



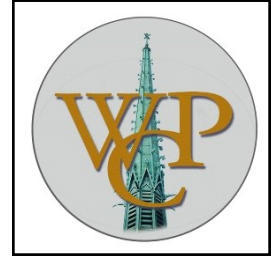
# CHIMES - November 2025

Westminister Presbyterian Church

<http://www.wpclynchburg.org> (434) 847-6655

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Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska



Grateful

Before we were able to breathe, summer flew by, then September and now even Halloween and all the gut busting candy is in our rear-view mirror. But before you start listening to the 24/7 Christmas music or you put the Hallmark Channel on the TV and get your fill of Christmas movies, or you start grabbing your Peppermint Mocha Lattes at Starbucks or Joe Beans, we must not forget to pause and give thanks.

Most of us live our lives constantly on the go. We must schedule time to visit with family and friends. We go to the supermarkets stressed out, with lists longer than our budgets. As

a society, we feel even more stressed out now than at any point in our history as human beings. More is demanded of us at our jobs and in our lives. Yet, even in the midst of our chaos, and whatever it looks like, we are called by God to give thanks, to set time aside to pray, not just for our daily bread and need of strength to get through each day, but to give praise and thanksgiving to God for all that we do have, and all who are in our lives. This is an integral part in being a child of God. If you are familiar with the Words of Institution when we celebrate Holy Communion, we are urged to give thanks every time we break bread, “Jesus then took the loaves, ***gave thanks***, and distributed them...”

So, as we follow Jesus I want to give thanks. I give thanks to God for all of you, for all the members of the church since it was founded that have maintained it as a place of welcome and love. I give thanks for all the session members as they continue to hear God’s call in leading the congregation in its growing future. I give thanks to all the members who wouldn’t want to be named or recognized publicly because they do what they do because they love our Lord tremendously. I thank you and give thanks to God for all of you who have been connected to WPC. I give thanks for all the ways we attempt to showcase Jesus’ radical, boundary breaking, non-judgmental love with our community, embracing the least, welcoming the stranger, loving all as we have all been loved by God.

*“Enter with the password: “Thank you!”*

*Make yourselves at home, talking praise.*

*Thank him. Worship him.*

*For God is sheer beauty,*

*all-generous in love,*

*loyal always and ever.”*

Psalm 100:4-5 (The Message Translation)

May the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you until we meet again. - Pastor Shawn

Greetings from the Session's Stewardship and Finance Committee,

Traditionally, fall has been the time Westminster has focused on stewardship and all the ramifications of stewardship recognizing the joys of the blessings of time, talent and resources shared the previous year.

*“Stewardship is rooted in our gratitude to God  
a gratitude that doesn't expire as the leaves fall from the trees.”* Elder Olanda Carr, Jr.,  
Presbyterian Foundation.

The year past (2025) and the year ahead (2026) have been and will be exciting months for Westminster. Tremendous changes have transpired from the date of Westminster's first worship service at 1022 Floyd Street in March, 1926.....to the date of the Statement of Mission (1978)..... to the upcoming Centennial Celebration, Sunday, March 22, 2026

*Statement of Mission*

*Through Jesus Christ, God calls His people in every age to love and serve Him. He sends His Spirit upon the Church and anoints Christians to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to witness to the presence and power of the Kingdom of God, to speak the truth in love, and to build up the Body of Christ. (Luke 4:18,19; Ephesians 4:13,15)*

*Our Lord, Jesus Christ calls us, a congregation drawn from many geographic sections of our city, at this time and in this place to minister in His name to the needs of all persons. Christ commissions us to minister daily to those in our congregation, in the inner city of Lynchburg, in our neighborhoods, and at our places of work and play. He also commands us to give of our resources to minister through others to the whole world.*

*Adopted 1978 Westminster Presbyterian Church*

In light of the Biblical directives, the commissioning of Westminster to carry out ministry in His name and a vision for the future, the Stewardship and Finance Committee is requesting your pledge of support this year to be **at least** the amount pledged in 2025. If you are so moved and **able** to increase your pledge even slightly, it will allow Westminster to increase the benevolences. **On Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**, pledges will be received during worship and the pastor will offer a special prayer of thanksgiving for those received and those yet to arrive. If you are unable to attend worship on November 23<sup>rd</sup> you may also mail your pledge to the church using the enclosed envelope. The 2026 proposed budget reflecting the pledges received will be submitted to Session for approval in December.

How **has** Westminster honored the Mission Statement written forty-seven years ago? How **will** Westminster **continue** to honor the Mission Statement of 1978 in 2026?

With God's guidance and your generosity the ministry, outreach and worshipping community of Westminster Presbyterian Church will not only remain but..... flourish.

In Christ's service,

Allen Hamblen, Elder

Chair of the Stewardship and Finance Committee



*Our Centennial Celebration!*

*Save the Date: March 22, 2026*



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## **WPC @ WC!**

Over the past few months, I've reflected on ways I can connect more with our WPC members at WC and one of the ways I'm planning is to have a quarterly worship service at WC.

Please join me in the Westminster Canterbury chapel on Sunday, November 9th at 1:30pm for a Sunday worship service that will feature Scripture, prayer, a message and communion!

The service will be open to anyone interested in attending, but I wanted it specifically for us WPC family and friends.

I've already coordinated this date and time with Chaplain William over at WC and this service will be an additional worship service at WC that Sunday. I will still be here at the church for our 11am worship service but then will head over to WC afterwards to prepare for the 1:30pm service there.

So, if you come to hear the sermon at 11am and didn't catch it all, you can show up at WC at 1:30pm to hear the rest!

I hope to see you there.

Pastor Shawn



## UPCOMING EVENTS!

**Sunday, November 2**

### All Saints' Day Service

We will honor our passed Saints on the first Sunday after all Hallow's Eve. Please join us for this meaningful remembrance of all the Saints who've joined with our Father in Heaven.

### Thanksgiving Day!

The day to remember to be grateful for the Plymouth Colony pilgrims and the Native Americans who helped them to survive, lead by Squanto, is approaching! On **Thursday, November 27th**, the church office will be closed, as we all enjoy a time for gratitude and food with family and friends.



### First Sunday of Advent

On **Sunday, November 30th**, we will light the first candle of Advent. Advent devotional materials will also be offered for kids, families, and seniors. Please peruse what is available and choose what best fits your needs this Advent Season.

### Committee Meeting

Worship and Enrichment Committee will meet on **Sunday, November 9th**, after worship service at **12:15 PM**. It will be a relatively short meeting to finalize Advent proceedings.

### Hanging of the Greens

To begin our Advent Season, we will again be hanging our Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Please come at **9:30 AM on Saturday, November 29th** to hang wreaths, garland, and Chrismons on our tree. We will also set out the Nativity Scenes that so many donated to the church and enjoy fellowship with one another!

Coffee, fruit, and pastries will be provided, and all your favorite carols will provide the soundtrack for the occasion!

### Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be for sale again this year. The sign-up sheet is outside the office. Please indicate the number of plants you would like to take home after Christmas Eve service, and pay for the plants you order prior to Lessons and Carols to ensure we order the appropriate number.



# Revelation Bible Study at Westminster Presbyterian Church

## Continuing through November

Over the course of the next year, we will dive deep into the Revelation of John, the last book of the Bible, a book too often misquoted, mis-interpreted to invoke fear—judgement with wild imagery. Rev. Eugene Peterson, the Presbyterian minister who wrote The Message translation of the Bible, saw the Book of Revelation, not as a literal text meant to predict the future, but rather a Biblical text that invoked one's imagination of the previous sixty-five books read in the Bible.

Join us this year as we delve into the Revelation and expand our imagination. During the study we will read the Biblical text itself alongside Peterson's book Reversed Thunder: The Revelation of John & the Praying Imagination. The Study will begin in October, and the group will meet for one hour each week— **Tuesday nights, 5.15 to 6.15 PM**. There will also be a Zoom option for those who cannot make it in person to the church.

**Hope to see you there!**

### **Tuesday Nights 5:15 PM —6:15 PM**

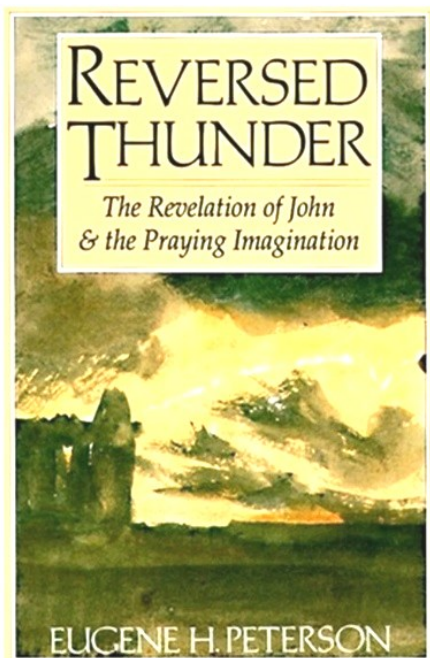
- ✓ **October 14**—Introduction & Chapter 1—Famous Last Words
- ✓ **October 21**—Revelation 1:1-11/Chapter 2—The Last Word on Scripture
- ✓ **October 28**—Revelation 1:12-20/Chapter 3—The Last Word on Christ
- November 4**—Revelation 2 & 3/Chapter 4—The Last Word on the Church
- November 11**—Revelation 4 & 5/Chapter 5—The Last Word on Worship
- November 18**—Revelation 6 & 7/Chapter 6—The Last Word on Evil
- December 2**—Revelation 8 & 9/Chapter 7—The Last Word on Prayer
- December 9**—Revelation 10 & 11/Chapter 8—The Last Word on Witness
- December 16**—Revelation 12,13,14/Chapter 9—The Last Word on Politics

**January 20**—Revelation 17 & 18/Chapter 10—The Last Word on Judgement

**January 27**—Revelation 19 & 20/Chapter 11—The Last Word on Salvation

**February 3**—Revelation 21:1-22:5/Chapter 12—The Last Word on Heaven

**February 10**—Conclusion/Chapter 13—The Last Words



# November 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>2 21st Sunday After Pentecost Communion</b>                      Scripture: Hab. 1:1-4, 2:1-4 and Ps. 119:137-144; Isa. 1:10-18 and Ps. 32:1-7; 2 Thess. 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson                      Ushers: Greg &amp; Irene Hoag                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Charlie Ross                      Liturgist: Pix Mahler                      Communion Prep.: Irene Hoag                      Communion Servers: Sharee Evans, Joe Slette, Chris Harris</p>	<p><b>3 Lunch Bunch</b>                      12 at Westminster Canterbury</p>	<p><b>4 Bible Study</b>                      at 5:15 -6:15</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>1 Saints Day</b></p>
<p><b>9 22nd Sunday After of Pentecost</b>                      Scripture: Hag. 1:15b-29, and Ps. 145:1-5, 17-21 or Ps. 98; Job. 19:23-27a and Ps. 17:1-9; 2 Thess. 2: 1-5, 13-17; Luke 20: 27-38                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson                      Ushers: Chris &amp; Val Harris                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Joe Slette                      Liturgist: Ashley Thulin                      Worship and Music will meet at 12:15</p>	<p><b>10 PW Circle @</b>                      11:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>
<p><b>16 23rd Sunday After Pentecost</b>                      Scripture: Isa. 65:17-25 and Isa. 12; Mal. 4:1-2a and Ps. 98; 2 Thess. 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Angela Hart                      Ushers: Jimmy Reed, Wilbur Duncan                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Charlie Ross                      Liturgist: Joe Slette</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b>                      Blessing Place                      10 a.m.—1:00 p.m.                      Community Thanksgiving Dinner 5:30</p>
<p><b>23 Christ the King</b>                      Scripture: Jer. 23 1-6 and Luke 1:68-79 or Ps 46; Col. 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson                      Ushers: Chris &amp; Val Harris                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler                      Liturgist: Ashley Thulin</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b>                      No Bible Study</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b>                      Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b>                      Hanging of the Greens at 9:30 a.m.</p>
<p><b>30 1st Sunday in Advent</b>                      Scripture: Isa 2:1-5 and Ps. 122; Rom. 13:11-14; Matt 24:36-44                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Rachel Harris                      Ushers: Ashley &amp; Byron Thulin                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Joe Slette                      Liturgist: Joe Slette</p>						

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**1022 FLOYD STREET**

**LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24501**



**November 2th 21st Sunday After Pentecost Communion**

Scripture: Hab. 1:1-4, 2:1-4 *and Ps. 119:137-144*; Isa. 1:10-18 *and Ps.32:1-7*; 2 Thess. 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson  
Ushers: Greg & Irene Hoag  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Charlie Ross  
Liturgist: Pix Mahler  
Communion Prep.: Irene Hoag  
Communion Servers: Sharee Evans, Joe Slette, Chris Harris

**November 9th 22nd Sunday After of Pentecost**

Scripture: Hag. 1:15b-29 *and Ps.145:1-5, 17-21* or Ps.98; Job.19:23-27a *and Ps. 17:1-9*; 2 Thess.2: 1-5, 13-17; Luke 20: 27-38

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson  
Ushers: Chris & Val Harris  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Joe Slette  
Liturgist: Ashley Thulin

**November 16th 23rd Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture: Isa. 65:17-25 *and Isa.12*; Mal. 4:1-2a *and Ps.98*; 2Thess. 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Angela Hart  
Ushers: Jimmy Reed, Wilbur Duncan  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Charlie Ross  
Liturgist: Joe Slette

**November 23rd Christ the King**

Scripture: Jer. 23 1-6 *and Luke 1:68-79* or Ps 46; Col. 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson  
Ushers: Chris & Val Harris  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler  
Liturgist: Ashley Thulin

**November 30th 1st Sunday in Advent**

Scripture: Isa 2:1-5 *and Ps. 122*; Rom.13:11-14; Matt 24:36-44

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Rachel Harris  
Ushers: Ashley & Byron Thulin  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Joe Slette  
Liturgist: Joe Slette