

Dear saints,

Jesus is risen - He is risen indeed! I hope you enjoy the photos in this newsletter and our social media of Jesus' "resurrection appearances" during this season of Easter. From blessing college bags with Congregational Care, to pickleball with NEW DAY, to simply taking the wheel, His presence has been a constant reminder that we are not alone in the mission and ministry of the church.

As I wrapped up my first doctoral assignments, I was thinking about prayer and our physical version of Jesus. Through a class on "Wonder and the Soul," I was challenged to rethink my primary definition of prayer as communication with God. I still believe that prayer is about talking and listening to God, but I also think it's so much more. Prayer is a transformative encounter with God, whether it's immediate, like a light bulb turning on or more gradual, like erosion forming the Grand Canyon. Richard Foster writes that, "To pray is to change...prayer is the central avenue God uses to change us... in real prayer, we begin to think God's thoughts after Him: to desire the things He desires, to love the things He loves. Progressively we are taught to see things from His point of view."

So consider this your Easter prayer check-in: how is praying going for you? Are you encountering God in big and little ways? What tools do you need to help with prayer? Are you taking home the prayer list from the bulletin, using the PCUSA Daily Prayer app, or following another devotional? How is prayer changing your will to be more like God's? Do you need to have a chat with our resurrected Lord? Wherever you are on that journey, I'm grateful that prayer is so central to our life together at WPC: Where People Care.

Grace and peace, Pastor Kate

### Calendar

+page 2

### Worship

+page 3-4

### Learn

+page 3 & 5

### Give

+pages 6-9

### Connect

+pages 9-15

### What's Up at WPC

+pages 16-17

The Well is published by
Debra Nelson for
Westminster Presbyterian
Church.



WPC
1330 S Fielder Road
Arlington, TX 76013
817-460-3841
www.wpcarlington.org
wpc arl@sbcglobal.net

# May 2024

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Weekly: River School Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m2:30 p.m./ Education Bldg.			1 12-1:00 p.m. PCHAS Luncheon @ Ridglea Country Club 1:00 p.m. Cong. Cmte Mtg/ BH 2:00 p.m. Bookworms/ Zoom 6:00 p.m. Ladies' Salad Supper/FH	NATIONAL DAYOF PRAVER  10-11:00 a.m. Pastoral Care w/Adrian/ library  7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal	May 3-5 North Texas Presbyterian Pilgrimage @ Camp Gilmont May 3-5 Mo-Ranch Men's Conference	9 a.m3 p.m. Presbytery Meeting @ St. Andrews/ Denton 9:30 a.m5:00 p.m. NEW DAY Fundraiser @ Anything Goes 2:00 p.m. UTA Baseball Game 3-7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts/ kitchen & FH
Fill the Grocery Basket!  9:45 a.m Sunday school for all ages  11:00 a.m Worship - Communion  12:15 p.m Youth Group	9:00 a.m. Quilters/FH 1-2:00 p.m. Grief Group/ library	7	8 1:00 p.m. Ladies' Lunch Out @ The Rose Garden Tea Room /Gracie Lane	9 Ascension of the Lord 10-11 a.m. Pastoral Care w/Adrian/ library 5:30 p.m. Young Adults @ downtown library 7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal	10	Mobile Food Pantry 8:00 a.m. Mobile Food Pantry @ St. Andrew's UMC 1-2:30 p.m. NEW DAY Wreath Making Fundraiser/FH
9:45 a.m Sunday school for all ages 11:00 a.m Worship	1-2:00 p.m. Grief Group/ library	1:00 p.m. Worship Cmte Mtg/BH	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	10-11 a.m. Pastoral Care w/Adrian/ library 5:30 p.m. Young Adults @ downtown library 7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal	7:00 p.m. Beer Tasters/ Antonelli's	18
9:45 a.m Sunday school for all ages 11:00 a.m Worship 12:15 p.m Mission Cmte Mtg 12:15 p.m All Church Pancake Lunch & Youth Fundraiser/FH & kitchen	1-2:00 p.m. Grief Group/ library 7:00 p.m. PWA/FH	21 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting/YR 10:00 a.mnoon Women's Circle & lunch/library & BH	22	23 10-11 a.m. Pastoral Care w/Adrian/ library 5:30 p.m. Young Adults @ downtown library 7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal	24	12:30-4:00 p.m. Hatcher private event/playground & FH
9:45 a.m Sunday school for all ages 11:00 a.m Worship - Graduate Recognition - Scholarships Awarded 12:15 p.m Graduate Reception/FH 12:30 p.m Session/YR	Church Office Closed NO Grief Group	28	29	5:30 p.m. Young Adults @ downtown library 7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal	31	



## **WORSHIP**

### Join us for Worship!

Sunday, May 5 @ 11:00 AM - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

Sermon Topic: TBD

Sunday, May 12 @ 11:00 AM - Seventh Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

Sermon Topic: Everything Mine is Yours

Sunday, May 19 @ 11:00 AM - Pentecost Sunday

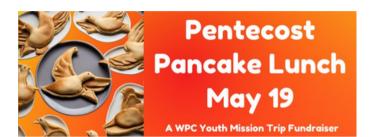
Scripture Readings: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15; Acts 2:1-21

Sermon Topic: TBD

Sunday, May 26 @ 11:00 AM - Trinity Sunday

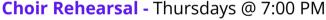
Scripture Readings: John 3:1-17; Isaiah 6:1-8

Sermon Topic: Who Will Go For Us?











We would love to have you join us for rehearsal and in the choir loft on Sundays. Talk to our Minister of Music, Elizabeth Barney, if you have questions.

## **LEARN**





## WORSHIP













## **Easter Celebration**













## **LEARN**

### **May Sunday School**

### K-Sixth Grade

We are using "Activate Faith" by Sparkhouse for an in-depth study of the Bible.

May 5 - Philip & the Ethiopian

May 12 - Saul to Paul

May 19 - Ascension

May 26 - The Holy Spirit



### Youth (7th-12th Grade) Sunday School

We continue our Bible overview with "Echo the Story."

May 5 - Persecution & Growth

May 12 - Peter

May 19 - Paul

May 26 - New Creation





### **Adult One**

Contemporary Issues & Faith - The Wired Word. Have you ever wondered how to process the news? Or what Jesus might say about current events? Join Keith Richardson and other leaders as we relate current events to Scripture to create thought-provoking, stimulating discussions every week.

### **Adult Two - Reading Disciples**

This class reads and discusses various inspiring, insightful and challenging pieces of literature, which present moral questions and explore what it means to live a faithful life. Convened by Erin Baltensperger.

May 5 - The Overstory by Richard Powers - pages 309-353 stop at "CROWN"

May 12 - The Overstory by Richard Powers - pages 355-410 stop at "Neelay sits"

May 19 - The Overstory by Richard Powers - pages 410-548 stop at "Dorothy slips"

May 26 - The Overstory by Richard Powers - pages 458-502

### **Women's Circle**

meets Tuesday, May 21 @ 10:00 AM in the library & Bullock Hall \*NOTE TIME CHANGE\* Please join us for the last study "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts," and bring a salad or luncheon dish to share. We will have our study first then lunch afterwards. This will be our last meeting until September.

Lesson nine: People Encounter Jesus Through the Work of the Disciples Scripture: Acts 9:36-43

Main Idea: The community of faith relies on the newer of Is

Main Idea: The community of faith relies on the power of Jesus Christ in times of crisis.

### **VBS 2024**

Registration is now open for our VBS Food Truck Party! Join us June 9-12 to go "on a roll with God" through Bible stories, delicious food, sports, crafts, and so much more! See Brooklyn to volunteer in lots of different ways! https://www.wpcarlington.org/vbs



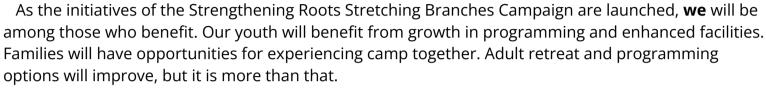


## GIVE

### **Strengthening Roots Stretching Branches**

Camp Gilmont is a place where people from all walks of life enter into community, immerse themselves in creation, discover wonder-filled play,

steward their God-given gifts, and become transformed with a greater connection with our Creator.

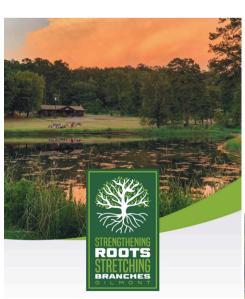


In addition, the next generation of pastors for our denomination is being formed at Gilmont. Children and youth are forming a faith that will sustain them through life. In 2019, the Effective Camp Research Project found that campers increased their Bible reading, grew in church attendance, and had a more robust prayer life. This is a life-changing impact.

It is our turn to help transform the ministry at Gilmont and expand the impact of our ministry partner. That is why our Session is offering to match \$15,000 pledged by our congregation toward this effort and why we are asking every member to

respond generously in helping us reach the goal. You are encouraged to consider a gift monthly or annually for the next three years.

You will soon have an opportunity to join in this effort by making your commitment to the campaign. We will be seeking your response on **Sunday, May 5**. Please prayerfully consider your response!













## GIVE



### **PCHAS Luncheon**

Wednesday, May 1
12-1:00 PM @ Ridglea Country Club
3700 Bernie Anderson Ave
Fort Worth, TX 76116
Theme: Dare to Dream
RSVP to maria.shupe@pchas.org









### **Welcome Home Donations**

The Welcome Home Offering provides basic necessity items to those who are dealing with homelessness & transitioning to stable housing. Thank you for your generous donation of cleaning/sanitizing wipes in April. For the month of May, our partners at When We Love are requesting coffee creamer and sugar. Bring to worship with you any Sunday and place in the marked bin by the entry doors. This goes right here to our neighbors in Tarrant County! Questions? contact Barbara Kennedy.



## **NEW DAY Spring Fundraiser**











### Fill the Grocery Basket!

Sunday, May 5

Thank you for your generous outpouring in March! We continue our tradition of helping Arlington Charities provide for those in need by collecting non-perishables & monetary donations on the first Sunday of each month. The grocery basket can be found in the pass through and is always available for donations.



## Quilters

meet Monday, May 6 at 9:00 AM in Fellowship Hall

Are you good at matching colors? Do you know how to sew? Can you tie a knot? If you answered yes to any of these questions, we would love to have you join us as we make quilts for the Salvation Army Family Life Center.







In John 14:18, we hear the words Jesus shared with the disciples at the Last Supper: "I am coming to you." "I am coming to you" - words meant to inspire comfort and reassurance; for with these words, we know Jesus will always be at our side. At WPC, we seek to instill this faith, this understanding, this assurance from an early age. The Pentecost Offering helps our young people begin life with a strong start, a solid foundation of faith formed in the years from childhood through young adulthood that will last a lifetime.

Since 1998, the Pentecost has raised nearly \$18 million for the benefit of the youngest members of God's family. This offering supports our **Young Adult Volunteers** (YAVs), to train and equip volunteers to engage at 13 sites in the USA and around the world. These YAVs share Christ's light and discern God's call in their own lives during their year of service. (It's how Pastor Kate met her husband!) It also supports our **PCUSA Youth Ministries**, including the Triennium conference and a special effort for high school seniors called *The Senior Project*. A small portion supports the national initiative called "**Educate a Child, Transform the World**" to work and advocate for equitable, accessible, quality public education for all children.

By giving to the Pentecost Offering, one of the four Special Offerings of the PCUSA, we are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come; children, youth, and young adults. We invite the congregation to join with the worldwide church in building for our future, in building individual lives of faith. Won't you join us? If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.



### **Mobile Food Pantry**

Mobile Food Pantry

May 11 @ 8:00 am St. Andrew's UMC



Come be the hands and feet of Christ on Saturday, April 13 @ 8:00 AM at St. Andrew's UMC (2045 SE Green Oaks), by helping prepack bags, load vehicles, and more as we help feed those in need.



### **Shelter Sandwiches**

Thanks to all who purchased ingredients and helped put 100 sack lunches together for Arlington Life Shelter in April.







### **All-Church Pancake Lunch**



## Pentecost Pancake Lunch May 19

A WPC Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

Join our youth after worship in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 19 as they prepare pancakes, sausage, and hashbrowns for an all-church lunch in order to raise funds for their mission trip to Austin in June.

CONNECT



### **Living Waters for the World Update**

We reported in the last Well that a development trip was planned for our team (GPCT & WPC) to make a trip to the Escuela Las Canoas school site in Guatemala. Ed Seeger, team leader for the GPC Temple team, will make the journey for the Development Trip the week of August 5-9. At this meeting, Ed and in-country LWW staff, will be meeting with the school administration, the teachers, and parents to review the proposed project, and outline the requirements for the local team. They will discuss the construction, education, and the development of a business plan.

Upon completion of the discussions, both parties will come to an agreement of all phases, followed by the signing of a Covenant between the school and GPCT & WPC. The covenant is usually a 3-year commitment by everyone, to operate the system as required, with support from GPCT & WPC.

Upon approval and signing the covenant we will begin the process of purchasing the system, making arrangements for delivery to Guatemala, working with the in-county LWW staff, determining the date for installation and outlining the responsibilities for everyone. The school is responsible for having a secure building for the system, a dependable water supply and electricity source. It is also their responsibility to provide a staff to operate the system, and have a water committee to support and promote the use of water in their community. As of today, there is no definite date scheduled for an installation.

Your WPC LWW team appreciates the continued support of everyone. We feel it is a very meaningful mission for those we provide safe/healthy water for an area where all they have is unclean water, and subsequent lingering health issues.

Harry Staley



## Jesus' Easter Appearances



Jesus with Adrian in pastoral care



Jesus loves all creatures great and small



Jesus in Sunday School



Jesus singing with the choir



Jesus taking the wheel



Jesus bringing our Allelluias back!



Jesus even enjoyed Beer Tasting



Studying with young adults



Ready for the eclipse!



Jesus blessing the college bags



Jesus supporting NEW DAY



Jesus joining Women's Circle and Ladies' Lunch Out





meet Wednesday, May 1 @ 2:00 PM on Zoom

Join us as we discuss *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brenden Slocum



### **Young Adults**



meet Thursdays in May @ 5:00 PM - Join us as we continue *Bible Stories* for *Grown-Ups* at George Hawkes Downtown library (100 S Center St. #100) - Dream Room





### Take Me Out to the Ballgame

The UTA Baseball team is hosting a "Presbyterian Day at the UTA Ballpark!" Come join WPC, FPC, & PCHAS as we cheer on the Mavericks on Saturday, May 4 at 2:00 pm as they play SacState. RSVP on the sign-up sheet on the board outside the office for your FREE ticket(s) by May 1.



### WPC Youth (7th-12th grade)



**May 5** - Youth Group - join us for lunch and activities following worship until 2:00 pm.

**May 19** - Come cook some Pentecost Pancakes for our Mission Trip Fundraiser!

**May 26 - Grad Sunday** - come celebrate our graduate friends in worship and afterwards with cake!



### **North Texas Presbyterian Pilgrimage #51**

takes place May 3-5 at Gilmont Camp & Conference Center in Gilmer, TX. The cost is \$225 & scholarships are available from both WPC and NTPP.

### What is a Pilgrimage Weekend?

During these three days, participants form a small Christian community. They worship, study, and share with one another while gaining a personal awareness of their faith and the joys and responsibilities that are a result of that faith. The purpose of Pilgrimage is for the participants to discover a new and exciting relationship with Christ and to encourage them to take this new-found relationship back to their home. It challenges and equips each local church member for Christian action in their local church, in their home, in their place of work, and in their community. To sign up and/or more information go to NTPP.org or ask Pat Staley, Barbara & Charles Kennedy, or Sandra James.



### **Ladies' Lunch Out**

meets Wed., May 8 @ 1:00 PM at The Rose Garden Tea Room (inside Gracie Lane - 4720 S Cooper)



Thirteen ladies & a special guest (Jesus) enjoyed our lunch last month at Neighborhood Grill. All WPC ladies are invited to join us! Let Ruth Juhler know if you plan to attend or just come.





### **WPC Kids (K-6th grade)**

We had so much fun bowling in April! 25+ people joined us for fun and fellowship.



### **Beer Tasters**

meet Friday, 19 @ 7:00 PM at the Trussell-Antonelli home



We had a great time at our April tasting and Jesus even joined us! RSVP to Keith Richardson for our May gathering so we have enough beer! It's \$5 per person for the opportunity to "taste" six beers. All 21+ are welcome!









### **2024 Graduation & Scholarship Recipients**

Join us as we celebrate our graduates on Sunday, May 26! Graduates will be recognized & scholarships awarded @ 11:00 a.m. in worship. We'll continue the celebration in Fellowship Hall with a reception for our grads and their families after worship.



**Victoria Chikaoneka**, University of Texas BA in Health and Society **What's Next:** Interning with Dieste Health

**Daniel West**, University of North Texas

BA in History **What's Next**: Study abroad in Morocco & job searching

**Sarah McMurrough**, University of Texas at Arlington Master's in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies







### **Graduating from High School**

Odessa Baltensperger, Arlington High School
What's Next: Austin College to study Creative Writing and Gender Studies

**Tsihon Hathaway**, Martin High School **What's Next:** Working as an EMT while preparing for the Arlington Fire Department exam

**Golda Marcello,** Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy **What's Next:** TCU to study Music Education

Michael McGee, Summit High School
What's Next: Tarrant County College to study Automotive Technology

**Adam Patterson,** Lamar High School **What's Next**: UTA to study Music







### **Scholarship Recipients**

Congratulations to this year's WPC Scholarship Recipients: Lemuel Amouh, Odessa Baltensperger, Riley Canterbury, Golda Marcello, and Adam Patterson! First-time recipients receive \$1000, and returning recipients receive \$500 from the WPC Scholarship Fund.

PAGE 14 MAY | 2024

## **CONNECT**









We embraced Creation this beautiful spring, watching the awesome eclipse and celebrating Earth Day.





### **March Session Highlights**

- The Session approved membership for Sharon Owens
- Graduation Sunday will be May 26. Our five high school graduates (Odessa, Tsihon, Michael, Adam and Golda) and three college graduates (Victoria Chikaoneka, Sarah McMurrough, and Daniel West) will be honored.
- Rev. Ken Ehrke is retiring April 30 and we are sure he would appreciate cards to celebrate this life changing event.







Thanks to our youth for an amazing youth Sunday!









### Living Out Our Discipleship: The Presbyterian Way

Are you curious what goes on around the church after Sunday worship each month? A good deal of what happens gets done by committees and dedicated volunteers. So, now you're wondering: what kind of committees? Can I be on any committee? Below you'll find a listing of the major committees at WPC, the elder who leads that area and usually when/where they meet on a monthly basis. ANYONE, even if you're not a member of WPC, can attend and participate in committee meetings. Please take a look at the great things you can become more involved with and/or check out!

<u>Congregational Care</u>: Meets 1st Wed. at 1:00 in Bullock Hall. Contact: Kate Smith. This committee provides refreshments, setup and cleanup for specials events like baptisms, graduation, congregational meals, etc. Also, provide meals/support to members with illness or recuperation from surgery.

<u>Mission</u>: Meets 2nd Sunday at 12:15 in Library. Contact: Dan Stoyak. This committee has regular ongoing outreach work, including NEW DAY (student weekend meals), Living Waters for the World (intl. partnerships providing water system installations), Swift Elementary support, Shelter Sandwiches, and more!

<u>Worship</u>: Meets 3rd Tuesday at 1:00 in Bullock Hall. Contact: Yleen George. This committee plans regular Sunday worship services, special services during Holy Week and Christmas and other uses of the sanctuary for weddings and funerals and liaisons with Media Team.

<u>Finance</u>: Meets quarterly. Contact: John Garcia. This committee manages the financial resources of the church, including preparation of annual budgets, stewardship campaigns, and monthly reports by areas of responsibilities.

<u>Property</u>: Meets monthly. Contact: Carol Raburn and Zeb Wright. This committee oversees the building and ground operations, oversees repairs/maintenance, etc. Has multiple project leaders for building & grounds, etc.

<u>Faith Formation</u>: Meets as needed. Contact: Teri Wardrup and Stephanie West. This committee supports children, youth and adult Christian Education, communication within the church, and to the greater community.

<u>Personnel & Nominating</u>: Meets as needed. Contact: Catherine Fritz. The Personnel committee facilitates the annual staff reviews, recommends changes in compensation, oversees Personnel budget, and updates job descriptions. The Nominating Committee oversees invitations for new elders to join Session. This committee is limited to members approved annually by the congregation.



## WHAT'S UP AT WPC



**Joys:** WPC friend Reverend Ken Ehrke as he celebrates his retirement from ministry; Congratulations to Anna Lund and Anish Patel on their wedding!

**Sympathies:** Jill Wesstrom and family on the death of her brother-in-law Joseph Bacon; Linda Wilson & the family of her friend Ray Davidson on his death; April Poitras and family of her friend Barbara Waite on her death

Members/friends in need of prayer: Harvey Ribble; Penelope Nelson; Carole Perry; Marjory McCowen; Charles Bridges; Elizabeth & Winston Barney; Jakie Spinks; Ed & Linda Frazee; Chad Bridges; Layne & Anne Cooke; Kathy Anderson; Jo Schauwecker's daughter-in-law, Paige Ellison; Maggie Del Angel's brother Bernie; Erin O'Connor's uncle Michael O'Connor; Janet Kovatch's friend David; Ruth Juhler's great niece Jamie; Kate Smith's brother-in-law Dallas Tate and his wife Ellen; Doris Holland's relative Debbie Meade; David Ferrell's sister Sally Peveto; Jimmy & Yleen George's relative Karen Richey; Linda Wilson's friend Donna Austin; Harry Staley's sister Kate & husband Mark Marymont; Catherine Fritz's friends Jason Johnson & mom Pam; Charles Bridges' sister-in-law Linda Bridges & cousin Dwayne Crawford; Jim & Susan Johnson's neighbors Val & Alla Karpinska and their family; Earlene Pike's brother Bill & sister-in-law Marion Anderau





### Financial Report - as of March 31, 2024

As we finish the first quarter of the year, we can report that donations are in line with the 2024 pledges. Several donors gave their 2024 pledge amount in 2023 for tax purposes. When we add the \$19,258 received in late 2023 with the \$67,828 received in the first quarter, we have a total of \$87,086 received already. Several donors have already met or exceeded their 2024 pledge for the year.

As a reminder, your pledge is your best estimate of what you hope to give during the year. There is no comparison between your pledge and what you actually donate during the year. We received pledges of \$258,580 toward our 2024 budget of \$302,179. This leaves us with a faith factor of 16.9%. From history, we know that about a quarter of members do not feel comfortable pledging a particular amount due to uncertain job situations, etc. Thus we build in the "faith factor" into our budget.

Through March, we have spent a little over \$70,000 or 23.2% of our budget. The Session receives a monthly report by committee that is reviewed at the session meeting each month. Know that the Session takes seriously it's obligation to monitor their expenses and wisely use what you have so generously given. If you have any questions, please contact me, Pastor Kate, or any Session member. Yours in Christ,

David Rawhouser
Church Treasurer



### Serving the Lord in May

### Liturgist

**Bob Wilson** 

### **May 5 Communion Servers**

Matt & Erin Baltensperger, Les Brooks, Rollin Phipps, Earlene Pike, & Jim Johnson

### **Media Center**

5/5 - Jill Wesstrom, Teri Wardup, & Chris Hatcher

5/12 - James Harris, Carol Raburn, Niña Henderson, & Chris Simpson

5/19 - Steve West, Kamden McGee, Daniel Garcia, Steve West, & John Garcia

5/26 - Harry Staley, Caitlin Cooke, Daniel Garcia, Niña Henderson, & Keith Richardson





**Greeters** 

5/5 - Ruth Juhler

5/12 - Charles & Barbara Kennedy

5/19 - Janet Kovatch

5/26 - Carrie Leverenz



### **Flowers**

5/5 - Jill & Stephen Wesstrom, in honor of Asher Baltensperger, and in memory of Jean Joslin & Bob Moore

5/12 - Bob & Linda Wilson, to the glory of God

5/19 - Jim Dugan, honor of family birthdays

5/26 - Carrie & Andrew Leverenz, in honor of their 40th anniversary



### **Mission Statement**

Rooted in God's love and grace, we worship, learn, give, and connect, refreshing people with Living Water. We reach out to share the Water with all who thirst.

Deadline for next issue: May 15, 2024
Turn in all articles to the church office.
wpc arl@sbcglobal.net 817-460-3841

Westminster Presbyterian Church 1330 South Fielder Road Arlington, Texas 76013 www.wpcarlington.org