

THE MESSENGER

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SEPTEMBER 2014

Westminster Moving Up with The Rising!

It's here! Our new alternative worship service has arrived! Our goal has been to add a new style of worship to reach a new audience. We have dreamed about it, talked about it, planned for it, and it is finally here! We begin September 7 at 11: 30 am.

Because our two traditional services have such strong support, we are free to develop a new style of worship to reach a new group of people. I like the quote from movie hero Indiana Jones: "We're making this up as we go along." That spirit of playfulness, creativity and innovation is part of what is shaping this service right now. New ideas continue to arise. We know this:

- The music will come from contemporary-style instruments;
- This informal service will happen in Fellowship Hall;
- Interactive activities during worship will help build community;
- A more casual style of worship will help new experiences of faith;
- Worship will be approximately 50 minutes long.

Jana Miller is our newest staff member, and she will lead the band. Jana will be joined for the first few weeks by some of her musician friends. In the first few months, we will be looking for musicians from within and beyond the Westminster congregation to form a new band for this service. Anyone with musical gifts, instrumental or vocal, is encouraged to talk with Jana.

In one sense, nothing changes for the other two services. Yet in another sense, this new service will generate new visions. I believe we will gain ideas for music and ritual that will fit within our traditional services. So it will be a "win-win-win" for all of our worship services.

I have been asked, "What can I do to help support this service?" Great question! Three things:

- #1: Attend the traditional service you normally do the strength of our traditional worship is what will allow us the two years it will take to help this new service gain a solid following.
- #2: Increase your pledge next month so we can strengthen all of our worship services. Christianity is a team sport where we all win if we all make a strong effort. We think we can reach another 200 people with the new service, but our pledges are what will make it possible.
- #3: People who have no problem walking a bit to their cars may consider parking at the far side of the lot or even offsite. Help our new worshipers, who will arrive during the second service, to feel welcome with a parking place.

This is a glorious experiment! I'm sure we will have some challenges along the way. But I know this graceful congregation will support this new outreach in a multitude of gracious ways.

To God be the glory!

Rev. Andrew McDonald, Senior Pastor





Meet Jana

Jana Miller will be responsible for the music at our new alternative, contemporary service beginning September 7! Jana has a passion for contemporary Christian music, and has been involved sharing this type of music in our community for several years. She currently sings in a praise band ministry that performs throughout Lincoln for those churches seeking contemporary Christian music. She is also involved in local theater,

most recently performing "Oliver" at the Lincoln Community Playhouse and is on the Board of Directors there. She also volunteers at the Capital Humane Society as a humane education presenter. She is married to Steve, and they have three daughters. "I am so excited to play a role in developing this new service for Westminster, and look forward to making it incredibly meaningful for those that have a passion for this worship style."

Calling all musicians interested in contemporary Christian music! If you have a passion for this type of music and feel led to explore your interest, or love listening to alternative Christian music and think you have a gift in this area, let us know! We are seeking qualified musicians ages 16 and up to help with music for The Rising, specifically vocalists, guitarists, keyboardists, drummers, and sound and visual assistants, as well as any other talent you feel you would like to contribute to this ministry. To explore these opportunities, contact Jana Miller at jana@westminsterlincoln.org.

5 Love Languages

September 7 and 14 at 9:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall A

There's still two weeks left in our series on *The 5 Love Languages* by Dr. Gary Chapman! Join us and learn how you can both give and receive love in more powerful and meaningful ways. *Note: Sunday morning classes will reflect previous Wednesday night WOW classes*.

Living the Questions

Sundays September 28 to November 23 at 9:00 a.m. Lounge

People know that at its core, Christianity has something good to offer humanity. Yet many sense they are alone in being a "thinking" Christian and that "salvaging" Christianity is a hopeless task. *Living the Questions*, led by Rev. Jen Strickland, is for both seekers and lifelong churchgoers convinced of Christianity's relevance in the 21st Century. Explore the future of Christianity and what a meaningful faith can look like in today's world.

Bible Study: Gospel of Luke

Mondays beginning September 8 at 11:00 a.m. Lounge

If asked who are the major theologians of the New Testament, most Christians would mention Jesus, John and Paul. Few would think of Luke—and yet his two-volume work (Luke-Acts) amounts to approximately one fourth of the entire New Testament. This important gospel offers its readers a new way of living in the world that can be truly transformative.

The Gospel of Luke Bible Study will meet in the Lounge on Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to Noon. The class will be taught by Rev. Dr. Ken Moore. All are welcome!

Presbyterian Women

All Westminster women are invited to visit or join one of the following circles. Just call the number listed for monthly details.

Circle 3

Wednesday, Sept. 3 at 10:00 a.m. 2808 Woodsdale Blvd. Freda Gregg (402-423-3236)

Circle 5

Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 10:00 a.m. Westminster Lounge Jane Grabenstein-Chandler (402-483-6533)

Circle 4

No meeting this month.

Circle 6

Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 7:00 p.m. Westminster Library Jane Hines (402-488-8302)

Mission Sewers

Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 1:00 p.m. Westminster Lounge

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.

September 2

Gospel of Luke Rev. Ken Moore

September 9

History of the Federal Building Lisa Petersen, Grand Manse Event Director

September 16

Bible Study Rev. Andrew McDonald

September 23

Lincoln Fire & Rescue
Captain Eric Jones

September 30

History of the Lincoln Fire Department Craig Clark, Lincoln Fire Department Historian

Westminster Bible Class

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

September 7

A Vision of the Future Jeremiah 30:1-3, 18-22

September 14

Restoration
Jeremiah 31:31-37

September 21

A New Future Jeremiah 32: 2-9, 14-15

September 28

*Improbable Possibilities*Jeremiah 33:2-11

Creation Energy — Art Show in September

The artwork on display in Memory Lane are watercolors by Lincoln artist Glenda Dietrich Moore. They are based on the theme of creation and are accompanied by scripture and devotional meditations. Glenda's art studio is called "Creation Energy— Intersections of Art and Spirit." She teaches art classes for all ages, and leads seminars and retreats incorporating the visual arts, creativity, and the spiritual life. To view more of her work visit www.glendadietrich.com.

2nd Sunday Lunch

September 14 at 11:30 a.m.

Join your WPC family for a **second helping** of fellowship on the **second Sunday** of each month! All WPC friends and families are invited to enjoy a heaping plate of community and some delicious lunch too.

Lunch this month will feature a taco bar with hard and soft shell tacos, chips and salsa. Cost is \$5 for adults; \$3 children 10 and under.

Don't have second thoughts; come enjoy 2nd Sundays at Westminster!



Creation Fair

believe God created our world and continues to redeem it.

Because God calls us to be good stewards of our planet, we desire to be mindful of how we use and care for the environment and our fellow creatures. Our vision is a thriving Earth where all creation flourishes in a sustainable web of life! To

celebrate all that God has created and called "good," we will be hosting a Creation Fair! Visit our 7 interactive stations, where we will have games, art projects, live animals and sustainable snacks that highlight different aspects of creation. All ages are invited to come and learn, create, play and rejoice! In addition to our Creation Fair, families and friends of preschoolers will join us on September 21 for a special presentation at 10:30 a.m. worship and Preschool Art Show to follow. This is a great opportunity to meet our

Preschool families and make them feel welcome at Westminster!

Speaking of the Earth... Green@Heart (formerly the Green Team) is curious about the congregation's interest in applying to the PC(USA) for certification as an Earth Care Congregation. There are only about 120 certified churches nationwide, and none in Nebraska. We believe we have high marks in the qualifying categories and might meet the requirements. There are four: Worship, Education, Facilities and Outreach. Tell someone on Green@Heart if you like the idea!

Faith Village Discovers God's Creation

All that we are and all that we have comes to us from God, who calls us to care for creation. During September, children will:

- Hear the story of Creation from Genesis
- Hear that God gave people the responsibility of caring for creation
- Explore stewardship and how to act as caretakers of creation
- Discover how to be caretakers of God's creation by working together
- Discover ways to use creativity, talents, money and time to serve God by caring for others, for the natural world and for themselves

Opening Hearts & Lending Hands

When you are in the pews or Garden Room next Sunday, take a look around. Chances are, you will see many of your friends, like Maggie Stuckey and Ernie Hines, Kevin Harford and Dorrie Gage. Friends like

Deb Eastman, Alisha Stokes and Dan Schafer. Take a moment

to thank them. These friends, and many others have answered the call to join the special group of hearts and hands it takes to nurture, teach and love Westminster's children by giving a few hours of their time in Sunday School. Those who have already volunteered are mentioned on the wall of honor down the stairwell to Faith Village.

Providing the solid, weekly Christian education we are used to takes at least 100 loving adults each school year. Whether you are called to be a familiar face in preschool, a caring shepherd in Faith Village, or a special guest for a month's rotation in Faith Village, there is a place for your heart and a need for your hands in Sunday School! - Emily Killham, CFM moderator

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 has adopted the Faith Building Blocks program for children and families. These 12 blocks begin with baptism and culminate in confirmation. Throughout the program year, each grade will have the opportunity to participate in a Faith Building Blocks experience. Most of the blocks are one session and an interactive opportunity for children and parents to promote BUILDING strong and faithful families. To RSVP for upcoming FBB BLOCKS sessions, email Betsy Guyer at betsy@westminsterlincoln.org.

Calling all Kindergartners

At 10:30 a.m. worship on September 21, Kindergartners and their parents will be asked to come forward and receive a "Read With Me Bible."

Learning to Use My Bible

Third graders and a parent are invited to an interactive class on Wednesday, October 15, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. following WOW dinner. All third graders who participate will receive Bibles at 10:30 a.m. worship on October 19.

Sunday School

Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of the Earth.

~ Genesis 1:28b The Message

Kindergarten of Eden 10:45 a.m. (Preschool) Room 210

Preschool age children are welcomed by caring adults to this interactive Sunday School time. This Fall, children will learn that we are all children of God and hear stories about Noah, Abraham and Joseph and Sarah, Hannah. Through stories, songs, crafts and play, children will learn that they are beloved of God.

Faith Village 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. (K-5th Grade) Lower Level

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 for kids to take home. Parents are encouraged to help their children make this a regular part of their Sunday morning routine. We are working on memorizing the Lord's Prayer. After large group time, children are divided into age groups and head off to workshops which all center around a common theme.

Preschool through 5th Grade Sunday School meets after the Children's Conversation during 10:30 a.m. worship.

Upcoming Events

Kids Care for Kids!

Our Faith Village offering has collected more than \$200 this year! We have been raising money to benefit the Backpack Program of Lincoln. We have raised enough to fund a weekly backpack of food for one needy student for an entire school year!

All in the Family

Best wishes to **Nicole Tuccitto** and **Andrew Dux** who were married on August 9.



Calling all bicycle cowboys and cowgirls!

Bring your bike to Westminster on September 6 for a rollickin' good time! Ride your bike through a series of obstacles and test your knowledge of bike safety. Plus, help us raise money for two worthy charities—the Bike Kitchen and 88Bikes!



Join us for monthly yoga in the Sanctuary beginning Monday, September 29! We're currently seeking 5-6 new or gently used yoga mat donations to accommodate those who wish to practice but don't have a mat. Our first class will be led by WPC member Karla Jensen. Meets the last Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.. Suggested \$5 donation.



Have you signed-up on the Garden Room bulletin board to participate in this year's Neighbors Helping Neighbors? Our goal is to have 100 volunteers and we're currently at 20 percent of our goal! This special mission opportunity (formerly Day of Discipleship), is a great way to help our neighbors in the Lincoln community! In the past, this

congregation-wide effort has donated a full day of their time and energy to organizations such as People's City Mission, Habitat for Humanity and Kids Against Hunger. Questions? Contact Ken Govaerts at kkgovaerts@gmail.com.

DEACON SPOTLIGHT:

Sydne Wirrick-Knox

The greatest blessing I have received from serving on the Westminster Board of Deacons is the opportunity to lead our awesome group in the planning and preparation of our annual Deacon Easter Breakfast for the past four years. You see, I love to cook! The problem is I don't know how to cook unless there are *at least* 100 to 200 people eating what I prepare. I often joke that I have to ask my dear husband, John Paul, how many eggs I need when fixing breakfast for just the two of us. So when I was asked to help with the Easter Breakfast, I knew I was in my zone.

This past Easter as my fellow Deacons were cracking eggs, cutting fruit and preparing sausage patties for cooking, I stated that I have made so many good friends while working in the kitchen at Westminster. It is a great way to really get to know other members of our church. I want to thank my fellow Deacons through the years for all the great experiences we have shared. I would also like to thank Westminster for allowing me to be a part of your Easter and this great congregation. Serving you through the work of the Deacons is my honor and my blessing.

Moore Mission Trip

September 14-20

Are you called to reach out to communities in need? Do you like to roll up your sleeves and work hard? Then join our mission trip to Moore, Oklahoma, scheduled for September 14-20. Westminster volunteers visited the area this past spring to help with disaster recovery efforts still in effect from the May 2013 tornado that struck the area. For more information, or to sign-up, contact the church at (402) 475-6702 or email Ken at kkgovaerts@gmail.com.

Save-the-Date

University of Nebraska—Lincoln Varsity Men's Chorus

Sunday, Nov. 9 at 10:30 a.m.

One of the finest men's chorus in this country will be coming to share their voices at Westminster. They have appeared on regional and national convention programs. Dr. Pete Eklund, director, is a nationally recognized conductor and composer.

Foundation Birthday Club

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

Paul Blumer

Barbara Dinsdale

Virgil Horne Sr.

Karen Janovy

Sushil Lacy

Julie Olson

Harriet Peterson

Ramona Riley

Brookley Rivera

Pat Squier

Amanda Swyers

Jim White

Judy White

Marge Wilnes

O Me, O My, O Nehemiah!

All singers and actors age 3 to 5th grade are invited to audition for this year's children's musical *O Me, O My, O Nehemiah*! The story of Nehemiah teaches us the importance of prayer and service to God. Cast auditions will be Wednesday, September 3, during Alleluia! Amen! rehearsal from 6:30 to 7:25 p.m. in Room 210. Performance of the musical will be during 10:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, October 26.

If you are interested in helping with costumes, sets and/or props, contact Masako Bacon at masako@westminsterlincoln.org.

MUSIC GROUPS

"Let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs for praise!"

Wednesday Night Ensembles

All Wednesday night rehearsals are part of our regularly scheduled WOW activities.

Westminster Carillon

Sanctuary (6:20 to 7:20 p.m.) High School youth and older

Cherub Choir

Room 210E (6:30 to 7:25 p.m.) Ages 3 to pre-K

Alleluia! Amen!

Room 210 (6:30 to 7:25 p.m.) Kindergarten to Grade 5

Westminster Choir

Sanctuary (7:30 to 9:00 p.m.) (and Sundays 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.) High school youth and older

Other Ensembles

These ensembles practice intermittently throughout the year and often play for special worship services.

Jr. Strings Ensemble

Violin, viola, cello and double bass. Beginners welcome! Grades 3 to 12 Sundays 10:00 to 10:20 a.m. in the Chapel

Youth Ensemble

Strings, woodwinds and brass. High school and college students

Westminster Brass

High school youth and older

Westminster Band

Guitar, bass, electric guitar, keyboards and drums.

High school youth and older



Our Fall Confirmation Retreat at Camp Calvin Crest was a huge success! Thanks to all of our youth leaders, adult volunteers and confirmands who made this a memorable experience for everyone!

HS Youth Rock Wall Climbing and Cookout! Saturday, September 13 at 4:00 p.m.

Calling all High School Youth! Are you ready to kick-off the 2014-15 school year with some fun? Come for rock-climbing and a cookout at the Boy Scout Council Building in Walton, Nebraska! Cost is \$15. You are welcome to come even if you don't want to climb the wall, as there are plenty of other activities! Payment and paperwork due to the church office by Wednesday, September 10.

Confirmation Class Reminders \(\)



Remember that Confirmation is each Sunday from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. in the Confirmation room next to the Youth Café. At 10:00 a.m. we will have a worship rev-up with Pastor Jen. *Note: Students in strings will be excused at this time for rehearsal in the chapel.*

Confirmation Roster

Audrey Smith
Sebastian Baille
Emma Bergmeyer
Jack Bergmeyer
Dakota Berringer
David Chapp
Liam Dempsey
Josie Ford

Elise Gallentine

Jampe Gergen

Olivia Hoffman

Taryn Hoham

Brady Jex

CJ Jurgens

Allison Larson

Noah Neuitt

Chas Nolte

Max Pearson

Abby Peterson

Eric Schainost

Rock Sita

Latjor Tot

Katie Whitehead

Betsy Zander

Henry Zander

Small Groups Ministry

Small Groups at Westminster span a wide variety of age groups and interests — there's something for everybody! Plus, starting your own Small Group is easy! For more information or a list of current Small Groups, contact Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com.

Upcoming Small Groups Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, Sept. 2 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us at Lazlo's South (5920 Old Cheney Rd.) for Lunch Bunch! All ages welcome.

Tour de Friends Back-to-School Family Ride Sunday, Sept. 7 at 3:30 p.m.

Start at 21st and Q streets Jayne Snyder Trail Center parking lot. Ride MoPac Trail east, then 35th St. north. East on Idylwild Drive and cross Holdrege to UNL Dairy Store. Approx. 6 miles round trip; paved.

History Buffs

Saturday, Sept. 13 at 9:00 a.m.

Join us for "Wounded Knee: The End of the Frontier" presented by Mike Rasmussen. Meets in the Westminster Lounge.

Faith & Cancer

Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 7:00 p.m.

It's not too late to join us for fellowship and discussion of Finding the Light in Cancer's Shadow (Chapters 1-3). Meets in the Westminster Parlor.

Prairie Readers

Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 1:00 p.m.

Pat Leach will join Prairie Readers to talk about what she considers the best of Notable Books for the year. This is a great way to build your reading list for the cooler months ahead. Meets in the Westminster Parlor at 1:00 p.m.

Tour de Friends Holmes Lake Ride

Thursday, Sept. 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Start at Holmes Lake parking lot #3 (furthest NW lot in park). Pick a trail and distance to ride . Paved.

Knit at Home

Can't make it to Knit N Sit on Wednesday nights? Lucky for you, Knit N Sit is starting a new ministry! Knit at Home invites people to knit, crochet or do needlework from home, but still contribute their work to the Knit N Sit donation to People's City Mission in the Fall.

Knit N Sit can provide donated yarn, needles and patterns on request. All levels of experience are **Westminster Club**

Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 5:30 p.m.

Interested in past modes of transportation? Join us in Cole Hall for refreshments, dinner and programming! Steve Hughes will talk about the Model T. Bring your own table service. Cost is \$10.

Ladies' Night Out

Thursday, Sept. 25 at 5:00 p.m.

Stop by Lazlo's Brewery (5920 Old Cheney Rd.) for fun and conversation! No RSVP required; bring a friend and stop by at your leisure!



welcome! Examples of donated items are children's hats, scarves, mittens, booties, sweaters, baby blankets, bibs and stuffed animals. There is real need for adult mittens, scarves and hats too. (Please, easy care and washable only.) The need is great, and this is a wonderful opportunity for people to create and give from their hearts from their home.

For more information about this home ministry or Knit N Sit, please contact Francy Scheele at (402) 477-1102.



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Reverend Ellen Davis
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Claire Eckstrom High School Youth Director

Devon Nelson

Middle School Youth Director

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WESTMINSTER ON WEDNESDAYS!

Need a night to unwind this Fall from the hustle and bustle of school activities and work meetings? Join us for WOW on Wednesday nights at Westminster! Every week, we serve a home-cooked meal from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m., followed up by a fun selection of adult education, youth activities and music rehearsals. Here's our regularly scheduled lineup:

5:45	Dinner
6:20	
6:30	Cherub Choir, Alleluia! Amen!, Knit N Sit
	WOW XL, Sr. High Youth Group, Adult Education
7:30	

Adult Education Schedule

The 5 Love Languages (September 3 and 10)

Can't attend our Sunday morning class? Join us for *The 5 Love Languages* on Wednesday evenings! During this class, we'll cover the same material presented at the following Sunday's class.

Westminster Hobbies

(September 17 and 24)

Our Westminster Hobbies series continues! On September 17, we'll learn about Geocaching from Janice Rohwedder—it's high-tech hide-and -seek! Karen Hoffman will join us on September 24 with a presentation on stained glass, a beautiful, historical component of our church building!

WOW Dinner

Come to WOW Dinner and have a delicious, nutritious, home-cooked meal complete with salad, fruit, veggies and desert. Served every Wednesday from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in Cole Hall.

September 3: Macaroni and cheese, green beans

September 10: Sloppy joes, cheesy potatoes

September 17: Chef salad bar

September 24: Spaghetti, garlic bread

\$4/children ages 3-12, \$5/adults, \$16 max per family.



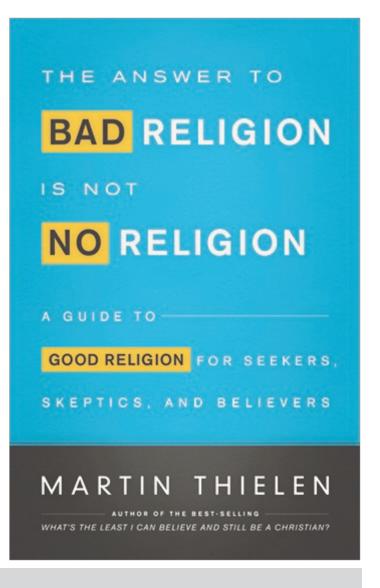
GROUPS ARE FORMING!

Beginning Sunday, September 28, Westminster Small Groups will launch its congregation-wide study of *The Answer to Bad Religion Is Not No Religion: A Guide to Good Religion for Seekers, Skeptics and Believers.* More than 200 people are expected to join 15 different groups!

Have you signed-up? Our Small Groups committee will be available to answer questions and register groups on Sundays in the Garden Room through September. You can also purchase a copy of the book (\$12).

Special thanks to all of our volunteer leaders: Sarah Gergen, Geoff Cline, Tom Pappas, Jeff & Angela Pearson, Janice & Kathy Rohwedder, Erika Schafer, Maggie Stuckey, Candy Hemmer, Nancy & Scott Stuckey, Ashley Vorhies, Dan Wherry, Diana Wild and Grace Willnerd!

Want to learn more? Email Small Groups moderator Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com.



Journeying Together Classes

Interested in becoming a member of Westminster? New Member classes are scheduled throughout the Fall! Join us for one of the following classes: September 28 and October 5, November 2 and 9, or December 7 and 14.