

Westminster Presbyterian Church

September 14, 2025



3819 CENTRAL AVENUE
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71913
501-525-1367
www.wpchotsprings.org

This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join the Westminster Presbyterian Church family. If you are interested in church membership, please indicate this on the friendship pad or you may speak with Pastor Carl about your interest.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lawrence Grubb

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

A Festive Ring

Michael Burkhardt
WPC Joyful Ringers

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Ezekiel 34:11-12 & 16a NIV)

Leader: God said, *"I myself will search for my sheep and look after them.*

People: ***"As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep.***

Leader: *"I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness.*

People: ***"I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak . . ."***

Leader: Let us worship God, the true shepherd, who seeks diligently, finds who is lost, and rejoices.

*Opening Song of Praise No. 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*CALL TO CONFESSION (from Romans 5:8, Hebrews 4:16)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Corporate prayer followed by silent prayer*)

Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away from sin. You search for us, like lost sheep, but we pretend not to hear your voice. You treasure us, like lost coins, but we spend our lives in foolish ways. Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to repent and return to you, so that we may join the joyful feast of redemption and restoration; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. In your mercy, hear us now as we silently confess the sins of our daily lives. . .

*KYRIE No. 575

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

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe and proclaim the glorious news of the gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*PASSING THE *PEACE OF CHRIST*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 40:9-11 OT Page 817

ANTHEM *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* Arr. Michael Burkhardt
WPC Joyful Ringers

GOSPEL READING Luke 15:1-10 NT Page 95

SERMON *How Did I Get Here?* Rev. Carl McCormack

RESPONDING TO AND SEALING OF THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church; to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

*SONG OF AFFIRMATION #187

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

*DOXOLOGY

No. 609

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*SONG OF JOYFUL DEDICATION # 401

Gather Us In

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Congregation standing, if comfortable to do so.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Striving to share Christ's love with all of God's people.

PRAYER CONCERNS

The congregation is asked to pray for the members and friends listed each week, and those listed are asked to pray for our congregation. This week, please pray for **Bruce & Margo Garnett, Jean Grim, Lawrence & Debbie Grubb, Betty Hasstedt, Linda Hasstedt, and Rev. Chip & Melinda Hatcher.**

Arkansas Presbytery requests prayers for **Central Presbyterian Church** of Pine Bluff and for **Church Camp Ministries.**

REMEMBER **Our Country, our Leaders, our military—Austin DeGrasse, Krissy DeGrasse, and Adam Howell.**

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN LONG-TERM RETIREMENT & HEALTH-CARE FACILITIES

West Shores **Jim & Sybil Dowds, Jane Daugherty**
Garrett Manor **Nancy Ransweiler, Jean Grim**
The Atrium **Rev. Jim Chaffin**
Country Club Village **Harvey Miller**
Salem Place Nursing Home, Conway **Ben Quinn**
Senior Comfort Living **Susan Lascaro**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RED ATTENDANCE PADS are found at the center-aisle end of each row of the pews. We ask each individual to complete the form with your name and ask that visitors provide contact information. If you have a change of address (either physical and/or email) and/or phone number, please include that info on the form.

THE ROSE ON THE PULPIT today is in honor of the birth on September 4 of Charlotte Ann Stanley, daughter of Clay and Sydney Stanley, and granddaughter of Larry and Peggy Stanley.

NOMINATION OF ELDER FORMS are included in today's bulletins. Please take the time to consider nominating an individual for the Elder Class of 2028. Place the folded forms in the offering plate or on the church office desk.

THE SESSION HAS CALLED a congregational meeting to be held following worship on **September 21** for the purpose of electing the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

ALL SENIOR HIGH YOUTH and friends in grades 9-12 are invited to a new youth group meeting every second Sunday of the month. Golden Puckett and Aaron Norton will lead Westminster's youth at 5:30 pm on September 14 with a meal provided and faith lessons in the parlor until 7 pm.

WEDNESDAY'S VERSE-BY-VERSE BIBLE STUDY will meet in the Community Room of the CAB on Wednesday, September 17, at noon to 1 pm. All are invited to join as we continue the study of the Book of Romans.

Announcements cont'd next page

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THE CHANCEL CHOIR will hold rehearsal on Wednesday, September 17, at 4:30 pm, and the **BELL CHOIR** will hold rehearsal at 5:45 pm on Wednesday, September 17.

DINNER WITH FRIENDS will meet on Thursday, September 18, at 6:00 pm at the home of Curtis and Susie Wright, 478 Quail Ridge Drive. If you are planning to attend, please call the church office prior to 4:00 pm on Tuesday, September 16, so that we will have an idea of how many to expect.

A FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON will be held following worship on Sunday, September 21. Sign-up sheets for lasagna, salads, and desserts are on the table in the narthex.

SEPTEMBER DOLLAR GIVING is designated to assist with the Texas Flood Recovery efforts.