



Westkirk PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Weekly

This Week's Activities
December 10-17, 2017

Today

Communion Sunday
First Service – 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes – all ages – 10:15 a.m.
Second Service – 11:15 a.m.
Glen Oaks, 2:00 p.m.
Tone Chimes, CWC, 3:30 p.m.
High School Ministry, 4:30 p.m.

Monday

Commission/Committee Deacon Meeting, Lounge, 5:30 p.m.
Omega Housekirk, Hospitality Room, 6:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Lunch and Learn, Great Hall, noon
Women's Bible Study, East Wing, 1:00 p.m.
Koinonia Housekirk, Lounge, 7:00 p.m.
Best Housekirk, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday

WOW Supper, 5:30 p.m.
Worship, Sanctuary, 6:15 p.m.
Classes for Children, Students and Adults, 6:30 p.m.
Choir, Great Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday

Dorcas Circle, Hospitality Room, 12:00 p.m.
AHG Board Meeting, Blue Classroom, 6:30 p.m.
Faith Seekers Alliance Housekirk, 7:00 p.m.
Women's Cookie Exchange, 7:00 p.m.

Friday

Shepherd Articles Due
Game Night, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 17

Tone Chimes, CWC, 3:30 p.m.
High School Ministry, 4:30 p.m.
One Ancient Hope Housekirk, HR, 5:30 p.m.

Our Weekly Concerns. New additions will be listed in bold print, and names will be removed upon request. Names left on for more than 3 weeks will be removed at the discretion of the office. Please keep these friends in your prayers: **Pastor Michael Demastus and Fort Des Moines Church of Christ**, Carolyn Barnes, Beth Boeckemeier, Darlene Denison, David Gaumer, Pat Gorman, Ellen Kinnaird, Marie McGhee, Paul MacLafferty, Paul Meinen, Debbie Namanny, Carliann Northfield, Tom and Dianne Papham, Don Powers. Condolences to: Emily and Clinton Crowder and family on the death of Emily's uncle, Dan Reigel; Casey Phipps and family on the death of Doug Phipps.

WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH

Question of the Week (answer on the back)

Q: How doth God execute his decrees?

WOW Menu

Cheeseburger and Fries, Tossed Salad, Fruit Cup and Cookie

December Communion Offering will be given to Joshua Christian Academy. The Mission of Joshua Christian Academy is "To build a Christ-centered academic foundation within the hearts and minds of urban children, equipping them and their families to serve God and others to their fullest potential through outstanding biblical education." Please join us in supporting this ministry!



Holy Communion

Westkirk celebrates the Lord's Supper at each service on the second Sunday of the month (as well as during special seasonal times of the year). Open communion means that if you are a professing Christian who has put your faith and trust in God through Jesus Christ alone and are a member in good standing at a local church anywhere, you are free to partake communion with us. If you are "between churches," the decision is one made between you and the Lord. Feel free to contact one of our pastoral staff if you are unsure.

Lunch and Learn. On Tuesday, December 12 at noon Westkirk Lunch and Learn will meet for a Christmas Ham dinner. In keeping with the season, about 12:30 we will sing your favorite Christmas carols. We will be done at 1:00 p.m. so you can eat and sing and get back to your afternoon activities. Please sign up on the Connect Card TODAY.

Second Sunday in Advent. Last week we began to tell a story—a story that spans the Bible and is, in fact, its core story. It's a story about earth and heaven, about how they were once one, how they got separated, and how they will be one again. It's a story about home—home for us and home for God. The old song says, "This world is not my home; I'm just passing through." But the Bible speaks of the reunion of earth and heaven, of God coming down to dwell among us and make earth his home.



Women's Christmas Cookie Exchange. Ladies, please join us this Thursday, December 14, at 7:00 p.m. for our Christmas Cookie Exchange. We will have a fun night with a cookie exchange and favorite things party at Allyson Groner's home (15176 Bryn Mawr Dr., Clive). Each guest should bring two dozen cookies or treats to share and an empty container to collect two dozen going home with you. Also, bring a wrapped, favorite item around \$10 that is "one of your favorite things" for our gift exchange. It can be anything from your favorite kitchen utensil, household cleaner, beauty item, socks and more. To RSVP please sign up on the Connect Card. If you have questions, please contact Allyson at 515-770-2792.

Dorcas Circle. Ladies, please join us on this Thursday, December 14, at NOON, when we will enjoy our Christmas potluck luncheon together. Our devotional will be given by Kelli Miller and our hostess will be Marilyn Long. Elaine Erickson will share her Christmas medley with us.

Perspectives Classes. Perspectives is for believers from all walks of life. It is a 15-week course, from January 14 - April 29. Discover how God has been working (and continues to work) throughout the world. Learn more about God's kingdom and His glory. Find out what your part is in this exciting movement.

The Walnut Creek Downtown Church, 323 E. Locust, is hosting the course and classes will be on Sundays from 5:00-8:00 p.m., with dinner included halfway through the evening. Childcare will also be provided. Visit Perspectives.org for more information.

Registration is \$249 with an Early Bird Discount of \$25 available until December 15. We do not want finances to be the deciding factor as to whether you may attend or not. Scholarships are available to help with the cost for our Westkirk family. For more information, contact Brandon Mick or Sue Holcomb (BrandonMick@westkirk.org, sue.holcomb@holcombcorp.com) .

Mary, Mother of Jesus

By Elaine Erickson

Water flows through your fingers
as you carefully wash the dinner
bowls. Flames lick the dark
fireplace walls. You want
to hide in the cave of your house,
away from the cacophony
of crowds.

Outside, snowflakes travel aimlessly,
adorning barren hills.
Wind hisses, but here the quiet
around you is a warm shawl.
You light a candle, sing.

A figure clothed in white
calls you by name.
A radiant light catches his glistening
gown, his wings fluttering
like a flock of ravens.

You will give birth to a baby,
he says. The Holy Spirit
will descend with a sound strong
as empires, the baby called
Jesus, Son of God.

Your knees begin to shake.
You notice a crack in the wall
and beyond, the clip-clop of
horses hooves.
You pick up the dinner bowls,
hands trembling.

Strange strings tune up, your
home astonished with light.
Then the angel fades,
music your soft, moonlit garden.
Stars like God's eyes dance.



Westkirk Holiday Schedule

December 20	No WOW
December 24	Unified Service - 10:30 a.m.
December 24	Candlelight Service - 5:30 p.m.
December 27	No WOW
December 31	Regular Sunday Schedule
January 3	No WOW

A: God executeth his decrees in the works of
creation and providence.