



***May the New Year bring you peace, joy, and happiness"***

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Check out our website at [westminstertopeka.com](http://westminstertopeka.com)

*"The Chimes" is a monthly publication of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Changes of address, questions or comments should be sent to 1275 SW Boswell Avenue, Topeka, KS 66604.*

Happy New Year, Westminster Church Family,

As we begin the year 2025, it is appropriate to look back and give thanks. Critical to healthy faith is the conviction of God's unconditional Love. And somehow, being grateful also reminds us of God's love for us.

On the home front, this was the year Celeb graduated from Topeka West and began his undergraduate studies at K.U. Emma completed her first semester of her final year at T.C.U, putting her one step closer to graduating in May 2025. Betty started her second year of Law school and also secured a second summer internship. Anna continues to serve at Stormont Veil as a Nurse Educator. Even though I had a second bout with Covid 19, several preachers filled our pulpit while I recovered. And of course, I made it to Ghana to visit my parents, siblings and their children. For what are you grateful? Take a moment to remember and give thanks

Our Westminster Church family has much to be grateful for as well. From programs that seek to serve our community by sharing the love of God in various ways to events that nurture and support our relationship with God and with each other, we have many reasons for gratitude to God. We miss those who have died during this past year and commend them to God who created them, sent them into this world and has received them into God's loving embrace. We miss them and trust that God will continue to shepherd us all until all things are held together in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 1:10).

In the meantime, we have work to do. Our focus this year is "Intergenerational". This is the word our Session shared with us following the Session retreat of July 2024. Put simply, our faith works better when all generations are present. This year, we will be intentional about creating opportunities for all the generations of our church to be together. Opportunities might include praying, serving, and connecting through worship, study, fellowship and mission activities. We will seek to engage the voices of the generations missing from our gatherings.

That said, something else needs to happen first. There have been occasions for discouragement over the past year. Yours might be different than mine but occasions of discouragement can dampen our energy, just like ash and too much space between the logs can essentially kill the flames in a fireplace, leaving behind only embers and smoke. The fire may not be completely out but something of a rekindling is needed to return the flames. Here is how the author of 2nd Timothy puts it. "...I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you...<sup>7</sup> for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. (2 Timothy 1:6-7).

The Holy Spirit gives every follower of Jesus gifts to use in loving God and loving our neighbors. This is the spiritual journey. Sometimes, circumstances of life lead to these gifts needing to be rekindled. God did not give us the spirit of cowardice or fear. Instead, we have been given the spirit of power (the same power that raised Jesus from the dead), the spirit of Love (love that serves others as God's beloved children) and the spirit of self-discipline (level-headed self-control that knows that God is always in charge and is present and at work). This is what the Spirit has given to us. God wants these gifts to be rekindled in us and to burn brightly. It begins with remembering that nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Has fear and discouragement dampened your enthusiasm and joy? I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is in you... and let us focus on being intergenerational in 2025.

Grace and Peace,  
K.O. Noonoo



Last Minutes (for 2024!)

At its year-end meeting on December 17, Session rang out the old and welcomed the new as they began the transition to the 2025 Session. Please express thanks and appreciation to departing Elders for their service to Westminster: Janice Kivett, Peter Bonnel and Charlotte Adair. At the same time, please offer appreciation and support to those joining Session - Caryl Hines, Carolyn Wadley and Joe Anderson, and to Charlie Bates, Matt Boddington and Sue Fackler, who are continuing their terms of service. The full group met on the 17th for an evening of business and socialization to mark the occasion. Drafted minutes of the meeting have been posted in the binder in the Library. Thank you to Bob and Sue Fackler for hosting us. Following is a listing of the 2025 Session and their Council assignments along with Council Chair assignments.

Elder/Liaison Council Chair  
Caryl Hines World and Community Vacant  
Matt Boddington Finance Bill Gannaway  
Sue Fackler Connections Sue Fackler  
Joe Anderson Matthew 18 Becky Sullivan  
Carolyn Wadley Worship Martha Gabehart  
Charlie Bates Christian Education Sondra Rankin

Donna Clark



- ❖ The family & friends of Mary Hurrell as they mourn her passing.
- ❖ Lori Williams for healing & recovery after falling & breaking her arm.
- ❖ Laura Mankin, who is healing from surgery on her ankle that was broken during a fall.
- ❖ Rod Proctor & family as they mourn the passing of Jana.
- ❖ Marie, friend of the Sullivan's, who is being treated for esophagus cancer with surgery coming up at the end of December.
- ❖ John Reinecke & family, for comfort & a speedy recover as he gathers strength at Brewster Place.
- ❖ Paul Evans, Prayers for strength and endurance as the Parkinson's symptoms steadily increase; and Praises for the ongoing spiritual joy and reassurance that I receive from the Holy Spirit, and for the comfort given from family, church, and other friends.

To Westminster Presbyterian Women:

Thank you so much for the delicious Christmas cookies, and a special thank you to Charlotte Adair for delivering them and staying for an enjoyable visit. The cookies are gone but the memories of the thoughtfulness in remembering me in such a delightful way will linger into the new year. Merry Christmas to all, and best wishes for a wonderful 2025.

Thanks again, Joyce Harbaugh

**2025 Directory of Session Elders, Deacons, & Matthew 18 Council Members**

**K.O. Noonoo | 620-404-0182 | [pastor@westminstertopeka.com](mailto:pastor@westminstertopeka.com)**

**Caryl Hines | 785-224-9333 | [chines9055@cox.net](mailto:chines9055@cox.net)**

**Joe Anderson | 785-213-5449 | [joeanderson81@gmail.com](mailto:joeanderson81@gmail.com)**

**Carolyn Wadley | 785-438-8127 | [nanabearblue@att.net](mailto:nanabearblue@att.net)**

**Charles Bates | 785-224-1279 | [chazhb@gmail.com](mailto:chazhb@gmail.com)**

**Matt Boddington | 785-806-8492 | [matlock1280@hotmail.com](mailto:matlock1280@hotmail.com)**

**Sue Fackler | 785-806-3525 | [suefackler5@gmail.com](mailto:suefackler5@gmail.com)**

**Pat McNieve | 406-558-9183 | [ptmcfax@pc.com](mailto:ptmcfax@pc.com)**

**Margaret Ogle | 785-640-2025 | [margbeajones@gmail.com](mailto:margbeajones@gmail.com)**

**Roger Dallam | 785-554-3372 | [roger.dallam@ks.gov](mailto:roger.dallam@ks.gov)**

**Becky Sullivan | 785-608-5722 | [rtsullivan1@att.net](mailto:rtsullivan1@att.net)**

**Parish 1 - Connie Wood | 785-633-0345 | [conniewood1609@gmail.com](mailto:conniewood1609@gmail.com)**

**Parish 2 - Virginia Starr | 785-221-8274 | [vastarr@yahoo.com](mailto:vastarr@yahoo.com)**

**Parish 3 - Charlotte Adair | 785-224-4120 | [cadaur47@gmail.com](mailto:cadaur47@gmail.com)**

**Parish 4 - Lynn Boddington | 785-249-3091 | [lynn1280@gmail.com](mailto:lynn1280@gmail.com)**

**Parish 5 - Charlotte Bates | 785-354-7900 | [batzfam@cox.net](mailto:batzfam@cox.net)**

**Parish 6 - Marge Ahrens | 785-232-1947 | [mrcpasw@gmail.com](mailto:mrcpasw@gmail.com)**

**Parish 7 -**

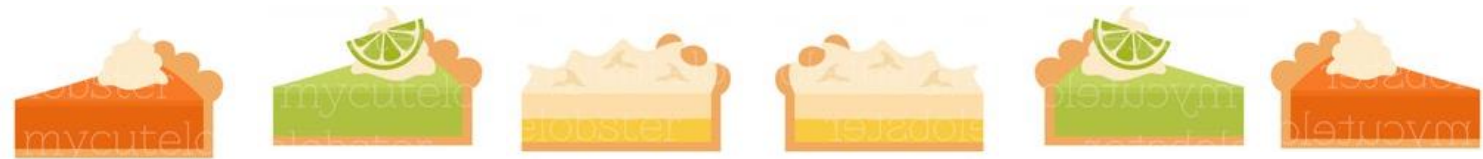
**Parish 8 - Roy Sullivan | 785-249-0783 | [rtsullivan1@att.net](mailto:rtsullivan1@att.net)**



# A special stop for **ROMEOS**

We had a great time at Sheridan's Frozen Custard last month. The food was good and there were lots of great conversations going on. Our next outing will be back to our base as we are traveling to Annie's Place, which is at 4014 SW Gage Center Drive just south of Huntoon and west of Gage Boulevard..

The date is January 14th at 11:30AM. If you haven't been to our Romeo's group please consider joining us in January. We have a good time and would love to have you there for good food and fellowship.



## IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL REPORT, THOSE WILL BE DUE

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH**

PLEASE SUBMIT THOSE ARTICLES TO THE OFFICE.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP

WITH PACKET ASSEMBLY ON JAN 9TH

PLEASE LET ME KNOW BY THAT SAME DATE

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH**



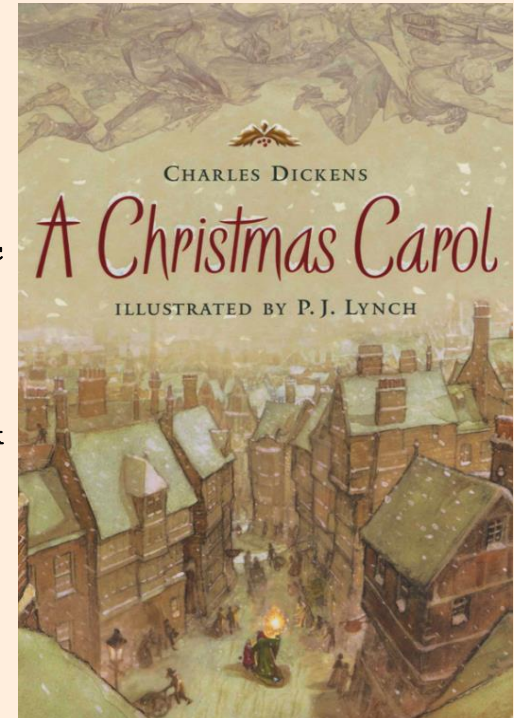
# Westminster Literary Society

The Westminster Literacy Society met to discuss Charles Dicken's "A Christmas Carol".

We had a fun morning discussing the 1843 Dicken's classic tale. The story itself is about redemption—about change and the possibility of change. It seemed fitting for the season of Christmas. It prompted much discussion of our own Christmas pasts and the joys we remembered.

We also discussed the need to recenter ourselves and look to the Christmas season to come. Dickens realized that a story about cheer and charity might address both his financial problems and his moral misgivings about Victorian society and it applies to us in much the same way today. We completed a short Trivia sheet and Jenny Bergstrom was our clear winner.

Our next book is Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Boylan.



Carols, Cocoa, & Cookies  
12/22/24





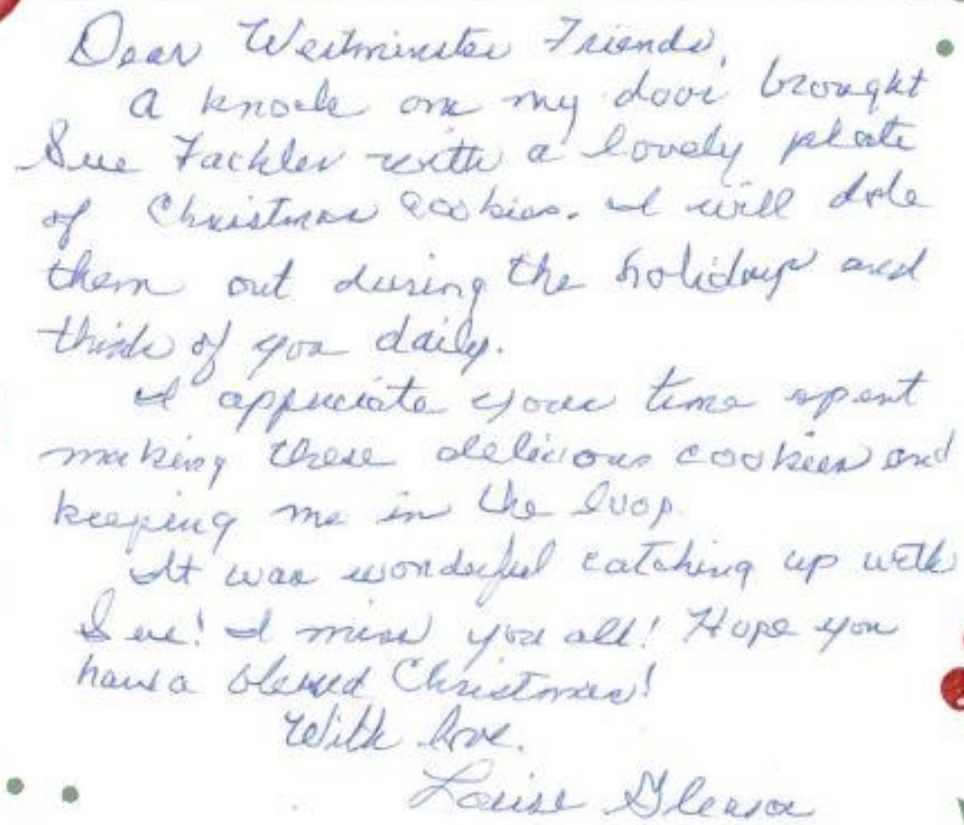
## MARINERS' PROGRESSIVE DINNER 2024

Mariners held their annual Progressive Dinner the evening of Friday, December 13th. Instead of progressing from house to house between courses, we progressed from floor to floor at Westminster. This turned out to be a little challenging with our elevator not working that day, but we managed.

Since it was Friday the 13th, we chose "A Christmas Carol" for our theme with its ghosts and spirits of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. After a delicious meal, we ended the evening with our gift exchange of "white elephant or other" gifts. It was truly a wonderful time with great food and merriment for all.

As Skippers, we thank our crew, especially our Officer Lifeboat, for the perfect end to an outstanding year of fun and fellowship.

Charlotte and Charlie Bates



Dear Westminster Friends,  
A knock on my door brought Sue Fackler with a lovely plate of Christmas cookies. I will savor them out during the holidays and think of you daily.  
I appreciate your time spent making these delicious cookies and keeping me in the loop.  
It was wonderful catching up with Sue! I miss you all! Hope you have a blessed Christmas!  
With love,  
Louise Gleason

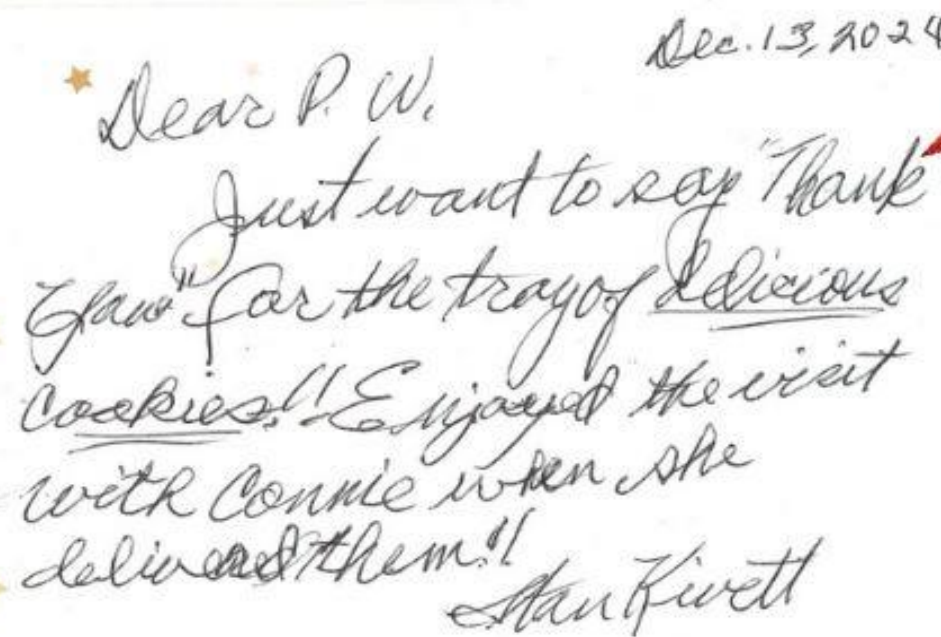


## "Apple Cart"

January Sermon Series

January 12th -

January 26th



Dec. 13, 2024  
Dear P. W.  
Just want to say "Thank You" for the tray of delicious cookies! Enjoyed the visit with Connie when she delivered them!  
Ann Kivett



Happy New Year!



# Presbyterian Women News

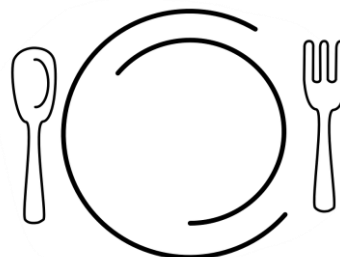
January is a busy month so we have taken K.O. 's advice and decided to "clean the closet" (take something away so to make room for something new). There will be no mid-month luncheon and we are postponing the Soup & Pie Supper to make room for our new initiative, "Meals on Monday...eating around the table." (see separate article). The Morning and Evening Circles will continue to meet in January, except the Morning Circle will meet on Wednesday, January 22 at 9:30 at the home of Sharon Reed.

## The SOUP & PIE Supper has been Postponed.

### MEALS on MONDAYS" ...Eating around the table."

We are beginning a new program at Westminster starting Monday, February 3. We will offer an affordable, family friendly dinner (\$3 for adults, \$1 children) to anyone who wants to share a meal with family or make new friends. Our goal is to encourage all of us to eat together with conversation...not electronics. We are hoping that working parents can bring their children to eat at Westminster one night a week instead of having to shop, prepare and clean up a meal at home. We will have Westminster teams who will organize this every Monday.

Please check with Sue Fackler if you would like to help.



Our next Middle School Mania is February 3, 2025 from 11-2.  
Students have requested walking tacos with Frito chips, chili, and cheese. We will cut, bake, and frost Valentine cookies. Please plan to join us if you enjoy good

Jan 5 - Boy in the Temple  
Jan 12 - Jesus' Baptism  
Jan 19 - Sermon at Nazareth  
Jan 26 - Fish for People

Feb 2 - Healing on the Sabbath  
Feb 9 - Raising the Widow's Son  
Feb 16 - More than a Prophet  
Feb 23 - Forgiven at Jesus' Feet

## Help Out VBS !!

**IF YOU HAVE WRAPPING PAPER ROLLS AT HOME LEFTOVER FROM THE HOLIDAYS PLEASE SAVE THEM FOR VBS!**



**NO, NOT PAPER TOWEL ROLLS OR TOILET PAPER ROLLS BUT WRAPPING PAPER ROLLS!**



# JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> New Years day 1:30 pm PW Board Meeting 3:00 pm C.E Meeting 4:30 pm Centering Prayer 5:30 PM Invitational Ministry	<b>2</b> 2:00 pm SC Pickleball 6-8 pm One Heart basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Choir	<b>3</b> K.O. Day Off	<b>4</b> K.O. Day Off
<b>5</b> 8:30 am Breakfast 9:00 am Faith Form. Adults 9:30 am Faith Form. Youth 10:25 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Youth Group	<b>6</b> 2:00 pm SC Book Club 4:30 pm Pickleball	<b>7</b> 12:30 pm Nautilus 6-8 pm One Heart basketball	<b>8</b> 6:30 pm Bagpipe Practice 12:00 pm PW Gathering Lunch 4:30 pm Centering Prayer	<b>9</b> 2:00 pm SC Pickleball 6-8 pm One Heart basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Choir	<b>10</b> K.O. Day Off	<b>11</b> K.O. Day Off 11:00 am Jana Proctor Memorial Service
<b>12</b> Communion 8:30 am Breakfast 9:00 am Faith Form. Adults 9:30 am Faith Form. Youth 10:25 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Burgers & Bowling	<b>13</b> K.O. Retreat 1:30 pm World & Community 2:00 pm Knitters 4:30 pm Pickleball	<b>14</b> 11:30 am ROMEOS at Annie's 6-8 pm One Heart basketball	<b>15</b> 1:00 pm Afternoon Circle 4:30 pm Centering Prayer 6:30 pm Finance Council 6:30 pm Bagpipe Practice	<b>16</b> 2:00 pm SC Pickleball 6-8 pm One Heart basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Choir	<b>17</b> K.O. Day Off	<b>18</b> K.O. Day Off 11:00 am Mary Hurrel Memorial Service
<b>19</b> 8:30 am Breakfast 9:00 am Faith Form. Adults 9:30 am Faith Form. Youth 10:25 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Youth Group	<b>20</b> 2:00 pm SC Book Club 4:30 pm Pickleball 7:00 PM College Hill Assoc	<b>21</b> 6-8 pm One Heart basketball	<b>22</b> 4:30 pm Centering Prayer 6:30 pm Bagpipe Practice	<b>23</b> 2:00 pm SC Pickleball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Choir 6-8 pm One Heart basketball	<b>24</b> K.O. Day Off 8:30 am Let's Help 6-8 pm One Heart basketball	<b>25</b> K.O. Day Off
<b>26</b> 8:30 am Breakfast 9:00 am Faith Form. Adults 9:30 am Faith Form. Youth 10:25 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Congregational Meeting	<b>27</b> 2:00 pm Knitters 4:30 pm Pickleball	<b>28</b> 1:30 pm Deacons 6:30 pm SPM 6-8 pm One Heart basketball	<b>29</b> 4:30 pm Centering Prayer 6:30 pm Bagpipe Practice	<b>30</b> 2:00 pm SC Pickleball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Choir 6-8 pm One Heart basketball	<b>31</b> K.O. Day Off 8:30 am Let's Help 6-8 pm One Heart basketball	

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Becky Sullivan—January 1

Nancy Bachman – January 3

Ron Miller—January 6

Molly Shaughnessy—January 6

Tyler Dallam– January 8

David Harper— January 8

Cliff Flowers—January 10

Charlotte Adair—January 12

Will Geary—January 12

Blake Ward—January 17

Connie Wood—January 17

Marge Ahrens-January 19

Carey Brown—January 21

CJ Nelson—January 21

Margaret Jones—January 23

Stephanie Dicken—January 23

Wilma Hummert—January 27

John Marsh – January 28

Robbie Williams – January 29

## Save these Dates!

January 7<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Reports Due

January 26<sup>th</sup> –  
Congregational Meeting

January 28<sup>th</sup> – SPM  
6:30 pm

February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11-2 pm  
Middle School Mania

February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 pm  
Monday Meals

