

The Good News

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



*Westminster
Presbyterian Church*

*3819 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71913*

Notes from Pastor Carl:

Well, I have survived my first month as your transitional pastor, and you haven't tried to run me off – yet. I will take that as a good sign.



As you may have noticed (if you have been present for worship) that I tend to preach the message of our human fallibility and God's astonishing grace. I believe this broad, yet poignant theme can sometimes get lost in all the noise of life in the 21st century. The message of God's grace needs to be heard again and again, just as it needs to be experienced and felt by joyful hearts. I will try to maintain this focus as long as I am serving in my temporary position.

It has been a delight getting to know you all. The reception you gave for me and my wife, Terry, was a wonderful sign of your love and support, and a clear expression of your hospitality. As time goes on, I will try to meet more of you and get to know you better. You all have stories about your faith journey that I need to hear, so I hope you will offer me some time to visit with you.

We welcome the coming of October and the colors of autumn. We anticipate the gathering of family and friends during this season, and the grand finale of the month with the gathering of ghouls and goblins. I hope this is a happy time for you and yours.

But just around the corner we can anticipate the holiday season of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. It will be a festive time, but also a time of hard work for the session and staff. Keep us all in your daily prayers, and I hope to see you in church soon.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Carl



October Milestones Happy Birthday To:

- 05 Mila Mahend (2022)
- 08 Carmen Lealie (2009)
- 08 Harvey Miller
- 09 Connie Segal
- 12 Jeff Miller
- 13 Bailey DeGrasse
- 14 Anusha Jose (2007)
- 16 Jaden Esole (2023)
- 17 David Howell
- 17 Libby Willett
- 24 Terry Hogate



Larry & Peggy Stanley

10/23/1976

Adam & Kathrin Howell

10/26/2014

New Address:

Rev. and Mrs. R. A. "Chip" Hatcher
1003 College Street
Columbus, MS 39701



*Breakfast
Men of the Church
Wednesday
October 1
8:15 a.m.
Higdon Square Café*

Fellowship Luncheon



Our annual Chili Cook-off will be our fellowship luncheon to be held on Sunday, October 19, following worship. Sign-up sheets for competitive chili-chefs, side dishes, and desserts will be on the table in the narthex. We will have soups for those who do not eat chili.

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

A congregational meeting was held on September 21 at which time, the following members were elected to serve on the PNC: Mary Lynn Cole, Sara Ferril, Lawrence Grubb, Mike Morrison, and Golden Puckett. These five members, operating in confidentiality, will conduct the search for the individual to be called as our next installed pastor.

MISSION/EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

We received \$345 for August Dollar Giving which was sent to Ferncliff disaster Assistance Center with the notation the money was to be used for Texas flood relief. October and November dollar giving is designated for blankets. Unlike previous years, we are only asking for your monetary donation. We will purchase blankets with your donated money.

On August 29, Karen Wacaster, Tommy Waddell, Steven Smith, and Mariko McCallum volunteered for the Jackson House lunch program preparing 140 lunch boxes.

We will participate in Peace and Global Witness offering (PC USA) on World communion Sunday, October 5. The quarter portion of proceeds to are to be kept locally and will be donated to Lake Hamilton New Horizons Alternative Learning Environment where our church member, Golden Puckett, is a member of the faculty.

Christmas is near. During November, we will collect “unused” Christmas cards to be used by inmates of Garland County Detention Center. The collection box will be placed in the narthex.

Renewed “Be Our Guest” cards are ready to give to friends and neighbors to invite to our church.

FINANCIAL/STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Expenses and Revenue	August	YTD
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 52,746	\$ 291,201
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>38,965</u>	<u>270,431</u>
SURPLUS/DEFICIT (-)	\$ 13,781	\$ 20,770

Christian Education Committee Report

The adult Disciples' Sunday school class meeting at 9:30 am in the Community Room will continue their current study through October 26. All are invited. A new study, *Practicing Thankfulness*, by Sarah Young begins November 2.

Lawrence Grubb and Susie Wright are leading the Wednesday Verse-by-Verse Bible study from noon to 1:00 pm. The New Testament Letter to the Romans is the current study for Westminster and Prince of Peace members.

Spa City Youth for young people in grades 6 through 12 from Westminster, First, and St. Luke's Episcopal has resumed with a meal and meeting on the first and third Sunday evenings this school year.

Westminster's senior highs (grades 9-12) also are invited to a meal and program/activities in the Community Room on the second Sunday of each month immediately following worship at 11:30 to 1:00 pm. Golden Puckett and Aaron Norton are serving as the leaders of the WPC group.

Our church library gratefully received some of Pastor Chip Hatcher's Biblical study books and reference guides for use by the congregation.

Join a group of friends in the Community Room on Thursday, **November 6**, at 4:30-6:00 for a lively discussion of the Book Club Selection "What Alice Forgot" written by Liane Moriarty. This is a novel that follows Alice Love, a 39-year-old mother of three who wakes up after a head injury, unable to remember the last ten years of her life. She believes she is still a carefree 29-year-old newlywed expecting her first child, but she must confront the reality of her current life, which includes a stressful marriage and impending divorce. The story explores themes of memory, identity, and the complexities of relationships as Alice navigates her changed circumstances.

Dinner with Friends



Everyone is invited to come and share a meal and fellowship with friends at Smokin' in Style Bar-b-Q, 2278 Albert Pike Road, on Thursday, October 16, at 6:00 pm. If you are planning to attend, please call the church office no later than Tuesday, October 14, so that your spot can be reserved.

It took a Village. . .



Dear Friends,

It's been a real whirlwind for the Hatchers as we have navigated all the changes that the last few weeks have brought. We were able to get most of 121 Chappel Hill Rd. packed up and loaded on to a moving truck Saturday, 9/6/25, and we unloaded at 1003 College St. in Columbus, MS, 9/7/25. The two-plus weeks since then have been kind of a blur, but we couldn't go another day without letting all of you know how grateful we are for the wonderful worship service and fabulous send-off that WPC lavished on us on 8/31/25.

The final worship service was touching in every way; we so appreciated all of the words spoken and sung to commemorate and thank God for our years of ministry with you. The delicious fellowship meal and program after worship were filled with laughter and tears, leaving us all drained but also thankful for so many special relationships. Your gifts to us were extravagant, not only the monetary love offerings, but especially all the sweet tokens offered, the crown jewel of which was the brilliantly stunning quilt which we plan to hang in our Columbus house (pics to follow).

Your sweet notes have provided a wave of good wishes carrying us back to Mississippi. The overflowing love from our last pastorate is still very much in our hearts, and we are sure it will be for the rest of our lives. But most of all we are grateful for your prayers that we might remain safe and happy and embraced by the faith, hope and love of our gracious God. Please always be sure of our undying gratitude and our hopes and prayers for the good things that are surely in store for the Westminster church family in the days ahead.

Yours in Christ,
Chip and Melinda

Dear Westminster Church Family,

I want to take a moment, though long overdue, to thank you for the many cards, prayers, and encouragement you sent my way during my long illness and recovery earlier this year. Your kindness and faith lifted me through each challenge, and reminded me that I was never alone. I am so grateful to share that I am finally back to my old self! I truly believe your prayers made a difference, and I thank God daily for my new friends in this church family!

Your Sister in Christ,
Debbie George

Pastor
Rev. Chip Hatcher

CRE, Pastoral Care
Susie Wright

Organist/Choir Director/
Handbell Choir Director
Kristen La Madrid

Administrative Assistant
Billie Wetzler

Custodian
Jack Davis

Mother's Day Out Director
Anita Dickson

Church Office
501-525-1367

E-Mail
wpchsar@gmail.com

Website
www.wpchotsprings.org



Lectioary

October 5—Lam. 1:1-6 *and* Lam 3:19-26 *or*
Ps. 137; Hab. 1:1-4; 2:1-4 *and* Ps. 37:1-9; 2
Tim. 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

October 12—Jer. 29:1, 4-7 *and* Ps. 66:1-12;
2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c *and* Ps. 111; 2 Tim. 2:8-
15; Luke 17:11-19

October 19—Jer. 31:27-34 *and* Ps. 119:97-104;
Gen. 32:22-31 *and* Ps. 121; 2 Tim. 3:14-4:5;
Luke 18:1-8

October 26—Joel 2:23-32 *and* Ps. 65; Jer. 14:7-10,
19-22 *and* Ps. 84:1-7; 2 Tim. 4:6-8, 16-18;
Luke 18:9-14



2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			¹ 8:15 Men's Break-fast 12 Noon Bible Study	2	3	4
⁵ 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship/Communion 5:30 Spa City Youth,	6	7	8 12 Noon Bible Study 4:30 Chancel Choir	9	10	11
¹² 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 WPC Sr. High	13	¹⁴ Catherine Circle 1:30 pm Community Room	¹⁵ 12 Noon Bible Study 4:30 Chancel Choir	¹⁶ Dinner With Friends 6:00 pm Smokin' in Style	17	18
¹⁹ 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 Fellowship	²⁰ Session Stated Meeting 6:30 pm, Community	²¹	²² 12 Noon Bible Study 4:30 Chancel Choir 5:45 Bell Choir	²³ NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE	24	25
²⁶ 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	27	28	²⁹ 12 Noon Bible Study 4:30 Chancel Choir	30	31	
		NEWSLETTERS TO BE MAILED				