

WESTMINSTER BY-THE-SEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Spire

APRIL 2025

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WBTSCHURCH@GMAIL.COM

Invite a Friend



All are Welcome!



EASTER

Sunday
10 am service

SERMONS

April 6 - John 12:20-33
Planting Seeds - Waiting for Harvest

April 13 - Matthew 21:1-17
Turmoil

April 20 - John 20:1-18
Raised Up

April 27 - Luke 24:13-35
Emmaus

May 4 - Luke 24:13-35
Emmaus

Holy Week and Easter

As we enter the month of April, we are busy preparing for the many important worship services and concerts that are part of Holy Week and Easter. Over the years I have found Holy Week and Easter to be powerful times when people who have not been active in the life of the church return and are often reconnected and renewed through worship. If you know a neighbor or friend who is not active in a church, consider inviting them to join you for any and all of the Holy Week and Easter worship services this year.

Imagine the satisfaction in knowing that your invitation to attend a concert or worship service was the beginning of a life-changing event for a neighbor, friend or family member. Imagine the joy in heaven that as a result of your invitation they heard Jesus calling them and His call led them to a new life shaped by prayer, worship and a deeper sense of God working in their life.

Palm/Passion Sunday – April 13th at 8:45am and 11:00am

Holy Week begins with Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. The crowds welcome Jesus as they would welcome a king, with palm branches and shouts of Hosanna. All too quickly the joyous welcome changes from Hosanna to crucify him. Our worship will begin with palms and then we will reflect on what it means for us to carry the cross with Christ in our world today.

Palm Sunday Evensong Concert – April 13th at 5:00pm

Join us at 5:00pm for our a Palm Sunday Evensong concert as our Choir under the direction of Norton Christeson shares anthems, hymns and scripture readings that helps us experience the power and drama of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection.

Maundy Thursday Soup and Bread Supper and Holy Communion – Thursday April 17th

Maundy Thursday begins with a Soup and Bread Supper at 5:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Chef Mark Bartell is preparing a delicious Chicken Minestrone Soup for our church family. Reservations are needed so call the church office to reserve your place at the table or look for the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall

After our soup supper is concluded (6:15pm) - we will gather at the Lord's Table in the sanctuary for our Maundy Thursday worship service. As we gather at the Table to share the Lord's Supper we will recall lessons learned at the table and we will follow Jesus as he goes to Gethsemane and speaks to His Father in prayer – "not my will but your will be done." Join us as we remember Jesus with a meal together, hymns, scripture, silent reflection and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Good Friday – Friday April 18th from 12noon to 1:00pm (Sanctuary)

On Good Friday from 12noon to 1:00pm we will gather to listen to the story of our salvation and redemption as the Gospel of John narrates the events of that first Good Friday. Join us as we pray at the foot of the cross.

Easter Sunday – April 20th – One Worship Service at 10:00am

On Easter morning we will gather for one Easter Celebration worship service at 10:00am in the sanctuary. Join us as we sing and celebrate our oneness in Jesus Christ at our Easter worship service featuring the music of our choir, festive Easter hymns and an Easter Sermon by Pastor Foley. Following our Easter worship there will be a delicious Dessert reception in the Fellowship Hall.

HOLY WEEK



PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

APRIL 13, 2025, 8:45 AND 11 A.M. - SANCTUARY

PALM SUNDAY EVENSONG

WBTS CHANCEL CHOIR

APRIL 13, 2025 AT 5 P.M. - SANCTUARY

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

APRIL 17, 2025: 6:15 P.M. – 7:15 P.M. - SANCTUARY

&

SOUP AND BREAD SUPPER: 5 P.M. – 6 P.M. - THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

“AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS”

APRIL 18, 2025 AT 12-NOON – SANCTUARY

EASTER SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025: 10 A.M. - SANCTUARY

&

EASTER SUNDAY DESSERT CELEBRATION

FOLLOWING EASTER SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Good News Reports

Joan Hines and Michael Husted were received into membership by reaffirmation; appreciation given for the new bushes and flowers bordering the north parking lot

Update on Building Repairs

Kitchen cabinets are installed; steel columns arrive this week; and FEMA is in final review stage before pay-out- if all is approved, \$177,623.04 will be received

Rev. Foley led book discussion of "Becoming a Welcoming Church"

Sympathy and gratitude given for the lives and faith of Sally Durrwachter (03/04/25); Betty Kesler (03/08/25); and Grace Barber (03/09/25)

Administration

- Report shows loss of \$494.81 over projected income
- Stifel Nicolaus Account is established and monies transferred to the account
- During Bike Week, trailer and two motorcycles were stolen from the overflow lot; a police report was filed; for the future, a "Release of Liability" is being drafted

Christian Education

- MomCo Ministry received two new inquiries about the MomCo ministry, indicating growing interest.
- Playground Dedication was a success; an article, along with accompanying pictures, was sent to the Hometown News and the Central Florida Presbytery newsletter.
- Rev. Foley delivered speech and presented a PowerPoint on best practices in stewardship at the COLE event on February 22
- Youth Happenings- We are actively encouraging rising 9th-12th grade youth to participate in Triennium; the Red Robin fundraiser raised a small amount for the Youth Group's Montreat Youth Conference; next Youth Group fundraiser is scheduled for April 13 between services and after the 11:00 service.
- Vacation Bible School: VBS Mission has been selected as Ronald McDonald House Nemours in Orlando which aligns with VBS theme, "Road Trip," as many families must travel to receive care and treatment; promotion banner, flyers, and newsletter feature have been done
- Certification and Professional Development: Ashley submitted her reader response and acceptance of her policy program admission paper under the Christian Educator Associate (CEA) endorsement track

- UCF Center for Autism and Related Disabilities: a meeting with a specialist from the UCF Center for Autism and Related Disabilities took place on Thursday, February 27, at 9:30 am.; ongoing discussion about possible use of playground
- Intergenerational Event was well attended, with approximately fifty people present.
- New Visitor Outreach: meeting was arranged with a student at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, exploring options to develop a small Bible study group tailored to their demographic

Congregational Life

- Homebound contacts were made; Division will provide reception for funerals on March 15th and April 15th; and will assist youth group by providing cookies and other baked goods for their sale on April 13th

Operations

- Discussion about cost of janitorial supplies and cost of church insurance; plans for new bushes discussed

Outreach

- Visited the Rose Marie Bryon Children's Center on 03/10/25 with discussion about giving them financial support; PCC held a fundraiser; plans for 70th Anniversary discussed; report that current status of our missionaries is unknown

Worship

- Working on a flyer that outlines the opportunities for member involvement

Pastor Nominating Committee

- Continued prayer request for discernment; call-seeker interviews continue; COM reported that, currently throughout the Presbytery, it is taking churches 2-3 years to find a solo pastor



UPCOMING EVENTS

RECURRING EVENTS

MAH JONGG

Wednesdays - 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Last meeting on Dec. 11.

Returns January 8

Community Room - Room 9

All levels welcome!

GAME TIME

Thursdays - 12:15 p.m.

Community Room - Room 9

Board games & card games!

YOGA

Thursdays - 1 p.m.

\$10/session

Teacher: Christine Bartell

Yoga & Chair Yoga at the same time!

All levels of experience welcome!

BOOK CLUB

April Book:

Next Meeting: April 28 at 3:30

Contact: Kristin Downer -

386-235-0574

ONE-TIME EVENTS

70th ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Sunday, April 6

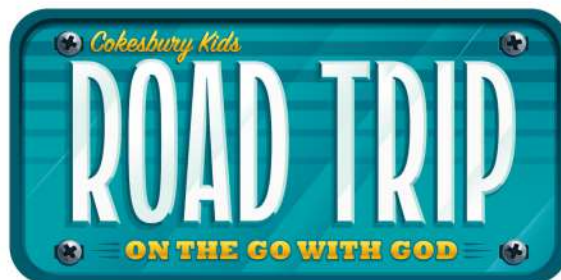
Join us on April 6th as we celebrate our church's 70th anniversary! We will have a jam packed service with Communion and celebratory music followed by a party in Fellowship Hall with catering from Colt's Pig Stand! We cannot wait to see you there!

A HOLY WEEK EVENSONG

Sunday, April 13 at 5 p.m.

Come see A Holy Week Evensong featuring our amazing WBTS Chancel Choir, directed by Dr. Norton Christeson on Palm Sunday at 5 p.m. It is free to attend! A free will offering will be taken at the end if you wish to help support our concert series.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR FULL HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE!



GROUPS

Men's Breakfast

Returning: TBD

Leader: Rodney Bookhardt

Caregivers Support Group

Sundays 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Library



MomCo by the Sea

MomCo

Formerly known as MOPS

1st Friday of every month

10a.m. - 12 p.m.

Spiritual Study Group

Led by Pete Zahn

Wednesday 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

ACA: Mondays at 7 p.m.

GA: Tues. & Thurs. at 7 p.m.

Al-Anon: Thursdays at 12 p.m.

OA: Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Nursery

Newborn to Pre-K
Hours 8:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Church

Kindergarten to 5th Grade
Following the Children's Message
at 8:45a.m. and 11a.m.
Rooms 5 & 6

Youth Class

6th-12th grade
9:45a.m All Sundays
Room 3

Adult Sunday School

Sundays at 9:45 a.m.
Room 12A
Teacher: Jan Toles



Come support our youth so they can attend the Montreat Youth Conference! Sweet treats available in the Fellowship Hall after the 8:45am and 11am worship services on April 13th

Palm Processional: We invite all children and youth to participate! He has risen indeed!

Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday in our new playground area! We hope you will join us!



CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM POSTS!



Showing our appreciation and support of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance today by wearing blue! PDA came to visit us following the aftermath of Hurricane Milton in October 2024. They were quite literally "boots on the ground" to come see and get a first hand accounting of what churches in our region and in our Presbytery's were experiencing in real time. The care and compassion showed to us during that site visit will not be forgotten. Renovations are coming to completion but we continue to worship and welcome all! Showing and sharing love in return! [#presbyteriandisasterassistance](#) [#wbtschurch](#) [#sosa](#) [#cfpresbytery](#)

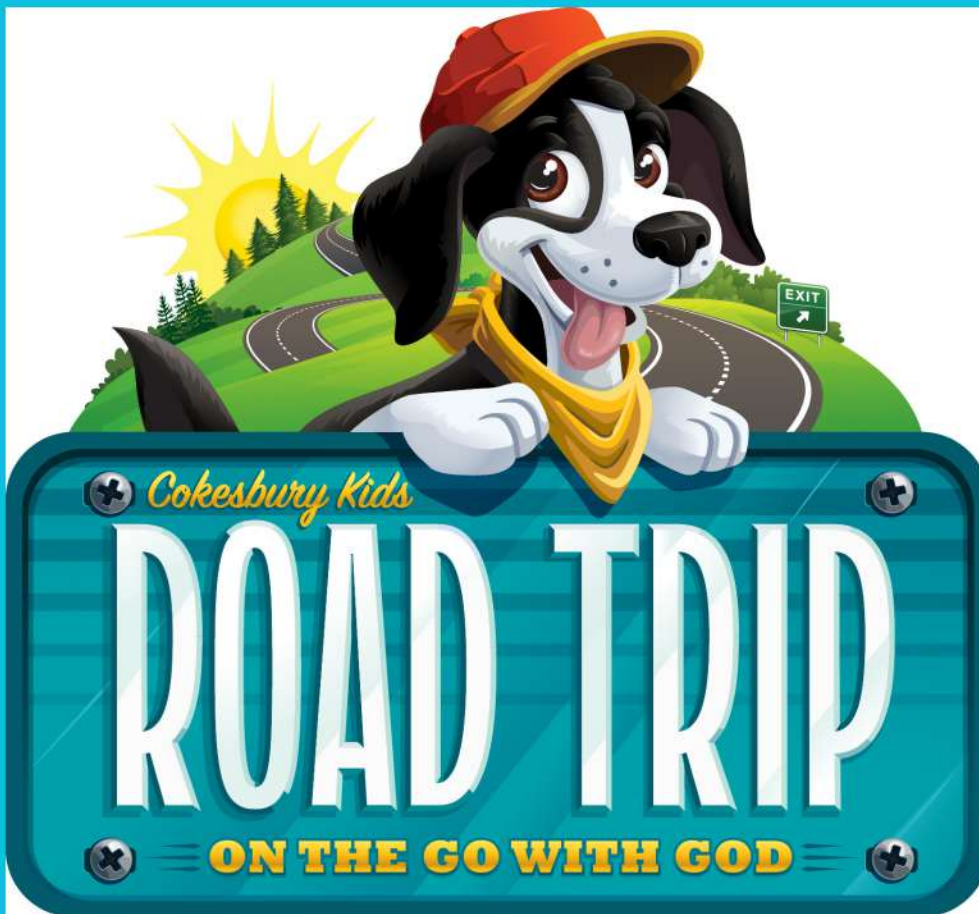


Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Thank you for participating in Blue Shirt Sunday and for your faithful support!

Westminster By the Sea Presbyterian Church Vacation Bible School

**June 23rd-27th
9am to Noon**



3221 S. Peninsula Drive Daytona Beach, FL 32118

**You can register using the QR code or go to <https://wbts.org> or
call 386-767-8342**



Stetson University
School of Music
Concert Choir

Directed by
Dr. Timothy Peter



Bethune-Cookman
University
Concert Chorale

Directed by
Dr. Karl Van Richards





Announcing the... Presbyterian Youth Triennium

In July 2025, the Presbyterian Church (USA) will welcome thousands of its high school age youth and their adult youth workers to Louisville, Kentucky for four days of worship, recreation, bible study, outreach, and faith formation all around the theme.

Most programming and meals will be held at the Kentucky International Convention Center (KICC) with all participants housed at nearby Triennium hotels.

Sign-Up using the QR code below if you are interested in attending this exciting event with a Delegation from Tampa Bay and Central Florida.

Cost breakdown:

The total cost is shared equally: the participant, the Presbytery, and (hopefully your church) can each contribute about 1/3 towards registration, transportation, and hotel lodging. Scholarship funds are available to help participants or churches with financial needs.

Contact Carole Pate for more information 407-898-6571

Deadline to apply May 9th 2025



SCAN HERE!