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Online Giving

Secure Online Giving is available through our website,
www.westminsterakron.org
Select "Give" and then click on
"Give Here" [from there follow the prompts]

Westminster Presbyterian Church
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www.westminsterakron.org



Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

December 1, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Hope



Follow Westminster on



or on our church website at westminsterakron.org

Welcome to Westminster,

We are a open affirming congregation sharing God's love in West Akron.
No matter where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here!

The flowers in the chancel are given by Nancy Keogh in loving memory of her husband, Jack.

Thank you Jim Cole for providing the Birthday Cake for the month of December. Happy Birthday to you and to all the other December birthdays. A very blessed and special month indeed.

Christmas Flower Memorial forms are available for you to make a donation in memory of or in honor of loved ones. This enables the Flower Committee to create a beautiful setting in the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. For more detailed instructions, please refer to the form (insert). Deadline for donations and forms is December 16, 2024.

Our annual Christmastime delivery of food baskets to Greater Akronites in need will take place on Saturday, December 14. The groceries purchased from Acme #1 will be assembled in the church parking lot beginning at 7:30 am. with deliveries beginning at 9:00 am. You can help make another family's Christmas a little brighter by delivering and/or contributing money to help fill the baskets. Baskets are valued at \$60 each, but any donation amount is appreciated. This year, our minimum goal is to raise \$6,000 to cover 100 baskets, but anything raised above that will again go to gift cards for apartment dwellers in need. Special donation envelopes will be in the pews for your convenience, or you can give on-line at westminsterakron.org under "Give" or send a check to the church with "Christmas Baskets" in the memo line. We also need plenty of volunteers to make this a success. Please sign-up for basket assembly and/or delivery at the Connection Point in Wright-Herberich Hall or send an to Ed Labbe, email: elabbe@roadrunner.com, if you can help.

Sunday Food collection will take place today during the service. Much needed items are bread, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce and personal care items such as bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, toilet paper, paper towels etc. Some of these items cannot be purchased with food stamps. Monetary donations are always welcomed.

Come join ETC Heid's School of Musical Arts for an evening of holiday music and bake sale in the beautiful Westminster Presbyterian Church. December 7th at 6:30 pm. Free will offering at door.

Music at WPC presents: FIRESTONE CLC MADRIGAL CHOIR, during 10:30 am service on the second Sunday of Advent, December 8, 2024.

Calendar of Church Building Events For December 1-December 8, 2024

Sunday, 12/1

- 8:30 am Nursery opens
- 8:45 am Choir practice (in Choir Room)
- 9:30 am Adult Book Club (Room 106)
- 9:30 am Commissioning Class (Youth Rooms, upstairs)
- 9:30 am Sunday School (Godly Play Room, upstairs)
- 10:30 am Worship/Food Collection & YouTube Livestream
- 11:40 am Outreach Meeting
- 11:45 am Coffee/Birthday Cake Fellowship (WHH)

Monday, 12/2

- 7:00 pm Discipleship Committee meets via Zoom

Tuesday, 12/3

- 10:30 am Poinsettias delivered
- 5:30 pm ILP Studio
- 7:00 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday, 12/4

- 3:15 pm Bell Choir rehearsal
- 5:30 pm Girl Scout Troop 91442

Thursday, 12/5

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study via Zoom

Saturday, 12/7

- 8:00 am Food For Life (kitchen)
- 6:30 am ETC Holiday Cabaret

Sunday, 12/8

- 8:30 am Nursery opens
- 8:45 am Choir practice (in Choir Room)
- 9:30 am Adult Book Club (Room 106)
- 9:30 am Commissioning Class (Youth Rooms, upstairs)
- 9:30 am Sunday School (Godly Play Room, upstairs)
- 10:30 am Worship/Communion/Firestone Madrigal Choir & YouTube
- 11:45 am Coffee Fellowship (WHH)

Prayer of Confession

**Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming.
We live in sin, as though there were no justice.
We live in fear, as though there were no grace.
Forgive us, Lord.
Show us your mercy and steadfast love.
Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths,
for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.**

Silence is observed.

Response 574

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Kyrie

**Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.
May the Lord guide your way, strengthen you in all holiness,
and make you abound in love for one another and for all.

*Response 567

Glory to the Father

Gloria Patri

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
Amen. Amen. Amen.**

*Passing the Peace

Greet both friends and strangers saying,
The peace of Christ be with you.

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

*Please sign the friendship pad and pass it to those seated near you.
Last one to sign, please leave at the end of the pew. Thank you.*

Offertory

O Come O Come
(Christopher Meyer)

Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954)

*Response 592 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (*Doxology*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures
here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

(Children may exit with Ms. Valerie to attend choir rehearsal)

Prayer for Illumination

God our salvation, there is wisdom, peace, and joy
for those who keep your Word.
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
lead us in your truth and teach us to do your will;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Hymn 11 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You? VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

The Second Lesson

Luke 21:25-36

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“Claiming Hope”

The Rev. Dr. Sandy Selby