

August 24, 2025



Westminster

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Hope by George Frederick Watts

Worship With Us On Sunday!

11th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture

Psalm 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Sermon

Tending Hope

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

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

- *Welcome Friends from First Presbyterian Church of Hartford*
- *Highlights from August Session Meeting*
- *Call to Congregational Meeting, Sunday, September 7*
- *Game and Puzzle Collection*
- *Prayers for Our Community and Our World*

Please Welcome Our Friends from First Presbyterian Church of Hartford

This August we are hosts to our friends from First Presbyterian Church of Hartford. Please extend a warm welcome in worship this Sunday.

Highlights from August Session Meeting

The Session continued our discernment process through an exercise where we drew and discussed what each of us saw as the heart of our ministry at Westminster. Key themes that emerged were Christ-centered, community, justice, and outreach/ service.

Three of the task force teams gave short reports. They were housing development, rentals and partnerships. The teams continue to work and can use Session guidance on timing and deliverables. The September Session retreat will help everyone as we move forward.

The Session heard from a small ad-hoc committee which is starting to plan for a fall celebration of our 75th year of ministry. Plans include: a fall celebration for our neighborhood and community, coordinating with the "Raking in the Fun" event, a "history museum" with pictures and items of note from our history, a celebratory worship and luncheon afterwards. All these ideas were met with excitement and affirmation. The team is looking for more volunteers to help with each of these events.

Blessings,

Janet Wade-Utay, Worship Elder

Call to Congregational Meeting Sunday, September 7

The Session has called a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 7 to elect new officers and receive any nominations from the floor. A slate of nominees will be presented by the Nominating Committee.

All congregational members are entitled to vote and are encouraged to attend.

Any questions about the meeting can be directed to Will Hoelzel, Clerk of Session at bill.hoelzel@gmail.com.

Help First Presbyterian Church of Hartford in their

Collection for Covenant to Care



Gently Used Puzzles and Games Needed



FPC, alongside Covenant of Care for Children, is collecting gently used puzzles and games for Betances STEM Magnet School in Hartford (Grades 5-8)

Do you have children's puzzles and games taking up space at your house? Are they in good shape and still have all the pieces? First Presbyterian Church of Hartford is collecting games and puzzles for a Hartford magnet school in partnership with Covenant to Care. FPCH would welcome Westminster's participation. You can drop off donations at Westminster on Sundays in the sanctuary or outside the church office during the week. Please note, the puzzle and games should be suitable for 5th through 8th graders.

Prayers for our Community and Our World

Prayers and Pastoral Concerns in the Summer

Please text or call Rev. Julie Emery at 603-748-1130 with any prayer requests or pastoral concerns.

Prayers for Our Community:

While our in-person prayer group will be taking a break during the summer months, we encourage you to continue to pray for our community throughout the summer. Paul encourages us to "pray without ceasing," so no matter how you pray, just pray!!

There are many creative ways to do this! Here are some to try:

Pray through the Church Directory: Each week, choose a few names from the church directory to pray for. If you don't know them personally, pray that you might meet in the coming months!

Pray through our ongoing prayer list: Go through the names listed below and pray for each person listed there. Perhaps using a simple prayer such as, "Holy God, bring peace and comfort to (name) that they might know your love."

Pray in Color: Take some time to doodle the names of some of the folks you know from church - what do you think they might be praying for? What do you think they might need from God right now? [Check out this link](#) for some ideas of how!

Pray the Psalms: Read through some of your favorite Psalms and imagine those words as prayers for the lost, forsaken, or lonely. Psalms of Lament can be powerful prayers in response to some of the challenges we have been facing these days.

Ask others to tell you how to pray. Take some time this week to call a couple church friends or friends you haven't seen in awhile, ask them: How can I be praying for you today?

Pray through the newspaper: However you get your news, take a moment to pray for a specific person or story that captures your attention. How might God bring peace, restoration, grace to that event or person?

**Throughout the summer, specific prayer concerns will be shared within our Sunday worship services. We encourage folks to share prayers in worship either online or in-person.*

We continue to pray for:

- Those most affected by the injustices happening in our country in this time: Immigrants and refugees; the LBGTQIA+ community; those standing up against injustice in all its forms.
- We continue to pray for peace, and for a just and safe world for all.
- May those who are struggling receive God's love and encouragement.
- May God's love surround and comfort: Karen Hammond's mother Carol Hamilton, who is in hospice care; Joan and Jim Lin, Bob Gillis, Becky Kimberly's father John, Sandy Fry's sister Ellen,

Barbara Aronson, Janet Wade-Utay's brother George Wade, Karen Wagner's friend Rich, Ross and Ginger Ludeman, Jon Scoville, Muriel Sherman, Betty Stokes.

- May God's peace be with those who grieve: Linda Geisler and her family on the death of her father, Alexis Barron; the family and friends of Elsie Harp; the family of Karen Wagner's friend and colleague, Don Noel; the family of Rachel Lloyd's Aunt Katie; the family of Katrina, goddaughter of Melissa Boone; 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; David Hall and family; Jim and Vivian Carlson; David MacMeekin and family; Russ Smiley and family; Laura Berman and family.

Session Members

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