Westover View Westover Hills Presbyterian Church September 2022



Back to School!

Pastor Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry



Dear Westover Family,

A constant in my life is the stack of "I really will read them one day" books on my bedside table. It grows and shrinks based on what else is going on in my life and how much time I have for leisure reading, but it never completely goes away.

I attribute my love of reading to my first-grade teacher at

Forest Park, Mrs. Smith. She was the very best that the Little Rock Public Schools had to offer in every way. She was a great educator, a kind presence for students, a demanding but not harsh teacher, and someone who took the time to encourage individual gifts and interests in her students. With me that was reading.

I fell in love with the written word as soon as I could decipher them from the page. Over the years my taste in books has changed a bit from *Robert the Rose Horse* and *The Digging-est Dog* to more challenging reads. I especially enjoy reading biographies and histories. People's stories fascinate me.

One of the gifts of ministry is getting to know a congregation by hearing their individual stories. Many of you have flattered me with visits to share your stories and I have been so grateful for that! There is real power in stories. Both telling our own and hearing another person's story is an invitation into mutuality and shared living. When we share our stories, we share part of ourselves and invite those around us into the unfolding tale of our lives.

This fall you will hear a lot about storytelling and narrative. September 11 we begin a new lectionary year for worship. Unlike many pastors, I do not follow the Revised Common Lectionary which runs from Advent to Christ the King Sunday following the feast and festival seasons of the church year. In my preaching I follow the Narrative Lectionary which begins in September and runs through Pentecost following the narrative arc of scripture from creation to new creation.

I like the Narrative Lectionary because it invites us to encounter scripture in a new way. Untethered from traditions and strictures imposed by the church, it draws us into the unfolding story of God in the world. It serves as a reminder that in a fractured world with so many walls built to divide us, one thing unites us now and always: the love of God for creation. That is the story we are invited to join as part of the body of Christ in the world and it is the story of each of our lives lived in the joyful company of God.

As we begin this new year encountering God's story, where are you being grafted onto God's tale? Where in the unfolding plot of God's story do you find yourself?

Where do you see Westover Hills as a congregation and community of faith contributing to God's story in creation?

As summer gives way to fall (soon we hope!!), my prayer is that we will all find ways to share God's story and our own because they are stories worth sharing!

Peace,

Pastor Robert

WHPC Session Notes

Stated Session Meeting, August 21, 2022

Moderator Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry opened the meeting with prayer. Membership changes since the June session meeting included the deaths of Patricia Ann Nordengren, Ray Dean Koone, and Kevin Robert Thomas.

Treasurer Tammy Pflug reported that WHPC and Texas Presbyterian Foundation (TPF) account balances for June were down; July numbers are better. \$1,055, over half of the requested amount, has been received for *Glory To God* hymnals. We are waiting for sale prices later this fall before making the purchase. Year-to-date pledge receipts are at 47%, as compared to an expected *pro rata* amount of 58%.

Session did the following:

• Approved use of the gym for Interfaith Dinner, September 18, 6-8pm – for Peace Week.

• Scheduled Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Mary Frothingham at 10am, October 8, 2022.

• Approved a "Christmas Potluck Luncheon" for Sunday, December 18, immediately following worship.

• Approved Alternative Christmas Market, 9-2pm on Saturday, November 12 and following worship until 2pm, Sunday, November 13.

• Heard that the Preschool, using grant funding, is painting the walls of the fellowship hall.

• Approved spending \$10,943.47 for sound system repair and upgrade; \$6,000 will come from the Property & Maintenance account and \$5,000 from memorial funds.

• Approved use of the gym for a private birthday party on November 26; session members will be present to offer hospitality.

Instructed the Preschool Committee to transfer
 \$20,000 from the Preschool account for the 2023 WHPC budget.

• Designated the first two weeks of November for Stewardship focus.

• Voted to call a congregational meeting following worship on September 4 to endorse the session's recommendation to reduce the session from 12 to 9 members.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by the moderator.

Called Session Meeting, August 28, 2022

Session received into membership of Westover Hills the following people:

• Katy and Jim Phillips, by transfer from Park Hill Presbyterian Church, North Little Rock

Kathy Mainard, by reaffirmation of faith.

Save the Date!



Wednesday, Sept 21

1:00-3:00pm online

Transforming Conflict from the Inside Out

Sponsored by the Presbytery of Arkansas Resource Team

In our homes, our churches, and our world we are experiencing so much conflict and so many divisions. Some of us are constantly battling and some of us never engage. It's exhausting. There must be a healthy way to engage and transform this conflict into relationship, but what might that look like?

On Wednesday, September 21 from 1:00 to 3:00pm the Presbytery's Resource Team is sponsoring an interactive

online workshop featuring the Rev. Theresa Latini. She will present basic skills for transforming conflict into mutual connection, collaboration, and creative vision. Based on the model of Nonviolent Communication, participants will enhance their competencies in speaking honestly, listening empathetically, responding to criticism with courage and compassion, and remaining resilient in the midst of communal conflict.

This workshop is for everyone, pastors, church professionals, ruling elders, and congregants. <u>Click here</u> to read more and register.

Thank you, Julie Price

Presbytery of Arkansas Connector 501-626-6477 julietannerprice@gmail.com

FALL TERM

\$65 PER TERM PER PERSON CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 19!

- In-person and online classes
- 46 classes to choose for one price!
- One-time proof of vaccination required for in-person attendance

Questions? CALL: 501-225-6073 EMAIL: info.lifequestofarkansas.org WEBSITE: lifequestofarkansas.org

Westover Hills Farmer's Market - 2022

The Sid McCollum Westover Hills Farmer's Market has offered fresh produce on summer 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 okra, zucchini and yellow squash, cucumbers, fresh flowers, tomatoes, honey and more. **Please support the Farmer's Market.**



Activities and Events

Treats and Treasures is officially over and someone is getting a free ride!



Westover's men worked hard to set up the event. (Mac Balkman (I) and Bob Quinn (r) are pictured placing tables.) Additionally, they picked up oversize items like furniture and brought it to the church. They were a huge help! They also fixed broken items to make them salable.

Stewpot Receives Grant

The Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance has

informed the Stewpot that our 2022 Pulaski County Hunger Reduction Initiative application has been approved.

TOTAL AWARD: \$8,000. For Protein (\$5,000) and Fresh Food (\$3,000).

The \$5,000 for protein can be spent on lunchmeat, cheese, ground beef, chicken, etc. The \$3,000 for fresh food can be spent on fresh fruits and vegetables.

Patty Barker from the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance (shown below with Stewpot Board Chair Charlie Frith) visited the Stewpot on Wednesday, August 10 and delivered a \$4,000 check to Stewpot Day Manager Nancy Howell and Charlie (shown in 2nd photo below). The remaining \$4,000 will be delivered in January.





Stewpot Receives Men's and Women's Underwear from Bombas

In August, the Stewpot received fourteen boxes of men's and women's underwear from Bombas. The boxes varied in size depending on their contents, and Charlie was able to get all fourteen boxes into his SUV for delivery to the Stewpot. The underwear included black T-shirts and briefs for both men and women. Our diners are going to be wearing the best underwear in Little Rock! The number received is shown below.



Item	Description	Boxes	Units
BLACK-M/L	Women's SS Crew Neck T - 60C - BLACK - M/L	4.00	240
BLACK-M/L	Women's Donation Seamless Hipster - 100C - BLACK - M/L	1.00	100
BLACK-M/L	Men's SS Crew Neck T - 50C - BLACK - M/L	3.00	150
BLACK-XL/XXL	Men's SS Crew Neck T - 50C - BLACK - XL/XXL	3.00	150
BLACK-M/L	Men's Knit Boxer - 100C - BLACK - M/L	2.00	200
BLACK-XL/XXL	Men's Donation Knit Boxer - 100C - BLACK - XL/XXL	1.00	100



Christian Education

Cotham Lectures

Christian Education Committee members are helping prepare for the 2022 Cotham Lectures, featuring Professor Rachel Baard of Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. For the first time since the pandemic started, the events will be in person, though they also will be available to persons elsewhere by live streaming.

Dr. Baard will speak first on Saturday evening, October 15, then in the adult Sunday school class and worship on the morning of the 16th, and again Sunday evening. She is a native of South Africa and one of the leading thinkers and writers on the intersections of Reformed theology and racial and ethnic reconciliation.

The Cotham Lectures are a highlight of the calendar of annual Westover events and a wonderful gift to the

community, both folks here in Central Arkansas and farflung friends of the congregation who will join us online.

Please save the dates now and tell your friends!

Mission and Advocacy Committee

Women and Children First

Fresh fruit was delivered weekly in June, July, and August to children temporarily housed at the Women and Children First shelter in Little Rock. Thanks to generous donations from Westover members, fresh grapes, bananas, tangerines, and apples were purchased from Sam's Club and delivered every Friday. The children and their moms looked forward to fresh fruit every weekend and made it last at least a few days.

Arkansas Peace Week

Arkansas Peace Week will be celebrated in Little Rock September $18^{\text{th}} - 24^{\text{th}}$. During this week organizations under the umbrella of the Arkansas Coalition for Peace and Justice will present activities designed to educate and promote peacemaking in our society and raise awareness of organizations working to build a lasting peace in Arkansas. The activities of the week are timed to coincide with the observance of the United Nations International Day of Peace. Two of the activities organized by Bob Estes are for school age children in grades 1 through 12. Children have submitted art work and essays focused on the international theme, "End Racism. Build Peace." Winners will be announced and prizes will be awarded at the State Capitol Saturday, September 24th.

Interfaith Meal at WHPC

Westover Hills' role for Peace Week this year will be hosting the Interfaith Meal on Sunday, September 18. We are collaborating with members from Congregation B'nai Israel and the Medina Institute about cultural food and displays representative of Jewish, Christian, and Islamic faiths. One hundred to one hundred and fifty people are expected to attend the meal and the evening presentations.

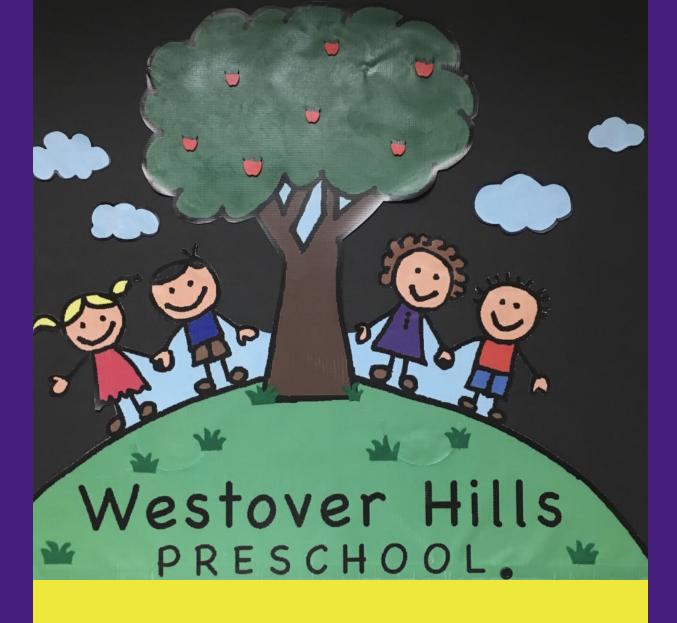
Vera Lloyd Pettus House Boys Go Shoe Shopping

Deverick Franklin, Lead Supervisor/Case Manager and Training Coordinator, from the Vera Lloyd Monticello Campus brought the boys to Little Rock on Wednesday morning, August 18th. 10 boys shopped at the Nike Factory Store in the Otter Creek Outlet Mall. Jocelyn Johnson, Marketing Coordinator from the Little Rock Office, and Charlie Frith from Westover Hills joined the group at the Nike Store. Each boy could spend up to \$100 for new shoes for Back to School. Most of the boys bought at least two pairs of shoes and a couple managed to squeak out three pairs.

Thanks to Jessica and Dion at Nike at Outlets of Little Rock! Everyone at the store was super helpful as we asked for price checks and then checked out altogether. They had a lot of patience and grace, which is always appreciated! This was all made possible by an extraordinary donor, and words cannot express our gratitude that we were able to do this for our kids! Thank you so much! You can't see it, but these boys were all smiles!



Preschool Update





Preschool News

The 2022-23 preschool year is officially in progress. We kicked off our first week back with staff readying our fabulous school to welcome parents and students back inside the building. We have been cleaning, organizing and planning.

We enjoyed the Meet the Teacher event on August 26th. And, we were thrilled to welcome our sweet little students on August 29th.





Preschool Parents and Children Meet Their Teachers

On Friday morning, August 26 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., the Preschool parents and their children were invited to the Westover Hills Preschool to meet their teachers and view the classrooms. Many of the parents had never been inside of the Preschool because of COVID. Members of the preschool board, Pastor Rob and several other Westover Hills members greeted the parents and directed them to the Fellowship Hall, where the teachers met the children and parents before they went to their respective classrooms.

Welcome to Westover Hills Preschool



Parents meeting teachers in the Fellowship Hall



Preschool Teachers with Ms. Shawn



Left to Right: Ms. Caroline, Ms. Jill, Ms. Jackie, Ms. Allison, Ms. Bri, Ms. Reagan, Ms. Jai, Ms. Destaney, Ms. Jessica

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

Treats & Treasures - From the PW Treasurer

It does take a village -- A big THANKS to all of the men, women and children who work so very hard to make our Treats and Treasures Sale a success. Moving furniture and preschool toys out and back into place, setting up and taking down tables, placing, pricing, cleaning, vacuuming, polishing, and washing all of the thousands of items. Checking out items to make sure they work and much more takes the full two weeks to get ready for our big sale. A special thanks to Betty Glenn and Mary Lois Stanfield for keeping us all on track and to Donna Callaway, David Austin and others for feeding the hungry workers. As of August 22 the current total for Treats and Treasures is \$20,918.43 with total expenses of \$2,255.44 - a net income of \$18,662.99. We still have some income and expenses coming which will change the final total.

God bless all who gave of their time and energy to work and to those who donated items for the sale.



Woo Pig Sooie!

Razorback fans cleared off this table full of Hog merchandise.



Can you see some lucky children singing "Margaritaville", while drinking their fruit juice in sippy cups?

Treats & Treasures - From the PW Board

What happens to an annual event when a Covid-19 epidemic strikes the entire world? You cancel it of course--for two long years. Treats and Treasures (T&T) made a welcome comeback in August, the first since 2019. Masking at events was encouraged but not mandatory.

The biggest change was skipping the Preview Party (we could not serve food and drinks because of the Covid-19 threat). The \$10.00 normally charged was reduced to \$5.00 and became an early shopping opportunity for bargain hunters. This busy shopping and perusing was a hit! Shoppers however, expressed hope that the Westover Hills Presbyterian Women (WHPW) would go back to serving food and drinks.

Chairs of the event, Betty Glenn and Mary Lois Stanfield, were pleased with the Friday crowd on August 12 and also with Saturday, August 13's "Big Sale" event from 7am-3pm. When the doors opened, shoppers in line were eager to find everything they needed or wanted! It was a steady stream of shoppers all day that helped our WHPW gross \$20,918.43.

Christmas items were a hot seller this year. So were tools, furniture, rugs, garden items, jewelry and toys.

Mary Lois remarked, "Coming from the desert of Covid-19, we welcomed a banquet of **Many and Much! Many** -• sofas, small appliances, jewelry, silver, pillows, hard hours, smiles and sore muscles! Add that to **Much** -• pleasure, in the fellowship and weight gained from donated food, and cooperation from Westover's men. It was a great sale to finance PW's mission projects. I was humbled as I saw our friends work so hard and long without a grumble. Thank you, everyone."

Betty added, "To the congregation and their friends who donated items or supported events with their attendance - a huge thank you! It takes all of us together to make this happen. Covid-19 closed us down for two years, but we are back and ready to go again. We grossed about \$20,900. Funds remaining after expenses will support the WHPW outreach/missions. This makes every moment spent on the project worthwhile (and we had so much fun, too)."

There are so many people to thank after a special event like this. And WHPW would like to give a special shout out and thank you to Westover's own Jann Greenland for the design/ graphics of the wonderful T&T flyer. We hope we don't leave anyone out, but we are grateful for all the work everyone has done to bring this together and make it a success. And we look forward to more years of T&T success.



Gardeners were pleased to see the gardening area, including a watering can, scarecrow, and flower pots.



Shoppers were stocking up early for the Christmas holiday!

Presbyterian Village

August 26, 2022

Dear Residential Care and Lodge family members,

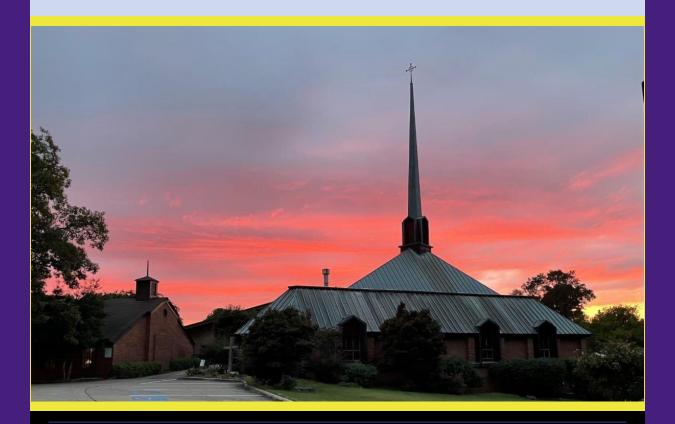
We wanted you to be aware that we had one employee and one resident that tested positive for COVID-19. All employees will be testing two times a week. Out of precaution, we will be testing Lodge and Residential Care Lodge residents on Monday.

You are welcome to continue to visit your loved ones, but please be aware that if you come inside the building, there is a risk you could be exposed to COVID.

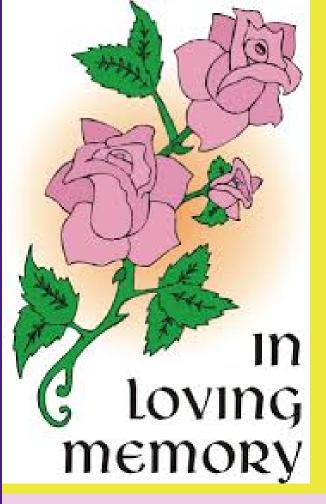
If you have any questions, please feel free to

contact <u>Dawn Yakoubian</u> or <u>myself.</u>

Sincerely, Chris Marsh Executive Director



Honoraria



Memorials for July/ September 2022

James Mauney

- -Georgianna King
- -Karen & John Flake
- -Carolyn, Roy & Amy Nash
- -Cherry Light
- -Mary & Thomas Devine
- -Nancy Schuster
- -Lindsey Allen
- -Ann Bell
- -Rosemarie Williams
- -Joyce & Bill Smith
- -Liz & Rev. Bill Branch, Building Principal
- -Donna & Tom Callaway
- -Phoebe Underwood
- -Sandra Mauney
- -Westover Hills Presbyterian Women
- -Alice Ahart
- -Rosemary Steely

-Betty Glenn -Mary Lynn & Ronnie Roberson -Nancy Carter -John MacLeod for Building Fund -Charlotte & Charlie Frith -Judi King

Ray Koone

-Joyce & Bill Smith -Adrienne Kulousek -Liz & Rev. Bill Branch -Betty Glenn -Westover Hills Presbyterian Women -Rev. Don Campbell -Digie & Gary Neaville -Susan & Jay Brainard -Julie & Wally Allen -Nancy Carter -Pat & Joe Runsicl -Frances & Sam Buchanan -Andrea & Jim Gary -Donna & Tom Callaway -Shirley Garlington -Eileen Joyce -Young Coffee Group -Ray & Polly Glotzbach -Charlotte & Charlie Frith -Alice Ahart

Sidney McCollum

-Joyce & Bill Smith -Shirley Garlington -Anne & David George -Westover Hills Presbyterian Men -Deanine Rogers -Betty Glenn

Pat Nordengren

-Betty Glenn -Westover Hills Presbyterian Women -Kay & Ray Stephens

Kevin Thomas -Kay & Ray Stephens for Building Fund -Westover Hills Presbyterian Women

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

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