



Westminster Presbyterian Church The Chimes

January 2025



January

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Hats off to Tweddy, Judy, and Bob for a spectacular Christmas Luncheon on December 15th. We were joined by Pastor Mary's congregation. The food was delicious, the tables were decorated beautifully, and lovely Christmas music for the perfect mood.. As you can see, we had a very festive photo display for some amazing pictures.







January

- **Wednesday January 1** **New Year's Day/Office Closed**
- **Sunday, January 5** 10:00 am Worship Service/**Communion**
- **Sunday, January 12** 10:00 am Worship/**Congregation meeting**
- **Sunday, January 19** 10:00 am Worship Service
- **Monday, January 20** **MLK Jr. Day/Office Closed**
- **Sunday, January 26** 10:00 am Worship/**Session meeting**



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Faye Grier	1/2
Eveline Tamarindang	1/8
Kim Weaver	1/21
Arlo (Caroline's Daughter)	1/25
Jackie Childress	1/30



Dear Church Family and Friends,

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Pastor this past year. We've had so many celebrations! I keep you all in my thoughts and prayers. May God's blessings lead you and guide you this season and next year.

**Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!**

Pastor Narcissis



TOY DONATION



Our very own Vietnam War veteran, Tom Householder, handmade over 640 wooden toys this past year. The toys were distributed at the Children and Family Services' toy drive on November 16th. The toys went to children in Riverside and San Bernardino County. A total of 4,400 toys were donated. We're so grateful for Tom's willingness to serve our communities with these beautiful wooden toys.

Thank you for your service and for sharing your gifts with those in need.





Advent Season at WPC



Bob and Judy Conacher began the Advent season by reading the first special Advent reading and lighting the first Advent calendar on January 2.



On December 8, Nate Abba read the special reading for the second week of Advent, and Patricia Abba lit the first and second Advent candles.



On December 15, The McIntyre children and Marline read the special reading for the third week of Advent and Hank lit the three candles.



On December 22, Ginny Mansfield and Tweddy Vander Laan read the special reading for the fourth week of Advent.

Children's Time



Marline Van Alstine leads the McIntyre children in a prayer during Children's Time on November 24.



Faye prepared a beautiful children's lesson. Barbara sat in to hear the lesson. Aren't we all children on the inside?



Children's time with Faye Grier on December 15th

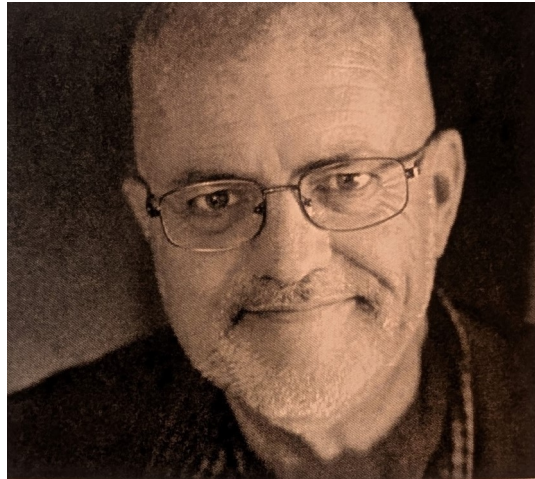


Children's time with Marline on December 22nd



Lynn Elliott, Chair of the Mission Committee, encouraged our mission to reach out with love during the holidays to assist those in need. She started by asking us to “fill the box with socks” requesting dark colored mens and ladies socks - and she coordinated with Pastor Narcissis and Marline Van Alstine, who created a “Giving Tree” with a list of hygiene items that would be most appreciated. These items will be distributed during the upcoming “Loaves and Fishes” dinner, and to other local organizations during the holiday season. Thank you Jesse for lending us your tree.





Dr. David Clemensen
Director of Music



This season, the Pacific Chorale hosted an event called *Carols by Candlelight* in the beautiful Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church in Newport Beach. David has been the Pacific Chorale's pianist for 21 seasons. This sacred event included classical music from the Christmas season as well as congregational singing of our favorite Christmas songs and hymns.

We celebrate "our" rock star!

Thank you for all you do for Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The Martin Family thanks Westminster for our generous gifts after the loss of their home

Joe Martin and his wife Kirsty, and children Logan and Lila, have each written a personal note of thanks to our Westminster Family, expressing their heartfelt thanks for the donations they received from us. They lost their Mt. Baldy home in the October "Bridge Fire", and lost everything they did not carry with them with they left. They have now found a home to rent in Mt. Baldy, and are working to recover from the trauma of their loss.

You can see from their letters how greatly they appreciated our caring assistance.

Please continue to keep the Martin family in your prayers.



Dear Westminster Presbyterian Church Family,

Words cannot begin to describe the gratitude in my heart for your generosity & compassion. In a time of crisis, I have been humbled by God's love evident in your acts of kindness. Your church has and always will hold a special place in my heart. We've sang, worshipped, loved, & laughed there. It's where we said goodbye to Grandpa Dick & my sweet father-in-law, Jack Martin. Thank you for honoring their memory & God with your kindness & love. All my gratitude,
Kirstyn





Dear Westminster Presbyterian Church Family,



I am not very good at asking for help. It has been a flaw of mine as far back as I can remember and as such, I am not very good at thanking people, and I really want to get this right. How does one go about thanking a group of people that took it upon themselves, see part where I am not good at asking for help, to support you and your family in what has been one of the hardest moments in your life? I do not know but I can tell you a story about our house. Both my wife and I grew up in Mt. Baldy and have very deep roots there. Which is why we decided it was where we wanted to raise our family. It is a very small town, and the houses do not go up for sale very often, so we felt very fortunate when we got the opportunity to purchase one in the village. When we were moving in, we noticed inside one of the kitchen cabinets where a few proverbs and inspirational quotes that were printed on little strips of paper and tapped to the backside of the cabinet. My wife and I both saw them as we loaded our own plates into the cabinet for the first time, and thought they were nice and left them where they were. For almost 11 years those little strips of paper hung onto the back wall as we unloaded and loaded our plates for countless family meals. I had seen them so many times that only occasionally would they register on my conscious mind. They had become one of many unique little features that made up what now had become a true family home. One of those notes in particular comes to mind for me right now while trying to express my gratitude. It was a single line from a poem that I am sure many of you have read before. The poem is called foot prints in the sand and speaks of someone that is dreaming of walking down a beach with God and sees that there are two sets of foot prints matching up with memories from their life, except at the hardest moments where there are only one set of footprints and that is when the person turns to god and ask why at the hardest parts of my life are there only one set of foot prints and God responds, "It was at those times I carried you." That is the phrase that has been hanging around in the back of our cabinet and that is how I feel now. That all of you wonderful souls are carrying me and my family through a very difficult time. The kindness and generosity you have all shown is truly amazing and the only words I can come up with are Thank You.

Joseph Mitchell Martin





Dear Westminster Presbyterian Church

It's hard to put into words just how thankful we are for the huge amount of money you gave us. We are so grateful because it will help us stay in Mt Baldy and that's what we want to do so thank you alot. The house was so important to us because it had a huge living room were we would play as a hole family as well as the tv room had a fire place and in the winter we light fires in it and watch movies and it felt so special also my dad put a lot of work into it so it really felt our own. I also have to mention that the view of the mountains it had were truly wonderful. Thats we were so sad to hear it was gone, but thanks to you guys we will have the opportunity to continue making memories in Mt Baldy. Thank you so much, with all the appreciation in the would sincerely the Martin Family

Sincerely Logan Martin



Logan



On December 8, Ann Martin and the Soto family attended our worship service. It was a special day for Meredith Soto, daughter of Amanda Soto and granddaughter of Ann Martin, as Meredith received her fourth grant from the Cincush Memorial Scholarship Fund. She is attending Cal Poly Pomona, where she will graduate in May 2025 - currently maintaining a 3.5 GPA.

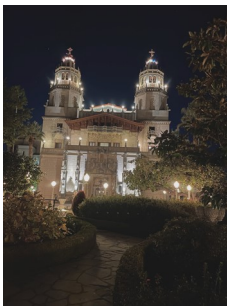
During Joys and Concerns, Amanda Soto spoke to the congregation and expressed heartfelt thanks on behalf her family, and especially for Joe Martin's family (Joe, Kirsty, Logan and Lila) whose home was destroyed in the recent Bridge Fire in Mt. Baldy. Ann and Amanda and family also live in Mt. Baldy, but their homes were spared. Amanda expressed her thanks for not only the financial assistance that was provided by donations from our Westminster family, but also for the words of encouragement and continuing prayers for them as they recover and move forward. Amanda shared that the entire Mt. Baldy community was shaken by these losses, but they are a very strong community and are working hard to take care of each other as they recover.



Ann Martin - Amanda - Meredith - Everett - and Steve Soto



Here is a photo of Barbara Alwin, with her Uncle Tim - who she often visits in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The other person in the photo is visiting nurse Janet Wente, whose husband Dave Wente is on our prayer list as he battles cancer. The view of the Kenosha harbor is what Barbara sees from her hotel room. So the next time Barbara tells us she is traveling to Kenosha, you'll have an idea of what she sees there.



Jesse Rose visited Hearst Castle. Here is the main castle at night, Sunset on the Pacific, and one of the many beautiful swimming pools!



Marline Van Alstine and her friend, Ginny DeBry, went on a 10-day Mexican Riviera Cruise. The weather was beautiful and there were lots of sights to see at five different ports.



Report from the Budget & Finance Committee

Summary of Revenue & Expense For November 2024

Revenues

Headstart	Use of Facility	Tithes & Offerings	Thanksgiving	Interest CD Account
\$10,639.24	\$1,275.00	\$6,630.00	\$185.00	\$311.55
Interest Cincush MM	Joe Martin Fund			Total Revenue (Cincush Fund Not Included)
\$1.35	\$50.00			\$19,090.79

November Tithes and Offerings.

November 11	November 25				November Total	November Budget	October Total
\$3,175.00	\$3,455.00				\$6,630.00	\$5,247.00	\$5,300.00

2024 Total Pledges Received: \$60,700.00. We budgeted \$56,342.00. We are \$4,358.00 above the budgeted pledged amount.

November Major Expenses

Administration	\$694.04	Choir (Piano tuning)	\$175.00
Building & Grounds	\$6,448.29	Stewardship (2025 Offering Envelopes)	\$294.58
Pastor Expenses	\$3,157.00		
Personnel	\$3,512.87		
Utilities	\$2,810.48		

**Total Expenses = \$17,191.64/ Net Income For November= \$1,899.15
Net Income 2024 YTD = \$20,427.73**

Special Offerings Balances as of end of November 2024:

One Great Hour = \$20.00/ Peacemaking = \$170.00/ Thanksgiving = \$185.00



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Westminster Staff

Pastor Narcissis,
Interim Pastor
Caroline Lopez,
Office Administrator
David Clemensen,
Music Director
Jim Costa,
Custodian

Elders

Jesse Rose
Judy Conacher
Tweddy Vander Laan
Lynn Elliott
Marline Van Alstine

Clerk of Session

Ginny Mansfield

Volunteer Support

Budget & Finance: Jesse Rose
Endowment: Jesse Rose
Facility & Property: Jesse Rose
Fellowship: Tweddy Vander Laan
Flower Coordinator:
Tweddy Vander Laan
God's Tellers: Tweddy Vander
Laan, Ginny Mansfield
Mission: Lynn Elliott
Nominating Committee:
Marline Van Alstine
Personnel: Barbara Alwin
Sound System.: Jesse Rose
Worship: Tweddy Vander Laan
HeadStart: Jesse Rose

Westminster Presbyterian Church



The Sovereign Lord
is my strength;
he makes my feet like
the feet of a deer,
he enables me to tread on the heights.

Habakkuk 3:19, NIV



*As the rain
and the snow*

come down from heaven, and
do not return to it without
watering the earth ... so is my
word that goes out from my
mouth: It will not return to me
empty, but will ... achieve the
purpose for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:10-11, NIV