



# WPC Active

The Presbyterian Church, 123 West Hill Street, Wabash, IN 46992-3049  
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## PASTOR'S DESK

### Under Construction

By Pastor Jonathan Cornell

"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward" (Psalm 127:3).

For over 40 years now, the Presbyterian Preschool has helped cultivate little lives in our community. By sharing the love of God, the dignity of Christian compassion, and commitment to excellence in the classroom, we serve those around us with Christ's love.

To give you a sense of how deep and wide spreading the impact is, just a few months ago on social media, a picture of the Presbyterian Preschool was posted with the question, "Do you know this place?" The responses poured in. Dozens and dozens responded with fond memories of attending preschool here, and also sending their children to school here.

But like every institution in this constantly changing and developing society in which we live, the Presbyterian Preschool is being forced to adapt or face the prospect of closing her doors after these many

years. Circumstances beyond our control dictate that we reconsider the future of our program.

I am thrilled to say that your Preschool Board and teaching team have accepted the call to set a new course for the years to come.

Our board and teachers are diligently working on redeveloping our curriculum, educational philosophy, classroom resources, outreach, brand and community awareness, and we're even starting fresh with a new name and a new logo (which we will be unveiling in weeks to come).

We are excited to announce that beginning August of 2017, The Presbyterian School: Center for Learning and Creative Play will set sail for new horizons of early childhood education and service to our community.

This fall, our doors will reopen, welcoming children into the joy of learning, creativity, imagination, music, dance, exploration, cooperation, and faith development.

In the weeks to come, you will begin to learn more about what these changes will mean for the children of Wabash, as well as our church, the patron of this long-standing program. I hope that you will consider joining us for an open house to the congregation on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> after church. There we will be invited into a season of prayer for the months ahead as we prepare to kick-off this new season of life at The (Wabash) Presbyterian School.

## Look Inside

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*Jonathan*  
Pastor Jonathan  
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# Community & Missions

Loving people  
with the heart of Christ  
in the heart of Wabash

## Feed Our Community

You are always encouraged to bring canned/dry goods for the F.I.S.H. food pantry and drop them off in any of the boxes throughout the church. This month, we are collecting canned fruits and vegetables.

## WPC MISSION PARTNERS

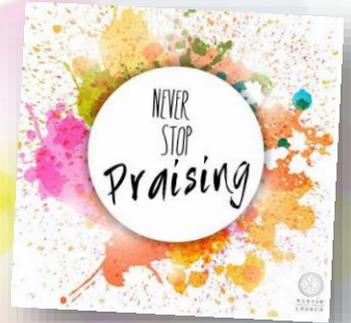
- Peabody Retirement Community
- Kemmerer Village
- Meals on Wheels
- City of Refuge (Ghana)
- Thammavongsa Family Mission
- Wabash Ministerial Association's Assistance Program
- Wabash Habitat for Humanity
- White's Family Residential Service
- Winchester Community Center
- 85 Hope
- Arc of Wabash County
- The Access
- Campus Life
- F.I.S.H.
- Character Building of Wabash County

## ARTS CAMP

USING THE ARTS TO WORSHIP GOD

Kids ages 4-12 are invited to join us for Arts Camp this summer, Saturday mornings in July.

- Arts Camp is a **unique opportunity** not just to learn more about art, but also to explore how to use art as a way to worship God.
- **Local art experts** have partnered with us to lead the workshops.
- Each student will get to **choose two arts** to study during Arts Camp.
- **Registration will be opening soon!** Cost will be \$40/camper. Space is limited.



Contact Kari Bartkus at the church office for more information.

## MISSION SPOTLIGHT Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels has been serving seniors in Wabash since 1973. WPC's own Agnes Scott spearheaded its founding and served as its director for many years. The office of Meals on Wheels is still located in our Christian Ed Building.

At the core of the Meals on Wheels service are nutritious meals prepared at the hospital and delivered by volunteer drivers. In addition, it provides companionship and a watchful eye on the health and safety of our seniors. Meals on Wheels helps keep seniors at home where they want to be.



# March Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>Kari Out of Office</b>  <b>Community Meal</b> (6pm)  <b>Lenten Vespers</b> (7pm)	2	3 <b>Friday Book Study</b> (11am)	4
5 <b>Sunday School &amp; Choir Practice</b> (9am)  <b>Worship</b> (10am) & <b>Fellowship Hour</b> (11am)	6 <b>Monday Bible Study</b> (9am)	7	8 <b>Community Meal</b> (6pm)  <b>Lenten Vespers</b> (7pm)	9 <b>Kari Out of Office</b>  <b>Missions Team</b> (6:30pm)  <b>Buildings &amp; Grounds Team</b> (7pm)  <b>Worship Team</b> (7pm)	10 <b>Friday Book Study</b> (11am)  <b>Thumbtack Groups 2.0 Kick-Off</b> (6pm)	11
12 <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS</b>  <b>Sunday School &amp; Choir Practice</b> (9am)  <b>Worship</b> (10am) & <b>Fellowship Hour</b> (11am)	13 <b>Monday Bible Study</b> (9am)	14 <b>ROMEO Men's Lunch</b> (12:30pm)	15 <b>Community Meal</b> (6pm)  <b>Lenten Vespers</b> (7pm)	16 <b>Buildings &amp; Grounds</b> (12pm)  <b>Session</b> (7pm)	17 <b>Friday Book Study</b> (11am)	18
19 <b>Sunday School &amp; Choir Practice</b> (9am)  <b>Worship</b> (10am) & <b>Fellowship Hour</b> (11am)	20 <b>Monday Bible Study</b> (9am)  <b>Helping Hands Ministry</b>	21	22 <b>Community Meal</b> (6pm)  <b>Lenten Vespers</b> (7pm)	23	24 <b>Friday Book Study</b> (11am)	25
26 <b>Sunday School &amp; Choir Practice</b> (9am)  <b>Worship</b> (10am) & <b>Fellowship Hour</b> (11am)  <b>Preschool Open House for Congregation</b> (11am)	27 <b>Monday Bible Study</b> (9am)	28 <b>JULIET Women's Breakfast</b> (8am @ Fried Egg)  <b>Preschool Open House</b> (5:30-7:30pm)	29 <b>Community Meal</b> (6pm)  <b>Lenten Vespers</b> (7pm)	30	31	

## Business Notes

### February Session Minutes

- Rev. Amy Cornell will preach the last Sunday of each month.
- Mary Kramer and Sandy Mitting will co-chair the Mission team, and Steve Henderson has resumed leadership of the Buildings & Grounds team.
- We are looking at ways to partner with other Presbyterian churches.

### Loose Offering | WPC's Gas Voucher Program

The loose cash that is collected on March 5<sup>th</sup> will help provide gas vouchers to those in our community who come to the church for aid.

### Financial Report

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Total 2017</u>
Income:	\$17,490	\$17,490
Expenses:	<u>24,329</u>	<u>24,329</u>
Balance:	-\$6,839	-\$6,839

*\*Thanks to generous giving in December, we did not have to use any funds from the Endowment Account to cover our expenses for January.*

**Give online.** Use our secure site to set up recurring gifts (like pledges) or for one-time gifts (like paying for a Bible study book or supporting our Mission Partners).

## Worship & Connect

### Lenten Vespers

On Wednesdays, 7pm, you are invited to a time of midweek worship and renewal, as we approach the cross. Worship will last approximately 30 minutes and will include music, Scripture, and prayer. We invite you to come and relax in the Spirit's presence.

### Thumbtack Groups 2.0 – Kick-off Gathering

We are relaunching small groups throughout our church community. These groups are prayer, study, and fellowship oriented and will follow the texts preached on in worship. Groups are between 5-12 people and are loosely based on age and stage of life. If you would like to join, please come to our Kick-Off Gathering on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.

### Church (Men's) Softball League

This summer, congregations in Wabash will be forming a slow pitch softball league. WPC is putting together a team of men looking for fellowship, camaraderie, and a little healthy competition. If you are interested in being on the team, please contact Pastor Jonathan.

## Connect & Serve

### Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser

Enjoy lunch from Main View in North Manchester on Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am-1:30pm and support Wabash County Habitat for Humanity as they prepare to build their 19<sup>th</sup> house. Carry out available.

### Life Together Community Meals

Wednesday night meals are back! Join us at 6pm for good food and good conversation. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, our Cuba Team will present on their trip. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you plan to attend that night. Also, you can sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you want to volunteer to prepare a meal. You can be reimbursed for your expenses (save your receipts!) or choose to donate the meal.

### Preschool Open House

Stick around after services on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> to check out the changes in the Preschool. We invite you to pray for the Preschool over the coming months—its new season of life and how it fits into our ministry here at WPC.



## DIG DEEPER

*Jesus, Have Mercy*

By Kari Bartkus

Sometimes the road was busy. Right now, though, there was a peaceful stillness to it. Bartimaeus enjoyed these moments, even though he knew he needed people to walk by so that he could ask them for help. As a blind man, he had no way of making a living. He relied solely on the mercy of others. It was humiliating. So many people just ignored him or walked by the other side of the street. It was like he didn't even exist.

Suddenly, he heard the rumble of people heading his way. Something was happening. Usually people passed by in groups of twos or threes, but this... this sounded like a lot more than that. He strained his ears to listen.

He couldn't make out much, but he heard the name "Jesus of Nazareth." And that was enough. Even he, the lonely blind beggar, had heard about this great man. Jesus worked miracles, there was no doubt about it. People who were once demon-possessed were now free. Those who were gravely ill brought back to life. And if rumor be true, this Jesus had opened the ears of a deaf man, empowering him to hear for the first time. Could this Jesus heal him? Absolutely. But *would* he?

As the crowd drew near, Bartimaeus did the only thing he knew to do: beg for mercy. "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" He didn't know where Jesus was at in the crowd, so he kept shouting. "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

"Sshhh!" he heard in response. "Be quiet!" people in the crowd shouted at him. But he wasn't about to lose his chance. He shouted even louder. "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" The crowd grew still. What was happening? And then he heard someone say, "Come on, he's calling you."

Jesus must have heard him. And he had stopped! Bartimaeus tossed his coat aside, jumped up, and started meandering through the crowd, relying on them to point him in the right direction. When they pulled him to a stop, he heard a voice ask him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Oh, if Jesus only knew how much he wanted this. It was his deepest desire. How long he had imagined what his life might be like if only he could see... Did he dare ask him?

"My Rabbi, I want to see!"

And just like that, he could see. And there was now only one thing he wanted to do: follow Jesus. He left his things alongside the road and stuck as close as he could to the man who had just radically changed his life.

Kari Bartkus

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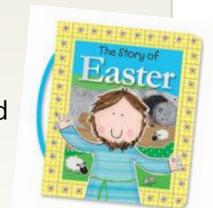
Kari



### CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRIES RECOMMENDED RESOURCE

## The Story of Easter

Kids love stories, but this isn't a regular story. This is one of the most important stories they'll ever hear. Find ways to read it to them time and again.



- Use your favorite children's Bible.
- Find children's books that tell the story in a kid-friendly way, like *The Story of Easter* by Fiona Boon.
- Once your child starts to learn the story, have them tell it to you by looking at the pictures.

**Wabash Presbyterian Church**

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**Loving people with the  
heart of Christ in the  
heart of Wabash**



See sermon series description on page 6.

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