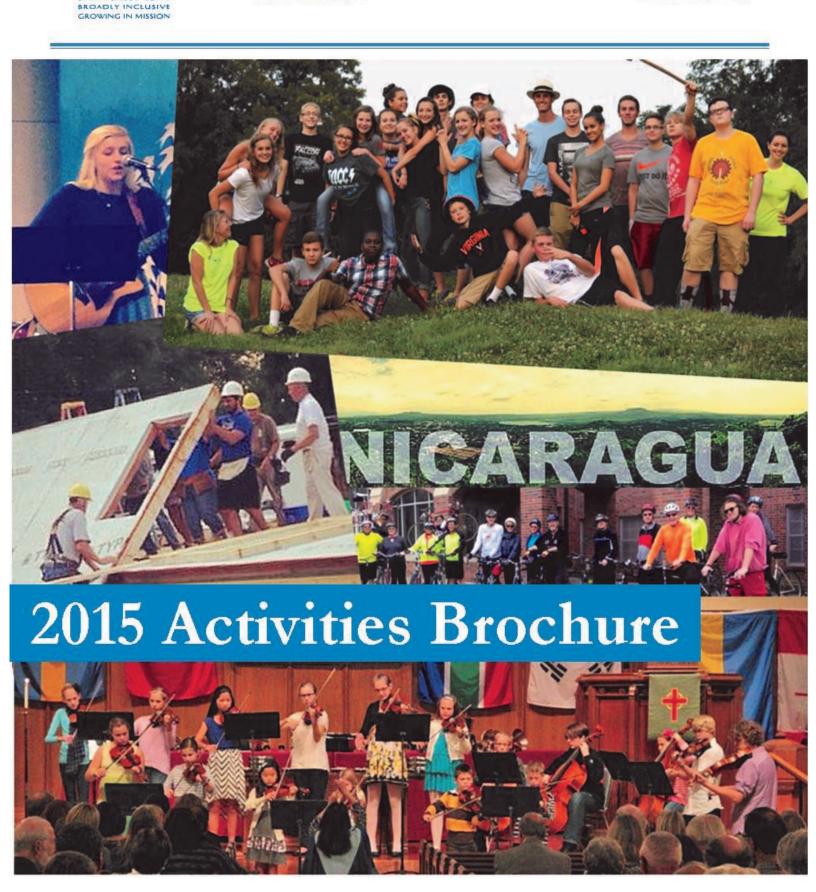
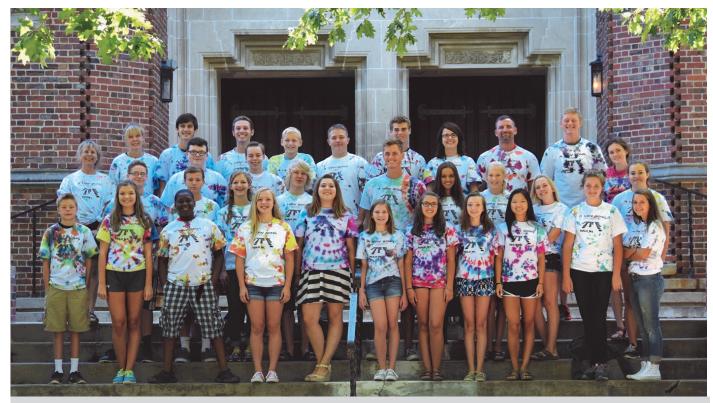


# MESSENGER

VOLUME 85, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2015





The 6th & 7th Grade class, 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation Class, and the 10-12 Senior High classes meet Sunday mornings at 9 am. All are welcome! Contact Dr. Christy Dempsey for more information (dempsey\_christine@yahoo.com).



#### A Note from Children & Family Ministries

Westminster is blessed with a dynamic and welcoming Sunday School environment that includes thoughtful curriculum and dedicated volunteers to help shepherd your children in their faith and understanding of what it means to follow Jesus.

Each week in the **Kindergarten of Eden** our Preschool friends explore stories from the Bible and learn about God's world and their place in it. We believe this firm

foundation of faith and love will shepherd them as they learn and grow, finding their own place in the church community. In **Faith Village** children kindergarten through fifth grade are engaged in a Rotation Workshop Model. In September they will be learning about Making Choices through the story of Jonah. God gives us the freedom to make choices and we will look to God's teachings to help us learn how to make wise choices in challenging situations and know what God wants us to do.

We invite you to bring your children to Sunday School at Westminster to experience the wonder and excitement of being a child of God! Sunday school follows the Children's Conversation and is from 10:45 am to 11:30 am.



## **Upcoming Youth Activities**

If you are interested in participating in these events, contact Devon Nelson devon.david.nelson@gmail.com or 402-802-3777

#### September:

Husker Football Watch Party - Miami Game

--- Saturday, September 19th.

We will be gathering together as a youth group to have fun games, food, and loud noises as we cheer on the Huskers as they take on the Miami Hurricanes!

#### October:

Overnight Stay @ Henry Doorly Zoo

-- Saturday, October 17th.

The youth group will be heading up to the Henry Doorly Zoo to participate in their annual Spooktacular Event! After the event we will be touring the zoo at night, and sleep in the Madagascar Building.

#### Campfire @ Roca Scary Farm

-- Sunday, October 25th.

"Hi, I'm Andrew. My hometown is Nebraska City. Right now I go to school at Nebraska Wesleyan

while we fully explore all the fun and games the spooky Farm has to offer!

University where I also play tennis. Go PWolves! I enjoy playing soccer, going fishing, and

appreciating nature. Fun fact: I was born in

Busan, South Korea."

We are very excited to welcome our new

middle school youth

director, Andrew

Here are a few fast

facts from Andrew:

Finkner!



#### November:

HS trip to Defy Gravity + Overnight Lock-In

The HS youth group will be making an appearance at Defy Gravity and have a "hopping" good time until we head back to the church and have a Lock-in. At the Lock-in we'll play games, sing songs, have a Bible study and worship hour, watch movies, and more!

This year the youth group will be heading out to Roca Scary Farm a little earlier and have a campfire there

#### December:

White Elephant Christmas Party

The youth group will be getting together to have a night spent celebrating the Christmas season! We'll play games, sing songs, bake cookies, and have a white elephant gift exchange!

#### "C" is for Christmas

Our youth love to give back to the community and share in fellowship so we'll be helping with "C" is for Christmas and possibly be making our own secret chili!:)

#### Westminster On Wednesdays (WOW)

Join us weekly where you will find great food, education, music, and more! Dinner is served from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in Cole Hall. \$4/children, \$6/adults, \$17 max per family.

**WOW XL** (6:30 Youth Café) Youth in grades 6-8 meet weekly during the school year for engaging activities and to grow in faith together.

**High School Youth Group** (6:30 Confirmation Rm) Youth in grades 9-12 meet weekly during the school year for engaging activities & to grow in faith together.

**Knit N Sit** (6:30 Library) Come knit, crochet, learn either craft, or do other projects for the church. Women and men of all ages are welcome to attend this fluid group.

**Adult Education** (6:30 Lounge) See upcoming discussion topics on page 10!

#### Music Rehearsals (6:30 pm)

Westminster Carillon (Adult Handbell Choir, Sanctuary) Cherub Choir (age 3-Kindergarten, Room 210E) Alleluia! Amen! Choir (Grade 1-5, Room 210) Westminster Choir (Adult Choir, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary)

#### **September WOW Dinners**

Sept 2: Pulled Pork Sandwiches

Sept 9: Baked Potato Bar

Sept 16: Spaghetti & Garlic Bread

Sept 23: Shepherd's Pie Sept 30: Baked Chicken



**Nicaragua Mission Trip:** Have you been wondering what God is doing in other parts of the world? Now is your chance to see for yourself! Join us January 2016 for one week in Nicaragua as we meet new friends, immerse ourselves in a new culture, and discover how God is alive and at work.

This mission trip will be more than just swinging a hammer (though we might do a little of that too!). While physical work projects will likely be a part of this trip, the overall focus will be to cultivate an understanding of Nicaragua and Nicaraguans, to discover what God is doing in Nicaragua, and to reflect on what God is calling us to do with our new knowledge back home in the U.S.

We will be holding a second informational meeting following 10:30 Worship on Sunday, September 6 in the Lounge. Contact Pastor Jen with questions (jen@westminsterlincoln.org).



# 28th Annual ST NICK PROJECT

Christmas is a time of giving, but for some families dealing with health issues, loss of job, or other circumstances, makes it next to impossible to give to their loved ones. This year, we hope that you will join us in purchasing gifts for over 500 people across rural Nebraska. In turn, we promise you the gift of 'joy in your heart' for the happiness you bring to another.

Sign-Up to purchase gifts November 8- 22 in the Garden Room

Gift Wrapping Party Tuesday, December 15 6:00 in Fellowship Hall

For more info contact Teri Nelson (402.423.0986) or Freda Gregg (402.423.3236)

#### **Get Involved!**

**Presby Build:** we are still looking for volunteers and we'll be serving lunch on September 1 for the workers. Contact Susan Moore with questions or to volunteer (skm68502@juno.com or 402.488.6746). If you want to volunteer more time, workers are needed on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays!

Contact Michelle at Habitat for Humanity to sign-up

**Gathering Place:** Westminster serves 50 meals on the second Friday of each month from 4:45-6:15 pm. Contact Susan Moore with questions or to join in helping feed the hungry (skm68502@juno.com or 402.488.6746).

(402.477.9184)!

**Neighbor Helping Neighbor:** Saturday, October 3rd in the morning. Contact Susan Moore with questions or to volunteer (skm68502@juno.com)

"Trunk or Treat" on October 25 at the church. This even is free and open to the public as kids come around the cars to trick-or-treat. Contact the church office with questions on getting involved (402.475.6702)

**Pilger Mission Trip:** Sept 28 - Oct 2 are the dates of the mission. Contact Ken Govaerts for more information (kkgovaerts@gmail.com)

**Caroling in the Neighborhood:** During WOW on December 16th, bring your coats as we join Shelby the Dog in Caroling around the Neighborhood! Cocoa included.





## Children's Musical Auditions

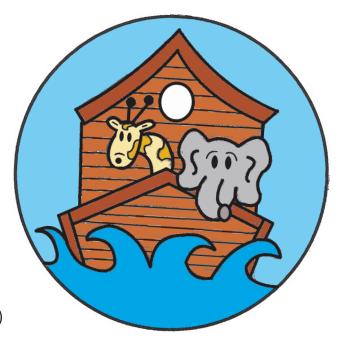
#### "Don't Rock the ARK!"

#### Children's Musical (Age 3—Grade 5)

Sunday, October 11 during 10:30 am Worship Service The storm clouds are forming and the boat is almost ready! Take a flustered Noah, add a wife, three rambunctious sons, and two of every living creature on the earth and you've got chaos! It'll take a lot of faith to get them through forty days and nights of life on this crowded yessel.

**Auditions** will be held on September 2, during the children's choir hours (6:30-7:26). Get on board! If you are interested in helping with costumes, sets, props, etc., contact Masako Bacon.

(masako@westminsterlincoln.org or 402.475.6702x111)



## Join Music Groups!

### Wednesday Night Music Groups KIDS:

- Cherub Choir (Age 3-5 Choir)
   6:30-7:25 pm in Room 210E
   Kaitlin Beck, director
- Alleluia! Amen! (Kindergarten—5th Grade Choir)
   6:30-7:25 pm in Room 210
   Samantha Matulka, director

#### **ADULTS:**

- Westminster Carillon
   Handbell Group for High School & Adults
   6:20-7:20 pm in the Sanctuary
- Westminster Choir
   Adult Choir for High School & Adults Choir
   7:30–9:00 pm in the Sanctuary

#### **Additional Music Groups**

- Junior Strings Ensemble (Grades 3-12)
   Sundays from 10:00-10:20 am in the Chapel
   Bring your string instrument and join the multi-level music and great leaders.
- Westminster Brass (Adult)
   Arranged Dates. Contact Masako Bacon if interested (masako@westminsterlincoln.org).

# Christ the King Sunday with 110 musicians! November 22 10:30 Worship Service

Christ the King Sunday concludes the Liturgical Year remembering and celebrating the Triumph of Christ, who is the Lord of all creation and is coming again in glory to reign (Revelation 1:4-8). Let us come together in thanksgiving and praise to the almighty God to celebrate Westminster's 110<sup>th</sup> Christ the King celebration in a special way! Our goal is to sing "The Hallelujah Chorus" with more voices than ever! All musicians from Alleluia! Amen!, Cherub Choir, Westminster Brass, Westminster Carillon, Westminster Choir, and Jr. String Ensemble will gather their joyful noises to the Lord.



#### All in the Family

Births: Congratulations to

Beth & Kris Anderzhon on the birth of Phoebe Laurel, born August 3; grandparents Barb & Dave Arunski

Dara & Bradley Peters on the birth of Tilly Levitt on August 20

#### **Preschool Sunday**

We are looking forward to Preschool Sunday on Sunday, September 20th! The Preschoolers are working on art for the Art Show that will be on display. We welcome all Westminster Preschool families!

## Advent & Christmas Music at Westminster

#### Advent I (November 29)

"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" Strings and Harpsichord

#### Advent II (December 6)

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Westminster Carillon

#### **Christmas Eve**

3 pm Family Service: Youth Ensemble

5 pm Traditional Service: Nebraska Brass,

Westminster Brass, Alleluia! Amen!,

Cherub Choir, Youth Ensemble

7 pm The Rising (contemporary): The Rising Band

9 pm Traditional Service: Nebraska Brass,

#### Advent III (December 13)

"Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow" Children's Pageant

#### **Advent IV (December 20)**

"On This Day, Christ is Born"
Westminster Choir



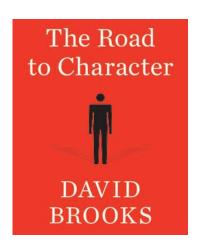
# The Christian Community Comes Alive

#### **Adult Education**

Join us as we explore ways that our Christian faith is lived out through the wide spectrum of the human experience. All seminars meet from 9:00-10:00 am on Sunday mornings in the Lounge.

#### The Road to Character (September 6 & 13)

This month, we wrap up the last 2 of a 5-week series using David Brooks' new bestseller, "The Road to Character". Using examples from some of the world's greatest thinkers and inspiring leaders, Brooks explores how, through internal struggle and a sense of personal limitations, they have built a strong inner character.



#### Men's Tuesday Breakfast

Program begins at 7 am in the Parlor

#### September 8

"The Greatest Thing in the World" Henry Drummond's Speech Facilitated by Bill North

#### September 15

The Lincoln Crime Scene Cassi Nissen

#### September 22

Who Wrote the Bible?
Dr. Andrew McDonald

#### September 29

"What's So Great About Christianity?" by Dinesh D'Souza Facilitated by Bill North

#### What is Sabbath? (September 20 & 27)

In this two-week miniseries, join us in a study of the history and evolution of Sabbath in our faith tradition. Why is Sabbath important to God? How is Sabbath more than just taking a nap? Inspired by Walter Brueggemann's recent book "Sabbath as Resistance", come ready to change your perspective on this ancient spiritual practice.



#### Faith & Mental Health (October)

Although there have been significant developments and increased awareness related to mental heath in the past several years, there is still much to learn and understand about this prevalent and complex issue. Join us for this four week series as we dialogue with individuals whose lives have been transformed by mental health issues.

#### **Aging Today (November)**

In this four week series, local experts will present on various topics related to aging today. Learn about resources and innovative programs happening right here in Lincoln.

#### **Westminster Bible Class**

The Westminster Bible Class is an ongoing study group that meets year-round in the Parlor at 9 am.

This class is doing a three-year exploration of major writings in the Old and New Testaments and is open to all . We explore scripture with an eye to its application to our lives today through an experiential style of learning. Drop in for a Sunday or stay for a series. A study in the Acts of the Apostles centers on our fall theme: "The Christian Community Comes Alive".

September
Seeds of New
Growth

DATE	SCRIPTURE	THEME
September 6	Acts 4:23-31	Praying for One Another
September 13	Acts 4:34-5:10	Sharing All Things
September 20	Acts 5:27-29, 33-42	Witnessing to the Truth
September 27	Acts 7:2-4, 8-10, 17, 33-34, 45-47, 53	Remembering God's Faithfulness

October
Giving Bold
Testimony

DATE	SCRIPTURE	THEME
October 4	Acts 8:9-24	The Spirit Is Not for Sale
October 11	Acts 9:19-31	Saul Earns Credibility
October 18	Acts 10:24-38	Peter Takes a Risk
October 25	Acts 11:1-18	Trusting the Spirit

November
Sees of New
Growth

DATE	SCRIPTURE	THEME		
November 1	Acts 12:1-11	God Releases the Captive		
November 8	Acts 15:1-12	God Makes No Distinction		
November 15	Acts 16:1-5, 8-15	From Derbe to Philippi		
November 22	Acts 17:1-4, 10-12,	Thessalonica, Beroea, and		
	22-25, 28	Athens		
Nov. 29 (Advent Begins)	Acts 18:1-11, 18-21	Teaching God's Word		

#### Presbyterian Women (P.W.)

Presbyterian Women's Circles are the small groups based on study, friendship, and action. All Westminster women are invited to visit any of the following circles.

#### Circle 3

Wednesday, Sept 9 at 10:00 am Jo Daniels (402.423.2336) 3500 Faulkner Dr. Apt A111

#### Circle 4

Tuesday, Sept 1 at 7:00 pm Susie Hughes (402.440.9165) 8825 W Branched Oak Rd Meet at Westminster at 6 pm to car pool!

#### Circle 5

Tuesday, Sept 8 at 10:00 am Westminster Lounge Pat Hackley (402-423-2909)

#### Circle 6

Tuesday, Sept 22 at 7:00 pm Westminster Library Jane Hines (402-488-8302)



Contact Ellen Davis if interested in joining a circle! (edavis11@neb.rr.com)

### One Podcast, One Westminster

Listen, Learn, Discuss.

Gather with your Small Group or with individuals in the Lounge from 6:30-7:30 PM.

Facilitators: Pastor Jen and Adam Luedtke.

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..."

Refugee and Immigration Discussion: September 2 & 9

**Sept 2**: Max Graves, from the Center for Legal Immigration Assistance (CLIA) Lincoln, will provide an overview of the complex legal immigration process that the foreign born must undertake. CLIA prioritizes services for immigrant victims of domestic violence as well as immigration services. Each year they personally meet with approximately 500 clients from 92 different Countries. Mr. Graves started the program in 2001. (Parlor)

**Sept 9th:** Darcy Tromanhauser, from Nebraska Appleseed, will lead us through a hands-on immigration simulation activity for participants to explore migration and the challenges faced by immigrants. This simulation highlights why rural Mexicans migrate to the US and the challenges they face. (Cole Hall)

#### E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues – Lied Center

Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

FREE Lecture; Car-pool will gather in the Westminster Church parking lot at 6:15 PM

Immigration | "Define American: My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant"

Jose Antonio Vargas shares details of his journey to America from the Philippines as a child; his travels through America as an immigration reform activist; and his reunion with his mother.

HuffPost Religion podcasts "All Together" host Paul Raushenbush: September 16, 23, & 30
For easy access, these podcasts can be found on the church website.

Podcasts 6:30-7:30 PM (Lounge)

*Jimmy Carter's Curiously Full Life* Jimmy Carter has been a husband, father, farmer, Sunday school teacher, governor, president, Nobel Prize winner, peacemaker, and humanitarian. Now, in his 90<sup>th</sup> year, President Carter has released a book aptly titled A Full Life, Reflections at 90 that offers an intimate look at the social, emotional, and spiritual experiences that make up this extraordinary man.

We've Been Talking About God All Wrong A recent report revealed that Americans affiliating as Christian declined at roughly 1% each year over the last 8 years. The news shocked American churches; one person who was not shocked was theologian and author Diana Butler Bass, whose book "Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening" predicted much of the data. For Bass, the religious news is a call to radical reassessment of the way we understand and talk about God.

Mental Health and the Welcoming Church with Kay & Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church, and parents of son, Matthew, who lived with mental illness for years until he committed suicide in 2013. Also, Paul speaks with Sarah Griffith Lund, pastor and author of "Blessed Are the Crazy: Breaking the Silence about Mental Illness, Family and the Church". How can we, as Christians, offer help and hope to our community?

# Upcoming Events & Small Westminster groups

For more information or a list of current Small Groups, contact Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com.

#### World on a Plate

This Small Group focuses on mission around the world! Members bring a dish that represents the country they will learn about each month and everyone gathers to discuss the missions going on in that country. Contact Kathy Rohwedder to join (kathrohw@yahoo.com)

September: Argentina October: Madagascar November: Czech Republic

#### Green@Heart

Join Westminster members as they look for all the ways we can take care of our world! WOW will be attending the Lied Center EN Thompson lecture on Climate Change with Bill McKibben. Watch for registration in the Garden Room for your free ticket to the lecture on October 6.

#### **Lunch Bunch**

This group gathers the first Tuesday of each month at 11:30 to share lunch together. The more the merrier, so we'll see you soon!

September 1: Lazlo's South October 6: Famous Dave's November 3: Olive Garden

#### Ladies Night Out (LNO)

This Small Group is for all ladies to chat over a cocktail & appetizers once a month from 5-7 pm. Contact Robyn Uebele (robynu2@hotmail.com) with questions or for RSVPs.

#### Monday, September 21

The Parthenon Restaurant (5500 South 56th St #8) We will gather on their outdoor terrace if weather permits.

#### Tuesday, October 13

Billy's Restaurant (1301 H St) RSVP required by 10/12. Special appetizers offered (\$10)

#### **History Buffs**

History Buffs meet on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9 am in the Lounge, all are welcome in this informal group.

September 12: A Religious History of Scotland by Pastor Jimmy Shelbourn October 10: History of **Keeping Secrets (Computers)** 

by Mike Dempsey

November 14: Lewis & Clark: A New Look by Gary Moulton December 12: History of Open-Heart Surgery by Steve Carveth

#### **Prairie Readers**

Wednesday, September 16 1:00 pm in the Parlor Book: Life After Life By Kate Atkinson

Discussion Leader: Linda Miller

#### Westminster Club

You are welcome to join us for our fall programs. Dinner begins at 5:30 and is \$10. All attendees must bring their own table setting. RSVP to the church office (402.475.6702)

Tuesday, September 22 Ken Moore will present on Mission.

Tuesday, October 27 will have a presentation on Music.

#### LifeTouch Photos

In October, members that have joined Westminster since April of 2014 will have the opportunity to take photos for the directory. Registration will be available in the Garden Room during September and online at westminsterlincoln.org (click on the "Schedule a Portrait" Icon) Picture dates are:

> Friday, October 2 From 2-9 pm Saturday, October 3 From 10 am-5 pm



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



Something's Rising at Westminster. Imagine a talented band led by 5 different singer-songwriters. Now imagine that collaboration happening in worship. Fresh artists, fresh ideas, fresh songs. Each week is unique. Songwriters focus on the depth of feeling and meaning, including old songs played in a new key. There is a loose vibe that feels like we are building this experience together. The spirit is infectious. Join us as we kick off Sundays around 9: 20 A.M. The Rising – creative worship for energized faith.