

¡La Luz!

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe

QUERIDO WESTMINSTER:

Welcome to Holy Week, one of the most intense weeks of the church year. On April 2, we'll gather for Palm Sunday, when we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Then, the mood will change and we'll move into some of the hardest days of our story as Christians - the betrayal, arrest, and crucifixion of Jesus. Throughout Lent, we've been asking honest questions for deeper faith - questions like, "will you give me a drink" and "can these bones live." During Holy Week, our questions will feel even more urgent - "will you wash my feet," "why have you forsaken me," "will you rise," and "why do you cry out." This week of life in the church is the perfect time to ask questions like these - a time set aside in the year for deepening our faith.

We take time to celebrate and remember the hard parts of the story, because otherwise we move from Palm Sunday to Easter and miss the depth these interim days give us. If we do not sit at table with Christ and watch as he is betrayed by a kiss; if we do not go with Peter to the outer courtyard and deny knowing Jesus; if we do not face the horror of crucifixion, we cannot understand the full surprise and joy of the resurrection and the empty tomb.

We will gather with Christ Lutheran Church for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil. I encourage all of you to join us for as much of Holy Week worship as you are able, and then of course on Easter Sunday as we remember - "Christ is risen! Alleluia!"

Bendiciones,
Rev. Madeline

MADELINE'S SCHEDULE:

Office hours: Tuesday - Thursday, 9:30-1:30; Fridays by appointment
Saturday and Monday are my days off!
April 17-20: Presbyterian Historical Society board meeting, Louisville, KY

Prayers for Our Congregation

Carol and Ralph Lujan
Anne and Ed Maglisceau
Robert McDonald
Leasa, Johanna, and Milo
Medina
Diane McGaha and Rich
Mints
Lois Morton

Over the course of the year, all members and friends of Westminster will appear on this list. Please hold them in prayer, knowing they will hold you in prayer.

Birthdays!

4/5: Cindy Piatt
4/7: Patrick Kiptum

New Committee Seeks Members!

Did you hear? Westminster has a new committee: **Evangelism and Outreach!** The genesis of this action can be traced back to the Revitalize Our Church (ROC) task force which began over a year ago and, more recently, the conversations many of us engaged in last December. Many of the ideas and suggestions discussed by the ROC task force and brought forward through our conversations will be overseen by, or brought to fruition through, the new Evangelism & Outreach Committee. We will be sending out some of those ideas later in April, so be on the lookout for them! We'll be inviting you to note what you think should be a priority and what you might be interested in working on.

Our committee does need members; chair Kent DeYoung cannot do it on his own! If you are interested in participating, reach out to Kent the next time you see him in church, send him an email to DeMiracle@comcast.net or give him a call at (505) 467-8810. The purposes and responsibilities of this committee are listed below, but keep in mind that the list will likely evolve over time. Please consider being a part of this vital, fun committee. With your help we fulfill the plans to revitalize our church, enhance our visibility, and grow into our future!

PURPOSES:

1. To raise the greater Santa Fe community's awareness of Westminster Presbyterian Church, its mission and vision, and its involvement in the local and global community.
2. To reach out to the greater Santa Fe community by sharing the love of Jesus Christ and, through our words and actions, welcoming and encouraging others to begin or continue their faith journey with us.
3. To assist WPC's pastor, committees, and boards enhance our shared mission and sense of belonging within our own congregation.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Work with the pastor to establish or enhance our social media presence over an array of platforms and help ensure that our website is inviting, up-to-date, easy to navigate, and content-rich.
2. Explore ways to increase Westminster's visibility on various organizations' printed and digital listings, both locally and globally.
3. Oversee the church's advertising and marketing programs and methods.
4. Organize the church's involvement with, or participation in, community events (such as the Pride Parade, the Women's March for Equality) and work with the pastor, committees, and boards to participate in any gatherings advocating for social or environmental justice, peacemaking, etc.
5. Expand the ways our building, grounds, and facilities can be more fully utilized by various community groups and organizations.
6. Assist the pastor and board of deacons in maintaining our connection with members and friends.
7. Explore opportunities for equipping our members with skills for sharing the love of Jesus Christ with others and how Westminster is a reflection of that love.

The Three Days

Holy Week begins with the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, as Jesus rides a donkey into the city. The mood quickly shifts from triumphant to somber as the powers-that-be are threatened by Jesus and his followers, sending us into what is called "Triduum," the Three Days. The liturgy for the Three Days proclaims one dramatic story in three acts. The events of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter are best understood as one service, unfolding over the course of three days. Through this profound and transforming experience at the heart of the Christian year, we are immersed in the holy mystery of Christ's death and resurrection and the great story of God's saving love.

On Maundy Thursday, we gather to remember the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples and the way he washed his disciples feet. We'll gather at Christ Lutheran Church (1701 Arroyo Chamiso Rd) to share in the Lord's Supper and the practice of foot-washing. Worship will begin at 6pm, and Christ Lutheran Church does still require masks.

On Good Friday, we gather to remember the story of Jesus' crucifixion and to ponder the question, "Why have you forsaken me?" This service will be somber and quiet as we slowly put out candles as we read Matthew's account of the crucifixion. We'll have the wonderful music of a string quartet to accompany us as we travel toward the cross. This service will be at Westminster at 6pm.

On Holy Saturday, April 8, we'll have two worship options:

At 10am, we'll gather at Westminster for our second Saturday Quiet Space. This will be a quiet worship in the style of Taizé.

At 7:30pm, we'll gather at Christ Lutheran for an Easter Vigil. This two-hour service is an ancient ritual of the church, and will begin with the lighting of the new fire outdoors. I encourage all of you to join us for the Vigil!

We will gather for Easter Worship on Easter Sunday at 11am to celebrate Christ's Resurrection! Our bell choir will play and we'll ponder the question "who are you looking for?"



Why have you forsaken me?, Lauren Wright Pittman

Holy Week at Westminster



seeking:
Where are you headed?

Palm Sunday

[Sunday April 2, 11am](#)



seeking:
Will you wash my feet?

Maundy Thursday

Thursday April 6, 6pm

Christ Lutheran Church,
1701 Arroyo Chamiso



seeking:
Why have you forsaken me?

Good Friday

[Friday April 7, 6pm](#)

Holy Saturday Contemplative Worship

Saturday April 8, 10am

Join us for our regular Quiet Space contemplative worship as we pause between the crucifixion and the resurrection.

Easter Vigil

Saturday April 8, 7:30pm

We will gather at Christ Lutheran Church for an Easter Vigil - an ancient Church ritual welcoming the return of the light, and celebrating Christ's resurrection!



seeking:
Who are you looking for?

Easter Sunday

[Sunday April 9, 11am](#)

Updates from the February Session Meetings

WPC Committee Meetings

Session: 6:30pm; 4th Thursdays

Deacons: as needed

Nominating: as needed, beginning in summer

Building and Grounds: 6:30pm; 1st Thursdays

Money Cares: 6:30pm; 1st Wednesdays

Creation Care: 7pm; 3rd Wednesdays

Mission Dei: 9:45am; 2nd Sunday

Worship: 12pm; 2nd Sunday

Personnel: as needed

Westminster's Session meets on the fourth Thursday of each month - usually. We met February 23. These are some highlights from that meetings; full meeting minutes are available in a binder in the church library.

In February, the Session

- Approved the creation of a new Evangelism and Outreach Committee; Kent DeYoung to chair
- Was notified that a trespass notice was issued on the church's behalf by the Santa Fe Police Department (full information in office; notice lasts until 8/19/23)
- Beginning in March, Madeline and the Deacons will restart our practice of bringing communion to our homebound members
- Approved the creation of an Investment sub-committee (see full minutes for details)
- Approved the 4 PC(USA) special offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing (4/9), the Pentecost Offering (5/28), Peace & Global Witness Offering (10/1), and Christmas Joy Offering (12/24).
- Continues to work on a Child and Youth Safety Policy, per the *Book of Order* requirement.

(For full minutes, check the church library!)



Contemplative Worship

Taizé: A brief prayer service in the style of the Taizé Brothers in France is held each Thursday from 5:30 - 6:00 pm by Zoom only. Beginning April 13, the group will meet in-person on the second Thursdays in Westminster's sanctuary. It is a time of scripture, prayer, chants and silence. To receive the link to join this prayer service, please contact the church office at wpcsantafe@gmail.com.

Second Saturday Quiet Space: On the second Saturday of the month, we gather at 10am for a creative, contemplative gathering. We will read Scripture, pray together, and hold a time of silence. Within that structure, Quiet Space is a time for creativity and contemplation; every month will be a different experience.

Our Taizé worship group, ably coordinated by Marianne Lewis, and led by a rotation of leaders including Michael Brinegar, Bill Humphreys, and Georgia Ortiz, has been gathering online via Zoom since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Their group has expanded to include people who join from out-of-state. They have worked together to figure out how to best share the sung prayers that are the foundation of Taizé - they now know that Marianne's home phone provides the best sound quality!

As COVID-19 is turning from pandemic to endemic, the leadership team has been having conversations about how to continue the community they have built online *and* how to transition back to some in-person gathering. Local members of the Taizé group long to be in person; members who join from far-away worry about losing this important weekly spiritual practice.

Westminster's Taizé worship group will begin gathering in-person once a month, on Thursday April 13 at 5:30 pm in our sanctuary! They will continue to gather via Zoom on the other Thursdays of the month at 5:30pm.

If you are interested in joining the group, please email the church office and we will get you connected!



**TAIZÉ RESUMES IN PERSON WORSHIP
THURSDAY APRIL 13 AT 5:30!**

5th Sunday Guest Musician Series at Westminster!

Beginning this year, Westminster is celebrating the months where we have a 5th Sunday by inviting guest musicians from our community to participate in worship with us. Musicians are invited to participate as much (or as little!) as they would like - from one special musical offering to helping with all of our worship music. If you have a suggestion for an individual or group, please contact Keri Brinegar.

We look forward to welcoming a variety of musicians to help us worship God!

In 2023, the following months have (or had!) 5th Sundays: January, April, July, October, and December.

APRIL'S 5TH SUNDAY MUSICIAN: EMMA TREU-CHAVEZ, FIDDLE

I began playing instruments the second I was born and was quite accomplished in my first three years on the baby rattle. I primarily enjoy playing piano, violin, guitar, however have experience with many other instruments as well. I believe music to be an expression of the human condition unlike art or writing, something that is not only heard, but felt by both listener and performer. Playing music is a kind of therapy for me, and the marriage of my body, breath, and mind when I play an instrument reminds me of the holy trinity. I was raised in the Catholic Church and believe our relationship with God to be both intrinsically individualistic and yet necessarily communal. I find this dichotomy very important in my own life, and try to bring this to my music. I am luckily and happily married to Isabel Chavez, the daughter of Gerzain Chavez and Grace Nadell, and am absolutely honored to share my passion for music with you today.

JANUARY'S 5TH SUNDAY MUSICIAN: JANE YUSTER, RECORDER

Jane received her musical training at the Juilliard School in New York City, where she studied voice. She was a member of Musica Sacra under the direction of Richard Westenburg and has sung in many of the churches and cathedrals on the East Coast. She has played recorder off and on for many years, but returned to it for full-time study five years ago. She looks forward to sharing the beautiful sound of the recorder with the congregation.



VERILL FRANCOIS, ALAMY STOCK

You shall be called Repairers of the breach

— ISAIAH 58



MATTHEW 25



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

02.22.23 - 04.9.23

One Great Hour of Sharing to be received Easter Sunday!



In Isaiah 58, the prophet exclaims, “Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in” (Isaiah 58:12). As the people of Israel returned from the cloud of exile and struggled to rebuild their lives, Isaiah questioned their efforts: [Are you not called] “to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them?” (Isaiah 58:7).


Then in Matthew 25, we hear Jesus calling to us, “For I was hungry and you gave me food ... I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing. ... As you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:35-40).


Isaiah and Jesus are making an important theological point: Faithfulness to God leads to fixing things that are broken – broken lives, broken spirits, broken hearts, broken relationships, and broken breaches of faith and trust.

When we give to the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering on Easter Day, we are helping repair peoples’ lives – people who are hurting, broken, oppressed, lost or in need. The people about whom Isaiah and Jesus spoke. The people we are invited to connect with, today. Please consider increasing your gift to OGHS this year, as we work together to be repairers of the breach.


Providing **RELIEF** from natural disasters,
FOOD for the hungry, and **SUPPORT**
for the poor and oppressed.





MATTHEW 25



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

02.22.23 -
04.09.23

PHOTOS COURTESY FROM TOP LEFT: TERESA BIDANTO/IBEL; MATHY MELVIN, ALLIANCE FOR FAIR FOOD

If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

Creation Care Corner

Are you interested in Creation Care? Please reach out to Consuelo Walker, or any of the members of the Creation Care Committee to learn more about what we do! Members are: Consuelo Walker, Fred Dennis, and Jim Roghair.



Chipping Sparrows on the Caja del Rio

Have you mastered your sparrow identification? The Chipping Sparrow is a slender, fairly long-tailed sparrow with a medium-sized bill that is a bit small for a sparrow. A crisp, pretty sparrow whose bright rufous cap both provides a splash of color and makes adults fairly easy to identify. Chipping Sparrows are common across North America wherever trees are interspersed with grassy openings. Chipping Sparrows feed on the ground, take cover in shrubs, and sing from the tops of small trees (often evergreens). When singing, they cling to high outer limbs. Their loud, trilling songs are one of the most common sounds of spring woodlands and suburbs. On the ground they hop or

WESTMINSTER IS AN EARTH CARE CONGREGATION!!

Our Creation Care Committee, with the delight and approval of the Session, applied to become an Earth Care Congregation in February, through a joint process of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. We learned in March that our application was approved and Westminster is now an Earth Care Congregation!

Earth Care Congregations are congregations that have committed to the "Earth Care Pledge" and accomplished a specific number of actions toward caring for God's earth in four categories: worship, education, facilities, and outreach. To become certified as a PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation in the first year, a church fills out the Earth Care Pledge and tracks its commitments to earth care in the areas of worship, education, facilities, and outreach.

We will celebrate this certification and God's creation on Sunday April 23rd in worship!

run through grasses searching for seeds. You'll often see loose groups of them flitting up from open ground. Chipping Sparrows will eat many kinds of birdseed, particularly black oil sunflower seeds from feeders, but also seed mixes scattered on the ground. Shrubs or small trees in your yard may entice Chipping Sparrows to build a nest. Chipping Sparrows typically build their nests low in a shrub or tree, but every once in a while they get creative. People have found their nests among chili pepper ristras, on an old-fashioned mower inside a tool shed, and on a hanging basket filled with moss.

(From Earthkeepers 360 March 27 Newsletter)

COVID-19 AND WESTMINSTER

CDC Levels

The CDC Community Level for Santa Fe County is posted on our website every Friday. Please check our website or [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) on Friday or Saturday to learn the current level!

Masking

CDC Community Level

High: **Masks required**

Medium: **Masks required**

Low: **Masks encouraged; required if not vaccinated**

Vaccination

At all levels, we encourage members, friends, and visitors to get vaccinated and boosted!

CDC Community Level

High: **Proof required**

Medium: –

Low: **Vaccination status asked; if not vaccinated, masking is required.**

During this season of pandemic, we continue to be the church, worshiping God together even though we are not all together in one space. In God, we are made one church, bigger than any building might contain. Our [COVID-19 Safe Protocols](#) are part of our response to God's call to care for the vulnerable among us. As Christians, we believe it is important to live out our care for one another and the wider community by following our protocols.

Our matrix is an easy-to-use guideline for where we are in our COVID-19 restrictions. You will find an announcement bar on our website, updated weekly, with the current CDC Community Levels. Our COVID-19 Safe Protocols will be communicated to the congregation on the website, in *El Semanario*, and via signage.

If you have previously downloaded a copy of our guidelines, and are unsure if it is the most recent version, you can check the "approval" date directly below the title. The current version, [accessible here](#), has an approval date of 12/18/22. If substantive changes are made to the guidelines or matrix, we will notify the congregation via email. In addition, an email will go out on any Friday when we are moving from one level to another so that worship attendees can be prepared for any changes to Sunday's worship!

If you cannot abide by our protocols, you do not feel safe attending in-person worship at this time, you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or have tested positive for COVID-19, (or if you don't feel up to coming in to church this Sunday!) you are welcome to join our online congregation! Every Sunday at 11am, as people are gathering in person at the church building, we are also streaming via YouTube. A bulletin can be accessed in the comments of the Live video so that you can participate fully with us!

All are welcome to worship with us, whichever way feels most appropriate for you!

April Calendar

2: Coffee Hour, 10am
Worship, 11am
3: Menaul Student Work Day
6: Maundy Thursday, 6pm
7: Good Friday, 6pm
8: Quiet Space, 10am
Easter Vigil, 7:30pm
9: Coffee Hour, 10am
Easter Worship, 11am
12: Money Cares, 6:30pm, Zoom
13: Taizé, 5:30pm
16: Coffee Hour, 10am
Worship, 11am
19: Creation Cares, 7pm, Zoom
20: Taizé, 5:30pm, Zoom
23: Coffee Hour, 10am
Worship, 11am
27: Taizé, 5:30pm, Zoom
Session Meeting, 6:30pm, Zoom
30: Coffee Hour, 10am
Worship, 11am

Holy Week

April 2: Palm Sunday, 11am
Westminster

April 6: Maundy Thursday, 6pm
Christ Lutheran Church
1701 Arroyo Chamiso

April 7: Good Friday, 6pm
Westminster

April 8: Holy Saturday Quiet Space, 10am
Westminster
Easter Vigil, 7:30pm
Christ Lutheran Church

April 9: Easter Sunday, 11am
Westminster

WESTMINSTER'S STAFF AND LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Madeline Hart-Andersen: rev.madeline.wpcsantafe@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Vickie Ortega: wpc.santafe@gmail.com

Clerk of Session: Keri Brinegar: clerk.wpcsantafe@gmail.com

Moderator of Deacons: Sylvia Graft: sylviadgraft@gmail.com

Chair, Nominating Committee: Margi Coxwell: mokeysan@outlook.com

Chair, Building & Grounds: Michael Brinegar: mkbrinegar@netzero.net

Chair, Money Cares: Jackie Tway: moneycares.wpcsantafe@gmail.com

Treasurer: Elizabeth Roghair: churchtreas.wpcsantafe@gmail.com

Chair, Creation Care: Consuelo Walker: conejitalinda1@comcast.net

Chair, Missio Dei: Jenny Lasley: jlasleywpcsf@gmail.com

Chair, Worship: Keri Brinegar: mkbrinegar@netzero.net

Chair, Personnel: Nancy Guthrie: nancybguthrie@gmail.com

Chair, Evangelism and Outreach: Kent DeYoung: DeMiracle@comcast.net