

The Westminster Presbyterian Church  
*Communicant*  
August 2018



## Join Your Church Family on an Exciting New Journey

It's hard to believe that there's only a month or so left in Summer! As I kid, I remember going through a wild range of emotions every August. One moment I'd be excited to see classmates that I didn't see all Summer and the next I'd be depressed with the thought of assignments and homework. I'd make sure to "squeeze" every last drop out of Summer, waking up early to go to the beach and staying out until the sun went down.



Now, I look at August a little different. As a parent with young kids, it's the month of working toward the routines that we often let slide during the Summer months. As a pastor, it's the month of preparation for the next season. I typically spend a lot of time reading, praying, meeting with leaders of ministry areas, and jotting down notes about what's coming.

Over the next month you'll be hearing about an exciting journey that we're beginning as a church. Between September 2018 and May 2019, we are going to walk through the chronological narrative of Scripture together. We'll be using something called **The Story**. Our hope is that every person in our community—from every age and stage—will have the opportunity to participate in the journey. There are a few ways you can engage with *The Story*:

### *Follow Along in the Book*

Every week we will be working through a chapter together. There are versions of the book for every age group, all following the same Biblical narrative. In the coming weeks, we will have them available on the courtyard for sale, and they are also available online.

### *Use the Participant's Guide*

Along with **The Story** book, participant guides will be available for those who want to dig a little deeper with questions that follow along with each chapter. Use these for personal study or in a group.

### *Join a Story Small Group*

There will be multiple small groups focused on this journey. Some of these groups will meet on campus, others in homes. If you've never been in a small group, they are a fantastic way to build relationships and grow together!

### *Start a Conversation*

Around the dinner table with your kids, on the patio at church, stop into my office, anywhere! With everyone engaging in the same story, there are all kinds of possibilities for intergenerational interaction and informal conversations.

As I think about **The Story** I can't help but get excited about our church being a community that talks about Scripture with each other. As we begin to see the BIG picture of God's story, we'll also get a clearer understanding of where we are in what God is doing today through this church. I'm looking forward our journey together!

David



## Installation and Celebration for Pastor Dave

*You are invited on August 19*

**A**ugust 19 will be a special day at WPC, one that has been a long time coming! We will have one worship service, at 10 am, to install Rev. David Rohde as Pastor/Head of Staff. An installation is an act of the presbytery, officially establishing the pastoral relationship, in the context of a worship service. Our service will include officials from our Presbytery, a sermon by visiting Malawian pastor Vasco Kachipapa (a good friend of Pastor Dave), a charge to the congregation by Rob Douglana and lots of inspirational music. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for a celebration on the courtyard. You won't want to miss it!

**Save the Weekend of November 10 & 11**

## WPC's 50th Anniversary

**W**e're planning a weekend to celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness to Westminster Presbyterian Church for a half century! Saturday, November 10th we'll start the weekend with a Gala Dinner-Dance, and then continue on Sunday, November 11th with one service, followed by a family-friendly celebration and lunch on the front lawn.

Whether WPC has been your home for decades or you're the new kid on the block, we look forward to celebrating with you!

## Communications Survey

**H**ow do you prefer to receive communications from WPC? As a text message? Email? Social media sites such as Facebook? The weekly warmup? Your bulletin or Communicant?

We need your feedback! A very short (5 question) survey will be coming your way this month, which you may fill out either online or as a hard copy on Sunday mornings. We guarantee this will not take more than five minutes of your time! Changes are coming to help us improve how we get the good "news" to you. Thank you for helping.

September 9th

## Come meet your Deacon!

**H**ave you ever met your Deacon in person? Well, we'd love to say hello to you face-to-face... so come by the Welcome Table on the Courtyard on September 9th during our all-church fall kickoff and pancake brunch. We will all be gathered and waiting to meet you!



**September 9**

It wouldn't be fall without our annual all-church brunch! This year, join us between services on Sunday, September 9, for a delicious full meal with pancakes. Sunday School begins and we gather after a busy summer to see old friends and meet new ones. This fall is extra special as we kick off our all-church study of *The Story*. Bring your whole family, your friends and your neighbors to enjoy this exciting morning!

**WPC Fall Kickoff**



### **Sunday Worship Services**

- 9:30 Traditional Service
- 11:15 Contemporary Service

### **For Children on Sundays**

- 9:30 & 11:15 am  
Children age 3 through 5th grade begin in worship with their families and are dismissed to Sunday School after the Children's Message.  
Childcare is available for children from birth to 3 years from 9:30 to 12:30 each Sunday morning.

### **Weekly Bible Studies:**

- ❖ **Monday Bible Study**, Mondays, 1 pm, WPC Library, contact Aubrey Grey
- ❖ **Wednesday Study**, 2:30 pm, WPC Library, contact Jim Mulick
- ❖ **Women on Wednesday**, Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, Library, contact Sue Minihan

### **Student Ministries**

#### **Junior High Ministry, Grades 6-8**

Contact Matt Pardee

[Matt@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:Matt@wpcwestlake.org)

**JYF** (Middle School Youth Group),

Tuesdays, 6 – 7:30 pm, Youth Center

**Girls4God**, (Jr. High girls), Sundays, 4:30

pm, Youth Lounge. Contact Lisa Rush:

[Lisarush3@gmail.com](mailto:Lisarush3@gmail.com)

#### **Senior High Ministry, Grades 9-12**

Contact John (JR) Robertson

[JR@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:JR@wpcwestlake.org)

**SYF** (High School Youth Group): Sundays, 6:00 pm, Youth Center

**CNA** (Christians Non-Anonymous Midweek Bible Study) Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, off site

### **Chancel Choir**

Thursdays, 7:30 pm, beginning Fall programs September 6, you're invited!

### **Weekly Wednesday Koffee Klatch**

For adults 50+, Oakside Room, 9:30 am, conversation & sermon text preview

### **Weekly Community Outreach**

❖ WPC Winter Shelter, Wednesdays in the Community Outreach Center: overnight shelter (December–March), year-round dinner, showers, health care

❖ **Westminster Free Clinic**: Wednesdays, 5-10 pm, United Methodist Church, TO, contact Cindy Vinson

## **Upcoming Events**

### **SYF Summer Mission Trip**

July 29 – August 5

### **Summer Choir Rehearsal**

August 2, 7:30 pm

### **JYF Yuck Olympics**

Tuesday, August 14

### **Pathfinders**

Saturday, August 18, 8:30 am

### **Installation Service for Pastor Dave**

August 19, one service at 10 am

Followed by celebration on the courtyard

### **Session**

Wednesday, August 22

### **Small Group Leader Training**

**The Story** leader training

Saturday, August 25

### **Choir Retreat**

Saturday, August 25

### **Fall Kickoff /Pancake Brunch/Meet Your Deacon**

Kickoff for **The Story**

Sunday morning, September 9

### **Restaurant Night at Sea Casa**

Take flyer on page 6

September 17

### **50th Anniversary Celebration**

SAVE THESE DATES!

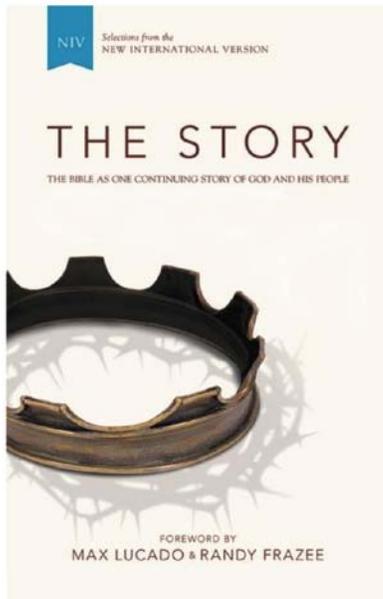
November 10 & 11

### **Bethlehem Experience 2018**

December 14 & 15

## **Communion**

August 5, September 2 and October 7



## Library Lines

We are looking forward to using *The Story* for our next journey in faith with everyone who considers WPC their church home. When you want to pursue more in depth what we've covered in worship and during small group discussion, do remember the stacks of reference books on the west wall to the right of the window. Here you will find all types of Bibles and many resource books of commentary by different authors. Some will cover the whole Bible in one volume, and others just one or a few books. Old familiar titles are also kept in the cupboards below. You have access to any of these, and most of them circulate. Please try to borrow and return in a couple of weeks

unless you are planning to use them for a long-term Bible study.

Note: When you leave something in the library, it can be taken to the front desk, left on the piano, or placed in a lower cupboard. Jackets and sweaters are taken to the office. Books and music are often left on the piano or desk. Hospitality supplies are taken to the kitchen, if they came from there, or are stored with like goods in the lower cupboards. Items like a CD player, after one week, are put in the lower right desk cupboard where we kept our meditation items for the Oakeside Room Sundays before the labyrinth was built. You are welcome to come in and look for any lost items whenever the library is not in use. Contact Ruth Grey for further information.

## Pathfinders

Community with the Household of Faith and Community with All the Saints were the last two studies we used from our Bible Study series using the book of Hebrews and related texts. Melissa Bane Sevier is a teaching elder (pastor) who has over 23 years of experience, with degrees in education as well as her DMin from schools in Kentucky. Her Cloud of Witnesses study has been rewarding and certainly the stepping point for plenty of rich discussion. We now end our journey together over the years to move on to other small groups within and without our church. Meg, who has been with us from way back while at WPC, has come from Ventura each month to share her new church experience in a Congregational atmosphere. Stacey, who now lives in Arizona, comes whenever she is in town. So gathering as women does make us connect far and wide as well as just here at home.

May your experiences be as rich and full as ours have been, blessed and graced by the Lord who loves us all. Thanks be to God. Ruth Grey

## Bethlehem Experience 2018

The Bethlehem Experience is returning to WPC in 2018, on December 14 and 15. This joyous event brings a living nativity to the Conejo Valley. BethEx 2018 has a faith budget with no WPC money; it will be funded entirely by donations. Please contribute a designated gift on

*[www.GotoBethlehem.com](http://www.GotoBethlehem.com)*

Sunday or visit [www.gotobethlehem.com](http://www.gotobethlehem.com) and use the donate button. Most importantly, please post [www.gotobethlehem.com](http://www.gotobethlehem.com) on Facebook, Nextdoor, Instagram, via text messages and email. Tell your friends and family about the camel and the little angels. Ask for their help. We need to widely communicate the BethEx challenge. Many small donations will combine to reach \$8,000 faith budget. Summer is the perfect time to reach out for BethEx.

Thank you in advance for donating and broadly sharing a challenge we can meet together!

## Coming in Music Ministry This Fall

Over the past twelve months, I have had the joy and honor of leading a wonderful group of talented and committed musicians in glorifying God. It is always a privilege to worship Him through music, and as we join together to do so, we also have a lot of fun!

I invite you to join us in our music-making adventure this fall. There are several ways you can take part:

Our Chancel Choir will resume singing in the 9:30 service beginning Sunday, September 9. Our first rehearsal is Thursday, September 6, at 7:30pm in the choir room. We will also have a Day Retreat at the church on Saturday, August 25 at 9am where we will get a head start on music for the fall and Christmas, and have a delicious brunch. No matter your level of singing experience, you are welcome to come.

At 11:15, we are always looking for musicians and singers to take part in leading worship with our Praise Team. We are also looking to start a Praise Choir to sing with the band during the service. Please contact me if you'd like to be a part of leading worship at 11:15.

We will also be developing a children's group to sing in our services that will rehearse during Kids Fellowship Club in the fall. Please contact myself ([Edsmart@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:Edsmart@wpcwestlake.org)) or Julie Martin ([Julie@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:Julie@wpcwestlake.org)) if you know of kids who are interested.

I'm looking forward to what God has in store for us through music at WPC. Please join us! Ed Smart

## Women on Wednesday Bible Study

Summer is in full swing and hopefully with it, some relaxed flexibility on summer evenings! Come, venture forth and visit the Women on Wednesday Bible Study! We meet every Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the Church Library. At the moment, we are discussing The Gospel of Mark. We have also reviewed the Books of John, Revelation and Isaiah. As we have gotten to know each other, we have grown together by sharing the different stories of our own faith journeys. We hope to see you soon in faith and friendship.

Contact Sue Minihan, 805.373-1432 or [sminihan27@gmail.com](mailto:sminihan27@gmail.com)

## The Yuck Olympics

*Fun Night for Junior High Students*

Incoming 6th through 8 graders: you will want to be at WPC on Tuesday, August 14, for the annual slip 'n' slime Yuck Olympics. We'll start with pizza on the Courtyard at 5:30. Be sure to wear your oldest clothes (something you can just throw away after the Olympics). \$5/person. Bring lots of friends!



## The Spirituality of Fly Fishing

It's back! After taking last year off, the "Spirituality of Fly Fishing" class returns, and this year the former "for men only" program is open to everyone (16 and under must be accompanied by an adult). The classroom dates are Sunday, September 2 and Sunday, September 9 (both 3—5 pm), and the field trip is Thursday and Friday, September 13–14.

You do not need your own equipment; everything is provided except waders and boots, which must be rented. Estimated cost per person is \$200, which includes all equipment, supplies, meals, and the hotel in Bishop. Join us in experiencing the beauty, solitude, and wonder of God's creation through fly fishing in the gorgeous eastern Sierras!

With only 12 slots, this class fills fast, on a strict first come, first served basis: email Jody Martin.



## Vacation Bible School

VBS 2018 and more fun photos on back page!

# SEA CASA

FRESH MEXICAN GRILL

*Is proud to sponsor*

## **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SYF**

*Help kick off the new school year and  
join us for delicious food and fellowship!*

**Monday September 17, 2018**

*from*

**5 pm to 9 pm**

**1014 S. WESTLAKE BLVD, WESTLAKE VILLAGE**

***Flyer (electronic or paper) must be presented  
when ordering (dine in or carry out) and 40%  
of the pre-tax sales generated from this  
fundraiser will be given back to WPC.***

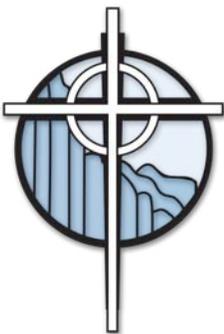
# Summer at WPC



11:15 summer service in the Fellowship Hall



Terrific Tuesdays on the front lawn



The *Communicant*

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS & FRIENDS  
OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*August 2018*

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Material for the Fall 2018 issue needs to be in the WPC  
office or sent by August 15 to  
[Kathy@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:Kathy@wpcwestlake.org)  
To submit late photos call Kathy Dahms.