

## **ABOUT WESTMINSTER**

The WBTS web site ([www.wbts.org](http://www.wbts.org)) includes factual information plus the current issue of the Spire. Sermons can be heard or read online, from podcasts, or on iTunes. More information including the calendar can be found on the website. Copies of sermons and current issues of the Spire can be found in the narthex. Our phone number is 386-767-8342; Fax 386-767-8341. The church office is open 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.

### **Sundays**

There is one 10:00 service each Sunday from in August, with fellowship hour at 11:00. Beginning in September there are two services each Sunday, one at 8:45, and the other at 11:00, with fellowship hour at 12:00 as people volunteer to host it. Sunday School classes are at 9:45. More information about Sunday School can be found in the Christian Education section of the Spire.

### **From My Bookshelf**

Jeff Sumner

Each month while there is no Associate Pastor letter, I plan to put in something I've read that I think is worth your consideration. I'll draw on modern writers, mystics, classic writers, and others. The first week is from a book I reviewed for possible use at a later date:

J. Ellsworth Kalas, in his book *The Pleasure of God: Finding Grace in the Ordinary*, [Westminster/John Knox Press, 2016, p.p. 2-3] writes these words:

[The Way, as listed in The Lord's Prayer,] leads to heaven, an eternal reunion of humanity with our Creator and Lord. But it has much more to say about our relatively short journey on this earth than about eternity in heaven. Sometimes the earnest preacher or believer asks, "Suppose I die tomorrow—what then?" Here's a better question:

"Suppose I live tomorrow—what then?" I'm not playing down eternity. Quite the opposite; I'm saying that this life today is of a piece with eternity. When a clergyman came to visit Henry David Thoreau in the last days of Thoreau's life and asked if there was any sense of what followed, Thoreau answered memorably, "One world at a time." Our first-century faith ancestors didn't distinguish the two worlds so sharply; they made themselves ready for the world to come by living with a grand sense of God's presence and purposes in this present world. This was part of the way Jesus contrasted himself with the false shepherds: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." The abundance Christ promised begins here—not in the measure of land possessed or honors won, but in those measures that are appropriate to creatures such as you and me, people blessed with the breath of eternity in our persons and spirits.

This brings us to the matter of the kind of people we are. Whatever might be said of our moments of ecstasy, profundity, or nobility, or those rare occasions when individuals seem to shape history, most of our time, whoever we are, is spent in common stuff. It's easy to find the statistics about how we spend our common life dispiriting. We spend fully a third of our lives sleeping ... or trying to sleep. [We work ... we eat ... we wait to eat ... we stand in line ... we floss, and brush, and decide what to wear.] And, of course, there are the elephants in the room of time consumption: television, the Internet, and the ubiquitous use of phone that is almost an extension of the hand if not the ear....

This is the way of saints, who find the stuff of life in its common hours.... We must not tally verses read as we do home runs or contracts signed. Saints are not those who offer many prayers, but those who turn all of life into prayer. ... someone who whether walking,

eating, resting, emailing, laughing, or socializing does it with the gladness of soul as to say, “God made me thus, and when I so live, *I feel his pleasure.*”

### **Fellowship Opportunities**

Here are some of our fellowship or mission opportunities. Check the Spire Calendar for days and times.

**Fellowship Hour** - most Sundays following the 10:00 service in summer and the 11:00 starting in September.. Those interested in hosting, helping, or funding a fellowship hour should call Kitty French at 386-308-3800. You may also sign up on the podium in fellowship hall.

### **Caring Friends of Westminster**

Wednesday, September 6 & 20  
at 1:00 in Peninsula Hall

Perhaps your loved one passed away suddenly, without warning. Or it could have happened after a long battle with illness. We are never really prepared for a life without the one we love. Your family gathers & we all try to help each other deal with our loss. But then everyone leaves & you face a quiet you have never experienced before. Everyone in our group has been there & they have had to deal with a life they have never planned for or wanted. We gather twice a month all year. If you have lost someone you love & need some good friends, come & join us. It is not necessary to be a member of our church, all are welcome. Should you have any questions call Kitty French (308-3800) or Marianne Sabatka (236-8534).

**Men of Westminster** will meet for our breakfast and fellowship on Friday September 8th. We will begin our study of the book of Revelation with Jeff. Bring \$5 for a book if you don't have one already. Meet at 7 am in Fellowship Hall. Plenty of good food, coffee and orange juice. All you can eat for

only a \$5 contribution to support the Thornwell Home, Friends of Francis and WBTS Youth Mission Trips.

*Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. Genesis 1:29*

Contact Rodney Bookhardt for more info at 386 847 7871 or [rkbook@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rkbook@cfl.rr.com)

**Lunch Bunch** will be on Thursday, September 21 at noon at Genovese's on Dunlawton (beach side). Everyone is invited to this time of food and fellowship – no other agenda! Contact Jari Arbogast at 761-2283 or [arbofish@att.net](mailto:arbofish@att.net) if you'd like to join us.

**Bridge Group** meets every Monday at 10 am in the Room A in Peninsula Hall. Contact Bill & Vera Becker for information. 386-304-7283

### **Outreach**

As we hope everyone is having a great summer so far we are happy to be a part of all the great things that are happening at Westminster. We are sad to see Rev. Milne leave but we are very happy for her and her new calling. We are currently seeking two other Missionaries as we have the ability to support four (two couples) to serve the world mission efforts in their callings across the world. We are ramping up for some new events this winter and, of course, will be keeping you posted. Please help support 2 cents a meal by bringing your change and putting it in the cans that are on the tables in the fellowship hall during fellowship hour. For just 2 cents you can feed a hungry child. Thank you for all you are and all that you are to be the hands and feet of Christ as part of Westminster By-The-Sea Outreach.

### **Halifax Urban Ministries**

**(HUM)** If you would like to help with serving food at the Bridge of Hope (HUM) on the second



Thursday of the month, from 9 am to 1 pm, please let us know. Thank you for supporting HUM. For more information, contact Patti Ford or Ginny Whitney.

**The HUM Food Pantry** at Grace Episcopal Church continues to be very busy. It seems that more people are moving into our area from the Daytona Beach area, and therefore are coming to this pantry for help. The HUM Pantry received a shopping basket full of groceries from our own Vacation Bible School children. They also donated \$202.05 in cash so that we can buy food and paper products for the pantry. This was most generous and greatly appreciated. Please remember that the box in the Narthex and the box in the hall outside Fellowship Hall are there for your continued donations. Thanks again. Marianne Sabatka

### **Friends of Francis**

#### **Mission of Hope and Faith**

Tobias Caskey

As always, thank you for all the support you have given to help Solutions by the Sea and others in Daytona Beach. Even though we cannot get to all the donations every time we are told of them, do not think we are not grateful and please do not stop helping as you are the light in the darkness for people of need; and every bit helps. If you have any questions about donations please contact me at 386 804 7140

At Solutions we sleep 160 men coming from all different battles in life from addiction, alcoholism, to incarceration. As the Chaplain of Solutions, I help them and their families through these experiences offering guidance and an ear to listen; the love of God where many of them have lost that love or never knew God to begin with. These battles are real. It's an honor to serve these men and their families as it is an honor and a privilege to be a Certified Ruling Elder and a part of

Westminster By-The-Sea Presbyterian Church.

### **Worship**

#### **August Sermons**

- 8/6 Feeding a Multitude
- 8/13 Jesus' Prayer Plan
- 8/20 The Wideness in God's Mercy
- 8/27 A Declaration for the Ages

#### **September Sermons**

- 9/3 Good Intentions That Block Godly Plans
- 9/10 The Power of Love
- 9/17 A Life of Renewal
- 9/24 Choosing Life Over the Death

#### **Flowers**

- 8/6 Barbara Reid  
Madelyn Beers  
Jeanne Dell
- 8/13 Betty Kestler
- 8/20 Helen Chandler  
Naomi Riddle
- 8/27 Pete & Patty Zahn  
Jeanne Dell & Sharon Dell-Gallagher  
Naomi Riddle
- 9/3 Ed & Edythe Johnson  
Nancy Epps
- 9/10 Men of Westminster
- 9/17 Nancy Force  
June Wendt
- 9/24 Kitty French  
Sharon Dell-Gallagher

If you have taken flowers home and have the empty white vases we need them back. The florist is running low on them. You may leave them in the kitchen. Thanks!

Please contact Kristin in the church office (767-8342) if you'd like to provide the flowers for a service. She may call you to see if you would like to give flowers on the Sunday you gave them last year. Arrangements are \$26.00 each. We will also

have a poster in Fellowship Hall where you may write your name for a particular Sunday (a loved one's birthday, a remembrance, etc.)

### **From the Choir Room**

Madeline Day

We thank all the choir members who have given us special music over the summer. But now the break is over and we will resume rehearsals on Thursday, Aug. 31 at 7:00 pm for and Chancel Choir and on Thursday, September 7 at 6:00 pm for Hand Bells. We invite you to join either or both choirs for a medically approved, weekly dose of music and merriment; if you feel an uncontrollable urge to participate, please call Norton at [386-316-1003](tel:386-316-1003) or email him at [Nortonchristeson50@gmail.com](mailto:Nortonchristeson50@gmail.com)

We are delighted to announce that two of our members, Sharon Roberts and Don Kruger, will be married at Westminster at 3:00 pm on Saturday, Sept. 9. Come and celebrate with us!

Stay tuned...

### **Prayer for the Day**

"Lord, if you could feed 5000 with five loaves of bread and two fish, help me imagine what new things you can do through me today. Amen." 8/6/17

### **Prayer for the Day**

"Dear Lord, if you could teach me again how to pray the way you taught your disciples to pray, how would my prayers change? Amen." 8/13/17

### **Prayer for the Day**

"Dear Lord, if I gave a little more attention to loving others unconditionally the way you love me, could I change the world for the better? Amen." 8/20/17

These are questions the sermons wrestled with and sought to answer in August!

The summer has been filled with intriguing messages and uplifting music!

### **Congregational Life**

Starting September 7<sup>th</sup>, Congregational Life gets back into the swing of things with meetings resuming the first Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. Come one, come all ... Congregational Life isn't only for ladies, and gentlemen are always welcome! Also, hosts for fellowship hour are needed this fall. Please consider picking a Sunday to enjoy food and fellowship with your church family. It's easy to sign up. The notebook is located on the lectern in Fellowship Hall.

### **Administration**

An Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) has been elected to begin searching for a replacement for Cara (not that she's replaceable). We will keep you posted, as we are able, as we move through the process.

### **Presbyterian Women**

Marianne Sabatka

The WTBS Presbyterian Women will meet on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. It is our first Gathering and will be a covered dish luncheon. Our guest speaker will be Doug Coleman. Our study books for the year ("Twelve More Women of the Bible") will be available for purchase. The price is \$11.00 each and this study will cover two years. We enjoyed studying Women of the Bible these past two years and this study will cover some women of the Bible that are not well known but none the less important.

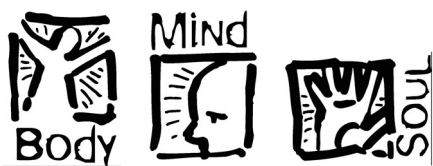


### **Travel With Us**

#### **2018 Church Cruise**

We'll be sailing on the Celebrity Reflection from January 29 – February 9. Our stops

include Puerto Limon, Costa Rica; Colon, Panama; Cartegena, Colombia (overnight); Georgetown, Grand Cayman; and Cozumel. For information contact Lori or Jack Rhodes at 386-222-2222. We already have 40 people signed up to go and the bus holds 50.



**CHAIR YOGA** with Caron & Jack Krier 

Time: Thursdays 10:00 – 11:00 am

Where: Peninsula Hall

Cost: \$30 for each 4 week session or \$10

Drop in Class

(Cash or checks made out to Caron Krier  
Please bring payment to the 1<sup>st</sup> session)

September 7, 14, 21, 28

October 5, 12, 19, 26

November 16, 30 & December 7, 14

**MAT/FLOOR** class - All levels

Practice YOGA poses with gentle stretching, breathing techniques, meditation and relaxation. Increase flexibility, strengthen muscles, reduce stress. Increase circulation and concentration.

Come to ONE class or ALL:

September 7 and October 5

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Cost: \$10.00 per class

Peninsula Hall To register: 386-767-8342

(Kristin Downer, Church Secretary)

Questions? Contact the Criers at 386-333-9069 (home) or 352-350-0072 (cell)



I am overwhelmed and humbled by your generosity! I am incredibly grateful for the love offering, the notes and cards and all of the well wishing over the last month. The gifts will be very helpful as I move and get settled, and the cards made me smile! I appreciate everything Westminster has done for me. I will never forget you.

Cara Milne

We wanted to thank the many volunteers of Westminster By The Sea who have chaperoned the many events our children have participated in over the years. You have accompanied them on mission trips, Itchetucknee, and various other youth activities which might not have been possible without your service. They have valued your kindness, humor, and wisdom year after year. Their time with you has been as special and rewarding as the experience itself. You all have left an unending influence and have helped shaped their Christian beliefs.

With all of our gratitude,  
Mark and Gayle Osiborski

**The Steeple Has Returned** In addition to the major gift that paid for our Spire refurbishment, the new lights have been provided by:

Ken Smith in memory of his parents Ken and Lois Smith

Pam and Jeff Walker

Beth and Steve Parker

Walker Roofing

Jim and Carolyn Goergen

Bob and Donna O'Brien

Leon Kruse

Todd Williams

Tina Buck

Thank you for making the steeple so beautiful at night!



The sympathy and prayers of the congregation are with Gail Ranalli on the death of her husband, John, on July 29.

## **Arabic Evangelical Ministries 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

On Saturday August 26<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. the Arabic Evangelical Ministries will celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary since their beginning in August, 1997! And YOU are invited! Feel free to join them for any or all of the celebration. Rev. Sumner will be present at the beginning to bring opening greetings to those who gather! Pastor Dr. Wagid Guirgis and the congregation will welcome all who want to come and share the celebration!

### **Outside Groups Meeting at WBTS**

#### **Sunday**

#### **Arabic Evangelical Ministries**

6:00 pm in the Chapel

#### **Monday**

#### **Ecumenical Bible Study**

6:00 in Fellowship Hall

#### **Tuesday**

#### **Gamblers Anonymous**

7:30 pm in the Garden Room

#### **Thursday**

#### **Embroidery Guild**

First Thursday at 10:00 am (Sept - May)  
in Fellowship Hall

#### **Al-Anon Gentle Journey**

12:00 pm in Room 12A

#### **Gamblers Anonymous**

7:30 pm in the Garden Room

#### **AA Men's Group**

8:00 pm in Room 12A

#### **Saturday**

#### **Al-Anon**

10:00 am in Room 12A

# Back To School



Have a great year!!!