

# March 2019

## From the Pastor:

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

Lucille McKenzie 3/01  
 Vince Manion 3/02  
 Tom Stocks 3/02  
 Annabelle Marwitz 3/04  
 Steve Halberg 3/04  
 Mike Wilson 3/05  
 Carolyn Harding 3/05  
 Leone Burger 3/05  
 Audrey Ukropina 3/06  
 Marie Nelson 3/06  
 Brooke Irvin 3/08  
 Miriam Aiken 3/10  
 Roxanna Trejo 3/11  
 Joanne Porter 3/13  
 Jan VanLente 3/14  
 Arlis Wozniak 3/18  
 Everett Dormer 3/18  
 Doug Schaaf 3/22  
 Mary Mills 3/24  
 Shirley Carey 3/24  
 Bob Mack 3/27  
 Keyte Hladky 3/27  
 Rebecca Hazen 3/28  
 Nancy McKaughan 3/28  
 Bryan Wickman 3/30  
 Cathy Martz 3/30  
 John Dinsmore 3/30

After finding members with birthday's on the same day, I wondered what the odds are? If there are just 23 people in a room, it is a 50% chance. But with 57 people, odds are 99%!

- Jim Mitchelmore

Dear Friends,

Lent will be starting soon. Ash Wednesday is coming up on March 6, and as it approaches, I've been reflecting on the season. When you think about Lent, what comes to mind? There are many things that we usually associate with the season of Lent. One of the first is giving up things for Lent. People may give up chocolate or alcohol or social media.

This year as I've been thinking about Lent, I've been thinking some about temptation. This may be because I plan to preach in early March on the text from Luke about Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, and what that means for us. Usually, when we think about temptation, we think about being tempted to do things we know are wrong.

However, I don't think most of us are going to be tempted to doing things like murder or steal or commit violence. Instead, I've been thinking more about a temptation that is very common in our contemporary life, and that is the temptation to not focus on God in our lives, or to forget about God most of the time, or to not trust in God.

Modern life is so busy and complicated, and it's a real temptation to forget about slowing down and remembering that God is with us. I once heard a phrase that has stuck with me ever since I heard it. The phrase is "functional atheist". I've heard it described different ways, but the basic meaning is someone who may even say they believe in God, but whose life displays little to no evidence of them believing or trusting in God.

Our modern temptations echo those faced by Christ in the wilderness. With each of the three temptations he faces by the devil, Jesus is tempted to pull away from his trust in God, his focus on God, his reliance on God. Jesus is able to resist these temptations, and that serves as a guide for us during Lent of staying focused on the presence of God in our lives.

My prayer for all of us in this Lenten season is to remember God's central place in our lives. There are lots of good ways to do this. Come to worship, where we pray, listen, sing, learn, and connect with God and other Christians. Come to a Sunday School class. Volunteer. Pray. Continue with your Meet the Bible devotional readings. Come to our mid-week Lenten services which happen on Wednesdays at noon all through Lent.

Remember during this season that it is only God who can truly feed us.

Peace,  
-David

## MID-WEEK LENTEN

### PRAYER SERVICE

*Once again, we will offer Lenten Prayer services on Wednesdays during Lent.*

*Come worship God and spend time in prayer, song and scripture. It is a wonderful way to ground ourselves in our faith during the season of Lent. Come as you are and find a time of stillness and reflection. These are designed to be short so you can come on your lunch hour. The first one will be on Ash Wednesday, March 6th and will include the imposition of Ashes.*

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*Ash Wednesday Worship, March 6, 2019—Two opportunities: Noon prayer service with the imposition of ashes and 7:00 PM with communion and the imposition of ashes*

# PANCAKE SUPPER

Westminster's Choir would like to invite you to their Annual Pancake Supper located in the Fellowship Hall on March 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:00pm. Pancakes, eggs, ham and beverages will be served. Gluten-free options will be available. This is a free event, with all donations going towards Special Musicians. Bring your family and friends and join us for a great meal, friends and fun!




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## Sponsors Overview

On February 10, we were set to have a presentation from Sponsors during coffee hour. Unfortunately, there were mixed signals and the presentation did not occur. To make up for this, a YouTube presentation was made especially for Westminster. You can access this very informative presentation at:  
<https://youtu.be/nSv6cfRbzS0>

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# SAVE THE DATE

## CROP WALK FOR HUNGER RELIEF

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28<sup>th</sup> "EARTH SUNDAY"**

**An easy one mile walk, starting in Westminster's parking lot, through safe, nearby streets, ending back at our Church EVERYONE- old and young, men and women, girls and boys, families and youth, even infants in strollers and well-behaved dogs**

**Plan now to get sponsors and TAKE STEPS to end hunger in Lane County and beyond**

## **MARCH YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:**

**Mar. 3: The Youth will be hosting Coffee Hour to show off their new Youth Room at 11:00am (Youth Room) Youth Group to meet after**

**Mar. 17: Youth Group at 5:30pm (Youth Room)**

## **MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

Did you know the church has medical equipment to lend? There are wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and shower seats available. These items have been graciously donated by church members. We will no longer stock medical supplies such as sterile sponges or catheters. At this time, we do not need any additional equipment.

**A two-week adult class will be offered after worship on March 10 and March 17 on the topic of Grief. Our society often struggles to understand grief and support grieving people. We don't know what to say, we don't know if their grief process is "normal," we worry when people don't "move on" fast enough, and sometimes we say hurtful things. Please join Sher Castro, Sacred Heart Hospice Bereavement Coordinator, to learn how adults and children grieve and the best ways to provide support. Questions? Call Sher at 541-255-5928.**

### **Earth Care Congregation 2019**

Good news! PCUSA has recertified Westminster as an Earth Care Congregation, one of PCUSA's several stewardship and justice ministries through the PCUSA Hunger Program. You can be part of this ministry, too! Check out the links below to find out more. Want to be part of one of our projects? Come to a Westminster Creation Care meeting, usually same night as Session meetings, 5:45 p.m. Contact Karen Keady, [keady8709@comcast.net](mailto:keady8709@comcast.net) for more information.

PCUSA Environmental Ministries works to inspire and equip congregations and presbyteries to work for eco-justice for all of God's earth. Environmental Ministries produces, promotes and distributes faith-based environmental resources for individuals, congregations and presbyteries as well as coordinate the Environmental Ministries Action Network, a communication network for Presbyterians involved in earth care in their churches and presbyteries. Environmental Ministries also oversees the Earth Care Congregations program, which encourages Presbyterian churches to care for God's earth and certifies those that have affirmed the Earth Care Pledge and taken holistic actions in earth care in the fields of worship, education, facilities and outreach. Additionally, this office helps PCCCA and Presbyterians for Earth Care to support young adults interested in becoming Eco-Stewards and relates to Presbyterians for Earth Care, an Eco-Justice network dedicated to environmental wholeness with social justice, seeking to be a prophetic voice for substantive change in the church and in the world. Learn more about these programs and getting involved on the Environmental Ministries website. For other Presbyterian Hunger Program ministries, go to <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/#tab-1>.



**Westminster Presbyterian  
Church**

777 Coburg Rd.  
Eugene, OR 97401

**Phone:** 541-343-3140

**E-mail:** [office@WPCEugene.org](mailto:office@WPCEugene.org)

Find us on:

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/wpceugene](http://www.facebook.com/wpceugene)

**Instagram:**

@westminsterpres\_eugene



We're on the Web!

**REMINDER:**

**The 3rd SUNDAY of  
each month is our  
SHOPPING CART  
SUNDAY for: FOOD  
FOR LANE COUNTY**

**Please remember to  
bring in your  
canned and boxed  
food items. Every  
donation is very  
much appreciated !**



**February 3<sup>rd</sup> was our Annual Souper Bowl of Caring Drive where the Youth Group collected over 330 cans of soup AND \$138 to be donated to: FOOD FOR LANE COUNTY. Thank you to everyone who helped by donating cans and money.**

