



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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February
News Deadline:
Friday January 12TH



Mark your Calendar Now!
Upcoming Events at Westminster

Sun. Dec 24	Christmas Brunch, Carols, Movie Clips	9:45 AM	Theatre
Sun. Dec, 24	Christmas Eve Service	7:00 PM	Sanctuary
Sun. Dec, 31	Guest Speaker; Heather Johnston	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
Wed. Jan, 3	Table Games	3—4:30 PM	Harris House
Thu. Jan, 4	Literature Class	9:30 AM	Library
Sat. Jan, 6	Prayer Shawl Knitters	10-Noon	M. Harris' Home
Sun. Jan, 7	Guest Pastor: Chris Lenocker, Communion	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
Tue. Jan 9	Westminster Community Garden Council	1:30 PM	Theatre Lobby
Tue. Jan, 9	Session	7:00 PM	Theatre
Thu. Jan 11	M3, Brunch	11:30 AM	The Broken Yolk
Mon. Jan 15	Office & Preschool closed; MLK, Jr. Holiday		
Sun. Jan 14	Guest: Steve Peters	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
Wed. Jan, 17	Table Games	3-4:30 PM	Harris House
Sat. Jan, 20	Gala Evening of Celebration & Giving	6:00—8:00 PM	Theatre
Sun. Jan 21	Guest: Art Bollinger	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
Sun. Jan 28	Guest: Don Worley	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
Sun. Jan 28	Congregational Meeting	11:30 AM	Theatre
Sat. Feb, 3	Prayer Shawl Knitters	10—Noon	M. Harris' Home
Sun. Feb, 4	Souper Bowl of Caring, Arrival: Pastor Megan	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
Wed. Feb, 7	Table Games	3-4:30 PM	Harris House

Every Week

Adult Seminar
Sunday 8:45 AM

Worship Services
Sunday 10 AM
Wednesday 6:30 PM

Westminster Presbyterian Church, San Diego

www.westminstersd.org

Westminster News

Nonprofit Newsletter
Published Monthly

January Volume 1



Pastor's Message:

Hello dear Westminster community!

What a joy it is to be writing my first of what will hopefully be many pastor's columns for you all. My family and I are anxious to make our way out to you all and call San Diego and Westminster home. There is so much to look forward to as we begin our journey together!

Right now, I especially love that we get to begin our journey together during one of my favorite times of the Christian calendar: the season after epiphany. Epiphany is the celebration of God's self-revelation in the world through Jesus...or a less theologically complex way to say it: Epiphany is when we celebrate the Magi recognizing just how important Jesus is to the world! Christmas is when we celebrate Jesus' birth and Epiphany is when we begin to really let it sink in that this baby is God in the flesh. God is here with us! What a beautiful thing! And thank goodness we get six Sundays after Epiphany Sunday to unpack what that might actually mean and hopefully shed some light on how God continues to be revealed to us in our lives.

In the ancient world epiphany always had to do with the "appearance" or "manifestation" of God (from the Greek epiphaneia or theophaneia). But, the word epiphany is also connected to the origins of the word for sunrise or dawn. Light is an especially important symbol during this time for a couple of reasons. First, it is the light of a star that guides the Magi to baby Jesus. But, also because Jesus is God's bright light entering the world in a new way. How beautiful that this season is connected to nature in the actual increasing of light that we experience every year at this time and is also connected to the nature of Jesus as God's self-revelation in human form.

Now, in modern times, we know the word epiphany to mean a realization or a discovery: a breakthrough. How beautiful it would be for us all to connect the ancient roots for this word with its current definition and reflect on how God is breaking through into our lives even today! With all of the noise from the news, the violence that seems to be ever increasing, the divisive nature of our country...it seems we need God to break through into our lives more than ever. So, thanks be to God that Epiphany comes every year and we get to join the Magi in pulling back the layers of our lives enough to recognize that God is real and God is with us, now and always.

May epiphanies abound!

Megan

Birthdays

Lara Haine	01
Kelly Nytes	01
Melanie Morgan	03
James Scrimgeour	03
Rob Hoadley	08
Anton Schmid	14
Libby Walker	16
Terri Poulos	16
Victoria Stegall	17
Peter Seligman	18
Karen Lampard	21
Simone Tontini	22
Tom Wilson	25
Steve Allman	31
Gail Burkett	31

Support A New Sound System

David Brauner is providing a musical path to a new sound system! Support this new sound system for Westminster Sanctuary.



Purchase David Brauner's new release, *No Man's Land* and your \$10 will be donated to this project. This music is upbeat and the message is timeless!

Volunteer to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship services. The flower chart is in the lobby. Take a few minutes to fill in your name this Sunday.

Worship In January

December 31, 2017	Heather Johnston	Radical New Beginnings	Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12
January 07, 2018	Chris Lenocker	A Gift To Give	Jeremiah 29:4-7; Romans 12:1-8
January 14, 2018	Steve Peters	Spiritual Captivity	Isaiah 43:1-3; Hebrews 11:1-3
January 21, 2018	Art Bollinger	So What's The Question?	Mark 12
January 28, 2018	Don Worley	Begone, Satan!	Genesis 1:24-25; Matthew 4:5-10

Gala
An Evening of
Celebration & Giving

Save the Date
Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 6 to 8 PM, Vanguard will hold a Gala Fundraising evening to raise funds to continue our outreach ministry into the community and provide a no fee theatre experience to children.

Making A Difference ~ Jerry Monroe



Jerry Monroe serves in Session and is elder responsible for stewardship. He is dedicated to Westminster and its continued success. You will find his touch as you view photographs in our lobby, attend Vanguard productions, listen to the Westminster Chancel Choir and review the financial section of our annual report. His energy and creativity are limitless!

Jerry tells us that his "Mom, Dad and the grandparents were all Mormon farmers. They lived in Utah right against the Idaho border. So did I until I was 6 years old. Then we moved to Ogden, a big city of 20,000. My formative years were spent there and then off to the Ivy League, Columbia University in NYC. After that there were 4 years in the USMC followed by 3 years in law school and

35 years in practice in San Diego. Along the way I was blessed with a lovely wife, 4 wonderful children and 7 grandchildren (so far). I am retired to my great loves, the theater and photography."

Jerry's commitment to serving at Westminster is demonstrated in his tireless devotion to the Westminster Vanguard Ministry, Session and stewardship activities. He has directed several Vanguard shows, built stages for many shows along with providing photographs and recordings of the shows for Westminster's Vanguard library. In 2015 Jerry Monroe received an Aubrey Award for Best Major Actor in a drama at Onstage Playhouse for his work in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* where he portrayed five different characters, each with a different British accent.

Jerry Monroe has been a photography enthusiast his whole life, building his first darkroom at age 11. As a father of four, he practiced law as a profession but continued photography as a serious hobby—building another 6 darkrooms in his lifetime before he switched to digital. Retired from law, Jerry is delighted to engage full-time as a portrait and wedding photographer and videographer, starting a wedding photography business with his youngest daughter, Stephanie as well as working regularly in photography and videography for local churches, community theaters and musical organizations.

Jerry remains an inspiration and fine example of how, doing what you love, opens doors for you to serve your Lord and your community.

Westminster Presbyterian Preschool & Church Office are closed Monday, January 15, 2017 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

SESSION NOTES

Session meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the library. All congregation members may attend but only current session members have voice and vote.

Pastor Deb opened the meeting in prayer and reflection on Matthew 25:23 from the parable of the talents.

Bill Hodgkiss gave the PNC report, Megan is cleared to moderate the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 28 and session. Her installation will be sometime late February or early march.

We spoke a long time about communications, emails and that our emails to each other should be kinder. Care will be taken to consult and post on the online calendar, with the understanding that not everything for the year is planned out way in advance.

Our first budget discussion and financial look indicates that we will finish "in the black" this year, but next year will be a challenge and likely mean moving funds from accounts that are restricted to our operations budget. Jerry agreed to take a look at the wish list and reprioritize where prudent.

We closed in prayer and a laying on of hands for Deb and what God might have in store for her.

Literature Class
Thursdays @ 9:30 to Noon, Library
Winter Break: December 21 & 28
Spring Semester begins, Thursday February 1, 2018

Westminster's Vanguard Ministry Presents



Table Games ~ Harris House.
3-4:30 PM
Resumes January 3rd.



Westminster Presbyterian Preschool

December 22—January 1 ~ Winter Holiday Break
Classes begin Tuesday, January 2, 2018

Contact Information

Pastor	619-223-3193
Events/Clerk, Marilyn Thoman	619-208-7872
Dir. Music, Pam Monroe	619-216-8679
Treasurer, Kari Shenk	619-223-3193
Website, Shawn Sickler	619-223.3193
Office, Suzanne Carlson	619-223-3193
Vanguard, David Pearson	619-823-3873
Vanguard Box Office	619-224-6263
Christian Education, Sarah Robinson	619-223-3193
Members, JoAnn Landis	619-223-3193
Mission, Peace & Justice, P. Johnston	619-823-5427
Ministry Support, Lesley Pearson	619-997-3873
Worship, Becky Wieder	619-223-3193
Building & Grounds, Don Evans	619-223-3193
Stewardship, Jerry Monroe	619-216-8680
Park, Marcy Bergqvist	619-224-4727
Personnel/Relationships, C. Berridge	619-226-6704
Preschool, Deb Batchman	619-224-7403

M³ Brunch, 11:30 AM, Thursday, January 11th The Broken Yolk 3577 Midway, 92110.
RSVP Wynette Traphagen at, 619-224-4355.

Join this fun luncheon!

Making All Things New

Westminster Community Garden Council will meet Tuesday, January 9th at 1:30 in the Westminster lobby. The Westminster Garden Leadership Council includes: Lori Blankski, Manager; Elfi Segal, Heather Crellin, Haley Tuthill and The Murrays (Abby & Alan).

As outlined in Westminster Community Garden Policies the WCG Leadership Council will manage the garden and assume specific responsibilities described in the policies.

The new council members are a consequence of Fred Gestra moving to Oregon and each new council member is eager to begin this new adventure!

