



CHIMES October 2026

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska



According to Richard Rohr, spiritual disciplines are not rigid rules to earn God's love, but simple daily practices that quiet the ego and awaken us to the sacred presence already hidden inside us and the world. These practices connect us deeper with God, further aligning our souls with God's, illuminating our journeys in this life with markers of the divine. Christians for generations have filled their lives with spiritual disciplines including but limited to prayer, worship, Bible reading, service, fellowship, contemplation, fasting, journaling, walking, and more. There is one though I'd like to offer as a spiritual discipline not talked about often enough, being the spiritual discipline of generosity.

According to Presbyterian Pastor, Rev. Karl Travis in his book, "God's Gift of Generosity" he writes, "*Generosity is an ancient spiritual discipline. Disciplined and intentional generosity is foundational. It is the bedrock of other time-tested and ancestor-approved spiritual practices.*" He goes on to write, "*A congregation's generosity program is about so much more than meeting the church's budget. There is nothing more singularly liberating in this culture, our culture, than to give something up, to sacrifice, and then to discover contentment in doing so. In a cultural climate that teaches us to cling, it is truly a subversive act to release. It is countercultural. It is an act of complete intellectual and spiritual rebellion to say, 'No, I will not hold this to myself. I will instead sacrifice it for a larger purpose. I will set it aside for more holy use. This is the central message of the gospel and should therefore be the centerpiece of our teaching of generosity. ... Generosity – giving, sacrificing, risking, trusting, sharing – generosity describes a spiritual discipline whose committed practice emboldens our trust in the One who owns our abundance. We are to give because it is good for us.'*"

As we approach this fall season, a season in the life of the church where we evaluate our resources, the key one of which is our time, I invite you all to embrace generosity as a new, or a renewed, spiritual discipline. Examine the resources, all of that you have, and take the chance of giving them away to someone or something greater than yourself. Giving away your time to checking in on someone, or visiting someone, or breaking bread or mailing a card, or giving time to a charity to volunteer, or even the church, or even evaluating where all of the resources at your disposal are going. May generosity no longer be considered something that we do, but a description of who we are.

Peace, Pastor Shawn

October Birthdays

2 Ann Allen
 4 Jeff Evans
 4 Bob Gibson
 12 Ben Rolison
 19 David Oliver
 23 Sam Smith
 24 Sarah Hyska



Add To Prayer List

Reverend Bill Russell was Westminster's former pastor who retired 10 years ago. He has had a stroke. Please include him and his wife, Joyce, in your prayers.

If you wish to send them a card of love and support, please address it to the following location:

Bill and Joyce Russell
 18505 SE 30th Way
 Vancouver, WA 98683

Kathleen Smith
 501 VES Rd, H-429
 Lynchburg, VA 24503
 Maymie Keys
 R&P at Liberty Ridge
 30 Monica Blvd. Unit 305
 Lynchburg, VA 24502
 Eloise Peters
 501 VES Rd, H-428
 Lynchburg VA 24503
 Queen Webb
 C/O The Summit
 1300 Enterprise Dr.
 Lynchburg, VA 24502
 Barbara Taylor
 R&P at Liberty Ridge
 30 Monica Blvd. Unit 344
 Lynchburg, Va. 24502
 Becky Maxey
 57 Beech Avenue
 Hamilton, NJ 08610
 Nancy & Wilbur
 Duncan are currently homebound
 while Wilbur recovers from a fall.
Please remember our home-bound members.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 3rd
 Peaks Presbytery Presbyterian
 Women's Gathering will be at
 Westminster!

Please join us for a wonderful day filled with the Fellowship and Good Works of our Presbyterian Women. Registration starts at 9:30 AM. We will have lunch and meetings about all the ministry work being completed by our Eve descendants! Contact Betty Oliver if you have questions!

Rally Day: A Celebration of our Youth and Years of Education and Service



New Beginnings This Fall!



The fall is always a very busy time! Kids start back to school, seasons and times change, and holidays galore fill up the calendar.

This year, along with the incredible kickoff to our Christian Education season with Rally Day, the kids all graduated to the next year in school, and Eliana continues in Preschool. The Thulin and Harris kids have begun a new season of dance with the Red Shoes Dance Academy.

Even more amazing, Valarie Harris graduated from small business owner to large business owner! Val created Peaceful Paws and ran it out of her home. Now, with much success, she has needed to expand and recently opened the Dog House! A brick-and-mortar home on Timberlake Road where she can board and care for the beloved canine companions for Lynchburg and the surrounding areas.

Congratulations to our youth and Val!

Baby Shower



We were able to host a celebration for Nicole Reed and her expected little girl, Charlotte. She had an incredible outpouring of support from family, friends, and this congregation! Thank you to all who set-up, brought food, and bought gifts! Our thoughts, prayers, and love are with you all: Nicole, Jane, Jimmy, and Nancy!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



From the Congregational Care Committee;

On behalf of the Congregational Care Committee, we hope you are enjoying your birthday card. We are updating our Master List and need your help.

If you are not receiving a card. Please send your name, address, phone number (mobile or landline), birthday, and email. This is for members and non-members – you are part of our family: Don't be shy!

- If you are already receiving a card, please send your updated name, address, phone number, and email.
- Please send information to Nancy Duncan (Master List), 2837 Depot Road, Rustburg, VA 24588, 434-316-2776. I will forward the corrections to those who are sending cards.

Many thanks to those sending cards. I think we have an excellent system and group that is efficient and dedicated:

Sharee Evens: January, April, July, October

Mary Ellen Sydnor: February, May, August, November

Nancy Duncan: March, June, September, December

I KNOW THIS INFORMATION CAN BE PUT ASIDE; I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE MASTER LIST COMPLETED BY NOVEMBER.

Thanks so much,

Nancy

CC: Sharee Evans, Chairman, Congregational Care Committee

Stewardship Season Luncheon

Sunday, October 11th

Westminster usually has Covered Dish Luncheons with food prepared and brought to share when we gather for fellowship.

HOWEVER

On Sunday, October 11th, Westminster will be having a Prepared Luncheon.

MENU

Baked Ham	Baked Sweet Potato
Roasted Chicken Breast	Green Bean Casserole
Hot Buttered Corn	Broccoli Salad
Macaroni and Cheese	Pineapple Casserole
Bread	Lettuce Salad Mix
Stuffing	

Dessert Choices To Be Determined

Adult Sunday School
Study of Romans
Schedule

The Foundation of the Gospel

- September 27th: The Gospel as the Revelation of the Righteousness of God ([Rom. 1:1–17](#))
- October 18th: God's Righteousness in His Wrath against Sinners ([Rom. 1:18–3:20](#))
- October 25th: The Saving Righteousness of God ([Rom. 3:21–4:25](#))

New Life In Christ

- November 15th: Hope as a Result of Righteousness by Faith ([Rom. 5:1–21](#))
- November 22nd: The Triumph of Grace ([Rom. 6:1–7:25](#))
- November 29th: Life in the Spirit ([Rom. 8:1–39](#))

God's Promises Fulfilled

- December 13th: God's Promises to Israel ([Rom. 9:1–33](#))
- January 10th: God's Righteousness in His Plans for Jews and Gentiles ([Rom. 10:1–11:36](#))

Responding To the Gospel

- January 17th: Living in Light of the Gospel ([Rom. 12:1–13:14](#))
 - January 24th: The Extension of God's Righteousness through Mission ([Rom. 14:1–16:23](#))
- February 14th: Final Summary of the Gospel of the Righteousness of God ([Rom. 16:25–27](#))

October 2026 Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 3rd—Peaks Presbytery Presbyterian Women Gathering
at WPC. Registration begins at 9:30 AM.

Sunday, October 4th—World Communion Sunday

* No Sunday School!

Monday, October 5th—Lunch Bunch meets at 12:00PM

Tuesday, October 6th—Session meeting in the Board Room at 5:30PM

Saturday, October 10th—Evening Blessing Place Event 4:00-7:00 PM

Sunday, October 11th—No Sunday School!

Stewardship Luncheon Immediately after Service

Monday, October 12th—Presbyterian Women will meet at 11AM

Sunday, October 18th—Sunday School at 9:30 AM in the Board Room.
Romans 2-3:20

*Worship & Music Meeting at 12:15 PM

Saturday, October 24th—Blessing Place Event 10:00AM - 1:00 PM

Sunday, October 25th—Sunday School at 9:30 AM in the Board Room.
Romans 3:21-4:25

Saturday, October 31—Andrea Reed's Birthday!

* All Hallow's Eve!

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1022 FLOYD STREET
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24501

October 2026



October 4th 19th Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Ex. 20:1-4,7-9, *and Ps 19*; Isa. 5:1-7 *and Ps. 80:7-15*; Phil.3:4b-14; Matt 21:33-46
Communion
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson
Ushers: Ashley & Aidan Thulin
Liturgist: Byron Thulin
Counters: Pix Mahler & Hoc Hughes
Communion Prep. : Martha Wilson
Communion Servers: Chris Harris, Joe Slette, Ashley Thulin

October 11th. 21st Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Ex. 32:1-14 *and Ps. 106:1-6, 19-23*; Isa. 25:1-9 *and Ps. 23*; Phil 4:1-9; Matt. 22:1-14
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson
Ushers: Carter & Kyle Miller
Liturgist: Mary Sue Childress
Counters: Pix Mahler & Hoc Hughes
Stewardship Luncheon After Worship Service

October 18th 20th Sunday after Pentecost
Ex 33:12-23 *and Ps. 99*; Isa: 45:1-7 *and Ps. 96:1-9 11*
Thess.:1, 1-10; Mat.: 22:15-22
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Angela Hart
Ushers: Wilbur Duncan, Jeff Evans
Liturgist: Chris & Val Harris
Counters: Pix Mahler & Hoc Hughes

October 25th 22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture : Deut.: 34:1-12; *and Ps. 90:1-6, 13-17*;
Lev: 19:1-2, 15-18, *and Ps1*; 1 Thess. 2:1-8;
Matt. 22:34-46
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson
Ushers: Lucy & Joe Slette
Liturgist: Ashley Thulin
Counters: Pix Mahler & Hoc Hughes