

Westminster Window

1520 Rickwood Rd.
Florence, AL 35630



MARCH 2025	
Ann Freeman	5
Nancy Valentine	5
Joe Eckl	11
Pam Iseli	15

March is often said to, “come in like a lion and out like a lamb.” During this month, we usually face at least one “cold snap”, often a tornado, and many beautiful sunny days when we are excited to see flowers blooming and trees greening.

During March, we also celebrate some part of the Lenten season.

Whether Easter is early or late, March is involved in some way. We

often spend the month changing something. If we are giving up something we love like coffee or chocolate, we may be grouchy and tired. We may sometimes fail like we do with New Year’s resolutions and must start over. I encourage us not to forget the purpose of what we do. We are not just giving up something or trying to add something good to be a faithful Presbyterian and follow the church calendar. We are making a change in our behavior to ready our hearts for the most important moment in our Christian faith. There is nothing more important than the death and resurrection of our Lord. This short period of time in history changed the world. I hope and pray Christ continues to change your world each and every day. *Susan*

BOARD MEMBERS!



Alonda Crosslin, Board President

Lenore Favenesi, Class of 2026

Sally Parker, Class of 2025

Lud Seme, Class of 2027



We will observe Ash Wednesday at Westminster Presbyterian Church, on Wednesday, March 5 from noon - 1:00 pm. This will be a come and go service so come by if you are available. You will read a short devotion silently, receive the ashes and go about your way.

Lent, here we come!

Please sit silently and read this devotion. When you feel led, go to the front for the marking of the cross.

Ash Wednesday begins a forty-day period when we observe Lent, the weeks prior to Easter. During this time, many people practice abstinence from something they enjoy. They may give up coffee, wine, chocolate, all sugar, etc. We do this as a reminder of our need for reconciliation with God.

It could also be possible we might consider giving up hate, prejudice, discontent or some attitude we need to remove from our lives.

This all reminds us that if we are not willing to let our old sinful self die, we cannot be raised to life with Christ.

The ashes harken back to the time when sinners in the Old Testament would publicly wear ashes to atone for their sins. Susan will mark the sign of the cross on your forehead with the words, "From dust we have come and to dust we shall return." This is to remind us of our humility and our need to come to God as we are. We are God's creation and only worth anything through him.

Church Officers & Leaders



MQ Parker was installed as the new Trustee

Lenore Favenesi is coming back to serve a new term as Ruling Elder

Westminster Reaching Out

Westminster is a sponsoring member of the Help Center. Sally Parker represented WPC at the annual meeting of the Cooperative Community Ministries (Help Center). The center has seen a tremendous increase in services this year. The following information will show you how important Westminster donations to the Help Center are. In 2024:

- * 75-80 families were helped per day
- * People asking for assistance have tripled in the last 5 years
- * 11,862 food boxes were rendered. Food boxes consist of 14 staple items and frozen meat. Additional staple items are included based on the family's size.
- * 4,026 families visited the clothing store.

In 2024, a new interview system was developed that connects clients with resources and addresses their spiritual and emotional needs.

THANK YOU, Nancy & Bill Valentine for replenishing the Blessing Bags. These bags are kept in the office to be given to people coming in that are hungry.

On February 15, the Westminster cooks prepared and served 125 meals for the Soup Kitchen. Thank you, Elaine Brooks, Susan Johnson, Joe Littrell, Sally Parker, and Paula Offutt, for preparing and serving this meal.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Nick & Sue Winn



My
FOREVER
Valentine



Nick Winn finished this puzzle in 7 days of their family picture! It is extra special because the puzzle was gifted to him by his son.



#1 Fans

Brad & Bob Moody



Linda –n– Lud Seme



This couple just celebrated “Goin’ Steady” for 62 years. Congratulations!



Lud & Linda Seme’s granddaughter, Emily Faint participated in the GNAC (Greater New England Athletic Conference) swimming and diving championships recently and won the 200 backstroke and swam well in other events. The women won the overall championship with over 900 total points. The men’s team also won the overall championship with over 400 total points. Emily is on the lower right of the photo , holding up the sign.

Congratulations to Cale Eckl on receiving his “white coat” from the LSU Veterinarian school. He is seen here with his friend and mentor, Bryan Bingham.

Cale will have one year of clinicals working with vets from all over the SE. His work will involve wildlife, exotics, and aquatics!

Good luck Cale.....WPC is so very proud of you!



SO WE CAN KNOW & SHOW OUR CARE LIST



IMMEDIATE: Charles Anderson, John Bruninga, Vicki Burbank & Pam Methcin (nieces of Brenda Gray & Joe Littrell), Grace Carter, Warren Chambers & Ray Haner (close relatives of the Seme's, Leonard McClure (Alonda Crosslin's dad), Bessie Salter, Mary George Williams, Louise Smith, Paula Stone (Sister of Marsha Bullock), Don Sylvester, Jeremy Sylvester, Char Terry, Nick Winn V, Pastoral Search Committee



Mary George Williams has moved to MS to be closer to her son. She would love to keep in touch with us:

100 Pimlico St.
Long Beach, MS 39560
(601) 770-2737



Katie Shea has moved to Texas to find a job. She will be staying with her dad, Patrick at 2905 Castle Court, Pearland, TX 77581

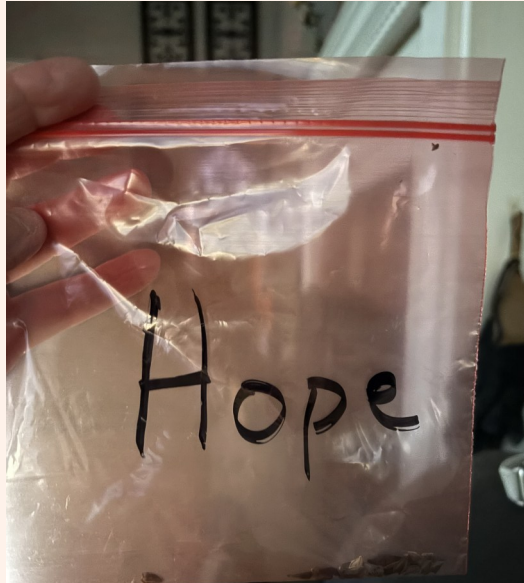


A perfect day is when you feel
God is in control



This past Sunday Rev Susan Parker delivered a message on Hope. Our Hope in Jesus Christ for Westminster is that He will lead us to a Pastor who will inspire us to be a church that continues the Lord's work.

To demonstrate her message of Hope, Susan passed out bags with Zinnia seeds. Planting seeds demonstrates that we are looking to a bright future! Florence Duncan took her seeds home and planted them inside. She hopes they will grow strong and produce blooms as beautiful as her youngest daughter, who happens to be named Hope!



You see signs of hope throughout the WPC building. The ladies' bathroom in the Narthex has been given a new coat of paint and freshly decorated. Pansies have been planted in front of the church entrance, bulletin boards are designed with welcoming pictures, the library is being redesigned, spring cleaning and purging is seen throughout the building, etc. All of these things are signs that we are excited about what God has in store for our future!



Westminster Head Start celebrated Black History month with a program honoring The Miller Brothers, which included a performance by Jayla Cook!

James, John, Thomas, Willie and Leo, the Miller brothers. All born in Limestone County and raised in Decatur. And all five of them, Vietnam War Veterans.

"I volunteered to go into the Marines. When I got out of high school, or before, eight of us signed up for the Marines. We graduated on June 6th and were in the Marines June the 9th," James Miller said.

James and John, who are twins, are the oldest of the Miller brothers. They both served in the Marines, and were the first two of their family to go to Vietnam. "I didn't have to go to Vietnam, but because all of my brothers went to Vietnam, I volunteered to go," Leo Miller said.

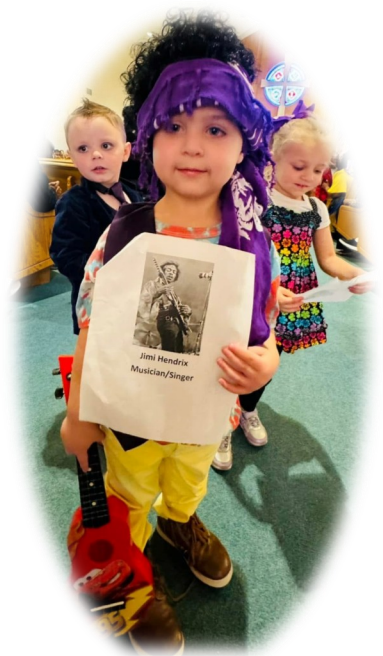
Leo, who's the youngest of the five, was the last to serve. All five of them, made it home alive.

"If you join the service, make sure to put God in there with you. Always pray that God will lead and guide you on the direction you need to take. That's why we're still here today," John Miller said.





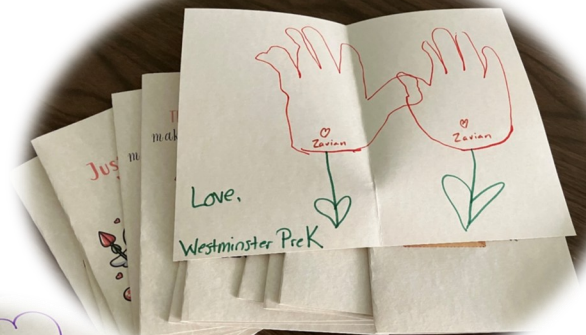
"The time is always right to do what is right". -Martin Luther King, Jr.



Showing God's Love


The WPC Ladies Service Group delivered hand-made "fidget blankets" and sweet cards made by the pre-school & head starters to Green Oaks Inn and El Reposo.

W E L L D O N E !!!!



Presbyterian Home for Children
www.phfc.org

Providing hope and healing
Valentine's Day 2025



We know love is more than just a feeling—it's an action. Every day, your generosity surrounds children and families with the love and support they need to heal, grow, and thrive. **Many of the mothers and children we serve have faced overwhelming hardships, but because of this caring community, they are met with kindness, security, and the reassurance that they are not alone.**

This Valentine's Day, we invite you to share that love. Your gift provides safe shelter, warm meals, and hope for a brighter future for those who need it most. **As 1 John 4:19 reminds us, "We love because He first loved us." Let's continue to be the hands and feet of His love together.**

Read Across America
March 3-7

Monday- "Reading is Unique" (Crazy Socks Day)
Tuesday- "Hats off to Reading" (Hat Day)
Wednesday- "Reading is Fun" (Wacky Wednesday)
Thursday- "Reading is Magical" (Dress as Your Favorite Book Character)
Friday- "Reading is Cozy" (Pajama Day)



Get involved with the WPC Pre-School & Head Start. Volunteer to read a book to the children this week during "Read Across America"! Mar 3-7



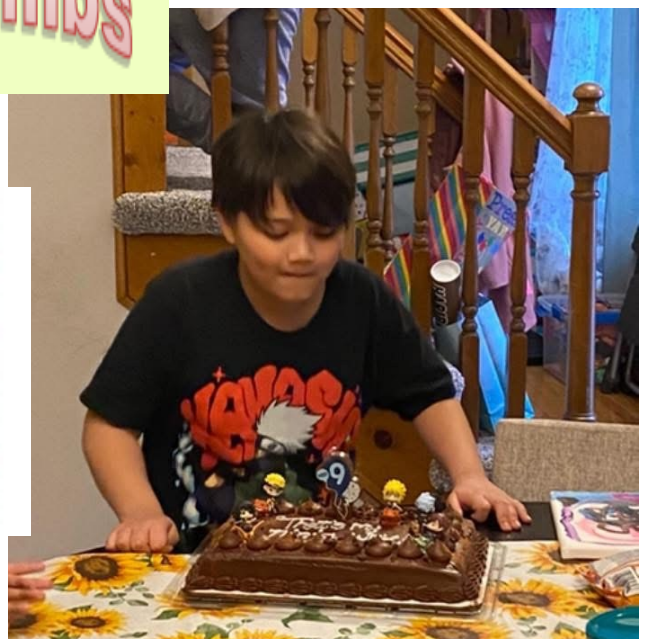
Out-Of-Town
Friends and Family

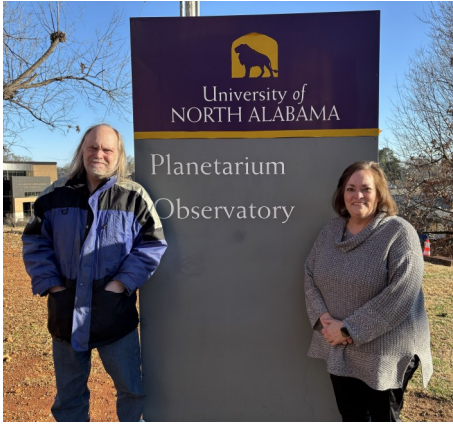
Alonda Crosslin's daughter, Kyndall
ran her first Half Marathon in Au-
burn during February.

Way to go Kyndall & Isabelle!



Sterling Mimbs





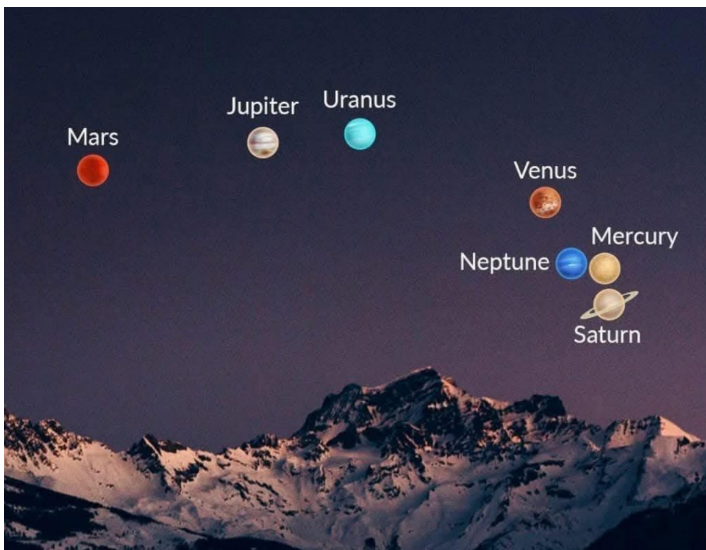
Thank you to Dr. Mel Blake for hosting the WPC group for a Planetarium Show!



Cathy Shea, Bessie Salter, Lenore Favenesi, Katie Shea, Susan Johnson, Brad & Bob Moody, Nick Winn, Larry Ramsey, Sally Parker, Sue Winn, Connie Ramsey & Alonda Crosslin



This February trip made us aware that during the month the seven planets would be visible in the night sky. The photo on right was provided by NASA





**Tia is the daughter of
Florence Duncan**



Susan & Paul Parker traveled to Cuba for a much needed 10 day get-away. They visited an artist village, a community garden in Havana, toured the Hemingway house, saw countless pre-1960 cars and toured the car shop from the Netflix show "Chrome Cuba"





ARTIST VILLAGE

FUSTERLANDIA
unusual artsy discovery in
HAVANA, CUBA 🇨🇺

Jose Fuster-Cuban Artist



It's est.
to be
more
than
70,000
of these
pre-1960
cars in
the
country



Paul is
standing
by Hem-
ingway's
boat



Community
Garden





Bob Moody celebrated his 88th birthday in Jacksonville, FL with four generations.....daughter Babs, grandson David (Justine), great-grandson Mack and great-granddaughter Miller.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOB!!!



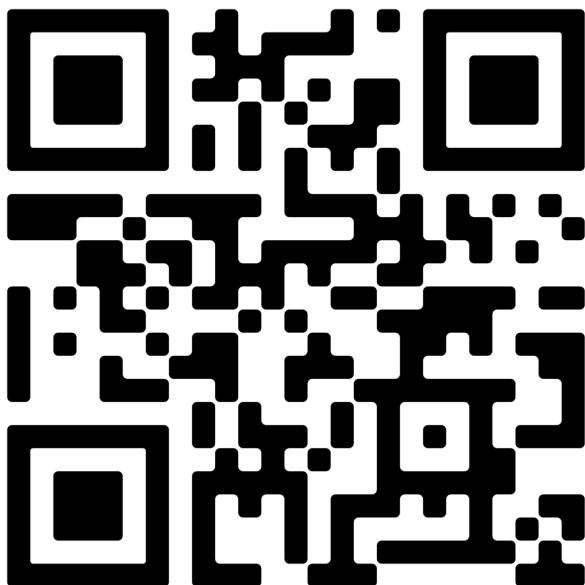
Currently we have about 200 people viewing our service each week!



We currently post our worship services on Facebook. Hopefully this week we will expand our social media outlets and start posting to Youtube to be more accessible to everyone. We will announce on FB and in the bulletin when we have Youtube up and running!

The QR code to the left takes you directly to the WPC website. Once we start posting the service on Youtube there will be a link on the website to get to the services directly. To use this QR code you will need a smart phone. Turn on your camera function and hover over the QR code like you were going to take a pic. A yellow link will pop up that you will click on. This will take you to WPC website.

We are continually expanding our resources in hopes of reaching out to more people!





What a great turn-out we had in February at Rosie's! Join us in March at:



Thurs, March 13th @ 11:30
2713 Cloverdale Rd, Florence

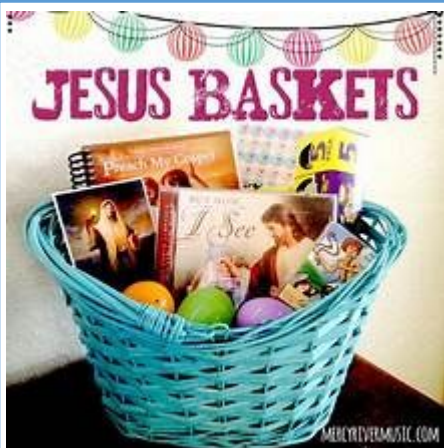
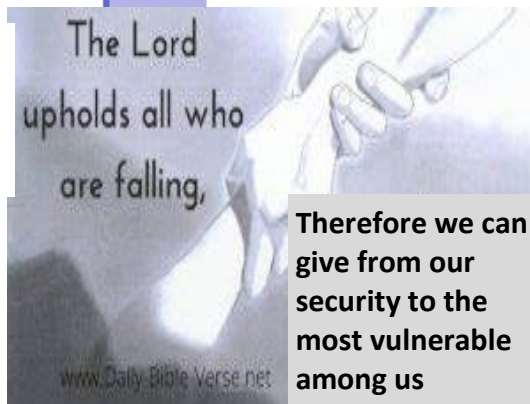


----- Don't Give Up Give To -----

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.

Life is not about being rich, being popular, being highly educated or being perfect. It is about being real, being humble and being kind.

The items collected for the "Don't Give Up...Give To" project will be dedicated on Easter Sunday. Please mark your bags as to which charity it is for, Help Center or Safe Place!



Come help the Ladies' Service group assemble Easter baskets to deliver to shut-ins. Baskets and grass will be provided. Members are asked to provide small items such as plastic eggs, note

pads, inspirational booklets, etc to include in the baskets.

March 18th 1:00 in old Session Room off of the Parlor

Comments/articles to:

Alondacr@gmail.com

256)710-8662