

August 14, 2022



Westminster

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*Portion of "The Dancing Saints" by Mark Duker
St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, San Francisco*

We Welcome the Rev. Ed Sackett Guest Preacher this Sunday

We welcome the Rev. Ed Sackett as our guest preacher this Sunday. Ed is a cradle Presbyterian who was born and raised in the Texas Panhandle. He and his wife have recently moved to Western Massachusetts from San Antonio where he was the Minister for Disaster Recovery and Coordination. Ed is married to Dr. Lynnette Watkins, the

President and CEO of Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton. They have three grown daughters and a golden doodle named Ella Peaches. Ed graduated from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 2018. Prior to attending seminary, he was a photojournalist and video and film production teacher. Ed still operates a video production business.

Worship With Us This Sunday!

Scripture

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Sermon

Pass the Baton of Faith

The Rev. Ed Sackett

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



Help Put a Smile on a Child's Face Take Part in our Backpack Collection for Children in the Care of the Department of Children & Families (DCF)

Help put a smile on a child's face as they return to school by supplying them with a new backpack full of school supplies!

Westminster is collecting backpacks for children living in the care of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) through our Covenant to Care partnership. To help, click the button below to sign up. Once there you can review the list of backpacks needed, sign up, and then purchase a backpack and supplies appropriate for the child's gender and age.

Suggestions for additions to the backpack: folders; notebooks (1, 3, 5 subject); book covers; pens and pencils; crayons; markers, glue and glue sticks; scissors, erasers, and pencil boxes; index cards; highlighters, rulers, binders, and pencil sharpeners. Suggested spending is \$35-50.

Stuffed backpacks should be delivered to the church no later than August 29. The church building is open to drop off backpacks from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. during the week and during worship on Sundays.

Questions? Call Ellen Smith, Deacon, at 860-402-7198 or Becky Kimberly in the church office at 860-521-6240. Thank you!

[Backpack Donation Sign-Up](#)



Puerto Rico Service and Learning Trip: October 29 – November 5, 2022

Did you hear about the wonderful experiences our 12 participants had on their trip to Puerto Rico last month? If not, we urge you to seek them out. They reflected on the joy of installing a roof for an elderly woman who has not had a roof on her home for 3 years! But it wasn't just the physical fulfillment of installing a roof, it was the blessing and grace of relationships developed with the Puerto Rican people and the participants themselves.

Volunteers have expectations about how the trip will go, the impact the group will make, and the progress accomplished by the end of the work time. However, there are many other ways to reflect on the impact the trip itself makes in the lives of those who get involved. The things that are learned provide a wider lens about other issues around the recovery process that are just as important. A just recovery entails deeper conversations. Volunteering in Puerto Rico provides an opportunity to deconstruct a single story about the island and find other ways to support the people in Puerto Rico with empathy and justice. These opportunities help to develop healthy partnerships with our friends in Puerto Rico, First Presbyterian Church in Hartford and the Hartford community as we continue working together.

We have the opportunity for 12 people to have this experience – we have booked a nonstop flight from Hartford to San Juan on October 29 at 12:00 noon, and return on a nonstop flight to Hartford on November 5 at 1:30 pm. We anticipate the total cost of the trip to be less than \$1200 and that scholarship assistance may be available, as we don't want financial constraints to be a barrier for you to experience this opportunity. Please see the link [here](#) to a resource list of weather-related damage to the island, the Protestant church history of Puerto Rico, and the culture and politics of Puerto Rico. For more information, please reach out to Tom Buckley at tbtrailrun@hotmail.com or Michael Seltzer at michaelbpd10@gmail.com.



bomba!



WITH MILITERI TUCKER CONCEPCIÓN



Y LA FAMILIA CEPEDA

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28
2PM - 6PM

1ST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
136 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT

free dance workshop
for kids & families

JOIN US FOR A FUN WORKSHOP FOR KIDS, AS WE LEARN ALL ABOUT BOMBA WITH RENOWNED CHOREOGRAPHER MILITERI TUCKER CONCEPCIÓN

First Presbyterian Church of Hartford has invited their friends at Westminster to join them on Sunday, August 28 from 2:00-6:00 p.m. for iBomba! a fun, free dance workshop for kids and families with choreographer Militeri Tucker Concepción. Bomba is a traditional Puerto Rico art form, including dance and music. First Presbyterian Church welcomes the Bushnell Community Programming who will host this event in the church's facility. This is also a fantastic opportunity for those who have recently returned from the Service and Learning trip to San Juan and Loiza, and for those who are interested in future trips to Puerto Rico! Contact Becky Kimberly, church administrator at office@westpresby.org for more information.



Summer Fun at Fernridge Park

Westminster families gathered with Rev. Julie Emery and Karen Hammond, Director of Faith Formation, for some fun at Fernridge Park on July 28.



A Word About Summer Worship

In effort to simplify our volunteer tasks this summer as well as to experience a summer of sabbath rest, Westminster worshippers will notice a few alterations to our worship logistics and support.

Worshippers who join us online will find that we will be temporarily letting go of the liturgy slides. There will be headings on the worship video that alert viewers to different parts of the service. These are best viewed in Zoom "Speaker Mode" rather than "Gallery Mode". (If you need help learning how to switch to speaker mode, [this article](#) explains it well. OR you can reach out to Rev. Julie Emery on a day other than Sunday and she will come help you get set up!)

Online worshippers need not worry that they are missing out! Liturgy

will be call-and-response and if you love to sing along with the hymns, reach out to the office - we would love to bring you a hymnal to follow along!

These adjustments are intended to be for our summer season, to offer rest and renewal to both volunteers and staff who have been working hard to make our worship experience meaningful throughout these last few years. We ask that for this summer season we lean into flexibility and openness as we experience ways of simplifying our worship experience. Toward the end of the summer, we will be happy to hear feedback and thoughts (especially from our online folks) on this simplified way of worshipping together.

As we join together in worship throughout this summertime, we trust that as we are present to one another and to God in worship, we will be met and fed by the Holy Spirit.

The Rev. Julie Emery Out of the Office

The Rev. Julie Emery is currently out of the office for vacation and will be returning on August 15. If there is a pastoral emergency during that time, please contact Becky Kimberly, church administrator, at 860-521-6240 x100 and she will connect you with a pastor on call.

Prayers of the People

Prayers for our community:

We encourage you 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:

John Berman; Jon Scoville; Heather McBride; Paige Logan's friend Mia; El Harp; Muriel Sherman; Rev. Laura Opsahl; David MacMeekin's brother-in-law, Dan Reinhard; Cale Strober; Max; Dave Wagner; Suzanne Atwood; Billy Calzada; Rhoda Bannon; Karen Sprout's sister, Kathryn Johnson; Diane Smith; Jane Sebolt; Sally West; Rev. Julie Emery; Rachel Lloyd's Aunt Katie; Yvonne Smith; Doreen Springsteen; Ralph Sundquist; Karen Wagner's friend AJ; Jenna Sheridan's friend, MaryElla; Marissa Torsiello; Stella Madjitey; Peter Benner; Jen Buffat; Sara DeGraff's sister; Jack Zapata and Alan and Ashley Zapata; Betty Stokes and David Robbins.

Session Members (Teams)

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