

December 1, 2024



Westminster

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



When You Pass Through the Waters by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Worship With Us On Sunday!

1st Sunday in Advent

Scripture

Isaiah 43:1-7

Luke 1:26-38

Sermon

From the Scraps

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.

This Week at Westminster



Angel Gifts for Children in Need

Each Christmas, through Westminster's partnership with Covenant to Care, our church community purchases gifts for the children in the care of our assigned social worker Nadia at the Department of Children and Families (DCF). The children are listed with their name, gender and age. Please choose a gift or gifts for the child of your choice appropriate for their age. The total cost per child should not exceed \$50. Gifts should be wrapped with a label attached with the child's name on the tag.

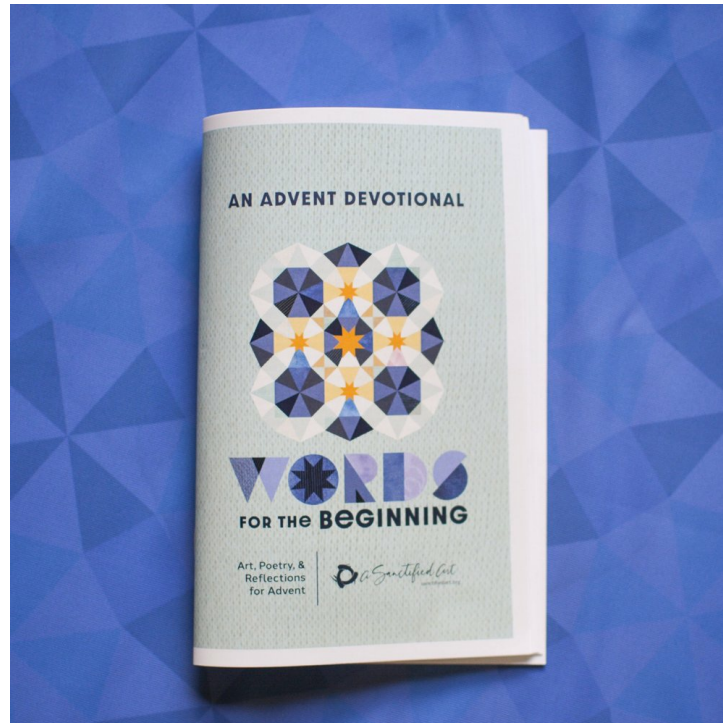
Click the button below to purchase a gift for a child in need.

Sign up for Angel Gift

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, checks can be made out to "Westminster Presbyterian Church" with a note in the memo line "Covenant to Care".

Gifts can be dropped off at the church Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM or on Sundays during worship. For those who prefer to drop off donations in the evening, the church is open late on Wednesday for Scout meetings and Thursday for handbell and chancel choir rehearsals. There will be a box outside the church office and one in the back of the sanctuary. Please contact Becky Kimberly at 860-521-6240 with any questions.

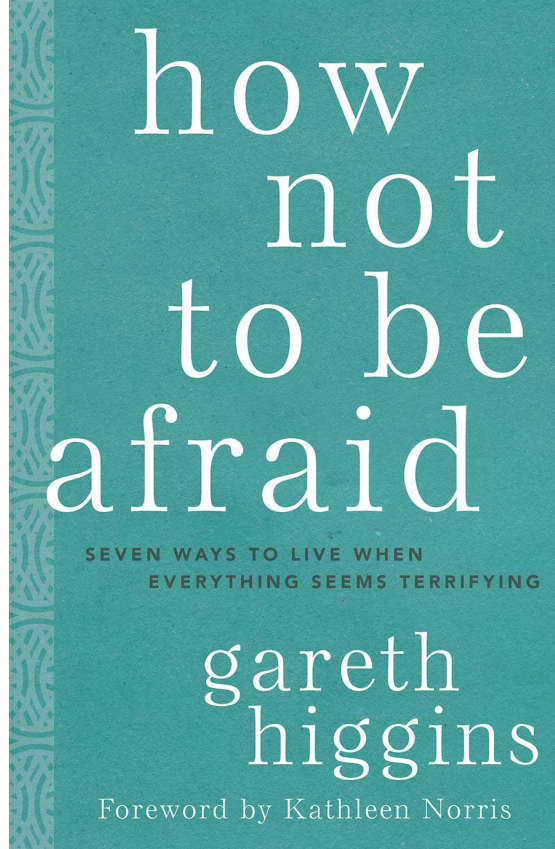
Donations must be received no later than Sunday, December 15 to allow time for Nadia to deliver the gifts prior to Christmas. Questions? Please contact Lesley Morrey at 860-778-5948 (call or text) or lpmorrey@gmail.com.



Advent Devotionals Available

Available for Advent this year is *Words for the Beginning*, an Advent Devotional from the creative team at A Sanctified Art LLC. Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. As the calendar year comes to a close, a new church year begins. Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving; and yet, the world as we know it spins madly on. Each week the devotional offers art, reflections, poetry and hymns as we journey through this season of Advent. Hard copies of the devotional are available at the back of the sanctuary. Below is a link to the devotional in digital form.

Digital Version of Advent Devotional



Book Study on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. and Sundays After Worship

Please join us in reading and discussing a lovely book, *How Not to Be Afraid: Seven Ways to Live When Everything Seems Terrifying*, by Gareth Higgins. This is a book with many applications today. Higgins invites us to re-think the stories in which our fears are rooted - stories we tell ourselves and stories told by our culture. It is a treasure, and an invitation to turn towards hope.

Rev. Julie Emery will be holding hybrid discussions on Thursdays at lunchtime, 12:30 p.m. and will also host a discussion in person on Sundays after church. These gatherings will be held in the Smart Room and online (see Zoom link below). For those who may be interested in reading but cannot make those times, we will be engaging in discussion and comments on our social media.

It's not too late to join the conversation. We have completed the introduction and chapters one and two, planning to finish part one of the book by next week. Questions? Speak with the Rev. Julie Emery or Becky Kimberly in the church office at 860-521-6240 or email office@westpresby.org.

**Zoom Link to Book
Study**

“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”

GALATIANS 6:2



Opportunities to Care for One and Another

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

This passage reminds us that God does not want us to go through life alone. God intends us to share our struggles and our joys with each other. The following are two opportunities being provided by the Care Team to care for one another together. Join us.

Community Prayer Time, Mondays, 12:00 p.m.

ALL are welcome to join the Reverend Julie Emery and members of the Care Ministry Team each week for a time of collective prayer. Join us in-person or online to lift the prayers of our community on Mondays from 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. We will meet in-person at church in the Smart Room or you can click the button below to join us online.

Zoom Link to Community Prayer Time

No-Sew & Knit Hour: 3rd Wednesday of the Month, 1:00 p.m.

Knit and No-Sew Prayer Blankets and Shawls

ALL are welcome to "No-Sew & Knit Hour" to create shawls and blankets which will be shared with members of our community in their time of need. We will gather the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the Covenant Room.

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! Anyone can quickly learn to make the no-sew blankets and knitters will be on hand to teach folks who want to learn. All supplies will be provided.

If you have any questions about these caring opportunities, please contact Linda Geisler at linda.barron.geisler@comcast.net

Per Capita Reminder

Each person at Westminster plays a vital role in supporting the mission

and ministry of the Presbyterian Church at every level—local, regional, and national. This year **our per capita apportionment is \$50.95 per member**, which directly funds the important work of our Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.

By contributing your per capita, you help sustain the connectional church, ensuring resources, leadership, and mission outreach remain strong across the country. Please prayerfully consider making a donation for your per capita along with your annual pledge amount, as this contribution greatly eases the burden on our church budget. Together, we can continue to be a light in the world, sharing God's love far beyond our walls.

Prayers of the People

We continue to pray for:

Richard Stafford, who is undergoing chemotherapy treatments; Howard Sprout, who is in hospice care; Janet Wade-Utay's brother George Wade, who is battling cancer; Barbara Riihimaki and family; David Hall and family; Karen Wagner's friends Sherm, Deana and Rich; Greg Hammond's cousin Bridget; Nancy Dewey; Becky Kimberly's cousin Pete; Jim and Vivian Carlson; Elsie Harp and family; David MacMeekin and family; Ross and Ginger Ludeman; Laura Berman and family; Jon Scoville; Muriel Sherman; Rachel Lloyd's Aunt Katie; Stella Madjitey; Betty Stokes; the victims of the Helene and Milton Hurricanes; the people of Palestine and Israel; and the children of the world.

We grieve with:

- The family and friends of Ruth Smiley, a former member of Westminster who died on November 1. Prayers of comfort for her husband Russ and their children;
- Friends and families of those in recent months who mourn the death of loved ones. May they be comforted.

Session Members

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