

THE MESSENGER

VOLUME 83, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2013

THERE IS SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THANKSGIVING. Maybe it is the food. What is not to love about turkey, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes and pumpkin pie? Maybe it is the tradition —traditions that shape our families as we gather together over the years. Maybe Thanksgiving is special from the sense of history that the day gives us —where we imaginatively commune with the Pilgrims and the Indians. Remembering that it was the Native Americans who supplied most of the food that first Thanksgiving! All of these different dimensions of Thanksgiving touch us.

Most of all, Thanksgiving is a time when we give thanks to God. Providence is the doctrine we talk about —that God provides. This is a ritual of abundance. And we are grateful beyond the food, for the overflowing abundance of love which God gives us.

Gratitude is a uniquely human characteristic. We know to say thank you to the Source of all good. It is a significant part of what makes human life human. Without a thank you, we edge closer to the beasts. Our gratitude is a virtue that we need to practice in order to orient ourselves to the world around us.

I am grateful to God for this wonderful congregation —for the countless acts of kindness, grace, generosity, faithfulness, sacrifice, laughter and love. I love how there is a spirit of caring among this people of God. We have the great gift of being able to share life and faith together. For that we are grateful to God.

I hope you are able to join us for the Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner this year. It will be on November 7. We will gather at 5:30 p.m. for fellowship, and our traditional Thanksgiving feast begins at 6:00. There will be music from the choir and a celebration of highlights from the past year. And yes, the children get their own feast so they can celebrate in their own special ways. There will be a free will offering, as we want everyone who wishes to join us to be able to do so. This is a celebration of God's love —and we hope to see you there. Call the office to make reservations.

I hope this season reminds us all of God's providential love —and our many reasons to give thanks.

God bless you and Happy Thanksgiving!

Andrew McDonald, Senior Pastor

Congregation Meeting Scheduled for November 17

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, November 17, at the close of 10:30 a.m. worship. All members are encouraged to attend.



A note from the Westminster Foundation:

The Westminster Legacy Society was created by the Westminster Foundation in 2003. The purpose of this visionary group is to add to the endowment of the Westminster Foundation to enhance future programming of the church and increase church-wide missions and ministries.

You can become a member of the Legacy Society through a Planned Gift to the Westminster Presbyterian Church Foundation. Planned Gifts can be made in many ways, allowing you to tailor your giving goals with financial and estate plans. These gifts not only help the church, but can be structured in a way that allows you and your family to enjoy financial benefits during your lifetime.

If you would like more information about including the Westminster Foundation in your estate planning, contact Cheryl Rennick at 402-475-6702 or cheryl@westminsterlincoln.org.

The Messenger is a monthly publication of Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE 68502
Phone: 402-475-6702 Fax: 402-475-3148

Pastor: Reverend Dr. Andrew L. McDonald.....	x 110
Associate Pastor: Reverend Jen Strickland.....	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 Bacon.....	x 111
Preschool Director: Suzanne Schneider.....	x 103
Director of Childrens Ministries: Betsy Guyer	x 107
Communications Coordinator: Kalee Olson.....	x101
Administrative Secretary: Marge Tomlinson	x 102
Middle School Youth Director: Devon Nelson	
High School Youth Director: Maria Niechwiadowicz	
Custodians/Maintenance: Richard Gruenemeyer, Lyudmila Fomina, Ryan McClain, Mehmedalija Plicanic	

THE MESSENGER (USPS 680-440) PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN, NE 68502. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT
LINCOLN NEBRASKA. \$2 SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, POSTMASTER SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO WESTMINSTER PRES-
BYTERIAN CHURCH, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN, NE 68502.

UPCOMING EVENTS

“C” IS FOR CHRISTMAS

Celebrate the beginning of Advent with “C” is for Christmas — Westminster’s highly anticipated holiday celebration! On Sunday, December 1, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. congregation members, family and friends are invited to a party for all ages. Vote in our chili cook-off, shop for gifts from a variety of craft booths, sing Christmas carols and more! There will also be crafts for kids and plenty of goodies to satisfy your sweet tooth.

Look for more information in your November bulletins. If you are interested in booking a booth for the event or have any suggestions for the celebration, contact Marge or Masako at 402-475-6702.

St. Nick Sign-Up

Christmas is around the corner, which means it is time to sign up for St. Nick, Westminster’s Christmas mission project. This year the congregation will celebrate its 27th year of providing Christmas gifts for families in need in rural Nebraska. Participating in St. Nick has become a meaningful, heart-warming tradition for many of our Westminster families, and we hope you and your family will join in this tradition as well.

All Westminster participants will be assigned a family or individual by December 1. There are also opportunities for those who would like to give in gifts of money or time. If you would like to take part, sign up in the Garden Room November 3-24. For more information, contact Teri Nelson at 402-423-0986 or Freda Gregg 402-423-3236.



Westminster Women’s Retreat 2014

Join us as we look for ways to create and tell our stories! Our fourth annual all-day Women’s Retreat is being planned for Saturday, January 11. Women of all ages and faiths are invited to share this time of inspiration, worship and fellowship.

If you would like to help with the event contact Annette Marquez at 402-261-6738. Look for more details and event registration in December!

OUTREACH

Day of Discipleship

Last month, congregation members set out into the community for our Third Annual Day of Discipleship to assist multiple nonprofit agencies in our community. Thanks to all of those who volunteered—we had a great turnout!



Prescott Partners

With autumn bringing on cooler weather, Prescott Partners is joining forces with Westminster to collect warm clothes for students at Prescott, including new or gently used pants, shoes, winter coats and boots. Interested in volunteering? There are also opportunities to help out after school as homework helpers, club leaders and playground supervisors. For more information, contact Maureen at mhergert75@gmail.com.



MUSIC & ARTS

Advent Service Special Music

Advent I: December 1

..... "Preparing for God's Love Descending"

Advent II: December 8

..... Westminster Choir Special Christmas Music "Hodie"

Advent III: December 15

..... Children's Christmas Pageant and "Hallelujah Chorus"

Advent IV: December 22

..... "Rejoice, the Lord Is Near"

Christmas Eve Services: December 24 (Candle Lighting)

..... 3:00 p.m. Instrumental Ensemble

..... 5:00 p.m. Family Service

(Nebraska Brass, Westminster Brass, All Childrens Choir, Jr. String Ensemble)

..... 7:00 p.m. Contemporary Style Service

..... 9:00 p.m. Traditional Service

(Nebraska Brass, Westminster Brass, Westminster Carillon, Westminster Choir)

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL MUSIC "HODIE"

Westminster Choir invites members to take part in this year's Christmas special music "Hodie," by Randall Stroope. "Hodie" (This Day) announces the birth of Jesus Christ with vital rhythm and rich harmony.

Rehearsals have just begun! Join us on Wednesdays from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Westminster will join Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church (8300 E Pointe Road) for a combined Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 27, at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to sing in the combined choir, contact Masako at 402-475-6702 or masako@westminsterlincoln.org.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Children age 3 through 5th Grade are invited to take part in our upcoming Christmas Pageant, sharing the Christmas Story and carols from around the world. This musical is more than a performance; it gives our youth the opportunity to engrave this Bible story and lesson in their hearts! Rehearsals take place Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:25 p.m. Let us nurture our children who love to tell the story of Jesus and His Love!

SMALL GROUPS

Coming Up...

Small Groups Ministry and Westminster will host Jim McKee on Saturday, November 16, at 10:00 a.m. Join us for his presentation on railroads and the Haymarket development!

LUNCH BUNCH

Join us the first Tuesday of every month at 11:30 a.m. for lunch, friends and conversation! RSVP one week in advance to Jeanne Giles at 402-484-6651.

November 5

Toast

570 Fallbrook Blvd.

December 3

Buzzard Billy' s

247 N 8th Street

January 7

Grandmothers

6940 A Street

February 4

Beacon Hills

5353 N 27th Street

Ladies Night Out

The last Ladies Night Out of 2013 is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at The Cellar (downstairs of The Oven at 201 N 8th Street). Stop in at your leisure for cocktails, appetizers and friends before the holidays are in full-swing! No RSVP required. Contact Maggie Stuckey with questions at magjostu@gmail.com.

Prairie Readers

Layne Pierce of Lincoln City Libraries will facilitate our November discussion on *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, the 2013 selection for One Book, One Lincoln. The group will meet on November 20 at 1:00 p.m. in the Parlor. For information, contact Faye Moulton at 402-423-7608.

Men' s Tuesday Morning Breakfast

November 5

The Lincoln / Kenya Connection Greg Hershberger
..... Westminster member

November 12

Returning Our MIAs & Prisoners of War ... Gen. Dayle Williamson
..... Retired Nebraska National Guard

November 19

Bible StudyTBA

November 26

Bible Study Rev. Ellen Davis

Small Groups Directory

Interested in joining a Small Group? Below you will find a complete list of Westminster groups and contact information.

Friendship & Fellow Interest

Barky Parky Pack
Robyn Uebele937-935-6858

Faith & Cancer
Janice Rohwedder
.....402-730-5568

Genesis to Guinness
Geoff Cline.....402-261-9282

History Buffs
Bruce Sheffield402-783-0394

Knit n' Sit
Francy Scheele....402-477-1102

Ladies' Night Out
Maggie Stuckey ...402-730-3823

Lohmen Group
Tom Pappas402-202-4454

Lunch Bunch
Jeanne Giles.....402-484-6651

Men's Tuesday Morning
Mark Whitehead...402-488-8578

Narrative Grieving
Jody Kellasjkellas2@unl.edu

Prairie Readers
Faye Moulton402-423-7608

Westminster Club
Dal Ronnau.....402-488-9672

Sports & Recreation

Campers Group
Bruce Sheffield402-783-0394

Couple Bridge Group
Jane Grabenstein-Chandler.....
.....402-483-6533

Winging a Prayer
Betsy Guyer402-475-6702

Mission & Discipleship

Day of Discipleship Team
Deb Van Dyke-Ries.....
.....402-435-6644

Disaster Recovery Team
Jim White402-840-5079

The Gathering Place
Judy Roper.....402-489-1234

The Green Team
Tom Pappas402-202-4454

Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach
Judy Roper.....402-489-1234

Mission Sewing
Jane Grabenstein-Chandler
.....402-483-6533

Prescott Partners
Maureen Hergert .402-423-6644

FOUNDATION BIRTHDAY CLUB

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

Clay Bradley
Marilyn Maude
Ken Daniels
Jane Spence Peters
Jefferson Davis
Ray Stevens
Vicki Davis
Caroline Taylor
Martha Dennis
Ron Wachter
Joyce Douglas
Foster Woodruff
Dee Edwards



History Buffs, a Westminster small group, toured Wyuka Cemetery on October 12. The cemetery was established 1869 and named from the Ojoe language "meaning, place of reclining."

ADULT EDUCATION

Faith Foundations

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

If you would like to discuss some basic Christian Theology, join Pastor Jen for this new 7-week course beginning November 3. Discussion topics include church, the Bible, religion, Jesus and more! Adults in their 30s and 40s are encouraged to attend.

Exodus

Mondays at 11:00 a.m.

Exodus has been called the source book because it introduces major biblical themes. However, Exodus is not simply an account of the liberation of slaves from bondage in Egypt. Come explore what it means to be held captive today, how to escape those bonds, and how to become something more, without limits or bounds - a new creation. Led by Ken Moore.

Presbyterian Women

Circle 1

Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 9:30 a.m.
Westminster Lounge
Ginny Welty (402-464-7642)

Circle 3

Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 10:00 a.m.
6611 East Shore Drive
Barb Schlieser (402-489-6219)

Circle 4

Monday, Nov. 4 at 7:00 p.m.
7150 Holmes Park Rd. #101
Annette Marquez (402-261-6738)

Circle 5

Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 10:00 a.m.
Westminster Lounge
Eliza Sams (402-420-2181)



Circle 6

Tuesday, Nov. 26 at 7:00 p.m.
Westminster Library
Jane Hines (402-488-8302)

Mission Sewers

Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 1:00 p.m.
Westminster Lounge
Jane Grabenstein-Chandler
(402-483-6533)

Christianity in America

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Join Dr. Ken Moore as he continues his six-week Adult Education series on Christianity in America. Dr. Moore will introduce participants to the personalities and movements that have shaped Christianity in the United States. Upcoming topics include:

- Nov. 3 Religious Freedom
Nov. 10 Role of Women
Nov. 17 Impact of War
Nov. 24 Immigration

Westminster Bible Class

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

- Nov. 3 Preparation for Deliverance
Exodus 3:7-17 Rev. Ellen Davis, leading
Nov. 10 Beginning of Passover
Exodus 12:1-14 Robin Stone, leading
Nov. 17 Beginning of Freedom
Exodus 14:21-30 Rev. Ellen Davis, leading
Nov. 24 Beginning of the Tabernacle
Exodus 40:16-30, 34, 38 Lynn Davis, leading

8th Annual Pie Fellowship

Join us Wednesday, November 20, for this tasty WOW tradition. Treat your taste buds; kick off the holidays with this culinary cornucopia. Bring your favorite pie to share and try those of others! CFM will provide whipped topping.



What can you get for \$5?

You can get a sandwich...

You can buy a burger (no fries or drink)...

You might be able to get a slice of pizza...

Perhaps a cold drink and a bag of chips..?

—OR—

You can come to WOW Dinner and have a delicious, nutritious, **home-cooked** meal complete with a salad, fruit, veggies and desert! All for \$5! Join us every Wednesday from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in Cole Hall. \$3/children; \$15 max per family.

Nov. 6: Baked chicken, rice, carrots

Nov. 13: Goulash, peas

Nov. 20: Chicken noodle soup, toasted cheese

Regular Scheduled Events

5:00	Youth Bells
5:45	Dinner
6:20	Westminster Carillon
6:30	Alleluia! Amen!
6:30	Cherub Choir
6:30	Knit N Sit
6:30	WOW XL
6:30	Faith in Fiction
7:30	Westminster Choir

All In The Family:

Congratulations on the birth of *Calvin James*, born September 9, to Katie and Walker Zulkoski.

Morgan Lynn and *Sydney Rochelle*, daughters of Jim Laux, and *Brielle Grace*, daughter of Joselyn and Adam Luedtke, baptized on October 13.

Comfort for the family and friends of *Tom Yates* who died September 30.

YOUTH

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. ~ Psalm 119:105

Sunday School

The Bible is the inspired word of God written by people like us, for people like us and about people like us! This month in Faith Village, children will explore the following:

- Through oral tradition, God helped storytellers keep the stories of the Bible alive for hundreds of years before those stories were written down
- God inspired many people to write down the stories and teachings of the Bible
- God inspires people to read and study the Bible and helps them live faithfully

FAITH OF OUR CHILDREN

Director of Children's Ministries Betsy Guyer will present The Faith of Our Children on November 13 at 6:30 p.m. Parents are invited to join us to learn about prayer with children, Bibles, faith resources for families and more! Child care is provided at no cost.

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Ever considered using some of your time and talents to help lead children on their journey of faith? If so, there are still a few openings for Prophets of Faith Village throughout the year. For more information, contact Betsy at 402-475-6702.

Faith Building Blocks

Westminster Session had adopted the Faith Building Blocks program for children and families. These 12 blocks begin with **baptism** and culminate in **confirmation**. Throughout the program each grade will have the opportunity to participate in a Faith Building Block experience. Most of the blocks are one session and are an interactive opportunity for children with their parents to promote strong and faithful families.

This month, first graders and a parent are invited to come and explore **Signs of Faith**! On Wednesday, November 6, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. families will explore the meaning of Christian symbols through a Symbol Scavenger Hunt in our sanctuary and chapel.

Preschool Honored

Westminster Preschool, directed by Suzanne Schneider, was among 35 childcare facilities honored for successfully completing the Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Childcare program. The honor was awarded to those facilities that have taken active measures to improve their nutrition and wellness policies. First Lady of Nebraska Sally Ganem was the guest of honor at the awards ceremony and presented each facility with its own framed certificate of completion.

Westminster HS Youth

Westminster High School Youth meet every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. and every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Join us for scripture, faith-based discussion and donuts!

LeaderShape

Check out this new opportunity to develop leadership skills and help plan our youth events! Our LeaderShape group meets every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. at the Village Inn on 48th and Van Dorn.

Bonfire! Nov. 10

Join us November 10 for a bonfire, games and s'mores! We will meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. and carpool out to the quarry. Wear warm clothes and bring a flashlight!

Parents: We need s'mores donations! Please contact Maria to RSVP at maraniech@aol.com or 605-940-6115.

Looking Ahead...

Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:

November 24:

Service Project with Kids
Against Hunger. 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Cost \$10.

December 8:

Cookie Baking

December 20

Senior High Lock-in!! More details to come!

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)			
1. Publication Title THE MESSENGER	2. Publication Number 6 8 8 0 - 4 4 0	3. Filing Date SEPTEMBER, 2013	4. Issue Frequency MONTHLY
5. Number of Issues Published Annually 12	6. Annual Subscription Price \$ TO NONMEMBERS FREE TO MEMBERS	7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502	
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer)		Contact Person MARGE TOMLINSON Telephone (include area code) 402-475-6702	
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)			
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) ANDREW L. McDONALD, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502			
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) MARGE TOMLINSON, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502			
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) KALEE OLSON, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502			
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)			
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address		
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502		
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address		
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)			

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)			
1. Publication Title THE MESSENGER	2. Publication Number 6 8 8 0 - 4 4 0	3. Filing Date SEPTEMBER, 2013	4. Issue Frequency MONTHLY
5. Number of Issues Published Annually 12	6. Annual Subscription Price \$ TO NONMEMBERS FREE TO MEMBERS	7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502	
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer)		Contact Person MARGE TOMLINSON Telephone (include area code) 402-475-6702	
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)			
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) ANDREW L. McDONALD, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502			
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) MARGE TOMLINSON, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502			
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) KALEE OLSON, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502			
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)			
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address		
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN NE 68502		
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address		
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)			



SPIRITUALLY ALIVE
BROADLY INCLUSIVE
GROWING IN MISSION

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



World Communion Sunday was a huge success! The sanctuary was decorated beautifully, our service incorporated multiple languages and we celebrated with special music! Above, Masako Nakamura Bacon leads the Jr. String Ensemble.