

May 18, 2025



# Westminster

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# Worship With Us On Sunday!

## 5th Sunday of Easter Music Appreciation Sunday!

Scripture  
Psalm 100  
Micah 6:6-8

Homily  
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:

- *Celebrate A Weekend of Music at Westminster, May 17-18*
  - *Community in Concert, this Saturday May 17 at 3:00 p.m.*
  - *Music Appreciation Sunday, May 18 (pre-worship music begins at 9:45 a.m.)*
- *Memorial Garden Service, Sunday, May 25 following worship*
- *Support the Puerto Rico Service and Learning Trip*
- *Graduating? We Want to Know!*
- *Missing Book Needed ("The Serviceberry")*
- *Prayers for Our Community and Our World*



## Westminster's Celebration of Music This Saturday and Sunday, May 17-18



### Community in Concert Featuring the Lillibridge Ensemble, this Saturday, May 17

Westminster has supported emerging musicians through its Tilton Music Scholar Program for over 35 years. Our Community in Concert series celebrates that legacy—and YOU can help it grow.

This Saturday at 3:00 p.m. enjoy an amazing performance by two members of The Lillibridge Ensemble, and contribute to the future of music through a freewill offering benefiting the Tilton Music Scholar Fund. Featuring world-renowned musicians Raphael Ryger, violin, and Madeleine Forte, piano, this community concert is your chance to experience world-class talent in an intimate setting.

Doors open at 2:30 p.m. with a reception to follow. Please join us!



**Celebrating 75 Years of Worship and Music  
This Sunday, May 18  
Pre-Service Music Begins at 9:45 a.m.**

Sunday, May 18, Westminster will be commemorating 75 years of worship and music during this year's Music Appreciation Sunday. A joyous group of musicians ranging from professional guests from Julliard, to family and friends of our Music Ministry and members of our founding church, First Presbyterian Church of Hartford, will be sharing their gifts in worship. A highlight this year is a choral work commissioned for Westminster by our Tilton Scholar Zac Burns. Pre-service music begins at 9:45 a.m. We can't wait to worship with you!

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## Memorial Garden Service Sunday, May 25 at 11:15 a.m.

It is Westminster Presbyterian Church's tradition on Memorial Day weekend to give thanks for the lives of all the beloved saints whose ashes have been placed with care in the Memorial and Meditation Garden. The Memorial Garden service will be held Sunday, May 25, 2025 at 11:15 a.m. (immediately following our Sunday worship service). This brief service will be held in the garden and will include scripture, prayer and song. In the event of rain, the service will be held in the chapel.

Any questions about the service, please contact Becky Kimberly, church administrator at [office@westpresby.org](mailto:office@westpresby.org) or 860-521-6240 x100.

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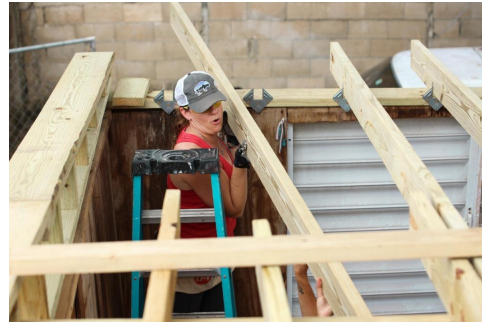
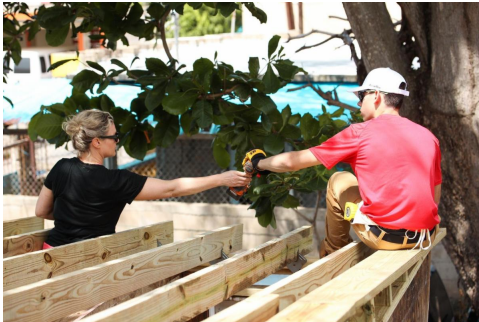


## Support the Service and Learning Trip to Puerto Rico in June

In June, a group from Westminster and First Presbyterian Church of Hartford will travel to San Juan, Puerto Rico, for a service-learning trip. While there, we'll partner with a local organization on a disaster relief building project, working together to create meaningful and lasting change for the people of San Juan.

Interested in supporting the group? Donations can be made through our fundraising page at <https://givebutter.com/CBxu90>, or through Westminster's website at [www.westpresby.org](http://www.westpresby.org) and choosing Give on the homepage or by [clicking here](#).

Contact Abbey Downing, [downingac@gmail.com](mailto:downingac@gmail.com), with any questions or concerns.



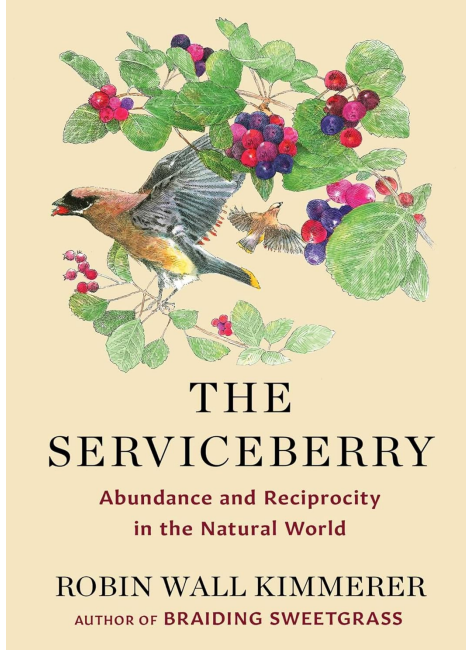
## Graduating? We Want to Know!

Have a graduate? Please share your graduate's information with us so we can celebrate their accomplishments with our church community. Send their name, school, and degree information (if they are graduating from college or graduate school) to Becky Kimberly at [office@westpresby.org](mailto:office@westpresby.org).

## Missing Book Needed!

We hope you enjoyed our March book discussion groups centered





on *The Serviceberry* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The John Webster Library (part of First Church West Hartford) graciously loaned us several copies of this book, but one is still missing! If you borrowed and still have a copy of *The Serviceberry*, please return it to our church office as soon as possible. Thank you!

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## Becky Kimberly, Church Administrator Out of Office May 16 - 19

Becky Kimberly will be out of the office Friday, May 16 and Monday, May 19, 2025. She will return on Tuesday, May 20.

## Prayers for our Community and Our World

*Prayer is a deeply important part of our faith. Paul prayed for the community of Philippians in his letter to them, writing, "I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now... And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what really matters..." (Philippians 1:3-6, 9-10a)*

*One of our core values is to build relationships and one of the ways we do that is through prayer. Prayer is a wonderful gift that we can offer each other, as we share and listen to another's concerns and joys. Prayer is also a wonderful gift to receive, in knowing that our church community is holding us and our stories with care and love.*

*We invite you to hold one another in prayer as a practice of care and devotion. We invite you to share prayers of thanksgiving and also concern with Rev. Julie Emery or our Care Team Elder, Linda Geisler to share in our weekly prayer gathering. All are invited to join in a time of communal prayer and silence with the Care Team on Mondays at noon.*

Zoom Link to Community Prayer  
Time

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

We pray for the members and leaders of our church, that we might discern God's will and move into our future with faith and courage.

We pray for our country and its leaders, that those with power would strive to care for and protect those most vulnerable. May those with agency and voice be courageous in seeking justice and standing up for the greater good.

We pray for all those experiencing racism, sexism and homophobia, that they might find love and compassion.

We pray for the members of the LBGTQIA+ community, that they may be safe from harm and encouraged in love.

We pray for the members of the immigrant and refugee community, especially for those whose fear of deportation prevents them from seeking help or support. May they be surrounded by God's love and protection.

We pray for those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity, that they might find help.

We pray for those struggling with chronic illness and those who care for them. May they be surrounded by God's loving presence and experience the wholeness of life.

We pray for those experiencing mental illness or struggling with addiction, that they may find strength and hope.

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

Janet Stafford, who is recovering from surgery; Becky Kimberly's father John, who is in rehab recovering from a recent hospitalization; Sandy Fry's sister Ellen; Liz Grabber's mother Barbara; for ongoing healing for Nancy Dewey, Jestina McGill and Barbara Aronson; Janet Wade-Utay's brother George Wade, who is battling cancer; Karen Wagner's friend Rich; Ross and Ginger Ludeman; Jon Scoville; Muriel Sherman; Rachel Lloyd's Aunt Katie now in hospice care; Stella Madjitey; Betty Stokes.

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

The family of Shirley Sabin; the family of Cliff Moss; Karen Sprout and family; Karen Wagner and the family of her friend Sherm and of her nephew; Barbara Riihimaki and family; David Hall and family; Jim and Vivian Carlson; David MacMeekin and family; Russ Smiley and family; Laura Berman and family.

### **We pray for those suffering in the aftermath of recent disasters:**

We pray for all those displaced from their homes by wildfires, hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, storms and floods. May they find support and restoration, comfort and connection.



## **We pray for those living in the midst of war and violence:**

We pray especially for peace in the Middle East. We pray for peace, mercy and unity throughout the region. We pray for peace and protection for the people of Ukraine and the children of the world.

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that we might find mercy, understanding and unity.

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that they might find love and justice.

We pray for those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity,  
that they might find help.

We pray for those experiencing mental illness or struggling with  
addiction, that they may find strength and hope.

We pray for the members and leaders of our church, that we might  
discern God's will and move into our future with faith and courage.

## **Session Members**

Peter Benner (Flourish) [pbenner16@gmail.com](mailto:pbenner16@gmail.com)  
Abbey Downing (Serve) [downingac@gmail.com](mailto:downingac@gmail.com)  
Ma'Lynn Feingold (Worship) [mlnewportmd@aol.com](mailto:mlnewportmd@aol.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)  
Will Hoelzel (Clerk) [bill.hoelzel@gmail.com](mailto:bill.hoelzel@gmail.com)  
Janet Wade-Utay (Sustain: MR&P) [mainSt.chef10@gmail.com](mailto:mainSt.chef10@gmail.com)

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[www.westpresby.org](http://www.westpresby.org)

Westminster Presbyterian Church | 2080 Boulevard | West Hartford, CT 06107 US

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