

*This Week at
Westminster Presbyterian Church*



May 23, 2021

Day of Pentecost

Worship 9:30

Streaming Live

All of us at Westminster share your concern about the ongoing outbreak of the respiratory illness caused by COVID-19 coronavirus. This is especially true about how it relates to ways in which we gather as a faith community. Our services at the church building have been suspended.

We will be live streaming our services during this time.

If you would like to **join us**, **call** the church office at 352-378-4032 or write contact@wpcgaineville.org (leave your name, phone number and email address) and the link will be provided.

Summer Book Study

The Presbytery of St. Augustine is reading MaryAnn McKibben Dana's book, *God, Improv, and the Art of Living* during the summer. If you are interested in joining a Westminster group reading this book, please indicate your interest by completing the survey at the link found later in this email. The Amazon description of the book is as follows: "“We’re all improvisers,” says MaryAnn McKibben Dana, whether we realize it or not.

In this book McKibben Dana blends personal stories, pop culture, and Scripture into a smart, funny, down-to-earth guide to the art of living. Offering concrete spiritual wisdom through seven improv principles, she helps readers become more awake, creative, resilient, and ready to play—even (especially) when life doesn’t go according to plan."

You can complete the survey using this link: <https://forms.gle/9iTNZeMQSbbgudZw6>

Bob & Gwen Lombard, Dick Menzel and Anne Newman



Children's Sunday school will meet on Zoom 10 minutes after the regular worship service ends on Zoom. All ages are included. We use the Presbyterian multi-age study materials as a basis for interactive lessons. The purpose of the zoom lessons is to show our youngest church family members that we love and care about them during this time away from our normal in-person lessons. Please notify the church office if your children want to participate so they can be included in the Zoom connection.

“Town Hall” Meeting after Worship

This Sunday, May 23rd

A “town hall” discussion will be held after worship for those interested in finding out more about the information Session shared with you in an email about returning to worship. The text of that email may be [found at this link](#) and the Questions and Answers document may be [found here](#).

Treasurer Note

Thank you so much for your generous support of Westminster and the other agencies.

We now have a [secure-locked mail box](#) so please continue to give by mailing in your donations to:

1521 NW 34th Street Gainesville, FL 32605-5033

Or with On-Line Giving at:



<https://www.churchofficegiving.com/App/Giving/wpcgainesville>

A new category for **“Memorial Garden”** has been added to the on-line giving site. Monies given to this will go directly for the memorial garden. The “Love/Memorial Offerings” should be used for giving in memory of someone.

Web Page

Please be sure to check out our webpage at <https://wpcgainesville.com>. It is updated weekly. So check out the new information.



Westminster needs several people who regularly use Facebook to help edit the church Facebook page. If multiple people can share in this task, it will not become a burden for anyone. Please contact the office if you are able to help with this task.

PENTECOST



Children at risk ● Youth ● Young Adults

This **Sunday, May 23, 2021** is the Day of Pentecost and our day for Special **Pentecost Offering**. Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with the *church of the past*, continuing to inspire the *church of today*, and pointing us to the *church of the future*. Each year, this celebration is marked by receiving the Pentecost Offering which nurture the faith of those who are the church to come—children, youth, and young adults. The Pentecost Offering helps our youth begin life with a strong start—a solid foundation of faith formed in the first third of life, from childhood through young adulthood.

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By giving to the Pentecost Offering, you participate in helping our children, youth, and young adults grow up to proclaim with the Psalmist, *“O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.”*

40% of the Pentecost Offering remains with us to support ministries with children and youth in our church and local community. Through the Presbytery, 25% goes to Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) experience. One of the ways these funds have helped is by training and equipping volunteers to engage in mission at more than 20 sites in the U.S. and around the world. 25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12-18, and those called to accompany them. These funds helped design a new Christian Formation endeavor that offers a path and plan for graduating seniors to explore their next steps in faith, community and vocation. 10% supports the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative. The goal of this initiative is to motivate and inspire Presbyterians to improve the quality of public education. Please thoughtfully consider giving.

Highlights from the Stated Session Meeting of May 16, 2021

- Appointed Anne Newman, Penny Woodward, and Gwen Lombard to work with the Presbytery of St. Augustine on planning the Installation of Pastor Becca.
- Approved a memorial service and reception honoring Mary Lou Eitzman for Saturday, August 14, 2021. The use of a large tent in the church parking lot was authorized should health conditions require it to be outdoors.
- Named Pastor Becca to the Child Safety/ Abuse Prevention Response Team.
- Tasked Doug Barrett and Bob Lombard to prepare information about the local COVID-19 situation and a return to in person worship. That information should be shared with the congregation by email, the Bulletin / Newsletter and a town-hall style meeting held after worship.
- Briefly discussed the need for Family Promise to provide draft agreements concerning the remodeling of Westminster House for Family Promise clients to us so that the Presbytery Trustees can review the proposal as may be required by the Book of Order. That review needs to be done prior to taking the agreement to the Congregation for approval.

Robert H. Lombard, Clerk of Session



- Adult Study of the book *The Return of the Prodigal Son* by Henri J.M. Nouwen, meets on Mondays @ 5pm. Contact Barry Nason for information.
- Bible Study 10:30 am each Tuesday
- **Adult Study** . We will continue to meet every other week (or so) to discuss articles of interest to members. **Your response to the Summer Book Study survey will help guide us in our future discussion.** Meeting time will continue to be at 3:30 PM on Thursdays via Zoom. Contact Gwen Lombard for additional Information.
- **Town Hall Meeting after worship Sunday, May 23rd**
- **Worship Committee, Sunday, May 23rd @ 11am**
- **Administrative Committee, Sunday, June 6th @ 11am**
- **Building & Grounds Committee, Sunday June 6th @ 12 noon (Contact Colin)**

Contact Committee Chairperson or Church Office for Zoom information.

Gainesville Community Ministry



While we are unable to meet at the church for services, Gail will be at the church building each **Tuesday and Thursday from 10am—12 noon** to accept your canned and non-perishable **food donations**. The big blue bin will be outside the Community Building door. The donations will be delivered to Gainesville Community Ministry.



Kathy Green	5/6
Betty Jax	5/6
Keith Hostetler	5/9
Julie Henriksen	5/11

Please contact the church office if you know of someone's birthday or anniversary that is not listed. Thank you.

Congregational Care – As we live in these uncertain times due to the coronavirus, the members of Congregational Care Committee [many who are nurses by profession] are ready to assist you however possible. If you need medical equipment, we have a small loan-out supply; or if you or your loved one is in the hospital or rehab facility, we can coordinate meals brought to your residence; or if you would like a phone call for general emotional support, that can be arranged too. Phone or email the Parish Nurse or CCC member on-call for the month, or leave a message with the church office. Caring for one another and reaching out to each is who we are.

**Congregational Care Committee
Representatives**

May

Barbara Scott @ 352-372-7191

Betty Jax @ 352-215-4486

In Our Thoughts & Prayers



“The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.: James 5:15-16

If you have a prayer request to add to our prayer list, please email contact@wpcgainesville.org

- **Louise Black**
- **Marie Black**
- Bonnie (friend of Betty Jax)
- **Paul Catches (Julian Gilder's son)**
- Don Eitzman
- Caroline & Ty Edwards (Gladys Lane)
- Norma Green
- **Norma Green's son Walter and grandson Tyler**
- **Jeanette Hostetler**
- **Jacquelyn Hunt (Norma Green)**
- **Marie Ingel**
- **Betty Jax's sister, Juanita**
- Rev. Charles Landreth
- **Hugh, Helen McCune's brother-in-law**
- Rich & Beth Miller
- **Stewart & Elizabeth Neilson**
- **Luther Pierce**
- John (Barbara Scott's brother)
- **Sally Walker**
- Tom Webster's cousin Debbie
- **Tom Webster's cousin Betsy & the family on the sudden death of her husband.**
- Tom Webster's nephew
- Bill Woodward's mother, Helen
- All students
- For the safety of our elected officials and healing of our nation
- Our President, Our County and the World during this pandemic.
- All the first responders
- Our Country & those that serve in all military branches
- **Israel and Palestine**
- National Farm Worker Ministry
- All those affected by natural disasters, as well as victims of acts of violence.
- Missionaries from our Presbytery
- **Our sister church in Havana, Cuba**

Reverend Rebecca Lawson Putman

Pastor

Becca.putman@wpcgainesville.org

Gail W. Acree

Administrative Assistant

gail.acree@wpcgainesville.org

Office Hours: *Closed until further notice*

Church Website: <https://wpcgainesville.com>

Email: contact@wpcgainesville.org

Church phone#: 352-378-4032

Church fax#: 352-378-0914

Rev. Dr. Glenn W. Dickson, Pastor Emeritus

Helen McCune, Treasurer

Julian Gilder, Music Director

Katie Parrish, Nursery Worker

Oscar White, Custodial Services

**Elder for the Month of *May* is
Susie Gonzalez @352-870-7691**

Please contact the Elder regarding
emergencies in the
absence of the pastor.

SESSION ELDERS:

Colin Hines

Anne Newman

Erica Carter

Susie Gonzalez.

Bob Lombard (Clerk)

Peggy Guin

Penny Woodward

Carol Alderson

Doug Barrett

Committee Chairpersons:

Administration: Gwen Lombard

Building & Grounds: Colin Hines

Christian Education: Bob Lombard

Congregational Care: Betty Jax

Earth Care: Jeanette Hostetler

Membership: Susie Gonzalez

Outreach: Linda Spurny

Presbyterian Women: Daryl Mullee

Worship: Peggy Guin