

Westover View

October 2019



Westover Hills Members Say Goodbye to Frank and Donna LeBlanc



David Stricklin reads a poem, Ode, Redux.



Mary Ellen Holder presents Frank LeBlanc with a love offering.

Although typically the WestoverMen prepare the Fifth Sunday Brunch, the Westover Hills Presbyterian Women (PW) decided to prepare the brunch on September 29 and combine it with our Farewell to Frank and Donna. Tables were decorated with a

Mardi Gras theme. PW prepared several different kinds of breakfast casseroles, cheese grits, homemade sweet rolls, and fresh fruit. Everything was delicious!

On Frank's arrival at Westover Hills in 2013, David Stricklin read the first five stanzas of his and Sally Browder's Ode to Pastor Frank. At last Sunday's brunch, he incorporated two additional stanzas they have written to include Frank's departure from Westover Hills. (See below.) Mary Ellen Holder presented Frank with a love offering from the congregation.



A loving farewell to Donna and Frank LeBlanc as they prepare for new ventures in ministry.

We Rise Today to Give This Ode, Redux

By Horace Ovid Stegmoeller III, B.D.

We rise today to give this ode
to Frank and his good wife,
Who've given us a brand-new lease
on churchly kind of life.

He cooks, he cleans, he writes so well
that every time we hear
His words come ringing in this place
we give a little cheer.

This Cajun boy who came to us
God's kingdom to announce,
Despite the fact Americans
his last name can't pronounce.

He gave up law and took up grace,
found a new vocation,

And took a spot right here with us,
in this part of the nation.

We're very glad Westover Hills
became his destination,
To prove to us, once and for all,
we like predestination.

And so we come to say goodbye
and send him to Ohio.
They'll thank their lucky stars he's come,
this preacher from the Bayou.

Imagine all the good he'll do
(they must have seen his bio)
But let them taste his Cajun fare
And they'll sing me-o-myo.

Best Wishes, Frank!

We have loved having you as pastor for the past six years. Somehow it doesn't seem that long to us. But we know that you started with us on September 8, 2013; so six years it is.

Thanks for the inspiring sermons, the thoughtful exposition of scripture—and pushing us to expand our understanding of scripture, the thought-provoking “Questions Class” and other Christian education offerings, the meaningful worship, joining in MorningSong “jams,” cooking Cajun food, sharing meals, helping us grow past old boundaries through interfaith experiences and Bridge Builders Reading Group, helping us examine traditions to determine their value going forward, supporting us in new ventures like jail ministry and Farmer's Market. The list could go on and on.

We will miss you. Best wishes as you begin your new call to Rose Run Presbyterian Church in New Albany, OH (Scioto Valley Presbytery). We hope this call offers you enough challenge and more than enough satisfaction. And we hope the fish are biting in central Ohio!

Grace and peace,
The Newsletter Team

Transition Time between Pastors

The Westover Hills session has named Debbie Cooper, Ray Koone, and Candice Meisenheimer as a transitional pastor search committee to identify the person who will serve Westover Hills next. The committee is considering a couple of candidates who are well qualified in transitional ministry and expects to name someone soon.

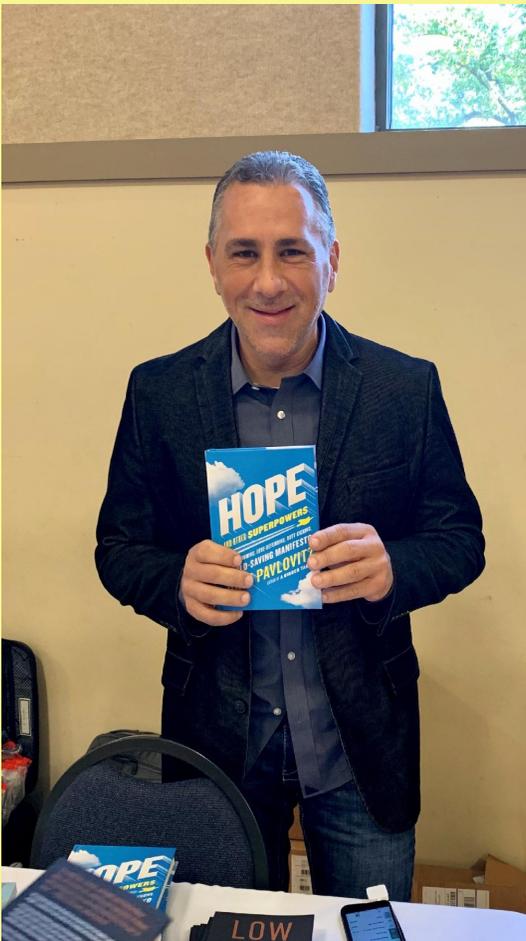
Cotham Lectures - 2019



Frank LeBlanc and John Pavlovitz.



John Pavlovitz with Mary Francis and Ralph Cotham, who initiated the Cotham Lecture Fund.



John Pavlovitz, the 2019 Cotham Lecturer, visited Westover Hills on September 22 and 23, speaking three times and sharing his message that churches should challenge the status quo, especially when the status quo breeds inequity. The popular blogger and author drew enthusiastic audiences from all over the Little Rock area, drawn by the speaker's commitment to a "relentless urgency" to speak messages of compassion against fear.

Customers line up for T-shirts and books at the sales table at the Sunday night reception.



Bridge Builders Reading Group Begins 7th Series



Woodson Walker (left) and Liz Branch (right) prepare to lead the Bridge Builders study of Just Mercy, by Bryan Stevenson.

The Bridge Builders Reading Group (BBRG) is starting its 7th reading series October 1. Reading choice for this fall is Just Mercy, attorney Bryan Stevenson's compelling narrative of his work to free wrongfully convicted inmates on Alabama's death row.

The ecumenical, multicultural group will meet on four Tuesdays, October 1, 8, 15, and 22, from 6:30-8:30pm at the Mosaic Church of Central Arkansas, 6221 Colonel Glenn Road, Suite A, Little Rock 72204. If you want to car pool, you can park and ride together from Westover Hills office parking lot at 6:00.

Since the planning team chose Just Mercy, we have learned that a feature film based on the book will be released January 10 across the country. The book narrates Stevenson's work through the Equal Justice Initiative toward release of mentally challenged people, people convicted as teenagers, and people condemned to death row without due process. Some were exonerated, others not. All lacked validation as human beings.

Reading Just Mercy can be your avenue to greater understanding of current issues of incarceration.

Books: Available at Wordsworth Books, 5920 R St. or other outlets.
Format: Presentations by guests Professor Anastasia Boles and Dr. John Kirk, content summaries by the planning team, and small group discussion.

To register: Email Liz Branch at erbranch@comcast.net.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET



CHOOSE GIFTS THAT GIVE **TWICE**

holiday treats, gifts, scarves, coffee, teas,
calendars, note cards, jewelry, magnets,
rice mixes, coasters...and more!

*Participants include: Shattered Glass for Broken Lives (Broken China jewelry); FMK ;
Charlie Frith Photography benefitting Stewpot and Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Children's Home;
Heifer Project; Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance; Indigo Workshop; Jedidiah's Magnets;
Westover Hills Preschool; Presbyterian Women holiday gift cards; FURR;
Westover Homemade food items & pepper jelly; Santa dolls for the Pulaski County Humane Society;
Rahab's Rope; Fair Trade coffee and more!*

FREE CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY AREA • FREE ADMISSION
HOT DOGS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE BENEFITING STEWPOT

Saturday, Nov. 16 Sunday, Nov. 17

9AM-2PM

11:30AM-1PM

WESTOVER HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6400 Richard B. Hardie Drive

Corner of Kavanaugh, McKinley and Pine Valley

Treats and Treasures Update



Volunteers at the 11th annual Treats & Treasures Big Sale look relaxed a few minutes before the doors opened Saturday morning, August 10. While the day was rainy, shoppers arrived in a slow but steady stream all day and the tally kept rising.



The Faces of Treats & Treasures: It takes all of Westover's congregation to have a successful sale. (Net income from the sale was \$21,034.80; a tithe amount of \$2,104 was given to Westover Hills.) Donated goods to stock the tables, workers to collect heavy items including furniture, volunteers to set up and manage the event (this year under the skilled leadership of Betty Glenn and Mary Lois Stanfield), staff to package purchases, tally and check out guests, hands to prepare mouthwatering food for the preview party, smiles to sell raffle tickets for a dinner under the stars. Treats and Treasures was truly a church-wide undertaking.



A perfect picture of the Treats & Treasures layout before shoppers descended and perfection became chaos.

T-Shirts for Pride Fest October 19, 2019

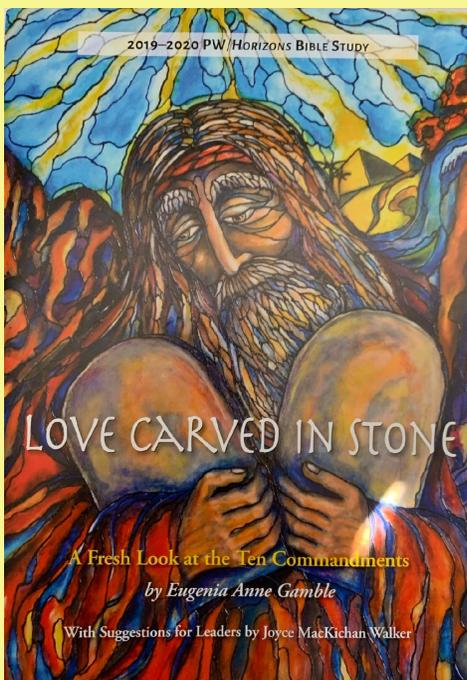
WHPC T-Shirts Still Available

The Westover Hills Membership Committee is in the process of ordering T-shirts which can be worn at various Westover Hills activities. Although the one illustrated is for men, one for women will also be available. T-shirts will be available in Medium, Large, Extra Large, 2X and 3X. Cost is estimated to be \$18-20. If you would like to order one, please send the following information to Donna Terrill: Men's or Women's and size.



Special Note: The design on the T-Shirts will not have a white background as displayed above, but will have a background the same color of gray as the T-Shirt.

Presbyterian Women



The Horizons Bible Study started in September and continues through May, 2020. The study features Eugenia Gamble's journey through the Ten Commandments. Join the second Monday evening Circle at 7 pm, or the third Wednesday morning Circle at 10:30 am, and get ready to fall in love with the Ten Commandments!

Vera Lloyd Home Updates

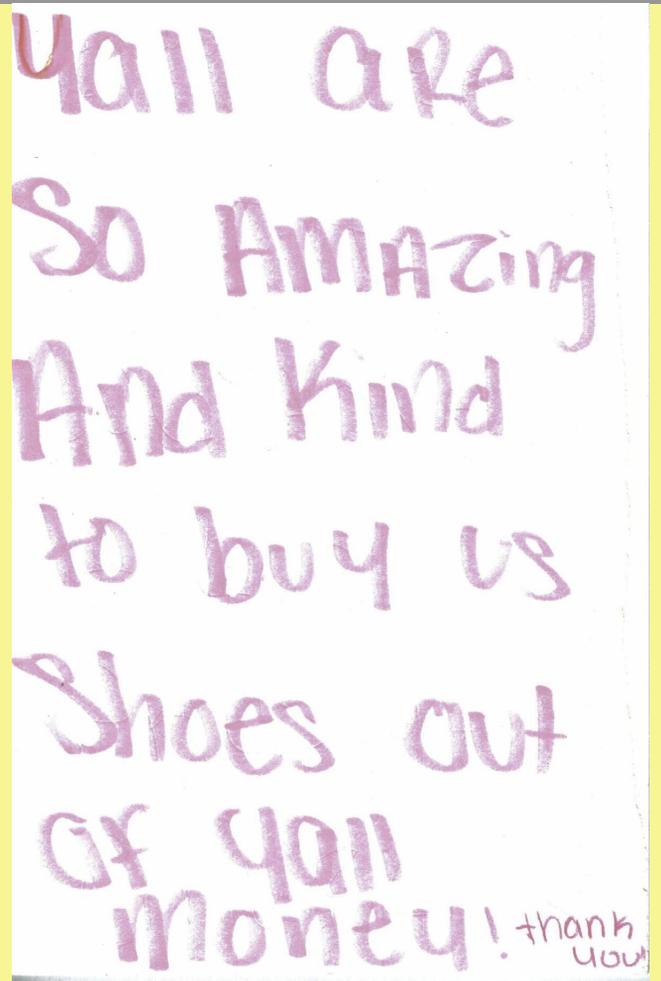
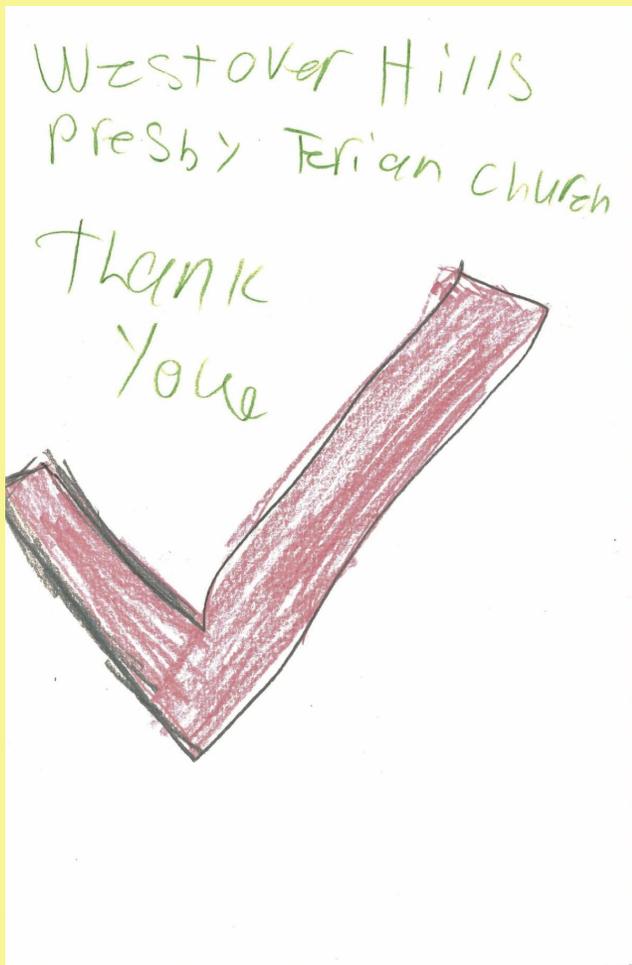
[Pettus House Update](#)

At the same time Westover Hills was collecting money for gift cards for Vera Lloyd, an individual from Westover Hills donated \$1,000 to the Westover Hills Pettus House Account to be used for the purchase of new shoes for the first day of school. Charlie Frith and the Donor met the Pettus House children (5 boys and 2 girls) at the Nike Store in the Promenade at Chenal Shopping Center. Each child was told that they could each spend \$100 on new shoes. You should have seen the excitement as they proceeded to look throughout the store for shoes. All of the shelves in the back of the store were on sale. Every child was able to purchase two pairs of shoes and one boy actually found three pairs for \$100.



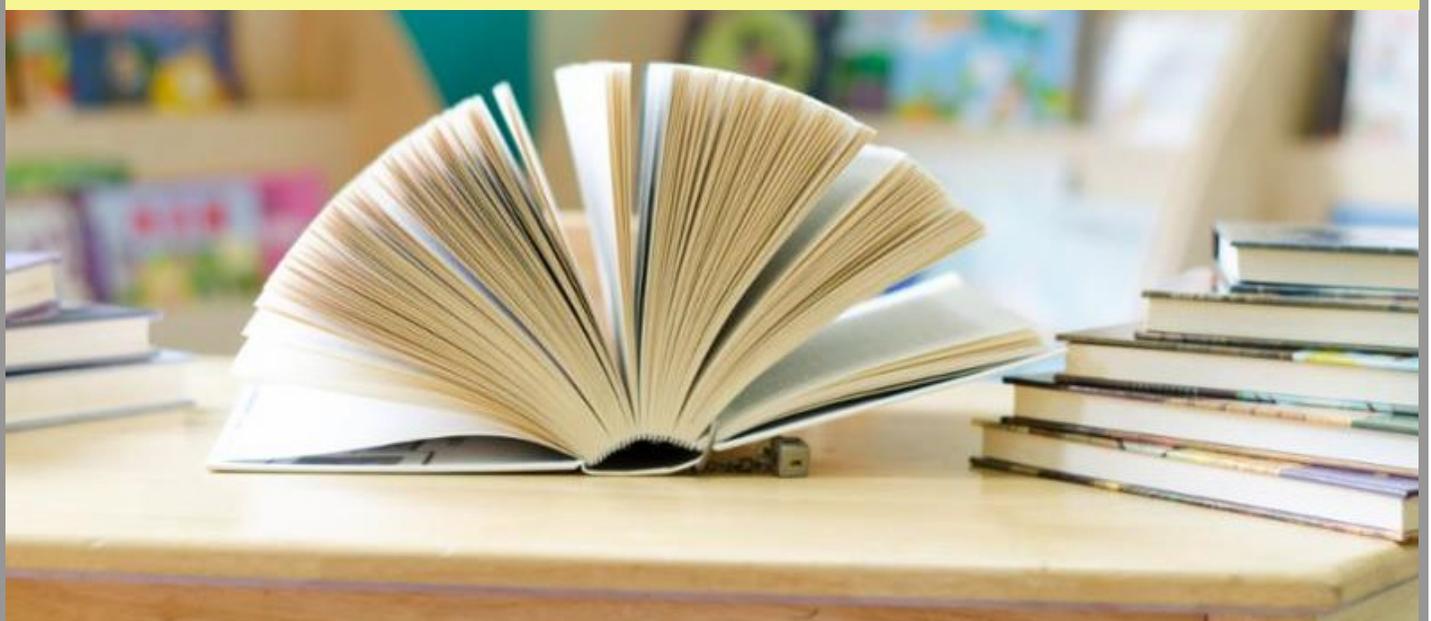
Thank you So So much For
Buying the best shoes I
have ever had. ~~you~~ you
are the ~~best~~ Sweetest / Most
nicest People I have ever
met. AKA I ♥ my
Shoes So much!
♥

We honestly
thank you so very
much. We couldn't
do it without
your help.
We dearly
Love you.



We want to share with you some of the thank you cards we received from Vera Lloyd students after the new shoe outing Westover Hills sponsored.

Evening Book Study



Save the Dates!

The Forgotten Books of the Bible - Study Begins October 29, 2019

Starting Tuesday, October 29, we will begin a study of Bobby Williamson's The Forgotten Books of the Bible. Tuesdays evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, we will study the Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, and Esther. Williamson will join us for

the opening and closing sessions. Plans call for five sessions to be held before Advent and seven to be held following Christmas.

Please contact Liz Branch for a copy of the book.

Beautiful Music

The Westover Hills choir wore their robes for the first time at the end of summer on Sunday, September 8. Pictured is Music Director David Austin along with the choir. They were accompanied by a guest violinist, Kathy Ogilvie. The music was divine! Thank you!



David Austin and Kathy Ogilvie



David Austin, Westover Hills Music Director,
and the wonderful Westover Hills Choir.

Preschool Update



What do you do at Preschool when it's too hot to go outside?
Play inside! There are lots of ways to have fun!

School started with a new parent orientation and a meet the teacher event on Aug. 22 and 23 respectively. Both were well attended. The staff enjoyed meeting the parents and all the new sweet little students. The first three weeks of preschool have been great!! The children and staff are settling in to a daily routine. We are looking forward to cooler days so we can spend more time outside. Preschool teachers are pictured below.



Front row: Janet, Beverly, Jill, Bri, Caroline.
Back row: Jackie, Allison, Debbie, Destaney, Gricelda, Shawn.

Sunday School

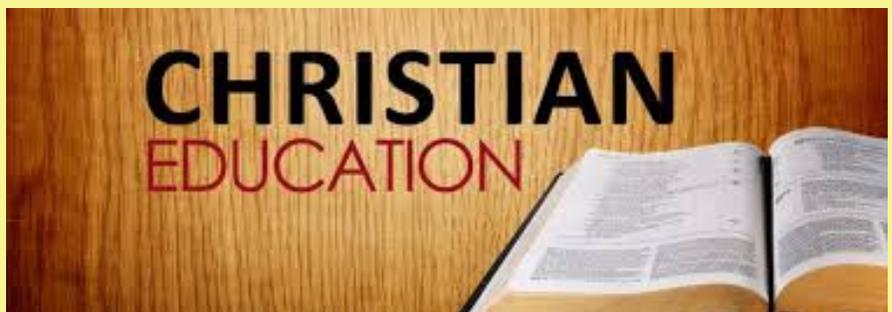


Children on Sunday Morning

Since the summer break, Children on Sunday Morning have resumed meeting on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 in Room 1 (nursery) for 3-7 year olds with Ms. Deanine; and 8-12 year olds in Room 2 with Ms. Nancy. Younger children enjoy Old Testament stories while the older children read children's Bible-based devotions and respond to each in real life situations. And we all enjoy gathering together for music and snacks!

Adult Christian Education October - November

October and November promise interesting discussions on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m.



Oct. 6 – Follow-up discussion of Cotham Lectures

Oct. 13 – Our educators: Teachers and students from the Japanese School

Oct. 20 – Nov. 24 - ABCs of Bible Study with some of our Bible study leaders - The basics of Bible study. Some principles and practices that will help you discern the meaning of Bible passages for your own spiritual growth.

Session Minutes August - September

From the Stated Meeting of August 17, 2019



The church received the following correspondence:

- Letter from member Laura Wehner thanking WHPC for love and concern shown during her recuperation.
- Letter from Vera Lloyd thanking WHPC for the donation of \$2,300.00 for camp back to school clothes.
- Letter from Presbyterian Village Little Rock inviting WHPC to the Capital Campaign Luncheon honoring donors on September 10, 2019.

- d. Letter from the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution thanking WHPC for the continued use of our campus for their monthly meetings and including a memorial of \$50.00.
 - e. Letter from Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center thanking WHPC for the gift of \$500.00.
 - f. Letter from Family Promise thanking WHPC for the gift of \$250.00.
- Communion will be celebrated next on September 1, 2019. It will not be held the 3rd and 4th Wednesdays of August.

Pastoral Intern Jill Acree's term has been extended for one additional month, through the end of September 2019.

Presbyterian Women is exploring the possibility of starting a "Dress for Success" program for the parolees/recent releasees from J. Aaron Hawkins Sr. Center.

Westover Men contributed \$300.00 toward the cleaning of the downstairs carpets.

The Session voted to hold a Congregational Meeting on August 25, 2019 to advise the Congregation of Pastor Frank's resignation effective the end of September 2019.

From the Congregational Meeting of August 25, 2019

The Congregation voted to consent to Pastor Frank's request that his call as minister of Westover Hills Presbyterian Church be dissolved as of September 30, 2019.

From the Called Meeting of August 29, 2019

General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Arkansas, Stewart Smith, joined the Session to discuss the transition process for finding a new minister.

Session voted to hire a Transitional Ministry Specialist to serve as interim pastor while the church seeks a new called and installed minister. A Transitional Minister Selection Committee made up of Debbie Cooper, Ray Koone and Candice Misenheimer was formed.

From the Stated Meeting of September 8, 2019

The church received the following correspondence: Thank you cards from children at Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services for taking them to purchase new shoes.

Communion will be celebrated next on October 6, 2019. It will not be held the 3rd and 4th Wednesdays of September.

Session approved expending up to \$5,000.00 for the purchase of new wireless microphones for the sanctuary from the Cotham Lecture Fund held at Texas Presbyterian Foundation. The purchases are necessitated by the obsolescence of the old microphones due to recent changes enacted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the upcoming Cotham Lecture series later in September.

By recommendation of the Mission and Advocacy Committee, Session voted to move forward with designating WHPC as a Matthew 25 Congregation and that a task force of up to five persons be formed to recommend issues and policies that

WHPC can support and be advocates for, and oppose those policies and issues that we do not.

Pastoral Intern Jill Acree's term has been extended for one additional month, through the end of October 2019.

A Transition Taskforce was created to assist the new Transitional Minister in acclimating to WHPC. Mac Balkman, Liz Branch, Mary Ellen Holder and Zane Wilson were elected to the team.

Mary Ellen Holder was elected as Elder Commissioner for the upcoming Presbytery meeting on October 4 and 5, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,

N. Zane Wilson,
Clerk of Session, WHPC

WHPC Office Coverage

Thank You, Office Volunteers!

A cadre of faithful volunteers continues to serve in the Westover Hills office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00 AM to

12:00 Noon. A big thank you goes to Adrienne Kulousek, Janice Mitchell, Roy Nash, Deanine Rogers, and Liz Branch.



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.



Additions to the Church Calendar

As many of you know, Kathy Balkman maintains the Westover Hills church calendar; it's much easier if the calendar is maintained by a single person.

If you have additions to the calendar, please email Kathy at skbalkman@sbcglobal.net. Please name the rooms that you plan to use.

This is very important as rooms like the fellowship hall are used on a constant basis. When you are determining the time for the event, remember that the set up time can be different than the event start time. Please either include set up and cleanup times in the start and ending of the event itself, or label set up time as a separate event.

Honoraria and Memorials



Honoraria

Tammy Miller Laura Wehner
Liz Branch Laura Wehner
Eileen Joyce Laura Wehner
Georgia Bobo Laura Wehner



Interments and Memorials

Recent Interments in Westover Hills Columbarium

Pastor Frank recently officiated at two committal services in the Westover Hills columbarium. On September 7, he led the committal service for **Rev. Dr. Larry Mitchell** and on August 17, for **Carl Glenn**.

Memorials

Ralph Finney

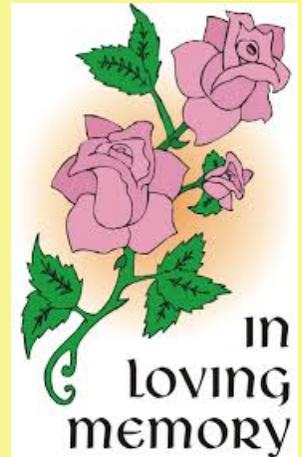
Presbyterian Women, Mortgage Principal
Harriet Phillips, Mortgage Principal

Wilma Atkins Browder

Kay and Ray Stephens, Building Fund

Rev. Richard Frothingham

Kay and Ray Stephens, Choir
Kathy Rateliff
David Speights



Westover Hills Presbyterian Church | 6400 Richard B. Hardie Drive, Little Rock, AR 72207

[Unsubscribe chfrith@mac.com](mailto:chfrith@mac.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by office.westoverhills@gmail.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try email marketing for free today!