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HARBINGER

open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXIII | APRIL 18, 2021 | No. 49A

From the Pews, Elizabeth Timmons

When I first got the scripture for this Harbinger cover, I thought, “Ok, I’ll write about modern day miracles.” Which I do think is part of this story, but I think there is more to this story than meets the eye, initially.

A couple of days before this Harbinger was due, I treated a patient who loves and serves the Lord so very well. I told her I needed to write a devotional on the text of Jesus, through the disciples, performing a miracle, and it led to a beautiful, Godly discussion about this text.

The first point is that God used the disciples to facilitate this miracle of healing. God performed the miracle, but through the disciples. Thus, God can perform miracles through you and I. God could’ve performed this miracle without the disciples, but this story shows us that we are ambassadors for Christ and because of our sharing of God’s love, have the ability to bring others to him.

Secondly, I think it is really interesting that this beggar clearly had physical needs, but I think the disciples saw his spiritual needs more. They saw past his physical appearance, to the needs of his heart. In healing him physically, the man was healed spiritually. Also, because of his miraculous healing, he was a visible sign to others of just what Christ can do in our lives.

Lastly, I think the timing of this story is important to take into account. We don’t know exactly how long the beggar sat outside and begged for money and goods, but I get the impression it’s been years, as the others in the city knew and recognized this man once he was healed. That being said, this miracle could’ve been performed long ago, but it was performed at the perfect time — God’s time. Maybe the man wouldn’t have been ready to accept Jesus into his life if it weren’t at this precise time.

I think back to the beautiful, Christ-filled conversation this story led to with my patient and even though I may not have been performing a miracle in the name of Jesus, I think it’s neat that I was helping this patient physically, considering the text. I think we are all called to be “liaisons” for Christ, much like the disciples in this story.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, April 18, 2021 | On Demand on Facebook & YouTube | 9a wpc-online.org



Third Sunday of Easter

Preparation for **Worship**

“And when Jesus comes along saying that the greatest command of all is to love God and to love our neighbor, he too is asking us to pay attention. If we are to love God, we must first stop, look, and listen for him in what is happening around us and inside us. If we are to love our neighbors, before doing anything else we must see our neighbors. With our imagination as well as our eyes...we must see not just their faces, but the life behind and within their faces. Here it is love that is the frame we see them in.”

Frederick Buechner

Prelude “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” arr. Lowe

Welcome and Announcements

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Call to Worship Ephesians 1:17-18, Isaiah 11:3-4

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ

**give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation,
so that, with the eyes of our hearts enlightened,
we may know the hope to which God has called us.**

God shall not judge by what God’s eyes see,

or decide by what his ears hear;

**but with righteousness God shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.**

Let us worship God!

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hymn #233

“The Day of Resurrection”

LANCASHIRE

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

**Good and gracious God, we have been fooled
by familiar refrains and tired habits.
We look out at the world and see what we want to see,
closing our eyes to your revelation in our midst.
We pay too much attention to our own problems,
our own pocketbook, and our own priorities.
Grant us new eyes to see the world.
Shape and mold our imaginations, so that we would be
courageous with the gifts you have given us,
and unafraid of the responsibilities you place before us.
Help us to spread the joy of new life to all whom we encounter.
In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Baptism

Sheppard Love Hanor

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson, *Luke 24:36-43*

New Testament Lesson, *Acts 3:1-10*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“He Didn't Even Ask for It”

Anthem

“O God Beyond All Praising”

Forrest

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Responding to **God's Word**

Affirmation of Faith, *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hymn #250 “In the Bulb There Is a Flower” HYMN OF PROMISE
Charge and Benediction
Postlude “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” arr. Lowe

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*

Laura Williams Sanders, *sponsor*

Corey Sanders, *lay reader*

Nancy Smith, *organist/pianist*

Kelly Kemp, Emily Sweezey, Diana Dailey, Hunter Ditsch, Mark Kemp, *vocalists*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Sheppard Love Hanor*, son of David & Anna Hanor.

At our 11:15a livestream service, we welcome *Scarlett Grace Gettys* and *Gantt Thurman Gettys*, children of Keith & Katherine Gettys.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

The birth of a daughter, *Emma Ruth Oswald*, to Michael & Lindsay Oswald on 3/26/2021.

The birth of a son, *Griffith Saunders Broome*, to Lee & Lillie Broome on 4/2/2021.

We Remember in Prayer

Kaye Lindler on the death of her mother, Emily Boyd, in Greenville - 3/29/2021.

Renie Raney on the death of her father, Jerry E. Davis, in Fountain Inn - 4/10/2021.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP FROM HOME ON SUNDAY MORNING?

Our pre-recorded service will continue to air on our website at 9a, and on our social media platforms. Our in-person worship service will air on our website via livestream at 11:15a. The Harbinger that you receive in the mail will be for our pre-recorded worship. If you would like the Harbinger for our 11:15a livestream worship, you may download it from our website at <https://wpc-online.org/sermon-archive>.

MEN OF THE CHURCH - SPRING CAMP THORNWELL MISSION

The Spring Men's Mission Trip to Camp Thornwell will be Wednesday, May 12 through Saturday, May 15. Overnight indoor accommodations will be limited according to Covid protocol, so sign ups to reserve beds are required (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/mens-mission-trip/>). Camping onsite is also an option. All food will be provided. We will be finishing construction of a cabin structure plus the ever present landscaping, cleaning, and odd jobs. We have something for all to do whether you come for a day or for one or more nights. Contact Paul O'Neal (paulmoneal@aol.com) with questions.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC

SUNDAY MORNING

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

The Pastor's Zoom Bible Study is scheduled for Sunday mornings at 10a and will run through early May. Leigh Stuckey will lead participants in engaging and provoking discussions based on the texts of the day. We hope you will join us.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 918 5587 5662

Passcode: 785672

ZOOM CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us each Sunday for a Zoom Children's Sunday School at 10a.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 980 3425 3372

Passcode: 700049

IT'S ELEMENTARY

Our next pop up gathering for It's Elementary will be April 28 at 3p in the Green Lot. We'll be learning all about how to use our Bible. Sign ups are required. See your email for more information or contact Lauren Slingerland at lslingerland@wpc-online.org.

CHILDREN'S SABBATH

Our Season of Outdoor worship continues as we celebrate the gifts of Children this Sunday, April 18, at 3:00p in the Green Lot. WPC Kids will lead the service and third graders will celebrate their Bible milestone and the importance of our Westminster children grounding their faith in the word of God. Sign ups on our website. Bring your own chair!

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JUSTFAITH:

FAITH AND RACIAL JUSTICE

Zoom meetings have resumed and will continue through Monday, May 24 at 6p. For information, previously registered class members may call Susan McLeod (787-6262).

HIKING GROUP

The next hike for the WPC Hiking Group will be on Thursday, April 22, to Bridal Veil Falls in DuPont Forest. This hike will be led by Buffie Taylor. If interested, contact Buffie at ehtaylor87@gmail.com.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

SPRING GATHERING

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

1:30 PM IN THE SANCTUARY

Women and girls of Westminster are invited to the annual WPC Spring Gathering (formerly the Generations Banquet). While we will not have a meal this year, we hope you will join us as we celebrate being together, enjoy a short program, and honor our Lifetime Achievement members! Reservations are required. RSVP with the office or on the website.

Each year the Women of Westminster offer scholarships to provide financial aid among our college student membership. Any Westminster member who will be furthering their education in the fall is eligible to apply. We are not charging a fee to attend the Spring Gathering this year but welcome any donations to our Scholarship Fund.

**We invite all who are able to enjoy the program.*

*We are not able to provide a nursery
or activities room for children at this time.*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 18 - 25, 2021

Sunday, April 18

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 9:00a Online Worship Service
- 10:00 Zoom Sunday Bible Study
Zoom Children's Sunday School
Confirmation Class: Final Exam in Green Lot
- 11:15 In-Person Worship Service
- 12:30p Zoom Stated Session Meeting
- 3:00 Children's Sabbath Service in Green Lot
- 5:00 WPCYG Middler Shepherd Groups
- 6:30 WPCYG Senior High Shepherd Groups

Wednesday, April 21

- 6:30p On Tap Group Meeting

Thursday, April 22

- 8:00a Hiking Group
- 12:00p Endowment Committee Meeting

Sunday, April 25

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 9:00a Online Worship Service
Zoom Education Committee Meeting
- 10:00 Zoom Sunday Bible Study
Zoom Children's Sunday School
- 11:15 In-Person Worship Service
- 1:30p Women of Westminster Spring Gathering
- 5:00 WPCYG Middler Shepherd Groups
- 6:30 WPCYG Senior High Shepherd Groups

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

Ben Dorr
Pastor & Head of Staff
bdorr@wpc-online.org

Leigh Stuckey
Associate Pastor
lstuckey@wpc-online.org

Mary Kathleen Duncan
Associate Pastor
mkduncan@wpc-online.org

Lauren Slingerland
Associate Pastor
lslingerland@wpc-online.org

Amos Workman
Parish Associate
aworkman@wpc-online.org

Mark Kemp
Director of Music
mkemp@wpc-online.org

Jennifer Dillard
Volunteer Coordinator
jdillard@wpc-online.org

Kathryn Knauer
Children's Choir Coordinator
kknauer@wpc-online.org

Lauren Hood
Associate Director of Youth Ministry
lhood@wpc-online.org

Nancy Smith
Organist
nsmith@wpc-online.org

Cara Puntch
Weekday School Director
cpuntch@wpc-online.org

Sherri Owens
Financial Secretary
sherri@wpc-online.org

Michelle Little
Office Manager
michelle@wpc-online.org

Wendy Bagley
Secretary
wendy@wpc-online.org

Aly Friend
Director of Nurseries
alyfriend@wpc-online.org

Steve Phillips
Building Supervisor
sphillips@wpc-online.org

