

**Westover View  
Westover Hills Presbyterian Church  
July 2022**



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**Pastor Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry**

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Dear Westover Family,

I am writing to you from Harmony, North Carolina at the Wild Goose Festival. It has been a fantastic gathering this year with engaging speakers and great workshops. I am here with two members of my study group and their children. So far I have done workshops on spirituality and art, generative writing,

strategies for being a vital neighborhood church, and a favorite of mine each year, a healing and wholeness service in the Episcopal tent honoring transgender men and women who have died as a result of violence since last summer. That service is always very moving and meaningful. This year was no exception.

A highlight of this year's event was the Saturday morning talk by Jim Wallis. Jim is the founder of the festival and also of *Sojourners* magazine.

*Sojourners* is a Christian publication focused on issues of justice and equity. Jim's presentations are always a big part of this event. But this year especially he brought a word that was both meaningful and challenging. I would like to share a little with you about what he said.

Jim challenged us to think about how we are really putting into action the theology we claim to believe. He used six biblical examples to drive home his point. These were

Genesis 1:26 Humanity created in the image of God

Luke 10:27 The love commandment

John 8:31 You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free

Matthew 25

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, etc.

Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers

The one that struck a chord with me the most was Matthew 5:9. Jim pointed out that the text says we are called to be "peace makers," not just "peace supporters," or "peace advocates," or even "peace loving" people. We are called to be makers of peace, the difference being that we are called not to support or advocate for something that already exists but to create something new in our world.

As I reflect on what Jim shared, I find myself looking at



my own theology in my own work in the world. I begin asking myself where am I making peace? I can identify many places when I am resisting violence or when I am witnessing against oppression. And those are important things. But I have more difficulty identifying where it is that I am putting my energy toward making peace in the world where it doesn't yet exist.

I'd love to tell you that after pondering this for a day or two that I have come to some personal revelation and can offer the key to living up to the expectations of the gospel charge to peace making. I wish I could, but I can't. I'm still chewing on this in my spirit a little bit. And I want to invite you to do the same. Where in your life are you seeking to make peace in the world where it does not already exist?

Being makers of peace is risky business in a world so in love with violence in all its forms. But that is who we are called to be. And it is a tall order. Like all things, however, I believe in my heart that God would not ask this of us if we were not capable of it.

I count it as a blessing to serve in a place where questions like these are formative to our community of faith. I hope you will join me in some spiritual reflection and self searching as we discern together how God is calling us to be makers of peace in Little Rock and beyond.

Peace from the mountains and the Goose,

Pastor Robert



Peace Rose is a reminder of how desperately our world and communities need the beauty and tranquility of peace. - courtesy of Jane Estes (sent to her from Mary Estes, her mother-in-law).

**WHPC Session Notes**

## **Stated Session Meeting, May 15, 2022**

Session meeting was called to order Sunday, May 15, 2022, after worship with prayer by Pastor Robert.

Candice Misenheimer volunteered to represent WHPC at the June 4 Zoom presbytery meeting.

Session noted with sadness the death of Ruling Elder Sidney H. McCollum on April 13, 2022.

Treasurer Tammy Pflug reported that Investments have suffered from the recent stock market decline and that Year to Date expenses are still below Year to Date receipts.

Christian Education (CE): The adult Sunday school class will resume meeting in person starting May 22.

Fellowship: The Choir will host a Hot Dogs & Hallelujah Luncheon on Sunday, May 22.

Mission & Advocacy: The One Great Hour of Sharing offering this year was \$3,569.93. The Committee will collect donations of produce for El Zócalo on May 27.

Preschool: The Preschool received a \$99,000 grant to pay for furniture, security, and playground equipment.

The Session heard that portraits of former pastors will be hung in the parlor. In June, offering plates (and ushers) and friendship pads will be restored.

## **Email Vote, May 17-19, 2022**

By email vote, the session gave permission to the Hybrid Church Taskforce to purchase the necessary equipment to enable live streaming of worship and hybrid (online and in-person) participation in CE events in the New Chapel. The total cost of the equipment is not to exceed \$1,000. The expense of the purchase will be charged to



unrestricted memorial funds.

### **Email Vote, June 3-5, 2022**

By email vote, the session voted to extend Ulysses Neyland's salary during his recovery.

### **Stated Meeting, June 12, 2022**

Session meeting was called to order after worship on Sunday, May 15, 2022, with prayer by Pastor Robert.

Motion passed to approve ordaining and installing Brenda Lelansky as deacon at a date to be determined.

Session noted with sadness the death of James Mauney on June 10, 2022.

Treasurer Tammy Pflug reported that pledges are running slightly below the budgeted amount. Year-to-date expenses are about \$2900 higher than revenue.

Motion was passed to hold an ice cream supper on Sunday, July 3, 2022.

Motion was passed to approve the request from San Damiano (now Sister Thea Bowman) Ecumenical Catholic Church to meet in the New Chapel on Saturday afternoons at 5pm.

Approved continued use of offering boxes in morning worship. Discussed purchase of 100 copies of the *Glory to God* hymnal, which is to be used concurrently with the current blue hymnal. Approved inviting members to purchase volumes (@\$20/volume) as honor or memorial gifts. Any shortfall will be made up from memorial funds.

The Hybrid Church Task Force announced that virtual viewers should soon be able to participate by Zoom in meetings/classes in the New Chapel.

## Save the Date!

### 13th Annual (Well, Almost Annual) 2022 Treats & Treasures Sale

COVID may have derailed the **Big Sale** for two years, but you cannot keep Presbyterian Women (PW) down for another year! This will be the 13<sup>th</sup> annual event (we aren't counting the last 2 years when we had a worldwide pandemic pause).

Friday, August 12, from 4-7 pm, marks the return of the "Early Shopping Event." The Presbyterian Women's Preview event is a little different this year, according to TNT co-chair Betty Glenn. "Because of COVID, we are skipping food and libations. The ticket price is \$5.00 at the door."

The 13th Annual Sale will be on Saturday, August 13, 7 am-3 pm. Co-chair Mary Lois Stanfield adds, "It's a wonderful place to get furniture, garden tools, holiday items, and books. You can also pick up kitchen items for that new apartment at great savings. We hope good weather and great prices will bring everyone out to support PW's community outreach programs."

Following services, on Sunday, August 14, there will be a mini-sale for our church members until 3 pm. There are usually some markdowns, but if you want something specific, better buy it early!

Closer to the events, go to [westoverhills.org](http://westoverhills.org) to view the



# WE NEED YOUR TREASURES!



Please bring your gently used items to donate:  
**Westover Hills Presbyterian Church**  
**Saturday, July 30, from 10am-2pm**

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

*NO clothing, shoes, TV's, mattresses*

*Do bring tools, garden decor, furniture, fishing gear, kitchenware, small working appliances, pet items, toys, jewelry, etc.!!)*

## Volunteering at Treats & Treasures

Treats and Treasures (TNT) is a church-wide event that takes many volunteers to be successful. From prepping

the donated treasures to cleaning after the events end, it is a massive effort with countless hours of fun and fellowship. If you can spare some time, please contact Betty Glenn at [bettycarl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bettycarl@sbcglobal.net) or Mary Lois Stanfield at [merrystanfield@aol.com](mailto:merrystanfield@aol.com)

*Dates and times for volunteering are as follows:*

**Saturday, July 30 drop off donations 10am-2pm**

**Sundays, July 31 and August 7 noon- 3pm**

**August 1-11**

**Monday's - Saturday's 9am- 3pm**

**Tuesday/Thursday nights**

**August 2 & 4, 5:30-7:30pm**

**August 9 & 11 TBA**

**Monday, August 15 final clean up/packing**



The Presbytery of Arkansas has lined up the Rev. Beth Mueller to lead four, two hour online workshops on the four Thursdays in August (4, 11, 18 & 25) from 4:00 to 6:00pm. This workshop is free and open to everyone, they only need to register. [Click here](#) for the link to learn more about the class and to register.



# Westover Hills Farmer's Market - 2022

The Sid McCollum Westover Hills Farmer's market has offered fresh produce for the last several Tuesdays from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Mr. Barnhill was the only vendor for the first few markets we had. But now we are averaging three or four vendors for each market. Current offerings include blueberries, zucchini and yellow squash, cucumbers, onions, fresh flowers, tomatoes, honey and more. **Please support the Farmer's Market.**



## Activities and Events

Members and friends from WHPC were drawn to attend the gun control legislation rally after the Uvalde school shootings.

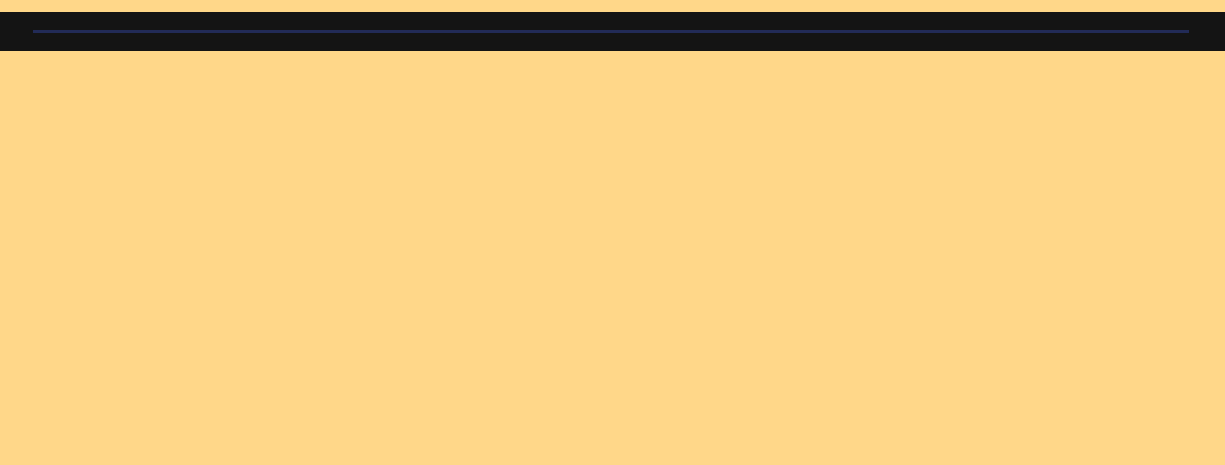




**MOMS**  
**DEMAND**  
**ACTION**  
FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA

**PASS GUN SAFETY  
LAWS NOW.**  
#DontLookAway | everytown.org

**DON'T  
LOOK AWAY.**  
Pass gun safety laws now.  
#DontLookAway | everytown.org









Nathan Thomas Akama Mills





Joely Thomas



Townley Frith



Madison Brooke Freiermuth

**Three Celebrations in One at WHPC**



## ***Graduates Honored on May 22***

Four high school graduates were recognized during worship on Sunday, May 22:

- Nathan Thomas Akama Mills, grandson of Christiana Esembe-Kuwong
- Madison Brooke Freiermuth, granddaughter of Nancy Passini
- Townley Frith, granddaughter of Charlotte and Charlie Frith
- Joely Thomas, granddaughter of Joy and Bobby Thomas.

Each graduate was presented with a small gift and a prayer by Liz Branch. Pictured below, from L to R, are Joely Thomas, Joy Thomas, Liz Branch, Rev. Robert Lowry, Townley Frith, Charlotte Frith, and Nancy Passini.



**"Hotdogs & Hallelujah" - The Choir is Singing  
Westover Hills Is Back**



A hotdog luncheon was served following worship in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, May 22; it was sponsored by our own Westover Hills Choir and supported by the Fellowship Committee. Delicious hot dogs with grilled onions, famously grilled by our own chef extraordinaire, David Austin, were served with chips, condiments, drinks, and dessert. Rejoice! Westover Hills is back!

Pictured below:

1st photo, Kay Stephens, Laura Whitmore, and David Austin

2nd photo - Nathan Mills and Christiana Esemekuwong







## Surprise Love Offering for David

David Austin has led Westover Hills through the 1st two years of the Covid pandemic, with its social distancing worshipers attending in-person services. He pressed forward with teaching himself how to navigate the world of virtual worship. Many assisted him to bring forth a virtual service that had not been attempted here before, but it was David, our organist/ choir director, who pursued this avenue of worship for us. WHPC surprised David with a “thank you” love offering on Sunday, May 22. Shown below, Nancy Passini and Tammy Pflug present David with the congregation's love offering of \$3,325.









## Fellowship

### **Ice Cream Supper, Sunday, July 3, 4pm**

WHPC members dusted off their ice cream recipes for their summer ice cream supper on Sunday afternoon, July 3, at 4pm, in the fellowship hall. Ice cream & cake,



cookies & watermelon were served...plus... attendees played "Patriotic Bingo," celebrating the 4th of July holiday! Nancy Passini called a variety of bingo games including regular bingo, four corner bingo and coverall bingo. Prizes were awarded for all winners, pictured in the center of the collage below: Bill Branch, Liz Branch, Nancy Carter, Pastor Robert, Gianna Garlington, Rico Garlington, Julie Naylor, Kay McCollum, and Marcey Berry.

In the other photos, in clockwise direction: Nancy Carter and Doyle Hughes; Charlotte Frith and Nancy Blackstone; Laura Whitmore and Betty Glenn; Tammy Pflug and Rosemary McGinnis; Donna Callaway and Jan Perryman; and Laura Whitmore, Betty Glenn, Nancy Carter, Doyle Hughes, Shirley Garlington, and Nancy Passini.





The Christian Education Committee is pleased to announce that the 2022 Cotham Lecturer will be Dr. Rachel Beard, who teaches theology and ethics at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond. Dr. Beard is a native of South Africa and draws on her knowledge of that country's history of racial oppression in her work on theological perspectives on justice, liberation, and freedom. Her appearance at Westover will take place on October 15-17 and will coincide with the use in worship this fall of a number of biblical passages on those themes drawn from the Narrative Lectionary.

Submitted by David Stricklin - Ruling Elder, Moderator of Christian Education Committee

## **Mission and Advocacy Committee**

### **Election Signs**

In the United States voting on issues and for candidates of one's choice is a privilege and responsibility. During the month of May, the M&A Committee of Westover Hills placed signs on the church lawn to encourage the community to exercise this right by voting in the May 24<sup>th</sup> primaries.



### **Produce Collection for El Zócalo**

The produce collection for El Zócalo on Thursday, May 26 was a phenomenal success! As a result of generous donations from WHPC, twenty-six families had the opportunity to cook with fresh produce that next week.

The response from WHPC members was an abundant amount of fresh carrots, squash, tomatoes, onions, bell peppers, and limes. Pastor Rob joined in the packing of food boxes at the center, housed at the Geyer Springs United Methodist Church.

Ordinarily, the food items in every box that is distributed come from the Arkansas Food Bank, for which El Zócalo has a \$5,000 annual budget. On the few occasions when produce is included, the shelf life is very short and there usually is not enough for each box. The high cost of food means that recipients of the food boxes must focus on



buying only necessities. Produce is a luxury for them. Our infusion of fresh produce provided healthier meals and happier tummies. If you are interested in volunteering to pack food boxes at El Zócalo on the second Friday of each month, please contact Alice Ahart at [Alice.ahart50@gmail.com](mailto:Alice.ahart50@gmail.com) or phone her at 501-400-4123.







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## Family Promise

The first week of June was Westover's week to cook evening meals for one family in the Family Promise program and temporarily housed in the Family Promise apartment in North Little Rock. The mom and her four daughters were delighted with the home-cooked meals and profusely thanked those who delivered the

food. Members of St. Paul Methodist Church teamed up with us to provide the meals.

## Women and Children First

During the summer months of June, July, and August, Westover provided fresh fruit for children who were sheltered with their mothers in the Women and Children First program in Little Rock. Donations to support this summer ministry were collected in envelopes, picturing fruit, that were placed in the church pews .

## The Box

WHPC Mission and Advocacy Committee is still collecting items for unsheltered people. We request warmer weather wear be donated and dropped off in the foyer in the church office, where a clearly marked sign indicates The Box. Place donations inside the box, which routinely is emptied and distributed for use by the unsheltered. You can drop off anytime throughout the year, as The Box will be an ongoing ministry. Suggested donations, for now, include blankets, hats, underwear, T-shirts, pants, socks (especially for women), and sunscreen.

## Preschool Update





Westover Hills  
PRESCHOOL.



## Preschool News

Summer Play Days are off to a great start. The kids love getting to see their old buddies and to make new friends. Recess is a big favorite, especially in the summer when the treat is popsicles.





## Donate to the Preschool

Do you shop at Kroger? Is your Kroger card linked to Westover Hills Preschool community rewards? (The bottom of your grocery receipt will show to whom you are linked.)

Kroger will donate \$.05 for every grocery dollar



that you spend to the recipient of your choice. Check it out by going to the Kroger website <http://www.kroger.com> and click on “rewards” to choose the Preschool to receive the Community Rewards bonus. It will not affect your discounts or gas points.

Last year Kroger donated \$199.41 to the Preschool; can you help increase that total? Your help is appreciated! Call Shawn Mittledorf at 501.666.0880 or Laura Whitmore at 501.416.5559 if you have questions.

Presbyterian Women

Incarcerated Program





Pizza, pizza? It may *look* good to eat, but what you see here is actually clay that the detention center kids colored with markers to make their choices of toppings.





Flowers and a heart-shaped bowl show that this young lady was thinking happy thoughts.

### **Incarcerated Update**

The first class to graduate from Sheriff Eric Higgins's CSI re-entry program will finish in June or early July. Presbyterian Women have offered Creative Writing classes along with Avita Yoga (by Katherine Shoulders and Janna Knight, who are with the AR Incarcerated Women's Project).

The women's class has read short stories and learned



new words to add to their vocabulary, and has also written short stories. The stories were often funny and one stood out for its poignancy.

The men in the Restore Hope Program have been reading ***The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life, Justice & Freedom***, by Anthony Ray Hinton, who served 30 years on Alabama's death row for a crime he did not commit. It has been a perfect discussion book that our students can readily identify with and share similar experiences. The men work to expand their vocabularies with new words taken from the book's chapters.

The teen art program continues at the Pulaski County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) twice a month through the summer months. If you or someone you know would be interested in volunteering for this program, please contact Kathy Rateliff at [aspasiacat@mac.com](mailto:aspasiacat@mac.com).

Recent projects have included graffiti (on rolls of butcher paper) and drawing a self-portrait (think Basquiat & Picasso, not so much Van Gogh).



In July, volunteer Nancy Passini taught the young people at the Juvenile Detention Center how to Speed Stack with 12 cups (an officially recognized Jr. Olympic Sport), “one that improves eye hand coordination and using the right/left hands together, follows a specific set of guidelines, and helps with being accountable for one’s decisions—and speed stacking is fun!”





Using special diffusion paper and colored markers, the JDC students tried their hands at the projects below, and everyone wanted to keep the art. Each young person has a storage space, so when they leave the JDC, they receive their art and other items that were inaccessible to them during their stay. The tables were lovely pieces of art that day, too! -- the colors bled through the paper and left a collage on the formerly plain, white-topped tables!





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Presbyterian Village

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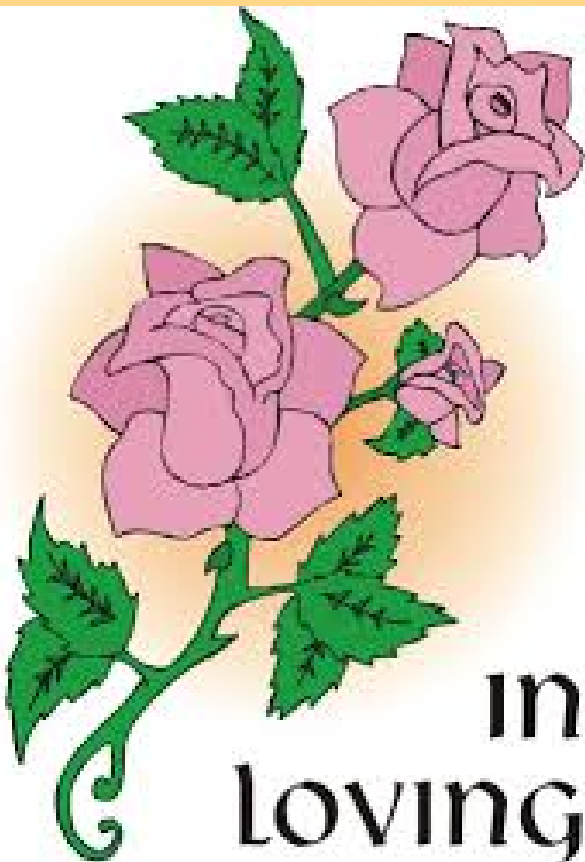
Only 5 more shopping months until Christmas! You can start your shopping early this year. Follow the QR code or link to see the Presbyterian Village Christmas Wish List on Amazon for our residents. The package will be sent directly to Presbyterian Village or you can browse the list, shop locally and drop off the gifts. Thank you for your support.

<https://a.co/fKeQdae>





## Honoraria



In  
Loving  
memory

*Memorials for May/June 2022*



## **Susan Campbell**

-Ann Bell

## **Sidney McCollum**

-Beth & Paul Eaton

-Betty Glenn

-Counts Morton

-Deanine Rogers

-Donna & Tommy Callaway

-Fred Harrison

-Rev. Don Campbell

-Idalene & William Lyford

-John Mac Leod for Bldg Fund

-Karen & Richard Arkin

-Kathy Rateliff

-Kay & Ray Stephens

-Kaye & Bill Nevins

-Liz & Rev. Bill Branch for PW Mission Fund

-Loyce & Harve Taylor

-Maggie & Bill Burton

-Robert & Nell Lyford

-Susan Ferguson

-W.P. King

-William E. McCollum, MD

-Charlotte & Charlie Frith for Bldg Fund

-Westover Hills Presbyterian Women

-Carolyn & Roy Nash

-Helen & Doyle Hughes

-Jack Browne

-Betsy & Cyril Hollingsworth

## ***Honor Gift for May/June 2022***

Robin Tutt's birthday

-Wild Card Canasta Club