



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Do Justice • Love Kindness • Walk Humbly

*A warm welcome to all who are worshiping with us today!*

## JANUARY 5 WEEKLY UPDATE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Take this page home to stay informed of events and opportunities to learn, serve, worship, and connect at WPC. New to Westminster? Drop by the Welcome Table to learn more about us.

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**THURSDAY: Men's Fellowship at Clouds Brewing** Calling all WPC fellas! Join us for a super informal gathering and great opportunity to enjoy fellowship, libations, and good times. We'll meet up on Thursday, January 9, 8:00pm, at Clouds Brewing in downtown Durham (Brightleaf area - 905 W. Main St). See you there! **Contact:** Forrest Perry (forresteperry@gmail.com)

**NEXT SUNDAY: Ordination and Installation of Alex Stayer-Brewington** All are invited to this very special service on Sunday, January 12, at 4:00pm, in the Sanctuary. On this date, Alex will become ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and officially installed as a pastor of Westminster. It's an important milestone for Alex and his family, and we encourage everyone to come out and show your support and appreciation for Alex and his ministry with us. We look forward to installing Cherrie Barton Henry in a few weeks - details coming soon!

**Aperture on January 15** Make plans to take part in the first Aperture of the new year on Wednesday, January 15, at 6:30pm in the Music Room. Our guest will be Brian McDonald, author of *Not the End, But the Beginning: The Impact of Race and Class on the History of Jordan High School, 1963-1988*. His talk, "Challenging the Narrative: Desegregation, Disintegration, and Our Shared Destiny," is sure to be thought-provoking. McDonald has been a teacher in the social studies department at Jordan High School for nearly twenty years, and he is an adjunct professor in the education program at Duke University. Bring a friend! **Contact:** Marietta Wynands (marietta@wpcdurham.org)

**Needed: Donations for CASA Welcome Home Kits** As part of our MLK Service Day on January 20, we will be assembling Welcome Home Kits for families and individuals served by CASA, a local nonprofit that provides affordable housing for people who are homeless or at risk. We'll be collecting donations of materials needed for the kits – can you help? Items include: medium-sized laundry baskets and detergent, bathroom soaps, toothbrushes and toothpaste, toilet paper, and toilet scrubbers; kitchen utensils, dish soap, potholders, plastic ice trays, dishcloths and towels, sponges and scouring pads; and nonperishable food. Please bring your donations to the yellow bin in the Mission Center **by Sunday, January 19**. Thank you! **Contact:** Anne Sherman (annesherman1@gmail.com)

**MLK Day of Service on Monday, January 20** We'll be partnering once again with our friends from the Divan Center for a morning of service around the city of Durham. We'll gather at WPC at 8:00am for a light breakfast, then organize into teams and depart campus between 8:30-9:00 am. We'll return to campus around noon for lunch and conversation. You can view the list of serving opportunities, and sign up online at <http://bit.ly/2020WPC-MLKday>. We ask that you indicate your preference for a volunteer activity by signing up under the appropriate category, but please note we cannot guarantee you will be assigned to your preferred site. We appreciate your understanding as we work to make sure all our sites are staffed with the help they need. **Contact:** Amy Hill (awhill@alumni.duke.edu)

**Durham Congregations in Action's 2020 Annual Banquet** You're invited to the 2020 Annual Banquet of Durham Congregations in Action on Thursday, **January 30, 6:00-8:00pm**, at Judea Reform Congregation (1933 W Cornwallis Rd). The keynote speaker will be Dr. Blair L.M. Kelley, Assistant Dean of Interdisciplinary Studies & Programs and Associate Professor of History at NC State, and the author of *Right to Ride*. The cost is \$15 per person; a Mediterranean menu will be served (vegetarian option available). Please RSVP by January 27 to [dcia@dcia.org](mailto:dcia@dcia.org) or 919-688-2036. **Contact:** Chuck Byrd (charlesbyrd46@gmail.com)

**Change in Church Office Hours** Beginning this month, the church office will close on Fridays at 1:00pm. All WPC pastors will have Friday off, and a system of rotating pastors on-call will be in place. Pastors on call for the coming weekends are Alex Stayer-Brewington on January 10-12 (910-524-5544), Cherrie Barton Henry on January 17-19 (919-599-9406), and Chris Tuttle on January 24-26 (336-708-0433).

**The Mountains Are Calling: 2020 All Church Retreat** Join your Westminster friends of all ages for a time of relaxation, fellowship, and exploration at our All Church Retreat, February 28 - March 1, at Montreat Conference Center. We begin Friday evening with fun and games for everyone. Saturday includes intergenerational programming, plus plenty of free time for hiking, rock hopping, board games, or exploring Black Mountain. Topping off Saturday's fun is a square dance! We'll close with worship for all ages on Sunday morning. The cost is \$85 per family, \$40 per individual. We've reserved rooms at Assembly Inn, but they need to know ASAP how many we need. Please see the All Church Retreat flyer and registration form for details on lodging, meals, and more - Pick one up today from the Narthex or the Mission Center, and reserve your spot! "The mountains are calling, and I must go." ~ John Muir **Contact:** Marietta Wynands (marietta@wpcdurham.org)

**Welcome Volunteers Needed** The practice of graciously welcoming one another, especially the stranger, is a reflection of God's welcome to us. It's also the purpose of our Welcome Table on Sunday mornings - to warmly welcome one another, guests, and newcomers. We're in need of a few volunteers to join the Welcome Team. No special skills or knowledge needed - just a friendly smile and a desire to show Christ's love to all. Sign up today at <http://bit.ly/WPCwelcome>. **Contact:** Monica Nichols (monica.nichols09@gmail.com)

**Important Notes from the Finance Team** Our Finance Team is working hard to close out the church's books for 2019 and finalize the church operating budget for 2020. A few items of note:

- **2019 Giving Statements** Once we are certain the church has received all 2019-postmarked checks and payments, 2019 Giving Statements will be either emailed or mailed to you, depending on the delivery preference you indicated in your **myWPC** account.
- **Completing Your 2019 Pledge of Giving** If your 2019 Pledge has a balance, there's still time to catch up. Just send your payment to the church via personal check or pay through **myWPC**. Be sure to indicate "2019 Operating Fund" on the memo line or description field.
- **Designating Your Giving** When you make a contribution to Westminster, please be sure to let our Finance Team know how you'd like your giving to be directed. All giving the church receives is deposited to the operating fund unless you indicate otherwise. If you intend your gift to be used for another purpose, please indicate that on the memo line/online field, or attach an explanation with your gift.

Your consistent financial support is essential for ministry here at Westminster, in Durham, and beyond. Please feel free to contact Sharon Morgan, Business Manager, with any questions (sharon@wpcdurham.org). **THANKS for all the ways you support the mission and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church!**