



On Winning Teams

In two sports, it's been an exciting year. The Huskers win record is at 7-0! The Cubs are in the World Series! Phenomenal! There have been stellar moments. Where each team will be by the time this Messenger reaches you, who knows? But both teams have taken giant steps forward!

Teamwork has been astonishing in both clubs. If you have watched them, both teams enjoy playing together. When the teams made mistakes, they did not dwell on them. They focused on the next play. Every play was a new beginning. They have been playing to win.

Both teams have taken risks. Imagine how different it would have been if the team never came out of the locker room. It is safer in the locker room, but no game was ever won by staying safe.

When we experience God, it gives us a sense of being loved and a sense of courage. As we have been loved, we are set free to love. Since nothing can separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:38-9), we have the courage to live and to love with passion.

God empowers us on a personal level. We get in the game of sharing God's love, and find amazing things happening through us. We have grace when we make mistakes, thanks to God's forgiveness. We focus on what comes next in life. Ours is a God of new beginnings.

The Holy Spirit speaks to us as a team. We are given the gift of this amazing church. The courage to love becomes multiplied when we work together. Every year, we see new possibilities that become reality because we all do our part.

Thank you for all who have said, "Yes" to leadership roles on Session, Deacons, the Westminster Foundation, and ushers. Every person matters and every role matters. We have a couple of spots that still need to be filled. If you hear God's call, step forward before our congregational meeting to elect officers on Nov. 20th, and serve in leading this wonderful church.

For every member, to help this church team to win, pledge. Don't stay in the locker room. Get in the game. Give it your best effort. Work to raise your gift so our faithful love can grow stronger. Your gifts make the light of Christ's love burn more brightly.

We are a winning team that reaches out in God's love to transform so many lives. Listen for God's call to how you can do your part. Help our church be the beacon of hope God calls us to be. God's grace works in amazing ways as we share together in the support of Westminster.

Sincerely,

Andrew McDonald
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

November Hot Topic's

Consecration Sunday – Bring Your Pledge Card

Stewardship letters were mailed out with your pledge card, please contact Cheryl if you did not receive one. Bring your pledge card to worship on **Consecration Sunday, November 6th**. We will bring them forward and dedicate them together. We encourage parents to walk their pledge forward with their children so they can participate, and we can be role models of dedicating our stewardship gifts to God.

If you are unable to be with us on that day, mail it back with enclosed envelope to:

Business Administrator
Westminster Presbyterian Church
2110 Sheridan Blvd Lincoln, NE 68502

If you have questions call Cheryl at 402-475-6702.

St. Nick

It's been **30 years** since the mission project, "**St. Nick**", delivered its first Christmas gifts to 118 people in Northeast Nebraska. That was only the beginning of an amazing commitment the Westminster family has made, by providing gifts to nearly **13,000 people in Nebraska!**



"St. Nick" began as a mission, to provide for the less fortunate, but also to educate our congregation of the many underlying problems that many families face in rural communities. Caseworkers provide a brief history of the family (using fictitious names), which often indicate low incomes, health issues with no insurance, and loss of jobs, among many other barriers. With the gift choices provided, Westminster families have made it a tradition of shopping as a family and teaching their children that socks and warm clothes may be the only gift for some child. **Here are some ways you can support "St. Nick"!**

* **Sign-up** in the Garden Room from Sunday, October 30th to Sunday, November 20th if you would like to **purchase gifts for one or more people.**

* **Provide 'Stocking Stuffers'** to be added to family gifts (small toys, books, markers, stockings, hair items, jewelry, candy, games- **most anything generic, for 'all' ages!** (Place in reception area **with Your Name** so we can say 'Thank You'!)

* Provide gift wrap, tape, ribbon, and unusual size boxes, for when we have our **Gift Wrapping Party, Tuesday, December 13th** in Fellowship Hall (Also, place in reception area).

* And of course, we're always grateful for any **financial donation.**

We hope that you will consider (once again) being a part of the 30th year of the Westminster "St. Nick" Christmas Project. Join in the tradition! For any questions, please contact Teri Nelson tnelson@cornhusker.net.

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Upcoming Notable Events

Hastings College Sunday

Hastings College Choir believes that songs of all sorts and music of every kind should be included in your choral experience. Hastings College Choir sings a rich and varied repertoire — everything from masterworks and sacred and secular songs both a cappella and accompanied, to vocal jazz and Broadway, to madrigals and contemporary a cappella song styling's.



Westminster will bring this enthusiastic, rich-sounding choir from Hastings College to share their voices with us. On November 20th during the 10:30am worship service, Westminster is delighted to welcome them!



HOLIDAY OF TREES

The Heritage League is holding their 44th annual Holiday of Trees on Thursday, Dec. 1 and Friday, Dec 2 at accessible Westminster Presbyterian Church. The hours of the event are Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The admission price remains at \$1 per person. Tickets may be purchased at the door or from The Heritage League members. Holiday of Trees will display 24 beautiful trees decorated by community members and organizations, including Clinic with a Heart and The Heritage League for their 50th Anniversary. The Holiday of Trees also features music by local musicians, Santa Claus from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. each day, Mrs. Santa throughout the day, expanded Attic Treasures, Pantry of homemade food items, Raffle of several special items, and a Café. For information on the Holiday of Trees, please call Lynne Nelson-Dixon at 402-484-8777.

Advent & Christmas Music at Westminster

Advent I (November 27) "Savior of the Nations, Come!" Instrumental Ensemble & Harpsichord

Advent II (December 4) "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord!" Youth Musicians & Handbells

Advent III (December 11) "Gloria" Nebraska Wesleyan University Jazz Choir and Westminster Choir

A traditional setting of "Gloria" incorporates jazz harmonies and multi-cultural rhythm patterns which is written this year for Westminster Choir by Boyd Bacon.

Advent IV (December 18) Children's Pageant Westminster Children's Choirs share the Good News from the Gospel with acting and singing carols from all over the world.

Children & Family Ministry

A Night in Bethlehem

at "C" is for Christmas

Sunday, November 27th from 5 – 7pm



"C" is for Christmas is moving downstairs as Faith Village transforms into Bethlehem! Capture the feel of the original Christmas! Wander through the bustling Bethlehem marketplace and discover what life was like when Jesus was born. Create unique keepsakes as you interact with local shopkeepers who share the Christmas story. Talk with Mary and Joseph in The Stable, and hear about the miracle of Jesus' birth. Visit the Bethlehem Inn for our traditional chili, macaroni & cheese and cornbread. Join in singing Christmas Carols in the Psalmist's Tent. And much more! Sign up now to share your special chili and compete for the coveted Silver Ladle Award. Contact Barbara at 402-475-6702 if you would like to volunteer to bring Bethlehem and the Christmas Story to life!

Sunday School Information

Preschool Story Time at 9:00 am - Preschool-aged children may join Jennifer McCollough for a Bible Story or two, an activity and lots of community-building through play.

Kindergarten of Eden (Preschool) at 10:45am - November lessons emphasize treasuring God's grace, giving thanks, showing God's love in our actions and symbols of faith.

Faith Village (K-5th Grade) at 10:45am - November lessons focus on **Friendship** this month, based on the story of Jonathan and David in 1 Samuel 18. The children will learn how being a faithful friend is one way of responding to God's love for us.

The Faith Village offering project took a big jump this past month: the children are half way to their goal of \$178 for the purchase of two goats!

Faith Building Blocks for 1st Grade "Signs of Faith"

First Graders, together with a parent, are invited to come explore the symbols of our faith and their meanings on Wednesday, November 9th, 6:30–7:30pm. This interactive experience is fun for kids and adults. Together we will explore the church on a scavenger hunt to discover the symbols hiding in plain sight. Please contact Barbara if you wish to participate at 402-475-6702.

Volunteer Opportunities for Faith Village

We are in need of volunteer substitutes for nursery staff on occasional WOW evenings and Sunday mornings. If you are interested or know of someone who might be interested, please contact Barbara at 402-475-6702.

Congregation News & Westminster on Wednesday (WOW)

Join us weekly for great food, education, music and more!
Dinner is served from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in Cole Hall.
\$4/children, \$6/adults, \$17 max per family.

WOWXL (6:30 Youth Cafe) Youth in grades 6-8 meet weekly during the school year for engaging activities and to grow in faith together.

Living in the Light: Rediscovering the Gospel of John (6:30-7:30)

Join us as Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald leads us through the Gospel of John through November 9th.

Stories Become Us - Starting November 16th Please join us for our WOW Advent Journey, inspired by the NPR radio program "The Moth." We will explore storytelling as a means of sharing our personal stories and our faith journeys.

Music Rehearsals

(6:20) Westminster Carillon (Adult Handbell Choir, Sanctuary)

(6:30) Cherub Choir (age 3-Kindergarten, Room 210E)

(6:30) Alleluia! Amen! Choir (Grade 1-5, Room 210)

(7:30) Westminster Choir (Adult Choir, Sanctuary)

Foundation Birthdays

October 2016

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| Vicki Davis | Martha Dennis | Rae Hamilton |
| Matt Olson | Marilyn Palmer | Jane Peters |
| Bill Roper | Deb Schorr | Mark Schorr |
| Franny Seward | Ray Stevens | Ron Wachter |
| Jason Woita | | |

***Thank you for your support of the
Westminster Foundation. Happy Birthday!***

All in the Family

Marriages: Best wishes to Larry Weiskamp and Cheryl Rice on October 8, Sharon Lockwood and Jeff Hirtzel on October 8; Chelsea Amend and Bryce Ficken on October 15.

Birth: Congratulations on the birth of Leo Robert, born September 13, to Katie and Walker Zulkoski.

Baptism: Patrick Tschetter on October 2.

Pageant Audition for Children's Choirs

Wednesday, November 2nd from 6:30-7:25pm in Room 210 is the last audition date for the Pageant. Learn multi-cultural Christmas carols and spread the Good News! For more information contact Masako at 402-475-6702.

WOW Dinners

November 2nd:

Taco's, Refried Beans and Milk Cake

November 9th:

Mac N Cheese, Savory Carrots and Chocolate Cake

November 16th:

Pie Fellowship! Bring a pie to share
Soup and Salad

November 23rd: NO WOW

November 30th:

Turkey Casserole, Squash Casserole, Peas and
Pumpkin Spice Cake

Adult Education

Sunday Class - *Images of Christmas*

Join us on Sunday mornings during Advent. We will explore four key images of the Christmas story – the star, the Magi, the angels and the nativity scene. Reflecting upon passages in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, we will discuss what we know about these important elements of the Christmas story and how each has been represented in art throughout the ages. **May we be filled with awe and wonder as we approach the Christ child, Immanuel, this Advent season!**

Sunday, November 27th

“Images of Christmas: The Star”

Presented by: Steve Larson

Presbyterian Women (P.W.)

Presbyterian Women’s Circles are the small groups based on study, friendship, and action. All Westminster women are invited to visit any of the following circles.

Circle 3

Wednesday, Nov 2nd at 10:00 am
Suzann Johnson (402-489-4840)
6611 Everett St(06)

Circle 5

Tuesday, Nov 8th at 10:00 am
Westminster Lounge
Pat Hackley (402-423-2909)

Circle 4

Monday, Nov 7th at 7:00 pm
Martha Dennis (402-309-3384)
1845 S 48th St (06)

Circle 6

Tuesday, Nov 22nd at 7:00 pm
Westminster Library
Jane Hines (402-488-8302)

Westminster Bible Class

The Bible Class meets Sunday mornings at 9am in the Parlor. In November, the focus is on Revelation’s breathtaking vision of the eternal reign of Jesus Christ. All things are new, all things worship and praise the eternal God, who is Jesus Christ, the “beginning and end,” our Alpha and Omega. Ellen Davis will be the leader the whole month.

Unit 3 (The Alpha and Omega)

| DATE | SCRIPTURE | THEME |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| November 6 | Revelation 21:1-8 | Everything Is Brand New |
| November 13 | Revelation 21:9-14, 22-27 | I See a New Jerusalem |
| November 20 | Revelation 22:1-7 | Living Waters |
| November 27 Advent 1 | Revelation 22:11-21 | Alpha and Omega |

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, November 6th
Daylight Saving Time Ends
Set your clock back 1 hour!

Sunday, November 6th
Consecration Sunday

Sunday, November 20th
Annual Meeting
Hastings Choir

Wednesday, November 23rd
No WOW

**Thursday & Friday,
November 24th and 25th**
The Church will be CLOSED for
Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 27th
Advent Begins
“C” is for Christmas

Small Groups & Upcoming Events

For more information or a list of current Small Groups, contact Geoff Cline at geoffcline@mac.com.

“Sausage, Eggs and Scripture”

a NEW - Men's Group

Starting Saturday, November 19th at 7:30am plan to meet at Perkins (121 N 48th St) then every 3rd Saturday of each month join Rev. Jimmy Shelbourn for a dynamic Bible study. For more information contact Jimmy at 402-475-6702.

History Buffs

Topic: ***“Titanic and Lusitania two tragic Queens: An Engineers View”***

When: Saturday, November 12th at 9:00am

Where: Westminster Lounge

Presenter: Michael Gregg

Michael will highlight where, how, and why they were built, rather than their well documented demise. They have many similarities and contrasts, some of these laid the seeds of their sinking with tragic loss of life.

Lunch Bunch

When: Tuesday, November 1st at 11:30 am

Location: Carlos O'Kellys (4455 N 27th St)

Come for fellowship and good food. All are welcome. Call Larry Wieskamp at 402-802-6883 with any questions.

Ladies Night Out (LNO)

When: Monday, November 21st from 5-7pm

Where: Billy's Restaurant (1301 H St)

Invite your friends for fellowship and special appetizers offered for \$10, plus drink cost, tax and tip. Contact Robyn Uebele (robynu2@hotmail.com) with questions.

Prairie Readers

When: Wednesday, November 16th at 1:00pm

This month will be a meeting to discuss the reading list for 2017. Everyone is welcome to join in the conversation and fellowship.

Turning Pages

Westminster members meet with inmates at the County Jail on Monday nights for a 4 week time period once every 3 months for “book club”. The next session begins on Monday November 7th from 6:30 to 7:30. You do not need to attend every week. A brief 1 hour training session with jail programming staff is required before volunteering in the facility at SW 40th & O Streets. For more information contact Deb Schorr at 402-421-1102. *“I was in prison and you came to me.”* (Matthew 25:36).

Journeying Together

If you are interested in becoming a member or know someone who is, please contact Marge at 402-475-6702. The next New Member Class is scheduled for Sunday, November 13th and Sunday, November 20th at 9:00am.



♦
SPIRITUALLY ALIVE
BROADLY INCLUSIVE
GROWING IN MISSION

2110 Sheridan Blvd.
Lincoln, NE 68502
402.475.6702
westminsterlincoln.org

Human Trafficking: The Crisis, the Victims and the Solutions

Sundays in November

Human trafficking, also known as modern-day slavery, generates over \$32 billion per year in revenue. Currently, there are over 20 million individuals enslaved, 26 % of whom are children. Many are sexually exploited. Human trafficking is a growing problem. More than 14 thousand new victims are brought into the United States every year.



November 6th

“The Human Trafficking Crisis: An Overview”

Presented by: Sriyani Tidball, UNL Professor of Journalism

November 13th

“How We Identify and Assist Human Trafficking
Victims”

Presented by: Madeline Walker, Women’s Center for
Advancement (*This organization works directly with
survivors of trafficking.*)



November 20th

“The War on Human Trafficking in Nebraska”

Presented by: Doug Peterson, Attorney General of Nebraska