



SPIRITUALLY ALIVE
BROADLY INCLUSIVE
GROWING IN MISSION

THE MESSENGER

VOLUME 84, ISSUE 5

MAY 2014

Westminster



GROWING in Fellowship and MISSION

Men's Tuesday Morning Breakfast

Join Westminster for a great lineup of programs. A continental breakfast (only \$2 and FREE for first-timers) is available soon after 6:30 a.m. with an hour-long program beginning at 7:00 a.m.

May 6

Challenging Injuries on the Patrol
Dr. Steve Carveth, WPC member

May 13

Assisting Communities in Reaching Their Potential, Gary Krumland, Assistant Director & Legal Counsel, Nebraska League of Municipalities

May 20

Bible Study led by Rev. Jen Strickland.

May 27

Bible Study

Westminster Bible Class

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

May 4

Jesus Resists Temptation

Deuteronomy 6:13-16

Matthew 4:4-11

Rev. Ellen Davis

May 11

Jesus' Mission on Earth

Luke 4:14-21

Bill North

May 18

Jesus' Teaching on the Law

Matthew 15:1-11, 15-20

Ernie Hines

May 25

The Greatest Commandment

Leviticus 19:18

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Mark 12:28-34

Ernie Hines

Adult Education

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. // Fellowship Hall A

May 4: On Motherhood

Moderated by Maggie Stuckey

Let's celebrate moms! One week before Mother's Day, join us for a conversation on motherhood. Led by a panel of women in varying stages of their motherhood journey, we will share stories: from the beautiful and uplifting moments, to the overwhelming and humbling moments; from moments of vulnerability and fear, to moments of joy and celebration. All are welcome whose life has been touched by the love of a mother.

May 11: Mission Trip Report

Presented by Ken Govaerts and team

See pictures and hear stories of this important mission to help those impacted by the 2013 tornado in Moore, Oklahoma.

May 18: J. Sterling Morton's Legacy

Presented by Maggie Stuckey, Director of Development, Nebraska Arbor Day Foundation

May 25: Memorial Day — No class

Wednesdays (WOW) at 6:30 p.m. // Lounge

May 7, 14 and 21: Tai Chi, led by David Hammar

Fellow Presbyterian David Hammar has been teaching Tai Chi at Synod School for several summers. This sampler will introduce you to the several benefits of this ancient martial arts exercise, including meditation, flexibility, stretching and balance. It is very low impact and can be practiced in street clothes—stocking feet are better than dress shoes. Some exercises can even be done sitting in a chair. Join us for this spiritual and health experience.

Plans Underway for Lohmen Visit

In September, Westminster will be represented at our sister church in Lohmen, Germany, at the community's Stonebroker Festival (a village celebration of their important sandstone quarry). We will also be marking the Lohmen church's 225th anniversary and the 25th year of group visits from Lincoln to Lohmen. You can join the group; the main expense is airfare. Our friends in Lohmen feed and house and entertain generously. For more information, contact Tom Pappas.





Reverend Dr. Andrew L. McDonald
Senior Pastor

Reverend Jennifer Strickland
Associate Pastor

Reverend Ellen Davis
Parish Associate

Cheryl Rennick
Business Administrator

Boyd Bacon
Director of Music and Fine Arts

Dr. Masako Nakamura Bacon
Associate Director of Music and Fine Arts

Suzanne Schneider
Preschool Director

Betsy Guyer
Director of Children's Ministries

Kalee Olson
Communications Coordinator

Marge Tomlinson
Administrative Secretary

Rachel Pickard
Youth Communications Coordinator

Devon Nelson
Middle School Youth Director

Maria Niechwiadowicz
High School Youth Director

***The Messenger* is a monthly publication of
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Another Record Attendance at Community Easter Event!

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Easter Eggstravaganza! It was a huge success with nearly 200 children in attendance, celebrating the occasion with songs, stories, crafts, games and our Easter egg hunt! We could not have done it without the generosity of our congregation. Thank you all for "adopting" eggs and to those of you who attended and helped at the event.



Mission Trip to Moore, Oklahoma

Nearly one year after the May 20, 2013, tornado, clean-up and rebuild efforts in Moore, Oklahoma, are still underway.

To help with the efforts, twelve Westminster members, along with members of First Plymouth Congregational Church, headed south for a week-long mission trip April 6 to 12. The tasks completed took on a variety of forms, from cleaning up tree debris to building fences and barns. Team members from Westminster included Ken and Susan Moore, Steve Hughes, John Paul Wirrick, Michael Gregg, Ken Govaerts, Bob Michaud, Jim White, Ashley Vorhies, Claire Eckstrom, Andrea Zink and Rev. Jennifer Strickland.

Want to learn more about the group's experiences in Moore? Join us for a presentation during Adult Education at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 11, for a first-hand account of the trip from Ken Govaerts and team.

History of the Aircraft Carrier

History Buffs // Saturday, May 10 // Lounge // 9:00 a.m.

Captain Will Powers, U.S. Navy, will present a fascinating "History of the Aircraft Carrier." He has been a Naval Aviator for 21 years, mainly flying the FA-18 Hornet (3,300 hours and successfully completed takeoff and landings on 14 different carriers). This past year, he was the Flight Operations Officer on the USS George H.W. Bush. He is currently stationed at Offutt Air Base in the Global Operations Center. Bring your questions about carriers and jet fighters!

Cycling Summer Schedule

1st Sundays // 3rd Thursdays

Our Cycling Group (name TBD!) has decided to schedule regular group rides for the first Sunday (3:30 p.m.) and third Thursday (5:30 p.m.) of each month. Watch the WPC Group Facebook page for ride updates and weather cancellations! If you'd like more information or to be added to the group email list, contact Robyn Uebele.



Thanks to Maggie Stuckey and all of your votes, The Gathering Place was one of four grand prize winners to win a \$10,000 clean-up from Scrubbing Bubbles. A great surprise for a great mission! Excellent job Maggie!

Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, May 6

Ruby Tuesday (2700 N Hill Rd.)

Lunch Bunch meets the first Tuesday of every month at 11:30 a.m. for fellowship and conversation.

Upcoming lunches:

Aces Haus of Cuisine (June 3)

Momo Pizzeria (July 1)

Prairie Readers

Wednesday, May 21

Westminster Lounge // 1:00 p.m.

Faye Moulton will lead discussion on "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter," by Carson McCuller.

Ladies' Night Out

Thursday, May 15

Wilderness Ridge Lodge // 5:00 p.m.

Come enjoy the deck at Wilderness Ridge anytime from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. No RSVP required! All are welcome.

Westminster Club

Tuesday, May 27

Cole Hall // 5:30 p.m.

Westminster Clubs last meeting for the Spring will begin with fellowship at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and programming at 6:00 p.m. This month, Tom and Laurel Pappas will speak on their recent trip to the Holy Land. We look forward to seeing you there!



Attendance Recognition Day

Please join us in 10:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, May 11, as we honor the children who have been regular attendees in Sunday School this year, as well as our dedicated teachers!

Nebraska Tour de Cure

Kris Anderzhon and Betsy Guyer will be riding in this year's Nebraska Tour de Cure bicycle ride to benefit the American Diabetes Association! This 50-mile ride takes place May 31, and both riders have pledged to raise \$200. Let's help them reach this goal! Donations can be made in the Garden Room beginning May 11, and will also be collected following worship on May 11, 18 and 25. For more information visit tour.diabetes.org.

Using Wee Believe curriculum, nurturing adults will help children build a foundational understanding of God's love for them. Children collect items for the food pantry each week. Prayers, songs, stories and crafts enrich budding faith.

Kindergarten of Eden (Preschool)

Faith Village classes are a great place for children in elementary school to learn about the Bible in ways that are meaningful to them. Each month students explore a theme through workshops in cooking, art, drama, music, computers, games, science, videos and storytelling. Class sessions open with group songs, the Lord's prayer and an offering. Faith Village is every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. (following the Children's Conversation at 10:30 a.m. worship). Join us!

Faith Village (K to 5th Grade)

May: Pentecost

"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit." ~ Acts 2:4

- Through the Holy Spirit, we know God is with us, helping us live as faithful disciples. During May in Faith Village, we will explore the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Through interactive workshops, children will identify how the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples and understand that we are empowered too!

Summer Sunday School

Beginning Sunday, June 1, there will be Summer Sunday School for children ages 3 years to Pre-K in Kindergarten of Eden (Room 210) and for children grades K to 5th in Faith Village. *Note: There will be no Sunday School on June 22.*

"Jelly Telly" is the new creative kids ministry from Veggie Tales creator Phil Vischer. In Kindergarten of Eden, children will explore "The Wonderful World of Science with Dr. Schiffenhausen." Dr. Schiff helps kids understand the amazing science behind miracles like a caterpillar changing to a butterfly, while helping children see that this miracle is all the result of God's amazing love for the world and us!

In Faith Village, children will begin a journey through the Bible with the new video series "Buck Denver asks... What's in the Bible?" Another great new animated series by Veggie Tales creator Paul Vischer. We will start at the Beginning, in Genesis, and move through the Old Testament this Summer.



FUN SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS!

Register online and save \$10 when you sign up for both CAC and VBS!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Use your heart, mind and imagination to participate in Workshop of Wonders! This camp takes children to a place of discovery and imagination through interactive fun, great music, super science, cool crafts and more!

Contact: Betsy Guyer (402) 475-6702

JUNE 16-20 // 9 am-Noon // pre-K — Grade 5 (in fall)



CREATIVE ARTS CAMP

Discover the world through adventure and creativity in "Mission Possible!" Children dive deep into their creative abilities with the instruction of area artistic experts, exploring multi-cultural art, music, skits, movement and more!

Contact: Masako Bacon (402) 475-6702

JULY 14-18 // 9 am-Noon // K — Grade 5 (in fall)

Registration costs are nonrefundable. Extended care is available before and after camp (7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) for an additional \$5/hour and must be reserved in advance. Children will need to bring a lunch.

Please cut the portion below and return with a check to:
Westminster Presbyterian Church 2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE 68502
Or REGISTER ONLINE at www.westminsterlincoln.org

Yes! Sign me up for the following:

☐ CAC \$40/child; \$90 max/family
(before June 13)

☐ VBS \$25/child; \$75 max/family
(before May 15)

☐ BOTH \$55/child; \$155/family
(before May 15)

Child's Name: _____ Grade (in fall): _____ Age: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone # () _____

Address (with ZIP code): _____

Special Needs/Allergies: _____

Emergency Contact Name/Relationship: _____

Preferred Phone # () _____

Permission to photograph for use in WPC publications and online: YES ___ / NO ___

VBS T-shirt Size: YS ___ YM ___ YL ___ YXL ___

OFFICE USE ONLY

Paid _____

Check# _____

Date _____

Initials _____



Join us on Confirmation Sunday, May 18, for Music Fest, a special occasion when all Westminster musicians praise God as one voice! Performing groups include Cherub Choir (age 3 to Pre-K), Alleluia! Amen! (K-5th), Jr. String Ensemble (Grade 3-8), Westminster Brass, Westminster Carillon and Westminster Choir. Celebrate God's abundant blessings in worship services at Westminster!

WOW Wrap-Up: May 21

It's hard to believe, but Summer break is only weeks away. WOW will meet for its final Wednesday of the season on May 21. Special activities are listed below.

Children's Choir Party

Join us during WOW at 6:30 p.m. to celebrate the wonderful ministry of Cherub Choir and Alleluia! Amen! Fun games, treats and songs.

Mayhem II: WOW XL Party

Join us for snacks, wet and messy parking lot games, group chaos and an all-around great time! This year's 5th Graders are invited to join in the fun and get a taste of what XL is all about. Friends are always welcome.

WOW Activities/Rehearsal Schedule

5:00.....Youth Bells
 5:45.....Dinner
 6:30.....Westminster Carillon, Alleluia! Amen!
Cherub Choir, Knit N Sit, WOW XL, Adult Education
 7:30.....Westminster Choir

WOW Menu for May

Served Wednesdays from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. Served with salad, fruit and dessert.
 \$5/adults; \$3/children; \$15 max per family

May 7: Turkey tetrazzini

May 14: Hamburger and hot dogs

May 21: Pizza

Youth Trip to Germany Informational Meeting

Join us on Wednesday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m. to learn more about our trip, register to go along, and discuss fundraising opportunities, expectations and possible itinerary. If you are even contemplating the possibility of going on this amazing trip, NOW is the time to get all of your questions answered! Deadline to register and pay deposit is June 1.

Volunteer with WPC Youth!

Are you passionate about the spiritual development of our Middle School and High School youth? We are looking for volunteers, mentors, chaperones and event coordinators! If interested, contact Pastor Jen at (402) 475-6702.

Thank You from the Westminster Deacons

The Westminster Deacons would like to send a big THANK YOU to all who supported our mission by attending the Easter Breakfast and purchasing the infamous Miller & Paine cinnamon rolls. It was a pleasure to serve you!



Attention everyone!
Have you ever wondered about the happenings of our Middle School and High School youth?

Here is your chance to glimpse into their exciting lives! All things teen will now be listed on a special youth page under this new logo by Chris Pultz. You will find out what we did, what we're doing now and what we're doing in the future!

www.westminsterlincoln.org/youth

Be in the know! Starting this month, WPC Youth leaders will be using our Word Press technology to create a one-stop information portal for all things teen (Middle and High School). Dates, activities, forms and most importantly — donut lists — will be available on this site. *Note: If you prefer e-mail, Facebook or Twitter, we can push notifications from this website to your favorites communication outlet!*

GRADUATING SENIORS!

Don't forget to sign up for Graduation Breakfast on May 25! We would love to see you at breakfast and have you join us for 10:30 a.m. worship.

Special thanks to our confirmands who helped the Deacons with Easter Breakfast on April 20: Sebastian Bailey, Olivia Hoffman, Josie Ford, Henry Zander, Abby Peterson, Liam Dempsey and Griffin Schainost.



On March 30, the confirmation class volunteered at the Special Olympics bowling tournament.

Important Dates

May 2-3: Confirmation Retreat: "Piecing It All Together"

May 4 (5:30 p.m.): (High School) Girls Cooking and Craft Night

May 11: (9th Grade) Typed, ready-to-turn-in Faith Statements for the Session meeting. *Note: Everyone will meet for confirmation this day!*

May 12 (6:15—7:30 p.m.): (9th Grade) Session meeting. This is very important! Please dress nicely!

May 17 (9:00—10:15 a.m.): (9th Grade) Confirmation practice. This is also very important! Christy will bring donuts!

May 18 (7:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.) : Confirmation Day. This concludes with a luncheon after 10:30 a.m. worship.

May 18 (6:00—8:00 p.m.): END-OF-YEAR PARTY at Holmes Lake! All Middle and High School youth invited. Please sign-up at the church office. More details to come!

May 21: Last day of WOW XL.

May 25 (9:00—10:00 a.m.): Graduation Breakfast

Becoming God's Next Church

Synod School, July 27-August 1, 2014

This year's Synod School, "Becoming God's Next Church," will be July 27 through August 1 at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. Attendees chose from more than 60 courses to participate in and are given the opportunity to grow in faith through fellowship and private reflection.

This year's convocation speaker, Anna Case Winters, is Professor of Theology at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. She will share a lively interchange between theology and science—what we are learning about our evolving universe and the place of the human being within it. How may we understand ourselves today as beings created "in the image of God" and "from the dust of the earth?"

For more information visit www.lakesandprairies.org/school.html or call (800) 328-1880.



Thank you from the Stewardship Committee

Thanks to everyone for their participation in our per capita giving opportunity. To date, we have received nearly \$10,000, well on to our goal of \$12,000. The per capita funds provide support for the larger church outside Westminster, which are required of all Presbyterian churches (\$36 per member), but local contributions to meet our per capita extend our programs at Westminster. We thank each of you for your support. If you haven't had the opportunity to contribute yet, you may drop a check in the mail or the offering plate, or give it directly to Cheryl with your donation marked "per capita." Thank you again for being such a generous congregation.

Presbyterian Women's Circles

Circle 1

Wednesday, May 7 at 9:30 a.m.
Westminster Lounge
Ramona Riley (402-466-5715)

Circle 3

Wednesday, May 7 at 10:00 a.m.
4400 South 80th Street #222
Joan Wentz (402-438-2169)

Circle 4

Monday, May 5 at 7:00 p.m.
1845 South 48th Street
Martha Dennis (402-489-6345)

Circle 5

Tuesday, May 13 at 10:00 a.m.
Westminster Lounge
Jane Grabenstein-Chandler
(402-483-6533)

Circle 6

Tuesday, May 27 at 7:00 p.m.
Westminster Library
Jane Hines (402-488-8302)

Mission Sewers

Wednesday, May 21 at 1:00 p.m.
Westminster Lounge

All In The Family:

Congratulations on the birth of **Jack Harrison**, born March 31, to **Susan and Sean Mulvaney**, and **Christopher Bartley**, born April 10, to **Alisha and Chris Stokes**.

Baptism of **Sierra Jonelle**, daughter of **Jonelle and Eric Strickland**, on April 20.

Comfort for the family and friends of **Audrey Nelson**, who died on March 30; **Marion Skelley** who died on April 12; and **Don Sams** who died on April 18.

Foundation Birthday Club

The following members celebrated birthdays during April and renewed or became members of the Foundation Birthday Club:

Rob Baltensperger
Sarah Baltensperger
Jody Batten
Arlen Beam
Beth Carveth
Dan Cuda
Ellen Davis
Sandy Gallentine
Larry Jurgens
Vicki Jurgens
Scott Lippstreu
Jon Peterson
Margot Peterson
Mike Rasmussen
Peggy Rasmussen
Cheryl Rennick
Joan Roberts
Ted Schirmer
Barbara Solomon
Scott Stuckey
Chick Thorne
Chan Tyrrell

Older Adults Month

In recognition of Older Adults Month, Member Care will host a table in the Garden Room through May with information packets and brochures provided by Home Instead Senior Care.

CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATION FORM

Westminster Presbyterian Church
2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln NE 68502

God has given to each of us certain talents and gifts that are to be utilized for the glory of Jesus Christ. Please consider the gifts and talents of our church community and recommend those who you feel are qualified for these offices. You may also recommend yourself. All active members are eligible.

Please talk to one of these committee members if you have questions: Nancy Delgado, Jane Hines, Gail McNair (moderator), Marcie Ryan, Jennifer Strand, Dallas Waggoner, Dan Wherry or Dr. Andrew McDonald (ex officio).

Nominee: _____

Office: (circle any that apply)

Foundation Session Deacon Usher Nominating Committee

Name of person submitting nomination: _____

Phone number where the Nominating Committee can reach you if they have questions: _____

What qualities make this nominee eligible for the office?

It would be helpful for you to tell us what specific gifts they have. All nominees should have qualifications which include: co-operativeness, openness, maturity of judgment, willingness to learn, regular attendance at worship and ability to follow through on assignments.

Those nominees should have unique characteristics:

Foundation: (6 year term) Record of financial support of Westminster and demonstrated marketing or financial expertise.

Session: (3 year term) Willingness to chair a Session committee/ministry during their term; ability to recruit members for a committee; demonstrated leadership abilities (whether at Westminster, in business or other civic involvement) and ability to “agree to disagree” and move on after airing a minority view.

Deacon: (3 year term) Deacons are ordained to serve those who are in need in a very direct and personal way. Also need a desire to share the sense of fellowship and camaraderie among the Deacons.

Usher: (3 year term) Ushers offer a genuine sense of welcome and help to create a place and attitude of meaningful worship.

Nominating Committee: (1 year term) The mission of the Nominating Committee is to search for the future leaders of Westminster. The Nominating Committee is a committee of the congregation.



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Hostamania

Mother's Day May 11

Spring has sprung, which means it's time for Hostamania! Westminster's Lohmen Group will once again host this special event on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Our east sidewalk will be transformed into a giant selection of plants for you and your garden. We call it Hostamania, but there will be many plants to choose from, including varieties from ground cover to shrubs. You can donate plant material from your property if you want to share. For more information (or advice) contact Tom Pappas. All proceeds support activities of the Lohmen Group.



Save-the-Date

Heritage Sunday is June 22 in conjunction with Presbyterians in the Park Sunday!