

The Spire

MAY 2025

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STAY CONNECTED

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SEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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WBTSCHURCH@GMAIL.COM

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Financial snapshot as of April, 30,
2025.

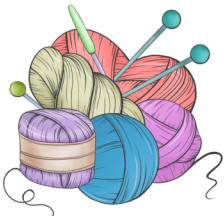
What we need: \$194,107.64

Where we are: \$183, 575.66

Difference: - \$10,531.98

CALLING ALL CROCHETERS

Calling all Crocheters! We need to make prayer shawls for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Volusia County. Please let Kristin in the office know if you are interested to help.



Thank you,
Jeanne Keiper

SIGNS OF LIFE

Some years ago, a church displayed a sign on its front lawn announcing its Easter message to the community. The sign read, "Jesus is Alive." One night a graffiti artist scribbled in big letters his own message in response, "But the church is dead." While some could justifiably look upon this prank as a malicious act of destruction, perhaps it might be well to entertain the possibility that those words have a prophetic quality as well.

We may think we know how our message is being heard by those outside the church doors. We may believe that our doors are open - and everyone feels our warm welcome. Yet actions do have a way of speaking louder than the words we like to proclaim. Take for example, the visitors who come through the door of Westminster by the Sea Presbyterian Church with the expectation that they will be welcomed and accepted, and the ushers are the only ones who say hello to them. What are they going to conclude about our signs that boast that we are a friendly church

Easter is the season in which we say, not only in words, but in our actions that the church is alive with the power of the Risen Christ. Easter is the season in which we are reminded that God is the author of life, and that God sent Jesus into the world that we might live life abundantly. Easter has something to say to us about the way we live and act.

What is God calling Westminster by the Sea Presbyterian Church to proclaim to this community this Easter? As we live into this Easter season, I invite each member to consider the powerful message of hope that is at the center of our Easter celebration - Jesus is alive and because he lives - we are called to live lives that display his power and love.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Celebration of Kristin's 14-years of employment with appreciation given for the whole staff

Viewed a Legacy Giving presentation

Visitor table and welcome banner are now in narthex; members expressed appreciation for the increased presence of ushers for the Easter worship service

Jim and Pat Chestnut were received and welcomed into membership by certificate of transfer from Kanapaha Presbyterian church in Gainesville, FL

Received letter from Central Florida Presbytery thanking the Session and Congregation for their financial support

Approval given that Rev. Foley's Interim Pastor Agreement be extended through September 30, 2025 at the same financial terms of the current contract

Approved Admin's recommendation for investment strategies

Christian Education: will apply for the Genevieve Lange Scholarship to help funding of Montreat Youth conference attendance; Proposal approved for an online and in-person young adult ministry; First Aid/CPR Certification scheduled for April 27; FISH 2.0 keynote speaker confirmed and workshop leaders are in place.

Congregational Life: Thanks given to Miriam Nettleton for all her work and support; Fifteen+mail/phone contacts were made to those who are homebound; Fellowship tribute for Sally Durrwachter is planned for May Thanks given to Tom Arbogast and Monica Kucera for all their continued work

Outreach: Connection made with Fine Sober Living to discuss their needs; Tom Scott passed out Bible literature when on the Hope Place distribution route; Continued need for Food Drive donations at Port Orange Food Pantry

Operations

Update on Building Repairs: Kitchen rebuild is completed and in use; hope to have columns completed by end of May

Worship: Discussion about implementing the Division's responsibilities, developing informational materials [tri-fold, worship opportunities cards/ prayer cards], and training volunteers

SERMONS

May 4 - Luke 24: 13-35
Meeting the Risen Lord at Table

May 11
Rev. Dr. David Keck Preaching

May 18 - Matthew 10: 40-42
A Welcoming Church

May 25 - John 21: 1-19
Feed My Sheep

June 1 - John 17: 20-26
A Prayer for Unity

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, KRISTIN!

Church staff and the session celebrated Kristin's 14th anniversary with the church on April 29!



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

May Book: The Alice Network
by Kate Quinn

Next Meeting: April 28 at 3:30

Contact: Kristin Downer -
386-235-0574

ONE-TIME EVENTS

Sunday School Awards and Teacher Appreciation Day

Sunday, May 11

11am Worship Service

Join us as we celebrate our Sunday School students with end-of-year awards and honor our incredible teachers for their dedication and love throughout the year.



Vacation Bible School June 23-27

REGISTER NOW!
Go to wbts.org

GROUPS

Men's Breakfast

Returning: May 9 @ 7 a.m.

Leader: Rodney Bookhardt

Caregivers Support Group

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

MomCo

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.

AI-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

*Thank
you*

to all who stopped by to support
our Youth Group bake sale on
April 13th! They are so very
grateful for your generous giving!

VBS is just around the corner,
and we can't wait to welcome
children for a week filled with
faith, fun, and fellowship.
Through engaging Bible stories,
hands-on crafts, upbeat music,
and exciting games, kids will
experience the love of God in a
joyful and memorable way.
This year's VBS promises to be
an adventure your child won't
want to miss. Best of all, it's
FREE for everyone and open to
the community! Invite your
friends, family, and neighbors!
To register see the flyer below!



**CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK
AND INSTAGRAM POSTS!**



What a joyful Easter morning at Westminster By The Sea! After a special children's message in worship, the kids had a fabulous time hunting for eggs and learning about the true meaning of Easter. Worship was filled with beautiful music and an incredible solo by our Choir Director, Norton Christeson. We ended the morning with sweet fellowship and smiles all around.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!
#EasterSunday #HelsRisen #WBTChurch
#EasterJoy #faithfamilyfun



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**



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!