

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUNDAY

August 20, 2023



Children attend a coding workshop before receiving school supplies (at Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services' Youth Summit)



**WORTHINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

In Christ's love, we connect, serve, and transform

WELCOME TO WORTHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN CHRIST'S LOVE, WE CONNECT, SERVE, AND TRANSFORM

WPC has worshiped together in the Worthington community since 1805. We welcome all who seek faith, hope, and joy in the Lord Jesus Christ. Please visit our website www.wpcnow.org for more information. Follow us on Facebook for the latest updates at www.facebook.com/worthingtonpresbyterian

TODAY'S SPECIAL GUESTS:

Rev. Cecelia D. Armstrong, Guest Preacher, is a cradle Presbyterian who held membership at Calvary, New Life, Belle-Terrace Presbyterian churches in Detroit, Michigan, Atlanta, Georgia, and Augusta, Georgia, respectively. She is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree and serving as the associate pastor of St. James on James Island in Charleston, South Carolina.

I Know I Can - Helping Students Dream Big

I Know I Can is WPC's Mission Grant recipient. Their programs provide guidance and support for Columbus students from elementary school through college graduation. Recently they've enabled middle school students to explore in-demand careers through virtual reality programming. You can test out the trade career explorer software in Hazelton Hall at 11am today!

WORTHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SUNDAY WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Rev. Dr. Tim McQuade – Interim Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice – Pastor for Discipleship

Rev. Betsy Rice – Pastor for Member Ministries

Nicholas Robison – Director for Youth Ministries

Russ Nagy – Interim Director of Music

Dr. Stephen Jacoby – Organist

Melissa Robol – Chapel Pianist

Robert Dent – Food Service Coordinator & Custodian

Bryon Irvin – Sunday Custodian

Tiffany Ramos – Nursery Caregiver



773 HIGH STREET, WORTHINGTON, OH 43085-4140 TEL: 614-885-5355 wpcnow.org



BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUNDAY

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

SANCTUARY (IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM)

AUGUST 20, 2023 – 10:00 AM



WORTHINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

WELCOME & RENEWAL OF THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH Rev. Betsy Rice
INVITATION TO MISSION & DISCIPLESHIP *(Please sign & pass the Friendship Pads)*
MOMENT FOR MISSION Kim Ebbrecht and Patrick Lynch, I Know I Can
PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Please stand and greet one another in the peace of Christ.

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC *"Come Christians Join To Sing"* arr. Joel Raney

THE CELEBRATION RINGERS

Jennifer Fry, Director

The music is a call to open one's spirit to God's presence in our midst.

OPENING SENTENCES

One: In a world of categories and labels,

All: We are seen by a God who loves us.

One: In a time full of violence and division,

All: We are seen by a God who loves us.

One: In a church where we might feel confused or not quite good enough,

All: We are seen by a God who loves us. Let us worship God.

*** HYMN #450**

"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION (IN UNISON)**

O Lord, you have searched me and you know me. You know the me that I show everyone else and the me I hope no one ever sees. You know the me that tries to fit in and the me that is often overlooked. You know that I often look on the world selfishly, seeing only the things I want to see

and pleading ignorance to the rest. In your mercy, unblur my vision that I might focus on my life and the world as they are and not as I pretend them to be. Forgive me for the ways in which I have denied reality and made excuses for myself and others. Wash the mud from my eyes and renew my sight, I pray. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

(A Brief Time for Silent Confession)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *"The Kyrie"*



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA (*Stanza 1 from Hymn # 582, Sing Once*)

GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

Pastor Tom

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Lord, please bless these backpacks and these children! Just as these backpacks go with them, help these students to know that YOU are always with them. As Salem Elementary students and refugee and immigrant families receive our backpacks, we pray that through these gifts they would recognize your love and presence. Hear our prayer for all teachers, staff, students and parents: *May this school year be filled with your grace! Amen!*

Children are welcome to come to the chancel steps for the Message for Youngest Disciples. Following the message, the children will attend a Sunday School Workshop in the Chapel.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pete Barnhart

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:19

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Come Thou Fount”

Robert Robinson

arr. Craig Courtney

THE SUMMER CHOIR

Russell Nagy, Interim Director

*Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love!*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.*

*Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.*

*O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.*

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-18

Rev. CeCe Armstrong

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Can We See It BEFORE It happens?”

Rev. Armstrong

* HYMN #451

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

OPEN MY EYES

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Tim McQuade

SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS AND BLESSINGS

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

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.

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Online giving is available anytime via EasyTithe: text your offering dollar amount to 614-808-8580 or go to www.easytithe.com/wpcgive.)

OFFERTORY *"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"* arr. Douglas Wagner
Carol Hofer, guest pianist

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN #452 *"Open the Eyes of My Heart"* OPEN THE EYES

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"* setting by John Carter

We request that you remain seated during the postlude as it is the final "Amen" to our worship. If you are unable to do so, please exit quietly. Thank you.




WORSHIP LEADERS

Ushers: Team D – Doug Fell, Bob Harrington Captains

Carillon: Sue Rapier Audio: Andrew DeWeese

Video/Livestream: Emerson Greuling, Russ Nagy, Bill Yost

*The flowers on the chancel are given to the glory of God
by Jerry Kneubel and family in memory of Sue Kneubel*





WPC Children's Ministry is on the look-out for Sunday School Teachers.

Have you felt the call to share Jesus with our little ones?

**When you see ALL THE KIDS on the steps during the Children's Message
– does your heart feel happy?**

**Do you want to help make disciples: baptizing, teaching and sharing the
Good News?**

FAQ's:

- "How much prep time is involved?" 30-45 minutes to read the lesson and gather supplies
- "How often do I teach?" Ideally, we want the same teacher to teach for a 4 week chunk of time, however, we are flexible.
- "What if I don't have kids that age?" GREAT! We love when other generations help pass the faith to the next.
- "I don't have teaching experience." No worries! We have TRAINING scheduled **NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 from 12-2pm in Hazelton Hall.** We will train you, support you, help you and pray for you. The #1 qualification is that you have a servant's heart and love Jesus. Lessons are sent via email in the beginning of the week, with support/tips.

The lessons are VERY easy to use, with many options to choose from. We have excellent resources (maps, posters, puzzles, books, puppets, etc), a fully-stocked supply closet and really great kids. Sunday school starts Sunday, September 10.

THINGS TO DO & WAYS TO HELP

TODAY

AUGUST 20 - BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUNDAY

- 8:00am Religious Studies (Zoom)
- 8:00am Worship, Rev. CeCe Armstrong (Chapel)
- 9:00am Adult Education (Rm 222 + Zoom)
Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9:45am Nursery Care (Nursery)
- 10:00am Worship, Rev. CeCe Armstrong (Sanctuary)
- 10:15am Back-to-School Workshop *for Kids!* (Chapel)
- 11:00am Fellowship, games & food (Hazelton Hall)
Family Photos (Hazelton Hall)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE THANK YOU! We took 34 full boxes of supplies and 60 backpacks to Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services last week. We received another 60 backpacks for Salem Elementary. This far exceeds our expectations. Thank you for your generosity!

FACING LOSS | AUG 21 at 1pm Have you recently lost someone? This caregiver and grief support group will meet tomorrow in WPC's Living Room. Dr. Tim McQuade will be the guest speaker.

SPECIAL CLASS FOR ALL AGES | AUG 27 at 9am: "The Boy, The Mole, the Fox and the Horse" in Hazelton Hall. Enjoy popcorn and cake as we drink deeply of this **movie's** wisdom.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE | AUG 27 at 11am Have you wondered about the construction going on in the preschool area? Next Sunday, Preschool Director Carrie Houk and preschool teachers will be available to show you their updated classrooms and talk about the new look!

VOLUNTEER TRAINING | AUG 27, 12-2pm We are seeking volunteers to help with Sunday School, children's activities, or Youth ministry. We will have a training in Hazelton Hall for you to learn more next Sunday afternoon

THE LOMBARD PROGRAM CONTINUES Our next meeting with Jay from Lombard is scheduled for Saturday, August 26. We will gather in Fellowship Hall from 8:30am to 1pm to talk about and engage in the healing process. This is a necessary course the congregation must walk. There will be opportunity for all to share about what you experienced. While our future calls us, the experience of the past year remains. We need to sort out that experience together as a congregation in order to move forward.

Please make an effort to attend this important session! We need your participation as we work toward creating a **healthier culture** in our congregation. I look forward to seeing you there! – Pastor Tim
Please scan the code with your phone's camera to sign up.



MEMBER DIRECTORY UPDATE: Please scan the QR code with your phone's camera to be taken to a form to update your membership info if you haven't yet done so.



BIBLE STUDY BEGINS | Sept 7 at 1pm: *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* Pastor Tom Rice will lead our discussion in Room 222. Christian Life meets the first Thursday of each month. Each of the 9 lessons will highlight different New Testament individuals who encounter Jesus and the effect on their lives. Visit wpcnow.org for more info.

MINISTRY SURVEY IS COMING Help us plan a night of a shared dinner, fellowship, and ministry for children, youth, and adults! Several ministry activities would take place on a single evening versus spread through the week to assist parents with children, as well as provide opportunity for fellowship. Session suggested a survey be conducted to determine which weeknight and what format would be preferred. **Please stay tuned for the survey by email later today.**