - 11:30

Spread the word! Tell friends and neighbors about our egg hunt. Everyone is welcome!  
Be on the lookout for ways to share the news!

Contact Linda Geisler if you are willing to help at:  
Linda.Barron.Geisler@Comcast.net  
Cell: 860-305-8902

# Donate Flowers for Easter Sunday

Donate spring plants to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The donation can be in memory or honor of someone - the dedications will be printed in our Easter worship bulletin. The cost per plant is \$15 and can be paid to Westminster by check or online. Make sure to indicate the funds are for Easter flowers.

**Donations are due Sunday, March 29th.**

**If you would like to order Easter flowers, [click here](#)**  
or contact Becky Kimberly in the church office at  
860-521-6240 or [office@westpresby.org](mailto:office@westpresby.org).



RESPONDING TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MINISTRIES OF  
COMPASSION FOR THE WORLD'S MOST VULNERABLE.



ONE GREAT  
HOUR OF SHARING

## One Great Hour of Sharing

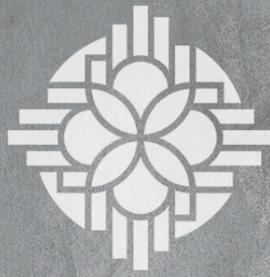
Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

Our church will join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need during the One Great Hour of Sharing. This year's theme is "Create Justice" inspired by Micah 6:8.

The work done in support of the causes supported by One Great Hour of Sharing — disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees — serves individuals and communities in need.

We will be collecting special gifts on Sunday March 22 and Sunday March 29 (Palm Sunday) earmarked for the One Great Hour of Sharing. Please consider donating to support our larger faith community and provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope! Any questions, contact Lesley Morrey at [lpmorrey@gmail.com](mailto:lpmorrey@gmail.com)

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# **+** *Lent at Westminster*

**March 29 - April 5 ● Holy Week**

**Sunday 3/29 Palm Sunday Worship Service @ 10 am**

**Thursday 4/2 Maunday Thursday Supper & Worship  
@ First Presbyterian Church of Hartford**

**Friday 4/3 Good Friday Service  
@ 12 noon in Westminster Chapel**

**Saturday 4/4 Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt  
@ 10 am at Westminster**

**Sunday 4/5 Festive Easter Sunday Worship  
@ 10 am in Westminster Sanctuary**

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# Our Front Porch

Adult Fellowship & Discussion Group



**Sundays 9:00 - 9:50 a.m.  
in the Covenant Room**

**Join Us for an Hour of Connection!**

Gather before worship for conversation and connection.  
No preparation or commitment is required.

Contact Peter Benner (pbenner16@gmail.com) or  
Larry Carr (larrycarr@gmail.com) for more information

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## Stewardship Update for 2026

We are grateful for the strong response to this year's stewardship invitation. **As of March 11, 2026, we have received commitments from 67 households for a total of \$256,520 (86% of our \$300,000 goal for 2026).** There are 8 households that pledged in 2025 that have not done so in 2026. If they pledge the same amount, we will be at \$285,229 (95% of our goal).

Thank you to everyone who has already submitted a Commitment Card. Your generosity and faithfulness make it possible for Westminster to continue its ministries and remain a welcoming, vibrant community of faith.

There is still time to participate. If you have not yet submitted your commitment, we encourage you to prayerfully consider doing so. Every commitment of time, talent, and treasure strengthens our shared ministry and helps us move confidently toward our goal.

You may submit your financial commitment by:

- Returning a paper Commitment Card
- Completing a digital Commitment Card (*click the button below*)
- Sending an email with your pledge to Greg Hammond at [rgregoryh@yahoo.com](mailto:rgregoryh@yahoo.com)

Together, we are building something meaningful and lasting. Thank you for being part of Westminster's ministry and mission.

[Link to Online Commitment Card](#)

## Important Events in Our Community

### YMCA Camp at Westminster This Summer Registration is Open!



Where every child can Belong to Something Greater.

**June 22 – August 21**

**Grades: PreK – 6th**

Day Camp: 9 am – 3:30 pm

Before Care: 7 am – 9 am

After Care: 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Questions? Contact  
[ethan.basch@ghymca.org](mailto:ethan.basch@ghymca.org)  
or 860 653 5524



**Location:**  
Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2080 Boulevard, West Hartford



Westminster is excited to be the location of the YMCA Camp WeHa this summer. Share the news with your neighbors and friends! Registration is open and they are currently hiring staff. Click the links below for more details.

[Click Here for Camp Registration](#)

[YMCA Camp Job Postings](#)

## Prayers for our Community and Our World



**Grace  
& Space**

A time for  
fellowship & prayer

**Mondays | 12:30 — 1 p.m.**

**COVENANT ROOM**

**Join Us**

**Blessing in the Storm** by Jan Richardson

This blessing cannot claim  
to still the storm  
that has seized you,  
cannot calm  
the waves that wash  
through your soul,  
that break against  
your fierce and  
aching heart.

But it will wade  
into these waters,  
will stand with you  
in this storm  
will say *peace* to you  
in the waves,  
*peace* to you  
in the winds,  
*peace* to you  
in every moment  
that finds you still  
within the storm."

This blessing was shared with our prayer group this week, as we shared our collective stories of concern, lifting up those who were in need of prayer. All are welcome to join us for a time of sharing and prayer, every Monday at 12:30pm in the Covenant Room. We continue to deepen our practice of prayer and mindfulness in this season of lent, lifting up the collective prayers of our community. ***Please text or call Rev. Julie Emery at 603-748-1130 with any prayer requests or pastoral concerns.***

#### **We pray for those near and far:**

We pray for peace, especially in those places of increased violence and war particularly in Iran and throughout the Middle East. We pray for a peaceful resolution to conflict. May God's peace take root in the hearts of all people, may peace prevail.

We pray for the communities throughout our country who are experiencing increased conflict and terror due to the actions of ICE. We pray for those suffering from trauma and grief, and for those who are caught in the middle of such conflict. We pray for an end to the violence and for justice to be found.

May there be mercy and protection for those who are most vulnerable: Immigrants and refugees; the LBGTQIA+ community; those standing up against injustice in all its forms.

We pray for those who stand up for justice in communities throughout the world. May they be wise, safe and courageous.

May God's love and grace be the guiding force in our lives, our homes and our communities in the days ahead.

#### **We pray for those in need for health and wholeness:**

May those who are struggling receive God's love and encouragement including: Richard Stafford who is going through medical challenges; Ashley Aronson who is home recovering from surgery and for her parents Craig and Nicole who are providing care and support; Abbey Downing's father Jack Neller, who is recovering from a bilateral lung transplant; Callie Boone who is recovering from her second surgery; Callie Boone's Aunt Cyndi; Liz Grabber's mother Barbara; David MacMeekin; Bob and Carol Rentz; Mike McElroy's wife Jane; Yvonne Smith; Doug Levine, friend of Marilyn Pikor; Susie Scoville's brother

Jon; Jane Sebolt; Joan and Jim Lin; Bob Gillis; Becky Kimberly's father John; Barbara Aronson; Karen Wagner's friend Rich; Ross Ludeman; Muriel Sherman and Betty Stokes.

### **We ask God to comfort those who grieve:**

We grieve with the family of Jamison Clegg, cousin of Eina Reiger, who was killed in a pedestrian/auto accident this week, and

The family and friends of Camden Siegal, the West Hartford teen who was killed by gun violence on February 24.

*May God's love and comfort surround them and sustain them.*

We continue to lift to God all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones in recent months: the family of Ola Coe; the family of Ginger Ludeman, wife of former Westminster pastor Rev. Ross Ludeman; the loved ones of Renee Good and Alex Pretti, and the community in Minneapolis-St.Paul; the Boone family, upon the death of Callie Boone's grandmother; Janet Wade-Utay and Art Utay upon the death of Art's aunt; Janet Wade-Utay and her sister-in-law, Jen, upon the death of Janet's brother George; the Harp Family and the Hamilton and Hammond families.

## **Session Members**

Peter Benner (Flourish) [pbenner16@gmail.com](mailto:pbenner16@gmail.com)

Liz Doering (Clerk) [lizdoering81@gmail.com](mailto:lizdoering81@gmail.com)

Stephen Frazzini (Sustain: Buildings & Grounds) [stevefraz@me.com](mailto:stevefraz@me.com)

Linda Geisler (Care) [linda.barron.geisler@comcast.net](mailto:linda.barron.geisler@comcast.net)

Greg Hammond (Sustain: Finance) [rgregoryh@yahoo.com](mailto:rgregoryh@yahoo.com)

Sheila Huddleston (Worship) [sheilahuddleston7@gmail.com](mailto:sheilahuddleston7@gmail.com)

Lesley Morrey (Serve) [lpmorrey@gmail.com](mailto:lpmorrey@gmail.com)

Janet Wade-Utay (Sustain: MR&P) [mainSt.chef10@gmail.com](mailto:mainSt.chef10@gmail.com)

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