



**Westminster**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA**

March 2023



**NEWS**

## **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.*

## **VISION**

**Worship Prayer Community**

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

For many years now Westminster Presbyterian Church has partnered with Brite Divinity School in a Minister-In-Training program. It is an internship program that lets seminary students have the opportunity to experience real "boots on the ground" ministry in a congregational setting. For one school year (generally), a seminary student becomes attached to Westminster, serving in a capacity somewhat similar to that of an associate pastor. They are supervised and advised by me and an oversight committee composed of church members.

The MITs get to apply the theory of ministry that they are learning in school to a real church and congregation. It is a period of tremendous growth and maturation for the interns, and our congregation always benefits from their eagerness and enthusiasm and fresh viewpoints. It is not unusual for an intern to discover that their ideas about which field of ministry they plan to pursue may change during the year as they discover unexpected strengths and interests. Many life-long bonds are formed, and by the end of their residency, our congregation is always sad to see them leave (but definitely richer for their time with us).

Our past MITs have gone on to many different kinds of ministry and are scattered across the country. We are so proud of them all and continue to hold them, their families, and their ministries in our prayers. One of our former MITs is Jennifer Dawson – who is now serving as the pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Parsons, Kansas and she recently posted an interesting take on funeral food on Facebook that I would like to share here.

*"Our world has gotten to a place where a vast number of people are unaware of the healing power of funeral potatoes cooked and served by good church folks. Our society has moved to a model of funerals that leave folks hungry for something more. So, I am here to tell you about funeral potatoes and why we bother with church at all.*

*We find ourselves more connected virtually than in person. Time with friends is frequently time spent sharing memes and TikToks and Snapchats and such. We text our life struggles and we meet at the bar for a drink. Nothing is wrong with all of that, but when tragedy strikes, we need the sacrament of casseroles. We need tangible proof that life will go on and sometimes we find that in a pan of cheesy potatoes.*

*But, just as the bread and cup are less about full tummies and more about full spirits, so are the funeral dinners more than food.*

*After the funeral, we move to fellowship hall. We are greeted by people who know our loved one. They have worked for hours to prepare a meal. They've decorated and they serve. They smile softly, share stories and, from time to time, there is raucous laughter as memories are shared. It is a safe place to gather and not to worry about making choices. The biggest choice you have to make is which dessert to take (and if you don't know, they are all amazing.)*

*There is a power in a shared meal. There is healing found in the fellowship hall that transcends our physical need for food. It is in the connection. It is in having someone serve you a few potatoes, some green beans, and a bit of hope. It is memories and ritual to mark the seasons of our lives as the sun and moon mark our days.*

*There is power in a casserole and that is one reason we bother with church."*

Blessings,

*Don*



## Treasurer's Corner February 2023

At the end of January, the church had \$161,396.99 in the primary checking account. Of this, \$74,163.17 is available in the general fund operating account. This represents 2.2 months of budgeted operating expenses.

January income was slightly below budget (93% of budgeted income). Pledges were 87% of budget, Open Plate was 117% of budget. Total Income for the month was \$30,142.43 and expenses were \$32,822.73, resulting in a net decrease in the general fund of \$2,680.30.

The mortgage fund had a starting balance of \$3,191.26. We received mortgage fund donations in January of \$152.00. An additional principal payment of \$3,150.00 was made, leaving a balance of \$193.26. The mortgage balance is \$76,787.44. Excluding any further additional principal payments, the mortgage should pay off in October of 2024. In January of 2021, I prepared an amortization spreadsheet to estimate when the mortgage would pay off. At that time, the predicted payoff date was August 2025. In the ensuing two years, we have cut 10 months off that date.

As your treasurer, it's my job to talk about money. Rest assured, however, that your relationship with the church is about so much more.

Larry Bartlett



### 2023 SESSION MEMBERS

Rick Bargas	Kathryn McClain
Gordon Couch (T)	Sharon Wilson
Mark Judice	Bob Craig
Barry Miller	Tammy McCurdy
Chris Sullivan (T)	James Werner (T)
Debbie Bunch (T)	Jim Wynne
Peggy Claus	Linda Wynne (T)
Teddy Claus (T)	

### 2023 TEAMS & LEADERS

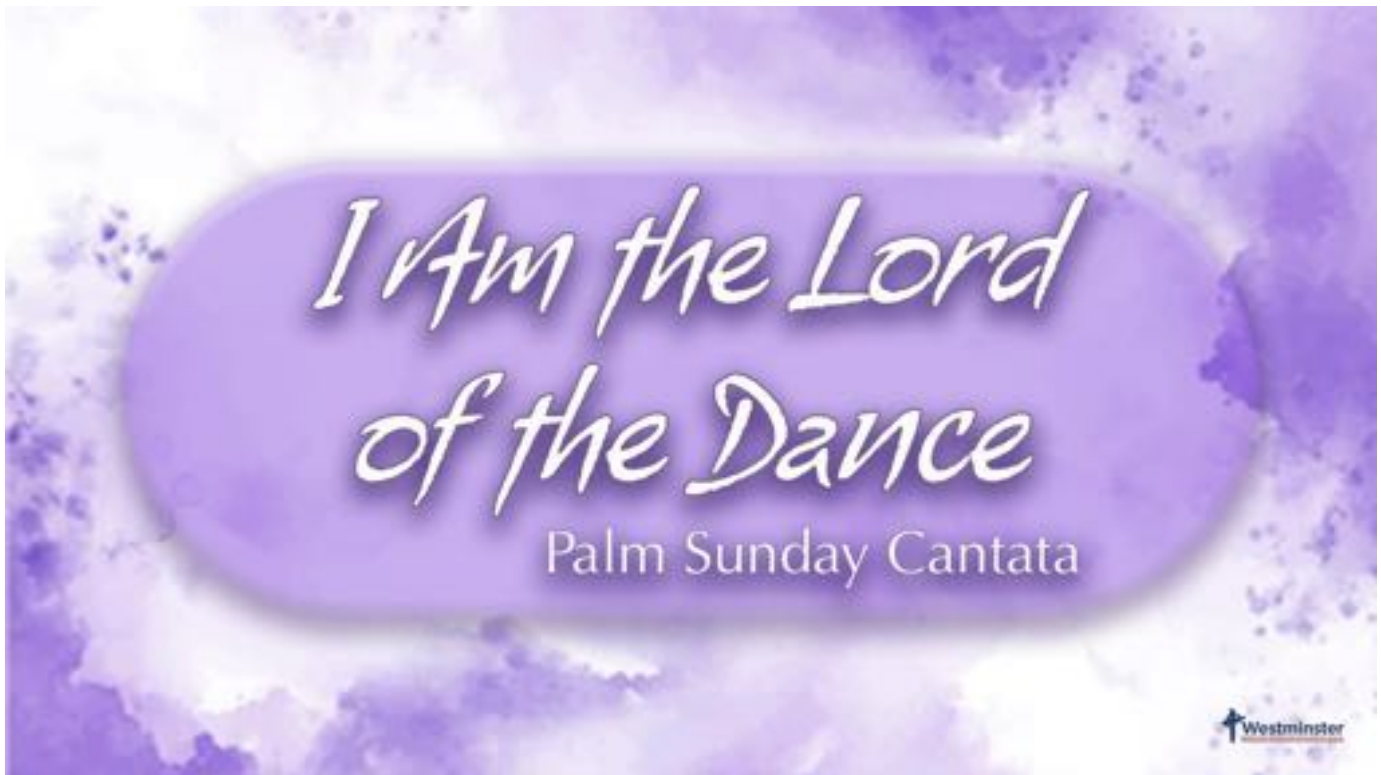
Building & Grounds	Gordon Couch
Christian Education	Kathryn McClain
Finance	Rick Bargas
Membership	Debbie Bunch
Outreach & Mission	Peggy Claus
Personnel	James Werner & Linda Wynne
Worship	Chris Sullivan



## It's Not Too Late to Sing!

Cantata rehearsals are every Thursday evening at 7 PM in the Choir Room.

We hope to see you there!




<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Notes</u>
3/2/2023	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
*3/9/2023	Thursday	7:00 PM	Sectional Rehearsal	Tenor, Baritone & Bass
3/16/2023	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
3/23/2023	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
*3/30/2023	Thursday	7:00 PM	Full Rehearsal	
4/1/2023	Saturday	10:00 AM	Dress Rehearsal	
4/2/2023	Sunday	9:00 AM	Warm-ups begin	Please be ready to begin singing at 9:00 AM
	Sunday	10:00 AM	Palm Sunday Cantata	



# March 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			7:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	1 PM Recorders 6 PM AI Anon 7 PM Cantata Rehearsal		9:30 AM Fort Worth Writers'
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00 AM CE 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM CE 11:30 AM Bells 4:30 PM AI Anon	6:15 PM Team Leaders' Mtg. 7:15 PM Membership Team 7:15 PM CE Team	10 AM PW Coordinating Team 7 PM O&M Meeting	7:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	9 AM Project Linus 6 PM AI Anon 7 PM Cantata Rehearsal	<i>Dinner Club Weekend</i>	<i>Dinner Club Weekend</i> 9:30 AM Fort Worth Writers'
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 AM CE 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM CE 11:30 AM Bells 4:30 PM AI Anon	<i>ELP Spring Break</i> 7 PM PW Circle 3	<i>ELP Spring Break</i> 10 AM PW Circle 1	<i>ELP Spring Break</i> 7:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	<i>ELP Spring Break</i> 6 PM AI Anon 7 PM Cantata Rehearsal		9:30 AM Fort Worth Writers'
 19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<i>Communion</i> 9:00 AM CE 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM CE 11:30 AM Bells 4:30 PM AI Anon	11:30 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM Session	10 AM PW Hearts & Hands	<b>Newsletter and Calendar Deadline</b> 7:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	6 PM AI Anon 7 PM Cantata Rehearsal		9:30 AM Fort Worth Writers'
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9:00 AM CE 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM CE 11:30 AM Bells 4:30 PM AI Anon			7:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	6 PM AI Anon 7 PM Cantata Rehearsal		

## March Birthdays

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 2023  
 Newsletter  
 (& Calendar)  
**Deadline** is  
MARCH 22





## Serving the Church

### **Sunday, March 5**

**Sermon:** "Beyond Abraham's Example"  
**Scriptures:** Genesis 12:1-4a  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
**Preaching:** Rev. Dr. Donald R. Hogg  
**Liturgist:** James Werner  
**Usher Team:** Sandra Sullivan, Jimmy Cartrette,  
Chris Sullivan, Shar Werner  
**Greeters:** Gordon & Linda Couch  
**Counters:** Barbara Wheeler & James Werner  
**Elder on Call:** Chris Sullivan

### **Sunday, March 12**

**Sermon:** "God Always Provides Water for Our  
Thirst"  
**Scriptures:** Exodus 17:2-7  
John 4:5-15  
**Preaching:** Rev. Dr. Donald R. Hogg  
**Liturgist:** Jimmy Cartrette  
**Usher Team:** Mickey Rigney, Rosie Vela,  
Lincoln Chin  
**Greeters:** Herman & Ann Wardlaw  
**Counters:** Kirsten Adams & Shar Werner  
**Elder on Call:** Bob Craig

### **Sunday, March 19**

**Sermon:** "Leap of Faith or Only RiskTaking"  
**Scriptures:** I Samuel 16:1-13  
Luke 9:1-13  
**Preaching:** Rev. Dr. Donald R. Hogg  
**Liturgist:** Susan Green  
**Usher Team:** Jim Wynne, Linda Wynne,  
Eva Riggs  
**Greeters:** Mark & Kim Judice  
**Counters:** Barbara Wheeler & Mickey Rigney  
**Elder on Call:** Tammy McCurdy

### **Sunday, March 26**

**Sermon:** "Living in The Spirit"  
**Scriptures:** Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Romans 8:6-11  
**Preaching:** Rev. Dr. Donald R. Hogg  
**Liturgist:** Eva Riggs  
**Usher Team:** Gordon Couch, Susan Bennett  
**Greeters:** Barbara Stephenson &  
Tammy McCurdy  
**Counters:** Bob Bittle & Rosie Vela  
**Elder on Call:** James Werner

**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: [www.wpcf.org](http://www.wpcf.org)  
E-mail: [contact@wpcf.org](mailto:contact@wpcf.org)  
Newsletter: [www.wpcf.org](http://www.wpcf.org)  
Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, M-Th  
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Minister: Dr. Donald R. Hogg  
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