



Presbyterian Church

for the months of Feb-Mar-Apr  
**Winter / Spring 2024**

## **From the Pastor's Study:**

One thing about living in Fort Worth, Texas, is that we do get some harsh winter weather, but it doesn't last long. Transplants from the North are often amused at how everything shuts down at the first sign of snow or ice. We try to explain to them that it is not that the weather is so severe, but that it is simply not what we are used to negotiating. (Talk to us about our punishing summer heat!) Our roads are not salted, we don't have snow chains on our tires (many of us don't even know what those are), and our communities do not operate snowplows to keep the roads clear. Granted, parts of Texas, such as the panhandle, are no stranger to blizzards, but here in Fort Worth we just stay off the roads as much as possible.

We are just finishing up our annual two weeks of extremely cold weather and we hope that is all this season will bring. Thankfully, it was not accompanied by snow and ice that would have snapped tree limbs and brought down power lines! The power outages were not widespread and were of limited duration – for which we are all very thankful. Unlike some recent years, we seem to have skated by with minimal problems. All of which started me thinking about how preparing for winter weather is a lot like the preparation we do in our spiritual lives.

We often take all kinds of precautions when bad weather is in the forecast. We cover our outside faucets, make grocery runs to stock up on essentials, fill any prescriptions we may need, bring in the pets and potted plants, gas up the cars, make sure we have batteries and emergency candles, and leave drips running in all of our sinks. We very much hope that bad situations will not arise, but we do what we can to be ready just in case.

We do the same thing in our spiritual lives, too. While we benefit daily from our church friendships and our communion with God, and we do a lot of good work through mission and outreach, there is also an element of "emergency preparation." By that I mean that the time we spend in worship and Sunday School, in prayer and in daily Bible study all help to strengthen our relationship with God. So that when our spiritual weather gets bad, we are better prepared to face hardship. Even if your life has been pretty smooth sailing so far, I can guarantee that at some point storms will come. The time to prepare is now.

Spend time with God in prayer and study and worship and praise. When we have trouble and heartache in our lives it is completely natural to turn to our trusted friends for comfort and support. How much easier is it to turn to God in our times of trouble if He is already a close and trusted friend? The more we rely on Him while dealing with the small things, the easier it is to rely on Him when the big storms hit.

Don

		<h2>Special Worship Opportunities</h2>	
		<b>February 14</b>	<i>Ash Wednesday Service</i> 7pm in the Sanctuary
		<b>March 28</b>	<i>Maundy Thursday Service</i> 7pm in Fellowship Hall
		<b>March 29</b>	<i>Good Friday Service</i> 7pm in the Sanctuary
		<b>March 31</b>	<i>Easter Sunday Service &amp; Communion</i> 10 am in the Sanctuary

### 2023 Giving Statements

For those who have not already done so, you may pick up your 2023 Giving Statement. They are available in the Narthex.

### Treasurer's Corner - January 2024

At the end of December, the church had \$142,274.93 in the primary checking account. Of this, \$82,124.44 is available in the general fund operating account. This represents 2.4 months of 2023's budgeted operating expenses.

December income was up dramatically compared to November. December was a five Sunday month, plus there were a number of large year-end donations to both pledged and open plate income. Pledges were 148% of budget, while Open Plate was 152% of budget. Income for the month was \$48,792.28 and expenses were \$38,422.32, resulting in a net increase in the general fund of \$10,369.96. For the year, total income was \$401,295.55 (104% of budget); Expenses were \$396,047.22 (96% of budget). Session adopted a deficit budget in 2023, projecting a reduction in the general fund of approximately \$25,000. Due to the congregation's generosity, we actually posted an increase in the general fund of \$5,248.33.

The mortgage fund had a starting balance of \$1,178.26. We received mortgage fund donations in December of \$2,636.00. An additional principal payment of \$1,150 was paid in December. The mortgage balance is \$33,481.68. An additional payment of \$1,600 was paid January 4. Excluding any further additional principal payments, the mortgage will pay off in September of 2024.



All insurance policies have been renewed, but the property policy increased by 12.5%. The total insurance bill for 2024 is approximately \$51,500. Our insurance agent approached eighteen companies for quotes; sixteen declined.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Bartlett



## EASTER BRUNCH

March 31, 2024  
9AM

Main dish provided  
Breakfast side dishes welcome



## ELP Corner

Please contact the Director for the most current information on available openings. Email:

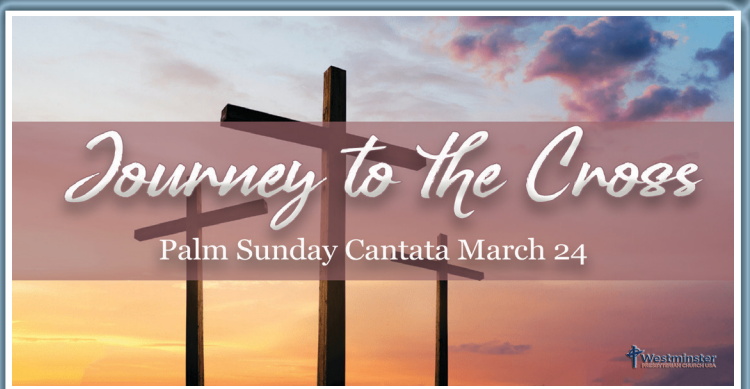
[debra.bell@earlylearningplace.com](mailto:debra.bell@earlylearningplace.com)

### ELP Needs

ELP is looking for an experienced teacher for the Tots class, as well as a teachers' aide. If you know of someone who would qualify for either position, please contact the director at the email address above or at (817) 292-1155, extension 1005.

### Reminders for Preschool

- ELP Early Registration for Current Students at the end of February, followed by open registration
- ELP Spring Break March 11-14
- Tuition is due on the 1st of each month by 2 PM. Late charges are applied after 2 PM on the 3rd of the month (\$25). For your convenience, a drop-box is available in the church parking lot in front of the church garage
- Checks are made payable to Early Learning Place or ELP



Date	Day	Time	Description	Notes
2/1/2024	Thursday	7:00 PM	Music Pickup/ Initial Run Through	Music marking, rough rhythms check, hear the piece start to finish
2/8/2024	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
2/15/2024	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
*2/22/2024	Thursday	7:00 PM	Sectional Rehearsal	Sopranos & Altos
2/29/2024	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
*3/7/2024	Thursday	7:00 PM	Sectional Rehearsal	Tenor, Baritone & Bass
3/14/2024	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
3/21/2024	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
3/23/2024	Saturday	10:00 AM	"Dress" Rehearsal	
3/24/2024	Sunday	8:15 AM	Warm ups begin	Please be ready to begin singing at 8:15 AM
	Sunday	10:00 AM	Palm Sunday Cantata	

Please note: Rehearsals run anywhere from 60-90 minutes

\*Sectional Rehearsals & Special Notes –

- 2/22/2024 Sectional Sopranos and Altos, only - men, enjoy the night off
- 3/7/2024 Sectional Tenor, Baritone & Bass only - ladies, enjoy the night off
- 3/23/2023 "Dress" Rehearsal – all voices

Palm Sunday Cantata rehearsals are starting up! Thursday evenings at 7:00pm in the choir room.

Join us as we go on a "Journey to the Cross"!

All voices, ages, and skill levels are welcome, and I look forward to working with you again (or maybe for the first time)!

Blessings,  
Samantha

Email: [music@wpcfw.org](mailto:music@wpcfw.org)

# Prayer Bears

Collection Date:  
February 11, 2024  
during worship



## Prayer Bears

Make a child feel “beary” special!

Please bring new, unscented teddy bears (bears ONLY) for **our annual collection on Sunday, February 11**, during the Worship service, when they will be blessed.

This annual collection for Cook Children’s Hospital helps us share God’s healing love with their young patients as they go through illness and recovery.

Thank you from Outreach & Mission for sharing love and hugs with children in need.

## One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing provides a way for us to share God’s love with our neighbors in need around the world. We will hold **our annual collection on Easter Sunday, March 31**, during the Worship service.

This annual collection benefits three programs:

- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- the Presbyterian Hunger Program
- Self-Development of People supported by PCUSA.

Outreach and Mission would like to thank you for being a blessing for so many in need.



*Ash Wednesday*  
7:00pm February 14, 2024

*Mauudy Thursday*  
COME TO THE TABLE  
7:00pm March 28

## CCA Needs Your Help!

Christian Community Assistance is in need of food and hygiene products, as well as your time. We will be collecting items for CCA on **Sunday, April 21st** during the worship service. Although your generosity is always needed, please feel free to bring food or hygiene items any time. Some of the items needed include:

Pinto Beans (canned or dry)

Canned fruit

Bar Soap

Shampoo

Diapers/wipes (Size 3,4,5)

Laundry Soap

Toothpaste

Toilet Paper

They are also in desperate need of volunteers, any weekday morning (except Tuesday). If you are interested, contact Beth Meeker at the office (817-921-9622).

Outreach and Mission would like to thank you for your continued support in helping CCA meet the needs of our local neighbors.



The Tech Arts Annual Training: "Building the Body" is scheduled for **12:30-3:30pm Sunday March 3, 2024.**

We'll meet in the Choir Room at 12:30pm to kick off our training with lunch, fellowship, and devotional before moving into the Studio and beyond!

Join us as we really dive into what it means to "Build the Body" as a part of the Tech Arts Team at WPCFW.

Over the last 4 years, worship for Westminster has solidly landed in a new mission field, and serving on the Tech Arts Team means you are a part of making worship accessible to that new mission field.

Newcomers and first timers, don't worry! Coming to the training does not automatically mean you will be signed up to serve, so please come and see what all the tech is about.



### National Mentoring Month Celebrates Kids Hope USA Mentors

January was National Mentoring Month, and WPC is celebrating the life-changing relationships with students at Bruce Shulkey Elementary through Kids Hope USA. January recognized the faithful commitment of volunteer mentors who show up so students know they are loved and cared for.

Kids Hope USA is a national mentoring organization that equips churches to send volunteers into their neighborhood elementary schools to serve as mentors in a one-on-one relationship. Standing alongside parents, teachers, principals and counselors, mentors show kids they are valued and loved. Together they play games, read, do schoolwork, talk and much more. This intentional time helps provide the student with support, motivation and confidence to learn and achieve.

Westminster volunteer mentors visit Bruce Shulkey students once a week. We currently have 5 mentors who will begin weekly visits with their mentees soon. Our long-time partnership has been on hiatus since Covid. The program is supported by Dr. Hogg and Patricia Klint, who recruit volunteers that are screened and trained to meet one-on-one with children who are identified as needing additional support and encouragement. Mentors and students meet once a week for up to one hour at the school during the school day.

That hour can make a big difference, experiencing an improvement in academic skills and reading, feel a sense of greater confidence, and better social/emotional behaviors.

During National Mentoring Month, WPC celebrated the impact mentors are having in the lives of students in their own community and invites others to learn more about this transformative mentoring organization.

Through the power of relationship, kids build resilience and a brighter future.

Visit [kidshopeusa.org](http://kidshopeusa.org) for more information or contact Dr. Hogg or Patricia Klint for more information.



## February

02/02 Kathy Weaver  
02/04 Abigail Francis  
02/05 Heidi Williams  
02/07 Nicole Tallman  
02/09 Carl Ewald  
02/09 Ryder Cartrette  
02/13 Benjamin Dyer  
02/15 Madison Sullivan  
02/17 Sarah Carter  
02/17 Elaine Thompson  
02/17 Sadie Cartrette  
02/18 Jim Rowe  
02/19 Marcus McClain  
02/21 Matthew Nance  
02/21 Peggy Claus  
02/24 Payton Hurd  
02/26 Melise Zepeda  
02/28 Marguerite Amos

## March

03/01 Sheri Meston  
03/02 Donna Poe  
03/05 Judy Campbell  
03/12 Delight Atkinson  
03/12 Jordan Butz  
03/12 Jimmy Cartrette  
03/13 Sharon Bernardez  
03/15 Cory Tallman  
03/16 Judy Ewald  
03/17 Gordon Couch  
03/18 Melinda Hogg  
03/18 Ruth Kimbrough  
03/19 Polly Pooler  
03/21 Amy Cole  
03/23 Jule White  
03/23 Todd Winter  
03/23 Wanda Slaton  
03/24 Juanita Bargas  
03/29 Rev. Dr. Don Hogg  
03/29 Kyle Bunch  
03/30 Becky Bittle  
03/31 Lauren Toppel

## April

04/01 Tucker Sullivan  
04/01 Brenda Senum  
04/02 Leeta Doelling  
04/03 Josh Bittle  
04/05 Lucrecia Tucker  
04/08 Ema Fielder  
04/09 Robert Van Geem  
04/10 William Snyder  
04/10 Ann Wardlaw  
04/12 Dave Tucker  
04/18 Rose Wynne  
04/18 Samantha Logsdon  
04/22 Mike Moriarty  
04/22 Shar Werner  
04/24 Mindy Dyer  
04/25 Debbie Bartlett  
04/25 Debra Bell  
04/26 Ray Gibbons  
04/27 James Wynne

**Sundays**

Christian Ed ..... 9:00 AM  
 Worship ..... 10:00 AM  
 Christian Ed ..... 11:30 AM  
 Bells ..... 11:30 AM  
 Cub Scouts ..... 4:00 PM  
 Al Anon ..... 4:30 PM

**Tuesdays**

Gold Tones ..... 9:30 AM

**Wednesdays**

YMCA Youth Group ..... 4:00 PM  
 Praise Team Rehearsal ..... 7:15 PM

**Thursdays**

Al Anon ..... 6:30 PM  
 Cantata/Choir Rehearsal ..... 7:00 PM

**Saturdays**

Fort Worth Writers' Group ..... 9:30 AM

**Mondays through Thursdays**

ELP Music Time ..... 10:00 AM

**Communion**

Mar. 28 (Maundy Thursday) & Mar. 31

**Finance Meeting** ..... April 9

**Membership Meetings**

Feb. 6 (11:15 AM), Mar. 5 (11 AM), Apr. 2 (11:15 AM)

**Men's Breakfast** ..... Saturdays @ 9am  
 Feb. 3, Mar. 2, Apr. 6 (Rise & Shine Restaurant)

**O&M Meetings**

Feb. 6, Mar. 5, Apr. 2 ..... 7:00 PM

**Presbyterian Women**

Circle 1 ..... Tuesdays, 10:00 AM  
 Feb. 13, Mar. 12, Apr. 9

Circle 3 ..... Mondays, 7:00 PM  
 Feb. 12, Mar. 11, Apr. 8

Coordinating Team ..... Tuesdays at 10:00 AM  
 Feb. 6, Mar. 5, Apr. 8

Tuesday Together ..... Tuesdays, 10:00 AM  
 Feb. 20, Mar. 19, Apr. 16

**Project Linus** ..... Thursdays @ 9:00 AM  
 Feb. 8, Mar. 14, Apr. 11

**Session Meetings**

Feb. 19, Mar. 18, Apr. 15 ..... 7:00 PM

**Special Services** ..... 7:00 PM

Ash Wednesday Feb. 14  
 Maundy Thursday Mar. 28  
 Good Friday Mar. 29

**Staff Holiday** ..... Monday, April 1

**Staff Meetings**

Feb. 19, Mar. 18, Apr. 15 ..... 11:30 AM

**Team Leader Meetings**

Feb. 5, Mar. 4, Apr. 2 ..... 6:15 PM

**Other**

Prayer Bear Collection on Sunday, Feb. 11  
 Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 11  
 Tech Arts Retreat on Sunday, Mar. 3, 12:30-3:30pm  
 Elections on Tuesday, Mar. 5 from 7a-7p  
 Cantata Dress Rehearsal Saturday, Mar. 23, 10am  
 Palm Sunday Cantata on Sunday, Mar. 24, 10am  
 One Great Hours of Sharing on Sunday, Mar. 31  
 Sunday Brunch on Mar. 31 @ 9am

February						
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				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## Our Mission Statement

Our calling as believers in Jesus Christ  
is to love and live by His example,  
to share God's Word  
and to find new ways to serve.

## Our Vision

Worship \* Prayer \* Community

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
7001 Trail Lake Drive  
Fort Worth, TX 76133

Main: (817) 292-1155  
10:00 am Worship Service  
9:00 & 11:15 AM Christian Education



### **CHURCH CONTACTS**

Web-Site:	<a href="http://www.wpcf.org">www.wpcf.org</a>
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:contact@wpcf.org">contact@wpcf.org</a>
Newsletter	<a href="http://www.wpcf.org/newsletter">www.wpcf.org/newsletter</a>
Office Hours:	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, M-Th
Office Phone:	(817) 292-1155
Minister:	Dr. Donald R. Hogg <a href="mailto:pastor@wpcf.org">pastor@wpcf.org</a>
Director of Music & Multimedia:	Samantha Logsdon <a href="mailto:music@wpcf.org">music@wpcf.org</a>
Office Administrator:	Sheri Meston <a href="mailto:contact@wpcf.org">contact@wpcf.org</a>
Organist:	Jamisen Collier <a href="mailto:jamisen.collier@wpcf.org">jamisen.collier@wpcf.org</a>
Treasurer:	Larry Bartlett <a href="mailto:treasurer@wpcf.org">treasurer@wpcf.org</a>
Clerk of Session:	Becky Bittle
Early Learning Place:	Debra Bell <a href="mailto:director@earlylearningplace.com">director@earlylearningplace.com</a>