

Westminster Window

1520 Rickwood Rd.
Florence, AL 35630



NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Keeping you up to date with our church Announcements, Events and Latest News.

MARCH

2024

Your Session is actively looking for an Interim Pastor. In the meantime Supply Pastors have been blessing the congregation during the worship hour. Until an Interim or permanent Pastor is secured, WPC will not have some of the regular activities, as seen below. It is so important for all of you to show your support right now as WPC strives to build God's church to go forward as a strong Beacon of Light & Love!

- Communion: Will be served Mar 3, then quarterly until Interim Pastor is secured
- Lent Presentations: Mar 3, 10, 17 & 24th during worship hour
- Maundy Thurs: No service at WPC this season
- Good Friday: No service at WPC this season
- Sunrise Service: No service at WPC this season
- Easter Service: 11:00 worship service
- Fellowship Luncheon: March 20 @ 12:00 Milano's Italian
- WPC Adventures: Thurs, March 28, 8:30 Liberty Grace Tulip Farm: Breakfast at the Stubborn Mule & on to the tulip farm. Adm \$12 plus \$1.50 per stem



John Horton	1
Ann Freeman	5
Nancy Valentine	5
Joe Eckl	11
Pam Iseli	15

The Gathering Barn at
Liberty Grace Farm &
Vineyard

Columbia, TN

You Pick Tulip Fest
Coming Spring 2024





The Lent arrangement reminds us of the desolate wilderness where Jesus fasted for 40 days and nights.

Traditionally, the dried palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday service are burnt to make ash for the Ash Wednesday service. When we prayerfully burn the palms we can ritually release our burdens to God. Burning the "triumphant" palms to make ash is a humble reminder that defeat and crucifixion followed soon after. Without Jesus in our lives we will be nothing more than ashes. May God burn away that which harms. May new life spring from these ashes.



May all who enter the holy season of Lent be open to God's transforming mercy. May we journey together, seen and unseen, spiritual pilgrims on earth and in heaven. Lenten peace upon all beings. Amen





The name is derived from the Three Wise Men in the Bible, who came bearing gifts for Baby Jesus on the Twelfth Night. King cake is first served on King's Day (January 6) and can continue to be served through the eve of Mardi Gras to celebrate the coming of the three kings, as well as to honor them with a sweet homage to their jeweled crowns.

Thank you Lud & Linda Seme for sharing a delicious King Cake with your church family!



Essie Elaine Anderson

Born February 15, 2024 to
Keaton and Sydney Anderson
8th Great-grandchild of
Charles Anderson





Sterling, Stella & Wyatt helped cheer the Chiefs on to another Super Bowl Championship!



HAPPY
8TH
BIRTHDAY

Sterling Mimbs





**Bob
AND
Brad**



**"In life, it's not
where you go – it's
who you travel with"**

SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANINGS

- (1). Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
- (2). When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
- (3). Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. That is hope.
- (4). We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
- (5). We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
- (6). On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.' That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories.
Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life,
difficult to find and impossible to replace!!



Carole Lee Willingham James

was born Jan 28, 1935 in Sheffield, AL. She grew up in Sheffield attending a Baptist church. Carole enjoyed dancing and was a majorette at Sheffield High School for three years.



Carole married Dan C. James, Sr. in 1952 at the age of 17. Carole received her undergraduate degree at UNA, and subsequently received her Masters in Social Work.

Carole worked at JT Flagg, Ford Co. and teaching school . She taught 4th grade at Gilbert for 12 yrs.

and Hibbett for 13 yrs. Dan worked at Reynolds. They attended St. James Methodist church

during this time. Dan & Carole had children, Dan C. Jr. & Connie Carole

James. Carole stopped working while the children were young so that she could attend all of their events. Connie enjoyed being outdoors and riding horses.

In 1972, at the age of 13, Connie had a fatal fall from a horse.



Dan C. James, Jr.



Connie Carole James



(See a tribute to Connie on the following page)



Dan married his beautiful bride, Karen Seale in 1991 and they made their home in Florence.



Dan & Karen have two children, Collin & Carly. Both attended Westminster Pre-school. Dan, Sr. & Carole began worshipping at WPC since their grandchildren attended school here. Dan, Sr. passed away in 2005, leaving his bride of 67 wonderful years!



Carly James was baptized at WPC on Nov 9, 2014 By Pastor John McKell



Collin & Feo Gonzales married Oct 2022. They have made their home here in Florence.

Dan & Karen both received degrees from UNA. Dan had a career as a carpenter. Karen retired after 26 years as a Middle School teacher in 2018. Their dog, Champ, helps fill the void of being Empty Nesters!





The Girl On A Horse

She rode into my life as a fresh breeze on a hot summer's day. Bubbling with personality and winsome in manners, she introduced herself and asked permission to ride through our woods and around our pasture. She quickly became a part of our place, gracing the trees and bridle paths. Often I found myself glancing about, hoping to catch a glimpse of the splash of sunshine that brought back youth and merriment to long-silenced fences and gates and barns. How glad we were that she chose our place to ride her horse.

Yesterday she rode away from our woods and our pasture and our lives. Our small patch of land must seem insignificant to her now, as she rides in search of the wind and the stars, among bridle paths that are unending, and on grass that is eternally green. But our trees and paths and lives have been enriched because the girl on a horse rode our way for a brief season.

I'm thinking how this stark tragedy we face is yet so much a part of life as we know it. Briefly we meet to love and laugh and weep, and all too quickly we ride away. Give or take an aeon or two, it matters not how few or how many our years

may be; but what does matter is what we do with the time we have, and what we leave behind when we ride away.

I wonder.

The girl on a horse left us with renewed visions of a better day, and with a memory of a youth with wholesome values in a troubled and complex age. You see, we have hopes for our tomorrow when we know wholesomeness and purity and beauty as we saw in the girl on a horse who rode through our woods and about our pasture.

She rode away and left a whole lot of sunshine behind.

[A memorial to our neighbor, Miss Connie Carol James, who died in 1972.]



This tribute was written by
William "Bill" Lindsey
McDonald & illustrated by
his wife Dorothy Carter
McDonald from the book:

Paths in the Brier Patch

Your life touched
so many others,
And will be remembered
forever more,
To leave the world
a better place
Than it had been before.

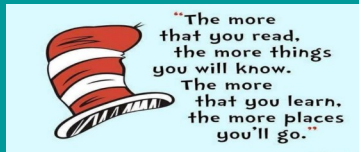
Preschool News



Crystal Beckloff, **Director**

Stacey Dean &
Anna Baughn
**Family Engagement
Specialist**

Westminster Center is a
Preschool/Headstart for
ages 3-5. They serve ap-
prox. 65 students. The Di-
rector & students wel-
come volunteers through-
out the school year.



Read Across America will be
Mar 4-8. Be a volunteer to
read to one of the classes!

Front: Lorien
Watson, Nikki
Thomas, Shay
Lockett

Back: Dana Har-
rison, Terra
Johnson, Kisha
Armstead, Chris-
tian Quick, Em-
ma Robinson

Teachers





----- Don't Give Up Give To -----

Westminster's Lent Project Don't Give Up Give To is underway. During the forty days of Lent, you have the opportunity to give one needed item each day to the Help Center or Safeplace. Bags are available the narthex. They include a suggestion list of items needed. Westminster may be small, but we always come through helping those in need in a BIG way. The donation bags need to be returned to the church on March 31, Easter Sunday, when they will be dedicated to the glory of God.

*"Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us*

*You came from heaven to earth
to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave,
from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high"*



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Great Hour of Sharing For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity . The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Please give generously to this special offering on Easter Sunday, March 31.





Fellowship Luncheon was held at Rosie's last month (Sara, Elaine, Sue, Nick, Susan, Lenore, Linda & Lud)

Join us next time at:



WHEN: Wed, March 20th
12:00
120 S. Main St.
Tuscumbia, AL
(Sign up in Narthex)



North Alabama Railroad

Huntsville, AL

WHEN: Sat, May 11

9:00 from church parking lot

PRE-SALE IS MAR 22. Please sign up so Alonda can get everyone's tickets!

\$15 per person

Lunch at Stovehouse Food Gallery

Daddy Daughter Dance

MQ & Sally Parker's youngest granddaughters, Emalyn & Katlyn, attended their last Daddy Daughter Dance at their school.

Happy girls are the prettiest girls...



A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up.

The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only 16 chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

Paula Hammond's daughter, Sarah Blaylock is pictured here with her sons, Ransom & Soren and husband, Brandon.



The Work of Christmas

By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among the people,
To make music in the heart.

For God so loVed the world
that He gAve
His onLy
begottEn
soN
thaT whosoever
believeth In Him
should Not perish,
but have Everlasting life.

-John 3:16



Natural Bridge in Double Springs
Lakeshore Inn Restaurant
Friday, Feb 2, 8:30



Linda Seme, Susan Johnson, Lenore Favenesi
Alonda Crosslin, Sue Winn, & Nick Winn enjoyed a day
of fellowship in God's great outdoors!



Alonda



Native American Head





SHOW THAT WE CARE

Immediate: Jeremy Sylvester, Sandra Perry, Char Terry, John Horton, Janice McKell

At Home: Jean Blair

TN Assisted Living: Dot Solomon

Janice McKell wants everyone to know how much she misses them and loves them! She is currently in Richmond, GA staying with her sister and brother-in-law, but hopes to be back in Florence soon. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Easter Sunday Lilies



Order your Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday morning given in honor of or in memory of loved ones or special friends.

Sign up slips will be in the bulletin or call the church office

256-766-3841

*Mail comments/
articles to:*

Alondacr@gmail.com

256-710-8662