



# SECOND CENTURY MESSENGER

VOLUME 82, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2012

## PROMISES KEPT!



The word “promise” has come onto my radar screen. As we travel through life, we become more aware of just how life-changing it can be when people make and keep their promises.

Our promises bind us together in shared vision and values.  
Our promises help us learn what it means to trust.  
Our promises reveal what we value the most.  
Our promises help us experience what it is to have integrity.  
Our promises shared and kept allow us to multiply our impact and power.

It is with great joy that I share with you the wonderful news: all of the loans we took out for our renovation and expansion building projects are now completely paid off! For the first time in more than a decade, we are debt-free!

We accomplished marvelous things in nearly every area of our building and grounds. It has been exciting to see the increased use of these facilities in the past 10 years. The wise choices we made in doing this great project will help the mission and ministries of the church for decades - and hopefully centuries - to come.

This great success has been realized because of your promises to God and your promises to one another. No one of us alone could have done what together became possible. The whole congregation and their gifts, prayers, and support made this team effort a great success.

Westminster was born from a group of people who, in the power of the Holy Spirit, were able to dream great dreams. It is tremendously fulfilling to see that Spirit-filled congregational culture continuing now.

We will officially “burn the note” on Sunday, Oct. 14. I hope you can join us that day and celebrate reaching the finish line together!

Thank you for your promises kept, and for your overwhelming generosity.

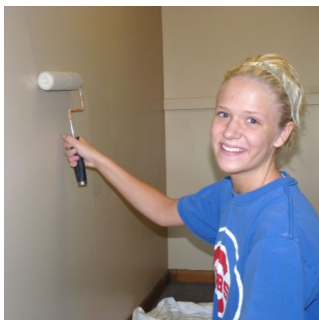
Sincerely,

Andrew McDonald  
*Senior Pastor*

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, Oct. 21** immediately following 10:30 a.m. worship for the joyful purpose of electing our next Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. We are headed toward a bright future!

# ENCORE: SECOND ANNUAL DAY OF DISCIPLESHIP

*Saturday, Oct. 13, 2012; 8 a.m.-noon*



If you've ever wanted to participate in mission work but were unable to travel to a disaster site or volunteer on a regular basis, here is your chance to help out! Westminster's second annual **Day of Discipleship** is a one-day opportunity to provide support for people in need in our own community.

Last year, nearly 100 volunteers participated; this year, we've doubled the number of agencies we'll assist. Help us double our number of volunteers this year - sign up now by filling out the page portion below and returning it to the church office.

Some projects will require funding for supplies; mark your donations with "DoD" and drop them in the Sunday offering plate.

For questions or more information on Day of Discipleship, contact **Deb Van Dyke-Ries**: [terrapinst@neb.rr.com](mailto:terrapinst@neb.rr.com) or 402.613.3297.

*Choose from the following volunteer opportunities:*

- **American Historical Society of Germans from Russia:** painting
- **CEDARS:** painting (56th & Pioneers location)
- **Center For People in Need:** painting
- **Clinic With a Heart:** deep cleaning
- **Community CROPS:** weeding and mulching
- **Cornhusker Place:** repairing wooden benches & caulking walkway
- **Early Childhood and Youth Development:** painting, install fixtures, & sew 100 sleeping mat covers
- **Friendship Home:** cleaning & assembling playground equipment
- **Gathering Place:** yard maintenance & painting fire escape
- **Habitat for Humanity:** work on build site
- **HUB - Central Access Point:** installing flooring & weeding yard
- **Kids Against Hunger:** assemble food packages for people across the globe (great for families)
- **Malone Manor:** clean stairwells and parlor
- **Matt Talbot:** serve a meal to 125 people & clean up afterwards
- **Meals on Wheels:** deliver lunch to the elderly/disabled (must have a car/partner with another driver; great for families)

Register now! Drop this form off in the Sunday offering plate, or return it to the church office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer project: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Child care needed?    YES    NO

How many? \_\_\_\_\_

## MISSION OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT: WESTMINSTER FOOD PANTRY

This October, as we approach Day of Discipleship, we hope each member of the congregation will consider bringing a food item (or several) to help stock our food pantry. The needs of the pantry are ongoing throughout the entire year; each week, 270 items are taken to People's City Mission, where they are distributed to six hungry local families. This food feeds three families of two, two families of three, and one family of four. The items we provide weekly are:

10 rolls of toilet tissue	7 packages of rice
13 boxes of Jell-O	6 packages of dry noodles
6 bottles of pancake syrup	16 boxes of macaroni & cheese
6 boxes of pancake mix	19 cans of tuna
9 bars of hand soap	7 cans of stew or chili
6 boxes of dry cereal	28 cans of fruit
6 boxes of oatmeal	37 cans of vegetables
6 bottles of cooking oil	6 boxes of instant potatoes
6 2-lb. sacks of sugar	15 cans of pork & beans
6 boxes of soda crackers	22 cans of soup
6 jars of peanut butter	7 packages of spaghetti
14 cans of Spaghettios	6 cans of spaghetti sauce

It's often asked which items are needed the most, but from the list above, you can see that *all* of the items are needed, *each week*.

All of these items are either brought in by congregation members purchased from the grocery store. The annual food drive meets our needs for only three or four weeks out of the year. This important mission of our church continues *every week of the year*.

**Please remember the pantry each week** as you do your own personal shopping. If each church family brings in a few items each week, it will make a big difference! Financial contributions are also essential for the continued success of the food pantry.

- Hank and Nora Hinrichs



### Knit N Sit: crafting outreach

This weekly fellowship group meets after the WOW dinner (6:30-8:30 p.m.) in the **Library**.

Pictured above are some of the items crafted since April for the People's City Mission. If you are unable to join us, items made at home are also welcome! You may leave donations at the church office receptionist desk.

### Outreach through prayer

The Westminster Prayer Chain is composed of members who pray for specific people in need. Prayer requests can be made by calling or emailing the church office or speaking to one of our pastors. For more information about joining the Prayer Chain, contact **Susie Hughes: 402.440.9165** or [skh@eskays.com](mailto:skh@eskays.com).

### Durable Medical Lending Supplies

Need a walker, cane, or crutches? Member Care Ministry has established a lending program for durable medical supplies like these and others. Call the church office at **402.475.6702** to get the list of available items.

# TRANSFORMATIVE KNOWLEDGE: ADULT EDUCATION

Sundays at 9 a.m.

## What is Traditional Marriage?

In the 5000-year history of marriage, what has changed and what has stayed the same? This timely and intriguing question was briefly considered in an August sermon. Stephanie Coontz's book, *Marriage, A History*, was referenced. And interest sparked in a follow-up class. So, here it is. Beginning **Oct. 14** and continuing through **Nov. 25**, a Sunday morning opportunity will be offered to read and discuss *Marriage, A History*. We will meet in the **Lounge** and **Bob Snell** will lead our discussion. Books will be available for \$10.

## Crossroads

Crossroads is an Adult Education class specifically designed for young adults. Meet in the **Library** for discussions focusing on relating the Scriptures to modern life!

## Taking on the Taboo: Politics and Religion

In Chapter 11 of *In Defense of Civility*, James Calvin Davis claims that the Christian community is where politics *must* be discussed.

With the upcoming election in mind, we will offer three structured discussions of the candidates and the issues. We will entertain every question that is courteous and sincere. Join us at **9 a.m.** on **Sundays** in **Fellowship Hall A**.

**Oct. 7** Moderated by retired UNL political science professor Robert Sittig

**Oct. 14** Moderated by radio producer Jerry Johnston, with a special focus on the Fischer-Kerry campaign

**Oct. 28** Moderated by retired UNL political science professor Robert Sittig

## Westminster Bible Class

Join us in the **Parlor** for a study session from *The Present Word*.

Oct. 7 "Stephen's Arrest and Speech," Acts 6:8-7:2a; led by **Rev. Robert Snell**

Oct. 14 "Stephen's Martyrdom," Acts 7:51-8:1a; led by **Bill North**

Oct. 21 "Simon Wants to Buy Power," Acts 8:9-34; led by **Rev. Ellen Davis**

Oct. 28 "Phillip and the Ethiopian Eunuch," Acts 8:26-39; led by **Rev. Ellen Davis**

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# FEED YOUR HEAD WITH MORE WEEKLY ADULT ED!

**Mondays at 11 a.m.**

## Matthew on Mondays

On Mondays in September, we continue study of the Gospel According to Matthew, which might have been the most influential gospel in the early church. New members are warmly welcomed! Join us in the **Lounge** for an hour of "listening for the word of God," led by **Bob Snell**.

**Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.**

## Transforming methods of parenting: Raising Kids in the Digital Age

Join us as we continue study and discussion of *Talking Back to Facebook: The Common Sense Guide to Raising Kids in the Digital Age* by James P. Steyer through **Oct. 24**. The book tackles subjects like the effects of digital media on children's development, practical strategies for mediating that impact, and the modeling we as parents provide in our own use of technologies and online tools.

**Chris Pultz** leads the study on **Wednesdays in Fellowship Hall A from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

## Early notice: *Uglies* book study

Mark your calendars! A new book study seminar for all ages will be offered on Wednesday evenings for WOW, starting **Nov. 7**.

Explore the dystopian future of Scott Westerfeld's novel *Uglies*, where at age 16, teens don't look forward to their driver's licenses, but an operation that will transform them from repellant "uglies" to in-crowd "pretties." This is Tally's world, and in the course of the novel, she learns about a whole new side of the "pretty" world ... and it isn't very pretty at all.

Copies of the book are still available for purchase; contact **Emily Killham** at **402.217.0842**.

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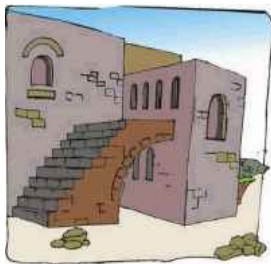
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PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)		



## LEARNING ABOUT ACCEPTANCE

*“Now I am certain that God treats all people alike.”*  
— Acts 10:34

### Faith Village (9 and 10:45 a.m.)

Faith Villagers (grades K-5) begin each morning with a few songs and a chance to thank God for blessings with an offering. Parents are encouraged to help their children make this a regular part of their Sunday morning routine. After large group time, children are divided into age groups and head off to workshops centered around a common theme. October's theme is **acceptance**.

The Bible teaches that God's love is for everyone, and that all of us are created in the image of God. As God's people, we should love and appreciate others and be willing to learn from one another and work together. During October in Faith Village, children will learn that:

- We are all created in the image of God;
- We believe God's love is for all people;
- God's love is also for us - we need to accept ourselves;

- When we recognize diverse and unique gifts, we can work together to serve God and others;
- It is important to not prejudice people;
- We can be sensitive to our own behaviors and/or language that may show prejudice;
- We can learn about and show appreciation for other cultures, countries, and peoples.

### Kindergarten of Eden (10:45 a.m.)

We are off to a new, exciting adventure this fall in Kindergarten of Eden! We will build foundations to help young children learn about God's love for them. We will explore most of our Bible stories for two sessions; we do this so young children have an opportunity to learn by repetition. This fall, our Bible stories are about God's love, God's creation, Moses, the Ten Commandments, Samuel, and Isaiah. Each week, children are encouraged to bring an offering of nonperishable food for the Westminster Food Pantry.

### Faith Building Blocks



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

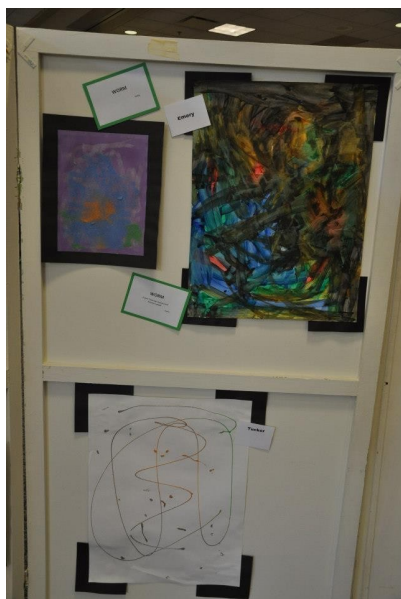
#### Upcoming Faith Building Blocks:

**Oct. 10:** Third graders and a parent are invited to attend an interactive class: "Learning to Use My Bible." Class will be held **6:30-7:30 p.m.**; join us for WOW dinner at 5:45 p.m. in Cole Hall. All 3rd graders who participate will receive Bibles in worship on Sunday, Oct. 21.

RSVP to be part of this Faith Building Block experience to **Betsy**: [Betsy@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:Betsy@westminsterlincoln.org) or **402.475.6702**.



## ART ABOUNDS AT WESTMINSTER PRESCHOOL



We had an amazing opportunity to share more than 250 unique pieces of art created by the children of Westminster Preschool at the Preschool Art Show on Sunday, Sept. 23. There were canvas paintings, pastels, pottery pieces, watercolors, sand art, and many more types of media on display. I hope many of you had the opportunity to walk through and see the art! If you missed it, be sure to check out the photo gallery on the Westminster Preschool Facebook page ([facebook.com/WPSLincoln](https://facebook.com/WPSLincoln)).

Westminster Preschool has a busy month planned for October, including a field trip to Roca Berry Farm, parent-teacher conferences, a Scholastic book fair, and Picture Day with photographer Jenny Gegg.

This year will also mark our first time participating in the Pumpkin Run! This event is sponsored by the Nebraska Sports Council, and will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 13** at **Pioneers Park**. The Pumpkin Run is a 1-mile walk/run, and parents can walk or run with the children. The preschool group is scheduled to begin

the run at **12:10 p.m.** Registration costs are \$10 per child, which includes a cool, festive T-shirt. Many prizes will be given at the finish line just for participation, too. We hope to have a great showing for this event - please join us!

*- Suzanne Schneider,  
Director*



*Photos by  
Suzanne  
Schneider*

# WOW XL: TRANSFORMING YOUTH AT WESTMINSTER

**Far right:** WOW XLers (youth in grades 6-8) gear up for the music portion of the evening. Each week, youth make a joyful noise to the Lord, raising their voices in song and celebration to start off the night's activities. Music, along with three other Ms (message, motivation, and mayhem), complete the WOW XL experience.

Photos  
by  
Tiffany  
Pfeil



**At right:** During WOW XL, youth sign postcards to other youth in grades 6-8, inviting them to join WOW XL for an *MMMM good* time.



## WOW XL in brief:

- Youth with great attendance at WOW XL will win a TRANSFORMATION T-shirt. Join us on **Wednesdays** from **6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** in the **Youth Room** and be part of this *MMMM good* time each week!
- WOW XL is currently recruiting caring adults to help with the **mayhem, message, and motivation** for our middle school youth. If you have 60 minutes to spare (weekly, once a month, even once a semester), contact [Tiffany@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:Tiffany@westminsterlincoln.org) to learn how you can be part of the group.
- Thanks to **Owen Killham** and **Boyd Bacon** for supporting the **music** component of WOW XL! Other guest musicians are always invited to jam with us, too.

## Mark your calendars!

- **Oct. 13:** It's Day of Discipleship Youth in grades 6-12 will participate with their families. Confirmation youth will participate with their class.
- **Oct. 19-20:** Youth Lock-in for all youth in grades 6-12 will be held from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- **Oct. 26:** Parents' Night Out returns! Drop off your children (birth through grade 5) any time between 6:30 and 10 p.m. for a fabulous Friday night with games, movies, crafts, snacks, and the bounce house. Cost is \$25 for the first child, \$15 for each additional child in the family. **A minimum of 10 children must be preregistered in order to hold this event.** Registrations must be received no later than Oct. 23.
- **Oct. 28:** Join us for our annual Spooktacular event from 4 to 6 p.m., with popcorn, games, the bounce house, and trunk-or-treat.



# TRANSFORMING SMILES: SUNDAY SCHOOL PICTURE DAY

**SUNDAY,  
SEPT. 9, 2012**

Nearly 100 children and youth of all ages (preschool through senior high) brought their best, brightest smiles to Westminster for Sunday School Picture Day on Sunday, Sept. 9.

**Clockwise from top left:** 2nd and 3rd graders; Faith Villagers (10:30 a.m. class); confirmation class; 1st graders; 4th and 5th graders; 6th and 7th graders; kindergarten class; Faith Villagers (9 a.m. class); senior high class; and Kindergarten of Eden class (preschoolers).

*Photos by Jenny Gegg,  
Tiffany Pfeil,  
and Allen Wachter*



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## NEWS NOTES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

All Westminster women are invited to visit or join one of the following Circles; call the listed number for details. Copies of the 2012-2013 Bible study, *The Epistles*, and the Circle Directory are both available through Circle Leaders.

- Circle 1**      Weds., Oct. 3; 9:30 a.m.; Lounge  
Ginny Welty; 402.464.7642
- Circle 3**      Weds., Oct. 3; 10 a.m.  
2828 Woodsdale Blvd.  
Freda Gregg; 402.423.3236
- Circle 4**      Mon., Oct. 1; 7 p.m.  
5411 Dove Lane  
Kathy Anderson; 402.421.1555
- Circle 5**      Tues., Oct. 9; 10 a.m.; Lounge  
Jane Grabenstein-Chandler;  
402.483.6533
- Circle 6**      Tues., Oct. 23; 7 p.m.; Library  
Jane Hines; 402.488.8302

**Mission Sewers** will meet on **Weds., Oct. 24** in the **Lounge** at **1 p.m.** Contact Martha McLeod (402.792.2774) or Jane Grabenstein-Chandler (402.483.6533) for more information.



### MUSIC NOTES

♪ Rehearsals for the children's Christmas pageant begin **Oct. 17**. Join us on **Wednesdays** from **6:30 to 7:25 p.m.** to help spread the good news about the birth of Jesus! Dress rehearsal will be held 9-11:30 a.m. on Dec. 15; performance to follow on Dec. 16 during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

♪ There will be **no choir rehearsals** on **Weds., Oct. 31**. Have a safe and happy Halloween!

### LIFETIME MINISTRY EVENTS

#### Lunch Bunch: Oct. 11; 11:30 a.m.

The Lunch Bunch will meet this month at **11:30 a.m.**, one hour earlier than usual, on **Thurs., Oct. 11**, at **Cheddars Casual Café**, located at **5424 O St.** Please plan to arrive at the restaurant promptly! RSVP to **Jeanne Giles (402.484.6651)** so enough seats can be reserved for this outing.

#### Prairie Readers: Oct. 17; 1 p.m.

Prairie Readers' book selection for October is Amy Waldman's *The Submission*, one of this year's finalists for One Book, One Lincoln. The novel focuses on the emotions surrounding the planning and design of a memorial to those who perished in the terrorist attack in New York on Sept. 11, 2001.

Westminster member Tom Pappas, a member of the OBOL selection committee, will facilitate the **Oct. 17** discussion session. Join us at **1 p.m.** in the **Parlor!**

#### Westminster Club: Oct. 23; 5:30 p.m.

Westminster Club will hold its October meeting on **Tues., Oct. 23** in **Cole Hall**. Join us at **5:30 p.m.** for fellowship and dinner, followed by a presentation by UNL's "Boots N Cats" vocal group, with Westminster members Anna Schoettger and Ingrid Holmquist. Please bring \$7 to cover the cost of the dinner and your own table service.



### All In The Family:

*Baptisms:* Charlotte Jane, daughter of Kristen and Geoff Cline; and Irene Mae, daughter of Julie and Scott Steinhauser.

*Bereavements:* Comfort for the family and friends of Harry Seward, Jr., who died on Sept. 10.

## WOW (Westminster on Wednesdays)

*"Put more Spirit in your week!"*

Join us on Wednesday evenings for delicious and nutritious dinners, engaging Adult Education seminars, music, and fellowship. Come and connect over a fantastic meal you don't have to shop for, cook, or clean up. *WOW!* - what a deal!

### WOW Dinner

**5:45-6:30 p.m. in Cole Hall**

*\$3/children; \$4/adults; \$14 max per family*

- Oct. 3:** potato soup, toasted cheese sandwich  
**Oct. 10:** taco night  
**Oct. 17:** ham and noodle casserole  
**Oct. 24:** baked chicken, rice, green beans

*All meals are served with salad, fruit, and dessert.*

## FOUNDATION BIRTHDAY CLUB

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

Fern Bieck	Harriet Peterson
Jeanne Cuda	Sandy Sostad
Lynn Davis	Caroline Taylor
Jane Hines	Steve Teget
John Hoppe, Jr.	Ron Wachter
Matt Joy	Eleanor Watts
Wanda Joy	Foster Woodruff
Al Landfield	Shalla Young
Larry Peach	

## WESTMINSTER MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

- Oct. 2** Bible study, led by Rev. Robert Snell  
**Oct. 9** "A Balanced Approach to Aging," presented by Lee Nyberg, director of marketing for Health Care Assistance of Nebraska  
**Oct. 16** Bible study, led by Rev. McDonald  
**Oct. 23** "Following God's Call to Mission," presented by Ken Govaerts  
**Oct. 30** "Duncan Services in Lincoln, Nationally, and Internationally," presented by Andy Trumble, professional development specialist for Duncan Aviation

## LET'S GO CAMPING - AGAIN!

Join Small Groups Ministry for a fall campout on **Oct. 19-20**, using the private campground of the Lincoln West Optimists at Branched Oak State Recreation Area - no reservations needed! The Huskers will be off beating Northwestern, so you might as well be kayaking or fishing at the lake. We'll also have another fantastic potluck at **6 p.m.**; plan to attend even if you can't stay overnight!

Contact **Bruce Sheffield** at **402.783.0394** with questions or for more information.

## Protect your family from senior fraud scams!

Scam artists across the U.S. and around the world defraud Nebraskans every day, generating billions of dollars for criminals each year. Learn how to fight back! Choose between two presentation sessions with **Ryan Sothan**, an entertaining expert on the subject, on **Weds., Nov. 14: 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**; or **6:45 p.m. in the Parlor**. Each session will last about an hour.

RSVP to the church office at **402.475.6702** or to Lee Nyberg ([lnyberg@homecareassistance.com](mailto:lnyberg@homecareassistance.com)).

The next **History Buffs** presentation will be held on **Sat., Oct. 27 at 9 a.m.** in the **Lounge**. Join us for coffee, bagels/doughnuts, and **Greg Hershberger's** talk about the development and background of the federal prison system! History Buffs is a gathering for anyone who simply enjoys history. Call **Bruce Sheffield** at **402.783.0394** with questions or for more information.





2110 Sheridan Blvd.  
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402.475.6702  
westminsterlincoln.org

## SPOOKTACULAR: GET YOUR GHOUL ON!

*Sunday, Oct. 28, 2012; 4-6 p.m.*



Cowboys, princesses, and creatures of the night are invited to slither, shuffle, or ride on down to Westminster for our 2nd annual **Spooktacular** night! Join us between **4 and 6 p.m.** on **Sunday, Oct. 28** for trunk-or-treating, pumpkin-inspired games, the bounce house, and more! Bring your ghoulish family, spooky friends, and any other monster who wants a safe place to spend a frightfully fun evening! All Spooktacular events are **free**.

Trunk sponsors are needed for our 2nd annual Spooktacular event. Contact [Tiffany@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:Tiffany@westminsterlincoln.org) to sponsor a trunk ... *if you dare!*

## THANKSGIVING TOGETHER - THURSDAY, NOV. 8

Once again, we will “gather together” for a delightful and delicious congregational Thanksgiving Dinner, a festive occasion when we join with one another in giving thanks to God for the many blessings that are ours here at Westminster. **Thursday, Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m.** is the time, **Fellowship Hall** is the place, and the evening includes:

- A traditional Thanksgiving meal with gourmet flair created and catered by Kasia Bradley
- As in the past, an outstanding program of entertainment
- A compelling video portrait of our past year’s faith, life, and mission
- Splendid table fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ
- A special thank-you to Boyd and Masako Bacon for the blessings of their music ministry.

A separate meal with its own program will be provided for children, and nursery care will also be available.

If you would like a vegetarian option, just let us know when you make your reservation, which you can do by signing up at the church on Sunday or by calling the church office at **402.475.6702**.

Free of charge, this wonderful evening will instead be supported by your free will offerings.

**We are expecting a full house, so make your reservations now!**