

WESTMINSTER ON WEDNESDAY

*Join your friends at WOW
for Dinner, Fellowship and More!
5:45 -6:30 pm in Cole Hall*

12/7 Menu: Chicken enchiladas, beans and rice
\$3 children, ages 3-12 yrs; \$4 adults; \$14 max/family

KNITTING

Drop in to the church 10:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays to learn to knit, work on craft projects, find inspiration for creative expression, and enjoy fellowship! Everyone welcome.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SCROOGE

Dickens' A Christmas Carol is a much beloved Christmas classic. Let's re-read this perennial favorite and discuss it over the Wednesdays in Advent (**Dec. 7, 14, & 21**). It will help us awaken on Christmas morning and "chuckle till we cry." In the lounge from **6:30-7:30 p.m.** Rev. Bob Snell will lead our discussion.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Shopping for St Nick Sunday, December 11, 6:30-8pm

Meet at Shopko's Customer Service desk on 27th and Pine Lake. We have a family of 7 to shop for this year – unborn baby to grandpa. Don't forget the St. Nick Wrapping Party **Tues, December 13, 6 pm.** Bring scissors, tape and creativity.

Reindeer Games Sunday, December 18, 6:30-8pm

Time for the 5th Annual Youth Reindeer Games! Get ready for some wacky activities, including: Name that Famous Holiday Personality, an Elf Obstacle Course, Christmas Carol Charades, Deck the Halls with Boughs of Candy, Human Gift-Wrapping, and more! This would be a great night to bring a friend!

2011 Paid to Date	2011 Total Pledged Amount	% of Pledges Paid to Date
\$616,132	\$761,000	80.96%
2010 at this time:		
\$578,085	\$682,159	84.74%

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Births: Congratulations to Jame and Matt Cartwright on the birth of Miley Sue, born November 27.

USHERS: Cori Amend, Lyle Hamilton, Bob Morey, Gerg Hershberger, Sharon Johnson, Eric Wachter, Ashley Vorhies
DEACONS: Bryan Gosscup, Ruth Gosscup, Martha Dennis, Janes Hines, Carolyn Harp, Willa Mussmann, Mary Orth
GREETERS: Kristi Larson/ Deb Minter
HOSTS: Mary Orth, Lyle and Beth Hamilton
ACOLYTES: Trevor Yorges, Shelby Lammers

CHURCH SACRAMENTS The next communion will be January 1, 2012. Baptism will be December 11th.

You are invited to join in a time of hospitality and fellowship before and after 10:30 a.m. worship. Refreshments are provided in the Garden Room.



10:30 Worship - Televised on cable Channel 13, Thursday at 12:30 p.m. and Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

Visit us on the web: www.westminsterlincoln.org

Join us on Face book @

Lincoln Westminster Presbyterian Church

Westminster Presbyterian Church	
2110 Sheridan Blvd Lincoln, Nebraska	
Ph. 402-475-6702; Fax: 475-3148 www.westminsterlincoln.org	
Pastor	Reverend Dr. Andrew L. McDonald, x 110
Interim Associate Pastor	Reverend Robert Snell, x 116
Parish Associate	Reverend Ellen Davis, x 117
Business Administrator	Cheryl Rennick, x 105
Director of Fine Arts	Boyd Bacon, x 111
Associate Director of Music and Fine Arts	Dr. Masako Nakamura, x 111
Associate for Community Life and Growth	Tiffany Mullison, x 104
Director of Children's Ministries	Betsy Guyer, x 107
Preschool Director	Suzanne Schneider, x 103
Administrative Secretary	Marge Tomlinson, x 102
Receptionist/ Secretary	Teresa Hoover, x 101
Custodians/Maintenance	Richard Gruenemeyer, Lyudmila Fomina, Tracy Hugelmann, Mehmedalija Plicanic



*"I am the vine,
you are the branches...."*

December 4, 2011

IMMEASURABLE GENEROSITY & AMAZING GRACE

Tis the Season: the season of God's immeasurable generosity and amazing grace quickening among us grateful celebration and faithful imitation. It is the perfect season for turning in our pledges:

- pledges that make God's cause our cause;
- pledges that support God's gracious determination to restore creation and redeem humankind;
- pledges that advance God's present and coming kingdom in us, with us, and through us.

So far, 60% of our members have increased their pledges—by 5%, 10%, 20%, 50%, even 100% as they join us on our journey toward becoming a tithing church. If your pledge is not yet in, now is the time. Now is the time and ours are the voices inspired, the hands equipped, the feet empowered to hear and heed God's call to be a blessing to all peoples of the earth. Please, turn in your pledge before Christmas for the sake of joy to the world.

ADULT EDUCATION

9:00 a.m. Sunday Mornings

THE BIRTH OF JESUS: A TWICE TOLD TALE

Every Christmas, we remember with joy, thanksgiving, and hope the birth of Jesus. But which story of that birth do we remember? Matthew has its version and Luke has its version. The same good news, but told differently. Join us as Rev. Bob Snell leads us through two compelling narratives.

WESTMINSTER BIBLE CLASS

PARLOR

Join Westminster Bible Class in the Parlor for *The Present Word* using Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Matthew. Today: "A Blessing of all Nations" based on Genesis 12:1-9. Rev. Ellen Davis, leader.

CROSSROADS

LIBRARY

Young adults are invited to join the Crossroads class in the Library each Sunday at 9 am. We are studying Doug Wysocky-Johnson's "Call Waiting" and taking part in a study leading into the holidays about the "Culture of Consumerism." Questions? Contact Sarah Baltensperger (402-421-1608) or Maggie Stuckey (402-730-3823).

MEN'S TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

All men are invited to join. Come to the Parlor each Tuesday morning for food and fellowship. At 7:00 am, Dr. Bud Tenney will explore the history of Christmas Carols and the Bob Rohrbaugh Memorial singing of "White Christmas".

OPPORTUNITIES



Heifer International has developed the areas of emphasis that must be addressed if we are to end world hunger and poverty. Join us in the Garden Room December 4th and 11th to purchase a gift for your family and friends this season. You can choose from goats, chickens and more! Help make a difference!"

CIVIC VISIONS & CIVIL DISCOURSE

A recent editorial in the *Journal Star* began by observing that "our national discourse has devolved to an abysmal level." Our local paper is but one voice in a nationwide chorus of concern troubled by this decline. What are its consequences? What can be done about it? We in the church have a role to play.

These are issues that will be explored throughout January and into February in conjunction with our annual Community Conversations. Governor Dave Heineman and State Senator Kathy Campbell are already scheduled to be with us. Other prominent figures from public life will also be included in the lineup. All will be asked to address the impact of "abysmal" public discourse on fulfilling the responsibilities and maximizing the opportunities of their office.

Keynoting the series will be a weekend featuring Dr. James Calvin Davis, Associate Professor of Religion at Middlebury College, an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church, and author of *In Defense of Civility*. James is convinced that we in the church can and should "participate—perhaps even lead—in the rejuvenation of healthier public conversation." Toward that end, he will lead an all day seminar/workshop on Saturday, January 28, and will teach and preach on the same subject the next day.

Rounding out this exciting program, Wednesday nights in January will offer group discussion of *In Defense of Civility* in dialogue with what our weekly presenters are saying. Published at \$20.00, our Adult Ed ministry will make this book available for \$5.00 beginning December 11.

Another important event in our congregational life made possible by opening the windows of heaven and stepping into God's future.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 6TH, 2012.

CONCLUSION OF 2011 ART SHOW

When I was asked by members of the Session to chair an art show, I said yes. They had already chosen the theme, location and the dates. How much work could it be? Well, now I know how much fun it can be and I know more church members by name, talents and generosity.

Thank you, artists. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase impressive talents of so many people who believed in yourselves and shared your blessings by participating.

Thank you to all who helped with the children's art show. Members of the Session, thank you for opening the window of opportunity to me as we all had the chance to Open the Windows of Heaven together. – Valery Wachter

CHURCH EVENTS

LIVE INTO HOPE - WHAT IS IN YOUR CLOSET?

What does it mean to live into hope? It's to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and reach out to the lonely. Outreach is having a drive to gather gloves, hats, and socks, Dec. 4, 11, and 18 in the Garden Room. Open your closet and give the clothes an opportunity to warm others. Live into Hope.

#5 OF 10 REASONS TO Relax, Renew, Rejoice

Treat yourself to a beautiful and interesting experience. In addition to enjoying a wide array of workshops and a lovely lunch, we'll start and end the day with a time of celebration and worship, a special gift for your soul. Register in the garden room today for *Soul Connections*, Westminster's retreat for women, Sunday, January 14th, 8:30 to 4:00.

WESTMINSTER CLUB DECEMBER 13TH

Join us for fellowship at 5:30 pm followed by a catered dinner at 6:00 pm. Following dinner, we will hear Keith Ghormley present "A Christmas Carol." Call the church office 402-475-6702 by December 9th to make your reservation. Bring your own table service and \$7.00 for the cost of dinner.