



THE MESSENGER

VOLUME 83, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2013



I Love to Tell
THE STORY

TELL THE STORY: READY, SET, ACTION!

We have been singing and saying, “I Love to Tell the Story.” Now is our window of opportunity, in word and deed, to tell the story anew. Get connected to Christ’s story this month:

Consecration Sunday: a day when EVERYBODY is encouraged to bring their pledge card, and bring it forward during worship. It is moving, encouraging and inspiring! And what a “teachable moment” for our children, as they see the whole church sharing their gifts to “tell the story of Jesus and his love!”

The Day of Discipleship: a day in which the whole church is encouraged to volunteer to help throughout the Lincoln community. The need is great - and we have the love and talents to make a difference.

Faith in Fiction: join Rev. Jen Strickland in finding the gospel story in the midst of a host of short stories by outstanding authors. Let the old, old story become new in creative works of fiction.

New Small Groups: Groups are forming in which people can find mutual support and love. People affected by cancer will find strength, hope and friendship in the Faith and Cancer group. People who have experienced the loss of a loved one will experience healing and hope in Narrative Grieving.

Parents of Preschoolers: a group for families with children 5 and under. Raising children is a joy and a challenge. This group will help families be better equipped for whatever happens. This group wants to help parents “be all they can be” - as parents!

Mission Fair: Sunday morning “meet and greet” our mission partners. Westminster supports a host of mission agencies. Meet leaders from these groups and hear their inspiring story.

Spooktacular: Trunk or Treat: Want to help form a more caring community? Come be part of this event. We will welcome over 400 neighborhood children in Halloween costumes. Decorate your trunk, help run games, or just donate a few bags of candy. The children will love it!

Worship with the Nebraska Wesleyan Choir: These University singers share their gifts of music and help us connect with the broader Lincoln community.

All this, and more, is happening this month at Westminster. We have a story to tell!

Andrew McDonald, Senior Pastor

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

MISSION FAIR

Looking for a way to get involved in the community? Want to share your time, talents and treasure? Looking for a great family experience?

On October 6, Mission Outreach Ministry will host the Mission Fair in Fellowship Hall. Mission partners within Westminster as well as non-profit organizations in Lincoln are coming to Westminster to share the stories of their clients, the needs in our community and how their organization helps.



Day of Discipleship

Westminster supports many mission projects in Lincoln on a regular basis. Our Day of Discipleship presents us with a unique opportunity to visit these non-profits and do Christ's work in helping others or offering a helping hand. The Outreach Ministry is once again coordinating projects for your participation. Please heed the call to be a part of one of the many projects offered. Invite a friend to join you in painting, cleaning, serving meals; the spiritual rewards are great.

Saturday, October 19

8:00 a.m. Breakfast at Westminster

9:00 a.m. On Project Site

Plan to be available for 4-6 hours. Most projects will be completed in 4 hours.

Following are a few of the non-profits that will be visited this year:

Cedars

Fresh Start

Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach

Gathering Place

Clinic with A Heart

Good Neighbor Center

Tabitha Meals on Wheels

Friendship Home

Center for People in Need

Early Childhood Development, and many more.

Introducing Two New Staff Members



Kalee Olson, Westminster's newest staff member, joins the church as communications coordinator and receptionist. She received her Bachelors in Journalism from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln in 2008, where she studied both news-editorial and advertising. Since graduation, she has worked extensively in project management, most recently with arts nonprofits in Omaha and San Francisco.

In her free time, Kalee is a creative writer and home decorator, particularly focused on her small collection of contemporary art. She enjoys traveling and the company of friends, and is a participant in the local music scene.



Meet **Marie Niechwiadowicz** (pronounced nee-shadow-witz), our new High School Youth director! Maria is a senior at Nebraska Wesleyan, and she brings several years of experience in children and youth ministries to Westminster. Maria studied abroad in India for 5 months, and is a Theatre major with a Religious Studies minor. She is passionate about liturgical dance, cooking ethnic foods, and baking sweet treats. You may also find her perusing the Farmer's Market, enjoying a picnic in the park, or humming a few bars from her favorite movie, *Singin' in the Rain*. Please take the time to welcome Maria to our staff.

NEW SMALL GROUPS

FAITH AND CANCER

The way cancer affects faith is different for everyone, so no matter where you are in your journey, the Faith and Cancer Small Group is for you. This small group is where cancer survivors can come together for fellowship, prayer and study. Starting Tuesday, October 15, this small group will meet from 7:00—8:00 p.m. at Westminster in the Parlor. We will meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month.

For more information, contact Janice Rohwedder at 402-730-5568 or janicerohw@yahoo.com.

NARRATIVE GRIEVING

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."
Matthew 5:4

Many of us have experienced the deep and sorrowful loss of a loved one, yet in a culture that hurries grieving and tends to be silent about death, we do not all get the opportunity to talk about our grief or our losses with others. The Narrative Grieving small group, will meet each Wednesday beginning October 23, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Group members will read, write, and share narratives about various topics related to grief such as loss, hope, life, death, anger, and love. If you are interested or have questions, contact Jody Kellas at jkellas2@unl.edu.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

GENESIS TO GUINNESS (G TO G)

Men of all ages gather at Henry's on South St. (2110 Winthrop Rd) on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month to discuss a theological topic and enjoy friendship.

Ladies Night Out

Toast
570 Fallbrook Rd
Tuesday, October 29, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
All ladies welcome for fun & fellowship

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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 Children's Ministries: Betsy Guyer.....	x 107
Communications Coordinator: Kalee Olson.....	x101
Administrative Secretary: Marge Tomlinson.....	x 102
Custodians/Maintenance: Richard Gruenemeyer, Lyudmila Fomina, Ryan McClain Mehmedalija Plicanic,	

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ADULT EDUCATION

October 6 **No Class** **Mission Sunday**

October 13 **Getting Connected**

Small groups at Westminster provide the ideal way to become connected and involved with others who share similar concerns and interests. On Sunday, October 13, at 9:00 a.m. Small Groups Ministry will provide an overview of its expanding array of activities for sharing, for support, and social activities. Discover how easy and rewarding it is to get connected in a small group.

October 20 **Christianity in America** Beginning this Sunday, led by Rev. Ken Moore, this course will introduce participant to the personalities and movements that have shaped Christianity in the United States.

WESTMINSTER BIBLE CLASS

October 6 No Class Mission Sunday

October 13 “A Promise To Sarah” Bud Tenney, leading
Genesis 17:15-17; 18:9-15; 21:1-7

October 20 “A Blessing For Ishmael and Isaac” Greg Hershberger, leading
Genesis 15:1-6; 16:117:1-14, 18, 20-27

October 27 “The Blessing Passes to Jacob” Rev. Ellen Davis, leading
Genesis 28:1, 10-22

Exodus on Mondays

Exodus has been called the “source book” because it introduces major biblical themes. However, Exodus is not simply an account of 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. Ken Moore is leading the class on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. in the Lounge.

All In The Family:

Marriages: Best wishes to Megan Drayton and Corey Peterson, married on September 13.

Bereavements: Comfort for the family and friends of Kenneth Riley who died on September 5; Ruth Hayes Morin who died on September 16 and Reece Benesch who died on September 23.

FIRST AID AND SAFETY FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Have you ever wondered if that bug bite needs medical attention? Do you know what to do if your child is choking? How do you tell if a bone is broken? What are the signs of a concussion? Should you go to the ER? If you have ever had one of these questions, this is the meeting for you.

Come join us for an educational meeting Wednesday, October 9, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Child care is provided at no charge.

It is WOW (Westminster on Wednesday) so join us for dinner from 5:45 to 6:30 (\$3/*children*; \$5/*adults*; \$15 *max per family*).

POPs!

Parents of Preschoolers fellowship group

Believing that parents are the foundation of the family and that children are the future hope of the world suddenly makes parenting seem a little daunting. Sharing our joys and concerns, our triumphs and our missteps can help us all become stronger on this parenting journey. We will rally together to feel more equipped for this amazing adventure.

POPs will meet the first and third Wednesday of each month at Westminster from 9:30-11:00 a.m. On the first Wednesday, we will have a parent-tot playtime. This casual playgroup time will help children and parents get to know one another and develop friendships, and will foster social skills in small children. A variety of activity centers are available including crafts, dramatic play, blocks, reading and more. The third Wednesday we will have a special group time for adults and quality childcare for the children. This will be a special time of conversation and support for the parents while the children are nurtured in a preschool-like environment.

POPs is specifically designed for parents of children birth-5 years old although parents of older children are welcome to come and join the fun. POPs embraces parents in all circumstances hoping to equip parents to become all God hopes for them to be. For more information contact betsy@westminsterlincoln.org or 402-475-6702.

MUSIC NOTES

October 6 - World Communion Sunday

Celebrate diversity and gather for prayers of peace. Come unto God in unity with multi-cultural music with Jr. String Ensemble, Westminster Carillon and Westminster Choir.

October 20 - "Once Upon a Parable"

Children's Musical - 10:30 a.m. worship

Alleluia! Amen! (1st-5th Grade Choir, directed by Samatha Matulka) and Cherub Choir (age 3-K choir, directed by Robert Lighthall) will present a musical about 3 parables Jesus told his disciples. Celebrate their ministry as they share the stories of Jesus through their voices and actions.

October 23 - Wednesday, Children's Christmas Pageant Audition 6:30-7:25 p.m.

Come and be a part of the choir who loves to tell the story about Jesus's coming. The pageant rehearsals will be held during choir time (Wednesday 6:30-7:25 p.m.). Please mark your calendar: Dress rehearsal on December 14 (9:00-11:30 a.m.) Pageant on December 15 (10:30 a.m. worship service).

October 27 - Reformation Sunday

Nebraska Wesleyan Choir - 10:30 a.m. Worship

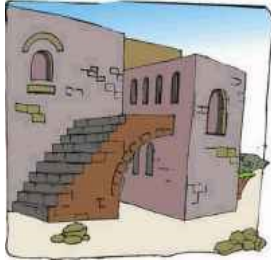
The University Choir from Nebraska Wesleyan, directed by Dr. William Wyman, will be sharing music that they will sing in Estonia and Sweden. The choir is a select 54-voice ensemble, more than half of whom are music majors. They are recognized throughout this country and internationally for performing excellence and regularly presents a varied repertoire rich in global diversity.

Invitation to Sing the Christmas Special Music

Randall Stroope is one of the prominent American choral composers. He serves as a director of Choral and Vocal Studies at Oklahoma State University. He served in a similar position at UNL-Omaha. Westminster commissioned Stroope to write one of the three hymns for the centennial anniversary on our mission statement: II. Broadly Inclusive.

"Hodie" (This Day) announces the birth of Jesus Christ with vital rhythm and rich harmony. Rehearsals begin on **October 23 (8:00-9:00 p.m.)**

People Who Made a Difference



‘Many (people)...believe in him because of the woman’s testimony. John 4:39

FAITH VILLAGE 9:00 AND 10:45 A.M.

Faith Villagers begin each morning with a few songs and a chance to thank God for our blessings with an offering. Offering envelopes are available in Faith Village for children to taken home. 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 which all center around a common theme.

Through two stories from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament, children will explore the following concepts:

- ◇ The Bible shows us that all kinds of people can make a difference.
- ◇ A woman (Deborah) made a difference, a child (Jeremiah) made a difference, someone who wasn’t Jewish (centurion) made a difference, and an outcast (woman at the well) made a difference.
- ◇ Throughout history, people of great faith made a difference.
- ◇ Each one of us can made a difference.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

9:00 A.M.

Children will join Jennifer McCollough for a Bible story or two, an activity and lots of community building through play.

Kindergarten of Eden: Preschool Sunday School

10:45 A.M.

Welcome to WEE Believe!

Our theme for Fall 2013 is We Belong To God. Young children will learn about God’s love for them and that God loves them no matter what. Most of the Bible stories will be explored for 2 sessions. We do this so that young children have the opportunity to learn through repetition. Some stories we will cover this fall include Noah, Abraham, and Sarah, Joseph, Hannah and David.

FAITH BUILDING BLOCKS

How do we help our children build a strong foundation for their faith? By giving them strong blocks to build with and helping them build on a ROCK like the wise man in the Bible. Westminster’s Session had adopted the Faith Building Blocks program for children and families. These 12 blocks begin with **baptism** and culminate in **confirmation**. Including such foundational as Kindergarten Bibles, The Sacraments, The Lord’s Prayer and The Ten Commandments, families will grow together in faith. 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.

LEARNING TO USE MY BIBLE

Part of the Faith Building Blocks program!

Third Graders and a parent are invited to come to an interactive class, **Wed, Oct. 16, 6:30-7:30** (You can join us for WOW dinner 5:45-6:30) . All 3rd graders who participate will receive Bibles in worship on Sunday October 27. RSVP to Betsy 402-475-6702 or betsy@westminsterlincoln.org.

THANKSGIVING TOGETHER - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

We will “gather together” at 6:30 p.m. for Westminster’s Annual “Thanksgiving Dinner” to be held in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, November 7.

Premier Catering will be providing our traditional Thanksgiving feast with music by the Westminster Choir.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the hosting, serving and clean up.

A free will offering will be taken to cover the expenses.

Reservation sign up will be in the Garden Room beginning October 6, or you can contact the church office to let us know you will be attending.

Let’s celebrate God’s love for us all in a show of Thanksgiving!



JB Sports and Westminster are partnering for

FALL SPORTS CAMP!

October 14 and 15, 2013

9:00-3:00*

Two days of active fun for kids

Kindergarten-5th grade.

Day One will find us exploring sports from around the world including Cricket, Football and Volleyball. Our camp introduces rules and skills through hands-on exercises, so kids begin playing and improving right away. We keep it fun, but at these ages, children appreciate a bit of competition too. The goals are to help make every student comfortable trying new sports, to give them a basic understanding of popular sports and to help them appreciate the fun and rewards of regular physical activity.

Day Two will be a series of 60 Second challenges in which teams work together to achieve goals. Kids work through 6-8 activities, usually in teams of two. Players earn points and compete to be the day’s winning team. It’s a little competitive, sometimes a little silly, but each activity is actually carefully crafted to sharpen fine and gross motor skills, encourage teamwork and problem-solving. Through cheers and laughs, the 60-Second Challenge has proven to be a worthwhile program kids look forward to.

We will round out each day with crafts, devotions, snacks and time for learning about nutrition.

Registration \$60. All snacks, equipment and supplies are included and athletes are asked to bring their own lunch.

*Extended Care is available: mornings \$5, afternoons \$10.

CHILDREN AS STEWARDS OF GOD'S CREATION

In Faith Village and Kindergarten of Eden we have talked about some ways we can share our blessings with our neighbors both near and far. We have collected water and donations at VBS to help people in Lincoln and in Africa have clean, healthy water to drink. We have collected school supplies to help our neighbors at Prescott Elementary. The Kindergarten of Eden children collect non-perishables for the Food Pantry to help hungry people here in Lincoln. The children in Faith Village have been so faithful in bringing their offerings to Sunday School each week. **We currently have \$193.85 saved for a worthy project.**



Heifer International empowers families to turn hunger and poverty into hope and prosperity - but it is more than just giving them a handout. Heifer links communities and helps bring sustainable agriculture and commerce to areas with a long history of poverty. Animals provide partners with both food and reliable income, as agricultural products such as milk, eggs and honey can be traded or sold at market. When many families gain this new sustainable income, it brings new opportunities for building schools, creating agricultural cooperatives, forming community savings and funding small business.

WATER BUFFALO SEW THE SEEDS OF SUCCESS

These gentle giants allow farmers to plant four times as many crops, allowing them to sow fields in days that once took weeks to plant by hand. The gift of a water buffalo will: Provide rich milk that is high in protein and nutrients.

Make farming easier by tilling fields and providing fertilizer.

People in the marshlands of India, southeastern Asia and parts of South America depend on water buffalo more than any other animal. They are well suited for working the land, which allows farm families to produce more, better crops. These, in turn, can be used to feed their children or sold to earn money for medicine and clothing - and your generosity makes it all possible.



Westminster children can give a water buffalo to a needy family for \$250. We are so very close to meeting our goal. Our pennies, nickels and dimes added together will make a huge impact on a family far away. Please help children remember their offerings and see the lessons of Jesus working through our congregation.

WANT TO HELP? HERE ARE TWO WAYS

Prescott Partners - There will be a signup sheet at the Mission Fair for many volunteer opportunities at Prescott. Some will include the following: Master Gardner - to oversee the outdoor classroom and educate the students about being stewards of the earth; Club leaders - short term commitment to share a hobby or interest after school, homework helpers, escorts and playground support after school, guest speakers to talk about a hobby or career. There will also be opportunities to help with the backpack program, Teammates and other programs.

Prescott still needs backpacks and school supplies. We are also asking for new/gently used clothing and shoes for students. As you are going through your children's clothes, please consider bringing any of the above to the drop-off box at church. Thank you for supporting this new partnership.

WESTMINSTER FOOD PANTRY - October is canned fruit month, but our shelves are low on the other items also. The drop-off box at the top of the stairs holds a lot of grocery items, but during October, let's see if we can make it overflow. Monetary donations are welcome also.

Inspired by Nature is a fiber art show presented by the Hand Weavers Guild of Lincoln at Westminster Presbyterian Church, October 1-31, 2013. The opening reception will be Friday, October 4, 5:00-8:00 p.m. Regular hours will be 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The show will feature fiber art created by local weavers and spinners. A variety of awards will be presented, including a People's Choice Award, which will be voted on by all in attendance at the opening reception. More information can be found at www.lincweaver.blogspot.com. or by calling 402-486-1422.

Westminster Club

Gather in Cole Hall, on Tuesday, October 22, at 5:30 p.m. for food, fellowship and a program. Ken Govaerts will present a program entitled "Mission Possible". He will be telling stories about his, and other members from Westminster, experiences in Joplin MO after the Storm.

Bring your own table service and \$10 to cover the cost of dinner.

PRAIRIE READERS

On Wednesday, October 16, in the Parlor, at 1:00 p.m. Prairie Readers will meet. The book for October is *The End-of-Your-Life-Book-Club* by Will Schwalbe, with Weston Crawford facilitating the discussion.

The author and his mother share a passion for reading, and her diagnosis of pancreatic cancer prompts them to form a "book club" where the two of them engage in conversations about favorite books. More than focusing on death, these heart-felt and wide-ranging conversations turn out to be a celebration of life.

All are welcome. For more information, call Faye Moulton at 402-423-7608.

GET READY TO TEE OFF

Mark your calendars. The fourth annual Westminster Golf Outing will be held at Wilderness Ridge Executive Course on Sunday, October 6. Tee times start at 2:00 pm. Green fees are \$12 for walking (\$10 for seniors) or \$20 with cart. Everyone is welcome and bring a friend. Sign up in the garden room or call Ken Govaerts, 402.483,1726. Need clubs, balls, tees or free golf lessons, call Ken.

BARKY PARKY GATHERING

Come enjoy the outdoors and fellowship with other dog owners and families at our gathering on Saturday, October 26, 10:00-11:30 a.m., at Rickman's Run. Feel free to adorn your pooch in a costume if you dare - but not required. Lease upon entering/exiting is required. Questions? Contact Kathy Rohwedder 402-202-9889.

WOW EVENTS

FINDING FAITH IN FICTION

6:30 - LOUNGE

LED BY REV. JEN STRICKLAND

"FICTION IS THE LIE THROUGH WHICH WE TELL THE TRUTH." - ALBERT CAMUS

If you love literature, join us for this 5-week series as we read the short stories of Flannery O'Connor, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Mary Gordon, Marjorie Kemper and Tova Reich. We'll be asking questions of the text, exploring the faith (or lack thereof) of the characters, and discussing ways in which these works of fiction touch on great truths of our own faith. Copies of the stories will be available in advance at the receptionist's desk.

Knit N Sit

Come to the Library at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays to work on crafts, find inspiration, or simply sit, chat and enjoy fellowship.

WOW Dinner

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

\$3/children; \$5/adults; \$15 max per family

Oct 2: Chicken & rice soup, toasted cheese sandwich

Oct 9: Spaghetti with garlic toast

Oct 16: Baked potato w/chili; cinnamon rolls

Oct 23: Chicken sandwich, French fries, jello cake

Oct 30: Ham and potato casserole

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

Men's Tuesday Morning

- | | |
|------------|---|
| October 1 | Bible Study—Rev. Ellen Davis |
| October 8 | Bible Study—Rev. Jen Strickland |
| October 15 | Bible Study—Dr. Andrew McDonald |
| October 22 | "A Look at Our Treasures", Jane Polson, President of Keep Nebraska Beautiful |
| October 29 | "Leading with Spirit and Energy", Professor Donde Plowman, Dean of the College of Business, UNL |



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Circle 1 | Weds., Oct.2; 9:30 a.m.; Lounge
Ginny Rohrbaugh 402-489-3373 |
| Circle 3 | Weds., Oct. 2; 10 a.m.
Carolyn McCall; 402-435-0383
2720 Van Dorn |
| Circle 4 | Mon., Oct 7; 7 p.m.
Kathy Anderson; 402-430-6084
5411 Dove Ln |
| Circle 5 | Tues., Oct 8; 10 a.m.; Lounge
Jane Grabenstein-Chandler
402-483-6533 |
| Circle 6 | Tues., Oct 22; 7 p.m.; Library
Jane Hines; 402-488-8302 |

Foundation Birthday Club

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

Fern Bieck	Al Landfield
Kay Cole	Franny Seward
Jeanne Cuda	Sandy Sostad
Lynn Davis	Jim White
Jane Hines	Judy White
John Hoppe	Tom Winter



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TELLING THE STORY ON “CONSECRATION SUNDAY” OCTOBER 20



Sunday, October 20 is a Big Story Telling day along with a Great Celebration in the Life of Westminster. During worship service that day, each of us will be bringing “OUR STORY” with our pledges to the front of the church. We will be “Telling the Story” to our children in giving God the Glory by our commitment of honoring him with the fruits of our labor.

Westminster is a “caring” congregation and this is OUR time to show how much we care with our pledges. We have a goal of growing our annual budget with new and increased pledges.

“The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it.” (Ps. 24:1) Become part of the Westminster story by joining us in this celebration on Consecration Sunday, October 20, 2013.

SPOOKTACULAR TRUNK OR TREAT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 4-6 P.M.

Cowboys, princesses, and creatures of the night are invited to slither, shuffle, or ride on down to Westminster for our 3rd annual **Spooktacular** night. Join us between 4 and 6 p.m. on Sunday, October 27 for trunk or treating, book mobile, the bounce house, fire truck, games, 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, game volunteers and candy donations are needed. Donations can be made at the Spook table in the Garden Room or the office.