



Newsletter & Announcements

Join Us Christmas Eve
December 24th:
Cookies, Coffee
& Carols at 3:30 PM
Candlelight Service
at 4:00 PM



Christmas Joy Offering

During the Season of Advent & Christmas, Westminster will join with other Presbyterian congregations in the collection of the Christmas Joy Offering. The Offering provides assistance to individuals and families who have dedicated their lives to the church. It further supports leadership development and education for students attending Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Of the offerings collected, 50% will provide financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their time of need. The remaining 50% will be directed to Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Westminster will collect its offerings this Sunday and during our Christmas Eve celebration on December 24th. Please mark checks with "Joy offering" in the memo. As a congregation, please pray for how we might participate in this important offering.



SUNDAY 12/23
9:45AM - Worship

MONDAY 12/24 Christmas Eve
Church Office Closed
3:30PM Cookies, Coffee & Carols
4:00PM Candlelight Service

TUESDAY 12/25
Church Office Closed
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Mark Your Calendar - Westminster's Annual Fish Fry

Join us for our annual fish fry on Jan 25, 2019 promptly at 5:30 pm at the Hilltop located at 4173 Co Hwy P, Cross Plains. Interested parties must sign up **no later than Jan 17th**. A sign up sheet in the Narthex or contact Bob Bush.

Jack Hamann Update

Jack has been moved to the Boscobel prison and would welcome any correspondence (His birthday is 12/24). We encourage you to wait to write until the new year (as opposed to the holiday season). The extra attention all at once tends to have some repercussions.

He is also allowed soft covered books (from Amazon) and magazine subscriptions (more info on that below).

Jack Hamann #554778

Wisconsin Secure Program Facility

PO Box 1000

Boscobel, WI 53805-0900

For subscriptions the two catalogs are:

JL Marcus and Union Supply Company

(Need to have his name, number and location Jack Hamann #554778 Wisconsin Secure Programs Facility)

Local faith communities and organizations to hold "Longest Night" National Homeless Persons' Memorial Service

Memorial Service

Homeless individuals, members of local faith communities and representatives from social service agencies as well as the general public will gather at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 21st, the longest night of the year, to remember and honor people who died without shelter in Dane County and elsewhere this year.

The event, the Longest Night Homeless persons' Memorial Service marks the 10th such event in Madison, Nationally the event has been commemorated annually since 1990 and brings attention to the growing tragedy of homelessness across the country. The service reminds us that every year members of our community, brothers and sisters, sons, fathers, husbands, wives and children die while they

SUNDAY 12/30

9:45 AM - Worship

MONDAY 12/31 & TUESDAY 1/1

Church Office Closed

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



WPC DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Focus Text This Sunday: Luke 1:39-56

Focus Text Christmas Eve: Luke 2:1-20



Staff:

Scott Anderson, Pastor

Joe Chrisman, Minister of Music

Amy Poland, Christian Ministries
Coordinator

Katie Bencze, Church Admin

Dorothy Blotz, Accompanist

Vern Forsberg, Pastor Emeritus

are homeless. Too often their deaths are invisible; there is no obituary, no funeral. The Longest Night Service is an opportunity to remember, honor, celebrate and mourn the passing of those in our community who have died.

At the time of the year when many of us reflect on our blessings, prepare to celebrate the holidays with family and friends, we are also called to remember and offer support to our brothers and sisters who are struggling, who may be vulnerable, who are cold, and hungry and sick. The service is an opportunity to ensure that every life is celebrated and remembered, that no one's death among us goes unnoticed.

The Service will include music, prayer, reflections and remembrances of our neighbors who have died this year and who were homeless. At 4:30 p.m. there will be a light soup and bread meal provided at First United Methodist Church, and from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. there will be an interfaith service of light and remembrance. Participating in services will be representatives from Madison faith communities, Madison-area Urban Ministry, and other advocates working for housing for all.

The event will begin at 3:00 p.m. on the Capital Square at the intersection of East Main/South Pinckney and King Streets, by the marble bench where Dwayne Warren's body was found on June 26th, 2009. Once again we will have a horse drawn hearse lead a procession around the capitol before proceeding to First United Methodist Church for a meal and interfaith service. Individuals who would like to add a name to the list of those to be remembered can do so by calling Linda at Madison-area Urban Ministry at 608-256-0906 or 608-206-6302 or names can be emailed to linda@emum.org by Thursday December 20th.

Individuals who would like to drop off donations of warm socks, long underwear, hats and gloves for distribution to individuals who are without a home can do so by dropping them off on December 21st between 9:00 a.m. and the time of the 5:30 p.m. interfaith service at First United Methodist Church.