WE WELCOME YOU AS WE WOULD CHRIST HIMSELF

NOVEMBER 23, 2014
9:30 A.M.

“Take a hard look at Jesus. He’s the centerpiece of everything we believe.”
(Hebrews 3:1 The Message)
TO OUR GUESTS: Welcome! Thanks for joining us for worship. More information about Westminster Presbyterian Church is available on the Welcome Table in the back of the Sanctuary. We encourage you to fill out the Friendship Binder found in your pew and please join us for coffee and fellowship in the Narthex after the service. Pastor Murry hosts “Welcome to Westminster” classes in the Spring and Fall for anyone considering church membership or who would simply like to learn more about Westminster Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA).

- Large print Bibles and bulletins and portable hearing aids are available from the ushers.
- Children’s activities, books and crayons are on the small table in the back of the sanctuary.
- All who wish may stand.

Gathering Song

“Forever” – insert
Timbrel & Lyre

Words of Greeting
Ruth 2:4
Hal Murry

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission “DACU Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service” Tom Stovall

* Greeting Our Neighbors

* Call to Worship
Lisa Fast

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord who is good.
People: God’s love is everlasting.
Leader: Come, let us praise God joyfully.
People: Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

* Hymn #559 “We Gather Together”


Leader: O God, all over the world Jesus finds the lost and dines with sinners.
People: All over the world are people like Zacchaeus, who only want a glimpse of Jesus, but then find their lives transformed.
Leader: The burden is on us now. Sometimes we are like those who grumble against Zacchaeus and resent Jesus’ invitation to “his kind.”
People: We confess that we think tomorrow Zacchaeus will be back to his old tricks, forgetting promises.
Leader: But in Jesus’ eyes, Zacchaeus has been born again.
People: Lord, forgive us when we fail to recognize that your love can change lives.
Leader: Enable us to respond to your surprising blessing, not our low expectations.
ALL: Amen
(Moment of silence for personal reflection.)

*Assurance of God's Forgiveness
Hal Murry

Children's Message
Hal Murry

Anthem
“Praise God For Every Gift”
by David Lanz III
Chancel Choir

Prayer for Illumination
Hal Murry

Sermon:
“The Gospel in Sycamore”
Hal Murry

Sermon Outline
Introduction: His primary mission was to peasants, but...

Today’s Scripture: Luke 19:1-10 (NRSV Bible)
1. Jericho: wealthy, balmy, fertile
2. Zacchaeus: rich corrupt, despised, spiritually hungry
3. The encounter: shocking, grumble-inspiring, life-changing

Conclusion: Still seeking and saving the lost

Scripture
19He entered Jericho and was passing through it. 2A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. 3He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. 4So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. 5When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.’ 6So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. 7All who saw it began to grumble and said, ‘He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.’ 8Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, ‘Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.’ 9Then Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. 10For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.’

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
**Anthem** (for lyrics see insert)  
“All I Can Do” by Mikes chair  
Timbrel & Lyre

*A Litany of Thanksgiving* - insert

*The Lord’s Prayer Sung*  
Repeat each stanza after Song Leaders  
Timbrel & Lyre

**Giving of Our Offerings**  
Please use this time to pass the Friendship Binder found at the inside end of your pew.  
Hal Murry

**Offertory**  
“Thanksgiving”  
by John Ness Beck  
Chancel Choir

*Doxology*  
“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”  
arr. by Steve Peake  
Timbrel & Lyre

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*Prayer of Thanksgiving*  
Hal Murry

*Hymn #473 vs. 1-4*  
“For the Beauty of the Earth”  
Hal Murry

*Blessing*  
Hal Murry

*Response #473 vs. 5*  
“For the Beauty of the Earth”

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**After Worship - Advent Workshop Kickoff**

Soup and Chili will be served in Fellowship Hall.  
Any money collected during the meal will go towards purchasing gifts for  
Operation New View.  
Youth and their families will explore Advent together during the Sunday School Hour in  
Fellowship Hall.
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Hal Murry, Teaching Elder
Custodian: Tim Till
Adult Choir/Adult Handbells: Pam Crawford
Band/Youth Handbells: Sally Stulken
Sunday Custodian: Teresa Miller
Greeters: Bud & Kay Monson
Marlyn & Joyce Bausman
Church Administrator: Mary Kay Pancratz
Financial Secretary: Nancy Kringle
Organist/Pianist: Beverly Nichols
Children’s Choir/Timbrel & Lyre: Karmella Sellers
Head Usher: Betsy Badger
Ushers: John & Pam Adams
Wes & Barbara Heitzman

WESTMINSTER LIFE AND MINISTRY:  NOVEMBER 23, 2014

Church Office Number: 583-1729 | Rev. Hal Murry: 563-580-4196

PRAYER REQUESTS:
- Dee Mosiman and family, Robert Carroll & Wally Hartman
- For healing for Gregg Marolf, musician for Tri-State Wind Symphony and plays tuba in our WPC band at worship services, who had a massive stroke and is in Iowa City.

If you would like to have your name on our Prayer Request list, please advise the church office (583-1729) or the Pastor.

FROM YOUR WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION:
A great estate plan is more than the transfer of assets to loved ones; it is an act of love for those individuals and organizations we deeply cherish.

Please contact John Adams about a FREE, confidential, estate planning

Snowbirds...
Help us to save on postage!
Please notify the office when you leave for a period of time, so we can either email or send the Hotline to your temporary address. Thank you!

Good news! Good News! Good News! Good News! Good News!
Sacred Space for 2015, with daily scripture readings and prayer points, begins with Advent on Nov 30th. The Great Emergence author Phyllis Tickle states that Sacred Space “is a rich and nourishing soul-companion for all of us. I am grateful for it and know that you will be, too.”
(Mention Westminster and receive a 15% discount for this purchase at River Lights Bookstore.)
FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP NEWS: As of November 20, estimated income for 2015 is 7% higher than 2014. “To God be the glory!” Thanks to this year’s Consecration Sunday Committee for a job well-done: Norma Smith (Moderator), John Adams, Rich Henderson, Karla Kaiser, Dick McMurray and Mark Oberhoffer. And thank you to our guest leader, The Rev. Dr. Mark Achtemeier.

AT THE NOVEMBER 20TH SESSION MEETING, Westminster’s governing council took the following actions:

- Approved a recommendation from the Church Property Committee to replace our existing, deteriorated church lawn signs. The new signs will be installed in the Spring and have a contemporary design.
- Approved a recommendation from the Membership and Records Task Force to remove 63 persons from the Active Membership roster.
- Approved a one-year contract with Hal Murry to serve as Westminster’s Pastor for 2015.
- Called a Congregational Meeting following worship on December 28 for the purpose of nominating and electing church officers.
- Warmly welcomed back to Westminster, Julie Woodyard, who is transferring from First Congregational Church, Elkader, IA. Julie was a Westminster member and church officer during the 1980s.

THE STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE will host this year’s final Open Forum after worship on November 30. Please plan to attend! Those present will be invited to envision a revitalized Westminster in 2020 and then to share what you would foresee being some of the revitalized church’s key characteristics. The Strategic Planning Task Force is working to develop mission and vision statements for consideration by the congregation. The statements will serve to guide Westminster’s ministry priorities in the years ahead. Task Force members include: Betsy Badger (Moderator), Merrill Crawford, Sue Dravis, Cameron Fast, Harriet Heitzman, Bonnie Sue Lewis, Ross Madden, Steve Peake and Susan Taylor.

Today at 4:00 p.m. at the Heritage Center

Dubuque Youth Symphony Orchestra Fall Concert
Featuring Concerto Competition Soloists, Sam Sykes and Sam Naumann playing “The Vivaldi Concerto for Two Cellos”

Tickets available at The Heritage Center Box Office. $6.00 Reserved Seating
32nd Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service
“Reflections on Gratitude”
Wednesday, November 26, 2014
Resurrection Catholic Church
4300 Asbury St.  7:00 P.M.
The speaker will be Rabbi Ann Persin. Music will be provided by Dr. Thomas Dickey. Join your neighbors for a service of song and thanksgiving! Remember that the offering will go to People in Need (P.I.N.) and is an important source of their funding.

You are also encouraged to bring non-perishable food and paper goods for the Dubuque Food Pantry.

INCLEMENT WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

To learn of any cancellations of worship services or events you can check the following:
1. The church website www.wpcdbq.org
2. You can listen to any one of these radio stations below:
   - KDTH 1370 AM
   - KATF 92.9 FM
   - "The Rock" 97.3 FM
   - "The River" 101.1
3. Watch KCRG TV, channel 9, they DO still post cancellations. (KWWL, channel 7 does not)

Note: This will be followed through ALL winter months and inclement weather times.

Westminster Youth will be practicing for the Christmas Pageant, shopping for gifts, and celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Saturday
December 13th
12:45 to 5P.M.

If you would like to order a Land’s End shirt with the church logo on it, see Lisa Fast.
The **SERRV** Shop is coming and we need volunteers to help run it.

**SERRV** is a nonprofit organization with a mission to eradicate poverty wherever it resides by providing opportunity and support to artisans and farmers worldwide.

"**SERRV** believes artisans and farmers around the world should have the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty and support their families through fair payments and respectful relationships. Every basket, every tablecloth, every necklace they offer has a face behind it-- an artisan who works in a safe environment, can send her children to school, and can save for the future with the reliable income she earns through fair trade."

We help with this mission by hosting a **SERRV** "shop" where these Fair Trade items are sold. We will open this shop to the public on two Saturdays and we are looking for assistance. *Dates we need help include Sat. Nov. 29 and Sat. Dec. 6.*

**We will also be open to the congregation on Sundays Nov. 30 and Dec. 7.**

Look for the SERRV SIGN UP sheets in the narthex.

As we've done in the past, please support **Heifer International** (www.heifer.org) as well as the **Presbyterian Mission equivalent program** at a table outside the Christmas fair trade market!

If anyone is interested in purchasing a chicken, a goat or a cow for people in need, this is the place! Both organizations offer the opportunity to provide gifts in this manner.

Please make checks out to the respective organization, NOT to Westminster. Thank you!

**They're free for the taking!**

**2014 Advent devotional books** entitled "Proclaiming the Good News of God's Peace" are on the little table outside WPC’s office for anyone interested in taking a copy.

Presbyterians that were on Sue Dravis’ April/May trip to Israel-Palestine wrote each of the daily devotions in the book. It was published by the national office of the Presbyterian Church by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.
Westminster Book Club’s next meeting is: TODAY - We will be discussing “Unbroken” by Hillenbrand. A story of an incorrigible delinquent, Olympic runner, cast-away in a life raft and prisoner of war in a Japanese torture camp – all the same person – Louise Zamperini. Everyone is welcome to join us for the discussion. We are meeting at 4:00 p.m. because it is a symphony weekend and we will probably go out to eat after we talk about the book. We will not meet in December.

January 18 – 3:00 p.m. “Songs of Willow Frost” by Ford
February 15 – 3:00 p.m. “Fever” by Keane

Westminster Guys
We meet for breakfast at Caroline’s Restaurant in the Hotel Julien on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting is Tues., DEC. 9th at 6:45 a.m. Please join us!

Standing in the Need of Prayer
Looking for more people to join......
A prayer group, for personal growth through prayer, to pray for each other and to give prayer support to our church, community, and nation…… Are you interested? If so, please e-mail Derek Pursey at dlpursey@mchsi.com, or phone him at 588-2644.

Women’s Bible Study
A group of women meet weekly in member homes to study the scriptures for the coming Sunday service. We are currently meeting on Tuesday evenings. If you are interested in being a part of this study, please call Karmella Sellers (563-663-2111).

Gift Giving Ideas for Christmas?

Give Scrip “Gift Cards”
to Stores, Restaurants, Movies, Gas & Groceries and more!

If there is something special you want, let us know, we can check in to it!

Holiday Scrip Order Forms and Vendor Lists are available to look over and/or fill out.
**THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER:**
**NOV. 23 THRU NOV. 30**

**Sunday, Nov. 23**
8:00 a.m. Timbrel & Lyre Rehearsal, SA
8:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Loft
8:40 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, FH
9:30 a.m. Worship – Rev. Murry Preaching
**10:45 a.m. Advent Workshop**

**Monday, Nov. 24**
5:15 p.m. Adult Handbell Rehearsal, LOFT
7:00 p.m. Troop 11 Boy Scouts, FH

**Tuesday, Nov. 25**
5:00 p.m. Youth Handbell Rehearsal, LOFT
6:00 p.m. Pack 20 Den Meetings, Classrooms

**Wednesday, Nov. 26.**
**HOTLINE DEADLINE**
7:00 p.m. DACU Thanksgiving Worship Service, Resurrection Church

**Thursday, Nov. 27**
THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED

**Friday, Nov. 28**
THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED

**Saturday, Nov. 29**
SERRV set up in Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, Nov. 30**
**SERRV Open Today**
8:30 a.m. Chancel Choir, Loft
8:40 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, FH
9:30 a.m. Worship – Rev. Hal Murry Preaching
**10:45 a.m. OPEN FORUM, SA, Ntx, WR, CR**
10:45 a.m. Youth CE, Classrooms
11:45 a.m. WPC Band Rehearsal, Choir Rm.

**Room Codes**

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THE DUBUQUE FOOD PANTRY is planning its annual **Christmas Basket Give Away**. Last year the Pantry was able to give out about 500 Food Baskets to needy families. They are asking for hams that range in size from 3-5 lbs. Also, they are in need of canned goods to put in the baskets, especially: stuffing mix, can fruit, soups, cranberries and brownie mixes. **Please have non-perishable items to the pantry by Dec. 3rd** so they can sort and pack them into the boxes.

Westminster has committed to donating 10 to 15 hams. If you are willing to purchase a ham to donate bring it in and we will store it here. Please let us know in the office if you bring one in. Hams should be here by Dec. 8th.

**Thank you!**

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**Troop 11 - 1st Annual Spaghetti Feed & Bake Sale**

Dinner includes: salad, spaghetti, meat sauce or marinara, garlic bread, choice of milk, water or coffee. Soda is available for purchase.

_Saturday, Dec. 6th 4:00 – 8:00 p.m._

Westminster Church Fellowship Hall

_Adults: $7.00  Children 3-12: $4.00  Ages 3 and under: FREE_

_Baked Goods for Sale_

All proceeds are used to purchase new equipment.

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**Operation New View CAA 40th Anniversary**

_Thursday, December 11th 6:00 to 9:00 p.m._

At Best Western Plus, 3100 Dodge St.

_Dinner and Program $25_

Menu: Rosemary Seasoned Roast Pork Loin or Pasta Primavera

_RSVP by Friday, Dec. 5th_

For more information call or email Amanda at 563-556-5130, ext. 14 or ahoehmann@operationnewview.org
Please join us for *Wondrous Night – Christmas at Heritage Center* in the acoustically unparalled John and Alice Butler Hall as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2014 – 7:30 P.M.**

This performance will feature the talents of the University of Dubuque’s Concert Choir, Wind Ensemble and Chamber Singers, along with special guests including the Dubuque Senior High School Chamber Orchestra.

$10.00 for adults and $5.00 for students.
UD faculty, staff and students are free with a valid ID.

For tickets; call 563-583-SHOW (7469), visit us online at [www.dbq.edu/heritagecenter](http://www.dbq.edu/heritagecenter), or stop by the Farber Box Office, Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

*We hope you can join us!*