

Westoverview

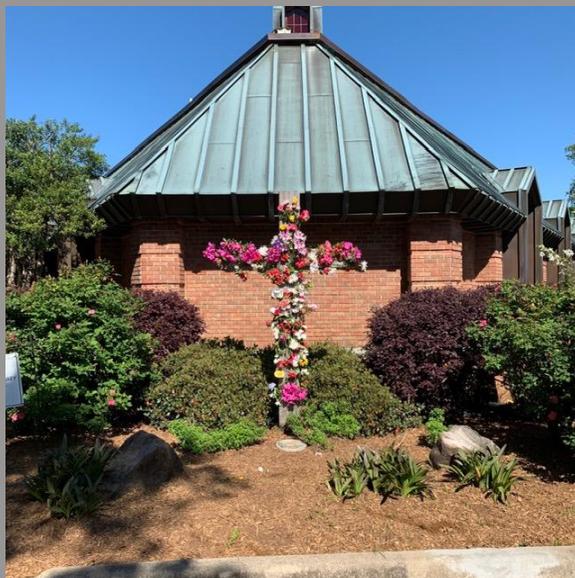
Westover Hills Presbyterian Church Newsletter

June 2019



Easter Sunday at Westover Hills

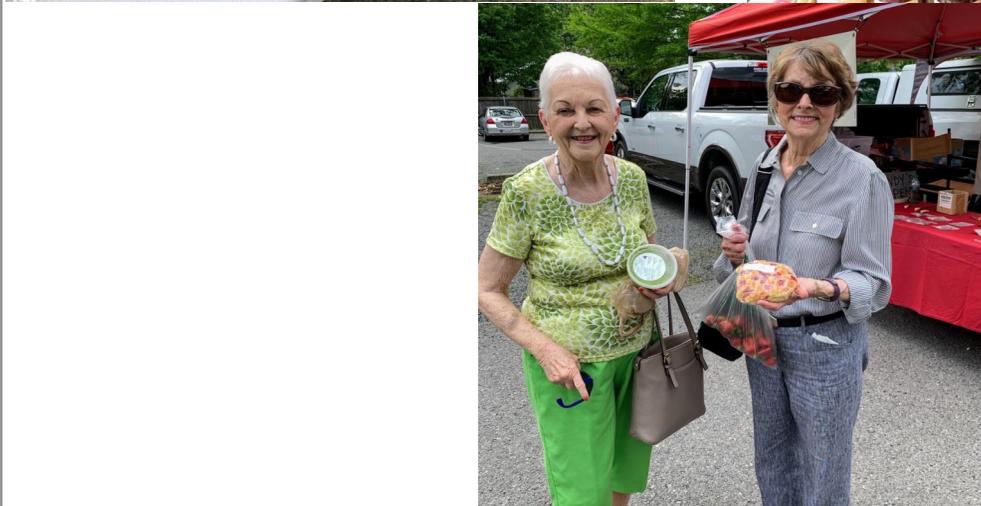
On Sunday, April 21, 2019, the skies cleared and the sun reigned on a beautiful Easter day. Joy reigned as we celebrated Jesus's resurrection with music, scripture, sermon, and prayer. As we have done many years in the past, many people brought beautiful flowers to decorate the large wooden cross in front of the sanctuary. The sanctuary was decorated with beautiful large palms. Following the service, while children hunted Easter eggs, many gathered in front of the cross for photos. Thanks, Charlie!



Frank & Donna LeBlanc

Farmers Market Opens

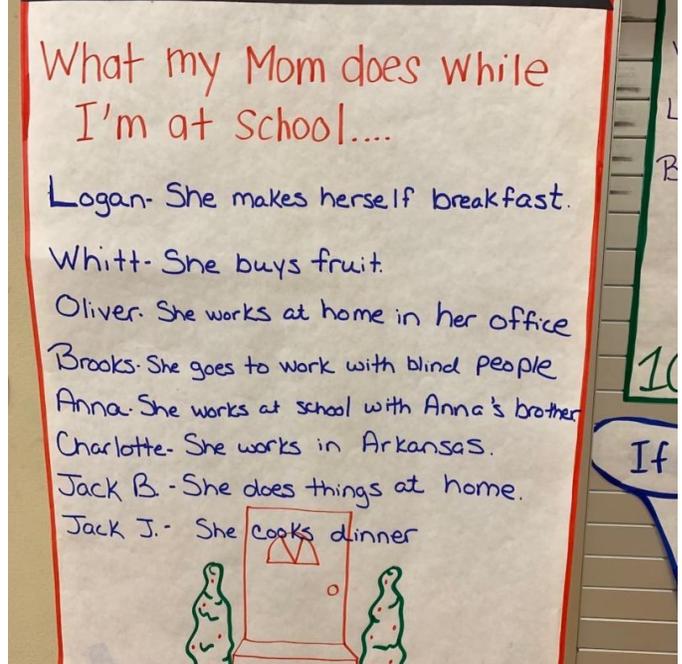
The WHPC Farmers Market opened on Tuesday afternoon, May 7th, and nine vendors showed up. The market is held each Tuesday afternoon from 3:30 - 6:00 p.m., May through September. Come out and support the Market! The selection of fresh, homemade, and home crafted wares -- available from vendors who offer a smile and care about quality and hospitality -- makes for fun on a Tuesday afternoon.



Sally Johnson and Kay McCollum

Preschool Mother's Day Tea

Ms. Debbie, Ms. Allison and Ms. Jill's classes invited moms to join their children for the annual Mother's Day Tea at Westover Hills. The preschool board provided the goodies for the kids to serve their moms. The moms and kids enjoyed fruit, donuts, cookies and punch. The kids presented their moms with Mother's Day gifts that they had made and sang to the moms, too.



Max Snowden Honored as Recipient of the 2019 Percy Malone Award

April 18, 2019 - Rain and storms did not hinder over 300 people from attending a luncheon honoring Max Snowden. Friends and family, as well as political leaders, filled a room at the Clinton Library to recognize the outstanding work Max continues to do for often voiceless victims in Arkansas. For over four decades Max has been a gentle yet powerful force while working in various fields of advocacy for children. He recently retired as the Executive Director of the Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence.

Following a delicious lunch, the program featured speakers from various organizations and a film of beautifully compiled stories and history of Max's work. The film contained often emotional testimonies of how much Max's commitment, leadership and friendship has positively impacted advocacy groups throughout the state. Following a speech about the award and his thanks to Max, Senator Percy Malone presented Max with the 2019 Percy Malone Award. Our congratulations to Max from his Westover Hills church family. May God continue to bless your work.

Video tribute to Max is at <https://youtu.be/Gbnuq1hHhoM>



Jake Snowden, Ann Patterson, Max Snowden, and Scout Snowden



Max Snowden receiving award from former Senator Percy Malone.



Scout Snowden (holding trophy) and Max Snowden

2019 Senator Percy Malone Child Protection Award Luncheon

William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Center

honoring
Max Snowden

Former Executive Director of Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence

Welcome

Dawn Scott

Speaker

Percy Malone, Former Arkansas Senator

Honoree Video

Michelle Cline

Award Presenter

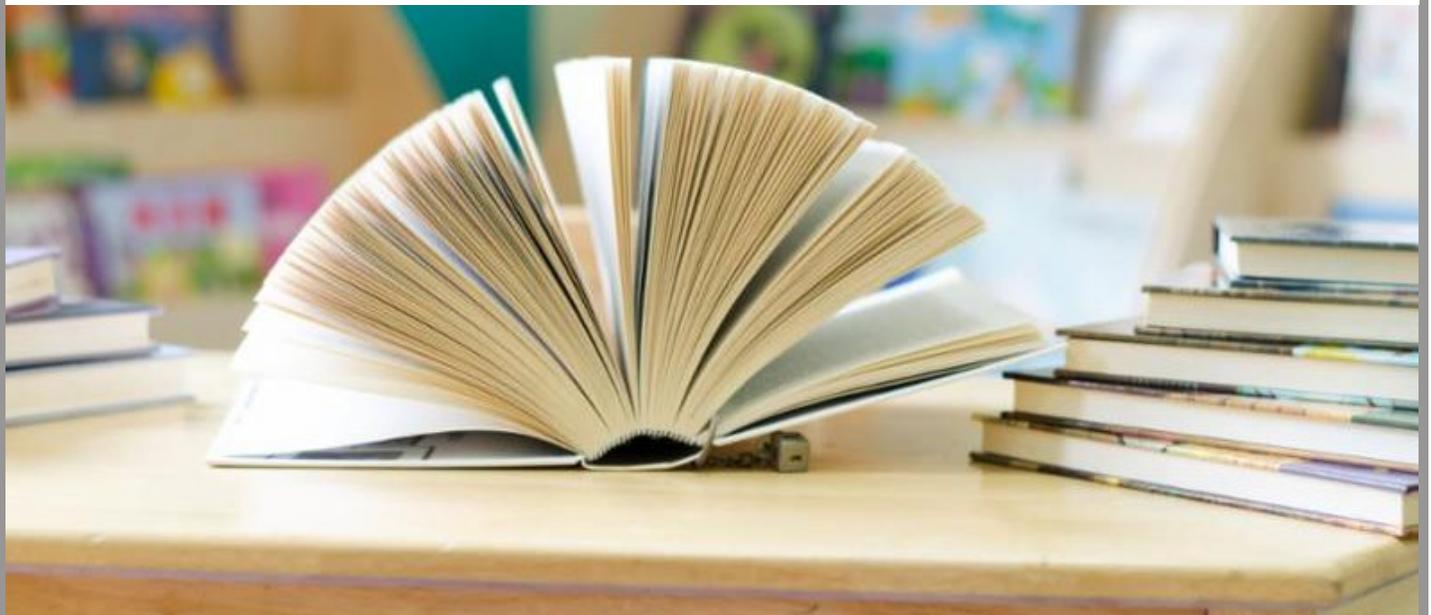
Percy Malone

Closing

Elizabeth Pulley

Our Award

The Senator Percy Malone Child Protection Award was established in 2010 to honor the achievements of the Senator and his wife, Donna. Senator and Mrs. Malone worked for years



Westover Hills Educators Shine on Recognition Sunday, May 19

When the Westover Hills Christian Education Committee began during the winter to plan Educator Recognition Sunday for a Sunday in May, we first thought of Sunday school and preschool teachers. We realized how we were limiting our vision of

WHPC educators! Someone suggested including all the people who use our facilities for educational purposes. Wow! What a great idea!

The guest list grew and grew -- and many of the following groups were represented: Jail and Prison Ministry (including Franki, who told about her plans to help female inmates re-enter society), Jail Art Program, WHPC Preschool, Fabric Arts, Interfaith work/ESL/Literacy Action, Interfaith Dialogue, Japanese School, Children on Sunday Morning, Family Night, Jefferson Elementary, Miss Selma's School, Tanya Eckert's Volleyball Program, Michelle Nichols' Basketball Program, Presbyterian Women, Bridge Builders Reading Group, and Adult Christian Education.

Also among the honorees are over 25 WHP folks who have taught professionally. This is a partial list, so please let Liz know if you should be included:

Jill Acree, Kathy Balkman, Nancy Blackstone, Bill Branch, Liz Branch, Sally Browder, Kathy Dober, Carol Enderlin, Marianne Estes, Dick Frothingham, Shirley Garlington, Betty Glenn, Marti Hampton, Sally Johnson, Kay McCollum, Sid McCollum, Bob McCowan, Ellen McEwen, Janice Mitchell, Carolyn Nash, Roy Nash, Alison Nicholson, Nancy Passini, Dola Pauly, Cherry Starling, H.K. Stewart, David Stricklin, Joy Thomas, and Laura Whitmore.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Treasurer Tammy Pflug reports that the WHPC 2019 One Great Hour of Sharing Offering amounted to \$2,600.



Thank you for your generous gifts to support the ministries of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People!

PDA: Serving Others by Giving, Acting and Praying



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Ray Stephens, a member of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) National Response (NRT), recently shared some information and insights about PDA with our roving reporter Carol Enderlin.

Currently, several members of WHPC are on the NRT. Bill Branch deploys during early response to help presbyteries and churches figure out how to respond. Liz Branch help with emotional and spiritual care, including "Resilience and Renewal" retreats and resiliency training. Ray Stephens helps churches discern if they have sufficient facilities and energy to volunteer work teams.

When asked about the most meaningful aspect of his PDA work, Ray responded with "It is the relationships formed with teammates and the broader 'connectional' and "the opportunity to bring greetings from our church while standing with others to the mission of PDA – to Give, Act and Pray."

PDA originated as Presbyterian World Service (PWS) in 1946, as immigrants fled the Eastern bloc and a refugee crisis ensued in Europe. PWS became PDA in 1996, with a focus on domestic disasters; PDA also responds internationally through partnership ACT (Action by Churches Together) Alliance. PDA responds to both natural (hurricanes, and human-caused (shootings, etc.) disasters.

Travel for the PDA team and administrative costs (staff) are funded through the One Great Hour Sharing offering, which we collected at Westover Hills on April 14 (Palm Sunday). PDA benefits from designated gifts.

Welcome Nancy

Nancy Blackstone, one of WHPC's newer members, was brought up in the Presbyterian faith and is a native of Little Rock. Nancy taught middle-school English for 38 years, and after retirement heard about WHPC through her sister, Alice Ahart. Upon visiting WHPC she enjoyed the sermons and music, and the warm welcome she received from members (including childhood friend Betty Glenn). Since joining, Nancy has participated in Lenten luncheons, making prayer shawls for palliative care patients and assembling disaster relief packs. She looks forward to learning more about other activities such as the Fellowship Committee and book studies. Nancy's hobbies include jigsaw puzzles, crossword puzzles, reading, gardening and traveling



Preschool Update



Early Morning Stretches



Enjoying Tutti Frutti Tuesday



Releasing Butterflies Raised from Caterpillars

**Thank You
from Laura Whitmore**

Many thanks to my church family for the prayers, calls, cards, and food shared during my recovery. You've made the recovery from surgery much easier.

Love, Laura Whitmore



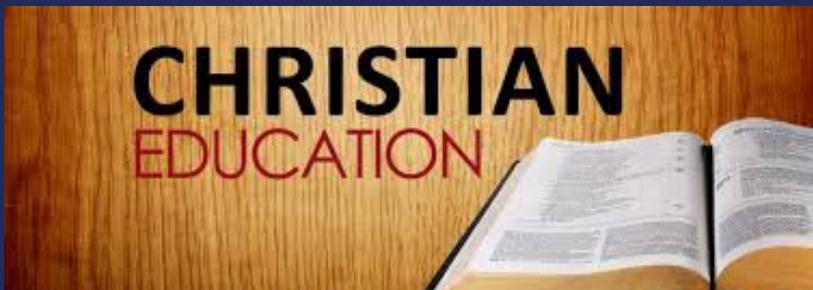
Sunday School



Children on Sunday Morning

Beginning on Sunday June 14 through Labor Day Weekend, Children on Sunday Mornings when in attendance will meet from 9:15-10:15am in the Preschool Nursery room with Ms Allison & Haley June. Allison, our wonderful church-nursery caregiver, will have Old Testament Bible Stories and a snack to share with children. Summertime is a special time and will be for our Children on Sunday Morning.

Adult CE - June



Adult Christian Education in June

Following the first two Sundays in June, when we focus on Ascension and Pentecost, we will begin a series of discussions on Practical Discipleship. What is it like to do ministry in the jail and prison or in ESL lessons? Tune in and find out. Sunday mornings, 9:15 in the chapel (downstairs, off the parking lot by South Road and Pine Valley Drive).

June 2 – Celebration of Ascension (May 30) — Frank LeBlanc
Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:6-11 - The Ascension

June 9 – Pentecost, the Birthday of the Church - Gordon Garlington - Acts 2

June 16 – WHPC educators – Kathy Rateliff and Sally Johnson – WHPC PW prison ministry

June 23 – WHPC educators – Eileen Joyce and the jail ministry

June 30 – 5th Sunday brunch



Ramadan

Fifteen members from Westover Hills met with their Turkish friends from the Raindrop Turkish House (Arkansas Culture Dialog Center) for Ramadan on Tuesday evening, May 21. Mehmet Ulupinar, a volunteer for the Raindrop Turkish House, gave an overview about Ramadan and showed a short video. Ramadan is the ninth month in the Muslim lunar calendar. Healthy adult Muslims fast during Ramadan from dawn until dusk; the fast-breaking meal begins after sunset.

Fasting during Ramadan includes abstaining from drinking, eating, immoral acts and anger. Other acts of worship, such as prayer, reading the Quran and charity are also encouraged during Ramadan. After questions and discussion, and a prayer by Pastor Frank, Westover friends shared tables with their Turkish friends, and everyone enjoyed a delicious meal.

Ministry to Incarcerated Update



Rev. Sally Johnson, Think Legacy volunteer teacher,
Franki Briscoe, Think Legacy grad and
Kathy Rateliff, Think Legacy volunteer teacher

Dream

When is a dream more than a dream? When you work to make it a reality, even against overwhelming odds. That is what Franki Briscoe, a former inmate at Hawkins Women's prison has done since leaving the "Think Legacy*" program. After four prison stays, she has not only pulled her life together, she is realizing her dream of opening a home to serve other women with addiction issues, as they reenter the free world.

"New Vision Place," located in Ft. Smith will house ten women (it has already been certified by the State as a non-profit re-entry program) as they are released from prison. Through community programs and services the women will receive counseling, employment assistance, addiction relapse prevention, empowerment, spirituality and many services that will ease them back into a world that some have not functioned in for months or perhaps 20 or more years.

Franki had a dream, and she credits, God and the "Think Legacy"* program for realizing her dream. Now her hard work, dedication and endless faith through tough times will serve as an inspiration to other women pursuing their own dreams.

Westover opened their hearts to Franki on Educator's Sunday. Many were moved by her inspiring story. Presbyterian Women who fund the outreach programs to the incarcerated, had a chance to hear and see a strong, sweet and dedicated woman who broke her own bonds and is now helping others find their freedom.

Think Legacy is an Arkansas Department of Corrections program, created by and managed by Nicole Smart. Inmates apply for the six month program that includes intensive learning opportunities, builds character, and often brings volunteers into the prisons to assist with program enhancements. Reverend Sally Johnson and Kathy Rateliff volunteer at Hawkins with the program & have taught etiquette, personal hygiene, writing (including thank-you notes), resumes, interviewing skills, speaking skills, grammar and always self esteem!

Quick Updates on Incarcerated Programs

Crayons, acrylic paint, apples, feathers, clementines, chocolate and Mother's Day cards may not seem to have much in common- but if you were to go along with a Westover volunteer (or one of our other talented volunteers), and sit in on the art class at the Juvenile Detention Center you would know. That young artists work better with a snack. Typical teens are always hungry and our kids are no exception.

Have some talent or craft to share? Want to join the volunteers? Commit to once a month? Contact Kathy Rateliff at 501/944-4244.

Pulaski County Regional Detention Facility (Jail)

While teaching the Men's Literacy Class at the PCRDF, Lucy Sausen and Kathy Rateliff are often asked by students about classes they would like to see added at the jail. The two latest are math and parenting.

Dee Ann Newell of "Arkansas Voices for the Children Left Behind," and Sandy Watson (she also volunteers in the art program), were longtime teaching partners of

Parenting Classes in the prisons. They signed on to teach two men's classes back-to-back at the jail and the classes were filled immediately.

Volunteer John Stewart is back teaching a math class for men who cannot pass the math portion of the GED test, and for those who need to learn or refresh themselves on consumer and everyday math skills. He has found that many of his students cannot multiply, while others are algebraic masters.

The Men's Literacy Class is writing a Reader's Theatre – their choice. It is about a Chicago family taking a road trip on Route 66 to see relatives (some very eccentric ones) along the way to see Mickey Mouse in Anaheim. Lucy & Kathy are cautioning it needs to be PG, but we hear Grandpa and the three teen boys may have digestive issues. Hmmm- could make for a long trip.



Ed Brown, Stewpot Day Manager; Mary Lois Stanfield, Ed Stanfield, Nancy Rorex, Manager of Stewpot; Betty Glenn, Nancy Howell, Stewpot Board Chair and David Austin.

Westover Hills Choir Makes Donation to Stewpot

The Westover Hills Choir recently made a donation to the Stewpot in memory of Stewart Stanfield, son of Ed Stanfield. Ed worked at the Stewpot for many years as a member of the 1st Wednesday Team & always brought 3 gallons of milk as well as day old pastries picked up from Community Bakery for the Stewpot. Ed was known at the Stewpot as “Seconds,” since he always served seconds (usually food left over from the day before) to Stewpot patrons. Ed was sorely missed when he retired from the Stewpot.

Thanks to the Westover Hills Choir!

PW Birthday Luncheon



Mary Lois Stanfield with PW Honorary Life Membership award.

Mary Lois Stanfield, Betty Glenn and Lowanna Morehead.

Westover Hills Presbyterian Women celebrated the birthday of Presbyterian Women's organization with a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 4, 2019. Approximately 45 women gathered for the event.

In honor of her commitment to the purpose of Presbyterian Women, Mary Lois Stanfield was presented with an Honorary Life Membership. Day Stephens presented her with a framed certificate and the Life Membership pin

Congratulations, Mary Lois!

“What’s Age Got to Do with It?”

Dr. Rosalie Otters at PW Birthday Luncheon

Westover Hills Presbyterian Women (PW) and their guests were honored to hear from Dr. Rosalie Otters on the topic of “What’s Age Got to Do with It?” at their annual birthday luncheon on May 4, 2019. Dr. Otters described worldwide trends in aging along with different perceptions of what it means to grow older. She also discussed the ways that many older adults remain actively engaged in their communities through continued careers and volunteering.

Dr. Otters received her Ph.D. in Sociology with a focus on Medical Sociology and the Sociology of Aging from the University of North Texas. She is currently an Associate Professor at the UALR School of Social Work and the Gerontology Program Coordinator.



Dinner and a Book ***Searching for Sunday, Rachel Held Evans***

In response to the death of Rachel Held Evans in early May, WHPC sponsored a 2-night book study of Rachel's *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving and Finding the Church*. Rachel was the 2015 Cotham lecturer at Westover Hills and made a lasting impression on many of us.

Searching for Sunday highlights Rachel's story of having left her home evangelical church when she realized that not all people were welcome at the table of the church. She then describes the deep meaning she has found in baptism, confession, communion, holy orders, confirmation, anointing of the sick, and marriage.

April & May 2019 Session Notes

**From the Stated Meeting of April 14,
2019**



Pastor Frank advised of the request for the Sacrament of Baptism for Alex Thomas. The date will be set at a mutually agreeable time.

Pulpit supply while Pastor Frank is away will be: April 29th – Anne Russ; May 5th – Randy Hyde and May 12th – Sally Johnson

Ruling elder Jill Acree was tentatively approved as pastoral intern for four months beginning May 1st, 2019, with the option to renew, subject to her meeting with the Session. She will be tasked with creating content for the new church website, among other duties as assigned by Pastor Frank.

The furniture in the gathering space has been replaced by PW.

Michael Brookes and Scott Hiers will be managing the farmers market this year.

The updates to the church website are coming along and a photographer from the new administrator will be coming by the church to take additional pictures.

The Preschool received permission to give end-of-year bonuses to the teachers from Preschool savings.

The Alternative Christmas Market will be held this year November 16th through the 17th.

The Second Sunday Offering for May will be personal care items for the prison ministry.

Two Taize services will be held during Lent.

We will observe Communion during Sunday services through Easter and then the first Sunday of every month. We will also have Communion on Pentecost Sunday.

The next Stated Session Meeting was postponed until May 19th at 1:15 pm.

The Property and Maintenance Committee advised:

- i. Fire suppressors in the education building malfunctioned and had to be replaced.
- ii. The campus grounds will be mowed soon.
- iii. The committee is considering a recommendation to make the campus non-smoking or designating specific smoking areas.

Directional signs will be installed in the north parking lot, the south parking lot and the visitor spaces.

From the Called Meeting of April 18th, 2019

Ruling Elder Jill Acree appeared before the Session to be interviewed for the position of pastoral intern. After presenting herself, describing her experience and answering questions from the Session, Jill was warmly welcomed to the church staff in accordance with the terms outlined during the Stated Meeting of April 14th.

From the Stated Meeting of May 19th, 2019

Westover Hills will host a vocal recital performed by students of Denise Edds on Monday, June 3rd in the Sanctuary. Our own Marcey Berry and Margaret Hiers will be part of the performance.

The church received the following correspondence:

- a. Letter from PC(USA) Presbyterian Mission thanking Westover for the donation of \$50.00 to Presbyterian World Missions and a packet of information concerning additional giving opportunities.
- b. Letter from the University of the Ozarks announcing the 2019 concert tour for the UofO Chamber Singers.

Alexandria Dawn Thomas will be baptized during service on Sunday, June 2nd.

Pastor Frank will be attending the Big Tent Event in Baltimore, Maryland on August 1st through the 3rd.

The New Chapel will be used as the furniture sale location for Treats and Treasures beginning July 25th through August 12th. Groups that usually meet in the New Chapel are asked to find alternate locations for their meetings during this time.

The following individuals were elected to the Office Building Review Committee, which will investigate either making repairs to the office building or moving the church offices to the education building:

From the Preschool Board – Betty Glenn and Eileen Joyce

From the Property and Maintenance Committee – Mac Balkman and Bob Quinn

From the Congregation at Large: Tommy Callaway, Nancy Carter and Nancy Passini

Pastor Frank and Shawn Mittedorf will be advisors to the committee.

The Second Sunday Offerings for June will be monetary donations to Women and Children First.

Respectfully Submitted,

N. Zane Wilson,
Clerk of Session, WHPC

Welcome Jill

The Westover Hills session is pleased to announce the hiring of Jill Acree from May 1 to August 31, 2019 as pastoral intern for WHPC. Jill, who is a candidate for ministry under care of the Presbytery of Arkansas, will focus most of her 10 hours per week on working with the Membership and Communication committee. Her designated tasks will include collaborating with committee chairs concerning content for the WHPC website, inserting the content into the website, overseeing the church FaceBook page, putting together the newsletter, and assisting with other communication efforts of the church.



Because of her rich experience in doing mission, she will also advise the Mission and Advocacy Committee. As is common in the church world, she will have "other duties as assigned."

WHPC Office Coverage

Office Volunteers

Many thanks to Roy Nash, Deanine Rogers, and Adrienne Kulousek for faithfully serving in the Westover Hills office the last couple of months. Each has done yeoman service, and we are grateful. If you would like to be in on this particular ministry, please email your interest to Liz Branch. Thanks.



Special Announcement from the Preschool

Have some spare time? Love kids? We are always in need of substitutes for the preschool classrooms. Please email Shawn at westoverhillspreschool@gmail.com to find out more.



WE NEED YOUR TREASURES!



Please bring your gently used items to donate:

**Westover Hills
Presbyterian
Church**

Saturday, July 27, from 9 am - 2 pm

TTREATS
and
TTREASURES

Drive by our Fellowship Hall on South Road and volunteers will unload your car & hand you a receipt for your contribution.

Then come and shop with us:

11th annual Treats & Treasures Preview Party

Fellowship Hall, Friday, August 9, 6 - 8 pm
Tickets at the door \$10.00, food and libations

Treats & Treasures Big Sale

Saturday, August 10, 7 am - 3 pm
FREE

DETAILS: www.westoverhills.org



Troopons!

Coupons for Troopons!

We need your coupons for Troopons!

Please leave the Sunday newspaper inserts in the NARTHEX. Mary Chrisman is heading up this mission that helps our servicemen and women. If you can help Mary, please call her at 501-773-6268

Cotham Lectures 2019 John Pavlovitz

Save the dates! John Pavlovitz will be Westover Hills Presbyterian Church's 2019 Cotham Lecturer, joining us September 22 and 23, 2019. Events are free and open to the public.

John is a writer, pastor, and activist from Wake Forest, North Carolina. In the past four years his blog, *Stuff That Needs To Be Said*, has reached a diverse worldwide audience.

A 20-year veteran in the trenches of local church ministry, John is committed to equality, diversity, and justice—both inside and outside faith communities.

John is the author of *A Bigger Table: Building Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community* (Westminster John Knox, 2017) and *Hope and Other Superpowers: A Life-Affirming, Love-Defending, Butt-Kicking, World-Saving Manifesto* (Simon & Schuster, 2018).

From *Stuff That Needs To Be Said*:

“People ask me all the time, “How do we move forward when there is so much bitterness and discord in the world?” They usually don't like the answer—although I don't like it much either.

- We're all going to have to figure out how to do the difficult work of loving people we dislike.
- We're going to have to stop creating false stories about people from a safe distance, and get truer stories.
- We're going to have to find a way to offer an open hand as often as a clenched fist.
- We're going to need to slow down enough, and get close enough proximity to our supposed enemies, so that we can look in the whites of their eyes and find the humanity residing there. It may be buried in jagged, ugly layers of fear and grief and hopelessness—but it is almost always there.

The Cotham Lecture Trust was established at Westover Hills in 1967, in memory of E. Ralph Cotham V. For over fifty years, the Trust has made it possible for Westover Hills to bring in distinguished speakers for the benefit of the church of Jesus Christ in the Little Rock community.



Sunday, September 22, 2019

10:30 am Preaching at Westover Hills
11:45 am Luncheon at Westover Hills
7:00 pm Cotham Lecture

Monday September 23, 2019

12:00 pm Luncheon by invitation for Clergy and Church leaders
7:00 pm Cotham Lecture

For more information, contact Rev. Frank LeBlanc at (501) 663-6383, www.westoverhills.org

Memorials

Stewart Stanfield Kay & Ray Stephens
for Building Fund

Winnie Fischer Linda & Dickson Flake
Winnie Fischer Betty Glenn for Laura Whitmore
Pre-School Scholarship Fund

Tom Nordengren Kay & Ray Stephens for Building Fund
Tom Nordengren Helen & Doyle Hughes

Robert Matney Kay & Ray Stephens for Building Fund

Starr Gill Davis Kay & Ray Stephens for Building Fund

Joe Balkman Kathy Rateliff for PDA
Joe Balkman Kay & Ray Stephens for Building Fund



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