

## Westminster Staff

Rev. Dr. Sandy Selby, Bridge Pastor

Dave Bodnar, Custodian

Lou Camerato, Staff Accountant

Jim Cole, Treasurer

Bruce Klucharich, Audio-Visual Technician

Dawn M. Pokorny, Office Administrator

Traci Range, Director of Childcare

Gwynne Rearick, Director Family Ministry

Pat Schumacher, Housekeeping

Nik Stackpole Director of Music/Organist

Valerie Stewart, Director Children's Choir

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## Westminster Presbyterian Church

December 8, 2024 at 10:30 am.



Online Giving

Secure Online Giving is available through our website,  
[www.westminsterakron.org](http://www.westminsterakron.org)  
Select "Online Giving" and then click on  
"WPC Online Giving" [from there follow the prompts]

### Westminster Presbyterian Church

1250 West Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44313

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



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

Follow Westminster on



or on our church website at [westminsterakron.org](http://westminsterakron.org)

## Welcome to Westminster,

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

**We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude** to Jim and Barb Shriner for their generous funding of the Firestone CLC Madrigal Choir performance this morning.

**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.

**A reminder for Sunday, December 15.** The Discipleship Committee is hosting a Christmas Cookie Exchange and light lunch after the worship service. If you're a cookie baker or a cookie buyer, please bring 3 to 4 dozen cookies or Christmas treats – a dozen to share for lunch and 2 to 3 dozen to swap. Cookies should be dropped off in Wright Herberich Hall before the worship service. Cookie plates will be provided for you to select 2 dozen cookies to take home with you. You do not need to bring cookies in order to come for lunch and enjoy a touch of Christmas.

**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.**

**Join us for our "Festival of Lessons and Carols"** at our Christmas Eve service on Tuesday, December 24th. The evening will begin with a delightful prelude at 4:30 pm, setting the perfect atmosphere for celebration and reflection. The service will commence at 5:00 pm, as we come together under one roof to share in the joy and spirit of the season.

## Calendar of Church Building Events

For December 8–December 15, 2024

### 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)

### Monday, 12/9

- 8:00 am Organ Schantz tuning follow-up

### Tuesday, 12/10

- 7:00 pm Properties Meeting (Library)

### Wednesday, 12/11

- 3:15 pm Bell Choir rehearsal
- 5:45 pm Endowment meeting via Zoom
- 6:30 pm PNC Meeting (Pastor's Study)

### Thursday, 12/12

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

### Saturday, 12/14

- 7:30 am Delivery of Christmas Baskets

### Sunday, 12/15

- 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 & YouTube
- 11:40 am Christmas Cookie Exchange & Light Lunch (WHH)
- 11:45 am Coffee Fellowship (WHH)

Words of Institution

With thanks and praise, we offer ourselves to you, gracious God,  
sharing this holy meal, and remembering Christ’s dying and rising.  
Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*The minister asks the Holy Spirit to bless the communion elements and all  
who receive them, that we may be the body of Christ in the world.*

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive  
our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

“The bread of life.” “The cup of salvation.”

Music at Communion Ava Maria Franz Biebl (1906-2001)

Prayer following Communion

**O God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully  
redeemed us. Give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves,  
our wills, and our works, a continual thank-offering to you, through  
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\*Hymn 14 Savior of the Nations, Come NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

\*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary “Fum, Fum, Fum” Parker Shaw  
(Firestone Madrigals)

Recessional: Personent Hodie John Rutter

**Today’s Worship team is** Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby (preaching);  
Harriet Chapman (liturgist); Nik Stackpole (organist);  
Bruce Klucharich (audio-visual); Adult Choir; and Ushers

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Processional: Personent Hodie John Rutter (b. 1945)  
(Firestone Madrigals)

Voluntary “O Radiant Dawn,” James MacMillian (b. 1959)

\*Call to Worship Harriet Chapman

John came out of the wilderness to preach  
repentance; he preaches to us still.  
**Make straight the paths we now walk  
and prepare the way for God’s reign of justice and love.**

\*Hymn 10 On Jordan’s Banks the Baptists Cry WINCHESTER NEW

Lighting of the candle of Peace- Madeline Wilson and Family

Advent Response 12 People Look East- (Vs. 2 only)

Call to Confession

Saints, let us trust in God’s love for us and confess our sin,  
confident in God’s mercy.

Prayer of Confession

**Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened.  
We have not always determined what is best or made way for your  
reign in our lives, our church, and our society.  
Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*Silence is observed.*

