



Westminster Presbyterian Church

125 N. Wilkinson Street • Dayton, OH 45402
www.westminsterdayton.org

Service for the Lord's Day – May 17, 2026

“All we can say is that the transition has occurred, that there is a beaten path that lies before us, linking our physical existence to an existence in the presence of God which lies beyond its conditions. We cannot see the path – the cloud which hid Jesus on the mountain-top is a veil for that which cannot be comprehended from below – but we know that the path has been taken, and that we are to take it too.” - Oliver O'Donovan

CARILLON PEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Chaconne

Louis Couperin

Air

Giuseppe Tartini

(During the Call to Worship in Music you are requested to enter into a time of silence, actively opening your spirit to God's presence in your midst.)

INTROIT - “Rise, Children, Gonna Praise the Lord”

Spiritual, arr. Michael Burkhardt

Lift up your voice and sing.
Rise, children, gonna praise the Lord!
Praise now our God and King,
Rise, children, gonna praise the Lord!
Rise, children, gonna rise, gonna rise.
Rise children, gonna praise the Lord!

Calvin Choir

*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP IN WORD

The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please greet your neighbor with a verbal greeting or enthusiastic wave.)

*HYMN 478 - “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Lauda anima

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church and into the common life of Westminster Presbyterian Church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (Children are welcome to come forward)

Leader: Now, as the whole body of Christ, let us confess our faith together.
Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Leader: Ziyel has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism.
God has made him a member of the household of God,
to share with us in the priesthood of Christ.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you
into Christ's family, where we love God and neighbor,
grow in faith, share in ministry, and abound in steadfast love.

HYMN (all sing) - "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

**Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.**

Dennis

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Hal H. Hopson

O God, by your Spirit tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do to obey Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON - Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Pew Bible, pp. 529-530 OT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM - "Walk as Children of Light"

Terry D. Taylor

Who will shine in the darkness?
Who will shine in the night?
Who will shine in the darkness?
Who, who will walk as children of light?
(stanza one is repeated)

Once we were lost in the night.
Now in the Lord, we are light.
Let our light bear fruit of all that's right and true.

Come now, shine in the darkness,
Come now, shine in the night.
Come now, shine in the darkness.
Come now, let's walk as children of light!

Calvin Choir

(Children in Pre-K - 2nd grades will leave the service at this time.
An adult leader will be in the Narthex to escort them to their room.)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON - Acts 1:1-14

Pew Bible, p. 118 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Caitlin T. Deyerle

The Next Right Thing

"They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers." - Acts 1:14

***HYMN** (see page 11) "Let Us Build a House"

Two Oaks

(Children in Grade 3-8 will leave the service at this time. An adult leader will be in the Narthex to escort them to their classrooms.)

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

ANTHEM - "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Irish hymn tune, arr. Edward Bairstow

The King of Love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
And gently on his shoulder laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

-metrical paraphrase of Psalm 23

SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN 288 - "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"**

Ellacombe

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE** (all sing) - "Bless the Lord" (From Taizé liturgy)

Jacques Berthier

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

arr. Michael Burkhardt

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Welcome to our new members: Michael and Gayden Akhbari and their children Margaret and Anne, Rubi and Ky Castle and their son Ziyel, and Cynthia and Al Bertleff

Today we celebrate the baptism of: Ziyel Castle son of Rubi and Ky Castle

Music Participants: Westminster Choir - Genesis Singers (ages 4 and 5 preschool - Hilary Toerner, Director) - Cherub Choir (grades K-2 - Rachael Boezi, Director - Kathy Clark, Pianist) - Calvin Choir (grades 3-6 - John Neely, Director - Christi Wilson, Pianist) - Leah Scholl, Soprano - The Reverend John Neely is Organist-Director.

Today's Music: "God's Love Is Everywhere" was composed by Westminster Choir member Kathy Clark.

The hymn "Let Us Build a House" was introduced to the congregation last October as part of our stewardship emphasis. Although it was written for a church dedication, the text is not about a physical structure but a spiritual one. The building is at best only a vessel for the essential love and hope, life and faith, peace and justice, hospitality and nurture that form the worshiping community.

"Let Us Build a House," text and music by Marty Haugen, text and music © 1994 by GIA Publications, Inc., is reprinted under CCLI License #2287801.

"Bless the Lord My Soul," ©1998 by Ateliers et Presses de Taizé Community, France, published in North America by GIA Publications, Inc., all rights reserved, has been reprinted by permission.

Choirs for children today

Children's Choirs will meet in regular rehearsal rooms for end-of-year parties.

Today concludes the season for Genesis Singers, Cherub Choir, and Calvin Choir.
Rehearsals will resume on Sunday, September 13.

Genesis Singers (4 and 5 year olds, Pre-Kindergarten) - Hilary Toerner, Director

Cherub Choir (grades K-2) - Rachael Boezi, Director

Calvin Choir (grades 3-6) - John Neely, Director

Knox Ringers and Knox Choir have concluded rehearsals.

Rehearsals will resume on Sunday, September 13.

Knox Ringers (grade 7-12) - 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m..

Knox Choir (grades 7-12) - 5:00-6:00 p.m., Sundays

Youth Fellowship groups follow.

Noonday Organ Recitals scheduled for Thursdays in May have been canceled due to continuing organ renovation and building construction.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Infants and Toddlers, Room 108 (Infant - 3 years old), are cared for from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 108. Parents of infants will be contacted via text by the nursery staff in case immediate communication is needed while they worship in the Sanctuary. During the worship hour, children take part in an activity and enjoy a snack.

Classes for children and youth today. New members are welcome.

Pre-K - 2nd Grades:

10:00-10:20 - Worship with family in the Sanctuary

10:25-11:30 - Sunday School

Pre-K & K, Room 101

1st & 2nd grades, Room 103/105

3rd-8th Grades:

10:00-10:40 - Worship with family in the Sanctuary

10:45-11:30 - Sunday School

3rd & 4th grades, Room 109

5th-8th grades, Theater

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

Welcome Visitors: We are so glad to welcome you to worship with us today! Whether you are just passing through or looking for a new church community, we hope you feel right at home. At Westminster we believe that Jesus welcomes all people, just as they are, and so do we. We understand the life of faith to be a journey that is better walked together than alone. Following worship please join us for Coffee and Conversation in the Fellowship Hall, or join one of our Sunday School classes. We hope you will explore the bulletin as well as our website www.westminsterdayton.org to learn more about us. Please leave us your name and contact information in the Friendship Pad so we can get to know you as well! Grace and peace to you. -Westminster Pastoral Staff and Congregation

The Reverend Richard Baker is away on vacation this weekend for a triathlon in Indiana.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The flowers in the Chancel are provided by Don and Jackie Nowak in gratitude for Kylie Hettinger and the entire Children's Ministry Team for another great year of children's programming.

If you are interested in donating Chancel flowers, please contact Kay Berg (bergkay07@gmail.com or 937-367-9297). Please note that there is a one month lead time for flower donation announcements.

Emergency Response Team: Sean Hearrell, Scott Spangler

During the service, if you notice someone who appears to require medical attention, please raise your hand or contact the head usher. Emergency Response Team members will care for the person.

If you have a security concern please notify the head usher who can connect you to our security personnel.

Each week the churches of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley keep one particular congregation or group in their prayers. This week the churches are praying for **Corinth Presbyterian Church, Dayton.**

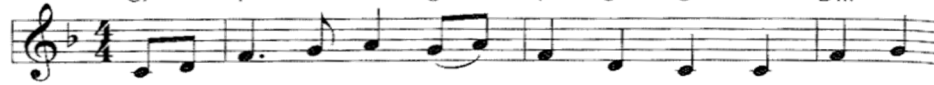
Westminster is a praying church and we would love to pray for you. You are welcome to **add your prayer to our Prayer Wall**, located in the Sanctuary near the front on the east wall. You will find paper and pencil to write your private prayer to God and place it between the bricks of the wall.

If you have a prayer request you would like to share with our **Westminster Prays weekly email**, please use the Prayer Request Card in the pew rack and place it in the offering box following worship. You can sign up to receive the Westminster Prays email and share prayer requests or other pastoral needs directly with our pastoral staff by emailing caitlin@westminsterdayton.org or calling 937-907-6078.

Members currently known to be in the hospital: Stan Shinkle (Soin Medical Center - NO visitors please)

Let us Build A House (All Are Welcome)

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
 C7 F C F B^b C Dm



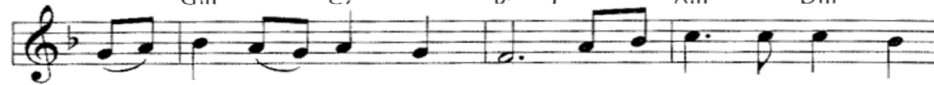
1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
 2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
 F C F Dm7 Gm C



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
 strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
 wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
 wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
 vi - sions heard and loved and trea-sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
 Gm C7 B^b F Am Dm



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

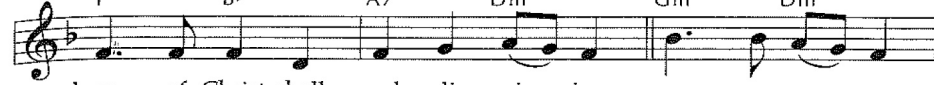
(Em) (A) (D) (G)
 Gm C F B^b



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Refrain

(D) (G) (F#7) (Bm) (Em) (Bm)
 F B^b A7 Dm Gm Dm



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D) (A7)
 Am Gm F Gm C7 F B^b F (C7)



all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

Meet Our New Members



Akhbari

Michael and Gayden Akhbari have been attending Westminster for a little over a year now, and are excited to become official members, with their daughters Margaret and Annie. Both moved to the Miami Valley in 2019 - Michael returning to the area where he was raised, and Gayden arriving for the first time. Gayden is a nature and reading enthusiast, whereas Michael enjoys traveling and golf.



Bertleff

Al and Cynthia Bertleff have enjoyed Westminster Presbyterian Church's choir and the fellowship the church provides. They both enjoy singing; Cynthia is a member of the choir here at Westminster and Al is a tenor with the Bach Society of Dayton. Outside of music, they both enjoy reading and gardening.



Castle

Ky and Rubi Castle, with their son Ziyel are new to Westminster, having moved to the Miami Valley area in late 2024 from California. Ky serves at Wright Patterson Air Force Base and in their free time they both enjoy grabbing a coffee at 7 Brew. They are interested in getting to know the Westminster congregation and theology better.

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Covenant Gathering

Register by June 7

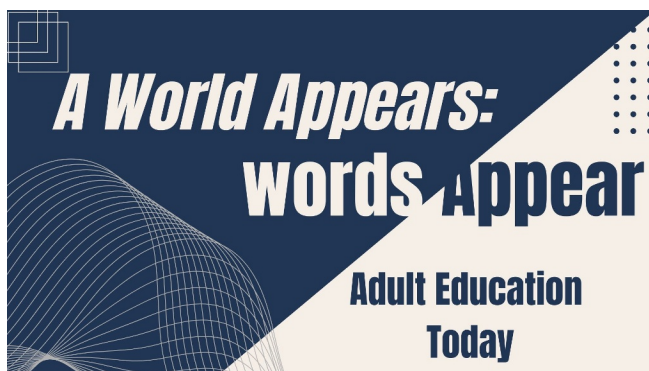
If you would like to attend the upcoming Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Covenant Gathering 2026 (July 24-25), please use the QR code for details and to complete the registration form. Print a copy and take it to the Church Office no later than June 7, noting that it should be placed in the WPW Treasurer's box. Using scholarship funds, WPW will cover your registration fee. The WPW Treasurer will then submit your registration package for you.

A banner with a dark purple background and a decorative border of colorful books. The text is in white and pink.

**NEW DIRECTIONS
FOR HOLY
QUESTIONS**
Parents Fellowship

Parents Fellowship Class Today, 11:30 a.m., Room 211

Our Parents Fellowship Class is exploring a new resource for families to talk about faith together. Each week we will discuss a lesson from the book *New Directions for Holy Questions* by Claire Brown and Anita Peebles. After sharing some insights as a group we will send you home with a copy of the week's lesson to discuss as a family. No advanced preparation or reading required!

A banner with a dark blue background and a white wireframe graphic of a globe. The text is in white and blue.

**A World Appears:
words appear**
Adult Education
Today

Adult Education Today, 11:20 a.m., West Parlor

Join us this Sunday for a thought-provoking class led by Sarah Kiewitz. This class will explore ideas about words' relationship to thought from Michael Pollan's new book, *A World Appears*, relating it to the contemplation of Scripture through the practice of Lectio Divina.

Earth Stewardship Workday at Kirkmont

Saturday, May 23



Join us for the Earth Stewardship workday at Kirkmont on May 23, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We'll be departing from Westminster at 9:00 a.m. and arriving at Kirkmont by 10:00 a.m. Transportation will be provided by bus from the church, but you also have the option to drive yourself. Please RSVP to let us know if you plan to ride on the bus and so we can plan for the right number of participants. Upon arrival at Kirkmont, a small snack will be available, followed by a presentation

on the camp's history led by Drew Statt. Afterward, we'll enjoy a 1/4 mile hike to the Fen on the property. A salad bar lunch will be provided before we begin our work projects, which include planting, invasive plant removal, and other tasks to be determined. We'll conclude the day by departing Kirkmont at 2:00 p.m. to return to Westminster by 3:00 p.m.



The Garden Table will be in Fellowship Hall this Sunday! Bring surplus items to share, or make a donation to the hunger fund in exchange for a variety of good things from the good earth. Plants of many varieties are available just in time for planting.



Intergenerational Mission Trip 2026
June 28 - July 3
Cost: \$250

Westminster will be sending an intergenerational team to do flood relief in eastern Kentucky. The trip is open to anyone over the age of 16 (14 & 15 with an adult partner). We will be staying at the First Baptist Church in Hazard, KY, and working with the Housing Development Alliance. Eastern Kentucky is in the long-term recovery phase but is also living

with the ongoing disaster of poverty. At this time, we are asking each participant to fill out a skills assessment so that we can let our work partners discern the best projects for us to assist with. There will be additional online forms to fill out closer to the trip.





Bring your family, friends, neighbors, and Presby groups! Tickets are \$30 per person located at the Dragon's Lair. Food and drinks are included and all attendees receive a hat and tee shirt.



MADD Day Camp at Westminster Music, Art, Drama, Dance

Registration is open for those entering grades 2-7 (as of fall 2026). Enjoy choir, handbells, dance, drama, Christian education, and art. The cost for the week is \$100 per camper.

For more information and to register: visit www.westminsterdayton.org/madd-camp.

T-shirt size preference guaranteed for those who register by June 29.

Questions? Contact Camp Director, [Kylie Hettinger \(kylie@westminsterdayton.org\)](mailto:kylie@westminsterdayton.org).



Join us either in-person or virtually as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. You are encouraged to wear red in honor of this day.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated.



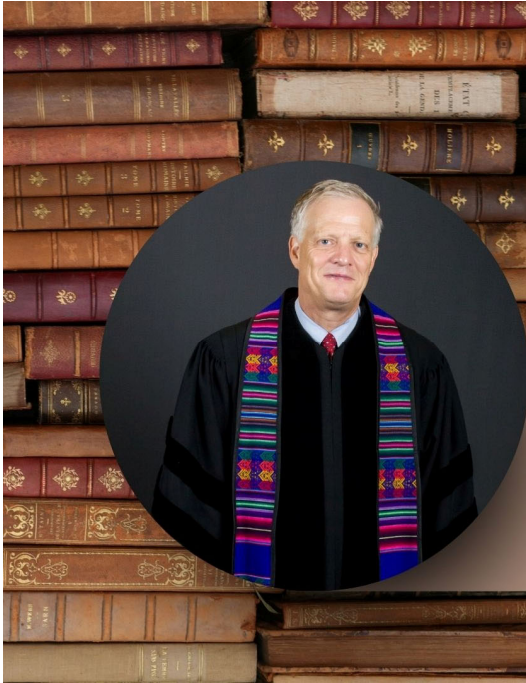
Did you lose track of your favorite mittens over the winter? Wonder where your golf umbrella went? Perhaps you never found where you dropped your precious commemorative Coca-Cola bottle cap earring? Then check out the lost and found clear out in the Narthex today! It's your last chance to look for your lost treasures before left over items are donated.



All are invited to sing in our drop-in, no-excuses **Summer Choir**, which begins on Sunday, June 14, and continues every Sunday through September 6. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Choir Room and prepare anthems on the spot to sing at the 10:00 a.m. service. You do not have to be involved in the choir regularly in order to participate in the Summer Choir. Everyone is welcome, so bring your friends along, too! For more information, contact John Neely (john@westminsterdayton.org).



Thank you for coming to Westminster today! We hope to see you again soon. If you enjoyed the service, and want to help us continue to share the love of God with our neighbors and transform their lives, please consider donating to our ministries. Donation boxes are located in the Narthex and by the elevator. You can also donate online at www.westminsterdayton.org/give or by scanning the QR code to the left with the camera of any smart device. You can also text "give" to 937-468-4003.



ENJOY YOUR SABBATICAL RICHARD!

June 8 - Sept. 13

We would like to inform the congregation that our beloved Senior Pastor and Head of Staff, The Reverend Dr. Richard Baker, will be taking a well-deserved sabbatical from Monday, June 8, until his return on Welcome Sunday, September 13. This time away will allow Reverend Baker an opportunity for writing, rest, and spiritual reflection.

During his sabbatical, Richard plans to engage in personal study, prayer, and travel to deepen his ministry and refresh his spirit. We are excited for him to return with renewed vision and energy to continue leading our community.

In Pastor Baker's absence, the church will remain in good hands. The Reverend Dr. Caitlin Deyerle will act as Head of Staff while Richard is away. We are also grateful to our dedicated associate pastors and staff who will ensure continuity in our worship services during this time. We therefore encourage the congregation to reassure Richard that the church will neither burn down, nor crumble to dust, if he takes this time to refresh his spirit and thus strengthen his ministry.

We invite everyone to join us on Welcome Sunday, September 13, to celebrate Reverend Baker's return and hear about his sabbatical experiences. Let's keep him in our prayers during this time and look forward to the new insights and inspiration he will bring back to us.

Church Calendar May 17 – May 23

Sunday, May 17

- 8:30am-12:30pm** Nursery Birth - Age 3,
108 (Nursery)
- 9:15am-9:30am** Westminster Choir Rehearsal,
Choir Room
- 10:00am-11:00am** Worship, Sanctuary
- 10:20am-11:30am** Children 1st & 2nd Grade,
103 , 105
- 10:20am-11:30am** Children Pre-K & K,
101
- 10:40am-11:30am** Children 3rd & 4th Grade,
109
- 10:40am-11:30am** Children 5th-8th Grade,
Theater
- 11:00am-12:30pm** Coffee & Conversation, Garden
Table, Fellowship Hall
- 11:30am-12:15pm** Calvin Choir Rehearsal,
Choir room
- 11:30am-12:15pm** Cherub Choir Rehearsal,
Theater
- 11:30am-12:15pm** Genesis Singers Rehearsal,
104
- 11:20am-12:15pm** Adult Ed-A World Appears,
West Parlor
- 11:30am-12:15pm** Parent Fellowship-New
Directions, 211
- 12:30 pm-2:00pm** New Deacon Officer Training,
Library

Monday, May 18

- 5:30pm-7:00pm** Earth Stewardship Ministry
Team, Library
- 7:00pm-9:00pm** DGMC Rehearsal, Choir Room

Tuesday, May 19

- 9:00am-3:00pm** Staff Calendar Planning , Offsite
- 5:30pm-7:30pm** Mission Committee, 102
- 6:00pm-8:00pm** Deacons Meeting, West Parlor

Wednesday, May 20

- 9:00am-12:00pm** Staff Meeting, West Parlor
- 10:00am-12:30pm** ID Ministry,
101 , 103 , 105

Friday, May 22

- 12:00pm-3:00 pm** Oakwood Baccalaureate practice,
Sanctuary

Saturday, May 23

- 9:00am-3:00pm** Earth Stewardship Work Day,
Kirkmont

* Please note these dates and times are subject to change. This calendar does not include all private meetings and events in the church. Please contact church staff to reserve meeting space.

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” (478)

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.
Praise him for his grace and favor
To his people in distress;
Praise him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness.
Fatherlike he tends and spares us,
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows.
Angels, help us to adore him:
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God” (288)

I sing the mighty power of God
That made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God’s command,
And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
That filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word
And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
Where’er I turn my eyes;
If I survey the ground I tread,
Or gaze upon the skies!

There’s not a plant or flower below
But makes thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
By order from thy throne.
While all that borrows life from thee
Is ever in thy care,
And everywhere that we can be,
Thou, God, art present there.