

MONTH OF MAY

As we embark on a new month, we are reminded that May offers a fresh opportunity for renewal and realignment with God's plan for our lives. Reflecting on the past month at WPC fills me with deep gratitude. The energy and joy surrounding our Lenten and Easter activities were truly uplifting. The final Sunday in April was especially heartening as our youth led worship; an inspiring reminder of the legacy they are poised to carry forward.

May is also Mental Health Awareness Month, a time to break the stigma and shame often associated with mental health challenges. Unfortunately, the Church's historical engagement with mental health has not always been encouraging. There was a time when people facing mental health struggles were not met with compassion, but rather misunderstood, marginalized, and even demonized making them suffer in silence.



Today, however, the Church has a profound opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ, especially for those in need of mental health support, belonging, and restoration. Last year, we partnered with First Presbyterian Church of Johnstown and Trinity Presbyterian Church of New Florence to host Dr. W. Hale for an important presentation on depression. While we are not holding an official program this year, I encourage you to take this month as a personal opportunity for learning, reflection, and compassion. Explore trusted resources, deepen your understanding, and share your insights with your family and friends.

Looking ahead, the month of May is filled with meaningful moments. We will honor mothers on Mother's Day, commemorate Memorial Day, and celebrate the return of the local farmer's market. We are also thrilled to share that there will be a baptism this month—a joyful and meaningful occasion for our church family!

May this month be rich with blessings, unity, and deep connections as we continue our journey of faith together.

Happy May Month!!!

By Rev. Bernard Nti.

**WESTMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MAY LECTIONARY PLAN
2025**

- 1. May 4th, 2025**
3rd Sunday of Easter
Psalm 30
John 21: 1 - 19

- 2. May 11th, 2025**
4th Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day
Minute for Mission by Chiz Price
Psalm 23
John 10: 22 - 30

- 3. May 18th, 2025**
5th Sunday of Easter
Minute for Mission on Capital Campaign
Psalm 24: 1 - 6
John 13: 31 - 35

- 4. May 25th, 2025**
6th Sunday of Easter
Baptism Sunday
Psalm 67
John 5: 1 - 9

Those Who Serve

ACOLYTES

05/04 Avalyn Rehm
05/11 Daphne Rehm
05/18
05/25

LAY READERS

05/04
05/11
05/18 Monica Black
05/25 Noah Marcinko

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

05/04 Vivian, Christine, Dottie, Jerry
05/11 Leslie Winters Tom Bingler,
Tom Ball, Ray Coleman
05/18 The Priest Family
05/25 Mary & Crew

OPENERS

5/4 Kevin Howell
5/11 Jim McCann
5/18 Kevin Howell
5/25 Kevin Howell

CHANCEL FLOWERS

05/04 Tammy Germana
05/11 Priest Family
05/18 Hinson Family
05/25 Priest Family

NURSERY

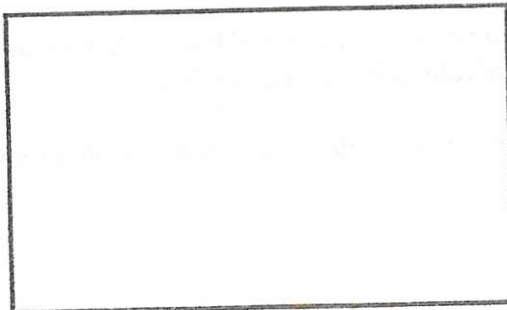
05/04
05/11
05/18
05/25

CHILDREN'S CHAT

05/04 No Children's Chat
05/11 Betsy Suppes
05/18 Mark Parseghian
05/25 Jen Priest

USHERS

05/04 Christine, Jeanne,
Monica, Lana, Mary
05/11 Christine, Jeanne, Lana,
Tom
05/18 Christine, Jeanne,
Monica, Lana, Suzanne
05/25 Christine, Jeanne,
Monica, Suzanne, Mary,



- Flower Calendar
- Fellowship Hour
- Liturgist

Sign up sheets are posted
on the K Room.



Deadline for the
JuneThread is
Friday May 16



From the Swanson Music Sweet

What an amazing and awesome display of professionalism, talent and dedication to our church, all of our members, and to our Lord, by our choristers, musicians and actors throughout the Sundays and the Special Services of this Lenten Season.

Many thanks to all for the extra rehearsals that went into the preparation for the two *Living Last Supper* presentations. Both were exceptional in every way. And great kudos to our new “disciples.” They were spot-on with their comrades at the ‘Upper Room’ Table. Also, a great big thanks to those who did much, much work on the costumes and set.

It was also very exciting to see so many of you in the congregation that came out to support us. Recently, I met with the President of the Ligonier Council of Churches who passed along many, many compliments and thanks, and told me they had over 300 in attendance for our program there.

She had one BIG question . . . “*When do we do the next one?*”

Ha! – now’s not the time to ask me!!! This year was particularly demanding and exhausting for all of us. But – extremely rewarding!!!

Ok – moving forward, our next musical venture is a series of concerts/recitals that will culminate in May of 2026 for the 100th anniversary of our church and installation of the original Tellers Organ. (note – part of that instrument is still being used).

Our first program will be the recital listed below. Additional celebratory programs will continue about every 8 weeks until May - 2026. I truly hope all will come and ‘**celebrate your church and your organ**’ with us for each event. Again – special thanks to each and every one of you from all of us in our Music Ministry.

May 18, 2025 – 4:00PM

Dr. Crista Miller, organ

**Director of Music and Organist at
Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Houston, Texas**

Dr. Miller is a world-renowned organist and educator who received her Doctorate in Organ Performance at The Eastman School in Rochester, NY.

We also continue celebrating the year of women composers and artists in music.

WPC Christian Ed News

May

Help Needed!

CE is looking for your help with VBS! We need help with setup, running stations, leading groups, and cleanup. If you are only able to help a few days or every day, all help is appreciated. **Please contact Briana Lohr at blohr@westmontpc.org or fill out the sign up form if you are interested!**



Upcoming Events

- May-4th CE Meeting
- June-8th VBS Setup; 9th-13th @ 9:00AM-11:30AM Breakout VBS; Planting Picnic 13th @ 12:00 pm



Youth Group

The youth group is getting a new name! The kids have been voting on names and the new one will be announced soon. The group will be meeting once a month.





HOSPICE

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

IN JOHNSTOWN AND PITTSBURGH AREAS!



Volunteer Opportunities

- Direct Service
- Administrative
- Bereavement
- Vigil
- Massage Therapy
- Pet Therapy

If you're interested in volunteering with us,
CONTACT US TODAY!

Candace Beam, Volunteer Care Coordinator

Office: 814-262-8305

Email: Cbeam@interim-health.com



Learn more at interim-health.com/volunteer-with-us

CHRISTIAN ED - EASTER EGG HUNT

CHRISTIAN ED would like to extend a ***GREAT BIG THANK YOU!*** to everyone who helped with the **EASTER EGG HUNT**. Whether you donated candy, helped set up or tear down or lent a helping hand during the hunt, **WE APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU!!!**

A total of 118 kids attended, and hands down, everyone enjoyed the event!!! Kids and adults, please consider joining us for VBS in June... **WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!!!**



HEAD and NECK CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

WHEN: 6PM to 7 PM; Last Wednesday of each month.
(Began 04/27/2022)

WHERE: Westmont Family Counseling Ministries
RSVP: 814.536.0798 @n WFCM office.

This is a free community service sponsored by CFM

Facilitators: Lyn Garbarino OTR, CLT
Michelle George BSN, RN





Mission:
 Ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
 Johnstown Branch 2266
 PO Box 1064
 Johnstown, Pa 15907
 1917 - 2025

Ad Journal Order Form
 Schedule of Events & Ad Journal 5.5"x 8" Format

Journal Page position and size	Page Cost
Front Cover Page	\$250
Back Cover Page	\$200
Inside Front Page	\$150
Inside Back Page	\$150
Full Page	\$100
Half Page	\$50
Patriot Ad	\$10

Place your order and return this page with your order to
Alan Cashaw at agranec@yahoo.com:

Sponsor's name	
Sponsor's Address	
Name on Sign	
Logo on Sign (camera ready)	
Attach Company LOGO	
Number of Yard Signs	
Journal Ad Order (Front, Back, Full Page etc.)	

Order by May 9, 2025
 Make checks payable and mail to:
 NAACP Johnstown Branch
 PO Box 1064
 Johnstown, Pa. 15907
 814-341-5111 (for more info)
 Call in Order or email orders
agranec@yahoo.com

Pay online via the Community Foundation for the Allegheny:
<https://cfalleghenies.org/fund/naacp-johnstown-legacy-fund>

Email - agranec@yahoo.com
agranec@aol.com

Alan G Cashaw
 President

Cell - 814-341-5111
 Office - 814-535-6937



Mission:
Ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Johnstown Branch 2266
PO Box 1064
Johnstown, Pa 15907
1917 – 2025

Date: April 14, 2025
To: Friends of the NAACP Johnstown Branch
Subject: Support the 2025 Juneteenth Celebration – Advertise in Our Program

Dear Friend,

The NAACP Johnstown Branch invites you to be part of the 2025 Juneteenth Celebration, a week-long event honoring freedom, culture, and progress. From June 13 to June 19 at PNG Park, we will come together in celebration, education, and empowerment. Our opening day, June 13, will be the unveiling of the First Cambria AME Zion Church Historical Plaque, followed by festivities at PNG Park from June 14 to June 19.

To help support this momentous event, we are offering ad space in the official Juneteenth program book—a powerful way to showcase your business or organization. Your ad will reach at least 5,000 people, with booklets distributed from Pittsburgh to Harrisburg and shared across social media through the NAACP Johnstown Branch Facebook page.

Additionally, we are honoring African American veterans by creating custom yard signs featuring each veteran's photo and the name of a supporting individual or organization. This is a meaningful way to recognize their service and show community support.

Our theme this year is:

"I AM JUNETEENTH – We're On The Move"

MOVE = Motivate • Own • Visualize • Educate

We invite you to join us in celebrating and uplifting our community. Your support makes a difference. Please place your order by reviewing the following pages.

Thank you for your support,
Alan G. Cashaw – President
NAACP Johnstown Branch
agranec@yahoo.com
814-341-5111

Email – agranec@yahoo.com
agranec@aol.com

Alan G Cashaw
President

Cell – 814-341-5111
Office – 814-535-6937

*O God, may we follow the leading
of your Holy Spirit as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday.
Use our gifts inspire all children, youth, and young adults
to faith in your Son, Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray,
Amen.*



La Escuelita Learning Hub serves some 30 children and youth from refugee and new immigrant families, offering them trauma informed care including homework help, enrichment activities, ESL assistance and family case management support. For some, it has been life-saving.

One mother walked with her children across six countries through dangerous jungles and across raging rivers to flee violent cartels who threatened her family. Her disabled teenage son was traumatized by their experience but La Escuelita is helping by bringing kids together in a loving setting.



PENTECOST CELEBRATES
THE RENEWAL OF THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN GOD AND THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH.
WITH OUR GIFTS TO THE PENTECOST OFFERING,
WE ARE THERE TO HELP BUILD A FOUNDATION OF FAITH
IN OUR YOUTH WHICH WILL LAST A LIFETIME.


40%

stays with our congregation
to support local ministries with
children, youth, and young adults.


25%

supports Young Adult Volunteers (YAV),
serving in communities around the world,
and growing as leaders through
transformative Christian service.


25%

supports Ministries with Youth,
including the Presbyterian Youth Triennium.


10%

is devoted to children at-risk
and supports efforts to improve education
and provide safe havens.

WON'T YOU JOIN US?

Please give generously...for if we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.



**PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

APRIL 21-JUNE 8, 2025

**A FOUNDATION
OF FAITH**

established during
childhood through
young adulthood
helps ensure lifelong
faith and service.
When you give to the
Pentecost Offering,
you are helping to
provide opportunities
for young people to
grow and share in
their faith in Christ.

WAYS TO GIVE —



Through your congregation



Text **PENTECOST**
to 91999 to support
these vital ministries



Give online at
pcusa.org/give/Pentecost



You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by the Pentecost Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700.



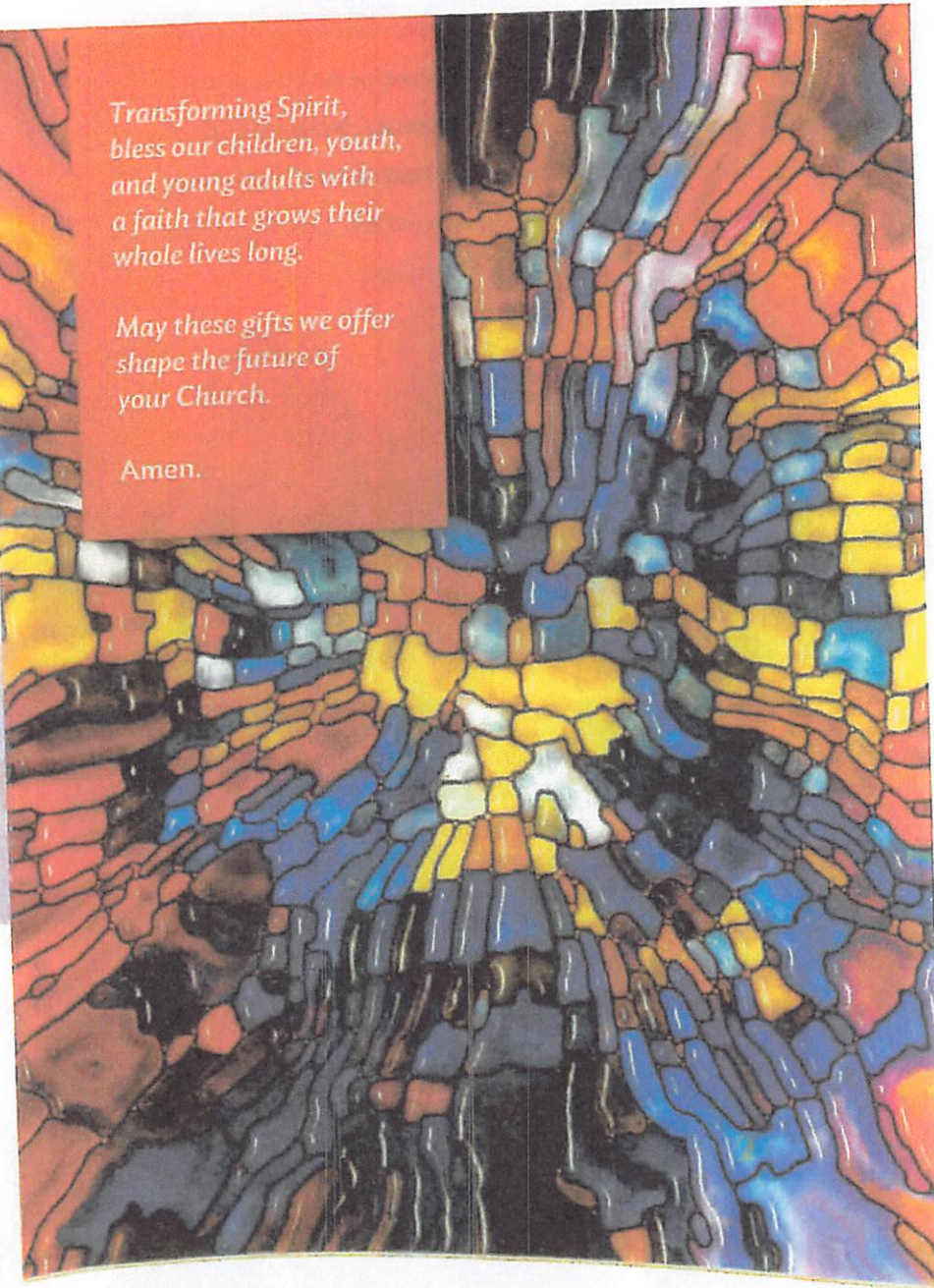
The Pentecost Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the twenty-first century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning and witness, and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

12144-35-034

*Transforming Spirit,
bless our children, youth,
and young adults with
a faith that grows their
whole lives long.*

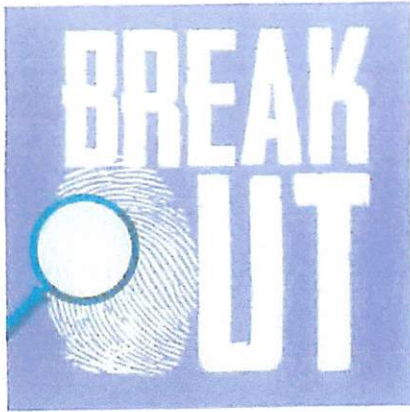
*May these gifts we offer
shape the future of
your Church.*

Amen.



**PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS



REGISTRATION FORM
Vacation Bible School 2025
Westmont Presbyterian Church
601 Luzerne St, Johnstown PA
15905

Registration forms (one per child) can be also be filled out
 and submitted on line at www.westmontpc.org

Child's name: _____

Child's age: _____ Date of birth: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Name of parent/guardian: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent's/Guardian's
 cell/home telephone: (____) _____ - (____) _____


Home e-mail address: _____

May we take and publish pictures of your child on our website and/or social
 media? YES _____ or NO _____

Are you looking for a church? YES _____ or NO _____

Friends name: _____

(If your child chooses to be placed with a friend, please write the name on the above line so
 they may be put in the same group).



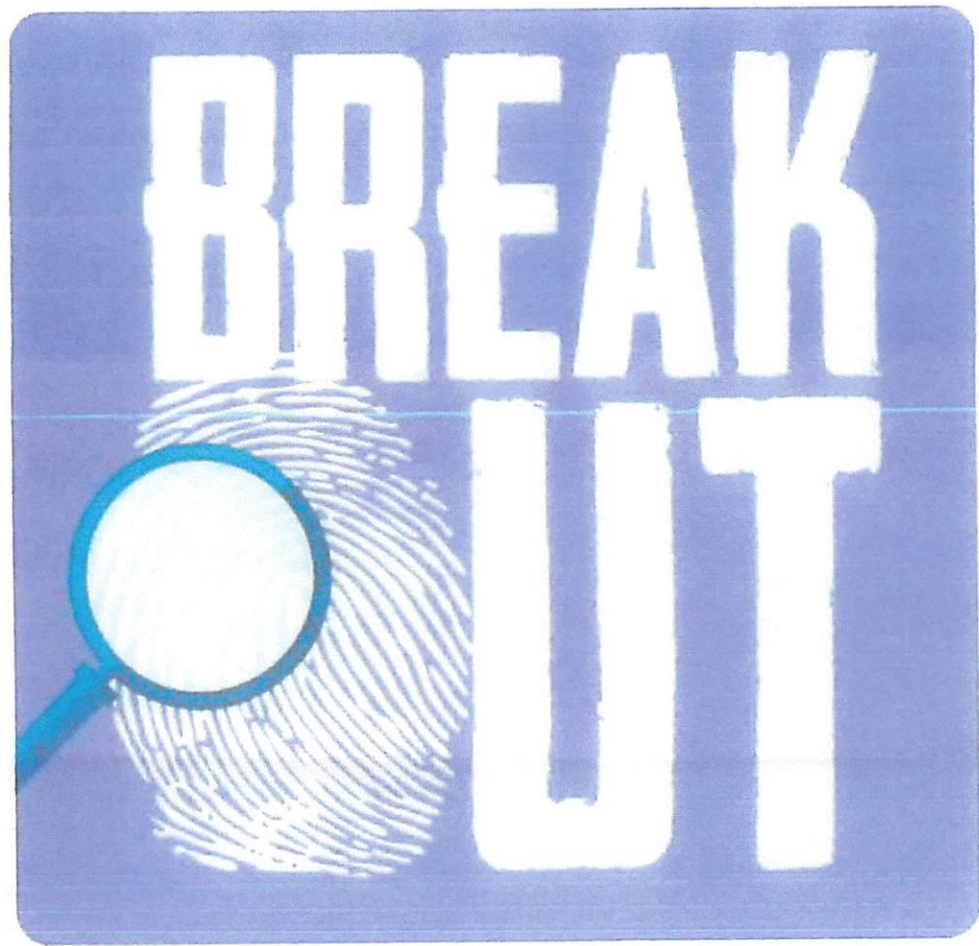
Allergies or other medical conditions:

In case of an emergency, contact: _____

Phone hm./cell: _____ / _____

Relationship to child: _____

Join Us for Vacation Bible
School where we will



and Escape from Ordinary to
Extraordinary

June 9th-13th from 9-11:30 AM
Pre-register online at
<https://www.westmontpc.org/>

VBS is free to all participants!
We ask that all participants wear green
on the first day.

The Koinonia Committee thanks everyone who attended our latest event, a Game Night in Fellowship Hall. We had almost 40 people of all ages enjoy an evening of food, fun, and fellowship with our church family. If you have never attended a Game Night, we encourage you to do so. You can play board games and other games, help put a puzzle together, or just sit and visit and get to know each other better. It is always a fun time!

Our next event will be Sunday, May 4 from 4-6 PM. Weather permitting, we will meet on the garth for a Cinco de Mayo celebration. We will have walking tacos and desserts, live entertainment, pinatas, games for kids of all ages, and Koinonia fellowship. You don't have to bring anything other than a lawn chair and a smile; however, we will be taking a free-will offering to help defray the cost of this event. If it rains, we will meet in Fellowship Hall. A little bit of rain won't dampen our spirits!

Finally, we will be sponsoring our Annual Picnic at Greenhouse Park on Sunday, July 13. It is such a blessing to gather as a family in God's beautiful creation and worship the One who made it all. A covered dish lunch will follow the service. We will share more details on this in the June Thread and weekly bulletins. Please plan to join us for this special outdoor service.

The Deacons would like to extend a huge thank you to the congregation for your generosity with our latest outreach ministry. Our church family donated over \$200 to buy healthy snacks for students in the Westmont Hilltop School District. The students, school district, and your Deacons are most appreciative of your support. Thank you!

We have some exciting events coming up in August. We realize that might seem pretty far away, but we'd like you to mark your calendars now. We will be hosting another blood drive on Friday, August 1, and we'd love to have you donate the gift of life. We could also use some help the day of the event if you feel called to do so. There will be more information on this as the date draws nearer.

Our other August event will be our Annual Picnic at Pine Springs. Please circle Sunday, August 24 on your calendars and plan to attend our worship service in this beautiful setting. There will be a lot of activities taking place in our area as the end of summer approaches, so we are asking you to mark your calendars now and plan around this special time of worship.

One of our on-going projects is collecting food for the local Soup Kitchen. There is a cart outside of Fellowship Hall by the elevator for your donations of non-perishable goods. With summer rapidly approaching and kids being home from school, families will be needing to have more food on-hand. Please remember our neighbors in need and support this ministry as you are able. We thank you for your generosity and support in this and all of our programs.

A Walk With Nature
by Christine Wiegman

I would have brought the
first blue jay I've ever
seen, but it flew away!

I would have brought a
little chipmunk, but
it ducked back in its hole.

I would have brought the
beautiful blue, cloudless
sky, but it was too high!

I would have brought the
thousands of leaves that
have fallen already, but
there were too many!

So I thought I'd bring the
Holy Spirit with me -
he's always with me





James Nichols 05/16
Kevin Kirkstadt 05/16
Joseph Wohl 05/17
Brennley Riffle 05/17
Lyndal Garbarino 05/18
Daniel Kevenk 05/19
Kristen Holtzman 05/19
Kevin Howell 05/21
Tracy Kirkstadt 05/21
Jim Johnson 05/22
Miriam Daisley 05/22
Kevin Pile 05/22
Dennis Appiah 05/23
Ethan Good 05/25
Edna Nti 05/25
William Harris 05/26
Jeanne Strunk 05/26
Hailey Pavlik 05/27
Gabrielle Riffle 05/28
Dorothy Hudson 05/28
Ted Corey 05/31

Morgan Fetzer 05/03
Diane Uhlig 05/03
Todd Miller 05/04
Charles Price III 05/05
Rebecca Webb 05/05
Deborah Corey 05/07
Donna Cauffiel 05/07
Melissa Hinson 05/08
Isebella Miller 05/08
Angela Aboagye 05/10
Leah Young 05/12
Kirsten Hess 05/12
Jimmy McCann 05/12
Kacie Livingston 05/13
Archie Adams 05/14
Amanda Wissinger 05/14
Tenley Hinson 05/14
Robert Hagerich III 05/15
Monica Black 05/15

blurry. While he moved his church to face its past failures to protect the vulnerable from predatory leaders, further work there remains.

Despite these shortfalls, at his best, Pope Francis saw the church as a "field hospital after battle, healing the wounds of the faithful and going out to find those who have been hurt, excluded or fallen away." This led him to choose generous mercy over against "pure" doctrine. In this, his labors were driven by the vision of Christ, expressed in Matthew's gospel:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

In that, Francis has offered a powerful example for us. May that continue to be the Spirit that guides us in lives following the risen Christ!

Presbytery of Redstone | 724.837.6737
1004 Mt.Pleasant Road Greensburg, PA 15601



Presbytery of Redstone | 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road | Greensburg, PA 15601 US

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Pastoral News and Prayer

From Presbytery of Redstone <secretary@redstonepresbytery.org>

Date Mon 4/21/2025 1:19 PM

To Info <info@westmontpc.org>



Presbytery of Redstone



**Statement on the Death of Pope Francis
Lon Weaver – Interim Executive Presbyter**

How sad it was to hear the morning news that Pope Francis had died. Yet, how powerful it was that he had left this realm on the day after Easter! Now, the College of Cardinals will begin the process of electing the new leader of Roman Catholic Christians. With hope and deep discernment, they may choose one who will be able to succeed a leader who had a profound impact on people in and outside of Catholicism.

By choosing Francis of Assisi as his papal name, Pope Francis showed his care for all of reality, serving Christ by honoring all living things: thus, the environment (what Christians call creation) was important to him, and to exploit it without limits defaced it as "creation." Francis sought humility over extravagance: he lived in a Vatican hotel rather than the papal palace. Without apology, he was a political figure: on some occasions, this set him against political leaders around the world. As an immigrant himself, he had a heart for those whose life circumstances led them to migrate from one nation to another. This led him to confront European leaders who were hesitant to respond to the needs of those fleeing Syria amidst its civil war, beginning in 2011. It also led him to reject President Trump's immigration and deportation policies, advocating for bridges in place of walls. He sought to imitate the model of Christ: seeking those on the fringes of society, protecting the vulnerable from the powerholders. He understood Lord Acton's conclusion that "power tends to corrupt, and absolute power tends to corrupt absolutely," pointing to the corrupting force of wealth in the face of the needs of the poor.

Yet, Pope Francis was very human. He couldn't move the Roman Catholic Church to receive women into leadership roles equal to men, especially through ordination. He had begun to address the complexities of human sexuality, but these remained a bit

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 1:00pm Staff Meeting (K)	2	3
<p>4 9:00am Adult Bible Study (K) 10:15am Worship - Communion (S) 11:30am Fshp Hr (F) 11:45am CE Meeting (UL4) 1:00pm Koinonia Cinco de Mayo (Garth)</p>	<p>5 9:00am Prayers & Squares 11:00am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bridge Group (K)</p>	6	<p>7 7:30am Men's Breakfast (Jax)</p>	<p>8 7:30am Finance Committee (E&P) 1:00pm Staff Meeting (K)</p>	9	10
<p>11 Thiz M4M Good Samaritan Policy 9:00am Adult Bible Study (K) 10:15am Worship (S) 10:30am Youth Sunday School (UL3, UL4) 1:30am Fshp Hr (F)</p>	<p>12 8:00am Garden Club 9:00am Prayers & Squares 11:00am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bridge Group (K)</p>	<p>13 10:00am Spiritual Direction (P)</p>	<p>14 7:30am Men's Breakfast (Jax) 5:00pm WFCM (K)</p>	<p>15 1:00pm Staff Meeting (K) 4:00pm Worship & Music 4:00pm Last Day of School / Geneva Pre School Graduation (F, S)</p>	<p>16 SESSION REPORTS DUE THREAD ARTICLES DUE</p>	17
<p>18 9:00am Adult Bible Study (K) 10:15am Worship (S) 10:30am Youth Sunday School (UL3, UL4) 1:30am Fshp Hr (F) 2:00pm Dr. Christa Miller Organ Recital</p>	<p>19 9:00am Prayers & Squares 11:00am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bridge Group (K) 6:00pm Deacons meeting (K)</p>	20	<p>21 7:30am Men's Breakfast (Jax) 7:00pm Session</p>	<p>22 1:00pm Staff Meeting (K)</p>	23	<p>24 9:00am Farmers Market (P Lot)</p>
<p>25 9:00am Adult Bible Study (K) 10:15am Worship (S) 10:15am Baptism 10:30am Youth Sunday School (UL3, UL4) 1:30am Fshp Hr (F)</p>	26 OFFICE CLOSED	<p>27 10:00am Spiritual Direction (P)</p>	<p>28 7:30am Men's Breakfast (Jax) 9:00am THREAD OUT</p>	<p>29 1:00pm Staff Meeting (K)</p>	30	<p>31 9:00am Farmers Msarket (P Lot)</p>

THE THREAD
Westmont Presbyterian Church
601 Luzerne St.
Johnstown PA 15905-2397

814-536-0796
(Return Service Requested)

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U. S. Postage Paid
Johnstown PA
Permit # 65

Address Label Here

MISSIONAL INTENTIONS TO BE:
Christ centered
Biblically based
Servant led
Blessed to be a blessing

Worship 10:15 a.m.

Fellowship Hour 11:15 a.m.

PASTOR
Rev. Bernard Nti

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Briana Lohr

SEXTON
Kevin Howell

MINISTER OF MUSIC
Jim Hutchinson

ADMISISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Jane Bennese

OFFICE HOURS: M-F, 9:00-3:00
Telephone: 814-536-0796
E-mail: westmontpc.org
WEB: westmontpc.org